

"A horse, a horse, my kingdom for a horse." – William Shakespeare Richard III

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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Fair season is coming up soon.

Submitted photo

HILLTOWNS

Local fairs kick off in August

By Wendy Long
Correspondent

It is nearly time for area agricultural fairs, each of which feature food, animal shows, children's activities, arts and all around fun for all ages.

While the larger fairs like the Big E or Three County Fair get a lot of buzz and publicity, fairs in some of the small towns are also worth visiting and supporting and all are in the final planning stages for this summer. Each of the area fairs, Littleville,

Middlefield and Blandford, features a mix of exhibits and events, honoring long-time traditions and, at times, activities that lean toward the "quirky."

Littleville Fair kicks off the local season, running Friday, Aug. 4 starting at 4 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 5 and Sunday, Aug. 6 closing at 5 p.m. on Kinnebrook Road in Chester. A 50/50 raffle, 4-H petting zoo, pony rides and a free bike raffle for kids under age 12 (must be present to

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BLANDFORD

Select Board appoint new Conservation agent

By Mary Kronholm
Correspondent

The Select Board appointed Nicholas Pietroniro as the town's new part-time Conservation Agent at their Monday July 24 meeting following his interview.

Pietroniro has been the Conservation Agent for Becket since he graduated from Westfield State University two

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Conservation Agent Nicholas Pietroniro, from left, responds to questions from select board members Theodore Cousineau, Chair Cara Letendre and Jeff Allen.

Photo by Mary Kronholm

MOOSE ON THE LOOSE



Hilltown Hiker member, Tom Hoffman was lucky enough to see a female moose. He was fishing at about 100 yards away.

Photo by Tom Hoffman

HUNTINGTON

Summer free concert series continues in Huntington on Town Green



Members of the Hilltown Community Ambulance sold baked goods at last week's concert by the Bobby Sweet Band. The summer series of free concerts continues on Thursdays through Aug 17.

Submitted photo

By Wendy Long
Correspondent

People are invited to the Town Green on Thursday, Aug. 3 from 6:30-8 p.m. to hear the Buddy McEarns Band as the summer concert series rolls on into August.

Described as "Blue Roots Rock 'n Roll," "Ragabilly" and "Funky Folkie Electric Blues," the band has opened for national touring acts Samantha Fish, Joe Louis Walker, Duke Robillard and Quinn Sullivan Castro. They've also been billed alongside local acts such as the

Wildcat O'Halloran Band, Sweet Daddy Cool Breeze, Shokazoba, Ray Mason and Eavesdrop Trio.

Highly influenced by the musical traditions of yesterday, Buddy McEarns creates music that is fresh, yet familiar to the listener. Buddy's original material flows smoothly with a handful of creative cover songs. Often a listener will hear an original boogie followed by a traditional folk song turned jump blues, followed by a kid's tune that's funk'd out with spicier lyrics. For additional

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HILLTOWNS



Berkshire Lyric's Ubi Caritas, an a cappella young chamber chorus, will perform two concerts on Sunday, Aug. 6 to benefit local food pantries. *Submitted photo*

Concerts to benefit local food pantries

Berkshire Lyric's Ubi Caritas will perform two concerts to benefit local food pantries.

Berkshire Lyric's outstanding young summer chamber chorus Ubi Caritas is back in action for their annual a cappella concerts, which raise money for local food pantries. A free will offering to benefit local food pantries will be taken by each church.

They have raised \$12,000 over the years. The concerts are on Sunday, Aug.

6 and will be performed at two churches at 3 p.m. at Saint Mark's Roman Catholic Church, 400 West St., Pittsfield and at 5 p.m. at Saint Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, 11 Elm St., Stockbridge.

They will sing some very challenging 4 to 8 part sacred and secular music: Byrd, Durufle, Holst, Whitacre, Anson Olds, a gospel set and more. For more information, people may visit www.berkshirelyric.org or call 413 298 5365.

MassDOT announces upcoming roadwork

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation announces crews will be conducting overnight and daytime paving operations and bridge, guardrail and drainage repair work on I-90 eastbound and westbound in Montgomery, Russell, Lee, Becket and West Stockbridge.

The scheduled work will require some lane and shoulder closures.

Bridge repair work in Montgomery and Russell will be conducted nightly on I-90 eastbound and westbound at mile marker 36.0 on Thursday, July 27 to Friday morning July 28, during overnight hours from 7 p.m.-5 a.m. the following morning. All work is anticipated to conclude on Friday, July 28 by 5 p.m.

Paving operations in Lee and Becket will be conducted nightly on I-90 eastbound from mile marker 14.0 to mile marker 21.8 on Thursday, July 27 to Friday, July 28 during overnight hours from 7 p.m.-5 a.m. the following morning. All work is anticipated to conclude on Friday, July 28 by 5 a.m.

Guardrail repair operations in Lee will be conducted nightly on I-90 eastbound and westbound from mile marker 9.3 to mile marker 10.3 on Thursday, July 27 to Friday morning, July 28, during overnight hours from 7 p.m.-5 a.m. the following

morning. All work is anticipated to conclude on Friday, July 28, by 5 a.m.

Drainage repair operations in West Stockbridge will be conducted daily at I-90 eastbound from mile marker 1.0 to mile marker 6.0, on Thursday, July 27 during daytime hours from 7 a.m.-5 p.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 @MassDOT to receive regular updates on road and traffic conditions.

FAIRS

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win) will be held daily.

Live music headliners include The 413s on Friday evening, Hilltown Sidetracked Band and Built for Comfort on Saturday and the Pitoniak Brass Band and Old Country Road Band on Sunday.

The Littleville Fair is known for its oxen draws and truck, trac-

tor and horse pulls, which are scheduled throughout the weekend. Children events include a youth dairy and beef cattle show, blueberry pie eating contest, Ed Popielarczyk's magic and balloon sculpting, face painting and a kids potato sack race. Among the fair's unique offerings are the Jack and Jill cross cut

sawing contest, lawn mower racing and a women's fry pan toss.

Prizes will be awarded to art, livestock and gardening entries - don't miss the zucchini weigh in on Sunday at noon. The Littleville Fair opens Friday at 4 p.m. and closes Sunday at 5 p.m. Admission is \$10 a day; free for children aged 12 and under. For a complete schedule of events, people may visit their website at <https://littlevillefair.com/>.

Middlefield Fair takes place the following weekend, with gates opening on Friday, Aug. 11 at 4 p.m. on and running on Sunday, Aug. 13 until 6 p.m. Established in 1855, the fair includes truck, horse and oxen pulls, a petting zoo and a daily scooter giveaway.

A car show will start on Saturday, Aug. 12 at 11 a.m. with trophies awarded at 3 p.m. The midway will feature Bubba's Snakes and Reptiles. New this year, is a local authors book signing.

Uniquely Middlefield's will be the children's chicken chucking, lady's skillet toss and men's chainsaw throwing contests. Musical acts A Ray of Elvis will perform on Saturday and Rumours 413 on Sunday.

Sunday afternoon will feature a turkey dinner from noon-4 p.m., and extra food will be auctioned off at 6 p.m. Daily admission will be \$8 with children under 12 are free and a special three-day pass is selling for \$20 before the fair

opens; these will also be on sale at the Littleville Fair. People may visit middlefieldfair.org for more information.

In keeping with its annual tradition, the Blandford Fair will be held on Labor Day Weekend. In its 154th year, the fair is known for its annual horse show and demolition derby. The art show will also offer daily demonstrations of various art forms and techniques.

Family contests include corn husking, bale toss, cake walk (sort of a standing version of musical chairs with the winner taking the prize cake), nail driving contest and rolling pin throw. The midway will offer rides and games for all ages.

Admission is \$10 for adults, free to aged 12 and under and \$5 for seniors and military members. Parking on the fairgrounds is \$5. New this year: \$5 after 5 p.m. for Saturday and Sunday evening and free admission for Blandford residents on Monday. Further information visit blandfordfair.com.

According to the Massachusetts Agricultural Fairs Association, the purpose of even the smallest community fairs is to educate the public as to the importance of agricultural history and knowledge. Each fair's website will have forms for entering art, baking, gardening and livestock contests and exhibits. A premium booklet will describe the criteria that will be used to judge various entries, as well as prize awards.

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Town of Chester Highway Department Equipment Operator/ Laborer/ Truck Driver

The Town of Chester is seeking a full-time Equipment Operator/ Laborer/ Truck Driver for the Highway Department. Candidate must possess a Mass CDL Class B or higher, A Hoisting license 2 B or higher and a valid medical card and clean driving record. Experience with snow removal, road construction, repair, and maintenance as well as the ability to operate and maintain the same as well as power tools. Must be able to work alone and be able to do things that need to be done. Please send cover letter and application to townadministrator@townofchester.net or Highwaysuperintendent@townofchester.net

A Job description will be provided.

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HUNTINGTON

Historical Society hosts Norwich Bridge School

By Wendy Long
Correspondent

HUNTINGTON – The Huntington Historical Society hosts an Open House at the Norwich Bridge School Museum on Sunday, July 30 from 1-4 p.m.

The schoolhouse, which may have been constructed in the 1780s, is located at 72 Worthington Road, next to the Huntington Country Store. This event is free of charge.

The museum is home to many artifacts relating to the town of

Huntington that have been collected and donated to the Historical Society.

The Historical Society formed in 1971 to begin to address the poor condition of the school house and obtained a grant that funded some weatherization and restoration in

1976. Additional efforts to maintain the building continued over a number of years.

The Huntington Historical Society meets at the schoolhouse on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. New members are welcome to attend.

Council on Aging list events

HUNTINGTON – The Huntington Council on Aging will be hosting the following events at Stanton Hall, 26 Russell Road.

Musicians Ron and Ronnie will entertain seniors on Wednesday, Aug. 9 from 2-3 p.m. All ages are welcome to watch “Doolittle” and enjoy snacks on Thursday, Aug. 10 at 1 p.m.

Other activities include on Wednesday, Aug 16 from 1-2 p.m., Meredith Starr from The Food Bank of Massachusetts will present a nutritional program and on Thursday, Aug. 24 at 10 a.m. indoor walking and exercise will be

held.

The annual Grandparents’ Day celebration will be held on Saturday, Sept. 9 at 1 p.m. and will feature Forest Park Zoo’s Wildlife on Wheels. The Hilltown Memory Café is held weekly on Wednesdays from 2-3 p.m. and provides seniors with activities while their caregivers participate in a support group. The café is open to all with and without memory issues.

All events are free of charge. People may call the COA at 413-512-5205 or email coa@huntingtonma.us for more information.



The Norwich Bridge School serves as the museum for the Huntington Historical Society. The public is invited to the group’s Open House on Sunday, July 30. Photo by Wendy Long

CONCERT

from page 1

information, people may visit the band’s website <https://buddymcearns.com/>.

This week’s bake sale will be provided by the Huntington Evangelical Church ladies aid group.

The Town Green is located at the intersection of Routes 20 & 112. In case of inclement weather, performances will be moved inside Stanton Hall at the same location.

The series continues on Thursday,

Aug. 10 with The Liquid Courage Band and concludes on Thursday, Aug 17 with acoustic singer/songwriter Faith Rheault. A bake sale will be held each week to support local, non-profit groups. Patrons are invited to bring their lawn chairs but are asked to leave the pets at home.

This free concert series is sponsored by The Huntington Community Events Committee and supported by the Huntington Cultural Council.

Cutchins Programs for Children & Families

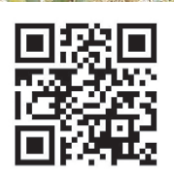
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OPINION

GUEST COLUMN



Will WEP and GPO affect my wife's spousal benefit?

Dear Rusty:

My wife worked for the U.S. Postal Service in New York for about 22 years and then in the private sector for about 15 years. She began collecting her "deferred annuity" from the USPS at age 62 and she plans to collect her Social Security benefits at age 67, which is her Full Retirement Age.

Her Social Security benefit before the Windfall Elimination Provision is less than 50% of my Primary Insurance Amount, so the plan is for her to start collecting a "spousal" benefit from me at age 67. My question is: will my wife's spousal benefit be reduced by both the Windfall Elimination Provision and the Government Pension Offset?

Signed: Inquiring Husband

Dear Inquiring Husband:

Your wife cannot separate her personally earned Social Security retirement benefit from her Social Security spousal entitlement from you whenever she applies for Social Security, your wife will be automatically deemed to be filing for all benefits she is entitled to when she claims.

Because your wife has a "non-covered pension" from the U.S. Postal Service and assuming that pension is under the older Civil Service Retirement System, your wife's personally earned SS retirement benefit will be reduced by the Windfall Elimination Provision. WEP reduces Social Security retirement benefits for anyone, who also has a pension earned while not contributing to Social Security.

The Government Pension Offset is different: the GPO will affect any additional amount your wife is entitled to as your spouse, which we refer to as her "spousal boost." The "spousal boost" amount is the difference between your wife's pre-WEP FRA entitlement and 50% of your FRA entitlement, which is your Primary Insurance Amount. Because of her USPS pension, GPO will reduce your wife's "spousal boost" by 2/3rds of the amount of her non-covered pension, which may eliminate her potential spousal boost.

So WEP will affect your wife's personally earned SS benefit and the GPO will affect her spousal entitlement from you. But, depending on the amount of her USPS pension, your wife will not be entitled to an additional amount as your spouse if 2/3rds of her USPS pension amount is more than her "spousal boost" amount. And if the GPO doesn't completely eliminate your wife's spousal boost, it will at least drastically reduce it.

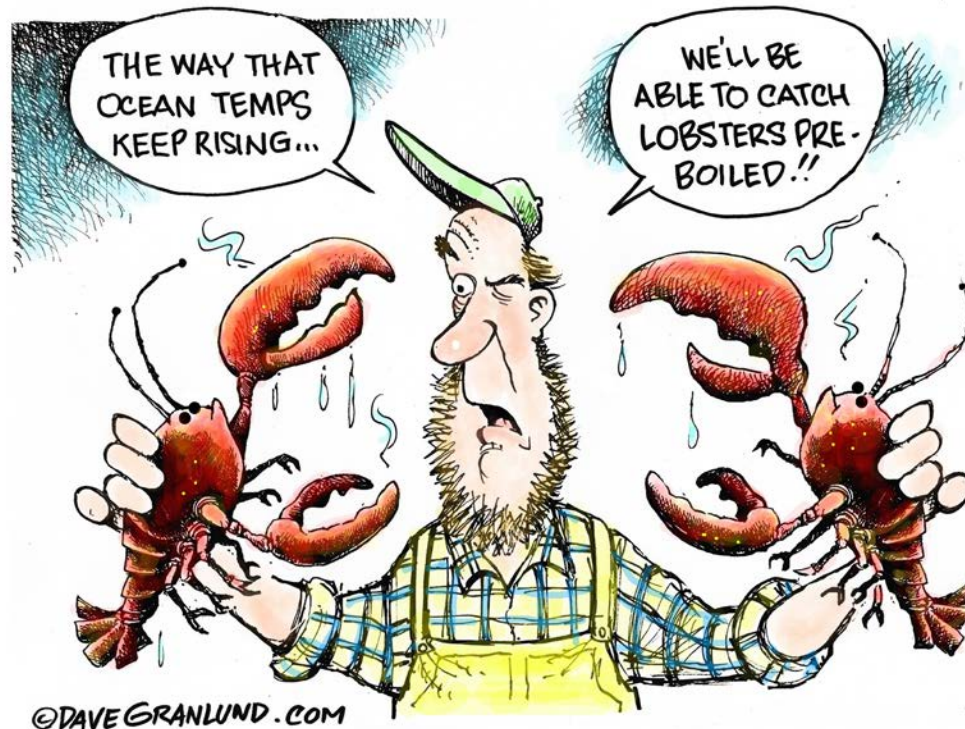
I have previously published several articles about both WEP and GPO and how each provision works, which you are welcome to review by visiting the AMAC Foundation's special Social Security website at www.SocialSecurityReport.org. In particular, one such article providing more detail on how the GPO works can be found by visiting this link www.socialsecurityreport.org/ask-rusty-government-pension-offset-gpo/.

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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.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Ways to make Westfield River accessible

The towns of Russell and Huntington and the city of West Springfield have many natural assets. The most outstanding is the Westfield River.

The section of river in Russell along Route 20 has some of the best fishing stretches in the East. Over the years the river was cleaned up and the sources of pollution removed, the river has become more popular. With the increased usage there has been an increase in overcrowding and the generation of trash and increased noise. Folks come to fish, cool off and enjoy the river and its surroundings. The river's popularity has created problems that were never anticipated. What the towns have done to solve these problems is unfair and selfish, taking the resource away from everyone.

The state and towns have posted no parking or 20-minute parking all along Route 20. Where there were places to pull off the road and park safely, the state has extended the guard rails eliminating these safe spots as well. The large areas with parking have, in effect, been rendered unusable by the 30-minute parking only restriction. The area under the Turnpike bridge is posted by the state. I can understand keeping people out during construction for safety reasons.

These are public lands. Many people and organizations have worked for many

years to clean up the river. The Westfield was one of the first rivers in the nation to receive the Wild and Scenic Waterway designation. Fees from sporting licenses pay for land acquisition and fish stocking.

The river should be made available to everyone who wishes to use it responsibly. Create a metered pay-as-you-go parking. Place the ticket dispensers in the most heavily used areas. The timed tickets would be good anywhere there was safe parking along Route 20. The ticket could have a maximum daily time. Restrictions such as swimming only in designated areas, no fires, no alcohol etc. could be added. Fines for expired or no parking tickets could be imposed.

As part of the metered parking solution institute a part-time police position that would be responsible for enforcement of the program. The revenues generated from the parking proposal would offset some if not all the cost of the program. A part-time police presence would go a long toward people acting responsibly. A sticker system for cars that qualify for parking makes legal users identifiable. I am quite sure that there are many other ways to make these waters available to the public.

James Wachala
Herman Street
West Springfield

Sugar money leaves sour taste

Unlike the Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota, no sugar beets are grown in Massachusetts. And neither do we grow sugarcane like the states of Florida and Louisiana. But during his years in Congress, Rep. Richard Neal (D-Springfield) has had no problem voting to maintain a costly government sugar program that benefits a handful of giant sugar processors and less than 6,000 farmers.

First enacted 89 years ago, the U.S. sugar program uses import quotas, marketing allotments, price supports and tariffs to artificially raise the price of sugar. One think tank called the program a classic government-created cartel.

Rep. Neal has decided that siding with the sugar lobby can pay off for him with succulent donations of campaign contributions from the industry. Between 1999-2018, Neal has voted numerous times against cutting sugar price supports and reducing sugar loan rates and in 2018 against an amendment to begin dismantling the outdated sugar support program.

Here in Massachusetts, approximately 13,400 jobs are generated among the 436 establishments that produce breads and bakery products, chocolate and chocolate confectionery manufacturing, ice cream and frozen desserts, snack foods, breakfast cereals, soft drinks and other products. The

U.S. Census Bureau says that our current sugar program has killed some 123,000 jobs between 1997 and 2015 and the Department of Commerce estimates that for every sugar-producing job protected through high U.S. sugar process, about three manufacturing jobs are lost.

These lost jobs don't seem to bother Rep. Neal who has fattened his campaign war chest on sugar industry cash. Between 2000 and 2014, Neal pulled down \$16,000 in PAC checks from seven groups like American Crystal Sugar Co., a Minnesota-based sugar beet cooperative and the Florida Sugar Cane League, which represents large sugar conglomerates such as Florida Crystals and the U.S. Sugar Corporation.

In his July 2023 campaign finance report covering the second quarter of this year, Neal is showing a total of \$14,500 in campaign cash from five sugar PACs including The Amalgamated Sugar Co. (\$1,500), American Sugar Cane League (\$1,000) and American Crystal Sugar Co. (\$10,000).

Rep. Neal's support for this corporate welfare program makes him a special interest sweetheart while his constituents pay higher prices for food at the grocery store.

Matt L. Barron
Chesterfield

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OPINION

GUEST COLUMN



Several people spotted a juvenile red-tailed hawk by Coldbrook Road in Oakham last week.

People, who saw the bird, hoped its parents were near by and take care of it. That did not happen.

When no parent appeared by the next day, the bird was brought to a wildlife rehabilitator.

The red-tailed hawk is the most commonly seen hawk in this area. It is about 19 inches long. It gets its name from its reddish upper tail. It also has a white chest with a belly band and markings on the chest. Plumage varies considerably. The immature has a finely banded gray-brown tail and keeps this plumage for one year.

The female lays one to five bluish white eggs with dark marks in a platform of sticks lined with bark and greens in a

tree. The nest can be 15 to 120 feet high. They often are seen perched in a tree by a field. They make a slurred scream like “tseeaarr” often directed at an intruder. Fledglings and adults also make a “klooeek” sound. During courtship or territorial encounters, they make a piercing “chwirk.”

Bird talk

On July 7, I spoke about birds at the Oakham Senior Center. Ava, age 7, won the door prize of a “Squirrel Slammer” feeder. She came to the event with her great-aunt, who also took the photo of the young red-tailed hawk in this column. She related the story of its rescue since it appeared to be abandoned.

One Oakham woman attending the talk said a robin nested near the house. She and her husband could watch it from their home. One day, they saw the mother shove all her babies out of the nest.

Wild turkeys

Recently, I saw a turkey dust bathing along the side of the road. An Oakham resident had one doing the same thing in her yard. At first, she was concerned it was injured, but it did get up and leave.

Several people reported wild turkeys in their yard with youngsters. I saw one

group on someone lawn recently. The poults looked adorable.

Loons

Most loon pairs hatch their young the first two weeks of July. Both Wachusett Reservoir and Quabbin Reservoir have nesting loons. Floating nests not only provide suitable nesting sites, but they also rise and fall with the water level. This is especially important this year with all the heavy rain in preventing flooding of the nests.

Massachusetts Audubon Society sighting

In Berkshire County, sightings reported to Massachusetts Audubon Society included a northern goshawk and two hooded warblers in Great Barrington and a single hooded warbler at the Hopkins Memorial Forest in Williamstown. Other sightings were a least bittern at Richmond Marsh and merlins in Pittsfield and Lenox.

In Worcester County, sightings included a Brewster’s warbler in Harvard, two black vultures soaring near the Hardwick Winery and five evening grosbeaks.

It is good to hear there are evening

grosbeak sightings as many of the people at the bird talk at the Oakham Senior Center said they had not seen evening grosbeaks in some time.

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



Juvenile red-tailed hawk

Get out of the garden with a few good books



The saying goes like this: “If you can’t handle the heat, stay out of the kitchen!”

I’d like to switch it up to say “garden” in place of “kitchen” in light of the fact that I really can’t handle the summer heat as well as I used to. These last few weeks, gardening has been accomplished early in the day or during the evening hours instead of midday.

What does a gardening fanatic do if they aren’t actually gardening? Read about gardening, of course!

Call me old-fashioned, but I still prefer books over online text. I like to see and hold my books, curl the pages and even write in the margins.

Sometimes, just for fun, I’ll pick a book and flip the pages to see where my finger will land. What interesting topic will I read about?

Today I’ll choose three books and end up with the topics for today’s column that way. Maybe we can all learn something new or at least refresh our skills.

The first pick is from one of my favorite herb books, “Herbs in Bloom” by Jo Ann Gardner (Timber Press). I flip the pages and end up on Feverfew (*Tanacetum parthenium*).

Timely, because Feverfew is blooming in my yard right now.

Feverfew is from the Latin word febrifuge thanks to its past use as a fever reducer. Both its single and its double form (*Flora pleno*) lend themselves to admission into the perennial border; often they bloom the first year from seed.

The plants thrive in both light shade and full sun, with the single flower type resowing itself to almost nuisance status if given the opportunity. The flowering span seems to go on and on, the white daisy flowers lending themselves to use in the vase alongside bee balm, summer phlox, veronicas and more.

I especially like the



Feverfew

double flowers, and had great luck drying them, their off-white color the perfect addition to a wreath of hydrangea and dried roses.

Second year plants will return with some winter-kill that will need addressing. After blooming plants will likely not return for year three.

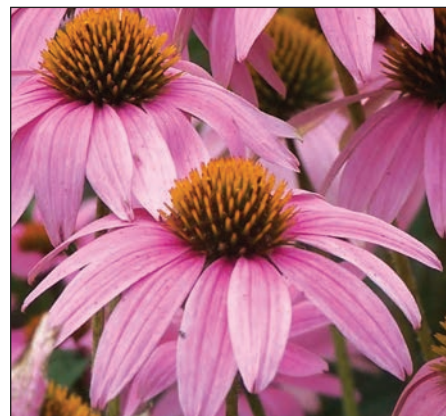
Still, feverfew is a must have for those of us who love herbs in the flower garden. Keep volunteers at bay by dead-heading all but a few of the flowers.

The second pick is ironic, considering the rain we’ve been getting.

On page 138 of “Secrets to Great Soil” by Elizabeth P. Stell (Storey Books), we learn about improving soggy or poorly drained soils, first by mentioning the use of raised beds.

My stone edged raised beds that usually demand a daily watering in the summer heat are handling all the rain in stride. Unlike the corner of my vegetable garden that was literally under water after the 3.5” we received on Friday.

In addition to that mention on raised



Coneflower

beds, a number of perennials are cited as thriving in moist soil. You’d be surprised to learn that Astilbe (*Astilbe* spp.) falls into this category, as do the more familiar native wetland plants: Joe-Pye Weed (*Eupatorium maculatum*), Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*) and its cousin Great Blue Lobelia (*L. siphilitica*), the three of which bloom later in the summer.

Candalabra primrose (*Primula japonica*) was also mentioned. I have purchased this plant two years in a row and it never thrives; now I know the reason: it needs moister soil.

The plants growing under the tree canopy at Positively Perennials are a sight worthy of mention in mid-May when they are in full multi-tiered bloom. Next year, check it out!

We seem to be on a flower theme, so let’s see what “The Flower Gardener’s Bible” by Lewis and Nancy Hill (Storey Books) has in



Globe Thistle

store. Alas, pick three does not disappear.

I landed on a page devoted to both the native Coneflowers (*Echinacea* species) and the Globe Thistles (*Echinops* species). Right now, my new border, devoted to our pollinators, is striking with Purple Coneflower as one of the stars.

This plant too, has seemed to enjoy the rain, gaining some height after the shock of being divided and replanted early in May. If you leave the spent flowers in place, self-sown seedlings will emerge next spring, begging to be moved about the landscape or shared with friends and family.

GARDEN, page 14

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SCHOOLS & YOUTH

Western New England University lists graduates

SPRINGFIELD –Western New England University held its undergraduate commencement ceremony on May 20 in the Anthony S. Caprio Alumni Healthful Living Center, celebrating the Class of 2023.

Local graduates are

Kylie A. Buchanan of Westfield, with a Bachelor of Arts in p and a double minor in education and criminal justice; Michelle Lynn McDermott of Easthampton, Summa Cum Laude Bachelor of Science in health sciences and a minor in chemistry; Lauren M. Jablonski of Westfield Bachelor of Science Business Administration in accounting; Kyle N. Nelson of Westfield, Bachelor of Science Business Administration in business analytics and information management with a double minor in management and enterprise resource planning with Satisfactory Academic Progress; Thomas John

Hyjek of Huntington, Summa Cum Laude Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in finance and a minor in economics; Evan M. Lee of Chester, Summa Cum Laude Bachelor of Science Business Administration in marketing; Steven Michael McKenna of Westfield Bachelor of Science Business Administration in marketing; Eden Carleigh Burke of Easthampton, Summa Cum Laude Bachelor of Science Engineering in biomedical engineering; Veronika V. Panchenko of Westfield, Bachelor of Science Engineering in biomedical engineering; Artsem Ivanou of Westfield, Magna Cum Laude Bachelor of Science Engineering in electrical engineering; Ethan Michael Pighetti of Westfield, Magna Cum Laude Bachelor of Science Engineering in mechanical engineering and Michael R. Stanley of Westfield, Bachelor of Science Engineering in mechanical engineering.

Holyoke Community STEM announces scholarship deadline

HOLYOKE – Students enrolled full time in chemistry, biology, engineering, mathematics, physics or other Science Technology Engineering Mathematics fields at Holyoke Community College have until Tuesday, Aug. 1, to apply for a National Science Foundation scholarship of up to \$10,000 a year.

Through HCC, the National Science Foundation Scholarship offers on average \$6,500 per year to qualified full-time students and prorated amounts for part-time students.

New and current HCC students are encouraged to apply. The application deadline for the fall 2023 semester is Aug. 1, 2023. Scholarship awardees will be notified by Aug. 20.

The fall semester begins Tuesday, Sept. 5. Students chosen for the NSF scholarship become members of HCC's STEM Scholars 2.0 Program, also known as SCoRE (STEM Cohorts for Research & Engagement).

STEM Scholars are expected to

maintain enrollment in a STEM program, be in good academic standing, complete an associate degree at HCC, and/or transfer to an accredited STEM degree program at a four-year institution. The scholarships are renewable every year students continue to meet the eligibility criteria.

Beside the financial awards, STEM Scholars become part of a learning community that fosters a sense of belonging and academic success, and includes mentoring, research and honors experiences, community service, and internships.

The application and eligibility guidelines can be viewed by visiting hcc.edu/stem-scholarship. STEM disciplines include biological sciences, physical sciences, math, computer and information services, geosciences, and engineering.

The program is led by HCC math professor Ileana Vasu, coordinator of the STEM Scholars program. She can be reached by email at ivasu@hcc.edu or by calling 413-552-2438.

Springfield Technical Community College announces Dean's List

SPRINGFIELD – Springfield Technical Community College announces students, who are on the spring 2023 Dean's List.

Local students making the Dean's List are: Shaheim Torres of Easthampton, Ilona Nazarets of Westfield, Evan Ciborowski of Easthampton, Emma Laveck of Easthampton, Christina Mosijchuk of Westfield, Alicia Rossi of Westfield, Adriana Acosta of Easthampton, Joshua Almeida of Westfield, Griffin Beardsley of Westfield, Keyana Dorsey of Westfield, Stephan Fenstemaker

of Westfield, Dominic Gavioli of Westfield, Matthew Gorman of Westfield, Marissa Hannoush of Westfield, Matthew Mitchell of Easthampton and Madison Smith of Westfield.

Other local students making Dean's List are: Anatoliy Suprunchuk of Westfield, Guadalupe Torres of Westfield, Rebecca Hyjek of Montgomery, Antonio Selso De Oliveira of Westfield, Theresa Diaz of Westfield, Shauna Feyre of Westfield, Michael Gorman of Westfield, Brian Hodovanec of Westfield, Diana Lane of Westfield,

Isabella Lombardi of Westfield, Melanie Lysenko of Westfield, Mark Marquez of Westfield, Katherine Mosijchuk of Westfield, Emily Rzasa of Westfield and Aviella Arbutov of Westfield.

Additional local students making Dean's List are: Anita Boyko of Westfield, Christopher Campbell of Easthampton, Francesca Drownowski of Westfield, Samuel Frechette of Russell, Nicholas Gregoire of Westfield, Zachary Longhi of Westhampton, Roman Slivca of Westfield, Sophia Taglieri of Westfield, Clarissa Aponte of Westfield, Garrett Bacon of Westfield,

Samuel Barnes of Westhampton, Peter Charles of Westfield, Alesya Danyuk of Westfield, Daniel Fodor of Westfield, Brittany Hauschild of Westfield, Sura Ibrahim of Westfield, Andrew Nichols of Westhampton, Kyle Robidoux of Westfield and Solomiya Shilyuk of Westfield.

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

Landon Reyes makes NEILA All Academic Team

NEWTON –The New England Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association announces member of the 2023 All-Academic Teams.

Landon Reyes of Westfield was on of the Lasalle University Men's Lacrosse players making the All Academic Team. Members of the teams are nominated by head coaches

in Divisions I, II and II, and are student-athletes who have excelled both in the classroom and on the field over the course of their men's lacrosse career. Nominees must have senior or graduate student standing, a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale, and be an impact player for their team.

Clara Downey makes University of Scranton Dean's List

SCRANTON, PA – Clara M. Downey of Easthampton makes Dean's List at the University of Scranton for the 2023 spring semester.

Downey is a senior political science major in the university's College of Arts

and Sciences. The Dean's List recognizes students for academic excellence. A student must have a grade point average of 3.5 or better with a minimum number of credit hours during the semester to make the Dean's List.

Alexander Tilton makes WSU Dean's Honor Roll

WICHITA, KAN. – Wichita State University announces the names of students, who were on the Dean's Honor Roll for spring 2023.

Among them is Alexander J. Tilton of Westhampton.

To be included on the dean's honor roll, a student must be enrolled full time (at least 12 credit hours) and earn at least a 3.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

Rochester Institute of Technology announces Dean's List

ROCHESTER, NY – Rochester Institute of Technology announces the Dean's List for the spring semester of the 2022-2023 academic year.

Local students making Dean's List are: Nate Valeri of Westfield, a 3D digital design major; Kaitlin Price of Westfield, a biomedical engineering major; Zane Kitchen Lipski of Plainfield, a computer science major; Deajah Barbour of Westfield, a computing and information technologies major; Emmet Blanchette of

Westfield, a graphic design major; Braxton Crandall of Otis, a mechanical engineering major and Wunnam Ziblim of Westfield, a mechanical engineering major.

Full-time degree-seeking undergraduate students are eligible for Dean's List if their term GPA is greater than or equal to 3.400; they do not have any grades of "Incomplete," "D" or "F" and they have registered for and completed, at least 12 credit hours.

Clark University announces Dean's List

WORCESTER – Clark University announces the spring 2023 Dean's List.

Local students making the Dean's List are Nate E. Bonini of Westfield, second honors; Kelly E. Burns of Westfield, first honors; Lilah B. Feitner of Cummington, first honors and Rj J. Safron of Easthampton, second honors.

Students must have a GPA of 3.8 or above for first honors or a GPA between 3.50 and 3.79 for second honors.

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EASTHAMPTON

bankESB makes \$25,000 challenge grant

EASTHAMPTON – Matthew Sosik, president and CEO of bankESB, announces that the bank is awarding up to \$25,000 in a matching challenge grant to support the Amherst Hurricanes Boosters’ Transformative Uses for Regional Fields (T.U.R.F.) Project.

Alongside the support of parents and community members, the total could reach as much as \$50,000. The Amherst Hurricane Athletic Boosters approached bankESB in search of a

community partner to help them replace and reorient the condemned 23-year-old track and field with a usable, 8-lane track and year-round playable fields offering the best pedagogical experience and community gathering place in the area. To support their fundraising initiative, they wanted a partner who shared their commitment to eco-friendly facilities, health and wellness, equal access, safety, and innovation.

This matching grant gives parents,

families, and community members the opportunity to purchase a seat or row in the new stands that would receive a named plaque, with bankESB matching donations dollar for dollar up to \$25,000.

“What an amazing opportunity for student-athletes to have a facility like this to use year-round to help unlock their full potential,” said Sosik. “bankESB is proud to stand with our community in Amherst, and we look forward to

breaking ground on such an impactful project.”

Organizations and community members contributing to the Amherst T.U.R.F. Project can double the impact of their donations through this matching grant. Contributions may be sent to the Amherst Hurricanes Boosters office at 141 No. Pleasant St., P.O. Box 758 Amherst, MA 01002 or made by visiting the organization’s website at hurricaneboosters.com.

bankESB parent company wins national award

EASTHAMPTON – Hometown Financial Group, parent company of bankESB, announces it is a 2023 Financial Services Industry Top Workplaces national award winner.

This award is based solely on feedback from employees of participating workplaces, gathered through an anonymous, third-party survey administered by Energage, LLC, a leading provider of technology-based employee engagement tools. Top Workplaces Industry awards

celebrate organizations that have built a people-first workplace culture and mark them as an employer of choice within their sector.

This is the second year in a row that bankESB’s parent company has been recognized nationally in the financial services industry category. The company also was named a national Top Workplaces USA winner in 2022.

“To be nationally recognized as an employer of choice in financial services

is a tremendous honor, particularly since it’s the direct result of feedback from those who know us best: our employees,” said bankESB President and CEO Matthew S. Sosik. “I’m proud of our employees’ passion and dedication to helping our customers, our communities, and each other unlock their potential, every day. As an employer, we’re equally committed to nurturing an environment where everyone feels valued and respected, and where employees can unlock

their own potential, personally and professionally.”

“Earning a Top Workplaces award is a badge of honor for companies, especially because it comes authentically from their employees,” said Eric Rubino, Energage CEO. “That’s something to be proud of. In today’s market, leaders must ensure that employees have a voice and are heard. That’s paramount. Top Workplaces do this, and it pays dividends.”

WASHINGTON

“Music In the Park” happens Sunday evenings

WASHINGTON – Friends of the Washington Town Park, Route 8 just south of Town Hall, present “Music In the Park,” a series of free Sunday concerts on July 30, Aug. 6, Aug. 13, Aug. 20 and Aug. 27 at 4 p.m.

The Washington, Becket and Hinsdale Cultural Councils provide grants for the concerts. Chris Merenda and the Wheel will perform on Sunday, July 30 and Abe

Guthrie and Randy Cormier on Sunday, Aug. 6.

Other concerts are Krishna Guthrie on Sunday, Aug. 13, Rev Tor on Sunday, Aug. 20 and Riverside Brothers on Sunday, Aug. 27. People may bring lawn chairs, blankets and picnics.

There will be a free fairy garden activity ice cream may be purchased. Rain dates will be posted.

CHESTER

Chester Swap Shop opens

CHESTER – The Chester Swap Shop is open.

The purpose of the swap shop is to promote reuse of durable goods. We will accept these kinds of items: household items like kitchen ware and decorative items, hand tools and small power tools (not fuel powered), games and toys, sports equipment, furniture that is not-upholstered, books, cd’s, DVD’s, and small working appliances.

Recycling means putting a product to a new use instead of throwing it away. We accept only items that are easily reusable. We can’t accept items that we have to pay to throw away if nobody adopts

them. If transfer station disposal fees apply to risky or low-demand items, the attendant has the right to charge a disposal fee for the item.

All items must be checked in with the attendant. Swap shop is open year round at the Chester Transfer Station on Emery Street to permit holders Wednesdays from 3-6 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Funded by RDP grant funds awarded to the town of Chester by the Department of Environmental Protection. People may call 413-354-7781 or email boardofhealth@townofchester.net with any questions.

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WORTHINGTON



The Worthington Library will hold a program on frogs Saturday, Aug. 5 from 2-3 p.m. Submitted photo

Worthington Library hosts 'Fantastic Frogs'

WORTHINGTON – On Saturday, Aug. 5 from 2-3 p.m., a naturalist and educator from Mass Audubon's Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary will lead a hands-on program titled, "Fantastic Frogs" at the Worthington Library, 1 Huntington Road.

This hands-on program is most suitable for kindergarten through grade 3 students and their families. Participants will learn about amphib-

ian life and use movement, touch and songs to learn about frogs. The program also includes a discussion of the natural history of Massachusetts' frog species and the resiliency and adaptations of these amphibians to the changing climate.

People may register by calling the Worthington Library at 413-238-5565 or emailing TheWorthingtonLibrary@gmail.com.

Council on Aging plans luncheon cruise

WORTHINGTON – Seniors can sail away with the Council on Aging on Monday, Oct. 9.

The destination is the breathtaking Adirondacks and crystal-clear waters of magnificent Lake George, nestled in an exquisite and unspoiled mountain setting.

Participants will take a two hour luncheon cruise through the vistas of Lake George aboard the M/V Lac du Saint Sacrement. The Captain narrates the cruise and people may look at the beautiful islands and historic mansions, which surround the "Queen of American Lakes."

Cost is \$125 per person and \$75 per person for Worthington senior residents.

People should make check payable to Town of Worthington, include phone number and emergency contact information and mail to Worthington COA, P.O. Box 7, Worthington, MA 01098.

They may call Phyllis Dassatti at 413-238-5962 for more information.

People will depart on Monday, Oct. at 8 a.m. from Worthington Congregational Church, Huntington Road and return to Worthington at approximately 5:15 p.m.

Mosquito samples test positive for West Nile Virus

WORTHINGTON – The Worthington Board of Health reports mosquito samples taken in Pittsfield and West Springfield indicate the West Nile Virus has now arrived in the area.

So far, no human cases of the virus have been reported in Massachusetts. This mosquito season is likely to be worse than usual given all the rain and caution is advised.

People should drain any drainable standing water, e.g. in old tires or pails and wear insect repellent if spending

time outdoors, especially in the early mornings or evenings.



Mosquito samples take in Pittsfield and West Springfield indicate presence of West Nile Virus. Submitted photo

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BLANDFORD

JIMMY ROBERTS PERFORMS AT WHITE CHURCH



Jimmy Roberts demonstrates his artistry at the keyboard last Saturday at the White Church in Blandford. Photo by Mary Kronholm



Diver Alyviana Michalski displays her tattoos and sculpted shark tooth necklace. Photos by Mary Kronholm



Diver Alivia Nye displays her sculpted shark tooth necklace.

AGENT

from page 1

years ago. He holds a Bachelors Degree in environmental science with two related minors.

He will provide technical and administrative assistance to the Conservation Commission specifically in the administering the Wetlands Protection Act, drafting orders of conditions, develop draft and final permit approvals and other Conservation Commission requirements as needed.

He is very familiar with water protection regulations and said he "has a good relationship with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection."

He will hold regular office hours at the Town Hall, which have yet to be

determined.

A primary accomplishment for Pietroniro in Becket has been to get all the 22 lakes and ponds representatives together as a Lake Association for Wetlands and lake management.

He feels strongly about communication and as the Commission's agent will be the point person for any and all boards involved in any Conservation effort.

Chair Cara Letendre said that she had "good recommendations from the (Blandford) Conservation Commission."

In other business, the board heard from Highway Superintendent David Waldron, who reported on culverts on Cobble Mountain Road and is awaiting bids for swales on Chester Road.

Library divers explore the ocean

By Mary Kronholm
Correspondent

BLANDFORD – The Summer Reading Program is well underway at the Porter Memorial Library.

Last week the Divers, the k-5 group of young patrons explored the Twilight Zone and spent part of their afternoon diving through pearls to find sunken treasures, sculpted their own shark teeth and applied ocean-oriented tattoos.

The first week in August, the Wednesday Divers will experience bioluminescence and travel the Abyss. Their craft includes a paper-plate angler fish with moveable jaws.

The Teens and Tween group on Thursday, Aug. 3 will work on a self-guided art project and choose from metal tooling, tie-dying or acrylic painting. People are encouraged to stop by to see the jubilant jelly-fish paintings on canvas board already accomplished.

And get ready for the Whale Mobile coming Aug. 19 from 10 a.m.-noon at the Town Hall. Be sure to reserve a spot in the whale replica.

For more information, people may call the library at 413-848-2853 during open hours, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 2-6 p.m.; Wednesday 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

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Send Us Your Autumn Event Information

Turley Publications will print your Autumn event **FREE OF CHARGE** in our **Autumn Fest Supplement** which will be published **September 13, 2023.**

Total circulation of 85,000 reaching over 200,000 readers in the Pioneer Valley.

Deadline for Calendar submissions is **August 16.**

OTIS



Shoppers look over the fresh produce at Pignatare's Farm tent. Photos by Mary Kronholm



This woman enjoyed making bubbles at the Otis Farmers' Market.

Farmers' Market had some nice weather

By Mary Kronholm
Correspondent

OTIS – It was the first time in a while that the sun was out, the air quality was good and not a cloud in the sky. The parking lot at Poppa's Healthy Food and Fuel was chock full. Hard to

find an empty slot. But once securely located a stroll around the many booths revealed lots of fresh produce, baked goods, honey, maple syrup, plants and crafts. There was live music as well, Long Island guitarist Jay Slattery serenaded the crowd throughout the morning.

OTIS Police Sgt Tammy Weidhaas was on hand. There was a bubble machine operator who preferred to remain anonymous noted that "Bubbles make everyone happy." The market is every Saturday from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. through October at Poppa's.

Collector's office closed Aug. 15-17

OTIS – The Collector's office will be closed Tuesday, Aug. 15 through Thursday, Aug. 17 for a Collector's Conference.

GOSHEN

Public input sought on Hazard Mitigation Plan

GOSHEN – Residents, businesses and surrounding community residents and representatives are invited to learn about and provide input on the town of Goshen Hazard Mitigation Plan, on Thursday, Aug. 3 at 6:30 p.m. at the Goshen Town Hall, 42 Main Street, in the second Floor Meeting Room. The purpose of the Hazard Mitigation Plan is to identify and assess the risks to Goshen from natural hazards and climate change impacts and to develop strategies

and actions to 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 Goshen and the current mitigation strategies and capabilities. Municipal officials and Pioneer Valley Planning Commission staff will be available to answer questions and respond

to comments about the plan. The meeting provides an opportunity for people to share their 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 Pioneer Valley Planning Commission 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 mkaplan@pvpc.org or call 413-285-1188.

Goshen Council on Aging announces upcoming events

GOSHEN – The Goshen Council on Aging will hold an annual appreciation luncheon on Tuesday, Aug. 8 at noon in Tilton Town Field. The COA honor all Goshen residents 90 years and above with a verbal tribute to each of them and the presentation of a small gift. They will also be recognizing the amazing volunteers, who help in the success of the Goshen COA. The picnic lunch will consist of hamburgers, hot dogs, veggie burgers, salad, pasta salad, grilled vegetables and a delicious dessert. There is no need to call this months as there will plenty for everyone. The Northern Hilltown Consortium of COAs was able to secure a Service Incentive Grant from(Massachusetts Councils on Aging to fund the newsletter for another year. Jan Gibeau, Chair of

the Consortium, had this to say "Hooray! We did it! The written word lives on for another year...and educational programs and conferences will continue. Can you believe it?" The COA is grateful for the hard work that went into securing this grant. The Goshen COA worked together with the towns of Plainfield, Cummington, Windsor, Worthington and Westhampton and secured a MCOA grant for transportation for residents over 60. The funds will subsidize the already existing Hilltown Driver Pool service that the Hilltown CDC provides. This is separate from the Easy Ride Van. Locally-hired drivers are available to take individuals to appointments or on errands when the van is not available. People should visit HCDC website at www.hilltowncdc.org/transportation or

call 413-296-4232 to take advantage of this service or for more information. In person exercise class is back in Goshen and will be held Wednesdays Aug. 2, 9 and 30 at 10:15 a.m. in the Goshen Town Hall. The instructor is Joan Griswold. There will be no classes on Wednesday, Aug. 16 and 23. Participant should wear supportive footwear and bring water and free weights if they have them. There is a brief health questionnaire Joan will have participants fill out. This class is also offered simultaneously on Zoom, so if they prefer this method email Joan at joan@bybhealth.com for a link. On Thursdays, Aug. 3 and 17 Tilton Town Field Treks are held at 1 p.m. Participants should bring their own water. Community Connections Group meets Friday, Aug. 4 from 10-11 a.m. in a new location outside behind the Goshen Church under the tent. The format for summer months will be casual fun with friends Participants should bring their own beverage and they will provide the snacks and activities. In the case of rain, they we will meet in the Goshen Town Hall upstairs dining room. The Knitting and Crafts Groups return in September. Peg Whalen is taking a well deserved break from the drop in services for August. She continues to be available on a case by case basis if you are having a specific issue. You can contact her if needed at pegwhalenworkshops@gmail.com. The Hilltown Valley Elder Services lunch is on the third and fourth Tuesdays of the month, pick up from noon-12:30. On Tuesday, Aug. 15, the meal will be

spaghetti with meat sauce or vegetarian broccoli and cheese casserole and on Aug. 22 the meal will be a Greek salad with grilled chicken or a tuna salad grinder plus vegetables, milk and dessert. If people have not signed up and would like to for September, they should call Kerry Normandin at 413-268-9354 to fill out a brief intake form. There is a suggested \$3 donation that is given to Highland Valley Elder Services to offset the cost of the meal. Games Group will meet on Wednesday, Aug. 16 from 1-3 p.m. and continue on the third Wednesday of each month in the upstairs dining room at the Town Hall. If it is a nice day, they may head outside. On Aug. 17 from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. the Practical Aging Issues Support Group, a peer led support group with Grace Gibson and Jackie Compton, meet in the upstairs dining room of the Goshen Town Hall. The group will discuss and share resources about various topics that are important to them. Masking is not required but is encouraged. People may call Jackie at 413- 268-7265 or email jackiecompton2@yahoo.com or call or Grace at 374-4357 or email at gracecgibsonphd@verizon.net for more information and to indicate interest in this monthly group. The Goshen COA is looking for volunteers. Anyone interested in helping out at various events, please call Kerry Normandin at 413-268-9354 or come by the next meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 29 at 1 p.m. held at the Town Offices back room.

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call 413-296-4232 to take advantage of this service or for more information. In person exercise class is back in Goshen and will be held Wednesdays Aug. 2, 9 and 30 at 10:15 a.m. in the Goshen Town Hall. The instructor is Joan Griswold. There will be no classes on Wednesday, Aug. 16 and 23. Participant should wear supportive footwear and bring water and free weights if they have them. There is a brief health questionnaire Joan will have participants fill out. This class is also offered simultaneously on Zoom, so if they prefer this method email Joan at joan@bybhealth.com for a link. On Thursdays, Aug. 3 and 17 Tilton Town Field Treks are held at 1 p.m. Participants should bring their own water. Community Connections Group meets Friday, Aug. 4 from 10-11 a.m. in a new location outside behind the Goshen Church under the tent. The format for summer months will be casual fun with friends Participants should bring their own beverage and they will provide the snacks and activities. In the case of rain, they we will meet in the Goshen Town Hall upstairs dining room. The Knitting and Crafts Groups return in September. Peg Whalen is taking a well deserved break from the drop in services for August. She continues to be available on a case by case basis if you are having a specific issue. You can contact her if needed at pegwhalenworkshops@gmail.com. The Hilltown Valley Elder Services lunch is on the third and fourth Tuesdays of the month, pick up from noon-12:30. On Tuesday, Aug. 15, the meal will be



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STOCKBRIDGE

Stockbridge Sinfonia concerts feature women composers

STOCKBRIDGE – The Stockbridge Sinfonia, Berkshires' only community orchestra, announces its Summer 2023 series of concerts entitled "Salute to Women Composers."

Concerts will take place on Saturday, Aug. 5 at 3 p.m. at Lenox Middle and High School Duffin Auditorium, 197 East St., Lenox; Saturday, Aug. 12 at 3 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church Common Room, 74 First St., Pittsfield and Sunday, Aug. 13 at 6 p.m. at Saint James Place, 352 Main St, Great Barrington.

All concerts are free and open to the public, but freewill donations at the door are gratefully accepted. Mask wearing for COVID prevention is no longer required for audience members.

The program for this series includes the complete performance of Berkshire Triptych (River, City, Mountain) by local composer Alice Spatz, who resides in Lanesborough. The final movement, Mountain, is a world premiere, having been completed by Spatz in early 2023. The first two movements were performed by Sinfonia in their summer 2021 and

2022 seasons. One movement of Louise Farrenc's Nonet, the Scherzo, will feature Sinfonia students in first chair positions. Louise Farrenc (1804-1875) composed the Nonet in 1849 and it was the completion and performance of this piece that finally gained her the fame equal to her male counterparts.

The featured work of the series is Amy Beach Symphony No. 1, "Gaelic". Amy Marcy Cheney Beach (1867 - 1944) was an American composer and pianist. Her "Gaelic" Symphony, premiered by the Boston Symphony Orchestra in 1896, written when Beach was 29 years old, was the first symphony composed and published by an American woman. She was one of the first American composers to succeed without the benefit of European training and one of the most respected and acclaimed American composers of her era. As a pianist, she was acclaimed for concerts she gave featuring her own music in the United States and in Germany.

Beach's Gaelic Symphony was the first symphony by an American woman composer to gain public attention, writ-

ten at a time when American composers of either gender were a relative rarity on the international scene. The third movement of the work features a violin solo, which will be played by Sinfonia concertmaster, Christine Singer and cello solos by section co-principals, Ivan Trabka and Joe Cracolici.

The concert will be introduced with an Overture in the Classical Style, composed by former BSO violinist Gerald Elias and features a violin solo by coprincipal first violinist, Chenyang Lin. Gerald Elias has been a frequent and beloved coach to the Sinfonia over a number of years. The Overture was composed in 2005.

The summer series is supported in part by contributions from Berkshire Bank Foundation, Greylock Federal Credit Union, and the Feigenbaum Foundation, with grants from Mass Cultural Council and local cultural councils of Alford-Egremont, Becket, Great Barrington, Lee, Lenox, Richmond and Stockbridge, all of which are supported by the Mass Cultural council, a state agency. Other contributions come

from the members of Sinfonia and generous friends of Stockbridge Sinfonia. Stockbridge Sinfonia is a 501-c-3 organization.

The 50-piece orchestra, comprised of students in middle school through college age, to adults up to age 95, was founded in 1972, and is currently conducted by Tracy Wilson, Music Director. Students who rehearse and perform with Sinfonia are eligible to receive awards at the end of the summer season in recognition of their commitment to the group, from volunteering to providing operational and marketing support, and attending additional sectionals. Awards range from \$50 to \$500 to support future musical studies.

Any local chamber musician is welcome to join Stockbridge Sinfonia and can visit the website at Stockbridgesinfonia.org to view eligibility, rehearsal and concert schedules and various policies. For more information, they may call Sinfonia President, Christine Singer, at 413-822-1318 or Music Director Tracy Wilson, at 413-822-8688.

NORTHAMPTON

Cooley gets AHA award

NORTHAMPTON – Cooley Dickinson Hospital received a 2023 "Get With The Guidelines" award from the American Heart Association, for excellence in treating stroke.

The honor was given with "Gold Plus" distinction, the highest level of the award given by the organization.

The stroke award recognizes Cooley Dickinson's commitment to ensuring stroke patients receive the most appropriate treatment according to nationally recognized, research-based guidelines, ultimately leading to more lives saved and reduced disability.

"Cooley Dickinson is committed to improving patient care by adhering to the latest treatment guidelines," said Dr. Sari Miettinen, Chief Medical Officer. "Get With The Guidelines makes it easier for our teams to put proven knowledge and guidelines to work on a daily basis, which studies show can help patients recover better. The end goal is to ensure more people in our community experience longer, healthier lives."

Stroke is fifth-leading cause of death and a leading cause of disability, in the United States. A stroke occurs when a blood vessel that carries oxygen and nutrients to the brain is either blocked by a clot or bursts. When that happens, part of the brain cannot get the blood and oxygen it needs, so brain cells die. Early stroke detection and treatment are key to improving survival, minimizing disability, and accelerating recovery times.

"We are pleased to recognize the leaders and teams at Cooley Dickinson for a strong commitment to care," said Dr. Clyde W. Yancy, national chairperson of the American Heart Association's heart failure systems of care advisory group. "Hospitals that participate in Get With The Guidelines quality improvement programs often see better patient outcomes, fewer readmissions and lower mortality rates, a win for health care systems, families and communities," he said.

Each year, program participants qualify for the awards recognitions by demonstrating how their organization has committed to providing quality care for patients. In addition to following treatment guidelines, "Get With The Guidelines" participants also provide education to patients to help them manage their conditions at home.

Cooley Dickinson Hospital is a not-for-profit, acute care hospital that offers community-based programs and services. A member of the Mass General Brigham System, Cooley Dickinson has been advancing the health of people in the Pioneer Valley since 1886.

The organization includes community-based primary care and specialty practices in Hampshire and Southern Franklin counties, and a VNA & Hospice program that provides home health and hospice nursing and rehabilitation visits. We are committed to serving our patients and communities with exceptional, compassionate, and personalized care.

WESTFIELD

St. Joseph's Church to hold movie night on Aug. 19

WESTFIELD – St. Joseph's National Catholic Church at 73 Main St. in will hold a Family Movie Night on Saturday, Aug. 19 at 6:30 p.m.

The movie featured will be "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe." During the World War II bombing in London, four English siblings are sent to a safe country house. One day Lucy finds a wardrobe that transports her to a magical world called Narnia. After coming back,

she soon returns to Narnia with her brothers, Peter, Edmund, and her sister, Susan. There they join the magical lion Aslan, in the fight against the evil witch. Rated PG. Runtime is 2 hours and 30 minutes.

The movie along with popcorn and refreshments are free. The movie will be shown in the church's downstairs. Parking is located behind the church. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Everyone is welcome.

WESTHAMPTON

Hampshire Regional Education Association gives superintendent no confidence

WESTHAMPTON – On June 30, the Hampshire Regional Education Association, representing the teachers and educational support personnel of Hampshire Regional High School, sent a communication to the members of the Hampshire Regional School Committee.

The Williamsburg Teachers Association, representing the teachers and educational support personnel at the Anne T. Dunphy School, also voted overwhelmingly to declare no confidence in Superintendent Diana Bonneville on June 30.

In addition, on Thursday, July 27 at 5 p.m. in the Hampshire Regional High School library, there will be

a joint meeting of the Hampshire Regional School Committee and the Committees for the district's four elementary schools: New Hingham (Chesterfield/Goshen), Anne T. Dunphy (Williamsburg), Norris (Southampton) and Westhampton. The posted agenda for the meeting states by law that the purpose of the meeting's executive session is to "discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual."

WEST STOCKBRIDGE

Berkshire Environmental Action Team hosts a night of mothing

WEST STOCKBRIDGE – Berkshire Environmental Action Team, Matthew Rymkiewicz, and Carla Rhodes will host a night of mothing on Saturday, July 29 from 8:30-11:30 p.m. at MassWildlife's Flat Brook Wildlife management area, Baker Street.

They will use a light to attract and look for moths for a hands-on experience and become a community scientist by contributing scientific data about moths. 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. This event invites people of all ages and backgrounds to learn about, observe and document moths as a way to celebrate National Moth Week.

Two moth sheets will be illuminat-

ed with bright lights to attract moths and other cool insects. Moths will begin to accumulate once it gets dark and as the night goes on, the larger moths will make their way to the sheets. Participants will take a closer look at them as they gather and try to identify who is who. This is a free event, open to all.

The rain date is the following Saturday, Aug. 5. Participants should meet at the WMA parking area on Baker Street. They are welcome to join at any time and leave whenever they want. People may visit <https://BEAT-Moth-Night-2023.eventbrite.com> to register or for more information.

Berkshire Environmental Action Team. BEAT is a 501(c)(3) non-profit based in Pittsfield. They work with the community to protect the environment for wildlife in support of the natural world. To learn more about BEAT, people may visit www.thebeatnews.org, email team@thebeatnews.org or call 413-464-9402.

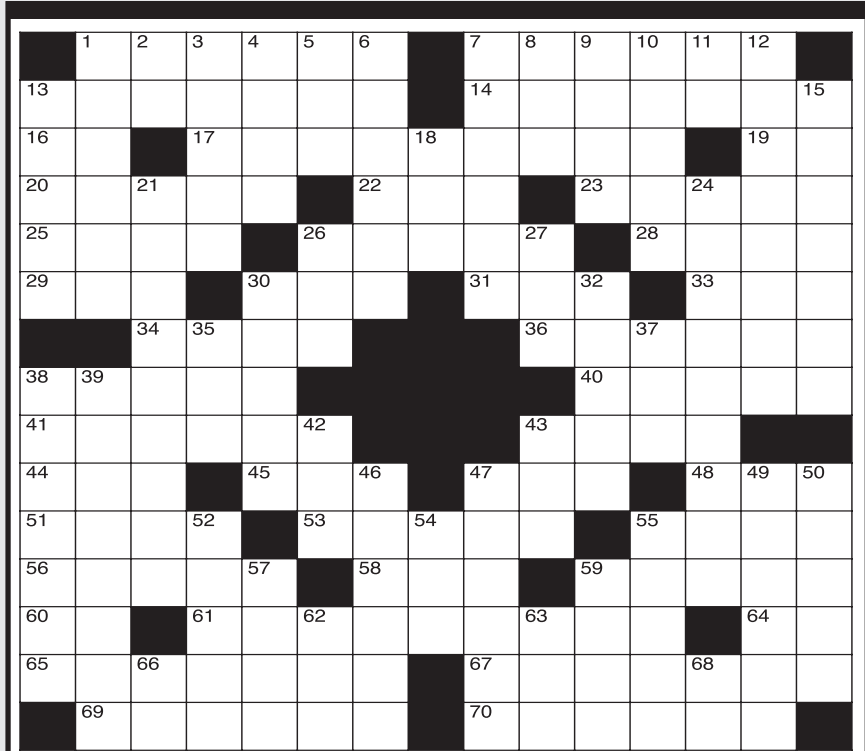
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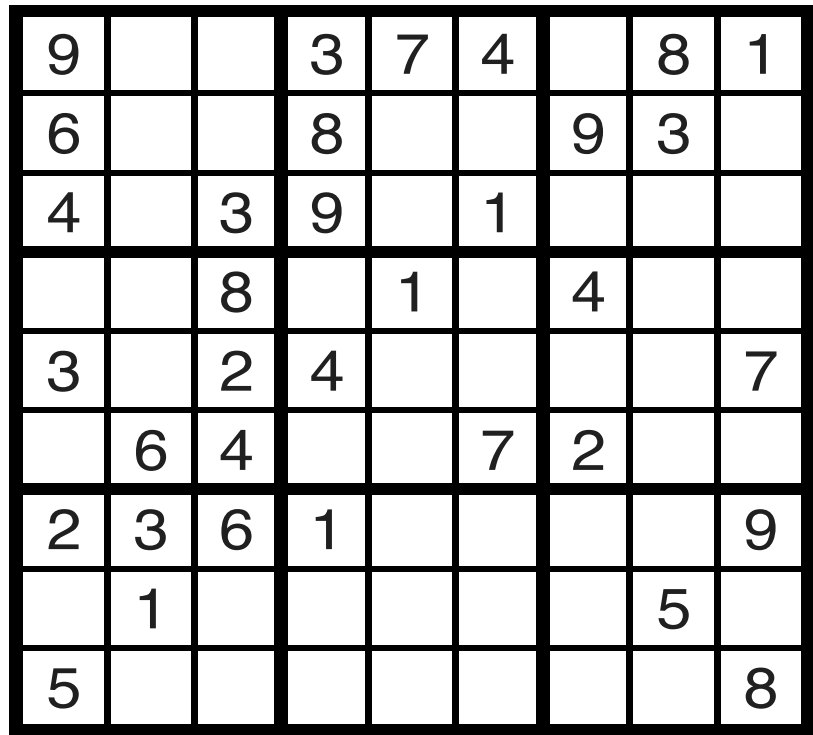
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- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Bonus materials
 - 7. Formal names
 - 13. Free from restraints
 - 14. One who scrapes away
 - 16. Type of device
 - 17. Skin cancers
 - 19. The Show Me State
 - 20. Plate glasses
 - 22. Red-brown sea bream
 - 23. Small (Fr.)
 - 25. Flightless Australian birds
 - 26. High IQ group
 - 28. Stiff structures
 - 29. Revolutions per minute
 - 30. Where a bachelor lives
 - 31. Licensed for Wall Street
 - 33. A place to park
 - 34. Energy, style and enthusiasm
 - 36. An important creed in Catholic Church
 - 38. 18-year astronomical period
 - 40. Furies
 - 41. Removes from the record
 - 43. Noted child psychiatrist
 - 44. Feline
 - 45. High schoolers' test
 - 47. Not happy
 - 48. They ___
 - 51. On top
 - 53. Precious stones unit of weight
 - 55. Moved quickly
 - 56. Seagulls
 - 58. A seed with hooks or teeth
 - 59. Partner to "oohed"
 - 60. Exclamation of surprise
 - 61. Most unpleasant
 - 64. Organization help service members
 - 65. Type of cockatoo
 - 67. Humorous criticisms
 - 69. Went through and
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Settle in tents
 - 2. Big
 - 3. Books
 - 4. Masses of eggs in fish
 - 5. Language
 - 6. Not standing
 - 7. Chinese philosophy
 - 8. Computer giant
 - 9. A device to catch
 - 10. Emits coherent radiation
 - 11. Actor O'Neill
 - 12. Smallest interval in western music
 - 13. Not lower
 - 15. Revolves
 - 18. Leavened bread
 - 21. Number above the line in a fraction
 - 24. Cable
 - 26. Adult male
 - 27. Airborne (abbr.)
 - 30. Bullfighting
 - 32. Broadcast
 - 35. ___ Angeles
 - 37. Vehicle
 - 38. Not religious
 - 39. North American peoples
 - 42. A baglike structure
 - 43. Body art (slang)
 - 46. Picked for a role
 - 47. Actress Tomei
 - 49. Former hoopster "Big Country"
 - 50. Icelandic poems
 - 52. More pleasant
 - 54. It can add flavor to meat
 - 55. Self-immolation by fire rituals
 - 57. Expression of annoyance
 - 59. ___ Spumante (Italian wine)
 - 62. Consumed
 - 63. Body part
 - 66. Thus
 - 68. In reply (abbr.)

THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPES

- ARIES**
Mar 21/Apr 20
Don't rush in and act combative. Take a more delicate approach to convince others to see things your way. As the saying goes, "You catch more flies with honey than with vinegar."
- CANCER**
Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, if a delicate issue has been troubling you, reach out to someone you can trust and begin to talk things through. You will likely feel better just getting things out.
- LEO**
Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, are you ready to take your project to the next level? Brainstorm with a coworker about the best way to get ahead and make a mark with this endeavor.
- GEMINI**
May 22/Jun 21
If you are looking to make a few new friends, ask others to connect you with like-minded individuals. You never know who you might meet until you give it a try.
- VIRGO**
Aug 24/Sept 22
It could be time for a move and you just aren't ready to admit it, Virgo. You may have gotten comfortable in one place, but a move could prove the right decision.
- LIBRA**
Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, there are a lot of ideas swimming around in your head. You may need to put some things down on paper to see what really might be worth doing in the days to come.
- SCORPIO**
Oct 24/Nov 22
Connect with a friend or even your partner for an intimate dinner this week. You've been moving in different circles and it's time to get on the same page.
- SAGITTARIUS**
Nov 23/Dec 21
Invite people to stop by and cheer you up, Sagittarius. You've been going through a rough patch and there's nothing like happy faces and new perspectives to bring about a smile.
- CAPRICORN**
Dec 22/Jan 20
Be sure to check your bank account pretty regularly; otherwise, you may lose track of spending and get yourself into a financial mess that could be tough to get out of.
- AQUARIUS**
Jan 21/Feb 18
You may be your own worst enemy, especially as it pertains to thinking that someone may be trying to cause trouble with you at work. Get the facts before acting.
- PISCES**
Feb 19/Mar 20
There is a process to everything. Remain patient and stay the course no matter how excited you are. Rest assured that things will work out.



SUDOKU

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

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

answers

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

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

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OBITUARY

Steven D. Savoy Sr., 66

CHESTER – Steve, affectionately known as Old Man Savvy, passed away peacefully on July 16, 2023 surrounded by his loving family and listening to his favorite music after a courageous battle with cancer.

He was born in Stafford Connecticut on April 16, 1957 to Wilfred and Shirley Savoy (Aubrey). Steve worked as a Sawyer for Bannish Lumber for most of his life.

Steve enjoyed fishing, traveling, riding his motorcycle and ATV quad. Spending time with his grandchildren and imparting the Savoy Wisdom was one of his favorite things to do. Old Man Savvy was known to cut the rug with his dancing moves and will be missed on the dance floor.

He is survived by his mother, Shirley Savoy (Aubrey), Florida; brother Scott and wife Susanna Savoy of Florida and their daughter Heather of



California; sister Laurel and her husband Richard Charron of Florida.

He leaves behind his children, Steven D. Savoy Jr. and his wife Janine Savoy of Middlefield; daughter Jenna Savoy of Dalton and son Jonathan Savoy of Chester). Steve's grandchildren Evan and Tyler Bynack of Dalton, Julia, Jacob, Jayda and Johnny Savoy of Westfield and Steven N. Savoy of Middlefield Middlefield will miss him deeply.

The family would like to thank everyone for stopping and visiting with him in his final days. At Steve's a.k.a. Old Man Savvy's request, all services will be private.

The Graham Hilltown Community Funeral Home, 27 Russell Road, Huntington has honorably been entrusted with providing for Steven's care and service request.

DEATH NOTICE

SAVOY SR., STEVEN

Died July 16, 2023
Services private

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

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SECURITY

from page 4

Social Security will make the final determination about your wife's benefit entitlement under WEP and GPO when she applies for her Social Security benefits, but I'm afraid your wife's entitlement may be much less than you are anticipating because of these two provisions. If you have additional questions, please feel free to email us directly at SSAdvisor@amacfoundation.org or call 1-888-750-2622.

The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security

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

Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

GARDEN

from page 4

Like Feverfew, from our first pick, Echinacea has history as a healing plant and continues to be used today for immune support.

Globe Thistle, with its steel blue globes and deeply cut, silver gray foliage, as stiff as it is, also deserves a place in the garden. It is a true bee magnet!

Stems can be harvested as everlasting once flowers color up but before the individual florets, aka "pickers" on each plant open. Clip and dry them upside down for use in wreaths and

arrangements.

Well, it's been fun escaping the heat with you! Read any good books lately?

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.

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF DESTRUCTION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION RECORDS

Notice is hereby given that Gateway Regional School District Office of Pupil Services will be destroying the special education records of students who graduated or left school in 2016. If you or your child received special education services and you wish to obtain the special education file, please call 685-1017. Records will be destroyed on August 7, 2023 07/20, 07/27/2023

Legal Advertisement TOWN OF HUNTINGTON TOWN HALL RAMP Improvement Project (Re-Bid)

The Town of Huntington invites sealed Bids for the Town Hall Ramp Improvement Project. The proposed project will remove the town's existing entrance ramp and construct new fully ADA compliant ramp. Additional site work related to the construction of the ramp will include excavation, earthwork, filling and grading. This project is being administered by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) and funded by the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development, FY2020 Huntington Community Development Block Grant Program. The

project's estimated construction cost is \$120,000.

This project is being Electronically Bid (E-Bid). All bids shall be prepared and submitted online at www.Projectdog.com and received no later than the date and time specified below. Hard copy bids will not be accepted by the Awarding Authority. For E-Bid Tutorial and Instructions, download the Supplemental Instructions To Bidders for Electronic Bid Projects from www.Projectdog.com. For assistance, contact Projectdog, Inc. at 978.499.9014.

Bid Forms and Contract Documents will be available electronically or for purchase at www.Projectdog.com on Thursday, July 27th, 2023 beginning at 9 AM. Project Code: 857044

Bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit in the amount of five (5%) of the greatest possible bid amount, and made payable to the Town of Huntington.

All bids for this project are subject to the provisions and minimum wage rates required by M.G.L. c.30, §39M as amended, and M.G.L. c.149. All applicable Federal minimum wage rates and applicable Federal labor standards shall also apply pursuant to the Davis-Bacon Act. When both State and Federal wage rates are applicable, the higher rate must be paid.

The Awarding Authority encourages, to

the extent feasible, the use of minority-, women- and disadvantaged-owned businesses for work under this contract and likewise encourages, to the greatest extent possible, that all bidders take affirmative steps to ensure training and employment for lower-income project area residents and award of sub-contracts to HUD-defined Section 3 businesses. Bidders on the work shall make a good faith effort to achieve the goals of the Federal Minority and Women's Business Enterprise (MBE/WBE) policy regarding utilization of MBEs and WBEs in order to be deemed a responsible bidder.

The lowest qualified responsible bidder shall be awarded the contract subject to availability of funds under the DHCD Block Grant program. The Town of Huntington, the Awarding and Contracting Authority, may cancel this Invitation for Bid (IFB), in whole or in part, at any time that such an act is deemed in its best interest, reserves the right to waive any informality in the bidding or to reject any and all bids in total or in part as may be deemed to serve the best interest of the Town, and will not be responsible for any costs incurred by a bidder in preparing and submitting a bid in response to this IFB.

Questions regarding the bid specifications should be directed in

writing to Marc Sternick at designdance@outlook.com. Contract documents may be viewed on www.Projectdog.com.

General Bids will be received until 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 22, 2023 and publicly opened on projectdog.com. 07/27/2023

Chester Water Commission Public Hearing

The Chester Water Commission will hold a public hearing on **September 06, 2023 at 6PM** in the COA room in the Town Hall, 15 Middlefield Road, Chester to discuss the water rate for FY2024, as well as the status of the water enterprise fund, and provide an update on current and future projects to improve water plant and distribution system operations. 07/27, 08/03/2023

Town of Westhampton PUBLIC HEARING Zoning Bylaw Amendments

The Westhampton Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at 6:30 PM, at the Town Hall, 1 South Road, Westhampton, to receive comments on a proposed revision to the Westhampton Zoning Bylaw.

The revision as proposed will delete, in its entirety, the existing Town of Westhampton Zoning

By-law, as Revised May 13, 1995, including

SECTION I - TITLE, AUTHORITY AND PURPOSES

SECTION II - ZONING DISTRICTS

SECTION III - PRINCIPAL USE REGULATIONS

SECTION IV - OVERLAY DISTRICT REGULATIONS

SECTION V - SPECIAL USE REGULATIONS

SECTION VI - ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

SECTION VII - DEFINITIONS

and substitute with the document entitled "Town of Westhampton Zoning Bylaws, Revised on July 19, 2023", as proposed by the Westhampton Planning Board, and submitted to the Town Clerk on July 19, 2023, on file in the office of the Town Clerk, and including the following sections:

SECTION I - TITLE, AUTHORITY, OBJECTIVES, SEVERABILITY

SECTION II - ZONING

SECTION III - PRINCIPAL USE REGULATIONS

SECTION IV - OVERLAY DISTRICT REGULATIONS

SECTION V - SPECIAL USE REGULATIONS

SECTION VI - ENFORCEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

SECTION VII - (BLANK - RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE)

SECTION VIII - (BLANK - RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE)

SECTION IX - DEFINITIONS

SECTION X - AMENDMENTS

Table 1 - Schedule of Use Regulation

Table 2 - Schedule of Use Regulation (Alpha Order)

Table 3 - Schedule of Dimensional Regulation

The full text of the proposed revision is available for public inspection at the Town Hall and the Westhampton Public Library during regular business hours. The full text may also be downloaded at the Town of Westhampton website: <https://www.westhampton-ma.com>

Comments may be submitted to the Planning Board by US Mail to:

Westhampton Planning Board
1 South Road

Westhampton MA 01027
by email sent to the Chair of the Planning Board, or by attending the public hearing.

Douglas Finn,
Administrative Assistant,
Town of Westhampton
07/20, 07/27/2023

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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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HILLTOWNS MONDAY AT NOON

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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

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REGION

Feed the Kids holds online auction and annual charity golf tournament

SPRINGFIELD – Feed the Kids, a local nonprofit focused on fighting childhood hunger, has opened an online auction as part of its sixth Annual Charity Golf Tournament.

The auction will run through Tuesday, Aug. 8 and the golf tournament will be on Monday, Aug. 7 at the Springfield Country Club, 1375 Elm St., West Springfield.

“The more than 200 items in the online auction were donated primarily by local businesses and individuals,” said Dr. Frederick Kadushin, co-chair of Feed the Kids. “There is something for everyone. This is fun way to help children across our region.”

The auction includes restaurant gift certificates, golf foursomes, jewelry, trips to the Caribbean, autographed sports memorabilia and more. To participate in the online auction or donate, visit feedthekidsgolf.com.

Proceeds from the events will benefit local organizations that work to ensure children do not go hungry, including Square One, the Holyoke School Backpack Program, Pioneer Valley Powerpacks and No Kid Hungry.

Square One provides food to more than 500 kids a day. The Holyoke School Backpack Program and Pioneer Valley Powerpacks distribute backpacks of nutritious and easy-to-prepare meals to children at the end of each week to enjoy over the weekend. No Kid Hungry is a national organization that raises funds to support school breakfast programs, summer meals, after-school meals and more for children

throughout the country.

“Through the past five tournaments and auctions, we raised more than \$220,000 for these incredibly deserving charities,” continued Kadushin. “We are especially grateful to our generous sponsors including AAA Northeast, Westfield Bank, Peoples Bank, PIMCO, DiStefano Financial, Elm Electric and M & T Bank.”

Feed the Kids is a local nonprofit group consisting of volunteers throughout the Pioneer Valley who are committed to ensuring that children in the region don’t go hungry. Through its annual charity golf tournament and online auction, the group raises funds to support the local efforts of other organizations, such as Square One, Holyoke Weekend Backpack Program, Pioneer Valley Power Packs and No Kid Hungry ®. People may visit feedthekidsgolf.com to learn more.



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:

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- A determination to get the story, whatever it might be
- Equally comfortable writing hard news, features and event coverage
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- 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
www.turley.com

HILLTOWN HIKING ADVENTURES



Dana takes a break with her dog Sadie.



The Hilltown Hikers pose with a group photo at Indian Rock.

Submitted photos



Greg points out all the known locations in the Valley.



Hike leader Kim climbs up the ladder



Hikers climb ladder rock.

Hilltown Hikers travel to glacial boulder

Saturday's group hike was the July monthly hike and the destination was a glacial boulder perched upon Drake Mountain on the Granville/Westfield town line.

Climbing this boulder offers the reward of outstanding views of the Pioneer Valley including the Mount Holyoke Range and as far as Mount Monadnock. The route took the group partially on the old roads of Granville, in fact the first road.

The history of Granville said, "The earliest route of travel in Bedford was in some measure the present road commonly spoken of as the Old Road to Westfield, which ran through Hoopole to Jockey Corners, then westerly up the hill to East Granville and on to Middle

Granville and West Granville."

"This road did not pass through the Narrows, as at present, but at the foot of the hill just westerly from the West Parish filter beds of the Springfield water department, it kept farther to the east and south and ran over a high part of the hill and then down through what is now the bed of the Granville Reservoir of the Westfield water department and came out into the present road at the place where Peter Hendricksen formerly lived. All this portion of the ancient road has long since been discontinued."

The Hilltown Hikers thank Christy Butler for publishing this one in his book "Berkshire Destinations," which is available on Amazon.

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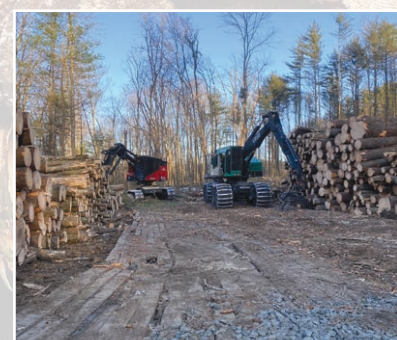
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