

"Timid men prefer the calm of despotism to the tempestuous sea of liberty." – Thomas Jefferson

Country Journal

Devoted to the Needs of the Hilltowns



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

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HUNTINGTON

Summer Reading Program starts

Children elect Jenn new library mascot

By Wendy Long
Correspondent

Over the month of June, children visiting the Huntington Public Library had the opportunity to vote for a new mascot for the library.

With 51 people voting, the winning mascot was Jenn. The remaining candidates, Chad, Annie and Jaily, will be raffled off at the end of the summer reading program.

According to her bio, Jenn was born on Oct. 15; her favorite color is purple and her favorite snack is Doritos.

Over 20 children and adults attended a kick-off party for the Summer Reading Program on Friday, June 30. Every Friday until Aug 18, children are invited to visit from 10:30-11:15 a.m. for a story hour and craft.

This day's story was Greta and the Giants, inspired by the story of Greta Thunberg, a young climate change activist who became a world-renowned advocate



Edwin Roberts' sign created for today's story reads, "We love the Forest."

Photo by Wendy Long

READING, page 3

HUNTINGTON

Concert season kicks off with picnic

By Wendy Long
Correspondent

The Huntington Community Events Committee, supported by the Huntington Cultural Council, has announced their Summer Music Series which will take place Thursday evenings from 6:30-8 p.m. from July 6 through Aug. 17.

All concerts will be held at the gazebo on the Town Common, at the intersection of routes 20 and 112. Patrons should bring their lawn chairs and are asked to leave their pets at home.

Kicking off the series on July 6 will be popular area band The 413s, which brings old school rock and roll back into today's music scene. A special community appreciation picnic will take place at this event only, which will start an hour earlier at 5:30 p.m. For a \$1 donation, attendees may select a hamburger or hot dog, popcorn, lemonade and cake.

The series continues on July 13 with Jim Blanch and Boot Hill, a classic country band hailing from Agawam. Local singer/songwriter

CONCERT, page 3

FLAG DISPLAYED TO CELEBRATE FOURTH OF JULY



According to homeowner Jim Kronholm, he requested the eight by 12-foot flag from his legislative representative in Litchfield County, Connecticut before moving to Blandford in the 1970s. He said, "It flew over the Whitehouse in Washington, D.C. in the 1960s." The flag was hoisted to its prominent place only a few times early on in Blandford before the columns were removed to replace the porch deck. The pulley system to hoist the flag was lost and just replaced this year.

Photo by Mary Kronholm

BLANDFORD

Cemeteries requires constant upkeep

By Mary Kronholm
Correspondent

Theodore J. Cousineau, aka T.J., has been a Cemetery Commissioner for 25 years.

He plans to relinquish the post or so he says. His current term is up in 2024. He first became a Cemetery Commissioner in 1998 and worked with the other Cemetery Commissioner Don Brainerd. There were only two and then Cousineau was the only commissioner for about eight years.

Two things on his to-do list for the town's cemeteries are fixing the road in the Hill Cemetery across North Street from the White

Church. The other is to tend to the roadside at the North Blandford Cemetery on Blair Road.

Bruce Cooper has been working on the road while Cousineau and cemetery neighbor, George Reichert, put in a dozen white rhododendron and a large amount of pachysandra to fill in and prevent erosion on the embankment. According to Cousineau, the road had been made wider and the bank had been cut back which created the potential erosion problem.

Touring the Hill Cemetery, Cousineau pointed out the monuments,



A headstone set on layers of rocks move as the earth moves.

Photo by Mary Kronholm

CEMETERIES, page 8



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HILLTOWNS

State Police to host Community Day on July 12

By Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

NEW BRAINTREE – The Massachusetts State Police Academy is offering people the unique opportunity to visit the campus and meet with Troopers, specialty units, as well as members of the 88th Recruit Training Troop.

On Wednesday, July 12 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Community Day will be held at the State Police Academy located at 340 West Brookfield Road. The free event will be held rain or shine.

“We look forward to seeing everybody...anyone interested can come,” Captain Jon Provost, Commandant of the State Police Academy said. “Hopefully we’ll make it a regular event.”

The public is invited to meet Troopers assigned to a variety of roles within the department and get a close-up look at special equipment.

Specialty units such as the K-9 Section, Mounted Unit, Drone Unit, Air Wing, Marine Unit, Bomb Squad, Special Tactical Operations Team,

Recruitment and Diversity Unit are expected to be in attendance.

“People like to see our specialty units,” Provost said.

Complimentary light refreshments will be provided by the State Police Academy’s third-party catering service, Eurest. The catering service provides all meals to recruits in the training program.

“They’re ready to feed an army three times a day,” Provost.

Farmer Matt will also be there serving up some of his signature dishes at no cost. Farmer Matt is located just down the road from the State Police Academy, at 860 West Brookfield Road.

Located on the grounds of the former Pioneer Valley Academy, the State Police Academy covers just under 780 acres in the rural town.

Pioneer Valley Academy was a co-ed boarding school operated by the Southern New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists that provided high school education to hundreds of students from 1965-1983.

After the school closed and was unused for a number of years, construc-

tion began in the late 1980s to turn it into a state prison. Facing fierce opposition from residents and people from surrounding towns, the plan was eventually abandoned.

The State Police relocated their training academy to the site, and in 1992 graduated their first class of recruits, the 70th RTT.

Provost was a member of the second class to graduate from the New Braintree campus, the 71st RTT, and stepped into his role as Commandant last year.

Since he arrived in New Braintree, he has talked with Deputy Division Commander of Training Major Steven McCarthy about hosting a Community Day to engage the public.

Not much has changed since it’s days as a school, with the buildings repurposed to suit the State Police’s training needs.

The B building of the former school is now the main building of the State Police Academy, and A and C, the former men’s and women’s dormitories, still serve the same purpose.

Both A and C had chapels when it

was a school, and they have since been converted into large classrooms capable of seating 100 recruits.

The State Police Academy campus is also home to the State Police Regional Dispatch center, which provides services to close to a dozen towns, including New Braintree, Hardwick, Brimfield, Brookfield, East Brookfield, North Brookfield, West Brookfield, Holland, Petersham and Wales.

The cafeteria is still that, but now has a wall lined with navy blue hats, or covers.

“It’s our version of ‘ringing the bell,’” Provost said, referring to when candidates “volunteer out” of Navy SEAL training.

Each hat represents a recruit that has left the State Police Academy before finishing training. The 88th RTT started with 249 recruits and there are now 167 remaining.

Only about one out of every three recruits make it to the end and graduates.

Training at the State Police

COMMUNITY, page 6

MassDOT announces roadwork on I-90

LEE / BECKET – The Massachusetts Department of Transportation announces crews will be conducting overnight and daytime hour paving operations, bridge and guardrail repair work on I-90 eastbound and westbound in Lee and Becket.

The scheduled work will require some lane and shoulder closures on Thursday, July 6, and Friday, July 7.

Pavement operations in Becket and Lee will be conducted nightly on I-90 eastbound from mile marker 14 to mile marker 20, from Thursday, July 6, to Friday, July 7, during overnight hours from 7 p.m.- 5 a.m. the following morning. All work is anticipated to conclude on Friday, July 7 at 5 a.m.

Guardrail repair operations in

Lee will be conducted nightly on I-90 eastbound and westbound from mile marker 10.5 to mile marker 14, from Thursday, July 6 to Friday, July 7, during overnight hours from 7 p.m.-5 a.m. the following morning. All work is anticipated to conclude by 5:00 a.m. on Friday, July 7 by 5 a.m.

Bridge repair operations will be conducted nightly on I-90 eastbound and westbound mile marker 8.4, from Wednesday, July 5 through Friday, July 7, from 7:00 p.m. until 5:00 a.m. the following morning. All work is anticipated to conclude on Friday, July 7 by 5 a.m.

Traffic will be allowed through the work zones. The work will require temporary lane closures to allow crews to safely conduct the paving, bridge,

and guardrail repair operations.

Drivers who are traveling through the affected areas should expect delays, reduce speed, and use caution. All scheduled work is weather dependent and subject to change without notice.

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

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

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

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

Clark Art Institute presents free concert

WILLIAMSTOWN – On Wednesday, July 19 at 6 p.m., the Clark Art Institute, 225 South St., continues its five-part free outdoor concert series with a performance by Darlingside near the Reflecting Pool.

It’s a homecoming for local favorites Darlingside, formed in the early 2000s when the band members were students at Williams College.

People may bring a picnic and their own seating. For more information, they may visit clarkart.edu/events. The next outdoor concert is performed by Kathleen Edwards on Tuesday, Aug. 8 at 6 p.m. near the Clark’s Reflecting Pool.

Hilltown Family Center Story Walks

“Berry Song” @ Russell Public Library

“We are Water Protectors” @ AMC Nobleview Outdoor Center in Russell

“Strictly No Elephants” @ Huntington Public Library

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This program is free and open to the public and was generously funded by the Hilltown Family Center through a Coordinated Family and Community Engagement Grant through the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care. The school committee does not support, condone, or in any way adopt the philosophical or ideological beliefs of the group as an official policy.

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HUNTINGTON

Open mic and summer arts festival taking place

HUNTINGTON – Area musicians are invited to participate in two “First Fridays Open Mic” music jam sessions on Fridays, July 7 and Aug. 4 at 7 p.m. at North Hall.

The North Hall Association hosts its annual Arts Festival with seven perfor-

mances on Sundays at 2 p.m. on the Town Common and North Hall Stage. All events are offered free of charge.

On Sunday, July 16 The Time Stretchers will perform on the Town Common. The remaining concerts will be

held on the North Hall Stage, 40 Searle Road.

The La Voz De Tres trio will perform on July 30, Duo Mundo on Aug. 13 and on Aug. 20 a staged reading of a romantic comedy.

Sunday events include on Sept. 10, a staged reading of “Free Horses,” on Sept. 17 Old Country Road and the final in the series on Sept. 24 opera arias and song favorites with tenor and soprano and a pianist.

CONCERT *from page 1*

Bobby Sweet will take the stage on July 20, offering new folk/Americana music. On July 27, Alex Ze will present alternative and pop originals.

August opens with The Buddy McEarns Band on Aug. 3, featuring “Blue Roots ‘n Roll”. The following week, classic rock band Liquid Courage will perform on Aug. 10. Closing the season on Aug. 17 will be Faith Rheault, an acoustic singer songwriter.

Local non-profit groups will offer baked goods for sale at the concerts excluding the kickoff picnic.

In case of rain, performances will be moved inside of Stanton Hall.



READING

for the environment. Children then made their own signs as done by forest animals and people in the book to state their views. Snacks and juice boxes were served.

Each mascot had its own favorite book and Jenn’s book, “Llama Destroys the World,” was also read at the kickoff party. It was a strong start to this summer’s theme of “Find Your Voice.”

Those attending the kickoff received a folder with a listing of activities, a summer reading log, summer reading Bingo, a summer reading challenge sheet and several art/coloring items. They also earned their first raffle ticket, and can earn more by turning in their completed reading logs, reading challenge, and reading bingo sheets.

The fun is not limited to children this summer. Adults and teens have their own program taking place, with the theme, “Explore Your Creativity.” On Tuesdays, a beginner’s painting program will take place at 5 p.m. Painters will receive a multi-media art pad and have access to water colors, acrylics and pencils. Wednesdays will be a beginners writing workshop at 5 p.m.

Teens and adults will receive a guided journal for creative writing. The adult journal is called “Find Your Voice” and guides readers through poetry with writing prompts. The children’s journal is “Every Day Is Epic: A Guided Journal for Daydreams, Creative Rants and Bright Ideas.” Thursdays at 5 p.m. will be an introduction to photography. Adult/teen programs run now through Saturday, Aug 19.

Additional books for the weekly story hour will be “Wild Symphony,” “The Green Piano,” “The People’s Painter,” “I Sang You Down From the Stars,” “Sharice’s Big Voice,” “Gloria’s Promise” and is closing on Friday, Aug. 18 with “Ada’s Violin.”

At the closing in August, raffle tickets will be drawn for gift certificates to Barnes and Noble, Scholastic Books and Build-A-Bear.

It’s not too late to join the 2023 Summer Reading Program at the Huntington Public Library. Stop in during library hours Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 2-6 p.m. and Friday, Saturday and Monday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

from page 1



Library Director Amanda Loiselle reads to children at the Summer Reading Program Kick-off. Photo by Wendy Long

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OPINION

GUEST COLUMN

Tips for successful summer pruning



I thought it would be fun to follow up my spring pruning column with one geared towards shrubs that are best tackled during the summer months.

Enjoy this read, straight out of the archives!

After the recent (and glorious) rain we've been receiving, my shrubs have had a major growth spurt! Now is a great time to tackle much needed vegetation control.

Here are instructions for pruning five of our most favorite shrubs.

Yews (*Taxus* species) may not rank as top pick, but many homeowners have inherited a yew or two flanking the foundation of their home. For this pruning job you will need a pair of hand clippers, not hedge trimmers.

The new growth is obvious: it is very flexible, lighter in color and extends several inches from the shrub's silhouette.

With clippers in hand, grab a branch, and instead of removing just the new growth, make a cut well within the body of the shrub. This process is called "making windows."

The windows allow light to penetrate the plant's interior causing regeneration to occur. Repeat in various spots on each shrub for a balanced appearance.

Any straggly growth that remains can be nipped back. By pruning in this manner each year, healthy, new growth is encouraged, yet height and width control is maintained.

Too labor intensive for you? Alright, use the hedge trimmers first, then make a few windows, for nearly the same effect.

Azaleas, rhododendrons (*Rhododendron* sp.) and mountain laurels (*Kalmia latifolia*) set their flower buds the summer before bloom. Prune these bushes immediately after they flower next spring; it is just about too late to do much more now.

One task that can be accomplished immediately is deadheading. Inspect the shrubs and gently break off seed pods that have formed from this year's blooms.

Simply hold on to the center of the spent flower cluster and bend it forward. This will send more energy back to the plant and encourage healthy bud formation.

Dense plantings or tall lanky specimens can be rejuvenated next year by cutting "windows" into the bush like I describe above to encourage interior sprouting. Once enough stems have sprouted, taller branches can be cut back to a lower juncture.

The immensely popular pinkish flowered *Spirea x bumalda* "Anthony Waterer" has the ability to grow 3-4-feet tall and 5-6-feet wide when mature. Unfortunately, most folks buy it in a gallon pot and site it for that size, often planting it in front of the shrub border or in and amongst perennials.

In a year or two, when the plant has crowded out its neighbors, they are sorry for the misjudgment.

Alas, there is hope. The following pruning technique works for all members of the genus- most are hardy growers.

Once the *Spirea* is done blooming, look into the center of the plant and find the largest branches. Cut those down to ground level.

Stand back and look at what is left. Prune remaining branches back to a point of new growth, really reigning in the girth.

Plan to rejuvenate the plant over a three year time frame by taking one third of the bush each year.

Butterfly Bush (*Buddleia davidii*) is usually growing by leaps and bounds this time of year and is preparing to burst into bloom soon.

How do you keep it covered in flowers? By lots of deadheading.

Removing spent blossoms will encourage new shoot growth and more flowers. If you have a Butterfly Bush that has gotten way out of hand, consider cutting it back in late winter or early spring- to about a foot in height- then fertilize it.

Expect a much more compact version come summertime.

Euonymus fortunei is sold as a popular groundcover that can grow quite tall if left to its own devices. Most often seen in the landscape are the variegated species.

"Emerald Gaiety" has silver edged leaves where "Emerald and Gold" has dark green foliage with yellow margins. This time of year, a haircut is needed.

Prune away gangly stems back to the base.

Also, be on the lookout for solid color stems on these variegated plants. Cut any that you find away completely, otherwise they may take the lead, leaving you with not exactly what you had planted.

It may seem like you live in a jungle...but an afternoon's worth of work will definitely reign in the vegetation. Enjoy your time with the clippers!

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.

Should I have taxes withheld if working part time?



Dear Rusty:

I just started receiving my Social Security in February of 2023. I am also working part time at a company 24 hours a week. My question is... I feel like I missed something when I signed up for Social Security because they are not taking any taxes out.

What did I miss? How do I go about fixing it so I don't get hit at the end of the year? They are taking taxes out of my paycheck now, do they still take it out of my Social Security because I am working? Please help if I am not doing something right.

Signed: Conscientious Senior

Unfortunately, when the Social Security Administration processes your application for benefits, they don't usually inform you that your Social Security benefits may become

part of your taxable income. I expect that's because your benefits only "may" become taxable - they do not definitely become taxable, because Social Security benefits are taxed only if you exceed a certain income threshold.

The thresholds at which Social Security benefits become part of your taxable income are different depending on your income tax filing status - those who file as an individual have a different threshold from those who file as "married - filing jointly." And to further complicate matters there is more than one threshold for both individuals and joint filers. Here's how it works:

If you file your income tax as an individual and your "combined income" from all sources is more than \$25,000, then 50% of the Social Security benefits you received during the tax year becomes part of your overall taxable income at your particular IRS tax rate. But if your combined income as an individual tax filer is more than \$34,000 then up to 85% of the SS benefits you received during the tax becomes part of your overall taxable income.

If your income tax filing status is "married - filing jointly" the thresholds are higher

- if your combined income from all sources as a married couple exceeds \$32,000 then 50% of the Social Security benefits you received during the tax year becomes part of your taxable income. But if your combined income as a married couple exceeds \$44,000 then up to 85% of your SS benefits received during the tax year are taxable.

"Combined income" is also known as your "Modified Adjusted Gross Income" or "MAGI." Your MAGI is your Adjusted Gross Income on your tax return, plus 50% of the Social Security benefits you received during the tax year, plus any non-taxable interest or untaxed foreign income you had (note that withdrawals from a Roth IRA are not included). If your "MAGI" exceeds the above thresholds, some of your Social Security benefits are taxable; if you are under the first threshold for your IRS filing status they are not.

Social Security doesn't automatically withhold taxes from your monthly benefit, and the FICA tax being withheld from your earnings are not used for that purpose. Everyone who works and earns must pay SS tax on their earnings, which are mandatory contributions supporting the federal Social Security program. But that FICA payroll tax has nothing to do with income tax on your Social Security benefits. If you are working 24 hours per week and also collecting Social Security benefits, you will likely exceed the threshold for your tax filing status, which means

SECURITY, page 5

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Country Journal TEAM



EDITOR
Ellenor Downer
countryjournal@turley.com



ADVERTISING SALES
Theresa Wegiel
twegiel@turley.com

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countryjournal.turley.com

PATRICK H. TURLEY
CEO

KEITH TURLEY
President

DEANNA SLOAT
Graphics Manager

Turley
Publications, Inc.

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OPINION

HILLTOWN HISTORY

Show your colors, hang out the bunting

By Deborah Daniels
Correspondent

Look at the fun these Civilian Conservation Corps men had swimming at their newly created swimming hole in Chester, circa 1930s.

This park is a great place to stretch ones legs and see some history. More of the great stone bridges, stairs and gazebo sites are being uncovered by volunteers.

It is definitely a Fourth of July place to picnic. That is how to celebrate the Fourth, swimming, watching a parade decked out with bunting and a top off of fireworks.

Bunting is that red, white and blue swag, people see hanging banner style from windows, porch railings and from roof tops especially on patriotic holidays. It used to be a staple at Fourth of July parades to show pride in America. It still is but how did it get its start?

It was believed that the term bunting referred to a specific type of wool fabric that had a high glaze achieved by hot pressing. It was made in France in the 1590s through to the 1700s. Somewhere along the line the Royal Navy of Great Britain used it to make signal flags that were hung on ships to convey messages. It was the "bunting tosser," who had the job to display the flags that communicated messages to approaching ships.

In the early days the main question was are you friend or foe? Eventually a whole Navy flag code developed. There is a US Navy signal flag code and an International signal flag code used by ships to communicate while maintaining radio silence.

Did you ever see the movie, "Whisky Tango Foxtrot?" Those are code words that are also used on signal flags. It was a funny movie too.

So bunting morphed into becoming a symbol of red, white and blue patriotic banner material. It is not a flag so there is no sacred treatment of the fabric as there is with a flag. That might explain how it became such a popular material for Fourth of July celebrations.

Bunting really took off after the Civil War when America was celebrating it having remained a union and the war had ended. The celebrations required bunting.

Benjamin F. Butler (1818-1893) a Union Army General realized that Americans needed American made bunting material. Previously it had all come from England. So he started the U.S. Bunting Company in 1865 in



Civilian Conservation Corps men pose on a diving board at the newly constructed at the Chester recreation area they built off Route 20 in Chester where they dug a swimming hole.

Lowell. His looms on the Concord River made bunting material for garlands, banners and pennants.

He gave the U.S. government the biggest American flag to date, all 21 by 12 feet of it hoisted above the capitol. One can only wonder how big his manufactured by label was? By the 1870s his was the second largest woolen mill in Lowell.

His company used 3,000 pounds of wool per day on 5,000 spindles with 220 looms in use by 1880. He employed 450 people. He was making more than bunting cloth by then. It also helped that he owned the water rights at the dam that controlled the water that powered the mills.

A similar situation occurred with the Mill River in Leeds with its paper mills. The Hilltown of Middlefield was one of his wool suppliers.

Well this opportunist didn't stop here. He used his ties with members of Congress and military officials to win government contracts for army blankets and uniforms for his company to supply.

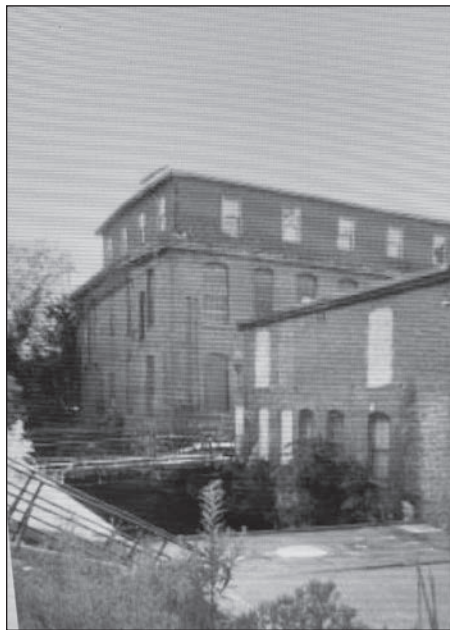
But wait, his bio does not read all corruption. He became a member of Congress and fought for a 10 hour work day (down from 12 hours), worked for civil rights and especially for fair treatment of slaves after the war and he fought to have President Andrew Jackson impeached. He was Governor of



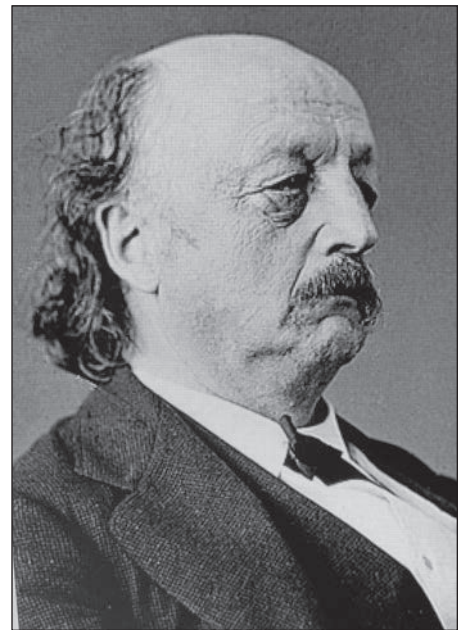
This Huntington home displays bunting hanging from the porch.



This home in Huntington has bunting hanging over the front door.



This photo shows the U.S. Bunting Co. manufacturing mill beside the canal in Lowell circa 1880.



Benjamin F. Butler founded the U.S. Bunting Company in Lowell in 1865.

Submitted photo

Massachusetts for one year.

He had lobbied his way into the Army courtesy of Abe Lincoln. The Army was underwhelmed with his lack of military skill and fought to have him dismissed. He had become a political hot potato by then, but was eventually dismissed. This was his greatest disappointment. Call it one of the great acts of Congress because he had been a successful trial lawyer.

There is no doubt his Bunting Company was the backbone of his financial security throughout his life. It continued to make bunting cloth until 1937.

People can't argue with patriotism so hang out the bunting, watch a parade and salute the flag. Be glad to declare one nation under God, indivisible with liberty, thanks to all those freedom fighters during the Revolution and other wars.

SECURITY

from page 4

that at least some of your 2023 benefits will become taxable. That could, as you suspect, result in a surprise "hit" when you file next year's income tax return. Nevertheless, fixing this is quite easy:

Download IRS form W-4V from the IRS website here: www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw4v.pdf. You will be able to choose the percentage of your Social Security benefits you wish to have withheld for income tax purposes. Complete the form and mail it to your local Social Security office (get the mailing address here: www.ssa.gov/locator). Social Security will then start withholding income tax from your monthly Social Security benefit payment, which will mitigate any additional tax due when you file your

2023 tax return next year.

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 ssadviser@amacfoundation.org.

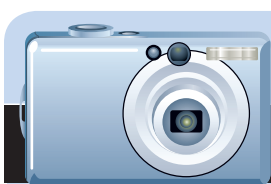
Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

News, photo publication policy

As a community newspaper our focus has always been local news. While we try very hard to run upcoming events as a public service whenever space allows, space does not allow us to run an upcoming event repeatedly. Our policy is to limit publication of upcoming events to one article in advance of the event and, space permitting, a second brief reminder article the week prior to an event, and to run those articles in only one section of the paper, and not in multiple sections simultaneously.

All such public service announcements and photos are subject to space limitations and deadlines, therefore publication cannot be guaranteed. Whenever copy for the week exceeds allotted space, news copy will take priority, and public service copy is the first area to be cut. We also reserve the right to edit for style and space, and are under no obligation to print lists of sponsorships, or articles that arrive after deadline, unless time and space allows.

Deadline is Monday at NOON, on holidays it is Friday at 2 p.m.



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SCHOOLS & YOUTH

Lucas Visentin Laing makes Dean's List

WILLIAMSBURG, VA – Lucas Visentin Laing from Northampton made the Dean's List at the College of William & Mary for the spring 2023 semester.

In order to achieve Dean's List status, a full-time degree seeking undergraduate student must take at least 12 credit hours and earn a 3.6 Quality Point Average during the semester.

Western New England University holds awards ceremony

SPRINGFIELD – Western New England University held its Twelfth Annual College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences Awards Ceremony on May 3 in Rivers Memorial Hall. The university honored the following students selected based on their academic achievement in the major or their overall class standing.

Three students were honored

Eastern Connecticut State University announces Dean's List

WILLIMANTIC, CT – Eastern Connecticut State University announces the Dean's List for the spring 2023 semester.

Local students making the Dean's List are: Maggie Rubeck of Easthampton, a full-time junior majoring in health sciences and Sydney Goyette of Westfield, a full-time sophomore majoring in

Nicole Normandin named to Dean's List

TUSCALOOSA, AL – Nicole Normandin was named to the University of Alabama Dean's List for fall semester 2022.

The University of Alabama names to the Dean's List students with an academic record of 3.5 (or above) or the president's list with an academic record of 4.0, all A's.

Maggie Rubeck recognized for academic excellence at ECSU

WILLIMANTIC, CT – Eastern Connecticut State University students were recognized for scholarly excellence at the conclusion of the spring 2023 semester. Given by academic departments across the University, the recognitions included induction into more than a dozen academic honor societies, scholarship awards and departmental dis-

tinctions.

Maggie Rubeck of Easthampton, a sophomore who majors in health sciences, received the spring 2023 Certificate of Appreciation for Teaching Assistants at the Health Sciences Awards and Honors Society Induction on April 19 in the J. Eugene Smith Library.

Diana Stuzhuk graduates from Rensselaer

TROY, NY – On May 20, 2023, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute awarded a total of 1,988 degrees – 152 doctoral degrees, 390 master's degrees and 1,446 bachelor's degrees, to 1,957 students, some of whom earned multiple degrees.

Diana Stuzhuk of Westfield graduated with a Bachelor of Science in biomedical engineering.

FSU announces President's List

FITCHBURG – Fitchburg State University President Richard S. Lapidus has announced the names of students included on the President's List for the spring 2023 semester.

Local students making the President's List are: Oliver S. Cookson of Sheffield,

Kaitlyn M. Decker of Sheffield and Emily K. Gelinus of Westfield.

The President's List honors students for consistently high academic achievement. A student is named to the list after achieving a 3.75 average in each of three successive semesters.

Fitchburg State announces Dean's List

FITCHBURG – Fitchburg State University President Richard S. Lapidus announces the students who qualified for inclusion on the Dean's List for the Spring 2023 semester.

Local students are: Elijah Stathis of Northampton, Queenstar A. Abakah of Pittsfield, Owen T. Bonney of

Pittsfield, Mikki D' Amaral of Pittsfield, Ashley L. Farina of Pittsfield and Ariana M. Kimball of Southwick.

A student is placed on the Dean's List for the semester if an average grade of 3.20 or better is attained, and the student is attending the university full time.

Fairfield Univ. announces Dean's List

FAIRFIELD, CT – Fairfield University announces Dean's List Honors for the spring 2023 semester.

Local students making the Dean's List are: Morgan K. Kochis of Florence, Diana L. Raifstanger of Great Barrington, Jenna E. Codey of Pittsfield, Keely L. Connor of Westfield, Abigail J. Menzel of

Westfield and Catherine E. Morrissey of Westfield.

In order to be placed on the Dean's List, students must have completed a minimum of 12 credit hours in a semester, have no outstanding or incomplete grades for that semester, and have attained a semester grade point average of 3.50 or better.

for academic achievement. Lindsey Kiltonic of Westfield received the Excellence in Occupational Therapy Fieldwork Education. Joseph Rodriguez of Westfield received the Excellence in Occupational Therapy Fieldwork Education and Jenna Pilares of Westfield received the PSGA PharmD Recognition of Meritorious Service and SSHP Certificates.

accounting.

To qualify for Dean's List, full-time students must complete a minimum of 12 credits in letter-graded courses with an average GPA of 3.5 or higher in the semester. Part-time students are eligible if they've accumulated 15 or more credits of letter-graded course work with an average GPA of 3.5 or higher.

UConn announces Dean's List

STORRS, CT – The University of Connecticut announces the Dean's List of for the spring semester.

Local students making Dean's List are: Peyton Pettiford-Rowan of Florence, Abigail Zeik of Great Barrington, Ragan Laurin of Southampton, Calleigh Ellsworth of Southwick, Madison Lemieux of Westfield and Erin Olearcek of Westfield.

Roger Williams announces Dean's List

BRISTOL, RI – Roger Williams University announces the spring 2023 Dean's List.

Local students making Dean's List are: Ava Cieplinski of Westfield, Hannah Coffey of Montgomery, Jack Finnie of Westfield and Alan Martin of Easthampton. Full-time students, who complete 12 or more credits per semester and earn a GPA of 3.4 or higher, are placed on the Dean's List that semester.

Hartwick College announces Dean's List

ONEONTA, NY – Maya Lieberman-Bachman of Huntington was named to the Hartwick College's spring 2023 Deans List. Lieberman-Bachman is pursuing a major in art.

To be included on the Dean's List is an indication of excellence in academic work. To qualify, students must earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher and complete a minimum of 12 credit hours during the term.

COMMUNITY

from page 2

Academy is intense, with 16-hour days Monday through Friday for about 23 weeks.

As a paramilitary organization, training at the State Police Academy is both physically and mentally demanding, and broken into three phases. It ranges from classroom training to hands-on, giving recruits confidence in the field.

The first phase demonstrates and teaches the necessary skills and techniques needed by recruits, and in the final phase, the recruits are trained to be autonomous.

"They are working to be independent," McCarthy said.

The grounds of the State Police Academy are also home to a firearms range, a ropes confidence course, a gym and more. The State Police Academy works with municipal police departments from across the state, offering

the use of its state-of-the-art training facility.

The State Police Academy's wells also provide water to the town's grade school and Town Hall.

Local farmers lease the fields for haying, and hunters utilize the grounds during hunting seasons, Provost said. The gym is also open for public use, available around training schedules.

Sunsets and sunrises up on the hill are the most breathtaking he's ever seen, Provost said.

The Community Day event is really just that; a celebration of the community and its role in supporting the State Police Academy.

"We appreciate New Braintree very much," Provost said.

People are also encouraged to join in the ongoing food drive at the State Police Academy during Community Day, to benefit the Worcester County

Food Bank.

Requested donations include non-perishable gluten-free food, spices and condiments, healthy snacks (such as nuts, granola bars, canned and dried fruits), cereals, rice, pasta, canned pasta sauce, dry beans (all varieties), low-sodium broths/soups/stews/chili and 100% fruit and vegetable juices.

All items must have a clear expiration date and ingredient list. Try to avoid sugar-sweetened beverages such as soda and non-fruit juice, candy products and energy drinks.

Menstrual care products and hygiene items are also needed.

Please do not donate alcohol or mixers intended to be used with alcohol, over the counter oral medications, flammable products (such as lighter, matches or charcoal), products in glass containers, perishable products, opened products or expired products.



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NORTHAMPTON

Forbes Library lists events

NORTHAMPTON – Forbes Library, 20 West St., list events for July.

On Thursday, July 6 at 4:30 p.m. there will be a virtual Teen Book Club. This meeting is for teens only and will take place via Zoom. They should email mbishop@forbeslibrary.org for the meeting link.

This month, we'll be reading "Where You See Yourself" by Claire Forrest. The group will pick next months' read.

Dungeons and Dragons Club for Kids will also be held on Thursday, July 6 at 3:45 p.m.

The library will be hosting Dungeons and Dragons campaigns every other Thursday at 3:45 p.m. D&D is a great way for kids to practice collaboration, strategy and storytelling for participants of all experience levels. This program is for children ages 9 plus and is limited to six participants

per session. Registration is necessary by calling the Children's Desk at 413-587-1010 or visit in person to sign up.

Textile Art by Lee Sproull and Mixed Media by Eva Lin Fahey will be on exhibit in the Hosmer Gallery now through Saturday, July 20. An Artists' Reception will be held Saturday, July 8 from 3-5 p.m.

Children's books are needed for the neighborhood free book boxes. Picture books, board books, chapter books and young adult books are needed. Donations can be brought to the Children's Department at Forbes Library.

In collaboration with Lilly Library, beautifully refurbished newspaper boxes provide children, teens and adults access to free books in their neighborhoods. Boxes are replenished weekly by staff and volunteers assure they remain neat, clean and easily accessible.

Cooley Dickinson Hospital announces blood drive

NORTHAMPTON – Adults interested in donating blood will have an opportunity to do so at a community blood drive at Cooley Dickinson Hospital on Thursday, July 20 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. in the hospital's parking lot in front of North Building.

Cooley Dickinson is partnering with the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Brigham & Women's Hospital, and the Kraft Family Blood Donor Center to bring their blood mobile to Northampton.

"We are thrilled to be able to provide this opportunity and bring the blood mobile back to the Pioneer Valley," said Catherine Reed, administrative director for clinical Services at Cooley Dickinson.

"While there is no critical blood shortage, there is always a need for blood, and in the summer, donations tend to decline because people

are busy doing other things. Along with our colleagues from Brigham & Women's Hospital, we look forward to making this blood drive a success," she said.

All blood donors will receive a \$10 gift card. A photo ID is required for blood donation. Donors are also advised to drink extra water and eat before donating blood. All donor types are welcome.

To make an appointment, people may visit the donor portal at: https://donor.kraftfamilyblooddonorcenter.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/3275.

For donation eligibility questions, people should email BloodDonor@partners.org or call 617-632-3206. Blood products collected during this drive will help provide care to our community and patients within the Mass General Brigham system.

PITTSFIELD

BEAT hosts free educational events

PITTSFIELD – Every year, during the last week of July, National Moth Week celebrates the beauty, life cycles and habitats of moths and helps spread awareness of these essential insects, whose global populations are rapidly declining.

People of all ages and abilities are encouraged to learn about, observe and document moths in their backyards, parks and neighborhoods. People are encouraged to attend Berkshire Environmental Action Team at one of their free National Moth Week events this July and become a community scientist by contributing scientific data about moths.

Moth Mystique: Illuminating the Dark Side of Winged Wonders is a hybrid presentation. In anticipation of National Moth Week, Carla Rhodes, a wildlife conservation photographer and moth enthusiast, will give a presentation all about moths: what mothing is, how to do it, why moths are important, and what moths you might see in your own backyard.

She will go over the basic mothing setup anyone can make with a simple sheet and light, as well as other alternatives for attracting and observing moths on their own. She will show some of the phenomenal up-close photos she's captured of moths in her yard and discuss the variety of host plants these moths use throughout their life cycles. Rhodes will

also talk about the importance of moths and why they're just as beautiful as butterflies if not more beautiful and far more essential to global pollination. She will speak for 30-45 minutes; a discussion and question and answer will follow the presentation.

This is a hybrid event. The in-person gathering will take place at BEAT's Environmental Leadership & Education Center on 20 Chapel St. and begin on Thursday, July 20 around 5:45 p.m.. BEAT will provide complimentary light snacks and finger foods for in-person attendees and beer and wine will be available for purchase. At this time, BEAT's Center is not fully accessible. The presentation and Zoom meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. and people must register to attend.

They may learn more and RSVP by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/Moth-Talk-with-Carla>.

Observing Moths at Night: A Lightsheet & Mothing Demo will take place at tMassWildlife's Flat Brook Wildlife Management Area on Saturday, July 29 from 8:30-11:30 p.m.

People may join Matthew Rymkiewicz, and Carla Rhodes for a night of mothing. The rain date is the following Saturday, Aug. 5. Participants are welcome to join at any time and leave whenever they want. They may learn more and RSVP by visiting <https://BEAT-Moth-Night-2023.eventbrite.com>.

St. Joseph's Polish Picnic returns

PITTSFIELD – After a hiatus of three years due to the pandemic, the Polish Picnic is returning to the grounds of St. Joseph's Church at 414 North St. on Sunday, July 16 from noon-5 p.m.

This 60-plus year tradition is one of the last ethnic festivals in Berkshire County and is expected to draw several thousand people. A highlight of the Polish Picnic is the homemade Polish food for sale made by the parishioners of St. Joseph's Church, including pierogies, kapusta, golumbki and kielbasa.

The Eddie Forman Orchestra will entertain the crowd beginning at 1 p.m. People should bring a lawn chair to relax and enjoy the music or get up and dance to the polka.

There will be raffles, games of chance and a KiddyLand. There will also be American food and adult beverages for sale. There is a one-dollar entry fee to the picnic, which includes chances to win door prizes. The Polish Picnic is open to the public and all ages are welcome.

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BLANDFORD

CEMETERIES

from page 1

most older monuments are sandstone or limestone, which are damaged and stained by weather. He said that some people, thinking they may be helping will scrub the lichen from the stones to make the lettering appear more sharply, but what they don't know is "the stones are sealed." Even the older stones were sealed and cleaning with a wire bristle brush removes the seal and fosters faster weather decay.

The mowing and shrub maintenance was outsourced this year. "It's going pretty well," said Cousineau. There have been problems, however, according to Cousineau. "One monument was knocked over and I was not notified. If I know, I can get to fix it," he said.

Apparently, the mowers get as close to the headstones as possible to eliminate much of the work that has to be done by weed-whacking. Unfortunately, some stones have been nicked or scratched in the process. Cousineau is addressing this.

There are still stones in need of repair that have toppled or settled askew just as a matter of "the earth moves," he said, and added that the much older gravesites held wooden caskets which decompose, the earth settles and headstones move.

He pointed out many that were set on layers of flat rocks, citing one monolith in the Hill Cemetery, are now listing. Newer sites have stones set on a three-foot deep base of concrete rather than being set into the earth or on rock layers.

"Big stones require expert repair," he said, looking at the Tiffany headstone as an example. "It's leaning, and to hire Ludlow Monument Repair is expensive at a \$9,000 cost," he said, to fix the mon-



Two headstones in the Old Burial Ground have been properly set in a three-foot deep cement footing.

ument. But, Ludlow "does a good job. They did work in the old cemetery."

The Tiffany Cemetery Fund will cover the cost of the repair, but other budgeted funds are insufficient to make all the necessary fixes throughout all of the town's burial grounds.

Cousineau is always on the lookout for family members of the interred, who may want to contribute to any major repairs like re-setting a headstone.

There are about 100 gravesites in the North Blandford Cemetery, some larger family plots. That is maintained by the town, along with the Old Cemetery or



A headstone in Round Hill Cemetery shows wire brush damage.

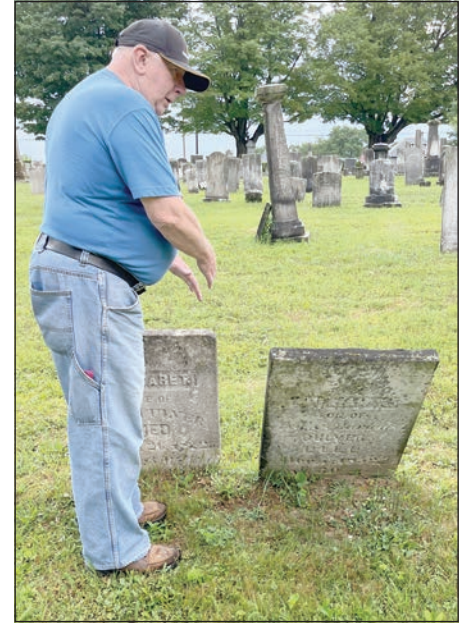
Old Burial Ground at the top of Main Street.

The Old Cemetery dates to pre-revolutionary days and the ground is very uneven. He pointed out examples of stones that had been brushed clean, and indicated that there is a special solvent that can be sprayed on the stones that will not damage the sealant nor the artistry of the old carvings. That is \$65 a gallon. Once applied, Cousineau said, "You just leave it and the weather will clean the surface once sprayed."

He pointed to the Bolton gravesite where the grave with a sandstone headstrong for Rufus Blair, had caved in.

There are nine existing cemeteries "that I know of," said Cousineau. There is one on South Street he has been unable to locate. That said, he carries his wands with him at all times to douse for graves, a knack he learned from the late Doris Hayden and her daughter, Jean York.

There was a grave on the Johnson Farm on Old Chester Road that had to be reinterred to the Hill Cemetery when the Mass Turnpike was built, as well as other gravesites from what was the Dayton Cemetery, which was located on



T.J. Cousineau shows older headstones, which are actually eight feet in height but were buried three feet into the ground. Over time, the earth moves and so do the headstones, requiring them to be dug out and re-set.

Woronoco Road. There is Round Hill Cemetery and to access this one it is necessary to drive through Chester and turn off Chester Road to Round Hill Road, but the burial ground is in Blandford. The road used to circle around and come out on Chester Road near the Shepard property.

Another cemetery is on Sperry Road, one on Jethro Jones Road and the South Otis Road cemetery or the Stannard Cemetery. Warfield Cemetery is on Springfield Water and Sewer land and a second is the Sizer Cemetery. Cousineau said he has written permission to go on the land for cemetery work.

Commissioner Peter Sparks has been working on the more remote cemeteries. "He's been a great asset and a great help to the Cemetery Commission," said Cousineau. Stephen Jemiolo is the third member of the Cemetery Commission.

Gravesites cost \$800 each. Those funds are separate and earn interest for use by the commission.

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BLANDFORD

Voters approves STM articles

By Mary Kronholm
Correspondent

BLANDFORD – There were 16 registered voters, who signed in to the Special Town Meeting Thursday, June 29 at Town Hall.

There were two articles for consideration, one for the Water Department and the other to correct an oversight in the fiscal year 2024 budget.

Voters unanimously approved to cover additional costs for mandatory upgrades for the water department.

The motion was made to appropriate "\$280,000 to pay costs of making Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition

(SCADA) improvements to the Town's water system, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to G.L. c. 44, §8(7C), or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor. All or any portion of this amount may be borrowed through the Massachusetts Drinking Water Trust (the "Trust")."

Voters unanimously approved the remaining article to add \$4,224 to the Hampden County Retirement line item, correcting the amount approved at the June 5 Annual Town Meeting.

Fair directors seek volunteers

BLANDFORD – Fair Board of Directors member Linda Barnard is looking for volunteers as the Union Agricultural and Horticultural Society gets preparations underway. Barnard said volunteers are needed to help paint several structures on the fairgrounds. This is just one of many ways volunteers can

assist. The dates for volunteer help are Saturday, July 8 and Saturday, Aug. 5 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Lunch will be provided along with two passes to the 154th Blandford Fair. Anyone interested should call Barnard at 413-977-2113 to assure enough lunches.

BLANDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOLDS TAG SALE



Blandford Historical Society Director Robert Kidd stands by some of the items at the society's recent tag sale space. Photo by Mary Kronholm

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FLORENCE

Florence Bank promotes Jim Hickey to lead marketing effort

FLORENCE – The Florence Bank announces vice president/director of marketing operations Jim Hickey of South Deerfield has been promoted to lead the bank's marketing efforts as senior vice president/director of marketing.

Hickey replaces Monica Curhan, who retired on April 7 after serving as senior vice president / director of marketing for nearly 10 years.

Hickey was hired in November 2021 as director of marketing operations with the explicit plan to one day take the helm as director of marketing. He has 25 years of strategic marketing experience as well as a strong affinity for the Florence Bank brand, which Curhan ushered in in the early years of her tenure.

"The challenge for me will be sus-

taining and evolving our unique brand identity," Hickey said.

Matt Garrity, president and CEO of Florence Bank, said, "We are thrilled that Jim is stepping into this role to lead our marketing efforts. He is a creative thinker with a collaborative approach and a proven track record of managing projects from conception to implementation. I'm excited to see where he takes the brand next."

Hickey holds a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He has experience in areas that include account management, creative development, media plan execution and media buying.

Before joining Florence Bank, Hickey was the vice president of account service at Communicators Group, a mar-

keting communications firm in Keene, New Hampshire. He has also served as vice president and director of marketing for Westbank, a financial institution formerly based in West Springfield.

He said his experience in financial services marketing and communications will continue to inform his work for Florence Bank.

"I have managed the marketing and communications efforts for a number of clients in the banking industry. Those experiences have helped prepare me for this role," he said.

Active in the community, Jim sits on the board for the Pioneer Valley Habitat for Humanity.

Curhan lives in Mattapoisett and was looking forward to spending time with her grandchildren and helping her hus-

band operate his apiary, caring for the bees, selling honey and honey products.

In the 10 years that Curhan represented the bank, she served as a trustee for Cooley Dickinson Hospital, on its board for three years as well as on various committees. She also volunteered for the Northampton Chamber of Commerce, served meals at the Interfaith Emergency Homeless Shelter—COT Shelter in downtown Northampton and took part in a Pioneer Valley Habitat for Humanity build day.

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

WESTFIELD

BHN's Kamp for Kids holds welcome day July 18

Founded by Judy Hoyt, Kamp serves children with and without disabilities

WESTFIELD – Kamp for Kids™, a summer day camp for children and young adults with and without disabilities, will be holding an open house event, "Kamp Welcome Day," on Tuesday, July 18 from 10:30 a.m.-noon at Camp Togowauk, 754 Russell Road.

State Senator John Velis will be in attendance, along with other public officials, representatives of BHN and parents and friends of Kamp for Kids™. A brief program will be held with remarks by elected officials and BHN staff and "Kampers" will give demonstrations that they prepared of their creative work including skits, songs and artwork.

Kamp for Kids™ is for children and young adults ages 3-22 both with and without disabilities and offers an opportunity to experience growth, inclusion and fun in a summer camp setting that includes a spray park;

expressive arts; outdoor education; arts and crafts; and non-competitive sports.

Kamp for Kids™ operates every summer during July and August with about 150 Kampers over three sessions. This year, Kamp runs from July 10 through Aug. 18, Monday to Friday, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. For more information, people may visit www.bhncinc.org/kamp-kids.

Kamp for Kids™ was founded by Judy Hoyt, whose son Rick was the inspiration behind the camp. Rick recently passed away in May 2023 at the age of 61. He became well known through his participation in several Boston Marathons with his father, Dick.

BHN has been providing behavioral health services to children and families in Western Massachusetts since 1938. The agency provides community-based services that include innovative, integrated whole-health models as well as traditional clinical and outpatient and therapeutic services, day treatment, addiction services, crisis intervention and residential supports.

MONTGOMERY

Ed the Wizard to teach free balloon twisting program

MONTGOMERY – Grace Hall Memorial Library, 160 Main Road, on Thursday, July 27 at 6 p.m. will host Ed the Wizard.

Patrons will learn the art of balloon twisting as they create their own balloon animals. No balloon twisting experienced is required.

This program is free and opened to

the public, but it may require pre-registration. People should call the library for more information and to registration at 413 862 3894.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Montgomery Cultural Council, a local agency, which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

MIDDLEFIELD

Middlefield Council on Aging announces upcoming lunch menu

MIDDLEFIELD – The Middlefield Senior Center, 169 Skyline Trail on Wednesday, July 12 will serve lunch at noon.

The meal is eat in or take out. The choice is egg salad or Caesar salad

with grilled chicken, cherry tomatoes, French bread and sugar cookie.

People should call 413-623-9990 to reserve a meal the previous Monday. A board meeting will be held after lunch.

PLAINFIELD

Plainfield church announces summer concert series

PLAINFIELD – Concerts at 7 announces a new season of its celebrated summer series of chamber music at the classically beautiful and acoustically magnificent Plainfield Congregational Church, 356 West Main St., Route 116.

The 2023 program of four concerts on the four Mondays of August comprises two concerts with strings and piano, and two string quartets. The concerts are offered free of charge; donations are gratefully accepted at the door or by visiting their website at www.plainfieldconcertsat7.org.

On Monday, Aug 7 at 7 p.m. cellist Soo Bae and pianist Mia Chung will perform Johannes Brahms's two sonatas for piano and cello as well as some of their own compositions.

On Monday, Aug. 14 at 7 p.m. The Neave Trio will perform Brahms's piano trio no. 1, op. 8; Ravel's piano trio in A minor, op. 67

and Samuel Coleridge-Taylor's Five Negro Melodies for Piano Trio.

On Monday, Aug. 21 at 7 p.m. The Borromeo String Quartet will perform Béla Bartók's string quartet no. 6, Eleanor Alberga's Remember (2000) and Beethoven's string quartet no. 12, in E-flat major, op. 127.

On Monday,

Aug. 28 at 7 p.m. The Parker String Quartet will perform three quartets by Beethoven: opus 18, number 6, in B-flat major (1801); opus 95, in F minor "Serioso" (1810) and opus 130, in B-flat major (1825).

The church is handicapped accessible. This program is supported in part by grants from local cultural councils, which are supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

For further information, people may visit the website at www.plainfieldconcertsat7.org or call 413-464-2755.

SOUTH WORTHINGTON

Ronald Gorevic to perform July 16 at Sevenars Academy

SOUTH WORTHINGTON – Violist Ronald Gorevic will perform on Sunday, July 16 at 4 p.m. at Sevenars Academy, 15 Ireland St., Route 112.

This is the second concert of Sevenars Music Festival 55th anniversary season. There are no tickets or charge, but donations are elected at the door. Suggested amount is \$20. Refreshments will be served. For more information, people may visit www.sevenars.org.

Sevenars is delighted to present outstanding violist Ronald Gorevic in a concert of Bach Cello Suites I-IV played on the viola.

Gorevic has a long and distinguished career as a performer and teacher on both the violin and viola. As a violist. He has toured throughout the U.S., Germany, Japan, Korea, and Australia and has been broadcast on radio stations across the US, South and Southwest German radio, and the Australian Broadcast network. He has performed recitals in major US cities, including New York, Cleveland, Chicago, and Atlanta. He has also per-



Ronald Gorevic

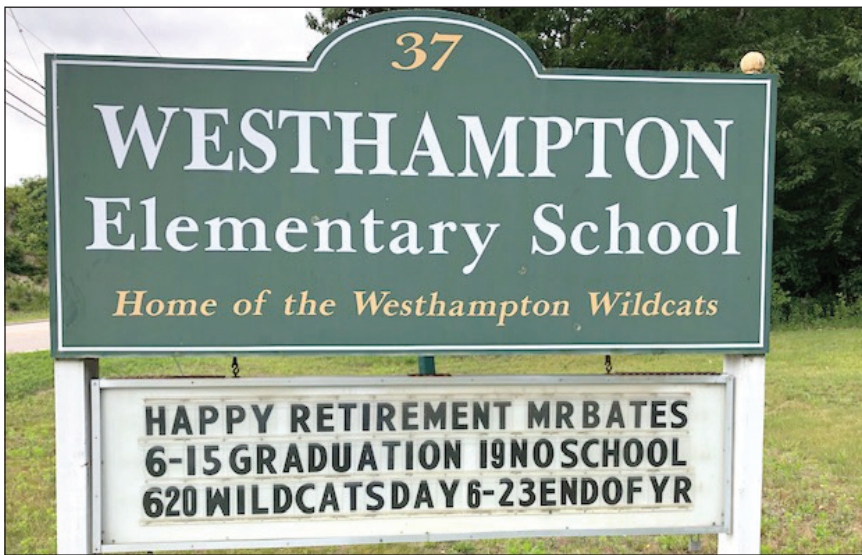
formed in London, where he gave the British premieres of pieces by Donald Erb and Ned Rorem. He is currently on the faculties of Smith College, The Prep department of New England Conservatory of Music and UMass Amherst. In the past, he has held teaching positions at the Cleveland Institute of Music, the University of Akron,

Indiana University at South Bend and the Greenwood summer music camp.

This 2023 season in particular is made possible in part by the Local Cultural Councils of the following towns: Agawam, Buckland, Chester, Concord, Cummington, Everett, Gardner, Goshen, Huntington, Lee, Montgomery, Northern Berkshire, Otis, Russell, Springfield, West Springfield, Westford, Westhampton, Wilmington, and Worthington. These LCC's are local agencies which are funded in part by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

WESTHAMPTON

WESTHAMPTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL RETIRES



Westhampton Elementary School Principal Deane Bates just retired. He was just the second principal in the 33 year old school. The new principal is Andrea Bishop McGrath.

Submitted photo

Quilt raffle to benefit library

WESTHAMPTON – The phantom quilter has struck again.

Apparently a huge fan of the Westhampton Library, the quilter has, once again, donated a beautiful machine-pieced quilt created specifically as a raffle item to benefit the Friends of the Library. The quilt has arrived on the heels of having just held a drawing for a collection of Westhampton memorabilia, also a donation.

In previous years, resident artisans of various mediums and many Westhampton maple syrup producers have supported the library through donations of their goods or works of art. This year's queen-size quilt is all blue rectangles in Batik fabric and is called "Rhythm in Blues." The quilt's backing is all blue hues with purple and lavender. The batting is 100% warm cotton. The dimensions are 89½" wide x 95½" long.

The generous donor is hoping

to raise funds for the Friends of the Westhampton Library while providing a chance for one lucky person to win a machine-pieced and hand-finished quilt.

The quilt is on display inside the library and can also be seen at each of the summer concerts on the library lawn. Photos of the quilt appear on the Westhampton Public Library Facebook page, as well. Chances to win cost \$2.50 each or five for \$10.00.

Raffle forms are available at the library or people can mail checks directly to the Friends of the Library at 1 North Rd., Westhampton, MA 01027. In both instances, the amount of your payment will indicate the intended number of chances purchased. No need to fill out multiple forms, but please remember to provide your email address or phone number so that you can be contacted if you win. The name of the lucky winner will be drawn on Halloween.

WORTHINGTON

Library lists upcoming events

WORTHINGTON – The Worthington Library, 1 Huntington Road, will host Diana Edgecomb on Thursday, July 20 from 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Participants will sing, dance and join her musical stories in this fun-loving family event. Participants will learn the song of the wind in the Old Apple Tree tale and act out rainforest animals in the Amazon story of Kibungo, joining together to defeat a great, big, smelly monster. This project is funded by the Worthington Cultural Council.

On Thursday, July 27 from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Ed the Wizard will be at the library. He will perform magical feats while exploring the magic of reading.

Participants will learn how one story can change their life. In this interactive program for all ages, participants will also be challenged with questions and have an opportunity to ask questions to Ed the Wizard.

On Thursday, Aug. 3 from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Mary Jo Maichack will be at the library. She will present a selection of different regional Native American stories, told interactively, sung, drummed, even drawn. Stories include the Tlingit tale of Raven, the Napaskiak tale of a Girl Who Cured Herself, drawn on a big easel pad, in honor of the traditional method of drawing tales in snow or sand and more.

BECKET

Athenaeum lists upcoming events

BECKET – The Becket Athenaeum, 3367 Main Street, is the Becket and Washington Community Library.

On Saturday, July 8 at 10:30 a.m. a creative movement and story time led by Laurel Lenski will be held. The creative movement is designed to provide an opportunity for children to exercise their imagination, strengthen their fine and gross motor skills and support the development of social skills and emotional intelligence.

This event is held once per month. Preregistration is appreciated and may be done by visiting bit.ly/BA-storytime.

The "All Together Now" summer reading continues now through Saturday, Aug. 26. People may register by visiting BecketAthenaeum.org/summer-reading.

On Monday, July 10 at 6 p.m., the Cookbook Club meets. People should email info@bwlibrary.org to register and request a copy of the cookbook, "The World in a Skillet" by Christopher Kimball. Participants should let the library know which recipe they plan to prepare.

The group meets in the library to discuss their experiences with the cookbook and to share food they prepared.



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THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPES

ARIES
 Mar 21/Apr 20
 This week you are surrounded by a heightened sense of romance. It could be from reading a favorite book or watching a beloved movie, Aries. Use it to spice up your love life.

CANCER
 Jun 22/Jul 22
 Is there a luxury you have been craving lately, Cancer? You could be very tempted to give in and make a purchase this week, even if your finances may not be on solid ground. Be careful.

LIBRA
 Sept 23/Oct 23
 You could have doubts about a friend you thought was close to you. Has this person promised to do you a favor and didn't deliver, Libra? Be patient before you draw conclusions.

CAPRICORN
 Dec 22/Jan 20
 A bothersome feeling may persist. It's almost as if you've forgotten to do something but do not know what. All will be revealed in due time.

AQUARIUS
 Jan 21/Feb 18
 Be prepared to be a listening ear to a friend or loved one who needs to work through a few issues. You are able to give trusted advice in this matter.

TAURUS
 Apr 21/May 21
 Something you desperately need seems to be missing from your life right now. It's more than a misplaced item. Focus your attention this week on figuring out what it is.

LEO
 Jul 23/Aug 23
 Leo, your emotions will be all over the place the next couple of days. This turmoil may compromise your usual objectivity as well as your good sense. Try to talk your feelings through.

SCORPIO
 Oct 24/Nov 22
 Feelings of confusion may get in the way of your ability to make sound decisions. You might need to lighten your load, since you often take on too much.

SAGITTARIUS
 Nov 23/Dec 21
 Sagittarius, do not get into an argument with someone who has a different opinion from your own. Ask to get more information about why he or she sees things in a particular way.

PISCES
 Feb 19/Mar 20
 Listen carefully and take notes when someone at work provides directions for an upcoming task. You don't want to make any mistakes as it could delay the project.

GEMINI
 May 22/Jun 21
 Try not to listen to any gossip this week. It will only frustrate you and could put you further out of sorts. Avoid people who love to talk about others for the time being.

VIRGO
 Aug 24/Sept 22
 Virgo, your imagination knows no bounds this week. If you're ready to delve into a creative project, do so now when you have a lot of ideas and outside inspiration.

- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Small Eurasian deer
 - 4. Irish county
 - 10. A major division of geological time
 - 11. Broadway actor Lane
 - 12. Canadian province
 - 14. It causes fainting (abbr.)
 - 15. Two
 - 16. A notable one is blue
 - 18. Utter repeatedly
 - 22. Rings
 - 23. Sullies
 - 24. Occurs
 - 26. Publicity
 - 27. Near
 - 28. Tools of a trade
 - 30. Offer in good faith
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Make up for
 - 2. American songbird
 - 3. Pay
 - 4. International organization
 - 5. Engravers
 - 6. Declared as fact
 - 7. Criminal
 - 8. Jewelry
 - 9. Hospital worker (abbr.)
 - 12. Nonsense (slang)
 - 13. Town in Galilee
 - 17. Value
 - 19. Another name
 - 20. Sheep in second year before shearing
 - 21. Town in Surrey, England
 - 25. Appropriate during a time of year
 - 29. Creative output
 - 31. Recesses
 - 32. District in N. Germany
 - 33. Rider of Rohan
 - 35. The official emblem of the German Third Reich
 - 38. One who puts down roots
 - 41. Scribe
 - 43. Painted a bright color
 - 44. Tycoons
 - 45. Actress Thurman
 - 46. Walking accessory
 - 47. Crest of a hill
 - 49. Member of a North American people
 - 56. Type of computer
 - 57. U.S. State (abbr.)

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

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OBITUARY

Bruce G. Wyman, 77

WEST DOVER, VT – Bruce G. Wyman, son of the late Lee E. and Beulah M. (Blanchard) Wyman, passed away June 21, 2023.

He was 77 years old. Bruce grew up in Blandford and lived in West Dover, Vermont for 45 years. Bruce was an electrician by trade and loved the ski industry. He worked at Mount Snow and was involved in the National Ski Association. Bruce mentored new electricians and spoke at national conferences. In addition to this career, Bruce was very involved in the Blandford Fair. His involvement in the fair started when he was very young and ended with almost 40 years as the Fair's president.

Bruce is predeceased by his companion of 46 years, Jean Stevens, also of West Dover; a brother, Duane Wyman; a niece, Susan Wyman Fox and a nephew, David Wyman. Bruce leaves two brothers, Keith (Loretta) Wyman of Middletown, Ohio and Arlyn (Marysia) Wyman of West Springfield, Massachusetts. He leaves a daughter, Jennifer; a son-in-law, Mark and two grandchildren, Kate and David, all of Ashford,



Connecticut. Bruce also leaves behind Jean's children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Bruce and Jean shared a special relationship with all. Bruce has several nieces: Debra Denette, Sheryl Baine, Diane Nadolny, and Carrie Burley, Jeanne Wyman and their families, as well as Stacey Whitmore, her husband and two sons, all from Pennsylvania.

Bruce retired from the U.S. Military after spending almost 23 years in uniform.

He served in the Air National Guard and the Army National Guard. Bruce was also a recreational pilot and once drove an airplane through the streets of Westfield to assist with its relocation. Bruce and Jean's eldest son, Kyle, spent countless hours working together on their West Dover home, including numerous carpentry and landscaping projects.

A Celebration of Life gathering will be held for family and friends at a time to be determined. In lieu of flowers, people may make donations in Bruce's memory to The Blandford Fair, P.O. Box 875, 10 North Street, Blandford, Massachusetts.

DEATH NOTICE

WYMAN, BRUCE G.

Died June 21, 2023

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Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

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Town of Huntington
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TO THE OWNERS OF THE HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED LAND AND TO ALL OTHERS CONCERNED YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on **July 20, 2023 at 10 o'clock a.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

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Subsequent Owner:
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TOTAL AMOUNT DUE 1,282.74

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ADVERTISING DEADLINE JULY 12, 2023

Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

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COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

FOR SALE

ESTATE SALE

20 BRUWER AVE., WILBRAHAM 7/7 & 7/8 8:00 AM-4:00 PM ANTIQUES, TOOLS, FURNITURE, LINENS, CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS, HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

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CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

QUABBIN & SUBURBAN FRIDAY AT NOON
HILLTOWNS MONDAY AT NOON

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

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1***A CALL WE HAUL WE TAKE IT ALL WE LOAD IT ALL**

Lowest rates, accumulations, junk, estates, attics, garages, appliances, basements, demo services. Dumpsters available for rent. All Major CC's CALL NOW (413)531-1936 acallwehaul@gmail.com

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FOR RENT



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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.

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ARA JUNK FURNITURE REMOVAL

Full house cleanouts, attics, basements, garages, pools, hot tubs, sheds, decks. Same day service. 8am-9pm. Credit cards accepted. Free estimates on phone. **Call Pete 413-433-0356.**

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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

Quabbin Village Hills
Circulation: 50,500

Hilltowns
Circulation: 9,800

Suburban Residential
Circulation: 59,000

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: _____
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 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**
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 TOTAL Enclosed _____

Run my ad in the following ZONE(s):
 Quabbin
 Suburban
 Hilltowns

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

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FASTEST
GROWING
APPLIANCE
RETAILER!**

Manny's Appliances

**NEW LOWER
SUMMER PRICES,
EXPERT ADVICE,
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FINAL WEEK TO SAVE!
**DON'T MISS OUT ON THE LOWEST PRICES
OF THE SUMMER DURING OUR 4TH OF JULY SALE!**

FRIGIDAIRE GALLERY


BUY ALL 4 FOR \$3,916
WAS \$5,876
SAVE \$1960
PLUS GET AN ADDITIONAL 10% OFF ON-LINE PACKAGE REBATE

22.6 CU FT COUNTER-DEPTH FRENCH DOOR REFRIGERATOR WITH ADJUSTABLE TEMP DRAWER
MODEL# GRFC2353AF
REG \$3299

30" FREE STANDING ELECTRIC CONVECTION RANGE WITH AIR-FRY
MODEL# GCRE3060AF
REG \$1249

1.9 CU FT 1000 WATT OVER THE RANGE MICROWAVE WITH 400 CFM VENTILATION FAN
MODEL# GMOS1964AF
REG \$549

TOP CONTROL 49 DECIBEL DISHWASHER WITH ORBIT CLEAN TECHNOLOGY
MODEL# GDPP4517AF
REG \$779



GE APPLIANCES


BUY ALL 4 FOR \$4,006
WAS \$6,876
SAVE \$2870
PLUS GET A \$400 ON-LINE DELIVERY REBATE

22.1 CU FT ENERGY STAR COUNTER-DEPTH FRENCH DOOR REFRIGERATOR WITH EXTERNAL ICE & WATER DISPENSER
MODEL# GYE22GYNFS REG \$3499

5.3 CU FT SLIDE-IN ELECTRIC CONVECTION RANGE WITH AIR-FRY AND BUILT IN WI-FI
MODEL# JS760SPSS
REG \$1949

1.9 CU FT OVER THE RANGE SENSOR MICROWAVE & 400 CFM VENTILATION FAN
MODEL# JVM7195SKSS
REG \$529

FINGERPRINT RESISTANT 48 DECIBEL TOP CONTROL DISHWASHER WITH STAINLESS INTERIOR
MODEL# GDT645SYNFS
REG \$899



AMANA

REG \$629 \$479

AMANA LARGE CAPACITY TOP LOAD WASHER WITH HIGH EFFICIENCY AGITATOR MODEL# NTW4519JW

AMANA 6.5 CU FT ELECTRIC DRYER WITH WRINKLE PREVENT OPTION MODEL# NED4655EW



Profile

REG \$999 \$729

SAVE \$540 ON THE PAIR - PLUS GET A \$100 ON LINE DELIVERY REBATE

GE PROFILE 5.3 CU FT TOP LOAD WASHER WITH SMARTER WASH TECHNOLOGY AND FLEX DISPENSE MODEL# PTW705BSTWS

GE PROFILE 7.4 CU FT ELECTRIC DRYER WITH SANITIZE CYCLE AND SENSOR DRY MODEL# PT070EBSTWS



Electrolux

REG \$1049 \$799

SAVE \$500 ON THE PAIR - PLUS GET A \$100 ON LINE DELIVERY REBATE

ELECTROLUX 4.5 CU FT FRONT LOAD WASHER WITH LUX CARE WASH SYSTEM WITH 18 MINUTE FAST WASH MODEL# ELFW7437AW

ELECTROLUX 8.0 CU FT ELECTRIC DRYER WITH INSTANT REFRESH AND INSTANT REFRESH CYCLE MODEL# ELFE7437AW



FRIGIDAIRE

REG \$949 \$649
SAVE \$300

FRIGIDAIRE STAINLESS STEEL 18.3 CU FT TOP FREEZER REFRIGERATOR WITH AUTO CLOSE DOORS MODEL# FFR1835VS



Whirlpool

REG \$2099 \$1499
SAVE \$600

WHIRLPOOL 21 CU FT COUNTER-DEPTH SIDE-BY-SIDE REFRIGERATOR WITH IN-DOOR ICE STORAGE MODEL# WRSS71CHZ



GE APPLIANCES

REG \$949 \$679
SAVE 28%

GE 5.3 CU FT SELF CLEANING ELECTRIC OVEN WITH DUAL ELEMENT BAKE MODEL# JB645RKSS



FRIGIDAIRE GALLERY

REG \$2099 \$1599
SAVE \$500

FRIGIDAIRE GALLERY FRONT CONTROL INDUCTION RANGE WITH TRUE CONVECTION AND AIR-FRY MODEL# F6IH3047VF



GE APPLIANCES

REG \$1199 \$799
SAVE \$400

GE 5 CU FT FREE STANDING GAS CONVECTION RANGE WITH AIR-FRY MODEL# JGB735SPSS



LG

REG \$1749 \$1199
SAVE 31%

LG 5.8 CU FT SMART WI-FI ENABLED CONVECTION GAS SLIDE-IN RANGE WITH AIR-FRY MODEL# LSGLS833F



Profile

REG \$2749 \$1599
SAVE \$1150

GE PROFILE 5.6 CU FT GAS CONVECTION SMART SLIDE-IN RANGE WITH AIR-FRY MODEL# P6S930YFSS



MAYTAG

REG \$379 \$549
SAVE \$170

MAYTAG FRONT CONTROL DISHWASHER WITH STAINLESS TUB AND DUAL POWER FILTRATION MODEL# MDB4949SKZ



Profile

REG \$1149 \$799
SAVE 30%

GE PROFILE TOP CONTROL DISHWASHER WITH STAINLESS INTERIOR AND SANITIZE AND DRY BOOST OPTIONS MODEL# PDT715SYNFS



FRIGIDAIRE FRIEDRICH

REG \$1499 \$1199
SAVE 20%

WINDOW AND PORTABLE AIR-CONDITIONERS IN STOCK AND ON SALE



GE APPLIANCES

REG \$2399 \$1499
SAVE 37%

GE 27 CU FT ENERGY STAR FRENCH DOOR REFRIGERATOR WITH INTERIOR WATER DISPENSER MODEL# GNE27JYMF5



BOSCH

REG \$2999 \$2499
SAVE \$500

BOSCH 500 SERIES 26 CU FT FRENCH DOOR REFRIGERATOR WITH QUICK-ICE PRO AND HOME CONNECT MODEL# B36F050SNS



SALE DATES
7/6-7/12

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508-626-2321

Sutton MA
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Keene NH
603-363-4100

Claremont NH
603-287-8689
Canton CT
860-693-6337