

"Try to be a rainbow in someone's cloud." – Maya Angelou

# Country Journal

Devoted to the Needs of the Hilltowns

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

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

August 1, 2024 | Vol. 46, No. 15 | 75¢

www.countryjournal.turley.com

## BLANDFORD

# Fair members and volunteers spruce up buildings and grounds

By Mary Kronholm  
Correspondent

Directors of the Blandford Fair and volunteers were on deck Saturday to spruce up the buildings and grounds in preparation for the 155th annual Blandford Fair this coming Labor Day weekend.

A group of fair members and volunteers have been at the Fairgrounds on North Street every weekend this summer getting ready. There are all new mahogany windows in the process of installation in the Agricultural Hall.

"If it's a hot weekend, it will be a joy to be able to open the windows," said director Kim Blanchette. Margaret McNeill of Otis donated the funds for the new windows. All the windows are new, according to Blanchette. Rick Barnard was installing the freshly painted windows throughout the building.

Mandy LaBrecque and daughter Madison along with Jo-Anne and Chris Auclair painted the storage garage



Mandy LaBrecque and daughter Madison paint the storage garage on the fairgrounds.

Turley photos by Mary Kronholm

FAIR, page 6

## BLANDFORD

# Select Board declare two dogs dangerous

By Mary Kronholm  
Correspondent

Eileen and Dick Gates of Herrick Road made a formal complaint regarding the July 3 attack on their dogs by two other dogs from Wyman Road.

As a result of the complaint, Animal Control Officer Police Chief Jen Dubiel requested a Dangerous Dog Hearing with the Select Board.

The hearing was Monday evening during the board's meeting with Chair Cara Letendre and Theodore Cousineau.

Dick Gates spoke first about the "very traumatic" attack on Rose, a border collie and Lilly, a beagle, the Gates' two dogs, "there was a lot of blood," he said. Rose was injured on her neck and throat areas and Eileen Gates was able to keep Lilly from harm even as the other two dogs jumped to grab her legs.

"We feel like we can't leave our property," said Dick Gates.

The other dogs are owned by Cynthia Thomas and Josh Frappier of Wyman Road. Remington is a three-year-old female brindle lab/dane/pit mix and Ruger is a six-year-old male black and tan German Shepard/Husky mix.

Chief Dubiel arrived on site and said she observed Rose's injuries and found that by then the two other dogs were secured in Gates' garage.

"They're ok with people," Chief Dubiel said, adding that they are "very aggressive" towards other animals.

"My concern is for the safety of the community," said Chief Dubiel.

Frappier said that he felt bad, and that the first incident with other animals on Herrick Road had involved his dogs killing chickens.

"I can't justify what they did," he said and added that there is not an issue with other dogs when they go to a dog park.

William Hicks, also of Herrick Road, also expressed his concern for safety, saying that he felt "without a resolution, I can't walk my dogs."

Eileen Gates said she would "feel better if I knew the dogs were contained."

CRISIS, page 11

DOGS, page 6

## CHESTER

# Chester water crisis unfolds as Perfect Storm of Infrastructure and Climate Challenges



Chester town water commissioner Bob Daley with water plant operator Jim Gobeille in the treatment plant Sunday. Daley holds the 1913 plan for one of the two reservoirs supplying the plant with the modern system in the background.

Turley photos by Kathryn Koegel

By Kathryn Koegel  
Correspondent

Sitting down within the water treatment plant of Chester Sunday July 28 was an experience filled with both local history and modern technology as water commissioner Bob Daley spoke amidst a growing storm of citizen concern about the water quality in Chester.

As of July 24, Chester was under a Mass DEP boil water order due to contamination. The smell of chlorine filled the air of the windowless plant as treatment operator Jim Gobeille went about his work checking a comput-

er monitor to see that optimal levels of the equipment were met.

On a table lay an over 100-year clue to the problem. "This is the original plan from 1913 for the Horn Pond system, the higher and larger of the two reservoirs," said Daley. "One of our issues has been a clogged filter there."

A notice posted by the town on its website acknowledged a problem residents had begun sharing on social media days before: "MassDEP confirmed treatment technique violations within the Chester Water



PAGE 2

Becket.....9	Classifieds..... 14, 15	Northampton..... 15	Russell..... 15
Blandford.....6	Hilltowns.....2	Opinion..... 4, 5	Schools & Youth..... 7, 8
Chester..... 10, 11	Huntington.....3	Public Notices..... 12, 13	South Worthington..... 15
Chesterfield.....9	Middlefield..... 15	Puzzle Page..... 13	Worthington..... 11





## HILLTOWNS

## Pottery enthusiasts converge on the region

By Kathryn Koegel  
Correspondent

On Saturday, July 27 and Sunday, July 28, hundreds of pottery enthusiasts wended their way throughout the Hilltowns in search of artisanal ceramics.

For the 18th year, the Hilltown6 has celebrated the talent of a region where many artists choose to live and work. This year's tour featured eight studios that each welcomed 22 additional potters from around the country.

Robbie Heidinger, whose studio is in Westhampton, said the tour had been a great success with over 400 attendees eager to hear about her technique and purchase everything from \$60 mugs to large-scale pieces that sell for thousands of dollars. She hosted Stuart Gair from Athens, OH, where he teaches ceramics at the University of Ohio. "It's been such a great weekend," said Gair. "There are so many

people and wow are they nice here. I get such great questions and comments." Gair demonstrated how he uses a soda firing technique to emboss images on his pieces.

For Ben Bonsall and Garrett Sanders, who have been friends since studying ceramics at UMASS Amherst and currently share a studio in Holyoke, the tour is a chance to find new audiences for their work. They were at the studio of Hiroshi Nayakama, who relocated to Worthington from Manhattan 30 years ago for the space to fire his work. His studio was down a rustic dirt road that one year Bonsall and Sanders helped to fix by hauling local gravel so that participants could get to the studio.

The next chance to meet local artists in a similar format including potters Mark Shapiro and Guy Matsuda is Saturday, Oct. 5 and Sunday, Oct. 6 when the Hilltown Arts Alliance Hosts its annual Open Studio Tour.



Stuart Gair of Athens, Ohio, joined for his first year.

Turley photos by Kathryn Koegel



Robbie Heidinger of Westhampton is a long-time ceramicist on the tour.



Ben Bonsall and Garrett Sanders have a studio in Holyoke but join the tour for the chance to connect with hundreds of pottery enthusiasts

## MassDOT announces ongoing roadwork on I-90

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation announces that crews will be conducting nighttime paving, guardrail work and bridge repair operations at various locations and times on I-90 eastbound and westbound during the week of Sunday, July 28, through Saturday, Aug. 3.

Lane closures will be in place during the construction operations, and traffic will be able to travel through the work zones. The schedule for the work and lane closures is as follows:

In Montgomery and Russell bridge repair work will be conducted on I-90 westbound from mile marker 35.5 to 36.5 now through Friday night, Aug. 2 from 7 p.m.-5:30 a.m. the next morning. The work is expected to conclude on Saturday, Aug. 3 by 5:30 a.m.

Bridge repair work will be conducted on I-90 eastbound from mile marker 35.5 to 36.5 on Thursday night, Aug. 1 through Friday night, Aug. 2, from 7 p.m.-5:30 a.m. the next morning. The work is expected to conclude on Saturday, Aug. 3 by 5:30 a.m.

In Otis and Blandford paving operations will be conducted on I-90 eastbound from mile marker 21.0 to 23.0 on Thursday night, Aug. 1 from 6 p.m.-6 a.m. the next morning. The work is expected to conclude by 6:00 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 2 by 6 a.m.

Bridge work will be conducted on I-90 eastbound and westbound at mile marker 22.5 now through Thursday night, Aug. 1 from 7 p.m.-5 a.m. the next morning. The work is expected to

conclude on Friday, Aug. 2 by 5 a.m.

In Stockbridge and West Stockbridge guardrail work will be conducted on I-90 westbound from mile marker 1.0 to 6.5 from now through Thursday night, Aug. 1, from 7 p.m.-5 a.m. the next morning. The work is expected to conclude by Friday, Aug. 2 by 5 a.m.

Bridge repair work will be conducted on I-90 westbound from mile marker 2.0 to 3.0 from now through Thursday night, Aug. 1 from 7 p.m.-5:30 a.m. the next morning. The work is expected to conclude on Friday, Aug. 2 by 5 a.m.

Appropriate signage, law enforcement details, and messaging will be in place to guide drivers through the work area.

Drivers 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](http://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 X (formerly known as Twitter) to receive regular updates on road and traffic conditions.

## Police investigate separate fatal crashes in Hampshire County

Authorities are investigating unrelated motor vehicle crashes that claimed the lives of two drivers Thursday, July 18.

On Thursday, July 18 at 10 p.m. a 17-year-old from Westfield was killed in a one-vehicle crash on Southampton Road in Westhampton. He was the sole occupant of the vehicle.

State Police attached to the Northwestern District Attorney's Office, the Crime Scene Services Section and the Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Section are investigating. Police and emergency responders from Easthampton, Westhampton and Southampton also responded to the scene. The teenager was pronounced dead at the site of the crash.

Earlier shortly before 9 p.m., police responded to a two-vehicle crash at the

intersection of Damon Road and King Street in Northampton in which a 62-year-old man from Springfield, the sole occupant of one car, was later declared dead at Cooley Dickinson Hospital, possibly due to a medical event.

Northampton Police, State Police attached to the Northwestern District Attorney's Office and troopers with CSSS and CARS are investigating. No charges have been filed.

Both crashes remain under investigation. The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner will determine the causes of death. Criminal charges are based on probable cause to believe a person has committed a crime. All defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in court.

## Summer music series continues

HUNTINGTON – The Huntington Community Events weekly summer music series will continue Thursday, Aug. 1 on the Huntington town green by local group Woodford Way from 6:30-8 p.m.

The town green is located at the intersection of Routes 20 and 112. Additional parking is available at the municipal lot on Prospect Ave. performances will be moved inside Stanton Hall in case of inclement weather, same location. Handicapped accessible. Bake sale each week supports local non-profit groups. No pets please. Concerts are free and sponsored by The Huntington Community Events Committee.

Blues/Folk duo Woodford Way consists of singer/songwriter Kyle Mangini

and guitarist Jeff Lynch. Influenced heavily by James Taylor, Paul Simon and Bob Dylan, Woodford Way blends narrative driven folk tunes with well-crafted pop gems.

Bake sale will be provided by the Huntington Food Pantry. The Huntington Food Pantry serves qualifying residents within the Gateway Regional School District.

Thursday Aug. 8, Meredith Robinson will perform. She has been performing her soulful blend of rock, blues and folk for the past 20 years. She can currently be found portraying "Nancy Wilson" in the Heart Tribute "Crazy on You" and as the lead vocalist for the Journey tribute



# HUNTINGTON

## Hilltown Community Health Center announces relocation

HUNTINGTON – Hilltown Community Health Center announces a strategic relocation of its Community Health Workers and Health Insurance Navigators to their clinical sites in Huntington, Worthington and Amherst.

This decision has been made to better serve the growing need for integrated social services within their communities, ensuring that patients and clients receive comprehensive care in an accessible and coordinated manner.

### Integrated Services for Enhanced Care

The relocation will see services such as health access and insurance navigation, health education programming, and social support services move from the Community Programs location at 9 Russell Road, Huntington, to the clinical sites. This move will enable closer integration with their clinical teams, making it easier for community members to access the care and support they need all in one place.

### Formation of a Working Group for a New Family Center Location

In addition to relocating CHWs and Health Insurance Navigators, they are forming a dedicated working group consisting of staff and community partners. This group will be tasked with identifying a new location for the Family Center and support services, ensuring they continue to meet the evolving needs of the community effectively.

### Continued Access and Support During the Transition

During this transition, they are committed to ensuring that services previously available at 9 Russell Road continue without interruption at their clinical sites. To accommodate walk-

in clients, they will provide clear way-finding signage and contact information at the Community Center location. Family support services such as play groups, home visiting, family education and domestic violence support services will continue at the current location at 9 Russell Road until they secure a new space. If people are a client or patient and would like more information or have any questions regarding obtaining or keeping their insurance, accessing food for themselves or their family, the stability or quality of their living situation, cost of heating their home or would like learn more about any of the services, including playgroups, parent-child home visits and domestic violence victim advocacy services, they may call 413-667-2203.

### Commitment to Our Community

“We understand that this news may bring questions,” said Kim Savery, Director of Community Programs at Hilltown Community Health Center. “It is important for our clients to know that their access to essential services will remain uninterrupted. This move is designed to improve the overall quality and accessibility of the services we provide.”

For any questions or concerns, people may call Kim Savery, Director of Community Programs at 413-685-3500. We appreciate your understanding and continued trust in Hilltown Community Health Center.

Hilltown Community Health Center is dedicated to providing high-quality, accessible health care and social services to the communities we serve. Our mission is to create access to high quality integrated health care and promoting well-being for individuals, families and communities.

### OLAN VARGAS PERFORMED ON HUNTINGTON GREEN



Otan Vargas performed Thursday, July 25 on the Huntington green as part of the summer music series. There will be concert on Thursday, Aug. 1 and 8 from 6:30-8 p.m. Submitted photo

### MUSIC

from page 2

“Lady Luck.” Other musical endeavors have involved playing guitar and singing for various projects that covered everything from hard rock to soul.

The Jacob Ladder Business Association will be hosting the bake sale Thursday Aug. 8. The JLBA is a group of people with a goal of facilitating busi-

ness opportunities in the Hilltown’s, while recognizing and preserving the natural beauty, neighborliness and resources of the area. The JLBA works hard to promote the “Buy Local” concept. They also strive to build a support network for the diverse businesses that currently exist.

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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

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

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

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

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

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

**3 EASY WAYS TO REACH US**

**PHONE**  
 413.283.8393  
 Fax: 413.283.7017  
 Subscriptions: 413.283.8393

**EMAIL**  
 Advertising Sales  
 Wendy Delcamp  
[wdelcamp@turley.com](mailto:wdelcamp@turley.com)  
 Editor  
 Ellenor Downer  
[countryjournal@turley.com](mailto:countryjournal@turley.com)  
 Subscriptions  
[cgriswold@turley.com](mailto:cgriswold@turley.com)

\$31 per year pre-paid (\$36 out of state)  
 Newsstand: \$ .75 per copy

**WEB**  
[www.countryjournal.turley.com](http://www.countryjournal.turley.com)  
 @ Country Journal

The Country Journal is published by Turley Publications, Inc. • [www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)

**SULLIVAN & SULLIVAN AUCTIONEERS • LLC** MA Lic. #107

**TOWN OF BECKET PUBLIC AUCTION**  
 Thursday, August 22 at 11AM  
 Town Hall – 557 Main Street  
**14 PROPERTIES ON THE AUCTION BLOCK: \*\***

**FEATURED PROPERTIES - \$5,000 DEPOSIT REQUIRED TO BID:**  
 B1: 2821 Main St (207-36) - 7.3± Acres  
 B2: Long Bow Ln East (213-58) - 2.6± Acres  
 B3: Meadow Lake Dr (214-135) - 3.7± Acres  
 B4: Gentian Hollow (407-117) - 4.1± Acres  
 B5: Woodmere Rd (407-56) - 5± Acres  
 B6: Squirrel Hill Rd (407-116) - 2.4± Acres  
 B7: 444 Gentian Hollow (407-101) - 4.8± Acres  
 B8: 1379 Chester Rd (417-38) - 29,185± SF

**ADDITIONAL PROPERTIES - \$2,500 DEPOSIT TO BID:**  
 B9: Werden Rd (205-86) - 4.7± Acres  
 B10: 458 Brooker Hill Rd (410-21) - 1.7± Acres  
 B11: 458 Brooker Hill Rd (410-21) - 1.7± Acres  
 B12: Long Bow Ln East (213-41) - 1.5± Acres  
 B13: Trail Cir (213-98) - 30,056± SF  
 B14: Squires Rd West (214-82) - 24,829± SF  
 B15: 36 Bowmans Ln (216-95) - 11,761± SF

**TERMS OF AUCTION:** Required deposits as indicated above. You will need a separate bank check for each property you plan to purchase. 6% Buyer's premium and balance due in 30 days. Call or visit our website for full terms & conditions of the auction.

**Sullivan-Auctioneers.com • 617-350-7700**

**FRESH PICKED FROM OUR FARM EVERY MORNING**

**E. Cecchi Farms** 1131 SPRINGFIELD STREET  
 FEEDING HILLS, MASS. “Corn so fresh the ears still wiggle.”

**Dale's Structural & Carpentry**  
 Home Improvement • Additions • Restorations • Repairs  
 Post & Beam Repairs  
 Sagging Floors - Beams - Columns  
 Sill Timbers - Termite Damage  
 Foundation Repairs - Piers & Footings  
 Chimney Rebuilds  
 FULLY LICENSED & INSURED  
 Huntington, MA • 413-667-3149  
[dalestructuralandcarpentry.com](http://dalestructuralandcarpentry.com)

**ARCHITECT JEFFREY SCOTT PENN**  
 77 Worthington Road, Huntington, MA 01050  
 Tel. 413-531-1868  
 Fax. 413-667-3082  
 Email: [jpsped@verizon.net](mailto:jpsped@verizon.net)  
 new construction, renovation, historic preservation

Contact Wendy to advertise at 413-283-8393 or email: [wdelcamp@turley.com](mailto:wdelcamp@turley.com)

**Jeff's Oil Burner Service**  
 • Tune Ups  
 • Installations  
 • Oil Tanks  
 Huntington, Massachusetts  
 Office 413.667.0245  
 Cell 413.530.7037  
[jeffsoilburnerservice@hotmail.com](mailto:jeffsoilburnerservice@hotmail.com)



# OPINION

## GUEST COLUMN



### I was self-employed and don't have enough credits for Social Security

Dear Rusty:

For a thirty-year period, I was making a living as an independent contractor and freelancer.

I was working on behalf of myself. Thus, I was only paying state and federal taxes when applied. Due to changes in the employment landscape, I wish to apply for benefits at age sixty-four, as receiving said SS benefits would serve as supplemental income to what I would be receiving from outside sources.

I recently discovered through the SSA that I do not have enough "points" to apply for Social Security benefits. What would be the method to obtain those required points in order to receive benefits?

Signed: Needing Points

Dear Needing:

Social Security is an earned benefit and eligibility is attained by contributing to SS through FICA payroll taxes or Self-Employment tax on your net earnings from self-employment, over your lifetime. You must have at least 40 "quarters of credit" to be eligible for Social Security benefits essentially you must work one quarter of each year earning at least a specified amount during that quarter to earn one credit and you can earn a maximum of four credits for each year you work.

The amount of earnings per credit varies each year, but for 2024, work earnings of \$1,730 give you one credit (annual work earnings of \$6,920 earn four credits). Usually, you must contribute to Social Security for about ten years to be eligible for benefits.

You must have earned at least 40 quarter credits to collect Social Security retirement benefits/ If you have less than 40 you are not eligible for SS retirement benefits.

For self-employed individuals, SECA SS tax is paid when you file your federal income tax return – you pay into Social Security when filing your annual Self-Employment income tax return (the self-employed must pay both the employee and the employer portion of Social Security tax).

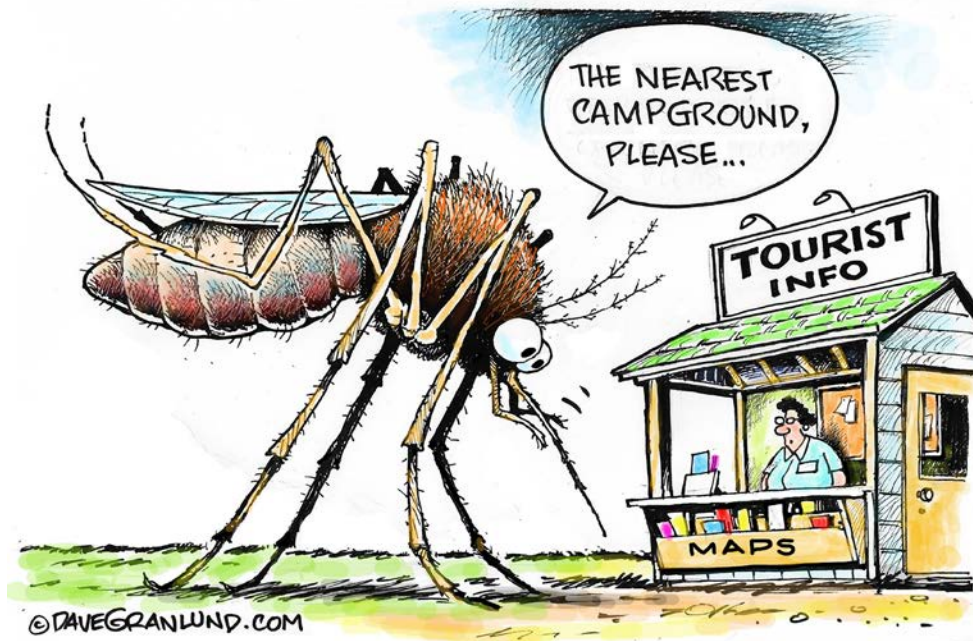
If you did not file an income tax return for each year over your lifetime you were self-employed, you didn't earn any SS credits

SECURITY, page 5

## Corrections policy

If you notice a factual error in our pages, please let us know, so that we can set the record straight. Email information to [countryjournal@turley.com](mailto:countryjournal@turley.com), or call us at 413-283-8393.

Corrections will be printed in the same section where the error originally occurred.



## GUEST COLUMN

### Tomato dreams and then there's reality



I always have such high hopes for my tomato plants. They go into the ground so healthy and green and for the first few weeks manage to stay that way. Then the inevitable yellowing and dropping of some bottom leaves happens from early blight.

The plants are outgrowing their cages and this point, though, so I just accept this as a normal condition and get excited for the first harvest. Some tomatoes look OK, but others are exhibiting strange, less than perfect, symptoms.

Read on to learn which conditions are which and what that means for your harvest.

My paste tomatoes in particular seem to always be susceptible to blossom end rot. It looks exactly as it sounds and is characterized by leathery brown or black spots on the bottom of the fruit.

Usually, it is seen on the first few developing tomatoes and occurs when there is trouble with calcium absorption. The plan of action for this year would be to regulate your watering, since calcium assimilation can get botched up when plants suffer from drought. Applying a layer of mulch will help to encourage the deep rooting that is essential for nutrient transmission.

In the meantime, send a sample of your soil off to the UMass Extension Service Soil Testing Lab and adjust calcium levels per their recommendation if need be. If by chance you are growing a new variety of tomato and are experiencing blossom end rot for the first time, consider switching to another variety; some are more susceptible to it than others.

In my garden it is habitually only the paste tomatoes that suffer.

Regarding harvest and use: if you cut the end of the tomato off and then cut into the seed cavity and there is no black area, feel free to use. Sometimes there will be sections of black within the cavity

but not always.

This malady can also be seen on peppers and eggplants. Sometimes, though, sun scald can sort of look like blossom end rot in peppers. Planting peppers closer together so that foliage shields developing fruit can help with that issue.

Fruit cracking around the stem, either in rings or radiating downward is caused by overwatering; we or Mother Nature can be at fault. This year I will blame her for some of it.

A little over a week ago many gardeners in the area received an inch or more of rain in two separate deluges. Keep in mind that most veggies require about an inch per week. Adjust your irrigation to accommodate.

As mentioned above, mulches do well to moderate soil moisture; if you mulch, you can water less often! If cracking ends up being a big problem for you, consider scouring the seed catalogs for varieties that are resistant to it.

As long as the cracks are fresh, and haven't begun to show mold, I use the fruit anyway.

Another problem many gardeners experience is a condition called yellow shoulders, in which tomatoes never ripen fully on the top or stem end. This is usually a genetic problem, but it can be lessened by allowing the fruit to ripen slowly under the cover of surrounding foliage rather than out in the open.

High organic matter content and a pH of 6.4 or lower is said to help with this condition – another good reason to have your soil tested and see where it stands.

You can still use these tomatoes. Simply cut that portion off or use it regardless.

These conditions don't have to mean the end of your harvest. By working around the issues, making some minor adjustments and choosing appropriate resistant varieties, tomato sauce is still in your future!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 32 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to [pouimette@turley.com](mailto:pouimette@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

## Election letters to the editor welcome

The Country Journal welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to The Country Journal, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to [countryjournal@turley.com](mailto:countryjournal@turley.com). Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that

Friday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election. For more information, call 413-283-8393.

### Campaign news

As part of its election coverage, the news-

paper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers.

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in The Country Journal.

## EDITORIAL POLICY

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

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



**\$12.50 Each**

**Digital Photos**  
TURLEY PUBLICATIONS, INC.  
Purchase a photo that recently ran in one of our publications. Go to [newspapers.turley.com/photo-request](http://newspapers.turley.com/photo-request)

ISSN NO. 0747-2471

## Country Journal TEAM



**EDITOR**  
Ellenor Downer  
[countryjournal@turley.com](mailto:countryjournal@turley.com)



**ADVERTISING SALES**  
Wendy Delcamp  
[wdelcamp@turley.com](mailto:wdelcamp@turley.com)

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



@ Country Journal



[countryjournal.turley.com](http://countryjournal.turley.com)

**PATRICK H. TURLEY**  
CEO

**KEITH TURLEY**  
President

**DEANNA SLOAT**  
Graphics Manager



[www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)

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



# OPINION

## HILLTOWN HISTORY

### Rivers where the crawdads swim

By Deborah Daniels  
Correspondent

As children we were told the lobsters shrieked when they were thrown into boiling water to be cooked. As I remember it we were the only ones shrieking at the lobsters about to be put into the boiling pot. Oh no we weren't seafood eaters, but our neighbors were.

And she would put the lobsters on the floor for us to observe. Okay she put them there for us to play with and we did. They didn't squeal when she put them into the hot water, but mostly we cleared out of there before that event.

Hiking the Clam River Trail in Sandisfield, 66 Sandisfield Road, Sandisfield, the Hilltown Hikers came across not Sebastian the crab of Disney movie fame, but Carrie the crawdad swimming in the Clam River.

You might ask what the crawdad was doing in the Clam River? What else but swimming on a hot summer day. What do we know about these 10 legged crustaceans? The first amazing fact is these creatures swim backwards.

Most of their day is spent walking on river bottoms scrounging for food. But if they are spooked they pull their fan shaped tail up tight to their abdomen and flick it out, propelling them backwards in what is called an escape reaction. They can scuttle along as fast as 25 mph.

Next let's talk about those large front claws they have. They can only pinch with them, painful yes but they do not break the skin on people. So you know people do keep crawdads as pets. They recommend taking care to pick them up just behind their front claws. Better yet use a net because as you can see from the photo those front claws can swivel around to the back and take hold of some skin.

Surprisingly those crawdads can survive several days outside water, in fact they have been known to scavenge along the river banks on land. They have specialized gills that look like feathers fluttering and as long as they are moist they thrive on land and water.

Crayfish are freshwater crustaceans meaning they have a hard shell encasing their body. They are most active at night and love a meal of snails, tadpoles, worms and insect larvae. They will also eat decaying plant matter.

They in turn are eaten by fish, waterbirds and mammals. Which brings me to how much we enjoy a well boiled

crayfish. You may have heard of the Creole dish etoufee? It is a Louisiana dish that features boiled crawdads or shrimp smothered with a stew of onions, celery, bell peppers, tomatoes, garlic and hot sauce served over rice.

There is a good internet video on how to cook crayfish by Kanan Badalov (8/2/2021) where he prepares a heap of crawdads for a feast. It is a basic etoufee recipe that sounds delicious, but it does take a strong heart to watch him plump all those crawdads into boiling water. No these crawdads did not sing.

You may also be interested to know that the Valley Forge National Park Rangers in Pennsylvania, host the Crayfish Corps, a program that trains volunteers to hunt and remove Rusty crayfish out of the Ohio River.

Rusty crayfish are bigger, more aggressive crayfish that out compete all other native crayfish, ultimately threatening the food chain of large predators like trout. And who loves a tasty trout as well as all those fishermen looking for a sporting time on the river?

The rusty crayfish arrived in 2008 through bait fishermen, biological supply houses and the aquaculture trade (aquarium breeder business). How is that for a bite in the bottom! Help one aquaculture while spoiling another.

At least the park rangers have volunteers use nets and closed toe water shoes to capture crawdads. Apparently toes in sandals have proved too appetizing to the crayfish Do you suppose they have a grand banquet featuring etoufee to show their appreciation for the volunteers?

Did I mention that a 3 oz. serving of crawdads gives you 15 grams of protein, is low in fat, rich in B vitamins and the minerals of Calcium, Magnesium, Zinc and Phosphorus, good bone grower minerals.

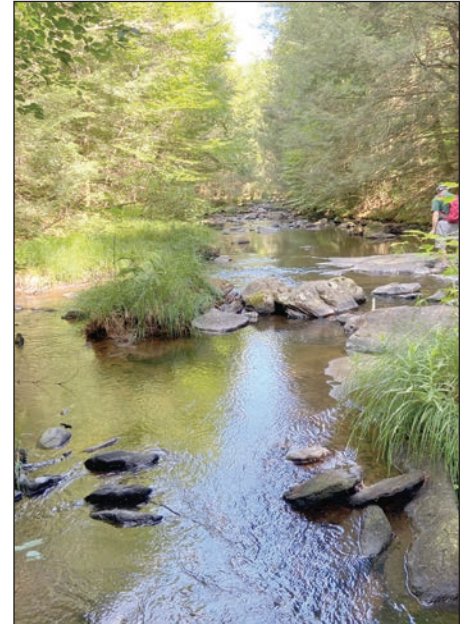
People describe their taste like a mixture of crab and shrimp. To eat them hold the head with one hand and the tail with the other and give a twist, crack it open and pull off the tail shell and eat. Many people suck out the head portion, it is edible. It is best to boil them for 10 minutes.

There is a myth that you shouldn't eat any with straight tails after cooking believing them to have been dead too long before cooking. Probably a safe policy your mother would advise.

My other memory of crayfish and they were plentiful among the rocks at Lake Norwich in Huntington was fishing for them with hot dog pieces we secreted out of the house before my



Hilltown Hiker Valerie holds a crayfish.  
Turley photos by Deborah Daniels



Another view of the Clam River with Tom a hiker in the background.



The Westfield River has many crayfish in it as well as the Mill River which is full of these mini lobsters as children often call them.



Remains of an early foundation on the Clam River Trail.

mother knew what we were doing. We never knew they could be pets. Happy hiking and crayfish hunting.

## SECURITY

from page 4

for that year. You pay SECA tax on your net earnings from self-employment (after all business expenses are deducted).

If you are just a few credits short of the 40 necessary to be eligible for benefits, you can still earn those extra credits needed by working and paying SS FICA or SECA taxes on your work earnings. For each \$1,730 earned this year, you will earn one SS credit, up to a maximum of four per year.

But you must contribute to Social Security from those earnings – if you work as a company employee you will

have FICA taxes withheld from your earnings, and if you are still self-employed you would need to pay SECA taxes on net earnings over \$6,920 when you file your self-employment income tax return. You would need to do that for as long as it takes for you to attain the minimum 40 quarter credits needed to be eligible for Social Security retirement benefits. (FYI: you cannot “buy” the extra points needed; you need to earn them by working and contributing to Social Security from your earnings).

One final point: whenever SS

benefits are claimed before one's Full Retirement Age Social Security's “earnings test” applies. The earnings test limits how much you can earn from working before some of your SS benefits are taken away. The earnings test no longer applies after you reach your FRA and, if you turned 64 this year, your FRA is 67. Self-employed individuals are also subject to an hourly limit of 15 to 45 working hours per month in their first year of early retirement.

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](http://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at [ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org). Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.



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

Call to place your classified ad:

**413-283-8393**

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





# BLANDFORD



Horse show commentator booth is under restoration including leveling.  
Turley photos by Mary Kronholm



Fair President Matt Ripley jacks up the other side of the horse show commentator booth.



Rick Barnard helps install the new windows in the Agricultural Hall.



Fair Director Kim Blanchette painted the new windows for the Agricultural Hall.

## FAIR

from page 1

while Fair President and Vice President Aaron LaBrecque jacked up the horse show commentator booth and put down new flooring. Treasurer Bruce Cooley mowed the fields.

Other fair members, Linda Barnard

and Cheryl Hopson, were assisted by more volunteers, including Art Wright, Don and Mary Brainerd and Pam and Paul Dirschka. Another vice president, Greg Girard has also been very involved in the restoration and rehab process.

## DOGS

from page 1

At the close of the initial, or evidentiary, portion of the hearing, the Select Board moved to deliberate and the motion to declare the two dogs as Dangerous Dogs per the definition in the Massachusetts General Laws was passed.

Of the seven possible remedies the Select Board ordered that the two offending dogs be confined both inside and outside and sheltered. They posed a secured and locked fenced area, a minimum of six feet high with a fence barrier on the ground so the dogs cannot dig themselves out. When the dogs are out with their owner, they must be muzzled and on a three-foot leash able to withstand 300 pounds of pull.

According to Chief Dubiel, should the dogs get out again after the orders set by the Select Board, there are fines from \$500 to \$1,000 plus jail time "if the decision is not followed." Should the dogs escape, Chief Dubiel must be notified immediately. Frappier and Thomas have ten days to seek an appeal.

"Once they (the board) make this decision, it's sort of set in stone," said Chief Dubiel. Frappier said he did hope to have the fence up in two months, and depending on quotes from fence contractors, a contract for fence construction should be signed by the end of the week.



Owners of injured dogs, Eileen and Dick Gates of Herrick Road and Chester/Blandford Police Chief and Animal Control Officer Jen Dubiel attended Dangerous Dog hearing.

Turley photo by Mary Kronholm

The board will check in time for their next meeting, Aug. 12, to make sure a contract is in place with some dates from the fencing company.

### Maintenance

In other business the board accepted a gift for perpetual maintenance and care for North Blandford Cemetery on Blair Road by Sumner Robbins from his estate.

Sarah Desilets and Ryan Benge will mow, do weed-whacking, brush cutting and provide general maintenance three times a year for the Town Hall's leach

field in Watson Park.

### Gate removal

Springfield Water and Sewer Commission has agreed to remove gates 19A on South Otis Road and 20 on Julius Hall Road. The board voted to approve the removal.

### Grant update

SWSC will also provide funding for a brush truck and Town Administrator Cristina Ferrera brought to the board's attention that the Hazard Mitigation Plan

grant needed attention. The grant is a matching grant: \$25,200 is the grant and the town has to come up with \$8,400, or 25 per cent. The Hazard Mitigation Plan must be updated, which in turn will keep the town eligible for other funding opportunities.

### Hilltown Community Ambulance

John Carrington, Hilltown Community Ambulance Association representative reported that one of the ambulances broke down and the decision was made to purchase a second ambulance. He joined the meeting virtually.

### Other business

Other actions taken Monday night were the following appointments: Nathan Kowalczyk as Electrical Inspector, Cristina Ferrera as Town Administrator, and Cristina Ferrera as approving grant contracts.

### Executive session

The board then voted to go into two executive sessions, not to reconvene, for the purposes of contract negotiations and the second to discuss the "reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence of and individual."

## WEST BROOKFIELD COUPLE STOP AT 90TH LIBRARY



Merry and Gary Pellegrino of West Brookfield made a surprise visit to the Porter Memorial Library in Blandford, sporting their Merriam-Gilbert summer reading t-shirts. This made number 90 of all their library stops so far.  
Turley photo by Mary Kronholm

## Water main break and fatal automobile accident happened Sunday, July 28

BLANDFORD – There was a water main break on Russell Stage Road Sunday afternoon. Notification was sent out by reverse 911 to all residents shortly after 5 p.m. It was repaired in roughly six-and-a-half hours according to Water Superintendent Gordon Avery. There were 14 homes affected for the time the water was shut off, but the Fire Department had water for anyone on

the road who needed it.

There was also a fatal automobile accident on North Blandford Road Sunday afternoon. The victim was an out-of-state teenage female. There was no official information immediately available but the Blandford Volunteer Firefighters were on site as well as the Chester/Blandford Police Department and the Massachusetts State Police. The accident is under investigation.

## CRILLO CLÁSICO TRIO PERFORMS AT WHITE CHURCH



Criollo Clásico Trio performed Saturday night at The White Church in Blandford. They are from left, Ahmed González on flute; Rene González on Latin percussion and trio founder José González, vocalist and guitarist.

Turley photo by Mary Kronholm



## SCHOOLS & YOUTH

# UMass Amherst announces spring 2024 Dean's list

AMHERST – The University of Massachusetts Amherst announces the spring 2024 semester Dean's list.

Local students making the Dean's list are: Autumn Rodgers of Becket, Nicole Mary Hannigan of Chester, West William Joseph Williams of Cummington, Nicole Allen of Easthampton, Nickolas James Borowski of Easthampton, Ellianna Rose Chappuis of Easthampton, Claudia Cunningham of Easthampton, Janine Leia DiCarlo of Easthampton, Niamh S. Gallen of Easthampton, Mark Eugene Gardyna of Easthampton, Brenna Lynn Gaspari of Easthampton, Dylan Tyler Girouard of Easthampton, Meagan Shaela Gravel of Easthampton, Aliyah Jae Hall of Easthampton, Elijah Howe of Easthampton, Vihdydevi Lalchand of Easthampton, Sydney Lewandowski of Easthampton, Cynthia Danielle Maddison of Easthampton, Adeline

Mary Mantz of Easthampton, Erin Rachel Caoilinn McElrath-Templin of Easthampton, Aurora Anne Mary Meehan of Easthampton, Sonam Ottaviani of Easthampton, Aymane Oulbeid of Easthampton, Ethan Bernard Silluzio of Easthampton, Jenna Mary Wooster of Easthampton, Gena Blaisdell Zucchini of Easthampton, Ivan Paget Fenn of Haydenville, Kala Cielo Garrido of Haydenville, Jacob Penn of Huntington, Catherine Consolati of Otis, Elizabeth Jean Sarnacki of Otis, Mia Yongfan Gozgit of Russell, Caden Richard O'Rourke of Sandisfield and Colby Austin Lennon of Washington.

Other local students making Dean's list are: Brooklyn Jane Borges of Westfield, Avery Noel Bradley of Westfield, Jenna A. Brown of Westfield, Grace Emma Cannady of Westfield, Kelley Rose Carter of Westfield, Ava Julia Cichonski of Westfield, Megan

Cichonski of Westfield, Megan Julianna Clemons of Westfield, Alexander Paul Dawicki of Westfield, Carlos Javier Flores-Skribiski of Westfield, Gabrielle Karen Godbout of Westfield, Stefan Goretskiy of Westfield, Isabella Alene Gorman of Westfield, Ah Gue of Westfield, Mason Bradley Hynes of Westfield, Kaela Mae Johnson of Westfield, Kelsey Johnstone of Westfield, Nicholas Kane of Westfield, Matthew Timothy Kotfila of Westfield, Grace Emily Kuhn of Westfield, Claire Elizabeth Lamarche of Westfield, Max Loper of Westfield, Benjamin McCann of Westfield, Wade Jess Miller of Westfield, Sarah Margaret Moriarty of Westfield, Valentina Nesmelova of Westfield, Bailey James O'Shea of Westfield, Sandra Amarachukwu Odunukwe of Westfield, Esfier Inessa Okhrimenko of Westfield, Chandler Pedolozky of Westfield, Emma Lauryn

Pedolozky of Westfield, Isabel Cosette Persuitt of Westfield, Alyssa Sheileen Piper of Westfield, Madelyn MacKinnon Powers of Westfield, Sophia AnnMarie Roselli of Westfield, Brooke Louise Siart of Westfield, Aria Luz Sotolongo of Westfield, Ethan David Thompson of Westfield, Paul Max Thomson of Westfield, Lillian Rose Winslow of Westfield, Katherine Elizabeth Latka of Westhampton, Cadence Loven of Westhampton, Kira Jade French of Williamsburg, Katherine Jane Tanner Joyner of Williamsburg, Madison Jenna Marney of Williamsburg, Charles Thomas Por of Williamsburg, Charles Gustav Gustav Strate of Williamsburg, Hannah Clare Matica of Worthington and Olivia Amelia Millis of Worthington. In order to qualify, an undergraduate student must receive a 3.5 grade-point average or better on a four-point scale.

## Colleges and universities announce 2024 graduates

### Emerson College Boston

Emma Winiarski of Westfield, Bachelor of Fine Arts in creative writing

### Quinsigamond Community College Worcester

Irene Chetambe of Westfield, Associate Degree in science and Amber Batchelder of Williamsburg, Associate Degree in science

### Roger Williams University Bristol, R.I.

Hannah Coffey of Montgomery, Bachelor of Science degree in marine biology; Megan Fitzgibbons of Westfield, Bachelor of Science degree in engineering and Alan Martin of Easthampton, Bachelor of Science degree in construction managements

### UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES Western New England University Springfield

Cody R. Thibodeau of Easthampton, Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in civil engineering; Connor Edward Wodecki of Easthampton, Bachelor of Science in construction management; Kendra Mikala Castagna of Easthampton, Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering; Naomi Mae Harry of Goshen, Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering; Garrett A. Barnachez of Westfield, Summa Cum Laude Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in business analytics and information management and minor in enterprise research planning; Wenjing Yang of Westfield, Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

in business analytics and information management and a minor in finance; Adam J. Garstka of Westfield, Bachelor of Science in civil engineering; Sean Peter Alvord of Westfield, Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in finance and in accounting; Jeffrey A. Nolan of Westfield, Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in industrial engineering; Pavel Usaty of Westfield, Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering; Charles Benjamin Przechocki of Westfield, Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering mechatronics; Megan A. Unsderfer of Westfield, Bachelor of Science in pharmacy studies; Jeremy Todd Trotter of Westfield, Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in sport management and Emily May Figiela of Worthington, Bachelor of Science in health sciences and in psychology

### GRADUATE DEGREE Western New England University Springfield

Shauna M. Post of Chester, Cum Laude with a Juris Doctor; Mrgaret Jessica Mogan of Westfield, Doctor of Pharmacy; Jenna Leigh-Habana Pilares of Westfield, Doctor of Pharmacy; Mariam A. Aydah of Westfield, Cum Laude with a Juris Doctor. Dieynaba Kida of Westfield, Masters Degree in mathematics; Jenna Mary Welch of Westfield, Masters in Business Administration leadership concentration and Collin J. Quinn of Westfield, Master of Science Degree in sport leadership and coaching

## Colleges and universities announce President's, Dean's list

### DEAN'S LIST Clark University Worcester

Kelly E. Burns of Westfield, first honors; Tanya J. Sheinkman of Becket, first honors and Samantha G. Adamtsev of Westfield, second honors

### DEAN'S LIST Western New England University Springfield

Rebekah Harry of Goshen, history major; Daniel McKellick of Montgomery, law and society major; Alexandra Sienko of Westfield, psychology major; Colby LaPoint of Westfield, actuarial science major; Connor Perreault of Easthampton, computer science major; Zachary Cloutier of Easthampton, computer science major; Connor Wodecki of Easthampton, construction management major; Brittney Cardoza-Rebollo of Westfield, criminal justice major; Kailey Downs of Westfield, health sciences major; Emily Figiela of Worthington, health sciences major; Rachel Brenzel of Westfield, secondary education/math science major; Liam McKellick of Montgomery, business analytics and information management major; Wenjing Yang of Westfield, business analytics and information management major; Ryan LaPoint of

Westfield, business analytics and information management major; Ryan Charland of Westfield, business analytics and information management major; Jaiden O'Kane of Westfield, general business major; Adam Garstka of Westfield, civil engineering major; Max Kusnierz of Westfield, mechanical engineering major and Charles Przechocki of Westfield, mechanical engineering/mechatronics major.

### PRESIDENT'S LIST Western New England University Springfield

Jessica Cloutier of Easthampton, law and society major; Abigail Dean of Easthampton, law and society major; Christina Harris of Montgomery, biology major; Jordan Dunham of Easthampton, cCriminal justice major; Alivia Brisson of Williamsburg, neuroscience major; Garrett Barnachez of Westfield, business analytics and information management; Sean Alvord of Westfield, finance major; Jeremy Trotter of Westfield, sport management major; Matthew Bowen of Westfield, sport management major; Cody Thibodeau of Easthampton, civil engineering major; Shawn Farnham of Westfield, computer engineering major and Jeffrey Nolan of Westfield, industrial engineering major

## News, photo publication policy

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

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

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

SEPTEMBER 2024

magazine

autumn fest 2024

Your Guide for Local Autumn Activities, Day Trips & Family Fun

Place your ad in New England's Autumn Activity Guide

ADVERTISING DEADLINE IS AUGUST 14

Reserve Your Ad Today! Call 413.283.8393

A SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT TO  
Turley Publications, Inc.  
WWW.TURLEY.COM



## SCHOOLS & YOUTH

# Family center seeks donations for back to school supplies

By Kathryn Koegel  
Correspondent

HUNTINGTON – In preparation for its annual Hilltowns back-to-school giveaway, It Takes a Village is asking for donations of both money and school supplies.

The organization, which operates the Village Closet clothing and childrens' goods center in Huntington, will hold the event on Sunday, Aug. 18 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. to support families with an entire inventory of back-to-school items and fall clothing, which will be 100% free.

The Salvation Army is providing an initial stock of backpacks and school supplies, which they have run a special drive for in the Pioneer Valley. Last year the organization quickly ran out of school supplies and is currently seeking help from the larger Hilltowns' community.

"With the average household spending \$1,374.65, according to the National Retail Federation on everything from backpacks to jeans, sneakers and notebooks, back-to-school can be an especially fraught time for families facing economic challenges," says Lisa Goding, the program director of It Takes a Village. "In 2023 we had 115 families requesting the pre-stuffed-with-school supplies backpacks and we gave away nearly 200 of them."

Additional donations sought include: pencils, erasers, ballpoint pens, boxes of crayons or colored pencils, two-pocket folders, composition notebooks, supply pouches or containers, individual spiral bound notebooks,



Hilltowns families will be able to get everything they need, from clothes, to shoes and school supplies at the back to school giveaway on August 18th.

calculators and highlighters, plus tissues and Lysol wipes for the teachers.

The Village Closet at 2 East Main St., will accept donations during their regular Sunday and Monday opening hours of 11a.m.-2 p.m. Donation boxes for school supplies are also set up at Oliver and Friends Farmstand in Goshen and Williamsburg Hair. Anyone wishing to volunteer time or donate money towards the event should visit [hilltownvillage.org/volunteer/portal](http://hilltownvillage.org/volunteer/portal). There is also an Amazon Wish List for school supplies set up.

"The Village Closet has become an essential family community center for the Hilltowns," says Goding. "It looks just like an organized store to



School supplies are sought from the local community to fill the backpacks.

patrons and offers an affordable and sustainable way for families to get the goods their children need to attend school with dignity and preparedness. Families shop our racks set up by childrens' sizes and clothing types and 'check out' by simply giving us their addresses so that we can keep track for funding purposes. In addition to being free to the families it's also so much more environmentally sustainable. Think of it. Kids grow out of clothes each year and this way, the goods end up actually being used locally rather than in landfills or sent abroad as clothing in most donation boxes is."

In addition to the clothing and stuffed backpacks, Williamsburg Hair will provide free childrens' haircuts. For complete information on the day's events, families are encouraged to visit [hilltownvillage.org/events](http://hilltownvillage.org/events) or their Facebook page: [facebook.com/HilltownVillage](https://facebook.com/HilltownVillage).

It Takes a Village was established



Haircuts will be supplied gratis by Williamsburg Hair as part of the initiative.

Turley photos by Kathryn Koegel

in 2009 to serve the need for enhanced support for rural families during the crucial postpartum period. What initially began as one mother supporting another has grown into an expansive support system. To date, It Takes a Village has distributed \$2.6 million in basic needs supplies to over 6,000 families. The organization is supported by the United Way of Franklin and Hampshire Regions, Baystate Noble Hospital, and several other foundations and local sponsors, as well as a dedicated team of volunteers who check every donation to make sure families can "shop" for clean and functional items.

Visit the Valley's Sweet Spot for  
Food, Fashion, and Fun!

The Mill District Welcomes  
**Herrell's**  
ICE CREAM



Eats, Arts, Shops, & Entertainment  
Cows and Montague Roads, North Amherst, MA

[TheMillDistrictNA.com](http://TheMillDistrictNA.com)



On July 1st, 2024, Keith passed away peacefully with his family at his side following a long courageous battle with cancer.

Keith graduated from Hartford Modern School of Welding in the late 80's. That certificate led to his employment at Pioneer Valley railroad. His 20-year career there progressed from track work to supervisor of operation. After leaving that occupation led him to his last employer JL construction as a heavy equipment operator. He cherished both of those jobs and the people he worked with. If not for his illness, he would still be working.

Keith was an exceptional employee with an uncompromising work ethic.

Keith was pre-deceased by his parents, Melburn Guilmette and Janet (Scanlon) Dean. Along with brothers, Jerry and Michael Guilmette.

He leaves behind his beloved wife Janette of 43 years, three children (Nicole, Justin, and Krystal), Grandchildren (Kenzie and Levi), Stepfather (Alvin Dean, Sister (Lisa) and brother (Patrick) - aunts, in-laws, nieces and nephews. All-important yet far too many to list.

Keith was blessed with many good loyal friends and in return a lifelong friend to many.

I would like to send a heartfelt thank you to Dr. Glynn and the staff at Sister Caritas Cancer Center for their notable care.

*The best things in life are the people we love,  
the places we've been and the memories we've made along the way.*

Celebrating a life well loved. Gone, but never forgotten.

Join us as we come together  
to celebrate the life of

**KEITH GUILMETTE**

Saturday, August 17, 2024, 12-6pm  
at Strathmore Park, Russell MA. BYOB.





# BECKET

## Cookbook authors to speak at BAC

BECKET – The Becket Arts Center, 7 Brooker Hill Road, presents a talk by Rob and Elisa Bildner, authors of “The Berkshires Farm Table Cookbook,” on Thursday, Aug. 8, at 5 p.m.

The Becket residents will discuss how they brought the magic of the Berkshires to the kitchen table, how they wrote about it, and why they continue to write about it. The talk is free for Becket Arts Center members and \$5 for non-members. For more information, people may visit becketartscenter.org.



Rob and Elisa Bulner, authors of “The Berkshires Farm Table Cookbook” will speak at the Becket Arts Center Thursday, Aug. 8 at 5 p.m.

## Jacob’s Pillow presents Dance Festival

BECKET – Jacob’s Pillow, 358 George Carter Road, will also offer a free event held on Saturday, Aug. 3 centered on the campus’s Eastern Woodlands Homesite, conceived and developed by Andre Strongbearheart Gaines Jr.-Creative Director of No Loose Braids and member of Nipmuc Nation-along with Tracy Ramos, William SmallEarCoyote Connors, Miguel WanderingTurtle Garate, and Nazario TallHairRedDeer Garate.

This discussion onsite at Jacob’s Garden will bring the Eastern Woodland people and the public together to highlight urgent issues of access, health and the sustainability of cedar swamps in the Eastern Woodlands. Additionally, Jacob’s Pillow will offer a free PillowTalk on Saturday, Aug. 3 at 4 p.m. inspired by Harlem Renaissance-era dancer Earl ‘Snakehips’ Tucker-the focus of the open gallery experience Snakehips in Our DNA in Sommers Studio.

The outdoor Henry J. Leir Stage hosts Bindlestiff Family Cirkus for a special one-night-only performance on Thursday, Aug. 1. This performance includes a “Choose What You Pay” ticketing option, with a suggested ticket price of \$25.

Since 1995, The Bindlestiff Family Cirkus has traveled the world with a talented and diverse troupe of American circus artists, bringing a unique hybrid of vaudeville, circus, and sideshow spectacle to theaters, clubs, colleges, and festivals. Bindlestiff Family Cirkus combines

jugglers, acrobats, contortionists, plate spinning, sword swallowing, novelty music and dance, and other risk-taking feats set to live music, creating an interactive evening of fun for the entire family.

The outdoor Henry J. Leir Stage hosts dancers from Detroit’s House of Jit and A Lady In The House Dance Company’s Nubian Néné for a special one-night-only performance on Friday, Aug. 2. This performance includes a “Choose What You Pay” ticketing option, with a suggested ticket price of \$25.

This shared program offers a thrilling peek into the world of Jit, a regional social dance from Detroit marked by acrobatic flips and kicks, drops and spins, and feet that hit the air at high speed.

# CHESTERFIELD

## BALLOONIST LAND IN CHESTERFIELD



This balloon was flying over Chesterfield on Saturday. It came down on Ireland St. Extension in Chesterfield. The photographers two year old granddaughter spotted the balloon first.

Turley photo by Deborah Daniels

**Nelson Homestead BLUEBERRIES**  
CHESTER, MASSACHUSETTS



**PICK-YOUR-OWN BLUEBERRIES**

**NOW OPEN**  
Check  for Hours

**FREE RECIPES**  
*Just For Stopping By!*  
Must present this offer to receive free gift. One per customer. Exp. 8/31/24.

207 Bromley Rd  
Chester, MA

   
FOR HOURS & MORE INFO

BE A LOCAL HERO  
buy locally grown

**CRW**  
LANDSCAPES INC.

**PATIOS • WALLS • WALKS • STAIRS**

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

CRWlandscapes@gmail.com • 413-821-9498

**Move On Up**  
from home office to Business office



**Montgomery MARKETPLACE**  
46 MAIN RD.

**We have 2 office spaces available & 1 workshop studio available.**

**CALL**  
**413.977.6277**

**THE MONTGOMERY MARKETPLACE**  
46 Main Road, Montgomery, MA 01085

**NOTICE**

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



**CENTER STREET AUTO PARTS OF CHICOPEE, INC.**

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

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

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

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

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

<p>USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN ASSORTED PORK LOIN CHOPS..... <b>\$2<sup>37</sup></b> lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FROZEN PORK SHOULDER PICNIC.... <b>\$1<sup>29</sup></b> lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS PORK BUTT STRIPS..... <b>\$2<sup>99</sup></b> lb</p> <p>SLICED IN OUR DELI MUENSTER CHEESE..... <b>\$5<sup>55</sup></b> lb</p> <p>SLICED IN OUR DELI HORMEL SMOKED HAM..... <b>\$4<sup>99</sup></b> lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. STORE MADE BONELESS CAROLINA GOLD MARINATED CHICKEN THIGHS..... <b>\$2<sup>99</sup></b> lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. STORE MADE BONELESS KOREAN BBQ MARINATED PORK BUTT STRIPS..... <b>\$3<sup>35</sup></b> lb</p>	<p>USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TENDERLOIN CUT FREE <b>\$9<sup>88</sup></b> lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF SHOULDER LONDON BROIL <b>\$4<sup>99</sup></b> lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. GROUND FRESH DAILY 80% LEAN GROUND BEEF 7 LB BAG <b>\$3<sup>79</sup></b> lb</p>	<p>USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS NY STRIP STEAKS..... <b>\$8<sup>88</sup></b> lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS &amp; SKINLESS CHICKEN BREAST 10 LB BAG..... <b>\$2<sup>22</sup></b> lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FRESH CHICKEN THIGH 10 LB BAG..... <b>\$1<sup>55</sup></b> lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FROZEN AT SEA SEA BASS FILLETS..... <b>\$7<sup>99</sup></b> lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN COOKED SHRIMP 26/30 COUNT 2 LB BAG..... <b>\$8<sup>99</sup></b> ea</p>
--	---	--

**GREAT ON THE GRILL**

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

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

SALE DATES: 8/1/24-8/7/24 BUY DIRECT FOR SAVINGS • SELECTION • SERVICE

We reserve the right to limit quantities.



## CHESTER

# Hamilton Library announces upcoming August events

CHESTER – The Hamilton Memorial Library is grateful to the Wild and Scenic Westfield River Committee for sponsoring the children's Nature Fun program, presented by Environmentalist, John Burns.

The library continues to operate in two locations while the library building is being renovated. They are open on Tuesdays and now on Wednesdays from 1-6 p.m. in the COA room at the Chester Town Hall and Thursdays at the Chester Railway Station from 10-3 p.m..

They have a limited collection of children's books available at the train station and mostly adult books in the COA room. Patron's may continue to order materials through their CWMARS account and holds that have arrived will be available at both locations for pick-up and returns.

The Summer Reading Program is going strong and the fun continues in August. August Library events:

The Nocturnals book series: We have new books in the Nocturnals book series by Tracey Hecht to complement Chester Elementary School's, One School, One Book Summer Book Club. Available Thursdays at the Chester Train Station.

Children will learn all about sundials on Thursday, Aug. 1 at 11 a.m. at the Chester Railway Station. Story and Fun includes making their own sundial craft.

Reptile and Amphibian Program for children with local biologist and conservationist enthusiast, Tom Tynning will be held Thursday, Aug. 8 at 11 a.m. at the Chester Railway Station. They will meet some of his cold-blooded friends.

Kid Power! Stop in for Story and Fun time Thursday, Aug. 15 at 11 a.m. and receive a flashlight that you power



Children and their family listen to environmentalist John Burns, who presented a children's nature fun program at the Chester Railway Station.

*Submitted photos*

yourselves. Flashlights limited to the first 15 participants.

"My Yard Has Invaded" educational talk on local invasive plants with expert John "Burnsie" Burns takes place Tuesday, Aug. 20 at 6 p.m. in the COA room at Chester Town Hall. He will discuss how to manage them and maybe even eat them. This event is generously sponsored by the Wild and Scenic Westfield River Committee.

Book Club will meet on Wednesday, Aug. 21 at 4:30 p.m. They will be discussing the fictional bestseller, "Lessons in Chemistry" by Bonnie Garmus, while enjoying light refreshments. Extra copies are available at both locations.

RSVP's for programs are helpful at by calling 413-354-7808 or emailing chesterlibrary@gmail.com. Follow us at hamilton-library.org, Facebook: Hamilton Memorial Library and instagram: chestermalibrary.



John Burns holds an animal skull during a nature program sponsored by the Wild and Scenic Westfield River Committee for the Hamilton Memorial Library in Chester.

## MassDepartment of Environmental Protection issues boil order

CHESTER – On Wednesday July 24, MassDepartment of Environmental Protection confirmed treatment technique violations within the Chester Water Department that occurred on multiple days during both June and July 2024.

As a result of those violations, Chester Water Department may not have provided adequate disinfection of the water that was being provided to customers. To provide proper treatment of the surface water source, Chester is required to provide a combination of filtration and disinfection to reliably achieve at least 3-log removal and/or inactivation of Giardia and 4-log removal and/or inactivation of viruses.

Filtration provides removal and disinfection provides inactivation of microorganisms and reduces turbidity. In order to ensure proper disinfection of surface water, Chester is required to: (1) ensure surface water is in contact with a minimum concentration of chlorine or a similar disinfectant for a minimum amount of time (this is referred to as "inactivation"); and (2) ensure the treated water entering the distribution system has a minimum chlorine residual of 0.2 milligrams per liter (mg/L) and (3) ensure that filtered water turbidity is not too high. The water department routinely monitor their water for chlorine residuals and turbidity to ensure adequate chlorine inactivation.

Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These disease-causing organisms include bacteria, viruses and parasites, which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. These symptoms, however, are not caused only by organisms in drinking water, but also by other factors. If people experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.

People should not drink the water without boiling it first or use bottled water. They should bring all water to a rolling boil and let it boil for at least

one minute or use bottled water before using. Boiled or bottled water should be used for drinking, making ice, food preparation, brushing teeth and washing dishes until further notice.

Boiling kills bacteria and other organisms in the water. They may visit <https://www.mass.gov/guides/drinking-water-boil-orders-and-public-health-orders#-general-precautions-during-a-boil-order> for general precautions.

Tips for water use during a boil order may be found by visiting <https://www.mass.gov/guides/drinking-water-boil-orders-and-public-health-orders#-tips-for-water-use-during-a-boil-order>.

People should discard all ice, beverages, uncooked foods, and formula made with tap water collected on or before July 11.

Food establishments must follow MA DPH procedures and the direction of their local Board of Health, which may be more stringent than the DPH guide. They should visit Massachusetts

Department of Public Health - Guidance for Emergency Action Planning for Retail Food Establishments (pg. 19) <http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/dph/environmental/foodsafety/emergency-action-plans.pdf>.

People at increased risk should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

The water department will repair or replace equipment as needed and will maintain a sufficient chlorine level as needed to ensure sufficient disinfection inactivation. They will ensure the requirements of the surface water treatment standards are met. They anticipate resolving the problem as soon as possible.

For more information, people may call the Chester Board of Water Commissioners at 413-354-7760.

General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline by calling 1-800-426-4791.

### Country Journal OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

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

### PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

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

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

visit [www.publicnotices.turley.com](http://www.publicnotices.turley.com)

### SEND US YOUR EVENT PHOTOS



As a free service for our readers we accept and will print when space allows community event photos and announcements. Just scan the QR code above and send us your photos and any information.



## WORTHINGTON

# Worthington Library seeks community support for youth book house

WORTHINGTON – Throughout the month of August, the Worthington Library will host a Book House community fundraiser.

The goal of the fundraiser is to bring in enough funds to purchase the materials needed for a youth-focused Little Free Library. The Little Free Library will be located on RH Conwell grounds. The idea stems from the Little Free Library program, whose tagline is “Take a Book. Share a Book.”

Little Free Libraries are placed in an accessible location where the com-

munity can access literature at anytime, at no-cost. There are more than 150,000 free libraries registered in over 120 countries. For more information about Little Free Library, people may visit [littlefreelibrary.org](http://littlefreelibrary.org).

Once the funds are raised, RH Conwell students, supported by teachers and community volunteers, will choose the book house design and build it. “This is truly a community effort,” remarked Eileen Daneri, a Worthington Library board member. The library hopes to create another place for chil-

dren to go that is “inviting, accessible, free, and open for literacy” even when the library and school are closed.

Monetary donations will be accepted at seven drop-off locations in Worthington, which includes the library and six local businesses. Locations include Comers Grocery, 2 Packard Park, Goldenrod Country Inn, 144 Huntington Road; Hilltown Mobile Market at Sawyer Farm, 19 Sawyer Road; Worthington Liston’s Bar and Restaurant, 324 Old North Road; Sena Farm Brewery, 151 Buffington Hill

Road, The Worthington Golf Club, 113 Ridge Road and Worthington Public Library, 1 Huntington Road.

Any monetary contributions can be placed in the donation cans, decorated by RH Conwell students. The library will also donate funds to help cover the cost of the book house and fill with the initial books. The library also asks the public’s support in filling the book house with children and young adult books. Any donations of new or gently used books can be donated at the library.

## CHESTER

### CRISIS

from page 1

Department that occurred on multiple days during both June and July 2024. As a result of those violations, Chester may not have provided adequate disinfection of the water that was being provided to you.” Chester residents were notified that “boiled or bottled water should be used for drinking, making ice, food preparation, brushing teeth and washing dishes until further notice.”

Water giveaways were organized from the town fire station, with Big Y making water donations. As of Friday at 4 p.m., over 300 cases of water had been distributed by representatives of the town council with assistance from local coordinator Scott Flebotte of the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency.

Three-gallon jugs were given to Carm’s, the Common Table and the Blue Note Cafe, which were particularly busy with summer visitors and Chester Theatre patrons. By Sunday the tests conducted by Mass DEP were back and Daley said that “the water was confirmed to be infiltrated by manganese with elevated levels of iron.” This was the cause of the discoloration and smell the 250 customers of the water had begun to experience earlier in the week.

Images and complaints of town citizens on the Chester Massachusetts Community Forum on Facebook starting July 15 alerted the town water commissioners, Bob Daley and Jim Zimmerman, to the problem.

What had happened? According to Daley, it was a perfect storm of heavy rain events the recent thunderstorms, extremely high temperatures that caused algae blooms, but also the fact that despite those thunderstorms “we are in a level 1 drought condition.” After the reports of discolored water, the plant was checked and “turbidity was elevated,” says Daley. “Sedimentation within the water is high. We have had sporadic manganese events before as it is naturally occurring in rocks, but it was higher than it should be.”

Chester, which calls itself the “gem of the Hilltowns” due to its past as a valuable center for mining substances like granite and emery, currently suffers from that history. Daley notes that the two town reservoirs are within an area of heavily-mined emery schist, which runs as far north as Gobble Mountain and may be contributing to the issue. “In the 1870s those mines dug for more than a mile into the mountains with additional levels. They were operating until the 1910s.”

Other mining interests are also contributing to the challenge. “The system was built to support the now defunct Cortland Grinding Wheel Company and Treibacher Schleifmittel Corporation, which employed over a hundred people and led us to build a system to manage approximately 170,000 gallons a day of water. The system was designed for that and without those businesses we now use only about 35,000 to 45,000 a day. They also helped to pay the bills.”

Today, Daley says they have around 250 customers, who pay approximately



The town has received a \$230k grant to replace two of the three filtration systems with new sand. The filtration is currently 20 inches below what it should be.



Town officials joined with MEMA to distribute over 300 cases of water by Friday at 4PM.

Turley photos by Kathryn Koegel

\$650 per household a year. He says the system is comparable to what Blandford has, but “they serve 260 households that pay approximately \$1,200 a year.”

The water in Chester is currently collected at two reservoirs: Horn Pond, the higher and larger one and Austin Brook Reservoir, which when visited Sunday hardly appeared to have any inflow from the brook.

How dangerous is the water infiltration? There have been no reports of illness, according to Daley. Though admittedly not a water scientist, he said “that’s not going to happen.” The problem is not bacterial such as the presence of giardia, which leads to the intestinal issues typically reported by organic water infiltrations. The NIH website says that manganese “is an environmentally abundant essential metal required for numerous indispensable biochemical processes throughout the human body” and that “manganese toxicity (manganism) is rarely encountered, yet it is important to recognize the consequence of occupational, accidental or iatrogenic exposures to manganese.” The main toxic effects attributable to excess exposure to the metal are “side-effects that closely resemble symptoms of Parkinson syndrome.”

There are currently no estimates on

how long the water problem will take to fix, though important steps, such as fixing the water filter at Horn Pond, have been completed. “I fully expect us to get to the other side within three weeks,” says Daley.

Another major fix is in the midst with the help of a grant that has been three years in the funding and was coincidentally dispersed last week. Over \$230,000 is being spent to replace the filter beds, which are supposed to be 42” of gravel with an added six inch layer of activated carbon filtration. “They are currently at 20,” says Daley. The special gravel required is now sitting at the Chester Highway Department waiting to be installed. On Tuesday July 30 a “contractor is starting to evacuate the old sand.” This is in and of itself a tough manual process with a layer of sludgy bacteria called the “schmutzdecke” having to be carefully removed by the water operators and hauled away.

A town official who spoke not for attribution expressed frustration at some community response, especially on social media. “Chester is not the only town with water issues. There are half a dozen communities. No one thinks about infrastructure. You have to plan for when you have to pay your insurance bills. If you don’t like it, do something. We live in valleys

surrounded by rock. If you don’t have rainwater, the majority of water comes from groundwater and this is an area of old mines.”

They also addressed the problem apparent when speaking with any town administration and services operator in the Hilltowns. “Average age of water operators here is above 75.”

Daley concurs. “It’s the same six people that do everything. Occasionally we get a few younger people that step up, but they leave as they don’t like the vitriol.”

A town hall meeting will be held post the water resolution and Daley thinks it will be useful for the community to meet in person rather than just sharing information and frustration on social media. “They need to get it all out and we need to separate the facts from hysteria. It’s a teaching moment and we will come out the other side.” He urged town residents to “come forward with suggestions for how they see the future of their water system.” For now, some on Facebook are suggesting reopening a spring on Route 20 in Becket that was closed in 2019 after coliform was detected and the town council voted not to spend the money necessary to add a necessary filtration system.

Daley reminds people that the EPA was established by the Nixon administration in 1973 with the surface water treatment rule which established the practice of killing bacteria and that the safest and best water is groundwater. Back in the ‘70s test wells were dug in Chester and only one was sufficient and safe for the town but the landowner declined to participate.

Daley believes that long term there is no way for a town of Chester’s size to maintain its own water or electrical utilities and sees the regional model as one option. “It worked with Gateway Regional School,” he says. He says Blandford would be a good partner due to their similar systems and size of the water needs.

To the training issue, there is one bright spot noted by Daley in a partnership established with Gateway Regional School District with then school programs director Martha Clark and principal Kristen Smidy. The youngest Chester town water operator (he is currently an operator in training) is Isaiah Soliterio, who began his work as an apprentice while still at the school two years ago. Daley hopes to continue the apprentice program with new students this year.

Daley, who is 82 and his other water commissioner, Jim Zimmerman, are both volunteers and encourage other town residents to step up and help by running for office or volunteering for a town position. “No one wanted to do this job,” he says. “Back in 2018, the select board created the water improvement committee out of concern.” He thanks original commissioners Lyle Snide and Tom Bean for staying involved beyond their terms. Daley then hurried back to the town hall on a hot summer Sunday to continue to monitor the situation.



# PUBLIC NOTICES

## DEPARTEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION WETLANDS PROGRAM 401 Water Quality Certification Application Public Notice

Pursuant to 33.U.S.C.1341 and MGL c21 §43, notice is hereby given of a 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) application for the Borden Brook Reservoir Spillway Bridge Repair Project in Granville by the Springfield Water and Sewer Commission (SWSC), 1515 Granville Road, Westfield, MA, 01085 on property owned by SWSC. The project involves the repair of an existing concrete bridge. Additional information may be obtained from the applicant's agent – Tighe & Bond, Inc. c/o Melissa Coody, 53 Southampton Road, Westfield, MA 01085 (413-562-1600).

Written comments on this 401 WQC Application may be emailed to:

David Wong  
(David.W.Wong@mass.gov)  
Department of Environmental Protection  
Wetlands Program  
100 Cambridge Street,  
Suite 900  
Boston, MA 02114  
(617) 874-7155

Within 21 days of this notice. The Department will consider all written comments on this 401 WQC Application received by the Public Comments Deadline.

Any group of ten persons of the Commonwealth, any aggrieved person, or any government body or private organization with a mandate to protect the environment that has submitted written comments may also appeal the Department's Certification and that failure to submit comments before the end of public comment period may result in the waiver of any right to an adjudicatory hearing.

08/01/2024

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

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) of the Town of Huntington will hold the Continuance of the May 14, 2024 public hearing on **Tuesday, August 13, 2024** beginning at 6:00 pm in Stanton Hall.

The Public Hearing Continuance is for the Special Permit Application of Hull Forestlands, LP c/o William B. Hull for an Earth Removal Operation at 61 Goss Hill Road (Parcel # 324-32-A), 0 Goss Hill Road (Parcel # 326-26-0) & 0 Worthington Road (Parcel # 326-24-0).

A copy of the application will be available for review (by appointment) by contacting the office of the Board of Selectmen in Town Hall during regular business hours.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS  
TOWN OF HUNTINGTON  
08/01/2024

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by TCI Holdings, LLC to Pinnacle Financial Services, LLC

d/b/a Pinnacle Funding, said mortgage being dated April 19, 2022, and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 14526, Page 122, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at **11:00 A.M. on Thursday, August 8, 2024**, upon the premises described in said mortgage, namely 138 Ridge Road, Worthington, Hampshire County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

A certain parcel of land with any buildings thereon situated on the southwesterly side of Ridge Road in Worthington, Hampshire County, Massachusetts, and being the same property shown as "8.7 acres" on a plan entitled "Plan of Land in Worthington, MA owner Manfred Zorn" prepared by Fisk Survey, Chester, MA, dated 7 July, 1995 and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds on Plan of Book 178, Page 241, which parcel is further bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at an iron pin set the southwesterly line of Ridge Road at the easterly corner of the parcel herein conveyed and other land now or formerly of Manfred Zorn shown as a portion of Lots 1 and 2 on said plan thence running:

S. 79° 51' 20" W, a distance of four hundred seventy and sixty-three hundredths (470.63) feet to an iron pin set in the southwesterly line of Ridge Road, thence turning and running,

N. 34° 39' 35" W, a distance of eight hundred eight and seventy-nine hundredths (808.79) feet to an iron pin set, thence turning and running

N. 79° 51' 20" E, a distance of one hundred twenty-seven and ninety-nine hundredths (127.99) feet to an iron pin found, continuing a distance of three hundred and fifty-two and thirty hundredths (352.30) feet to an iron pin set four (4) feet high in a wooden pole, thence turning and running;

S. 34° 39' 35" E, a distance of six hundred twenty-five and sixty-eight hundredths (625.68) feet to a point, continuing a distance of one hundred seventy-four and thirty-two hundredths (174.32) feet to the point of beginning, the last two courses being along Ridge Road.

SUBJECT TO transmission line easement granted by Elizabeth M. Hewitt et al to American Telephone & Telegraph Co. of Massachusetts by an instrument dated 10 & 16 August 1928 and recorded in said Registry in Book 847, page 386, insofar as said easement is now in force and effect.

Being all and the same premises conveyed to the Mortgagor herein by deed of John Diamond dated April 12, 2022 and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds prior hereto.

Said premises will be sold subject to and/

or with the benefit of any and all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, outstanding tax title, municipal or other public taxes, assessments, liens or claims in the nature of liens, rights of parties in possession, and existing encumbrances of record created prior to the mortgage, if any there be, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the Deed.

No representations, express or implied, are made with respect to any matter concerning the premises which will be sold "as is".

The successful high bidder will be responsible for paying the Massachusetts State Documentary Tax Stamps, all closing costs and all recording fees.

**TERMS OF SALE:** The highest bidder in the sale shall be required to deposit cash, bank treasurer's check or certified check in the amount of **TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$20,000.00)** at the time and the place of the sale of the premises to qualify as a bidder (the present holder of the

mortgage is exempt from this requirement) to be held by the Mortgagee. The successful bidder will also be required to deposit an additional sum equal to ten percent (10%) of the amount bid less the \$20,000.00 deposit (but no less than \$20,000) with the Mortgagee's auctioneer, Aaron Posnik & Co., Inc., 31 Capital Drive, West Springfield, Massachusetts 01089 or the Mortgagee's attorney as may be directed within five (5) days of the date of the sale to be held by the Mortgagee, and the balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified or bank treasurer's check at the closing which shall occur within thirty (30) days after the date of foreclosure sale, time being of the essence, unless the Mortgagee agrees otherwise. The successful bidder at the sale shall be required to sign a Memorandum of Terms of Sale containing the above terms at the auction sale.

In the event that the successful bidder at the public auction shall default in purchasing the within described property according to the terms of this Notice of Mortgagee's Sale and/or the terms of the Memorandum of Sale

executed at the public auction, the Mortgagee reserves the right, at its election, to sell the property to the second highest bidder at the public auction provided that Mortgagee, in its discretion, may require (1) said second highest bidder to deposit the amount of the required deposit as set forth herein within three (3) business days after written notice to the second highest bidder of the default of the previous highest bidder, (2) the second highest bidder to execute a Memorandum of Sale, and (3) the closing to occur within twenty (20) days of said written notice, time being of the essence unless the Mortgagee agrees otherwise. The Mortgagee reserves the right to sell any parcel or any portion thereof separately, or in any order that Mortgagee may choose and/or to postpone this sale to a later time or date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the sale and to further postpone any adjourned sale date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the adjourned sale date.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the time and place of the sale.

The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

Pinnacle Financial Services, LLC  
d/b/a Pinnacle Funding,  
Present Holder of said Mortgage  
By  
David A. Lavenburg,  
Its Attorney  
BACON WILSON, P.C.  
33 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
413-781-0560  
07/18, 07/25, 08/01/2024

## 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 9, 2024.**  
07/25, 08/01/2024

NOTICE OF THE TAKING MUST BE PUBLISHED OR SERVED AND MUST ALSO BE POSTED IN TWO OR MORE PUBLIC AND CONVENIENT PLACES AT LEAST FOURTEEN DAYS BEFORE THE ADVERTISED TIME OF TAKING. STATE TAX FORM 300

**Town of Russell  
PO Box 407  
Russell, MA 01071  
413-862-6201**

### NOTICE OF TAX TAKING

**To the owners of the herinafter described land and to all others concerned, you are hereby notified that on August 15th**

**2024 at 10:00 a.m. at the RUSSELL TOWN HALL located at 65 Main Street, pursuant to the provisions of General Laws Chapter 60, Section 53 and by virtue of the authority vested in me as Collector of Taxes, it is my intention to take for the TOWN OF RUSSELL the following parcels of land for non-payment of taxes due thereon, with interest and all incidental expenses and costs to the date of taking, unless the same shall have been paid before that date.**

### REDEVCO LLC

PROPERTY: Land with any buildings thereon  
CONTAINING: 2.32 AC (more or less)  
LOCATION: 268 WORONOCO RD  
ASSESSORS: 27.5.3  
REGISTRY: Hampden County Registry of Deeds  
Book: 19369 / Page: 0061  
BILL NUMBER: 570  
2024 Real Estate Taxes, CPA, Interests and Fees Due: \$1,068.10

### REDEVCO LLC

PROPERTY: Land with any buildings thereon  
CONTAINING: 0.22 AC (more or less)  
LOCATION: WORONOCO RD  
ASSESSORS: 27.8.7  
REGISTRY: Hampden County Registry of Deeds  
Book: 19369 / Page: 0061  
BILL NUMBER: 571  
2024 Real Estate Taxes, CPA, Interests and Fees Due : \$280.00

### WESTFIELD RIVER ASSOC LLC, WEST FIELD RIVER ASSOCIATES LLC

PROPERTY: Land with any buildings thereon  
CONTAINING: 5.90 AC (more or less)  
LOCATION: 1190 HUNTINGTON RD  
ASSESSORS: 9.2.1  
REGISTRY: Hampden County Registry of Deeds  
Book: 23582 / Page: 550  
BILL NUMBER: 724  
2024 Real Estate Taxes, CPA, Interests and Fees Due : \$3,631.90

### WESTFIELD RIVER ASSOCIATES LLC

PROPERTY: Land with any buildings thereon  
CONTAINING: 0.96 AC (more or less)

LOCATION: HUNTINGTON RD  
ASSESSORS: 9.2.7  
REGISTRY: Hampden County Registry of Deeds  
Book : 23582 / Page : 550  
BILL NUMBER: 725  
2024 Real Estate Taxes, CPA, Interests and Fees Due : \$259.47

### FOX DANIEL R & JENNIFER D

PROPERTY: Land with any buildings thereon CONTAINING: 4.10 AC (more or less)  
LOCATION: 1391 BLANDFORD RD  
ASSESSORS: 5.1.4  
REGISTRY: Hampden County Registry of Deeds  
Book: 13245 / Page: 0262  
BILL NUMBER: 218  
2024 Real Estate Taxes, CPA, Interests and Fees Due : \$2,453.29

### HOLMES ROBERT, JUSTIN HOLMES

PROPERTY: Land with any buildings thereon CONTAINING: 0.49 AC (more or less)  
LOCATION: 334 WORONOCO RD  
ASSESSORS: 27.8.4  
REGISTRY: Hampden County Registry of Deeds  
Book: 013087 / Page :369  
AC (more or less)  
BILL NUMBER: 303  
2024 Real Estate Taxes, CPA, Interests and Fees Due : \$6,451.00

### RETTIE STEPHEN E

PROPERTY: Land with any buildings thereon CONTAINING: 0.43 AC (more or less)  
LOCATION: 184 MAIN ST  
ASSESSORS: 15.6.13  
REGISTRY: Hampden County Registry of Deeds  
Book: 08610 / Page: 0325  
BILL NUMBER: 577  
2024 Real Estate Taxes, CPA, Interests and Fees Due : \$1,155.47

### HEART & HOME REALTY LLC

PROPERTY: Land with any buildings thereon CONTAINING: 0.34 AC (more or less)  
LOCATION: 196 BLANDFORD STAGE RD  
ASSESSORS: 14.1.12  
REGISTRY: Hampden County Registry of Deeds  
Book: 21572 / Page: 0310  
BILL NUMBER: 292  
2024 Real Estate Taxes, CPA, Interests and Fees Due : \$4,516.72

08/01/2024



# PUBLIC NOTICES

**DEPARTEMNT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION WETLANDS PROGRAM 401 Water Quality Certification Application Public Notice**

Pursuant to 33.U.S.C.1341 and MGL c21 §43, notice is here-

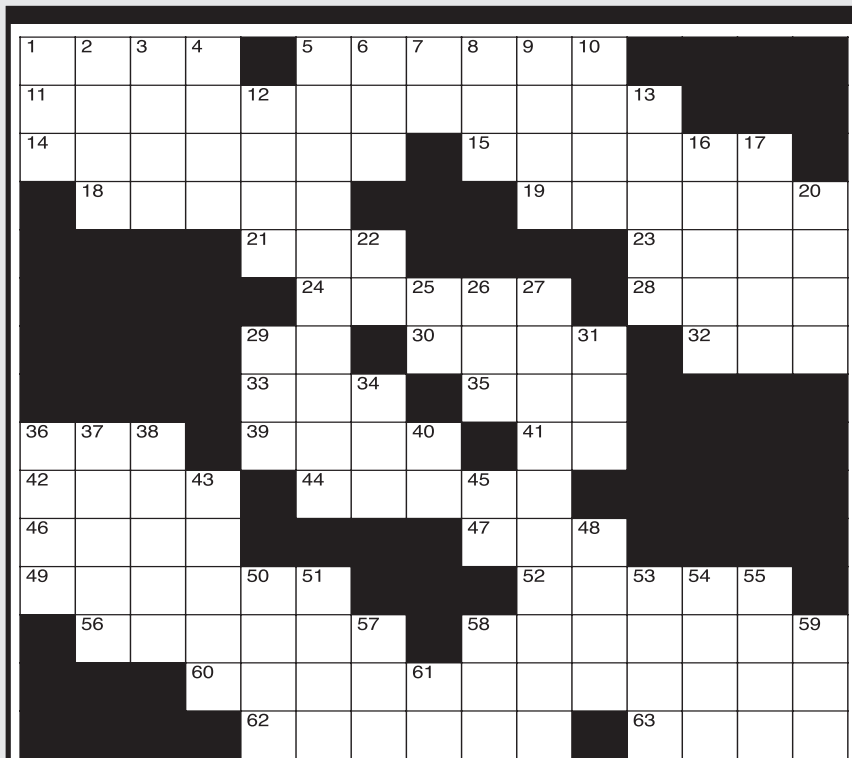
by given of a 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) application for the Sugar Creek Bridge Project in Blandford by the Springfield Water and Sewer Commission (SWSC), 1515 Granville Road, Westfield, MA, 01085 on property owned by SWSC. The project involves the repair of an

existing concrete bridge. Additional information may be obtained from the applicant's agent - Tighe & Bond, Inc. c/o Melissa Coady, 53 Southampton Road, Westfield, MA 01085 (413-562-1600). Written comments on this 401 WQC Application may be emailed to:

David Wong (David.W.Wong@mass.gov) Department of Environmental Protection Wetlands Program 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900 Boston, MA 02114 (617) 874-7155 Within 21 days of this notice. The Department

will consider all written comments on this 401 WQC Application received by the Public Comments Deadline. Any group of ten persons of the Commonwealth, any aggrieved person, or any government body or private organization with a mandate to protect the

environment that has submitted written comments may also appeal the Department's Certification and that failure to submit comments before the end of public comment period may result in the waiver of any right to an adjudicatory hearing. 08/01/2024



**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Nasal mucus
- 5. Hairs on the back of a dog
- 11. Ones who build anew
- 14. Consume too much food
- 15. Praised
- 18. Provides weapons
- 19. Become less lively
- 21. Engine additive
- 23. Thought or suggestion
- 24. South Korean city
- 28. Midday rests
- 29. Expression of acidity or alkalinity
- 30. Group of rockers
- 32. Very fast airplane
- 33. One who is paid to do something

- 35. Buzzing insect
- 36. Monotheistic religion founder
- 39. Strong dark beer
- 41. Blood type
- 42. Square measures
- 44. Honorific titles in NW Semitic languages
- 46. Present
- 47. Afflict in mind or body
- 49. Duty
- 52. Municipality in Stockholm
- 56. In a normal way
- 58. Rode a bicycle
- 60. Charitable
- 62. Verandas
- 63. Uncredited

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. No seats available
- 2. Russian river

- 3. A European river (abbr.)
- 4. Phrase
- 5. Idol
- 6. Keyboard key
- 7. Prefix indicating mutual
- 8. Kilometers per hour
- 9. Set an example
- 10. It's among the "Great" ones
- 12. VVV
- 13. Murdered
- 16. Icelandic poems
- 17. Seas
- 20. Famed cartoonist
- 22. Partner to "Ma"
- 25. Equal to one quintillion bytes
- 26. Speak incessantly
- 27. Disquiet
- 29. Parts per billion (abbr.)
- 31. Upper-class young woman
- 34. S. American plant
- 36. Monetary unit of Thailand
- 37. Regions
- 38. Baseball legend Yogi
- 40. Ancient Egyptian notion of spiritual part of humans
- 43. Fishing net
- 45. Tinseltown
- 48. MacBeth's wife was one
- 50. Took a spill
- 51. Adversary to pets
- 53. Town in Galilee
- 54. Secret racist society (slang)
- 55. About aviation
- 57. Longing or yearning
- 58. Hawaiian dish
- 59. Field force unit
- 61. Partner to "Pa"

## THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPES

**ARIES**

Mar 21/Apr 20

Your feelings this week may not be entirely trustworthy, Aries. You could end up worrying for nothing, and being pulled into difficult situations for the wrong reasons.

**CANCER**

Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, you may be so caught up in a specific vision for the future that you are not open to new ideas that are equally beneficial and possible. Be more receptive to what others offer.

**LIBRA**

Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, you have a way of doing things, and right now you're not ready to deviate from that routine. With time you may be able to branch out and try a new approach.

**CAPRICORN**

Dec 22/Jan 20

This is your week to really shine, Capricorn. Let others know what you're made of, but be sure you do not do something at another person's expense just to get ahead.

**TAURUS**

Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, if you are feeling a little lost these days, it could be that you need a change in perspective and location to help you get inspired. Plan a short trip to recharge.

**LEO**

Jul 23/Aug 23

Once you give a certain plan a little more thought you may determine it isn't worth your time. Perhaps you've been building this idea up in your head.

**SCORPIO**

Oct 24/Nov 22

People are receptive to your words and you often speak with assertiveness Scorpio. Do not let this go to your head, though. Aspire to be humble while exhibiting confidence.

**AQUARIUS**

Jan 21/Feb 18

If you do not like the course you are on, you have the ability to change things. Nothing is set in stone at this point, so start dreaming up new ideas.

**GEMINI**

May 22/June 21

You cannot serve as mediator or help friends establish harmony if you are all over the emotional map, Gemini. Work your way through your emotions before offering to help.

**VIRGO**

Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, you are eager to share your ideas and vision with others, but right now the audience isn't as receptive as you would have hoped. Do not give up; people will come around.

**SAGITTARIUS**

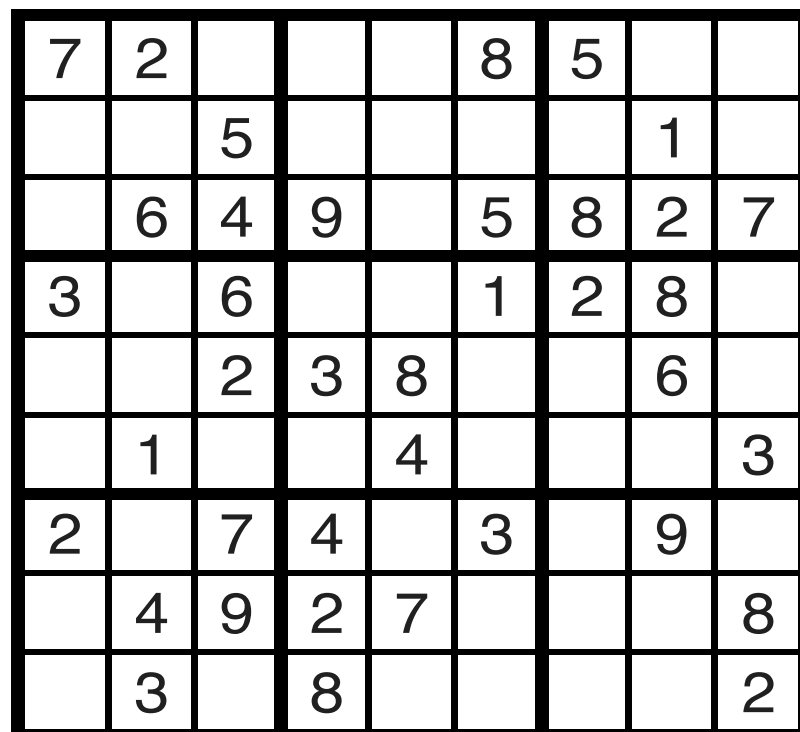
Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, this is one of those weeks when you can get into trouble if you let your emotions be the driving force behind your actions. Make an effort to balance emotion and reason.

**PISCES**

Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, there are so many ways you can be creative and express yourself. This is a week of true inspiration and exploration. Nothing is off-limits if you desire it.



## 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**

**WESTFIELD AUTO PARTS INC**  
  
**AUTO PARTS & SUPPLIES**

**NATIONALLY ADVERTISED MERCHANDISE FOR ALL MAKES & MODELS**

**WHOLESALE RETAIL**

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

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

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

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



# Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

## FOR SALE

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

**NINE MAPLE SLABS**, each approx. 3'x8'x2" stored outside, heavy. Holyoke, best offer. **(571) 232-9051**.

## FIREWOOD

**BUNDLES - KILN DRIED FIREWOOD**  
Only \$5 per bundle!  
Pick up at **Kibbe's Firewood**  
**229 Somers Rd,**  
**Hampden MA 01036**

**FIREWOOD**  
Fresh cut & split \$200.00  
Seasoned cut & split \$300.00  
All hardwood.  
Tree length available  
\*Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & volumes **guaranteed!** New England Forest Products **(413)477-0083**

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

## WANTED

**Buy, Sell & Trade Video Games**  
**Retro World**  
413-301-5020 M-S 11-7  
187 Main St.  
Indian Orchard, MA

## WANTED

### WANTED TO BUY

**ANTIQUES AND OLD STUFF WANTED.**

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



## JUNK REMOVAL

**A Call We Haul FAST REMOVAL**  
Junk, Appliance, Cleanouts.  
We load it & take it.  
**413-531-1936**  
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

## ARA JUNK FURNITURE REMOVAL

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

## SERVICES



**A B Hauling and Removal Service**  
**2\*\*\*\*\*A & B HOUSEHOLD REMOVAL SERVICE\*\*\*\*\***  
Cellars, attics, garages cleaned, yard debris. Barns & sheds demolished. Swimming pools removed. Cheaper than dumpster fees and we do all the work. Lowest rates. Fully insured. **(413)283-6512, cell (413)222-8868.**

**DRYWALL AND CEILINGS**, plaster repair. Drywall hanging. Taping & complete finishing. All ceiling textures. Fully insured. Jason at Great Walls. **(413)563-0487**

## ELECTRICIAN

**NEED AN ELECTRICIAN?**  
*Look no further!*  
**PJ's Electrical** offers fast and reliable electrical services for your home or business. Call now for a FREE estimate!  
**(413) 366-1703**  
LICENSED & INSURED

## EXCAVATING

**COMPLETE SITE WORK.** Residential and commercial. Specializing in Title 5 septic repair and installation.  
**Lussier Excavating, 774-696-1292. email: gigluss@mail.com**

## SERVICES

### HOME IMPROVEMENT

**HOME IMPROVEMENTS. RE-MODELING** Kitchens, baths. Ceramic tile, windows, painting, wallpapering, siding, decks. Insurance work. Fully insured. Free estimates. **(413)246-2783 Ron.**

## INSTRUCTION

**BALLROOM DANCE**  
Private lessons for couples, wedding, date, time and retirees! Summer special! Fun, easy, and relaxing - swing, tango, plus...Call Brian **413-265-6993.**

## LANDSCAPING

**A+ ROZELL'S LANDSCAPING & BOBCAT SERVICE**  
Excavator Services  
Overgrown property?  
Extreme Brush Cutting!  
Shrub, Stump, Tree Removal  
Lawn/Arborvitae Installed  
Loam, Stone, Mulch, Sand  
Storm Clean-up  
Small Demolition/ Junk Removal  
Insured  
**Josh Rozell 413-636-5957**

**\*\*ALL SEASON\*\*** Specializing in shrub trimming, pruning, design, deliveries, loader, backhoe, insured. Professional. Please call Bob **(413)537-5789 (413)538-7954.**

## SERVICES

### MATT GUERTIN LANDSCAPING

*Serving Wilbraham & Ludlow*  
Weekly lawn care  
Landscape design and installation  
Hedge trimming/mulching  
Custom edging/stone work  
For more services visit **mattguertinlandscaping.com**  
Call or text **413-266-9975**  
Insured - Commercial - Residential

## MASONRY

### STOP WET BASEMENTS

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

## PAINTING

**DUTCH TOUCH PAINTING**  
Interior only \$199.00 for average 12x16 room. Very neat, references, prompt service call **(508)867-2550**

## PAVING

**STANLEY AND SONS PAVING.** Driveways, parking lots, roadways, third generation of quality. Fully insured, free estimates, senior discount, BBB accredited. Call Rich **413-246-7999.**

## SERVICES

### PLUMBING

**GREG LAFOUNTAIN PLUMBING & HEATING** Lic #19196 Repairs & Replacement of fixtures, water heater installations, steam/HW boiler replacement. Kitchen & Bath remodeling. 30 years experience. Fully insured. \$10 Gift Card With Work Performed. Call Greg **(413)592-1505**

## RUBBISH REMOVAL

**BOB ROBILLARD'S RUBBISH REMOVAL** Attics, Cellars, Garages cleaned, Pools/Hot Tubs Removed. Family owned/operated since 1950 **(413)537-5090**

## TREE WORK

**AAA-TROM'S TREE SERVICE** Residential removal of trees, Free estimates, Fully insured W/Workman's Comp. Remove them before the wind takes them down. Call **413-283-6374.**

**DL & G TREE SERVICE.** Everything from tree pruning, tree removal, stump grinding, storm damage and brush chipping. Honest and Dependable. Fully insured. Now offering a Senior Citizen and Veteran discount. Call today for free estimate **(413)478-4212**

## TUNE-UPS

**LAWNMOWER TUNE UP & REPAIR**  
**A&M TUNE-UPS**  
Push Lawnmowers, Riding Mowers and Small Engine Repair.  
*Work done at your home.*  
**FREE PICKUP OF UNWANTED LAWN EQUIPMENT**  
Call Mike **(413) 348-7967**

## STUMP GRINDING

**DL & G STUMP GRINDING** Grinding stumps of all sizes, insured & certified. Senior discounts. Call Dave **413-478-4212.**

## AUTO

**CASH FOR JUNK AND REPAIRABLE CARS**  
**FREE TOWING FAST SERVICE CASH PAID AS IS CALL OR TEXT 413-219-6839**

## CAMPERS

**40' SEASONAL CAMPER.** Coastal Pines Campground, Wells, Maine. 2019 Wildwood DLX, 2 br., 2 bath, screenroom, shed. Pictures available upon request. \$59,400. **774-764-9414.**

## HELP WANTED

**CHURCH ORGANIST/PIANIST WANTED**  
**First Congregational Church of Chester** is looking for a Church Organist or Pianist. Paid position, it takes about one hour each Sunday. If interested, please call **413-685-5074.**

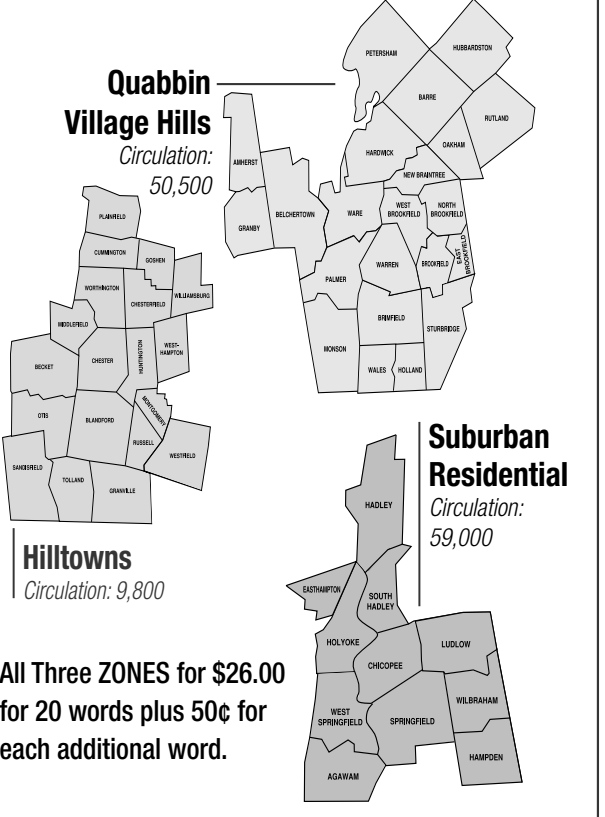
**PART-TIME CONCRETE FINISHER.** Driver's license preferred. Retirees welcome. Call Mo **413-244-5520.**

Find archives of this local newspaper at **www.newspapers.turley.com**

# FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 DEADLINES: **MONDAY AT NOON**  
or call: 413-283-8393

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	Base Price \$26.50	22	Base Price \$26.00
23	Base Price \$27.00	24	Base Price \$27.50
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



All Three ZONES for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word.

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

**GREAT VALUE!**  
ALL 3 ZONES NOW FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!

**OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!**



## NORTHAMPTON

# Cooley to host blood drive

NORTHAMPTON – Adults interested in donating blood will have an opportunity to do so at a community blood drive at Cooley Dickinson Hospital on Wednesday, Aug. 28 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Thursday, Aug. 29 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m..

Cooley Dickinson is partnering with the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Brigham & Women's Hospital and the Kraft Family Blood Donor Center to bring their blood mobile to Northampton. The blood mobile will be set up in the parking lot in front of the hospital's North Building on Wednesday, Aug. 28 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and on Thursday, Aug. 29 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

"Donating blood is a crucial act of generosity that saves lives," said Catherine Reed, Administrative Director for Clinical Services at Cooley

Dickinson. "We are profoundly grateful for our community's continued support in providing the essential blood supply our patients depend on."

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

To make an appointment, people may visit the online donor portal at: [tinyurl.com/CooleyA2024](http://tinyurl.com/CooleyA2024) for Wednesday or [tinyurl.com/CooleyAu2024](http://tinyurl.com/CooleyAu2024) for Thursday. For donation eligibility questions, people may email [BloodDonor@partners.org](mailto:BloodDonor@partners.org) or call 617-632-3206.

Blood products collected during this drive will be used to care for patients in the Pioneer Valley and within the Mass General Brigham system.

## SOUTH WORTHINGTON

# Pianist to perform at Sevenars

SOUTH WORTHINGTON – Sevenars, The Academy, 15 Ireland St., just off Route 112, presents pianist Junwen Liang, Sevenars "Young Artist to Watch," on Sunday, Aug. 4 at 4 p.m.

The program includes Bach, Chopin, Liszt, Debussy and Prokofiev. Liang just completed a Graduate Performance Diploma at the Peabody Institute, Johns Hopkins University, with Richard Goode.

There is no tickets or charge, but donations are welcomed at the door, suggested \$20 Refreshments are free. This program is supported in part by a

grant from the West Springfield Arts Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

In addition, this program is supported by the Local Cultural Councils of: Chesterfield, Gardner, Huntington, Lee, Montgomery, Northern Berkshire, Russell, Westford, Wilmington and Worthington, as well as the support of kind individual donors.

People may visit [www.sevenars.org](http://www.sevenars.org) or call 413-288-5854 for more information.

## MIDDLEFIELD

# Middlefield library temporarily closed

MIDDLEFIELD – Due to an asbestos removal project in the Middlefield Town Hall, 188 Skyline Trail; The Middlefield Public Library will be temporarily closed.

They will close on Friday, Aug. 2. The reopening date in September will be announced when available.

The book return drop box has been moved to the porch of the Senior

Center. Because the library is closed, due dates will be extended automatically.

Thursday's Craft Circle will meet at the Middlefield Senior Center for their weekly gathering from 1-4 p.m.

Patrons may continue to use Libby and Overdrive for their eBooks, but hold orders for any non-electronic media may be held until the library reopens.

## RUSSELL

### NOBLE VIEW CENTER HOSTS WOMEN'S RETREAT



The Russell Noble View Center held the third annual Women's Affinity Weekend, connecting with women, connecting with nature on July 26 to 28. Submitted photos



Thirty-eight women from all over Massachusetts, Maine, Vermont and Connecticut converged on Noble View Center for a Women's retreat in Russell. For more information about the next women's program, people may email Laura Stinnette, [laura.stinnette@gmail.com](mailto:laura.stinnette@gmail.com).

# Russell library lists upcoming events

RUSSELL – The Russell Public Library, 162 Main St., is closed on Saturdays for the month of August.

The library's summer hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 3-7 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. On Tuesday, Aug. 16 people will be planting pear trees in the community space.

On Saturday, Aug. 10 from 7-9 p.m. is Community Movie Night to end Summer Reading. All are invited to the park behind the library for games, snacks and a movie. They should bring a blanket, chair and bug repellent.

The library offers something for everyone this summer. Tweens, Teens may visit the library on Wednesdays from 3-4 p.m. to craft, play games and socialize with their friends. They can

also earn a Bonus Buck when they take out books now through Aug. 9. Bonus Bucks are raffle tickets used for a choice of fabulous prizes given out at the end of the summer.

Children may check out and borrow cameras, a football, basketball, soccer ball, corn hole or wiffle ball to use on the playground or at home. They now have hand tools for the garden to check out.

Kate McKenny and Jennifer Waldorf are two new library assistants. On those hot day people may stop by and cool off at the library. The library has a new heating and cooling system.

The grand opening of Appalachian Mountain Club Noble View Outdoor Center's All Person's Trail is Saturday, Sept. 28.

# Classifieds

### HELP WANTED

#### TOWN OF WILBRAHAM

ASST. ADULT SERVICES LIBRARIAN - P/T  
ENGINEERING TECH/FIELD INSPECTOR  
IT SUPPORT/WEBSITE TECH  
YOUTH SOCCER OFFICIAL

The Town of Wilbraham is looking to fill several vacancies. For application and more information please visit [www.wilbraham-ma.gov](http://www.wilbraham-ma.gov). EOE



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

### REAL ESTATE

#### FOR RENT



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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

FIRST FLOOR, 1-bedroom, furnished apt. in Hampden, Mass. No smokers/no pets. \$225/week. \$450/1st, \$450/15th. References, security/first/last. For more information, 413-317-3561.

### FOR RENT



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 advertised 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.

### CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

MONDAY AT NOON

# Job Connection

## HELPING YOU FIND HELP

### The Town of Williamsburg

is currently accepting applications for a part-time position:

## ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

COMPENSATION RATE: \$22-\$25/hour (commensurate with experience)  
18 hours/week (part-time, non-benefited)

The Board of Selectmen is looking for a new Administrative Assistant to start in August 2024.

The scheduled office hours of 18 hours/week are flexible (Mon.-Thurs.), however every other Thursday night from 4-7pm are required as part of this job.

The Administrative Assistant provides administrative and clerical support to the Board of Selectmen. Primary responsibilities include but are not limited to: maintaining file management, handling accounts payable, composing meeting minutes, responding to general inquiries, and overseeing Townwide licensing.

To apply, please submit a resume or job application and a letter of interest to: [townadmin@burgy.org](mailto:townadmin@burgy.org)

Resumes will be accepted until the position is filled. Call 413 268 8418 for more information.

The full job description can be found here: <https://www.burgy.org/board-selectmen/pages/employment-applications-opportunities>



# HILLTOWN HIKING ADVENTURES

## Taking a loop at Granville Gorge

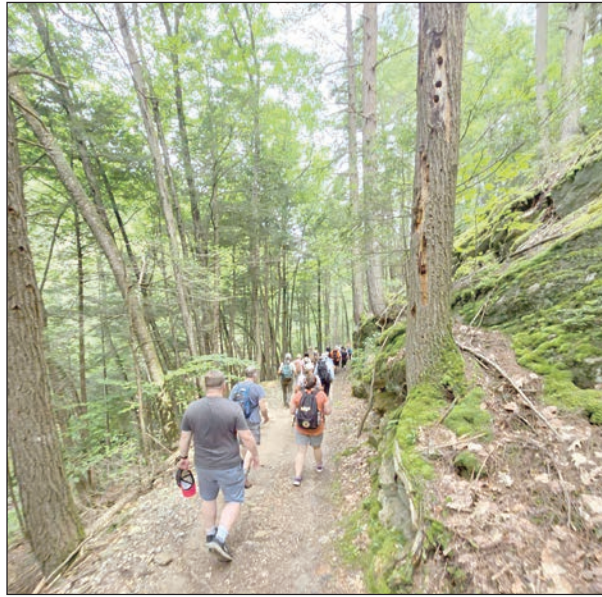
Summertime hiking at its best at the Granville Gorge and Western Massachusetts Hilltown Hikers went there. Northeast Granville was home to a small close-knit community of farmers and business owners, who worked hard on their land. In the 1890s the rapidly growing town of Westfield was in the throes of the industrial revolution and they needed water. They came to Northeast Granville and liked what they saw. In 1894, they sought the authority to begin taking the land by eminent domain and it was granted therefore sealing the fate of Northeast Granville and everyone, who lived there. On April 1, 1898 the land takings began.

The West Water Works worked swiftly to demolish homes and other structures, clearing the way for pipelines and reservoirs (Granville Historical Commission). There were over 100 people owning over 200 head of stock living on 1,836 acres of land. In 1898 Henry and Artemese Winchell lost 8.7 acres which became Winchell Reservoir.

In July, the group hike began on the banks of the Granville Gorge where we crossed Munn Brook and entered the area where the water works built a fourteen inch water line on an old colonial road that was most likely used by Henry Winchell. Along the way, the hikers crossed massive stone culverts and viewed the now defunct Winchell Reservoir and made their way through the now forested old apple orchards of a cider mill.

Climbing Drake Mountain for the highest point of this area was a very steep, yet short climb passing the Granville/Southwick Boundary Stone and out to the grand overlook atop Drake. This four mile loop on unmarked old roads and cart paths took us back in time when this community was thriving.

In total the Westfield Water Works paid just \$25,428.48, roughly \$13.85 per acre, for the homes, businesses and lifetimes of memories of the people of Northeast Granville. The Western Massachusetts Hilltown Hikers strive to keep the Hilltown history alive in their memory.



The Western Massachusetts Hilltown Hikers travel the trail along Munn Brook, site of a 14 inch water line.



The group stopped at one of the stone bridge culverts along Munn Brook built during the Colonial era.



Hikers make their way across Munn Brook.



Directors Tom and Greg helped hikers cross Munn Brook.



Hikers are shown at the Granville Southwick boundary stone.



The hiking group stop at the Drake Mountain overlook.

Submitted photos

### 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 11, 2024.**

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

**Deadline for Calendar submissions is August 12.**

### Community Autumn Events

Event Should Be Non-Profit & Open to the Public

**FREE Calendar Listings Reaching over 200,000 Readers in the Pioneer Valley**

Event Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date/Time \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Description \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Cost \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name & phone number for more information \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL YOUR LISTING INFORMATION TO:**

**Turley Publications, Attn: Jamie Joslyn, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069 or email\* them to: jamie@turley.com**

**\*Be sure to indicate "Autumn Event" in the subject line of your email.**