

"If any man seeks for greatness, let him forget greatness and ask for truth, and he will find both." – Horace Mann

Country Journal

Devoted to the Needs of the Hilltowns



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

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

June 8, 2023 | Vol. 45, No. 7 | 75¢

www.countryjournal.turley.com

GRADUATION

Congratulations Class of 2023



Gateway Regional High School students through their mortar boards into the air on Booster Field. *Photo by Wendy Long*

Gateway graduates 41 under threatening skies

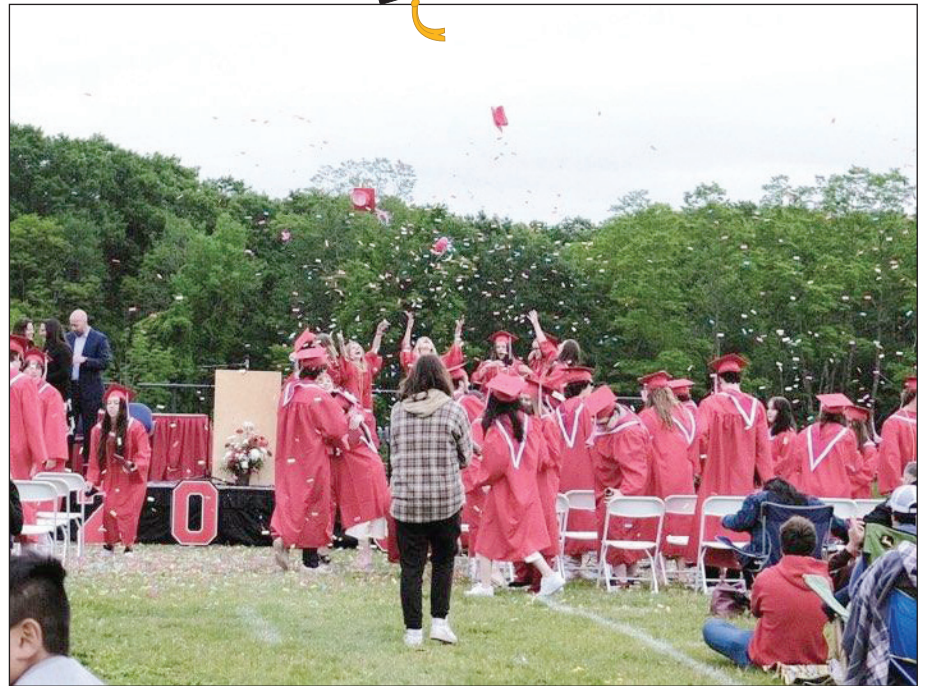
By Wendy Long
Correspondent

Rain, thunder and lightning were visible in the distance in every direction, but the Gateway Class of 2023 completed their outdoor graduation on

Booster Field without a raindrop falling and in a ceremony that honored a fallen classmate and the influence of family.

Forty-one class members, led by junior marshals Jackson Harding and

GATEWAY, page 8



Confetti cannons fire paper confetti into the air at Dorunda Field during the graduation ceremony at Hampshire Regional High School. *Submitted photo*

Hampshire Regional High School holds graduation

By Ellenor Downer
Editor

Hampshire Regional High School's graduation got moved to Saturday, June 2 from Friday, June 2 due to the weather.

Principal Lauren Hotz addressed the Class of 2023. She said, "Your resilience, determination, and unwavering commitment to excellence have brought you to tonight's commencement cere-

HAMPSHIRE, page 9

BLANDFORD

Blandford Annual Town Meeting has large voter turnout

By Mary Kronholm
Correspondent

The article on the town warrant that brought out 150 registered voters concerned payment for a study and design for a proposed/possible Fire Department/Highway Department structure.

There was a great deal of discussion over the course of 45 minutes to clarify that the item, Article 17, was merely an "authorization and not an obligation," said Town Counsel Attorney Mark Reich. "We are not at the point of discussing construction, it's not a construction article," he said, "the project is to be determined."

The article is different than the original request, the transfer comes solely from free cash rather than a combination of free



About 150 registered voters attended the Annual Town Meeting in Blandford Monday night. *Photo by Mary Kronholm*

cash and stabilization. The article only authorizes \$245,000 to begin the process.

Steve Hart said, "I don't feel we should move forward with this article. I am vehemently opposed to have the fire department on Chester Road." He wanted to know if the property in the center of town had been considered, where the historical society is, or where the Deane building was located at the top of Main Street.

Select Board member T.J. Cousineau responded, "We have to do the study. If we don't do the study, things stay the way they are. This is an important issue. We have to do the study, and we need the money to do the study."

MEETING, page 6



PAGE 3

Blandford.....6	Cummington.....12	Lenox.....5	Russell.....7
Business Directory.....3	Easthampton.....5	Middlefield.....16	Schools & Youth.....8-11
Chester.....7	Goshen.....7	Obituary.....14	Stockbridge.....7
Chesterfield.....12	Hilltowns.....2	Opinion.....4-5	Westfield.....7
Classifieds.....15	Huntington.....3	Public Notices.....14	Westhampton.....12



8 0 4 8 7 9 1 3 1 7 8 6

HILLTOWNS

HILLTOWN HISTORY

Looking back at the Chester train wreck

By Deborah Daniels
Correspondent

The Hilltown Hikers headed to Railroad Rock in Bancroft to see the railroad workers autographs carved in stone.

This involved hiking over two of the arch train bridges, which gave us a spectacular view of the Westfield River below. These you will remember are the Whistler Keystone Arch Bridges built in 1839-1840 by over 1,000 Irish, Italian and Russian immigrants, apologies to any others who may have helped and history has neglected to identify.

The hikers stood a dizzying 60-70 ft. above the river and stayed well clear of the edge, valuing their reputation as intrepid hikers, not stupid hikers.

They started thinking about what mishaps have occurred on this railroad? How about the Chester train wreck of 1893. It was a terrible disaster laid at the hands of short sighted bridge repair workers.

The Chicago Limited Express train from Albany was traveling to Boston. It was one and a half miles east of Chester village. It had to pass over a two span lattice iron truss bridge, not the Keystone Arch Bridge built in 1874 and 221 ft. long.

The bridge was being reinforced to hold the weight of larger locomotives coming in use. A crew of workers had removed 50% of the rivets from the connector plate on the top chord of the south truss and neglected to secure it with bolts or draft pins and failed to bolt new plates in place at the end posts according to newspaper accounts of the railroad board's investigation. The workers then went to lunch.

The Boston & Albany train called the Chicago Limited (it does sound like the comedy skit, "whose on first") was seven minutes late and traveling about 20 mph when it attempted to cross the bridge at 12:30 p.m. that last day in August. The locomotive weighing some 45,000 pounds almost made it over the bridge.



This is the Keystone Arch Bridge in Bancroft.
Photos by Deborah Daniels

The bridge collapsed from the weight. The locomotive as well as a buffet car, two sleeper cars and a dining car all shattered as they fell about 20 feet into the river.

Two day coaches and a smoking car at the rear of the train remained on the track. Thirteen or fourteen passengers died immediately and twenty others were badly hurt. A nearby apple orchard became a field hospital for the wounded. A Dr. George L. Wood of Collinsville was credited with being the first medical responder at the scene along with heavy support from the porters and waiters. This team went to work saving and assisting as many of the wounded as they could, ultimately joined by the Huntington medical doctors and Chester townspeople.

Did you know George Pullman (1831-1897) sold the idea of sleeping cars for trains in 1864 by promoting it as a luxury experience with attendant service by porters. Porters were exclusively Black workers until the 1960s. They formed the first all Black Union in 1925, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.



One of the rocks railroad workers carved their names in the stones.



A CSX train travels on the tracks in Bancroft.

Furthermore, sleeping cars were a separate business owned and operated by George Pullman not the railroad company. It was said he ran a profitable chain of hotels on wheels.

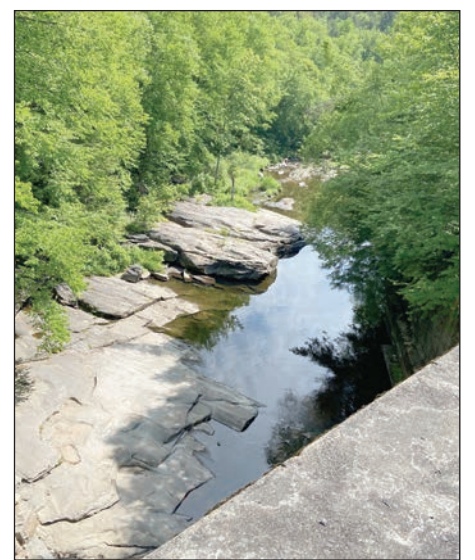
Back to the wounded, some were taken to Springfield to be hospitalized. They traveled by horse wagon and others were temporarily nursed by townspeople in their homes. Among the dead was a blanket manufacturer, an express messenger, the baggage master, the train conductor, the brakeman and the President of Life Insurance Company as well as an unidentified young woman.

A local woman, Mrs Hiram Smith had the where with all to send a boy out with a flag to stop the next scheduled freight train from coming down the track. It took a village to run a salvage operation and to prevent further disaster.

The Massachusetts Railroad Commission found the two supervisors of the bridge repair work guilty of not



Another view of the rock with railroad workers autographs.



The view from on top of one of the Keystone Arch Bridges.

instructing the crew properly and for not inspecting their work. Who neglected to communicate that the repair work was being done on the bridge to the other scheduled trains? Why weren't the other scheduled trains delayed or cancelled? One can only hope mistakes helped to guide improvements in train protocol after this tragedy.

A brief review of the previous two years of fatal train mishaps show that there were four accidents in 1892, four in 1893 and seven in 1895. Most of these were derailments or collisions due to signal malfunctions mostly related to human error. Public transportation can be hazardous to your health.

Back to the hikers, they did find the hand carved rock with railroad workers' signatures. They marveled at the stone quarries located beside the train track and the stonework involved in building the bridges. A big shout out to Liz Massa and others for making this hike happen.

BARRY PEASE
Celebration of Life

Terry and Kelly Pease,
along with Shelley King invite you
To a celebration of life
for our brother Barry Pease.

Come to
92 Old State Hwy,
Chester, MA 01011
on June 10th from noon to 4pm
- lunch will be provided.

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

Responsible harvesting is the first step in producing our lumber. We mill over four million board feet per year, with most coming from local privately-owned forests. We use only the best cutting processes for minimal impact to the land. If you are interested in managing or foresting your land of three acres or more, let our family walk it with your family, and we'll give you a free assessment and suggestions on how to best manage your woodlot. Contact the office by email at lashway@live.com or by phone 413-268-7685 and we will have our forester set up an assessment.



LASHWAY
• LUMBER •

Lumber Services & Custom Drying

Community band concert to be held Saturday June 17

SOUTH HADLEY – As many as 150 musicians from throughout Western Massachusetts and beyond will come together for an outdoor performance in one giant concert band on Saturday, June 17 at 3 p.m. at the Mount Holyoke College Amphitheater in South Hadley.

The concert is free and open to the public to attend. In the event of inclement weather, the rain date is Sunday June 18.

Titled Pioneer Valley Community Band Festival, the concert is being hosted by the Amherst, Florence and South

Hadley Community Bands and will bring together amateur and professional musicians of all

Thomas Bergeron, Director of Music at Deerfield Academy, will lead the festival band in a day of joyous music-making.

The free concert is made possible thanks to grants from the South Hadley and Amherst Cultural Councils, a Festivals Grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, and a sponsorship by the South Hadley Electric Light Department (SHELD/Fiberspring).

HUNTINGTON

Mueller, Austin take top awards at Gateway Regional High School

By Wendy Long
Correspondent

HUNTINGTON – Marshals Jackson Harding and Joey Pisani led the Gateway Class of 2023 into the Gateway Performing Arts Center for the school’s annual awards ceremony, held May 31.

The event opened with the Concert Band playing “Pomp and Circumstance,” followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of the National Anthem.

By the end of the two-hour ceremony, which also announced underclass awards by academic departments, Nancy Elizabeth Hull Mueller took the top honors of Valedictorian and Golden Achievement Award winner and Rachael Alecia Austin was Salutatorian. The two were aware that they were in a neck and neck contest for the Valedictorian spot, and that the other would earn the Salutatorian honors.

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.

Nancy Mueller also received 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.



Valedictorian/Golden Achievement Award Winner Nancy Mueller and Salutatorian Rachael Austin. Photo by Wendy Long

Other finalists for the honor were Liam Bowler, Olivia Dame, Olivia Kanner and Lucy Pitoniak.

Class President Olivia Kanner welcomed students, staff, and families to the awards ceremony and congratulated students on “testing their capabilities and persevering through failure.”

The Valedictorian is the graduating senior who has earned the highest grade point average over four years of high school. The Salutatorian holds the second highest grade point average. Mueller is from Russell and is the daughter of Mary Hull and Mark Mueller. Austin hails from Montgomery and is the daughter of Madelyn and Randall Austin.

Academic, extra curricular, athletic and scholarships were announced from each department in the school. Four juniors received book awards: Lexi Bonenfant received the Dartmouth Book Award, Regan Morawiec received the Western New England University book award. Two students earned the St Mike’s book award, which comes with a scholarship of between \$17,000 and full tuition if they apply and are accepted: Grace Plumley for academics and Joey Pisani for community service and social conscience.

Class Vice President Olivia Dame closed the ceremony by congratulating her peers, closing with, “None of your achievements have gone unrecognized and we celebrate them with full hearts. Next stop: Graduation.”



Children, who visit the Huntington Public Library in June, can take part in selecting a new mascot for the library. Candidates are from left, Chad, Jaily, Annie and Jenn and were named after the Build-A-Bear staff, who helped create them. Photo by Wendy Long

Library celebrates Gay Pride Month, Voting and Summer Reading

By Wendy Long
Correspondent

HUNTINGTON – Library Director Amanda Loiselle announced a number of upcoming events that are tied to June as National Pride Month, as well as the state’s Summer Reading Program’s theme of “Find Your Voice.”

Children will have the opportunity to cast their ballots for a new mascot for the library. The Friends of the Library purchased four “Build-A-Bears” to represent the mascot candidates; the bears were created by Library Director Amanda Loiselle and staff member Bhreanna Wieland. Votes will be accepted and announced at the launch of the Summer Reading Program on June 30 at 11 a.m. The remaining stuffed animals will be offered as prizes for the summer reading program.

Story hours during Pride Month will feature the books “Kind Like Marsha: Learning From LGBTQ+ Leaders” by Sarah Prager on June 8 from 4-5 p.m.; “A is for Ambitious”

and “Ambitious Girl” by Meena Harris on June 15 from 2:30-3:30 p.m.; “I Am Perfectly Designed” by Karamo Brown on June 21 from 2:30-3:30 pm. and “Greta and the Giants” by Zoe Tucker at 11 a.m. on June 30.

The Hilltown Family Center is hosting a summer reading event in Blandford on June 24 and many area libraries will have booths with information and sign up sheets. Children may also sign-up for the Summer Reading Program at the Huntington Public Library on June 30.

In 1999, President Bill Clinton designated June as “Gay & Lesbian Pride Month.” In 2009, the designation was expanded to be LGBT Pride Month by President Barack Obama. President Joe Biden further expanded the language in 2021 to be “LGBTQ Pride Month.” The month of June was selected in recognition of the Stonewall Uprising in 1969 in New York City, where police raided the Stonewall Inn, a gay club located in Greenwich Village. This sparked six days of protests and launched the gay rights movement in the United States.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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

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

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

Dale's Structural & Carpentry
Home Improvement • Additions • Restorations • Remodeling
Timber Frame Homes Kitchen & Baths
Residential Drywall • Paint • Trim Work
Seasonal Homes & Camps Windows • Doors
Garage Repairs Decks & Stairs
Carriage & Colonial Barns Interior & Exterior Finishes
Structural Repairs - Wood - Masonry
Sagging Floors • Beams • Sill Timbers • Columns • Termites Damage
Foundation Repairs • Piers & Footings • Chimney Rebuilds
413-667-3149

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

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

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

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

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

Schilling TV
SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION
• TV, Audio, WiFi
• Outside Digital TV Antennas
• Wall Mounted TVs
• Cell Reception Antennas
SONY LG SAMSUNG SONOS DENON
413-443-9235 We Deliver
Since 1948 215 Fourth St., Pittsfield, MA

Contact Theresa to advertise at
413-283-8393
or email:
twegiel@turley.com

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HOMESERVICES REALTY PROFESSIONALS
Victoria Minella-Sena
Local Realtor, Huntington, MA
~ Helping home buyers & sellers for over 20 years.
~ FREE Property Valuation & Market Analysis.
(413) 530-8182
Hilltownrealtor@gmail.com
www.victoriaminellasena.realtor

OPINION

GUEST COLUMN



What if I delay but die before claiming Social Security?

Dear Rusty:

Hypothetically, if I plan to sign up for Social Security at 70 and pass away before that, I will get nothing. My spouse would still get a boost in the amount she receives because I made more, but everything I put into the program vanishes. I haven't reached my full retirement age yet and I still have income, but if I sign up now at 63 my benefits will be withheld due to my income. Then at full retirement age (presuming I elected to claim earlier) a re-calculation will take place and my monthly amount would be adjusted. Well, what happens if I decide to wait until 70 but pass away before I claim? Are my contributions repaid in a lump sum or will I or someone else still lose everything?

Signed: Uncertain About My Future

Dear Uncertain:

You are correct that if you pass away before collecting your earned Social Security benefits you won't personally get anything. Social Security has, since inception, been a "pay as you go" program where those currently working and contributing to Social Security pay benefits for those currently receiving Social Security. That means that if you die before collecting, the monies you contributed will have already been used to pay other recipients, but the contributions you made may still entitle your dependents to benefits on your record. For those who are in their early 60s, average longevity is mid-80s, meaning your spouse would likely collect benefits on your record for more than two decades, any minor children could collect until they are adults and any permanently disabled child you may have would get benefits from your record for the rest of their life as well.

The Social Security payroll taxes you contributed were not put into a private account in your name. And, on average, it is to the beneficiary's advantage the program doesn't work that way because that personal account would be depleted fairly quickly after you claim rather than getting benefits for the rest of your life, you'd only get benefits plus interest from your personal account, which would run dry pretty fast. For Your Information, we have researched this very carefully and found that, on average, all payroll taxes contributed to Social Security by an individual will be recovered within about five years of starting benefits. The actual length of time to recoup one's contributions varies somewhat depending on lifetime earnings and contributions made, but lower earning beneficiaries will recover everything contributed through payroll taxes within about three years, while it could take as much as five years for higher earners to get back everything they've paid into the program. And for clarity, since self-employed individuals pay both the employee and employer portion of the payroll tax, it

SECURITY, page 5

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.

Last day of school quiz...(match the faces)

- a. Teacher
- b. Principal
- c. Janitor
- d. Student
- e. Mom
- f. Bus driver



©DAVEGRANLUND.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reader concerned about healthcare trends

Two recent news stories got my attention.

The first was about the creation of "Maternity Deserts" (60 Minutes 4/30 and others). These large areas in America totally lack maternity care and have become more common because financial entities are closing maternity services in rural hospitals because they don't make enough profit.

The second described for-profit companies such as CVS and Amazon "buying up" large numbers of primary care practices across the country (New York Times 5/8). If you add to this the growing privatization of Medicare through Medicare Advantage plans and, even worse, ACO-REACH plans (which allow non-medical companies to function as health insurance companies) you can clearly see where our health care "non-system" is headed.

Our lack of investment in Public Health made us dramatically unprepared for the Covid-19 pandemic and cost hundreds of thousands of Americans their lives. We will be almost equally unprepared for the next pandemic, which will occur.

If these topics seem unrelated, they are not. They all show a total lack of planning except to increase profits. No one planned our health care system. Like a New England farmhouse, we merely added on new rooms when there was a need.

Our health care non-system has just evolved with the goal of increasing profits. Health care now costs us all an estimated \$4.3 trillion per year and, with no overall plan, private companies including insurance and pharmaceutical companies and large hospital chains are creative in maximizing their share.

We have also seen the more insidious effects of the business transformation of medicine in the more impersonal and brief visits we have with our own health care providers. The nationwide primary care physician (PCP) shortage is partly responsible and Physician Assistants and Nurse Practitioners could fill much of the gap, but they are also in short supply.

These trends will surely continue and increasingly make us patients into pawns with our health care becoming only a secondary goal. If this is the future we desire, all we need do is remain silent. Changing this will be difficult especially with our political stagnation but every year which passes sees larger profits and further emboldens the moneyed interests. A single-

Payer System such as Improved Medicare For All is the only solution I see and my optimism is waning. The cost of our collective inaction, however, is clear.

Christopher Flory M.D.
Williamsburg

Domestic task force offers teen dating tips

Summer can be a great time to talk to your teen about dating.

Even if your teen is not yet dating, it's a great idea to talk to them before they start. Although it may not feel like it, nearly four in ten teens say they wish their parents or guardians would talk to them more about topics like relationships.

With this in mind the Southern Hilltowns Domestic Violence Task Force has some suggestions.

Starting the conversation

Everyday situations can offer a natural way to ease into a conversation. Maybe it's a scene from a movie or a news story. A good way to start is simply to ask, "What do you think about that?" If your teen answers, "I don't know" you can say, "Can I share with you what I think?" Don't lecture. Just use it as a jumping-off point to talk about your views. You might ask "Do you know anyone in a relationship like that?" Try to listen more than you talk and respect your teen's opinions even if they differ from yours.

Talking about consent

Talk to your teen about how they would ask for consent and how to make sure a yes is really a yes. For example, if someone says "Okay, I guess" your teen will want to ask more questions, get a clear answer, and make sure their partner knows it is okay to say no.

Also, talk about how to say no and set boundaries when your teen doesn't want to do something. Practice phrases like "No thanks." or "I'd rather not." or "I don't want

to do this." Let them know that they can take back their consent at any time. "I changed my mind." And remember, if one person in a relationship has more power than the other it can be difficult or even dangerous to say no. If you sense this is the case, shift the conversation to what makes a relationship healthy or abusive and make sure your teen knows you are there to support them not to judge them.

Talking about what makes a relationship health

A healthy relationship has basic elements: respect, communication, trust, boundaries, honesty, shared decision making, and equality. A good partner always treats you with respect and understands you need to have your own friendships and interests. Sometimes you will disagree and that's okay as long as you feel you can have an open, honest discussion. You should feel free to express yourself, share your opinions, and make decisions that are best for you. Both partners should be equal. The website www.loveisrespect.org has several Online Quizzes that can help teens assess their relationship privately.

Talking about red flags

A partner who tries to control you (what you wear, who you see, where you go, who you text) isn't respecting you. Sometimes a teen may ask their partner to quit things they love, like basketball or a club. Ask your teen what they think about that. A dating partner

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, page 5

EDITORIAL POLICY

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

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



Digital Photos

TURLEY PUBLICATIONS, INC.

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

ISSN NO. 0747-2471

Country Journal TEAM



EDITOR
Ellenor Downer
countryjournal@turley.com



ADVERTISING SALES
Theresa Wegiel
twegiel@turley.com

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



@ Country Journal



countryjournal.turley.com

PATRICK H. TURLEY
CEO

KEITH TURLEY
President

DEANNA SLOAT
Graphics Manager



www.turley.com

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

OPINION

GUEST COLUMN



A dogwood worthy of admiration

The Chinese dogwood in my backyard is in bloom and boy, is it pretty! Although the holly is trying to take over height-wise, the dogwood is holding its own and beckoning for all to admire. Creamy white bracts (mistakenly called flowers) seem to hover over its glossy green leaves in a way few other trees are capable.

It is as if the branches unfold before you, saying “here, look at me!”

Unlike other favorites in the landscape, the Chinese dogwood doesn't fade into the background once it has finished flowering; this plant has something to offer in every season.

Cornus kousa blooms just about a month later than our native flowering dogwood, *Cornus florida*. Unlike *C. florida*, Chinese dogwood sets its bracts after it has fully leafed out, and at a time when there is a bit of a lull in the flowering tree and shrub department.

Bracts can vary in size from one to three inches long depending on cultivar, and can be narrow or quite broad. Some can be more of a pure white than a creamy white—these can tend to turn pink with age.

The plants true flowers are barely noticeable, only about a half-inch wide, set in the center of the four bracts.

Flowers last for several weeks, much longer than those of the flowering dogwood.

As the flowers fade into the background, the fruit set provides another season of interest. It is faceted, much like a raspberry, and can be red, orange-red or even pink toned.

About an inch in diameter and hanging from two-inch stems, it is quite showy in its own right when plentiful. Fruit can last up to two months.

Foliage, as mentioned, is glossy green during the growing season. Some pink-bracted cultivars have red veins or petioles, adding to the overall interest of the plant.

Fall foliage color is sketchy, sometimes it can be radiant, offering up shades of red, orange and purple; other times it is dull. Brilliance or blarney all depend on the cultivar chosen and the weather.

Inquire at purchase about the particular attributes of the cultivar you've lugged to the check-out: Is it known for its fall color, long bloom-time, vase-shape, etc.? Or better yet, do a quick search on your phone before the work out, just to be sure you get what will do your landscape the most justice!

Once leaves have fallen, the bark of the Chinese dogwood becomes quite interesting when viewed close-up, espe-

cially on older trees. Where the bark has begun to exfoliate, gray, copper and sometimes olive tones appear on the trunk and older branches.

I must pay closer attention to this during the off season.

Plant *Cornus kousa* in moist, acidic, well-drained soil with lots of organic matter. With that said, the plant can adapt to most soils providing they are not overly waterlogged or droughty.

Plants grown in full sun usually flower the heaviest, but part shade, like the conditions in my yard, puts on fine growth as well.

If the Chinese dogwood appeals to you and you'd also like to learn more about other members of the genus *Cornus*, consult “Dogwoods” by Paul Cappiello and Don Shadow (Timber Press \$39.95). This book is a great reference, especially informative regarding the numerous cultivars in the nursery trade today.

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.

SECURITY

from page 4

does take longer for those, who own their own business to recoup what they've contributed. Nevertheless, on average, most who claim benefits will get considerably more from the program than they paid in Social Security payroll taxes.

As to your specific question, if you die before collecting, the contributions you made weren't deposited in a personal account for you and won't be paid out in a lump sum. Rather, the payroll taxes you paid while working were used to pay benefits to beneficiaries receiving at the time and those working and contributing after you die will fund the benefits paid to your spouse or disabled adult child until they die or to your minor children until they are adults. The Social Security benefits

you earned aren't just for you your eligible dependents will also benefit from your record.

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.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

from page 4

should be supportive of their interests. Extreme jealousy and possessive (“Why were you talking to them?” or “What did they say?”), blaming or manipulative behavior (“I wouldn't have yelled if . . .” or “I can't do this without you. . .”), and isolation (“I don't want you hanging out with them. . .” or “We always fight after you spend time with them. . .”) are also red flags. A partner who thinks they are more important than you and that they have a right to put you down or hurt you is not a safe partner.

Knowing where you and your teen can learn more or get help. What is a healthy break-up in the digital age? What about phones that track location? How much texting and social media is okay? What if your teen is the one harming their partner? Guidance on all these issues can be found at www.loveisrespect.org (chat/text/call features), and www.teachconsent.org (video, parent discussion guide, and parent tips). Locally, the Center for Women and Community (888-337-0800) at UMASS Amherst has teen services and A Call For Change Helpline (898-877-3411) works with teens and adults who cause harm but want to learn to be safe. Both these local providers can also help parents of teens.

Thank you for having these challenging conversations with the teens in your life, and for being part of a community that cares.

Stephanie Conway, Lisa Goding, Lindsey Maxwell, Dan Kennedy Monica Moran and Donna Larocque, members of Southern Hilltown Domestic Violence Task Force, contributed to this article.

Find them on Facebook or email southernhillsvttaskforce@gmail.com

LENOX

Wild Thing 5K/10K trail race and 5K walk set for June 25

LENOX—Recreational runners and outdoors lovers alike are marking Sunday, June 25 at 9 a.m. as a “don't miss” date, when Mass Audubon's Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary presents its eighth annual Wild Thing 5k/10k Trail Race and 5k Walk.

The race is an important fundraiser for Mass Audubon's extensive education programs and conservation efforts throughout Berkshire County.

The races and walk will begin at 9 a.m. at the wildlife sanctuary on West Mountain Road. The 5 and 10 K routes feature the single-track trails and scenic carriage roads of nearby Kennedy Park.

All racers and walkers are invited to a post-race celebration outside Pleasant Valley's big red barn, where they can enjoy light refreshments. During this time, prizes will be awarded to top winners and runners-up of the 10k and 5k races. All race participants will receive a tote bag from Blue Q and are eligible to win prizes donated from local businesses. The first 350 participants will receive a limited-edition Wild Thing sticker.

Entry fee for the races is \$35 until Thursday, June 22 and \$40 for day-of registrations. Runners 12 years-old and under are \$10; 13-18 years-old are \$20. Race day registration will be held in person from 7-8 a.m. only.

This year's Wild Thing Race lead sponsor is Interprint with support from many other local community sponsors. All proceeds benefit Mass Audubon's conservation and education programs throughout Berkshire County.

For more information, to register online or to sign up to volunteer, people should visit www.massaudubon.org/wildthing.



EASTHAMPTON

bankESB hires Joe Williams as vice president, commercial lender

EASTHAMPTON – bankESB announces Joe Williams has been hired as vice president, commercial lender.

Williams of East Longmeadow, has twelve years of banking experience including his most recent roles as AVP, business banking officer at People's

Bank and AVP, credit officer at United Bank. Williams holds a Master's degree in communication from Bay Path University and a Bachelor's degree in criminal justice and finance from Westfield State University. He serves as the president of the East Longmeadow

Baseball Association, as well as Treasurer of the East Longmeadow Housing Authority.

Founded in 1869 as Easthampton Savings Bank, bankESB is headquartered in Easthampton, Massachusetts 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.

BLANDFORD

Select Board hold brief meeting before ATM

By Mary Kronholm
Correspondent

BLANDFORD – Town Administrator Christopher Dunne briefly brought the Select Board up to date on grant applications and said that the town has received a Baystate Community Health Benefits grant for the Shepard Farm project in the amount of \$5,000.

According to Dunne, Baystate

“was looking for projects that could potentially result in better access to outdoor recreation.”

The finance team has been looking for a new municipal finance software program and he has a quote from VADAR systems with an initial installation cost of \$60,000 and annual support thereafter of \$16,000. This is not in the budget for this year so the town will remain with its current municipal software, SoftrRight, now Accela.

Dunne will have the town submit a grant application for a Community Compact IT grant to help cover the costs.

Eventually there will be a request for proposal/bid submission for new financial software.

Dunne also reported a quote for a transfer switch for Town Hall back-up power for \$22,900. The switch is required to toggle to an existing generator to supply power to the building

in case of need for emergency shelter. According to Dunne, a new generator would not be necessary.

He also mentioned that Building Inspector Jason Fogue had sent a comparison of building fees for the board to consider. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

The board then moved on to a discussion of the warrant articles for the Annual Town Meeting, which followed the board meeting.

Cultural Council to hold arts exhibition at Blandford Country Club on Aug. 27

BLANDFORD – The local Cultural Council Arts Exhibition will take place Saturday, Aug. 26 and Sunday, Aug. 27 at the Blandford Country Club, North Street.

The exhibition is juried and prospective exhibitors should begin the entry process now. According to Cultural Council member and exhibit director, Susan Racine, the exhibit offers an opportunity both for area residents to enjoy artworks and to promote area artisans. The juried exhibits

are open to fine arts, fine art crafts including sculpture, pottery and woodwork and can include limited edition and original works.

According to Racine, works can be sold and there will be no commission fee. Submissions must be received by the Blandford Cultural Council by Tuesday, July 25 and artists will have the jury's decision by Tuesday, Aug. 1. Artwork must be delivered to the Blandford Country Club on Friday, Aug. 25 from 10 a.m.-noon or 4-6 p.m.

The exhibit opens for public viewing and sales on Saturday, Aug. 26 at noon and will be open until 7 p.m. and again on Sunday, Aug. 27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Submission application forms are available on the town's website at townofblandford.com; search for Cultural Council Third Annual Exhibition.

People may call Racine at 413-478-3600 or email susanracine1@gmail.com for more information.

Election has another write-in candidate

BLANDFORD – It was not known until last week that Thomas Deitner of 113 Chester Road has announced his write-in candidacy for the two-year term as Fence Viewer. Deitner said he had only very recently decided to run for the office. Deitner grew up in Blandford as a child and has recently moved back.

“I will work for the town in whatever capacity I can and the Fence Viewer position is a good place to start,” he said. Town election is this Saturday, June 10 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Town Hall.

MEETING

from page 1

Town Counsel Reich asked to speak to the question and he said, “I think it is important to recognize that what we are talking about here is the Owners Project Manager and the design. We're not at the point of actually constructing either of these facilities.” He continued saying that any use of town property or town funds would “come back to town meeting, so this would be the initial phase to start the process to allow the study” to determine possibilities.

“This is not a construction article,” he said. “All these questions are great questions,” he said, adding that they would be better asked at the point of construction decision.

Another question from a resident who felt “there's a lot of misinformation out there” was how long the process would take and how it would affect the mill rate.

Moderator David Hopson said he was not sure how long the process would be, nor sure how long it would take to get to the point of asking for funds for the purpose.

Attorney Reich said the study has to be conducted. The next step would be a town meeting to appropriate funds.

Several different possible scenarios for funding any coming project make it difficult to project the impact on the taxes according to Hopson, speaking a chair of the Board of Assessors. Hopson said as current indebtedness ends over the next few years, more funds would be available to the town.

Responding to another question on size and combinations of the departments Town Counsel said ultimately it would come back to the town.

Michael Michalski posed three questions, first about changing the requirement of the vote for the article from a two-thirds to a simple majority vote; had anyone looked into what the towns of Westhampton and Williamsburg had paid

for their combined facilities at a fraction of the cost of what Michalski said was \$8 million and that the decision on a joint facility or a split facility should be up to the people, not the select board. His questions drew a round of applause.

Atty. Reich said the reality (in the article) is the change in the dollar amount and the change in the source of the funds. It's a determination of the finance committee working with the select board deciding if this can be taken from free cash.

Town meeting ultimately has the choice to fund whatever project comes forward and this project will require borrowing. Then there will be a two-thirds vote. Once the project proposals come forward, Atty. Reich said “You have the chance to vote it down,” but only after the proposals have been put to the town, with careful consideration by the select board so as to garner support. Atty. Reich again told voters that the study has to be completed as a starting point. Atty. Reich said, “There is no \$8 million dollar amount.” The only dollar amount on the table is the \$245,000.

Other residents asked that the town concentrate on what we need right away, citing the Fire Department.

Former Finance Committee member Jeff Bacon noted that “Whatever we do, we have to do the study.”

Hart moved the question, and the motion carried. The first vote was a voice vote and the moderator called the vote as carried. With questions, he called for a standing vote which was 87 yes to go forward with the study and 35 no.

Select Board Chair Cara Letendre said, “I am relieved that the vote passed and that we can move forward with the design phase.

I heard loud and clear all of the concerns from residents regarding cost for the total project and will be sure to keep those in mind as we take a look at options.”

Highway Superintendent David Waldron said Tuesday morning, “The residents of Blandford have made the decision pursue the next step of the building project.”

Interim Fire Chief Adam Dolby said, “I'm extremely pleased with the turnout for last night's town meeting and we knew we could count on the support from residents to fund the first phase of a new station. We're looking forward to the next steps where we have concept designs and can present options for locations back to the town and progress.”

Town Administrator Christopher Dunne said he was “pleased that the town is able to advance the project to the next stage. There is a lot of work to be done to make sure that the end product meets both the needs of our departments and our taxpayers.”

Another article for Fire Department equipment was split for \$200,000 to replace the 40-year-old brush truck and \$400,000 for a new pumper truck. Questions included where a new truck would be parked but not important as it is a replacement. It will take some time to get the new pumper.

Atty. Reich said the town cannot sign a contract unless the funds are available. The cap is set at the amount voted. He also said it now “takes years” to get a piece of equipment, it does not happen quickly.

The question was moved and approved.

The town also approved the \$400,000 for the pumper engine which was also approved.

Dunne said the town has taken the first step in the five-year capital improvement plan.

Dolby also noted, “Additionally, the residents recognized that we need to continue to replace our aging fleet of vehicles. First up is our nearly 40-year-old brush truck and, at some point, our Engine

1. With funding approved to at least begin the process for replacing those pieces, we can ensure we have working apparatus capable of handling whatever incidents are presented in town.

It was a night that reinforced town support for our first responders.”

Other Articles

Other items approved included the town's operating budget, Gateway Regional School District budget, the Water Department budget and transfers for a total of \$4,436,898.99. All but \$15,601 of the \$761,000 beginning balance of free cash after transfers to various stabilization accounts and assorted expenditures remained.

Doug Smelcer asked about Article 8, the pro-forma article permitting the treasurer with the select board's approval to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of revenue, “Is this the same as last year?”

Moderator Hopson said it is the same as in prior years, “It's every year...for cash flow.” Smelcer said he wanted to be sure it was not a “carte blanche” permission.

All the Broadband and Water Department transfers were approved unanimously.

The town also voted to establish a five-member Commission on Disability which will follow through on the ADA self-study completed earlier this year.

The bylaw change for road bonds from \$25,000 per mile to \$2,000 per mile was passed unanimously as amended.

In an overview of the meeting, Select Board member T.J. Cousineau said “I think the meeting went very well. People were listening to the needs of the town and most everyone was on board with the agenda to get things done. As far as the Fire Department and Highway Department we will need to find out our best options and then the town will decide.”



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

Call to place your classified ad:

413-283-8393

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



CHESTER

Hamilton Memorial Library lists upcoming events

CHESTER – The Hamilton Memorial Library, 195 West Main St., will hold on Saturday, June 10 at 11 a.m. a talk on preserving the harvest with Chester resident, Lee Myers. She will teach how to safely store garden produce through canning. People should RSVP by calling 413-354-7808.

The magic program “Abracadabra” will kick off the library’s summer reading program on Tuesday, June 27 at 4 p.m. Children are encouraged to

sign up for the reading program.

Story time, craft, and snack are held on Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. and are perfect for ages 3-5 years.

Creative Movement will be held Thursday, June 29 at 11:30 a.m. during the regular story time. Laurel Lenski leads this story time. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Expressive Art Therapy and an Associate degree in dance.

Other activities at the library include LEGO Club on Thursdays in

June at 1 p.m., a new writers club on the third Tuesday of each month at 4:30 p.m. and a monthly book club on the third Wednesday of each month at 4:30 p.m. This month’s book is “The Call of the Wild” by Jack London.

Banjo Lessons with Chris Merenda from the Whisky Treaty Roadshow will take place the first and third Tuesday in June at 2 p.m. People should call 413-354-7808 to reserve a spot.

Coming in July there will be a

song writer’s workshop with popular musician, Chris Merenda on Tuesday, July 11 at 5 p.m. He has offered his skills to help people write their song. They should bring their work in progress and he will help coach them through any challenges. People should call 413-354-7808 to reserve a spot.

People may visit the website at www.Hamilton-library.org or on facebook at Hamilton Memorial Library and Instagram @chesterlibrary for updates.

GOSHEN

Election results announced

GOSHEN – The Goshen Town Clerk announces the election result of the Saturday, June 3 election.

Seventy five of the 761 registered or 10% went to the poll to cast ballots. Of the 75 voters, five cast absentee ballots.

All candidates ran unopposed. Sabrina McGill received 70 votes for a three-year term as Almoner and Paula Pedersen, 72 votes for Assessor. Joshua E. Lafond had 70 votes for a three-term to Board of Health and Heather Crocker Aulenback, 71 votes for a three-year term to the Chesterfield/Goshen Regional School Committee.

Dawn Scaparotti received 65 votes for a three-year term to Finance Committee and Mary Packard got eight write in voter for a three-year term to Finance Committee, a slot that was blank on the ballot. Paul Marcinek got 69 votes for a three-year term to Hampshire Regional School Committee and Rosemary Bienz had 72 votes for a

three-year term as Library Trustees.

Two other positions for Library Trustees, one for a three-year term and the other for a one-year term, were blank. Roxanne Cunningham received seven write-in votes for the three-year term and ten for the one-year term. Keith Wright had 68 votes for a one-year term as Moderator.

Robert Raymond received 66 votes for a three-year term to Planning Board and Gary Griswold had 69 votes for a one-year term to Planning Board. A five-year term for Planning Board only got one write in.

Krisine Bissell received 65 votes for a three-year term to Select Board and Roger A. Culver had 72 votes for a one-year term as Tilton Fruit Farm Supervisor. Robert O. Goss had 69 votes for a one-year term as Tilton Fruit Farm Supervisor and Richard K. Polwrek had 69 votes for a one-year term as Tilton Fruit Farm Supervisor.

WESTFIELD

Westfield Bank announces multiple promotions

WESTFIELD – James C. Hagan, President and CEO of Westfield Bank, announces the promotion of Dan Danilowicz, Kristin Gravanis and Michael Laga to Vice President and Mortgage Loan Officers.

They will continue to be responsible for originating residential mortgage loan applications primarily through outside business development and marketing activities in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

Danilowicz, who has originated loans since 2002, joined Westfield Bank in 2019 as an Assistant Vice President and Mortgage Loan Officer. He graduated from the University of Hartford in 1993 with a Bachelor’s degree in economics and has worked at various local banks and mortgage companies prior to joining Westfield Bank. He is a proud second-generation mortgage lender, and his father originated loans for Chicopee Savings Bank during the 1970s. Danilowicz resides in Burlington, Connecticut.

Gravanis, who has originated mortgages since 2004, joined Westfield Bank in 2019 as an Assistant Vice President and Mortgage Loan Officer after spending time with other local banks and mortgage companies. Throughout her career, Gravanis has been committed to pro-



Dan Danilowicz



Kristin Gravanis



Michael Laga

viding an outstanding experience for everyone she works with. From walking her clients through each step of the mortgage process to providing consistent, honest communication from start to finish, she helps them navigate through the mortgage process with ease.

Gravanis has been named a top mortgage loan officer in booked dollars and units for the past four years in Hampden County. She specializes in construction loans, jumbo loans and assisting first-time homebuyers. Gravanis has been a member of the Realtor Association of Pioneer Valley’s Community Service Committee for fifteen years. She resides in Wilbraham.

Laga, who has originated loans since 1998, joined Westfield Bank in 2015 as a Mortgage Loan Officer. He had a 14-year professional baseball career, spending time in the Detroit Tigers, St. Louis Cardinals and San Francisco Giants organizations. In 2019, he was inducted into the Western Massachusetts Baseball Hall of Fame. Laga graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor’s degree in sport management from the University of Massachusetts in 1997 and spent time with a local mortgage company and Credit Union before joining Westfield Bank. He resides in Northampton.

RUSSELL

Noble View Outdoor Center hosts Laurel Day Saturday

RUSSELL – Noble View Outdoor Center, 635 South Quarter Road, on Saturday, June 10 from 4-8:30 p.m. will host an old fashioned Laurel Day.

Old and new friends of Noble View are invited to drop by for an hour or stay the afternoon at this event that commemorates the early history of Noble View and the Berkshire Chapter (now the Western Massachusetts Chapter of the Appalachian Club. They will have will two guided hikes on the Laurel trails, a chili cook off, strawberry shortcake, a campfire, a self-guided story walk and great cottage porches to gather on and enjoy the view.

For local history buffs, Noble View

will have a display complete with cottage registry book, photographs from the early 1930s to 1970s and historical articles about the early days of Noble View.

Registration is required for this event by visiting the AMC website link Laurel Day Registration, calling or texting Laura Stinnette at 413-454-3232 or seeing Nan Mack on the Noble View premises.

Overnight campsite accommodations are available by calling 603-466-2727 for reservations.

Families are all welcome to this outdoor event. Rain date is Sunday, June 11.

STOCKBRIDGE

Stockbridge Grange to hold community dinner June 11

STOCKBRIDGE – The Stockbridge Grange is having a community dinner on Sunday, June 11 with take out only from noon-1:30 p.m.

The menu includes ham, mashed potatoes, vegetable and dessert choices of chocolate cream pie or lemon meringue pie.

The dinner is \$15 per person and meals may be picked up at Grange Hall, 51 Church St. Orders may be made by calling 413-243-1298 or 413-443-4352.

Reservation deadline is Thursday June 8. Grange community dinners are designed to raise money for non-profit projects and building maintenance.

Christine O’Dea promoted to vice president at Westfield Bank

WESTFIELD – James C. Hagan, President and CEO of Westfield Bank, announces Christine O’Dea has been promoted to Vice President.

She will continue her role as Business Government Deposit Services Sales Officer. O’Dea has spent 22 years with Westfield Bank. She began her career with the bank as a teller and has held various roles including head teller, assistant branch manager and AVP, BGDS sales officer, prior to her current role.

O’Dea has been recognized as a top performer on numerous occasions throughout her history with the bank.

“Christine has done a wonderful job



Christine O’Dea

building and maintaining customer relationships. This promotion provides more customers the ability to experience Christine’s professionalism and expertise,” said Michael Vogel, Vice President and BGDS Sales Manager.

O’Dea obtained an Associate’s Degree from Holyoke Community College and is pursuing a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration from Cambridge College. She serves as a Board Member of the Western Mass. Council for Boy Scouts of America and coordinates the bank’s participation in Springfield Boys & Girls Club’s Festival of Trees.

CLASS OF 2023

GATEWAY

from page 1

Joey Pisani, marched onto the field with their Class Advisor Alexandra Jennings. Under the direction of Beth Guertin, the Concert Band played Pomp and Circumstance. Early program items included the Pledge of Allegiance led by Principal Jason Finnie, the National Anthem, and introductions of the Superintendent and School Committee members on the stage.

Finnie also led a moment of silence for classmate Raphael Kowal, who passed away in 2018. A lone chair in front of the stage held a cap, gown, and picture of Kowal and classmates, Superintendent Kristen Smidy and School Committee Chair Sarah Page brought up flowers, cards, basketballs, and other remembrances at this point.

The Senior Welcome was presented by Class President Olivia Kanner. In her speech, Kanner noted that, "With the exception of all the times we've said we can't stand each other, there isn't a doubt in my mind that we will miss each other one day." She added that anything could remind them of each other, from passing by an old yet familiar face, looking through the yearbook you swore you'd never buy, finding their old reindeer games tee shirt, or hearing a song that brings back dance moves you can't quite do anymore. She added, "One day, when you remember the way we held hands and leaned on each other after the passing of our dear classmate, Raph."

Senior band members Rachael Austin, Sean Fogue and Nancy Mueller then joined the band and soloed during a rendition of "Into the Sun" by Dean Sorensen and Bruce Pearson.



Class President Olivia Kanner is shown with classmate and Air National Guardsman Zander Hicks. Photos by Wendy Long



This empty chair with a cap and gown and diploma along with a photo of classmate Raphael Kowal, who died in 2018.

Principal Jason Finnie announced Valedictorian Nancy Mueller "o thunderous applause," noting the thunder rumbling in the distance. Mueller said that she had googled graduation speech for inspiration and the results suggested "reflecting on a memorable homecoming or football championship." This comment was met with laughter from the students and community in the small, rural district. "I have come to realize that we have something better," Mueller said. "We have built ties with our peers and connections with our teachers and staff that just don't exist at generic high schools." Mueller added, "Where else do you look

out the window to a horse in the parking lot? Our time at Gateway is special because it is unique."

Salutatorian Rachael Austin then took the stage. In her remarks, she talked about being the youngest in her family and being inspired by watching her brother Robert perform in the band and drama club, join National Honor Society, and become Salutatorian of his class.

"I wanted nothing more than to follow in his footsteps, and by golly, I tried. However, our good friend the Pandemic decided to introduce itself in my freshman year of high school." She described the struggles of canceled performances

and virtual band rehearsals. "Try syncing yourself to your fellow performers with Hilltown lag."

Austin and fellow senior V. Damon then joined the Chorus for the songs, "Times They Are a Changin'" by Bob Dylan and "Underdog," as sung by Alicia Keys. Vocalists performed under the direction of Gina Clark.

Guest speaker Val Zeh was invited up. An 18-year veteran mathematics teacher, Zeh had taught students in both middle and high school. "I have no idea what your future will look like," she said. "What I do know is that you will be fine-better than fine. You are going to conquer whatever challenges the future brings. You have already succeeded through the pandemic...attended high school in a manner that none of your role models had...hybrid classes and Google meets. Nothing is gonna stop you now."

Finnie then announced each graduate, with diplomas conferred by Smidy and Page.

In his closing remarks, Finnie concluded, "Be the positive change the world desperately needs right now."

Kanner was invited back on stage for the traditional moving of the tassels. Once completed, the class held to a long tradition of tossing their caps in the air.

In their final act together, Gateway's Class of 2023 marched out to the song "Everlong" by the Foo Fighters.

Alumnus Robert Austin (Class of 2019) caught up with his sister after the recession. When asked what he thought of her speech, he quipped, "Well I noticed she didn't thank our parents, so I was kind of mad about that," but added that he was truly honored to be in her remarks.

Not Just Septic Work...

SEPTIC PUMPING DRAINAGE

SEPTIC SYSTEMS DESIGNED & INSTALLED GRAVEL & ASPHALT DRIVEWAYS

...BUT, GOT A PROBLEM WITH YOUR POOPER? CALL...

Cooper EXCAVATING AND TRUCKING INC.

413-568-3164

Serving Hampden & Berkshire Counties

WWW.COOPEREXCAVATINGMA.COM

Send Us Your Photos!

countryjournal@turley.com

Family Owned Since 1985

T.J. BARK MULCH INC.

Visit TJBarkMulch.com for Coupons

18 Different All Organic Double Ground Premium Mulches
Pine • Spruce • Hemlock • Cedar • Red, Black & Brown
Playground • Forest Blend • Topsoil • Seasoned Firewood

NOW CARRYING DECORATIVE STONE

We are a mulch manufacturer, not a resaler of other people's products. This means no middleman, and you save on the best product around. Come visit us on the web for great deals!

413-569-2400 | 25 Sam West Road, Southwick, MA | 860-654-1975

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

USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN CENTER CUT PORK CHOPS \$2.44 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TENDERLOIN CUT FREE \$9.89 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN BEEF SHORT RIBS FLANKEN STYLE \$8.88 lb
USDA INSP. FRESH PORK SIRLOIN CUTLETS... \$2.12 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN BEEF TOP ROUND LONDON BROIL or STEAK \$4.49 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH CHICKEN WINGS WHOLE 10 LB BAG \$1.53 lb
USDA INSP. FRESH PORK SPARE RIBS \$2.22 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN BONE-IN CHICKEN BREAST SPLIT TRAY PAK ... \$1.53 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN CORN DOGS \$2.29 lb
USDA INSP. SLICED IN DELI VIRGINIA HAM..... \$3.99 lb	USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN COOKED SHRIMP 51/60 CT 1 LB BAG..... \$4.44 ea	
GREAT ON THE GRILL	USDA INSP. STORE MADE BONELESS BBQ MARINATED PORK BUTT STRIPS..... \$2.99 lb	
USDA INSP. STORE MADE BONELESS ITALIAN MARINATED CHICKEN BREAST..... \$2.99 lb		
USDA INSP. STORE MADE BONELESS MARINATED SKIRT STEAKS \$6.99 lb		

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

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

SALE DATES: 6/8/23-6/14/23 BUY DIRECT FOR SAVINGS • SELECTION • SERVICE

Hull forest products

- Woodland Management
- Chapter 61 / Stewardship Plans
- Careful Timber Harvesting
- Always Buying Logs & Timber
- Family Owned & Operated

www.hullforest.com
Station Road, Russell, MA
Call today for a free consultation!
(413) 862-3340

CRW LANDSCAPES INC.

PATIOS • WALLS • WALKS • STAIRS

Over 30 Years Experience
Owner On Site • Guaranteed Work
Specializing in Unique
Hardscape Design & Installation

CRWlandscapes@gmail.com • 413-821-9498

CLASS OF 2023

HAMPSHIRE

from page 1

mony, and for that, I am so very proud of you.”

She gave some statistics on the class. In total, they took 130 Advance Placement exams over the past four years. Many graduated with multiple college credits from those AP courses. Fifty-three seniors play at least one varsity sport and seven of them will go to play in college next year. At least 15 performed in or supported the spring musicals. One student earned the highest awards in both the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts before her senior year and one is a recommended student in the 2023 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Valedictorian Ellia Masenior posed several questions to her fellow graduates. “What are you good at?” “What brings you joy?” “And what does the world need you to do?” She said although she has been a student at Hampshire Regional for two years, “but here I learned the true meaning of a school community.”

She said, “Hampshire has heart, and from heart flows community. The Hampshire community consists of 675



Valedictorian Ellia Masenior addresses her classmates at the Saturday evening graduation at Hampshire Regional High School in Westhampton.

students, 84 teachers, 63 staff members, and a village of friends and family.” Salutatorian Riley Smith said she



These graduates are all smiles following their Saturday evening graduation from Hampshire Regional High School.

Submitted photos

was not a skilled writer so she began her speech with something she is good at – math. She said, “For most of us, we

started our journey at Hampshire 6 years ago on August 29, 2017. It is now June 3, 2023. That’s 2,104 days, or 50,496 hours, or 3,029,760 minutes that we have been students here at HRHS.”

Both the Class President Eliza Warner and Class Vice-President Silvia Bastek also spoke at the graduation ceremony. Warner said, “We will no longer see each other in the halls, at a sports game, the musical, or in class. With that being said, let’s remember all of the good memories we have had at Hampshire. Bring these memories with you in the future. Life will change after graduation but the memories will stay forever.”

Bastek said, “While I was writing this speech in my favorite corner of Shelburne Falls Coffee Roasters, I realized that it was the last time I’d be writing something for high school, and the last time I’d be sitting in that corner, next to Eliza, procrastinating. I thought about the hours we’ve spent there, gossiping, playing Sorry, drinking coffee and sometimes actually doing our homework.”

Although it was on the chilly side Saturday, the rain held off.

Salve Regina lists graduates

NEWPORT, RI – Salve Regina University held its 73rd commencement ceremony recently. Local graduates were: Sara Labbe of Westfield, Bachelor of Science degree in biology-environmental sciences and Sam Winiarski of Westfield, Bachelor of Science degree in business administration.

Worcester Polytechnic Institute holds 154th commencement

WORCESTER – President Grace Wang and Board of Trustees Chair William Fitzgerald presided over Worcester Polytechnic Institute’s 154th Commencement exercises on May 13, marking the first time for both in their respective positions.

Local students receiving degrees were: Grace Holden of Westfield in robotics engineering, Noah Kantor of Westfield in chemical engineering and Jolie Walts of Westfield in robotics engineering.

Nazareth College graduates Girardin

ROCHESTER, NY – Gavin Girardin of Westfield graduated from Nazareth College with a Bachelor’s degree in Business Leadership during the 96th Commencement ceremony on campus at the Golisano Training Center on Saturday, May 13.

Announce Your
Wedding or Engagement
Share Your Joy!

Bridal
GUIDE

Your wedding or engagement announcement will be included in our Bridal Guide, out August 2023 for FREE!

Be sure to include the following with photograph:

Bride’s Name: _____

Bride’s Town Residence: _____

Groom’s Name: _____

Groom’s Town Residence: _____

Wedding Date: _____

Wedding Location: _____

Email: JAMIE@TURLEY.COM by July 19th
BRIDAL GUIDE
800.824.6548 | www.turley.com

Be sure to include a high resolution, clear photograph for printing.

Blandford
FAIR

North Street, Blandford, Massachusetts

Family Summer FUN DAY
Saturday, June 24, 2023

Free Kids Games

Touch-A-Truck
10am-2pm

Flea Market
7am-3pm

FREE ADMISSION

SCHOOLS & YOUTH

Gateway Regional High School announces senior awards

By Wendy Long
Correspondent

HUNTINGTON – Faculty and administrators announced the academic, extracurricular and scholarship awards for the graduating Class of 2023 at the annual awards ceremony, held May 31. They are listed alphabetically.

Ayden Audet: John and Abigail Adams Scholarship, Outstanding Intern & Water Operation I Course completion, Honor Roll 3 Terms, Best Play Performers in English, Fall 2022-Soccer-ALL WMASS Class E 2nd Team, All-League, Western Mass Senior All Star Game Participant.

Rachael Austin: Salutatorian, John and Abigail Adams Scholarship, National Honor Society, Academic “G,” Excellence in Pre-Calculus Honors, Excellence in Choir, Director’s Award for Chorus, Excellence in Concert Band and Louis Armstrong Jazz Award.

Cecelia Balboni: Richard Carmel Scholarship, Excellence in English IV CP, Excellence in Business Math, Honor Roll 3 Terms, Superb Sewing Award. Annemarie Benson: Excellence in Wood Technology, Van Gogh Award for Art Excellence, Most Interesting Questions Award-Math, Most Inquisitive - History. Charles Bond: Perseverance Award in English.

Liam Bowler: John and Abigail Adams Scholarship, National Honor Society, Academic “G”, Honor Roll 3 Terms, Excellence in Wood Technology, Class Jokester in English, Spring 2022-Baseball-All WMASS Class D 2nd Team, Hampshire Gazette All-Star 2nd Team.

Natalie Brown: Alice and Henry Euler Scholarship, Montgomery Chief Frye Scholarship, Honor Roll 3 Terms, Excellence in Forensics, Positive Attitude Award - History.

Tristan Burke: Welding 500 Hours Certificate, Outstanding Intern.

Cole Chapman: Honor Roll 3 Terms.

Shane Cooper: Welding 500 Hours Certificate, Fall 2022-Soccer-ALL WMASS Class E 2nd Team, Hampshire Gazette Honorable Mention, All League, Western Mass Senior All Star Game Participant. Olivia Dame: National Honor Society, Academic “G.” Gateway Math Award, Excellence in English AP, Excellence in Anatomy & Physiology, Excellence in Spanish IV Honors, Honor Roll 3 Terms, Student Council, Senior Class Vice President, Yearbook Senior Editor. V Damon: John and Abigail Adams Scholarship, Excellence in Choir, Director’s Award for Chorus, Van Gogh Award for Art Excellence, Theater is Life Award - Drama Club.

Jordyn DuBour: John and Abigail Adams Scholarship, Excellence in English IV CP, Van Gogh Award for Art Excellence, Student Council, Student Director Award-Drama Club, GSA Member. Sean Fogue: Richard Carmel Scholarship, Jurgen G. Igel Memorial Scholarship, Aline Euler and Henry Paul Euler Scholarship, Admiral’s Scholarship-Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Karen May Hart Scholarship, Honey Dew Donuts Scholarship, Jurgen G. Igel Memorial Scholarship, Academic “G,” Honor Roll 3 Terms, Excellence in Jazz Band, John Philip Sousa Award, Gateway Band Booster Scholarship. Aaron Gallagher: John and Abigail Adams Scholarship, Honor Roll 3 Terms, Most Interesting Plans for After Graduation, Most Likely to Share a Fun Fact Award - History.

Azades Hamblin: Honor Roll 3 Terms, Excellence in Business Math, Excellence in Contemporary Issues, Water Operation I Course Completion.

Edward Harding: National Honor Society, Honor Roll 3 Terms, Hank Henderson Award, Most Likely to Share a Fun Fact Award - History.

Tyler Hebert: John and Abigail Adams Scholarship, Welding 500 Hours

Certificate. Rylie Heeter: Excellence in Forensics, Honor Roll 3 Terms, Outstanding Intern & Water Operation I Course completion, Best Play Performers in English, Spring 2022-Baseball-All WMASS Class D 1st Team, Hampshire Gazette All-star 1st Team, PVIAC All League.

Zander Hicks: MIAA Military Appreciation Award, Excellence in English IV Honors, Welding 500 Hours Certificate. Nevaeh Judson: Excellence in English IV Honors: , Honor Roll 3 Terms, Senior Class Treasurer, Getting an HBO Special Award - Drama Club.

Olivia Kanner: APA TOPSS Award, Honor Roll 3 Terms, Student Council, Senior Class President, Yearbook Senior Editor, Life Skills Outstanding Internship Award, Fall 2022-Soccer-Western Mass Senior All Star Game Participant. Hailey Krassler: Excellence in Spanish II CP, Honor Roll 3 Terms, Van Gogh Award for Art Excellence, Creativity in American Government Award, Kindest Classmate Award, Funniest Leading Lady Award-Drama Club, GSA Member.

Gage Laurie: Welding 500 Hours Certificate, Tech Crew Leadership and Service Award. Jacob MacLeod: John and Abigail Adams Scholarship.

Liam McKellick: Richard Carmel Scholarship, John and Abigail Adams Scholarship, Montgomery Chief Frye Scholarship, National Honor Society, Excellence in Calculus AP, Honor Roll 3 Terms, Winter 22 - 23 Hockey (Southwick Co-op) All WMASS Class C 1st Team, All-League.

Nancy Mueller: Valedictorian, Golden Achievement Award, John and Abigail Adams Scholarship, Three County Fair Scholarship Award, Hillside Agricultural Society Scholarship, National Honor Society, Academic “G,” Honor Roll 3 Terms, Robert Shipman Social Studies Award, Counselor Kindness Award, Excellence in English AP, Excellence in Calculus AP,

Excellence in Anatomy & Physiology, Excellence in American Government Honors, Excellence in Concert Band, Excellence in Jazz Band, Student Council, Class Secretary.

Sage Painter: Most Likely to Share a Fun Fact Award-History, GSW Member. Lucy Pitoniak: John and Abigail Adams Scholarship, George A. Schenna and Genevieve E. Schenna Scholarship, Montgomery Chief Frye Scholarship, National Honor Society, Academic “G,” Honor Roll 3 Terms, Excellence in Business Math, Excellence in Psychology, Excellence in Wood Technology, Fall 2022-Cross Country-All-League, Best Stories Award - Math.

Noah Primack: John and Abigail Adams Scholarship, Spanish Class Creative Genius, Creativity Award in English, Water Operation I Course completion.

Owen Przybyla: Welding 500 Hours Certificate, Water Operation I Course completion, Fall 2022-Soccer-ALL WMASS Class E 2nd Team, All-League, Western Mass Senior All Star Game Participant.

Audrey Saalfrank: Westfield Chamber of Commerce Scholarship, Excellence in Pre-Calculus CP, Van Gogh Award for Art Excellence, Honor Roll 3 Terms.

Jayden Santiago-Lopez: Athletic Award, Fall 2022-Soccer-ALL WMASS Class E Honorable Mention, Hampshire Gazette Honorable Mention, Winter 22-23-Basketball-All League, Hampshire Gazette Honorable Mention, Hampshire/Franklin County Senior All Star Game Participant.

Isaiah Solitario: Water Operation I Course completion.

Jacob Tester: Welding 500 Hours Certificate. Nicolas Vargas: Strongest Opinion Award-Math, Most Likely to Share a Fun Fact Award - History.

Amelia Wallace: Excellence in Early Education and Care III, Honor Roll 3 Terms.

Horace Smith Fund awards scholarships to area students

WESTFIELD – The Horace Smith Fund Awards \$316,000 to Area Students

On Thursday, June 15, The Horace Smith Fund will hold its 124th fund corporators’ meeting and scholarship awards ceremony at the Carriage House of Storrowton Tavern for recipients, their parents, school counselors and corporators.

Wayne Webster, Chair of the Board of Trustees, announced that this year there will be 25 Walter S. Barr Scholarships awards, with 22 going to graduating high school seniors and three to recipients currently attending college. The William R. Rooney Award will be granted to one high school candidate who has received special education services.

There are also five Walter S. Barr Fellowship recipients. Providing that students maintain at least a B average in college, each scholarship provides a total of up to \$12,000 over four years and each fellowship provides up to \$15,000 over three years. Therefore, The Horace Smith Fund is happy to be able to grant a total

award of \$316,000 to area students this year.

The Horace Smith Fund was established in 1899 by the successful and generous philanthropist named Horace Smith. He and Daniel Wesson were the founders of Smith & Wesson, located in Springfield. Smith’s will provided that the residual of his estate, after several bequests to relatives and institutions, was to be used for public purposes at the discretion of his executors. They decided that it should be used to help deserving students finance their education.

The Walter S. Barr Scholarships and Fellowships are named for a West Springfield businessman, whose widow left the bulk of the family estate to The Horace Smith Fund in 1950. The William R. Rooney Award is named for a past Executive Director with a desire to assist special needs students. All recipients must be residents of Hampden County.

This year’s scholarship recipients who are graduating seniors are:

Lynn S. Jang and Christopher A. Rondinelli, Agawam High School; Nancy E. Mueller of Gateway Regional High School; Aleishmarie Fuentes of High School of Science & Technology; Jibin Lim and Meadow M. Perez of Longmeadow; Aaron J. Little, Riley E. Londrville, Matthew Mendez and Fatuma M. Mire of Ludlow High School; Sydney S. Dodds, Raman Khanal and Matthew

Worthy of Springfield Central High School; Ghena H. Al Nuwab, Haya H. Al Nuwab, Paige M. Davis, Emily N. Garipey, Madison H. Kelly and Sara E. Woytowicz of West Springfield High School and Kathryn J. Breck of Westfield High School.

This year’s scholarship recipients already attending college are: Emma A. Sawtelle (Washington Academy)

Elms College; Natalie A. Velez (Smith Vocational High School) Tufts University and Christopher A. Cummings (Longmeadow High School) Westfield State University.

The five fellowship recipients are: Roaa M. Abdelmagid (High School of Commerce) New England College of Optometry; Madison Dover (West Springfield High School) UMass Amherst, Kylie A. Montemagni (Ludlow High School) UMass Amherst, Maherah Z. Shaikh (Chicopee Comprehensive High School) Western New England University and Aimee Ludwin (Northampton High School) of Westfield State University.

Students were selected on a variety of criteria, including their test scores, class rank, extra-curricular activities and a personal written account of why the student feels deserving of financial assistance. Applications for next year’s awards will be available Sept. 15 by visiting www.HoraceSmithFund.org or by calling 413-739-4222.



Nancy Mueller

This paper publishes birth, engagement, wedding and significant anniversary announcements free of charge.

Simply log on to our web site, choose the paper you want the announcement to appear in, then use our SUBMISSION link to email your information.

birth
announcements

engagement
announcements

wedding
announcements

www.turley.com

SCHOOLS & YOUTH

HCC celebrates Class of 2023 nursing graduates

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College celebrated the graduation of 52 students from its Associate in Science in Nursing degree program on Thursday, May 25.

Local Holyoke Community College, Associate of Science in Nursing program graduates for 2023 are:

Ash Berman of Easthampton, Noelle Fournier of Easthampton, Vadym Malenkyy of Easthampton, Enette Claxton-Toliver of Florence, Kerry Jo Nagel of Florence, Tanner Johnson of Northampton, Jennifer Lagoy of Russell, Shelley Mather of Southamptton, Jacquelyn Crosler of Southwick and Rosemary Dennis of Southwick, Madeline Fenderson of Westfield, Lindsay Hawley of Westfield, Valeri Kuznetsov of Westfield, Courtney Munns of Westfield and Jocelyn Soto of Westfield.

The graduates, many of whom are already working, will sit for their exams before becoming licensed as registered nurses. The students were recognized during a pinning ceremony at HCC's Campus Center, during which they were formally inducted into the healthcare field as soon-to-be registered nursing professionals. During a traditional pinning ceremony, new nursing graduates light candles, receive their nursing pin from a registered nurse and recite the Nightingale Pledge.



HCC, Class of 2023 nursing students, graduated May 25.

Submitted photo

Goodwin Univ. announces Dean's List

EAST HARTFORD, CT – Goodwin University announces the Dean's List for the spring 2023 session.

Local students making the Dean's List are: Toni Ferrara-James of Russell, Veronika Vysotska of Westfield and Kelly Wachta of Westfield.

Sarah Miller makes Dean's List

GROVE CITY, PA – Sarah Miller of Westfield and a Christian ministries major at Grove City College, has been named to the Dean's List with High Distinction for the fall 2022 semester.

Sarah is a 2020 graduate of Homeschool and is the daughter of Mr. and Dr. Vern Miller (Charlotte) from Westfield.

Students eligible for the Dean's List have a GPA of 3.40 to 3.59; for the Dean's List with Distinction a GPA of 3.60 to 3.84 and for the Dean's List with High Distinction a GPA of 3.85 to 4.0.

Worcester Polytechnic Institute students complete Major Qualifying Projects

WORCESTER – All students at Worcester Polytechnic Institute are required to complete a senior thesis as part of the university's distinctive project-based educational experience called the Major Qualifying Project, one that is usually team-based and often focuses on very specific issues or needs of an organization that has partnered with the university to sponsor the student's work.

Local students completing the MQP were Grace Holden of Westfield, Noah Kantor of Westfield and Jolie Walts. Holden, majoring in robotics engineering and a member of the Class of 2023 completed the project titled "DigSafe Autonomous Cable Detection."

Kantor, majoring in chemical engineering and a member of the Class of

2023, completed the project titled "Fire Resistant Smartphone Case for First Responders." Walts majoring in robotics engineering and a member of the Class of 2023, completed the project titled "Bird Deterrent Robot."

A signature element of the innovative undergraduate experience at WPI, project-based learning offers students the opportunity to apply their scientific and technical knowledge to real problems that affect the quality of people's lives—an experience that changes the student and their world.

In addition to providing tangible work experience that proves valuable to employers, MQPs often lead to publications in peer-reviewed journals, presentations at regional and national con-

ferences, patents, and entrepreneurial ventures. Others become useful innovations and products for their corporate sponsors.

Prior to their MQP, students complete an Interactive Qualifying Project, usually in their junior year, with a team of other students across disciplines; the projects may or may not relate to the students' fields of study and are sponsored by organizations across the globe to give students real-world experience addressing problems that lie at the intersection of science and society. Approximately 85% of WPI students complete a project at one of the university's 50+ off-campus project centers located in more than 30 countries around the world.

Assumption announces Dean's List

WORCESTER – Assumption University has announced those who have been named to the University's Dean's List for the spring 2023 semester.

Local students are: Robert Austin of Montgomery, Class of 2023; Aidan Boyle of Westfield, Class of 2024; Emily LaFond of Westfield, Class of 2023; Emily Mihalek of Westfield, Class

of 2025; Rebecca Monti of Westfield, Class of 2024 and Joshua Nixdorf of Westfield, Class of 2024.

Students named to the Dean's List must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 for a five-class, 15-credit semester to be included on the prestigious list, which is announced at the completion of the fall and spring semesters.

Kelly Wachta makes President's List

EAST HARTFORD, CT – Goodwin University announces the President's List for the spring 2023 Session includes 270 students, all of whom scored a perfect 4.0 GPA.

Kelly Wachta of Westfield made the President's List.

Springfield College announces spring semester Dean's List

SPRINGFIELD – Springfield College announces the Dean's List for academic excellence for the 2023 spring semester.

Local students are: David Albert of Westfield, an applied exercise science major; Kyana Alvarado of Westfield Alvarado, a psychology major; Liam Barrett of Westfield, a recreation industrial and therapy recreation major; Noel Bollenbach of Westfield, a digital/web/multimedia major; Christine Dabek of Easthampton, a health science/pre-physician assistant major;

Althea Fiordalice of Westfield, an education major; Elizabeth Fraser of Westfield Fraser, a health science major; Ryan Graham of Westfield, a movement and sport studies major; Amy Guachione of Becket, a criminal justice/human services major; Kerice Kelly of Easthampton, a health science/pre-physical therapy major; Isabel Navarro of Westfield, a psychology major; Robert Piper of Westfield, a health science/pre-physical therapy major; Ryan Roskey of Westfield, a health science/pre-occupational therapy

major; Jillian Scott of Westhampton, a health science/pre-occupational therapy major and Tetyana Shvyryd of Westfield, a health science/pre-physician assistant major.

To make the Dean's List a student must have completed a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded coursework for the term, exclusive of "P" grades. The student must not have any incomplete or missing grades in the designated term. The student must have a minimum semester grade average of 3.500 for the term.

*Send Us Your
School News
& Photos*

Email:
**countryjournal
@turley.com**

WESTHAMPTON

Westhampton library hosts free summer concerts

WESTHAMPTON – All summer concerts will take place on the library lawn.

In case of rain, the concerts will take place in the Westhampton Town Hall. These free concerts are made possible thanks Friends of Westhampton Library, The Cultural Council, Easthampton Savings Bank, Marek Builders, Inc. and Florence Bank

On Friday, June 23 at 6:30 p.m. Women in World Jazz will perform. All music is multicultural, diverse, exclusively written and performed by women and family friendly. Women In World Jazz brings together women of different nationalities with extensive experience in performance and education. The music is easy to relate to, diverse and engaging. All members of the group are accomplished musicians playing a variety of music ranging from Jazz to world/ethnic. Their international roster directly influences the choice of repertoire.

On Friday, July 7 at 6:30 p.m. the O-Tones will perform. They last played in Westhampton in 2016. The O-Tones, a hot New England Swing and Motown band, appeals to all ages. With lots of soul, they'll melt the audiences hearts and get their feet dancing.

The O-Tones band has been playing for events in New England since 1990 and is a dynamic entity. Over their lifespan, various singers and instrumentalists have lent their talents to the band's fun & professional Swing, Motown, Blues and Soul sound.

On Friday, July 21 at 6:30 p.m. the Blues Brothers Tributes Band will play in Westhampton. The Blues Brothers Tribute Band have been performing in all six New England states since 1994. They are an eight-piece band backing two Blues Brothers singing impersonators. This is the best of All American music R&B, Country and Swing music, as well as comedy that is understood by all ages.

On Friday, August 11 at 6:30PM The Squeezebox Stompers First invitation to play in Westhampton. The Squeezebox Stompers is a Boston area Americana Roots band, who have played throughout New England for the past 15 years. Performances include Americana, Cajun, zydeco, blues, folk, and originals. Members of the band have received Boston Music Awards and Songwriting Awards. We are noted for our step-lively up-beat music inspiring audiences to get up and dance. Instrumentation includes accordion, keyboards, fiddle, saxophone, harmonica, penny whistle, guitar, bass, and drums. The Squeezebox Stompers guarantee a Rockin' good time at family-friendly outdoor events.

On Friday, Aug. 25 at 6:30 p.m. Pan Neubean Steel will play in Westhampton. "Pan Neubean Steel is a Steelpan lead Caribbean band that specializes in showcasing the beautiful sounds of the Islands." They perform a Soulful Blend of Reggae, Soca and Calypso and offer "an oasis of musical moods."

CUMMINGTON

Friday cafe features Talamana Duo

CUMMINGTON – The next cafe is Friday, June 9 from 7-9 p.m. at the Village Church in Cummington.

The friendly folks at the Village Church present the Talamana Duo. The Talamana Duo will be performing original songs, incorporating elements of world music with jazz and folk music: Laila Salins on vocals, guitar and shruti and Jim Matus on laoutar, lute/guitar

hybrid and back-up vocals. The songs are based on lyrics of various visionary poets, including Maya Angelou, Emily Dickinson, William Blake, Laris Salins and Forough Farokhzad.

The Talamana ensemble was formed when they created "Songs along the amber road," touring Eastern Europe with a grant from European Union's "Capitals of Culture."

CHESTERFIELD

Public input sought on Hazard Mitigation Plan at Community Center on June 14

CHESTERFIELD – Residents, businesses and surrounding community residents and representatives are invited to learn about and provide input on the Town of Chesterfield Hazard Mitigation Plan, on Wednesday, June 14 at 6:30 p.m. in the Chesterfield Community Center, 400 Main Road.

The purpose of the Hazard Mitigation Plan is to identify and assess the risk to Chesterfield from natural hazards and climate change impacts and to determine how to best mitigate these. A mitigation action is any action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from hazards.

The meeting will include an overview of the hazard mitigation planning process, a discussion of natural hazards and climate change impacts in Chesterfield, and the mitigation strategies currently in place. Municipal officials and Pioneer Valley Planning Commission staff will be available to

answer questions and respond to comments about the project.

The meeting provides an opportunity for you to share your opinions and participate in the mitigation planning process. All members of the public, representatives from surrounding communities and other interested parties are welcome to attend the event. Public participation and input are essential!

The plan is being updated by the town with assistance from the PVPC and is funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency.

Upon completion, the plan will be submitted to MEMA and FEMA for review and approval. A FEMA approved plan makes the community eligible for federal and state mitigation grant funding.

For more information, people may email PVPC's Mimi Kaplan at mka-plan@pvpc.org or call 413-285- 1188.

3

EASY WAYS TO SUBSCRIBE TODAY

If you're enjoying this edition of the *Country Journal*

PLEASE CONSIDER SUBSCRIBING

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



Gateway 2023 Golden Achievement Finalists

By Wendy Long, Correspondent

Gateway's Golden Achievement Award is the high school's highest honor. Selection for this prestigious award begins with nominations from members of the senior class. From the top five vote earners from the state, one finalist is selected to represent the state at the award ceremony. The award is presented to the senior who has demonstrated exceptional leadership in academic, extracurricular, and community service activities throughout their high school career.

Principal Jason Fazio announced the five finalists for this year's award: Liam Rowley, Olivia Dine, Olivia Dine, Olivia Dine, and Olivia Dine. Liam Rowley has been awarded the award for his leadership and service to the community. Olivia Dine has been awarded the award for her academic excellence and leadership in the community. Olivia Dine has been awarded the award for her academic excellence and leadership in the community.

Delivered To Your Home!

Each week you'll receive

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

1

Use our website to securely subscribe online at countryjournal.turley.com

2

CALL US
**1(413)
283-8393**

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER!

— A TURLEY PUBLICATION —
www.turley.com

Yes!

I want to subscribe to the *Country Journal*!

Enclosed is my payment for:

\$311 year in state

\$361 year out of state

\$462 year in state

\$562 year out of state

CHECK ENCLOSED CHARGE MY CREDIT CARD

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Credit Card #: _____

Exp. Date: _____ CW2 code: _____

Signature _____

GIFT TO:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

3

Please complete this form and mail it in a secure envelope to:

Country Journal
24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069

CJ23TMC

Al's Tire & Auto Repair

When it comes to tires we do it all,
from wheelbarrows to big rigs.

MOST MAJOR TIRE BRANDS AVAILABLE
Brakes, Shocks, Struts, Front End Repairs & Alignments
Air Conditioning Service, Check Engine Lights

918 Southampton Road, Westfield, MA 01085
Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

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

THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPES

- ARIES**
Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, things may not progress the way you want them to unless you become a little more persistent. Figure out how to walk the line to achieve your goals.

CANCER
Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, as you try to become more organized, try not to get too overwhelmed by the scope of the task at hand. Tackle one thing at a time and keep making progress.

LIBRA
Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, after a few stops and starts, you and your romantic partner are on quite a roll. Enjoy that you both are in tune and aspiring toward shared goals.

CAPRICORN
Dec 22/Jan 20
This week is bound to be pretty intense, Capricorn. But you'll find a way to skirt through it relatively unscathed. Rely on a few friends as sounding boards.

TAURUS
Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, many things are going right with your life. But now it's time to get a handle on your love life. You may have to put in some extra effort, especially this week.

LEO
Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, situations may seem like they are a matter of life or death this week, but there's a good chance you're just being overly dramatic. Try to go with the flow.

SCORPIO
Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, it's possible you feel blocked on all sides regarding your employment. While you can't get ahead right now, there are some opportunities coming.

AQUARIUS
Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, try not to cut off channels of communication with loved ones as you deal with a few difficult issues. Others are willing to step up and help as needed.

GEMINI
May 22/June 21
Gemini, keep things on the lighter side when conversing with coworkers this week. Now is not the time to delve into controversial discussions in the workplace.

VIRGO
Aug 24/Sept 22
Emotions are running wild and you're worried about what others think of you, Virgo. Embrace a point of view that relies more on the rational than the emotional.

SAGITTARIUS
Nov 23/Dec 21
Be careful about speaking before thinking through your words, Sagittarius. Knee-jerk responses can have unexpected consequences. Take time to form your opinion.

PISCES
Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, others will not always see the world the way you do. Interactions this week can be a little stilted or even frustrating.

		1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		
	10	11						12				13	
	14						15				16	17	
18					19				20		21		
22				23				24		25			
26				27				28		29		30	
		31	32					33		34			
35	36								37				
38				39				40					
41			42		43		44				45	46	47
48			49		50		51				52		
53			54		55						56		
57			58		59				60	61	62		
	63	64						65					
		66						67					

- CLUES ACROSS**
1. Flat tableland with steep edges
 5. Where there's __, there's fire
 10. Talked incessantly
 12. Skill
 14. Without shame
 16. Where teens spend their days (abbr.)
 18. Boxing's GOAT
 19. Used to anoint
 20. Cluster cups
 22. Footballer Newton
 23. They make up a forest
 25. Split pulses
 26. Self
 27. Post-office box
 28. Test for high schoolers
 30. Large, flightless bird
 31. Expectorated
 33. Falsehood
 35. Prickly, scrambling shrub
 37. French river
 38. Told on
 40. Hillside
 41. Peyton's little brother
 42. Soviet Socialist Republic
 44. Cathedral city in Cambridgeshire
 45. Witness
 48. Brews
 50. Yellowish-brown
 52. Arctic explorers, abbr.
 53. Mexican agave
 55. A type of "cast"
 56. Encourage
 57. Atomic #52
 58. Relating to position north of south of equator
 63. Gadget whose name you forget
 65. Another recording
 66. Small blisters
 67. Dark brown or black
- CLUES DOWN**
1. Licensed for Wall Street
 2. "___ and flow"
 3. A very large body of water
 4. Accumulate on the surface of
 5. Central cores of the stem
 6. Angry
 7. Ceramic jar
 8. Scraped a car
 9. ___ route
 10. Soviet labor camp system
 11. Strong hostilities
 13. Vitamin of the B complex
 15. Go quickly
 17. Toast
 18. A team's best pitcher
 21. A Philly culinary specialty
 23. Small child
 24. Unhappy
 27. Trims away
 29. Characterized by crying eyes
 32. Soft touch
 34. American spy organization
 35. A person's chest
 36. Came from behind to win
 39. Fall back
 40. Nellie __, journalist
 43. Great places to kayak
 44. Suffer patiently
 46. Majestic bird
 47. Electroencephalograph
 49. Organic compound used as an anti-septic
 51. Objects connected to the web (abbr.)
 54. Ship as cargo
 59. The bill in a restaurant
 60. Upper-class young woman (abbr.)
 61. Judge in OJ Simpson trial
 62. One's grandmother
 64. Siberian river

3	6		5	4		7	9	
8		9	3				5	
		2			9	6		1
		7					6	
	9		8			3		
	3	5	6			8		
	2				7	1		6
		4				5		2
	5	8	2		1			

SUDOKU

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!

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!

answers

N	O	E	R	S	B	S	B	L	E	R	O	O	D	E	
L	A	V	E	T	I	N	G	A	D	I	T	A	V	E	T
G	E	D	O	P	L	E	S	I	S						
V	E	T	N	M	A	V	S	E	T	L	V	E			
E	L	L	A	V	B	R	A	V	E	R	T	A	V	E	
N	E	I	A	V	N	E									
I	E	D	E	C	E	T	A	V	S	P	A	V	S		
U	M	E	S	A	T	P	O	O							
L	H	D	E	S	E	R	E	T	M	A	V	C			
S	H	A	V	L	O	I	O								
S	H	A	V	L	O	I	O								
N	T	A	V	E	N	T	A	V	E	N	T	A	V	E	
S	M	O	K	E	S	A	V	M	E	S	A	V	M	E	

**To advertise here
contact Teri at
413-283-8393
or email:
twegiel@turley.com**

**WESTFIELD
AUTO PARTS INC**

**AUTO PARTS
& SUPPLIES**

NATIONALLY ADVERTISED MERCHANDISE FOR ALL MAKES & MODELS

WHOLESALE RETAIL

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

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

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

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

OBITUARY

John Joseph Little, 101

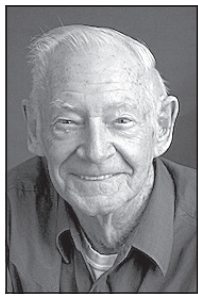
John Joseph Little passed away on May 30, 2023 in Renaissance Manor on Cabot in Holyoke after 101 years, 1 month and 19 days on this earth.

Born in Brooklyn, New York on April 11, 1922, son of the late William M. and Elizabeth C. (Stacey) Little. He was predeceased in 2000 by his wife of almost 58 years, Bernice (Bunny) R. Pedersen Little whom he married in Brooklyn, New York in 1942. Both their sons were also born there. He was also predeceased by his brothers William, Vincent, Donald and sisters, Mary Little Cairns and Rita, who died as an infant. He was the oldest and longest surviving sibling.

He leaves his son, Robert L. Little and his wife, Dawn of Helena, Montana and his son, Richard J. and his wife Patricia of Montgomery. He also leaves his grandchildren; Joseph of Kansas, Richard Jr. and Sheri (John) Bucko, of Montgomery, his four great-grandchildren: Ryan and Peyton Bucko, Mason Little, Alyssa Little and two great-grandchildren, Leanna and Laurel Chapman. He also leaves his sister-in-law, Hilda Little and many nieces and nephews.

John served in the Navy during World War II. The Little family moved to Montgomery from Bogota, New Jersey in January 1954.

John joined the Montgomery Police Department and the Montgomery Fire Department. He served



30 years with the Fire Department and 52 years with the Police Department and never missed a meeting. He also served as Constable for many years a constant presence at the polls. John loved going to the Council on Aging coffee hours and Tuesday get togethers at Larrabee's until he was unable to do so.

While living in Brooklyn he enjoyed making jewelry with his father-in-law. He worked at Ampad in Holyoke until his

retirement. He was a talented wood carver leaving many life-like pieces, especially of animals and birds.

For his 99th birthday two years ago, a special parade by his house was organized with a long, line of well wishers, Montgomery fire trucks and emergency vehicles with horns blaring made him very happy.

The family wishes to thank the wonderful staff at Renaissance Manor on Cabot nursing home for their constant love and care while John made his home with them.

He will be deeply missed by his family, friends and all who knew him.

The Graham Hilltown Community Funeral Home, 27 Russell Road in Huntington, Ma has honorably

been entrusted with providing for John's care and service request. For online condolences, please visit grahamhilltownfuneralhome.com.

DEATH NOTICE

LITTLE, JOHN JOSEPH

Died May 30, 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.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Town of Worthington Legal Notice of Public Hearing

A Public Hearing will be held at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at Worthington Town Hall, 160 Huntington Road in the Selectboard office. This hearing is to consider the application for the alteration of premises at the Goldenrod Country Inn, 144 Huntington Road.
06/08/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD23P0835EA

Estate of:
Arlow H Case, Sr.
Date of Death: 03/04/2022
CITATION ON
PETITION FOR
FORMAL
ADJUDICATION
To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by Colleen Bjorbekk of Colchester, CT requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Colleen Bjorbekk of Colchester, CT be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond

in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 06/23/2023.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon.

Barbara M. Hyland, First Justice of this Court.
Date: June 01, 2023

Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
06/01/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampshire Probate and Family Court 15 Atwood Drive Northampton, MA 01060 (413)586-8500 Docket No. HS23P0003EA Estate of: Patrick J Laughlin Also known as: Patrick Joseph Laughlin, Patrick Laughlin Date of Death: 12/17/2022 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for S/A - Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Kimberly Favre of Middlefield, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Kimberly Favre of Middlefield, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **With Personal Surety** on the bond in supervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the

Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 07/12/2023

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Linda S Fidnick, First Justice of this Court.
Date: June 01, 2023

Michael J. Carey
Register of Probate
06/08/2023

Town of Huntington Office of the Collector The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Notice of Tax Taking

TO THE OWNERS OF THE HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED LAND AND TO ALL OTHERS CONCERNED YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on **June 22, 2023 at 3 o'clock p.m.** at the Collector's Office, City Hall, PO BOX 550, Huntington, MA 01050, pursuant to the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 60, Section 53, the following described parcel/s of land will BE TAKEN FOR THE Town of Huntington for non-payment of taxes due thereon, with the interest and all incidental expenses and costs to the date of taking, unless the same shall have been paid before that date.

Sue Fopiano, Collector

Property Location: 6 ALLEN COIT RD
Assessed Owner(s): LAFLAM DOROTHY
MAZUCH EDWARD S

Subsequent Owner:
(if applicable)
Tax Bill #: 683 Map/Parcel ID: 508 53 0
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, containing approximately 87120 square feet of land and being a part of the premises recorded at Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 9511 Page 37. Total amount due for Fiscal Year 2021: \$2,077.16. Total amount due for Fiscal Year 2022: \$1,779.52

Property Location: 11 BLANDFORD HILL RD
Assessed Owner(s): BRENNAN NORMAN
BRENNAN JANET SLATE

Subsequent Owner:
(if applicable)
Tax Bill #: 799 Map/Parcel ID: H1 4 A
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, containing approximately 17424 square feet of land and being a part of the premises recorded at Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 12409 Page 8. Total amount due for Fiscal Year 2021: \$481.33

Property Location: 75 MOUNTAIN VIEW DR
Assessed Owner(s): JOYNER CUSTOM HOMES INC

Subsequent Owner:
(if applicable)
Tax Bill #: 1404 Map/Parcel ID: N3 31 0
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, containing approximately 27486 square feet of land and being a part of the premises recorded at Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 8980 Page 115. Total due for Fiscal Year 2021: \$211.71. Total due for Fiscal Year 2022: \$799.08.

06/08/2023

WE'VE EXPANDED OUR WEB SITE

PUBLIC NOTICES

ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to notices@turley.com
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

FOR SALE

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

FIREWOOD

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

HAY FOR SALE

Round, Wrapped Hay Bales, First & Second Cutting. Dry & Wet. Worthington, MA. Call **(413)478-0178**.

MISCELLANEOUS

PIANO BENCH LEATHER ADJUSTABLE EBONY \$90.00 Bogen professional 3001 tripod \$75.00 Real wicker 2 chairs 1 loveseat \$125.00. Cuisinart insta-pot electric pressure cooker used once \$75.00 Husqvarna Viking Daisy sewing machine never used \$85.00 **(413)256-1670**

WANTED

WANTED TO BUY

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

SERVICES

CHAIR SEAT WEAVING & refinishing - cane, fiber rush & splint - Classroom instructor, 20+ years experience. Call Wait at **(413)289-6670** for estimate.

LANDSCAPING

BRUSH CLEARING, VEGETATION CONTROL CLEARING OF FENCE LINES, OVERGROWN PROPERTIES, HIKING TRAILS CALL GARY **(413)531-3538**

ELECTRIFIED LANDSCAPING AND TREE SERVICE CALL **(413)799-5686**

SERVICES

MASONRY

STOP WET BASEMENTS ABC MASONRY & BASEMENT WATERPROOFING

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

HELP WANTED

VACANCY

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN/BOARD OF HEALTH The Town of Montgomery is seeking a part-time Administrative Assistant to the Board of Selectmen and Board of Health. The position is a Tuesday through Thursday (8:00am - 2:00pm) 16 hours per week. Salary will be negotiated at time of job offering. The job description can be obtained in person only at the Montgomery town hall during normal business hours. Interested individuals will be required to submit a cover letter of introduction, resume and an employment application to the Board of Selectmen's Office by 4:00pm June 29, 2023

REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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



Post your job openings in our classifieds. **WE GET RESULTS!** Call **1-413-283-8393**

JOB OPENING

STAFF WRITER

Turley Publications, based in Palmer, is seeking a storyteller who is curious about everything, and who understands how town government works to join our team of weekly reporters.

Experience in covering town government is a huge plus, and any experience in community journalism is as well. Staff writers cover all aspects of communities from features to municipal meetings to crimes and fires. Successful candidates must have people skills, plenty of curiosity and able to tell a story.

If you're a self-starter who enjoys community journalism and who can envision themselves connecting with our communities, we encourage you to apply for this position. Not a remote position.

Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience
- A determination to get the story, whatever it might be
- Equally comfortable writing hard news, features and event coverage
- Ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
- Proficiency in Associated Press style

Please tell us in a cover letter why you would be a good fit for this position and send it along with a resume and three writing samples to



Eileen Kennedy, Executive Editor
24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069
or email directly to ekennedy@turley.com

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

QUABBIN & SUBURBAN
FRIDAY AT NOON

HILLTOWNS
MONDAY AT NOON

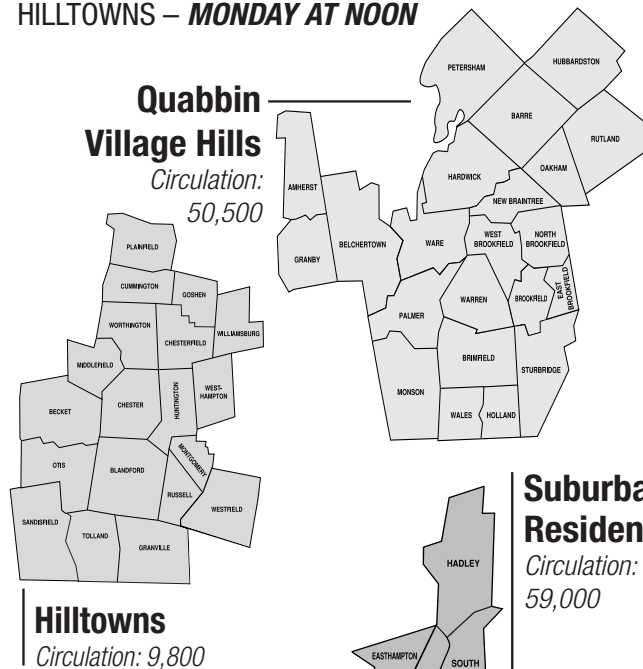


FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

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

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

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	Base Price \$26.50	22	Base Price \$27.00
23	Base Price \$27.50	24	Base Price \$28.00
25	Base Price \$28.50	26	Base Price \$29.00
27	Base Price \$29.50	28	Base Price \$30.00
29	Base Price \$30.50	30	Base Price \$31.00
31	Base Price \$31.50	32	Base Price \$32.00
33	Base Price \$32.50	34	Base Price \$33.00
35	Base Price \$33.50	36	Base Price \$34.00
37	Base Price \$34.50	38	Base Price \$35.00
39	Base Price \$35.50	40	Base Price \$36.00



Buy the Quabbin Village Hills or the Suburban Residential ZONE for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word. Add \$10 for a second Zone or add \$15 to run in ALL THREE ZONES.

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

First ZONE base price _____ Includes additional words
 Add a second ZONE **\$10.00**
 Add a third ZONE **\$5.00** Run my ad in the following ZONE(s):
 Subtotal _____
 x Number of Weeks _____
 TOTAL Enclosed _____

Quabbin
 Suburban
 Hilltowns

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

HILLTOWN HIKING ADVENTURES



Hilltown Hikers descend toward the river.



A hiker looks down a hole, possibly an old well.

Hikers explore Falley armory site

MONTGOMERY – The Falley armory was built in 1770, in 1795 he manufactured 1,000 muskets at \$13.40 each.

The grinding wheel is believed to be part of one that burst and badly hurt Richard's brother Samuel. Falley also operated Falley's Crossroads in Huntington, was a Montgomery selectmen twice, first in 1784. His life was full of adventure and he is Hilltown history.

The group hike Saturday took hikers back in time as they visited three boundary stones, the old Tekoa Reservoir, an old grist mill, threshing rock, Richard Falley's homestead and his secret armory all located within the Grace Robson Sanctuary in Montgomery.



Hilltown Hikers explore old foundations in the Grace Robson Sanctuary in Montgomery.



Hilltown Hikers stop along the river to rest and explore the area.

Photo submitted

MIDDLEFIELD

MIDDLEFIELD SENIORS ENJOY TRIP TO MAGIC WINGS



The Middlefield Seniors had a field trip to Magic Wings in Deerfield. They got transportation from Gateway Schools, who picked the seniors up after lunch. The seniors had a great time.

Submitted photo

COA lists menu

MIDDLEFIELD – The Middlefield Council on Aging lists the menu for Wednesday, June 14 served at noon at the Middlefield Senior Center.

The menu choice is New England chicken salad or Greek salad, Street corn salad, garlic humus, 1/2 pita bread and yogurt. 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.

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. 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. 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.



MODERN MODULAR HOMES LLC
COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION SERVICES
413-977-1278 or 413-454-3346




CENTER STREET AUTO PARTS OF CHICOPEE, INC.

We will pay you top dollar for your car AND we will pick it up! Call us for a price!

- Top-Of-The-Line Auto Salvaging Services
- First-Rate Used Auto Parts
- Top-Grade Auto Body Parts
- Sell Your Old or Used Car to Us

"Serving all of Western Mass."

centerstreetautoparts.com
 651 Center St., Chicopee **413-733-2778**

\$\$\$ Money on the Spot for All Vehicles

VITALIY PANCHENKO ELECTRICAL LLC



413-454-3346
Panchenkopower@gmail.com
8 Bluemer Rd. Southamptn, MA