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## Hampden Senior Center celebrates Fat Tuesday with free donuts

By Kristin Rivers  
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HAMPDEN - The senior center helped the community celebrate Fat Tuesday by offering free donuts from Donut Dip on March 4.

The celebration was sponsored by John D. Flynn.

As people stopped by the senior center throughout the morning, they were greeted by a festive Mardi Gras-themed table decked out with donuts in varying flavors to enjoy to their heart's content. Mardi Gras-themed music playing in the background added to the lively atmosphere.

Fat Tuesday is held the day before Ash Wednesday and serves as a time of celebration before fasting for the 40 days of Lent leading up to the Easter season.

Wendy Cowles, the senior center's outreach coordinator, expressed excitement seeing everyone enjoy the donuts.

"We thought what better way to celebrate than with donuts from the Donut Dip in West Springfield. John Flynn was the sponsor which was great and I ordered donuts and went there this morning to pick them up, brought them in and here they are," Cowles said. "And I think people have very much enjoyed them, so it was a nice treat. Something



Turley photos by Kristin Rivers

Residents were eager to enjoy their donuts as they stopped by the Hampden Senior Center on Fat Tuesday.

to look forward to after this cold, crazy weather we've been having. So, come and get a donut and a cup of coffee on us!"

Cowles said Fat Tuesday has become a tradition and originally started as a breakfast.

"But then we thought, Fat Tuesday Donuts, let's go with that. It is a treat," Cowles said.

On the donuts, Cowles shared there was quite a variety. Her favorite is chocolate glazed.

"I have to say, I left it up to the Donut Dip and they did an amazing job. They made sure that we had at least two of every kind and they were jelly-filled and everything from plain to lemon. Chocolate, coconut," Cowles said. "But,

they did a great job packaging it up. It was all ready when I got there, so I just had to run in and grab it. So, they did a really great job with the variety, so there was something for everyone."

Cowles added the event also brings people to the se-

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Turley photos by Noelle Hisgen

Wilbraham Middle School student Aurora Broussard holds up her tile.

## Teens enjoy Ceramic Tile Painting class

By Noelle Hisgen  
Correspondent

WILBRAHAM - On Feb. 25, a Teen Ceramic Tile Painting class was held by Art Lessons with Ellie at the library.

At the event, taking place in the Brooks Room, teens used acrylic paints on tiles. They worked on rotational symmetry with their tiles, which is where a shape looks the same when rotated in a certain direction.

The event was filled with enthusiastic teenagers ready to paint tiles. Each teen was given a ceramic tile at the beginning of the session,

taking out pencils and then sketching what they wanted to have on their tiles.

Then, they were all given out paint so they could paint colors onto their sketches and they could mix the colors however they wanted to get the perfect shade for their tile. They were also able to make their tiles into coasters.

Everyone was able to go home with a fun, homemade, colorful tile.

The event was led by Ellie Antonacci, who runs Art Lessons with Ellie. She grew up in Wilbraham and studied art education at the

Please see **TILE**, page 11

## Residents speak out about school budget cut concerns

By Kristin Rivers  
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WILBRAHAM - Residents are speaking out about school budget cut concerns for the Hampden-Wilbraham Regional School District.

During public comment at the March 5 Finance Committee meeting and the March 6 School Committee meeting, numerous residents, parents, teachers, students and more voiced their concerns about

potential cuts for band, music, drama and fine arts, staff and programs.

As for the School Committee, these motions were presented and voted on on March 6:

A proposed amendment to the budget to go into the Excess and Deficiencies--the district's Free Cash Account--and decrease the ask from Wilbraham by \$150,000 and from Hampden by roughly \$30,000 failed 6-1.

A motion to adopt an op-

erating budget of \$57,289,029 inclusive of the debt service payment for the Minnechaug Regional High School of \$1,900,275 for FY26 for HWRSD and to assess the member towns as follows: Hampden for \$9,371,251 and Wilbraham for \$32,093,573 passed six yes, one abstention.

A motion to adopt a capital budget of \$459,000 for FY26 for HWRSD and to assess the member towns as follows: Hampden for \$89,592

and Wilbraham for \$369,408 passed unanimously.

Finance Committee Chair Todd Schneider clarified the committee would not vote on the school budget that evening as the School Committee had not finalized its number.

Also, Finance Committee Member Jeff Farnsworth emphasized that "no decision was made by anyone about anything being cut," in response to a multi-page letter outlining cuts and multiple letters calling out the commit-

tee, even though the Finance Committee had not received a budget from the schools as of yet nor voted on one.

### Resident Comments

MRHS Principal Stephen Hale understands the challenge the Finance Committee has in front of them, asking what the long-term plan is.

"In 20 years of working in the district, every December or January there's a meeting where we say, 'We're probably not going to have enough money to do what we do al-

ready. So, what can we live without?' Our teachers are getting to critical mass. We can't keep performing the way that we're performing and asking everyone to do more," Hale said.

Alan Hodges shared after reading about the possible cuts, he was concerned "because we have such a great school and we have an integrated school that has special needs kids, kids with 504

Please see **SCHOOL**, page 13

### HISTORICAL WILBRAHAM

## More tales from Glendale

### Heave Ho! For the Raising

By Charles F. Bennett  
Times Editor Emeritus

Whenever I am asked to describe what the lay of the land in Wilbraham is like, I always say that Wilbraham's geography is a lot like Colorado. Half flat plains and half foothills and mountains. And, you can't mention the history of Wilbraham Mountain without referring to Henry Edson (1878-1963) who was its most popular storyteller around the turn of the 20th century.

Edson was synonymous with the Glendale Section of town but there wasn't anything going on in Colonial Acres, North Wilbraham, Stony Hill Road or the Cen-



ter Village that he didn't know about either.

Edson was a farmer, an assessor, tree warden and unofficial historian. He wrote two volumes of his memoirs - "Wilbraham Stories" and "Glendale Stories" that I always turn to to learn more about the history of our town. The books are available at the Wilbraham Library.

Henry Edson loved to chat with old-timers, like Charlie Merrick and Jesse Rice, and talk about the town's beginnings, especially about how Wilbraham, was known before 1730 as the Outward Commons.

In his "Glendale Stories" collection he gives a somewhat romantic rendering of the early settlers who followed our town's first settler, Nathaniel Hitchcock who built his log cabin in 1730

on Main Street near where the Minnechaug driveway is now. He brought his new bride out here from Springfield and moved here permanently in 1731.

Edson reminds us that it took the Outward Commons 94 years to be settled after the Englishman, William Pynchon, founded our parent the town of Springfield. A Pynchon lieutenant purchased the Wilbraham land from whom they called "The Blind Indian". Most of the land had been used by the Native Americans as a seasonal hunting ground. Edson said the Indians used to relate the legend of a terrible fire taking place all across Wilbraham Mountain. The inferno was so bad that everything in its path was wiped out, leaving the mountain bare.

### The Great Fire

The fire also attacked Cedar Swamp (located behind

Please see **HISTORICAL**, page 5



Turley photos by Amanda Munson

The members of the St. Cecilia Women's Club pose for a group photo, after a wonderful and entertaining evening.

## St. Cecilia Women's Club celebrates Mardi Gras and Fat Tuesday

By Amanda Munson  
Correspondent

WILBRAHAM - The St. Cecilia Women's Club March meeting was different than most by celebrating Mardi Gras, a fun-filled night of games, prizes, delicious treats, and good company on March 4.

Co-Chairs Chris Veale and Kim Lawler were in charge of planning the evening, creating a memorable meeting that had all the ladies laughing and bonding the entire gathering. Speaking with Club President Jackie Pahl, Pahl discussed what led her to joining the women's club, what it means to be part of a

close-knit group, and why it's important to gather with people who ultimately share the same goal in helping the community around them.

Being club president for three consecutive years, Pahl shared this.

"It's my third year and Please see **WOMEN**, page 13

# Andrew Bechthold appointed as full-time Wilbraham police officer

The Select Board made the decision on Feb. 24.

By Dalton Zbierski  
Correspondent

WILBRAHAM — The newest full-time member of the Wilbraham Police Department was unanimously appointed by the Select Board during its meeting on Feb. 24.

Andrew Bechthold, a native of Palmer, will join the department after passing his physical and medical screenings as well as a background check.

Bechthold brings eight years of law enforcement experience to the department. He currently serves as an investigator corporal for the Springfield Technical Community College Police Department and has served in the past with the police departments in Palmer, Ludlow and at Holyoke Community College.

As a husband a father of two, Bechthold moved to Wilbraham last year and has been impressed with how hospitable the community is.

"We all just moved here in May, so we're fortunate enough to live here in town, which has been more than welcoming. I'm very happy to be part of this community now, and I hope to help protect and serve it," Bechthold said.

Select Board Vice Chair Michael Squindo asked Bechthold what the most important qualities of a police officer are. The new Wilbraham officer responded with an in-depth an-

swer. "Honesty, I think is a huge one. I think if we're not honest, we don't have the trust of the public, so I think honesty is one of the biggest," Bechthold said. "That goes along with compassion. I think you should care about the people you're protecting, and I think I care very deeply about people. I've always wanted to help. It's what I've wanted to do my entire career, and I hope to continue to do that."

Select Board Clerk Marc Ducey asked Bechthold why he decided to enter policing. Bechthold had a unique answer dating back to his teenage years.

"I've always had a desire to help people. I've always liked to work with people," Bechthold said. "One of my first jobs was washing dishes at a small diner, and I just learned to talk to people. I think that was a really big eye-opener because I was 16 and talking to people who were older; learning how to talk to people and deal with people."

Ducey also asked Bechthold what his plans are moving forward. Bechthold said he aims to earn his stripes, move up to sergeant and stay in Wilbraham for the rest of his career.

"I hope to learn a lot. I think Wilbraham will be a great spot for me to learn," Bechthold said. "I have a bit of a low call volume where I work and know Wilbraham will be a little bit more for me to learn, but that's something I pride myself in — being adaptable and very eager to learn."

When asked if he had

considered any other careers, Bechthold said maybe firefighting but added that he's always wanted to serve in law enforcement.

"This is what I know how to do, this is what I'm trained to do. I went to college for it. I feel as though I'm good at it," Bechthold said.

Select Board Chair Sue Bunnell asked Bechthold if he had a favorite subject at the police academy, to which he responded case law. She then asked him if there was a law that he would like to see amended.

He had a quick response.

"[Chapter] 258E, the harassment prevention orders, it requires three separate instances for someone to feel in fear to do something about it. I've had plenty of women come to our department afraid, and because they're not related to this person, we can't do anything immediately," Bechthold said.

Bechthold added that he would like to see the law require just two instances of harassment for paperwork to be filed.

Prior to the Select Board's decision, Wilbraham Police Chief Ed Lennon stepped in and gave a glowing review of the new officer.

"After reviewing the candidate's training, education and background, he would be a good fit for our department, and I recommend appointing him as a Wilbraham police officer," Lennon said.

It was then that Bechthold was unanimously appointed by the board, pending the screenings and background check.

# Selectboard reviews police department budget

By Kristin Rivers  
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HAMPDEN — The Selectboard reviewed the police department's budget on March 3.

Police Chief Scott Trombly explained the increases include the chief's salary, general salary, career incentive, cruiser maintenance and training, while elections and town meeting has decreased. Towing clerk and equipment have remained the same, while general expenses has "kind of increased."

"So, as you can see, most of the line items have increased by a little bit. Not a lot. Obviously, we are under contract obligations for the salaries for our officers as signing a new contract," Trombly said.

For the career incentive, Trombly said this is different from the Quinn Bill "where we have a couple of officers, including our newest officer, that is going to get the career incentive immediately starting July 1."

"Quinn Bill--as we have had in the past--is you work and then you get paid career upfront. With a career incentive, you get paid right upfront when you get your degree," Trombly said.

Selectboard Member John Flynn asked Trombly this.

"Inside the current fiscal year, how is that going to impact you? He's not going to be qualified until next salary?" Flynn said.

"He's not qualified until next budget which is July 1," Trombly said.

Selectboard Member Craig Rivest asked this next.

"As far as career incentive, does that account for new degrees that are coming online?" Rivest said.

Trombly confirmed yes.

On cruiser maintenance, Trombly said the item is not going up because of a new vehicle.

"We're approaching, I think, 80,000 with one of our more older vehicles, you say, 'It's not really that old, a lot of hours on the vehicle.' But obviously, we're going to experience more issues as we move along," Trombly said. "We have also included the ACO car that I've been taking care of in there. She's

had some work the last two years that we've been concerned about. So, we kind of just spread it out a little bit. Some may take more than others, but there's no really set increments for each vehicle."

Trombly does anticipate a need for a cruiser in the near future, but would suggest that when the time comes.

Reviewing other general expenses, Trombly said the building maintenance "just falls into play with our annual contracts that are increasing along with other vendors that we have that increased."

"Everything is going up," Trombly said. "When we get the new invoice come in, we're showing an increase, we put that in."

After Flynn noted the police department is the only municipal department to have an outside service, Trombly explained what this was.

"When I first became Chief, we had sparklers and the sprinklers were on. The lawns were being mowed by the Highway Department and the landscaper who put the sprinklers in basically came by and said, 'Chief, I want to take care of your lawn. I want to mow it. I'm going to mow it just for the town of Hampden.' No cost, okay?" Trombly said. "And so, he started mowing our lawn and he maintained the lawn, he liked the angles, he liked going by, he had a business in town and really, really liked it, so he continued on. So, I went over and spoke with Mark. Mark said, 'I have no problem. It frees me up an extra summer guy to do other things around.'"

Trombly said the increased of monies is for fertilizer, spring and fall cleanups, maintenance of the lawn itself, flower beds and around the police department.

"Not just for the mowing, so that figure is what constitutes our spring/fall cleanup in the lawn, the edging, the blowing of all the materials around the parking lot and the sidewalk to keep it looking nice," Trombly said.

The figure is \$5,000.

After a few minutes of discussion between Trombly and Flynn about this and if the \$5,000 could be used

for something else, Trombly said he was willing to look elsewhere on what to use this money for.

Chair Don Davenport brought up training, starting with the state's Municipal Police Training Committee having suspended online training for a while.

"Is that still off or is it on?" Davenport said.

Trombly said online in-service training was suspended and is now back up and running.

"It's a hybrid model as it was before the online was suspended. The hybrid model, in-person, was still continuing. They've gone back to online and allowing that to continue," Trombly said.

The other item Davenport mentioned was a vacancy for the sergeant position and Trombly--at one time--mentioned a lieutenant position, which Trombly said, "We need to go ahead and establish something."

"A lieutenant--as I said before and I still stand by--a non-union lieutenant is a big plus for the chief of police in the aspect of internal investigations, can deal with the union contractual members in a different way and overseeing underneath the chief of what needs to be done," Trombly said.

His recommendation would be, possibly, two sergeants with one lieutenant.

"Again, there are certain criteria we have to discuss and put in place to start to look at that. I don't know if we're there yet, especially knowing now that we have an open vacancy for a sergeant and another one possibly coming in July where we do actually have to get that exam going. It's a 45-day posting time to get that exam out there. I'd like to get a list--a sergeant's list--prepared and then maybe really dive into it if it's something that maybe we can talk, myself and Brian or the chairman of the board of where we may want to go," Trombly said. "There is definitely going to be an increase in salary for that lieutenant above and beyond what our sergeants are. I do think it would be very helpful to our agency."

The budget review concluded after other items were presented that Trombly said he would also look into.

# Judge Ponsor hosting author talk

HAMPDEN — The Friends of The Hampden Free Public Library are proud to announce an Author Talk on Saturday, March 22 at Noon in the Auditorium of the Hampden Town Hall 625 Main Street Hampden, MA.

Judge Michael Ponsor currently serves as a district judge in The United States District Court, Western region in Springfield. He is the Author of "The Hanging Judge," "The One Eyed Judge" and

"Point of Order."

Judge Ponsor writes from some real-life experiences which are some real-life thrillers. Judge Ponsor is a graduate of Harvard University, Oxford, University and Yale Law School and was a Rhodes Scholar.

Come and listen to The Judge talk about his writing process and answer any questions you may have about our judicial system. This event is free and open to the public.

No registration is required.

Judge Ponsor will be bringing his books to sell for \$15.00 each. Only cash or check can be accepted at this event.

Refreshments will be served by The Friends of The Library. We hope to see you all there.

If any questions, please contact Joan Shea at 413-566-8224.

# FALCON SWIM CLUB



SEASON STARTS  
APRIL 28TH



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- **GROUP 3: HIGH SCHOOL SWIMMERS & APPROVED MIDDLE SCHOOLERS.**

# The latest on TWB upgrades from fourth Municipal Meeting

By Kristin Rivers  
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HAMPDEN — The Selectboard and members of town boards and committees received the updates on upgrades to Thornton W. Burgess Middle School on March 4.

The updates came during the town's fourth Municipal Meeting to discuss prioritization and planning for municipal building renovations and capital improvements.

Town Administrator Brian Domina said, realistically, a targeted move-in date for Thornton W. Burgess Middle School is some point this fall. "We're suggesting in (the) October timeframe," Domina said.

Reviewing what's been done so far, Domina ex-

plained there have been meetings with Tighe & Bond about the possible building layout, two staff site visits on Feb. 10 and Feb. 13 and meeting with two moving companies, with a third moving company meeting slated for 11 a.m. that morning.

"One estimate came back. It was in the ballpark of \$50,000 to move. So, to clarify what that means, that means moving all of the administrative offices and all of the furniture in the library except for the books and the shelves that the books are on," Domina said. "And that would be straight move. We would pack, they would move."

Domina added Library Director Ellen Moriarty set up a site visit with a different moving company to look at moving the books on March 17.

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## Chicopee Register 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 \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

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# Selectboard hosts fourth municipal meeting

Will next meet on April 1

**By Kristin Rivers**  
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**HAMPDEN -** The Selectboard hosted its fourth Municipal Meeting with members from town departments and committees in the Townhouse Auditorium on March 4.

A fifth meeting is scheduled for April 1 at 10 a.m.

Meeting number four continues a series of municipal meetings discussing prioritization and planning for municipal building renovations and capital improvements.

### Assessment Numbers

Chair Don Davenport shared the assessment for a complete upgrade of TWB is \$9,371,251, an increase of \$557,770 over FY25, with a projected COLA currently in negotiations.

"They put in a COLA of what they would like, but not what they'll probably end up with. So that could go up," Davenport said. "They also have \$2,272,500 in capital projects for Minnechaug Regional High School. Hampden's share of that would be \$442,569. In addition, they have a capital list for Green Meadows of \$271,000. Everything over \$35,000 would be Hampden's responsibility."

The Hampden County Retirement Assessment is up 150--I think it's \$151,000 actually--\$152,772. 4% increase in health insurance, creating a 2.5% COLA for the nonunion personnel, town hall."

Davenport said if the Hampden County Regional Retirement Board Assessment increased, that would be \$709,492, an increase of 4.29% over last year's budget. "Not including what else is in there," Davenport said.

### Senior Center and Fire Department Updates

Gary Weiner, chair of the Senior Center Building Committee, explained after the last meeting, the senior center put forth four areas "that we felt were in need of upgrade and maintenance" which were the roof, bathrooms, septic system and the windows.

"I met in the last couple weeks with four roofers. They are preparing their estimates now. Other than one opted out because of prevailing wage they were not interested in being involved," Weiner said. "It appears--at least from a ballpark number from a couple of them, not their estimates yet--it's probably around 90 to \$100,000 to do the roof on a 30-year plus roofing material. That does not include any of the sheathing that might need to be replaced. They do that as each sheet that they replace is probably around \$95 if they

run into that problem."

On the bathrooms, Weiner said the plumber has visited and the estimate is around \$1,500.

"But we also need partitions, painting and lighting in there, so the number--and we'll fine-tune the number--is probably \$5,000 and \$10,000 to upgrade the bathrooms at this point," Weiner said.

For septic, Weiner met with two installers who are putting in estimates, falling between the \$3,000 to \$4,000 range to raise the covers, put in the F1 filter and fix the vent at the end of the septic system.

"For windows, I'm meeting with a contractor on Wednesday. Julian Drapo, he's going to survey the building as to whether the window replacement or upgrades and we'll start working on that estimate," Weiner said.

After Davenport asked if the contractor would look at replacement or repair, Weiner clarified it would be both and would give a recommendation.

On how many windows, he estimated 20 to 30 windows.

"We're not looking to do the large windows or any of the stained glass. We're just looking at the standard windows that are around the building right now," Weiner said.

Weiner anticipates hav-

ing numbers in the next two weeks and to start writing the warrant article with the dollars and cents included, adding Town Administrator Brian Domina helped him connect with Secure Energy to get assessments for the HVAC and lighting.

Treasurer Richard Patullo asked Weiner about the roof and windows.

"The two big ticket items I'm hearing are the roof and the windows. Do we have any ability to spread this over a couple of years or are they both critical?" Patullo said.

Weiner replied the roof was not leaking, but there are a couple of areas "where we've had problems with it."

"It probably is the main priority that should be done before it starts to leak, and then as we know, the windows leak, also. To answer your question, we've been putting it off for how many years now? Yes, we could, but preferably if we're going to do it, we would like to do the two of them together," Weiner said.

On the fire department, Peter Hatch said there, supposedly, was a meeting that afternoon to discuss updated plans.

"Other than that, I do not have anything," Hatch said.

To learn about the latest with TWB, check out this week's edition.

**TWB** from page 2

"So, the moving cost would likely be--A + B--so it would be the regular move plus specialty move for the library," Domina said. "If the movers were to pack everything and move it for us, then that estimate was \$70,000, and then we're meeting with a third company today to get a third estimate as to what that would be."

A meeting was also held with Valley Communications on Feb. 13 about the doors and cameras, with an estimate request to be provided. Also, with Secure Energy on Feb. 26 about HVAC and lighting, with an HVAC audit done and a lighting audit in the works.

"For those who have been in the building, you know that the lights are from wall to wall. They're the older fixtures and they're literally from wall to wall all the way across. There's probably, like, 30-something fixtures in each classroom and they estimated they could probably get to down to around--I think it was nine--nine," Domina said. "So, we're looking forward to that lighting audit to see what those savings could be."

When asked if the gym would be included in the lighting audit, Domina replied yes.

On the solar for the rooftop potential, it was suggested to have "at least one year of occupancy so that we get an idea of what our electrical usage will be."

"Because, I guess, he was saying that when the electric company looks at sort of the size of the system and sort of the net metering and the credits that you can get back, it's based on your usage," Domina said. "So, right now, there's very little usage, so they suggested that we get a full year's usage. At least a full year's usage in the building before we would explore that."

When asked if solar could be considered for the playing space, Domina said there could be a covered parking lot also to consider.

"I mean, I think we're all open to exploring different options there," Domina said. "Obviously, we wouldn't want to take up the playing space, but there's a big parking lot for sure."

Concerns about solar in the parking lot in relation to plowing were also brought up.

On the roof itself, Treasurer Richard Patullo said it "has been nearing end of life for at least the last seven years."

"So, at some point, it's going to need one. It hasn't been done. It's a million and a half--well, it was a million

and a half, so it's probably more now--two million now," Patullo said.

After it was suggested the solar and roof be done in conjunction, Patullo agreed.

"You'd want to put that off until you have to do the roof as well. You certainly don't want to do it backwards," Patullo said.

Next, Domina said with the Annual Town Meeting, warrant articles have been submitted to the Selectboard to change the ownership of the property as suggested.

"So, there's going to be an article for that and then there's likely going to be an additional--there's at least a placeholder now--request for additional funds for the moving and for any additional repairs and renovations," Domina said. "So, there was \$100,000 initially appropriated at the previous Special Town Meeting. None of that has really been touched at this point except for the assessment of the septic system."

Looking ahead, Domina said other items including a quote for the access control and security cameras is being awaited on, electrical work for the well system is on the list, a grant was submitted for IT upgrades for over \$170,000 to replace switches and install wireless access points throughout TWB, addressing PFAS in wells with

carbon filtrations, fixing missing tiles and addressing other concerns with them and lighting and HVAC upgrades after the audits are completed will be addressed next.

Also, a facilities manager position to take care of the town buildings.

"We'll have to have a discussion about what that would include. It certainly would include this building (the Town House) and TWB and whether it makes sense to extend that to other town buildings as well, I think, is a conversation that needs to happen," Domina said. "In my opinion, it would seem to make sense if we have an expert to look at all of our buildings and work with the individual department heads. So, that they're not trying to figure out facilities issues when they could be policing or plowing roads or any of that kind of stuff--or putting out fires--and things like that."

Other items include monitoring gas and electric numbers, refining project costs and funding amounts for the improvements, addressing the furniture still in TWB--what could be used or not--and creating a building use policy.

The discussion concluded with questions and thoughts on what else could be looked into and addressed.

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**Wilbraham Earth Day 2025**

WILBRAHAM - Keep Wilbraham Beautiful is excited to announce this year's Wilbraham Earth Day Clean Up Event.

The event will take place on April 12 at Fountain Park from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and everyone is welcome to attend. Volunteers are also needed!

To learn more, visit <https://sites.google.com/view/wilbraham-earth-day-cleanup/home?authuser=0>.

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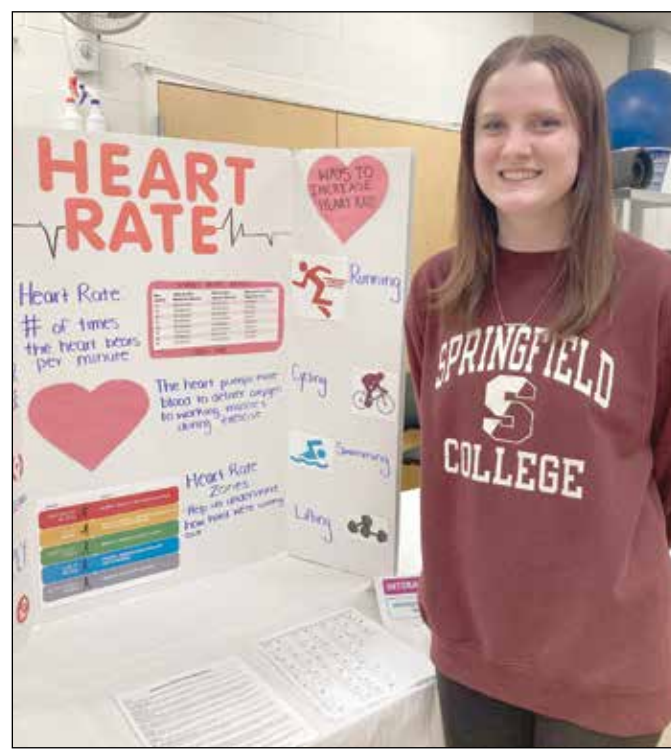
# Scantic Valley YMCA Hosts Health Fair



Elks Joyce Grabon and Susan Petzold display a healthy mason jar meal.



AIC nursing student Alijah Daniels measures the blood sugar of Jocelyn Bravo of Springfield College.



Emma Topliff, a junior majoring in athletic training at Springfield College and an intern at the Scantic Valley YMCA, educated the public about healthy heart rates.



Volunteers from AIC, including Dominic Allaire, a senior exercise science major; Kary Lewis, professor of exercise science; and Lily Shields, a junior exercise science major, focused on hypertension prevention.



Future dental hygienists from STCC provided information on tooth care.



Elks volunteered to help fairgoers put together mason jar meals.

By Patricia Sullivan  
Correspondent

WILBRAHAM - The Scantic Valley YMCA hosted a free Interactive Health Fair on March 4 where members of the public could learn about health and wellness and be tested for body composition, blood sugar, blood pressure, flexibility and more.

About 60 community members left the Y with free nuts and power bars from Big Y, toothbrushes, floss and toothpaste, mason jars filled with the makings of a healthy meal, and valuable guidance from local clinical students on staying fit and healthy.

The fair, for those age 40 and older, was sponsored by the Ludlow Lodge of Elks and was held for the sixth year.

Joyce Grabon, exalted ruler of the Ludlow Elks, said that the event meets the group's goal of helping surrounding communities.

Susan Petzold, grants coordinator for the Elks and a former YMCA employee, organized the fair with Dawn Lapierre, healthy living director at the Scantic Valley YMCA.

Petzold explained that the grant money to support the event came from the Elks National Foundation, which is supported by Elks members.

"The fair makes the community aware of all the YMCA has to offer," Petzold said. "It also helps raise awareness of health and wellness among Elks Lodge members, many of whom volunteered at the event."

Debbie Kelder, executive director of the Scantic Valley YMCA, noted that the Interactive Health Fair fits the organization's focus on healthy living, youth development and social responsibility.

"We are not just a stand-alone not-for-profit," Kelder said. "We are about working together with the local community."

Many of the fair's information and testing stations were run by eager clinical students from Springfield Technical Community College (STCC), Springfield College and American International College (AIC).

Kary Lewis, AIC professor of Exercise Science, said that she and her students look forward to volunteering at the fair every year.

"It's one thing to be book smart and do well academically and it's quite another thing to recall what you learn in class and apply it," Lewis said, as one of her students measured a fairgoer's body composition using a handheld bioelectrical impedance anal-

ysis (BIA) device.

The BIA device measures the rate at which an electrical current travels through your body, explained AIC exercise science student Dominic Allaire. In this way it can determine your percentage of body fat, computed based on your height, weight and gender.

Because one in three adults have hypertension, which can lead to numerous health problems, the AIC students encouraged attendees to have their blood pressure checked at the fair. The students stressed that "exercise is medicine" and can significantly reduce blood pressure.

At their table, smiling dental hygienists in training from Springfield Technical Community College demonstrated proper tooth brushing technique. They said that many adults brush too hard and fail to focus on the gum line. The future hygienists recommended using electric

toothbrushes.

Pre-Med students from Springfield College spoke about sleep quality. They pointed out that good sleep helps support a healthy balance of hormones and decreases the risk of health problems.

Kathy Jordan, a Big Y dietician, advised fairgoers to avoid being overly rigid in their diets, stay away from fad diets and eat more plants. Jordan advocates the Mediterranean Diet, focusing on lots of vegetables, seafood, healthy fats and whole grains.

Health fair attendees could take their first step toward better eating habits by making themselves a meal at the event. Elks filled mason jars with custom mixes of quinoa, lettuce, carrots, beets, pistachios, tomatoes and more, which fairgoers could sit and eat or stash in their free Big Y grocery bags to enjoy at home.

## Hartsprings Bin at the Hampden Senior Center

HAMPDEN - The Friends of The Hampden Senior Citizens would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your very generous donations to The Purple Bin located in the parking lot of the Senior Center at 104 Allen Street, Hampden.

These donations have been very successful in raising money for The Senior Center and will be on going through October again. Changes do occur and we are notified by The Hartsprings Foundation what can and cannot be accepted.

First of all, the bin door is small and can only accept

kitchen size white trash bags. If you have boxes with breakable items in it or books, or larger size bags, please leave with the Senior Center during their open hours of 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday or call Joan Shea at 413-566-8224.

Items we can Accept! All cloth items, clothing (all sizes, styles, ages or genders), bedding and draperies, shoes, purses, small appliances, electronics, kitchen ware, household goods, sporting

goods, toys and books.

Items we cannot accept: No bed pillows, no encyclopedias, textbooks or library books, Firearms, lawn equipment, furniture, large appliances, baby items such as strollers, cribs, carriages, etc, box backed televisions, mattresses, box springs or rugs.

Please watch for an upcoming Truck Event in April.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Joan Shea at the number listed above.

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**HISTORICAL** from page 1

The Woods condos and the swampy area east of Wilbraham Town Hall. Edson wrote:

"The fire left the land dotted with treacherous sinkholes and left the Cedar Swamp a great quivering, gradually filling pond with Pine Island in the midst... And the mountains themselves so bleak and bare, the only redeeming feature was the berries of many kinds springing up after the fire, causing the Indians to name it "Minnechaug" or "Berry-land".

Continuing in his colorful prose Edson wrote: "The Indians passed through from distant places, to make their (soapstone) dishes from boulders of soapstone that came from a quarry east of the mountains, near Glendale Road". That's why, said Edson, the owners of the Outward Commons left the land wild and unsettled for a long time. Until Nathaniel Hitchcock came to town. "After Nathaniel Hitchcock settled near the foot of the mountains in 1730-31, his neighbors were not long in coming," wrote Edson.

**Ensign Abel Bliss**

Edson loved to write about Ensign Abel Bliss who was considered the "strongman of his day". Tradition says that Bliss could carry six bushels of salt on his back all at one time. Bliss came from Springfield and acquired Lots #43 and #44 from the Outward Commons and after Hitchcock moved here in 1731, Bliss built a log cabin on the west of what is now Glendale Road.

Edson is not very specific about where Bliss's cabin was located but he does tell us it was located on a terraced hill and was "a little farther west from Sunset Rock on the rim of the Connecticut Valley." Local hikers might know where the rock is because Sunset Rock Road is just off Glendale Road not far from Grace Union Church as you head up the mountain.

Not one to let us forget, Edson reminds us that the Ice Age glacier used to sit over Wilbraham and as it retreated, it left the hills and valleys here with boulders and melting and retreating glacial lakes. Millions of years went by as new vegetation covered the earth and animals resembling the ones we know now, lived in the new forests."

When Abel Bliss came

to town there were no roads, probably just paths made by Native American hunting parties who use to camp up where the new pickleball courts are at Memorial School.

**New Roads**

In 1739 five new roads were voted-in by the Town of



**Henry Edson (1878-1963) was a Glendale chronicler.** (Times file photo)



**In the spirit of a Bliss Family house raising in 1769 is a barn-raising photo taken at the Allyn M. Seaver Farm in the Glendale section of Wilbraham in 1900.** (Digital Commonwealth photo)

Springfield. Two roads went east and west and three of them went north and south. One of them, which is now our Main Street, began at the Chicopee River and passed through what we used to call Grassy Hollow, which was a town baseball diamond on Boston Road in the 1950' and 60's. It eventually became the town dump and when the hollow depression there was filled with trash, it became the Town Transfer Station. Now, it is home to solar electric panels.

What they called The Third Road, said Edson, started in North Wilbraham at the Bay Path, then went south to become Glendale and Ridge Roads and eventually ended up in Hampden at the Scantic River.

The Middle Road ran along the spine of the Mountain and eventually was renamed Ridge Road. The road didn't favor Ensign Abel Biss too much because of geographic problems

**63 Years Ago  
Fire Danger Mounts**

Here is a news clipping reported by my mom, Ethel M. Bennett, who was the Wilbraham correspondent for the Springfield daily newspaper The Morning Union from the 1940s through 1970s. From a March 1962 edition. "Firemen responded Sunday to three grass fires. The first, in the morning, to Dipping Hole Road and two Sunday afternoon at the at the Town Dump at Grassy Hollow and on Soule Road.

Fire Chief Ralph Tupper issue further warning about the brush fire hazards which he said are increasing steadily."

of ravines and swamps near his property. But some of the land that runs along Monson Road, today near Glendale Cemetery, was valued farmland.

Not only was Ensign Abel Bliss a man of much strength, he was also a man of much energy and entrepreneurial spirit. He built a tar-kiln on the Chicopee River and sold barrels of tar which he sold at good profit taking the money and building a large new house. He was a commissioned military officer and is thought to have seen service in the French and Indian War in 1754.

**The Raising**

Henry Edson devoted a chapter in his memoirs about the building or "raising" of Bliss's son Silas' house in May of 1769. The winter and Spring before saw much preparation of the hewing of the timbers and cutting of the logs. The house was built all around a great stone chimney at the center of the structure with a fireplace in every room. Edson described it: "The sills were on and the floor laid with rough boards. The posts and cross beams are pinned into bents and each laid in overlapping sequel.

"Handy by are the heavy plates, the rafters and framed gin-pole, the studding and girts and braces and everywhere piles of oak pins. Then the neighbors showed up on horseback and in ox carts. A few minutes for greetings and news and then the carpenter places the men along the first bent. At the shout, "Heave Ho!", they grasp the beam and

lift it shoulder high. A man sets a plank beneath to hold, while they grab pike poles. All set and heave ho! The heavy bent rises, the footmen hold the bottom of the posts and guide the tenon to its mortice!"

And so it goes The group works together in a good example of 18th century community! After a morning pause, the hungry men clamber down. The women had brought food from home, each for their own family and provisions were pooled.

"The new well was dug the fall before on a vein located by a forked stick in the hands of a water witch, furnished cold, sparkling water, drawn with a wooden bucket on the end of a pole. The Blisses furnished large quantities of cheese and apple butter. There would be an improvised table of fried pies, a bread tray with rye pancakes and a tray of cold meats and brown bread.

With the house frame up and partly boarded by sundown, the neighbors departed in the midst of thanks of the Blisses, and lingering good-byes' as the young folks started for distant homes – a gala day, a good deed done and a pleasant memory for the years."

Note: Abel Ensign Bliss died April 30, 1762 at the age of 54. He is buried in Adams Cemetery.

Sources: "History of Wilbraham Bicentennial Edition 1763-1963" edited by Charles Merrick; Chauncey Peck who wrote "The History of Wilbraham, 1731, 1763-1913. "Military Rolls of the Outward Commons – Soldiers of Wilbraham, Massachusetts 1730 – 1840" by J. Bruce Tingle. Available at the Old Meetinghouse Museum Gift Shop. Google and Wikipedia. "The Timetables of History" by Bernard Grun, Touchstone Publishing. "Glendale Stories" by Henry Edson, Wilbraham Library.

Editor Emeritus Charlie Bennett is a member of the Wilbraham Historic Commission and a trustee of the Wilbraham Atheneum Society. Readers can contact him with comments or ideas for the column at cbennett4765@charter.net.

**birth announcements**



Submitted photo BillieJo Forcier

**Welcome to the world, Adeline Webb!**

HAMPDEN – Ted and BillieJo Forcier of Hampden are excited to announce they are first-time grandparents after the arrival of their granddaughter, Adeline Webb.

Daughter Allison Webb gave birth to Adeline on Feb. 28 at 5:07 a.m. at Wesson Women in Springfield. Adeline weighs 7.3 lbs and was 17 3/4 inches long.

Allison and Alex Webb both graduated from Minnechaug Regional High School.

**Polish Plate Dinner coming up on March 22**

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There are also options for the following:

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# WILBRAHAM HAMPDEN

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Send us in your announcements! Happy Birthdays, Anniversaries, etc.

We will pick one each week to run here free of charge, please keep it to less than 50 words. Please send to [krivers@turley.com](mailto:krivers@turley.com)

Capt. Keenan leads a trip back in time...

Greeted by two history buffs, Dave Bourcier, president of the Wilbraham Atheneum Society (left), and retired postal official John Tousignant (right), is Capt. Rob Keenan a Revolutionary War re-enactor of the 25th Continental Regiment, gave a talk at the Wilbraham Senior Center Feb. 27. (Charles F. Bennett photo)



Cub Scout Pack 177 holds Pinewood Derby



Cub Pack 177 held the annual Pinewood Derby on Saturday, February 15 at the United Church in Wilbraham. They had so much fun!! The top 3 winners from each den will go on

to compete in the Western Massachusetts Council council-wide Pinewood Derby for all the Cub Scout Pack finalists throughout the council's service area. The competition will



be on June 14 at the Horace A. Moses Scout Reservation in Russell.



Hampden welcomes new police officer

During the March 3 Selectboard meeting, the Hampden Police Department welcomed a new officer to their ranks after being unanimously approved by the board. "We would like to welcome the town of Hampden's newest Police Officer, Andrew Poirier! He will start working with us shortly and will be assigned to the 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. shift," the police department said.



Photos and caption courtesy of Hampden Police Department



WPD saves the day again for lost dog

Photo and caption courtesy of Wilbraham Police Department On Feb. 27, the Wilbraham Police Department announced on their Facebook page a dog was found on Ridge Road. Once again, the department saved the day when dog and owner(s) were reunited. "Reunited and it feels so good!" the police department said.

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# “Herb of the Month” Gathering Invites the Community to explore

HAMPDEN - Hidden Hollow Holistix is excited to introduce the Herb of the Month Gathering, a welcoming space for community members to deepen their relationship with herbs and explore how they support the body, heart, mind, and spirit. The first community event will be held on March 15 from 11 a.m. to Noon in the Rochford Reading Room at the Hampden Public Library, 625 Main Street.

At the scheduled monthly gatherings, participants will be introduced to a new herb with a brief overview and receive a mini monograph to guide their explorations. The following meeting offers an opportunity to reflect on individual experiences, share insights, and learn from one another—all over a warm cup of tea.

“I hope to meet folk who are curious about partnering

with plants, exploring how herbs can support life’s changes, and navigating liminal spaces,” says Juanita “Juanie” Markham, an eclectic herbalist, shamanic practitioner, and founder of Hidden Hollow Holistix. “Whether you’re just beginning your herbal journey or have years of experience, this space is for those drawn to connection, exploration, and transformation.”

This event is free and no registration is required. Whether you are looking to integrate herbs into daily life, deepen your practice, or simply enjoy tea with like-minded souls, you are warmly invited to join.

To learn more about Hidden Hollow Holistix, visit: <https://welcome.hiddenhollowholistix.com/inquiring> or contact Juanita “Juanie” Markham at 678-265-2556.

## St. Cecilia Women’s Club April Meeting

WILBRAHAM – The St. Cecilia Women’s Club will host their next meeting on April 8.

It will be an Evening of Reflection with Fr. Douglas McGonagle.

Liturgy is at 5:30 p.m. followed by soup & sandwiches

at 6 p.m.

Fr. McGonagle will be our guest speaker following mass and a light supper. Hope you can make it.

Please bring children’s clothing to this meeting for infants and toddlers in need.



It didn’t take long for people to start venturing over to check out the donuts.



This group was ready to grab their donuts and enjoy a sweet treat.



Mike Shea couldn’t resist showing a big smile as he grabbed his donut.



Seniors couldn’t help but stop by to check out the donuts, as shown here when Program & Volunteer Coordinator Tina Doran was bringing out more donuts.



Fat Tuesday was a good day to enjoy some sweet treats in Hampden.



Wendy Cowles, outreach coordinator at the Hampden Senior Center, Lil Fedora, a regular volunteer at the Hampden Senior Center, and Sharon Woodin, receptionist at the Hampden Senior Center, pose for a group photo.

FAT TUESDAY from page 1

senior center. “Come in and have a cup of coffee and have a donut and sit down and you might run into someone you hav-

en’t seen in maybe a couple weeks, maybe a couple years. You have the opportunity to sit and socialize and that’s what we’re about here,” Cowles said. “And we did see a lot of people just sitting, having coffee and just chatting and enjoying some time together. That’s what it’s about.”

Also, a nice addition to the holiday-themed events the senior center does.

“We were so glad to see people come in and enjoy it. Have fun,” Cowles said.

Collaborating with a local business to make this happen was also important.

“That’s what we look for. To go to a local company and support them. We definitely try to do that when we can and they were very gracious. They were very happy to see me come in and pick up all of those donuts too!” Cowles said. “We were happy to support them and they were very gracious, like I said. Had everything ready for me, great selection. So, it was great.”

If anyone wasn’t able to stop by, Cowles had this advice.

“Just enjoy! Have some chocolate, some ice cream. Just enjoy, take advantage of the day!” Cowles said.

Cowles wants the community to know the senior center is here for them and appreciates everyone stopping by to celebrate Fat Tuesday with them.

“Just a big thank you for coming out. We hope you enjoyed it. Always look at our newsletter because we always have lots of fun events like this going on,” Cowles said. “Just come on down and see us, we’re here!”

Also, sign up for future holiday-themed events soon.

“St. Patrick’s Day, we have Sarah the Fiddler coming. It will be on Monday, March 17. Corn beef and cabbage dinner,” Cowles said. “It is always a very popular event, so we’re looking forward to that as well.”

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## Falcons season ends in Round of 32



Darren Duah attempts a rebound.



Max Baroni goes after the loose ball.



Caden Duke shoots under some pressure.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com  
Andrew Grasso goes for a three-pointer.



Josh Disa makes a layup during the state playoffs.

SOMERSET – The Minnechaug Regional High School boys basketball team was able to make the state playoffs this year, but their experience ended after just two games in the Round of 32. Minnechaug was defeated

by host Somerset on Feb. 28 84-58. Stats from the game were not reported. With the loss, Minnechaug's season ends at an even 11-11. Minnechaug made to both the Western Mass. and state tournaments this season.

## Wrestlers complete tournament competition

Wrestling season has come to an end and several area teams crowned champions at the sectional and state levels.

In the Division 2 state tournament, Max Holloway took home a state title at 215 pounds. Stella Christopher won a state title in the girls meet while Gabriella Ramos was a runner-up. Minnechaug's Kal Ly won the 132-pound bracket while John Bermudez was a runner-up at heavyweight. Holyoke's Steven Santiago finished second in D2 at 120 pounds.

Ludlow's Lucas Alvan was a state champion in the Division 3 meet at 175 pounds.

In the sectionals held last month, Agawam had a big day with multiple placers. They had four champions. Ryan Sexton at 150, Max Holloway at 215, and Jordin Agosto at 126 all took home titles. Cole Ingham was a runner up at 175, as was Kaleb Progulsk at 106. Keymani Rivera (157), and Tyler Gervais (190) both took third place. Agawam would finish third overall in the meet with 204 points.

Minnechaug was the second-place finisher behind champion West Springfield with 213 points. They had two champions, Kal Ly at 132

pounds and John Bermudez at 285. Matthew Macphail and Hunter Gormally had runner-up finishes. The Falcons had one third place finisher and five fourth-place finishers.

Chicopee's Michael Jenkins placed second at 144 pounds.

In the Division 3 Western Mass. tournament at Mt. Greylock, Belchertown, which returned its program to varsity status this season, saw Jack Bergerson finish fourth at 175 pounds and Evan Perkins finish fifth at 150 pounds. Brogan Bottari also took fifth place at 120 pounds.

Ludlow, Granby, Quabbin, and Pathfinder participate in the Central Mass. Championship meet. Ludlow's Lucas Alvan took first place at 175 pounds while Noah Simard was second at 150. Ryan Gomes had a third-place finish at 126 pounds.

Quabbin's top finisher was Abe Brown at 126 pounds. He finished in second place. Three others, Brady Dennis at 215, Brent Benoit at 132, and Cole Ingham at 150, all took fourth place in the meet.

Pathfinder had one placer, which was Dominic Jerry at 165 pounds. Granby's Nathan Benson finished fifth at 113 pounds.

## Streets of Holyoke set for 10K Road Race

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

HOLYOKE – The rich tradition that is the Holyoke St. Patrick's Road Race will make its return next Saturday, March 22. This will be the 48th running of the popular race.

Louis Serafini was the big winner of last year's event.

He completed the very hilly, 6.2-mile course in 30:12. Serafini is from Cambridge.

The top female was a local runner from Western Massachusetts. Anna Steinmen, of Springfield, came across the finish line at 37:00.

Ryan Davis, of South Hadley, was one of the top local finishers at 34:36. He was 20th overall.

This year's race would feature runners from all over the region, the state, and surrounding states as many are preparing for the Boston Marathon, set to take place in just under a month. Many runners over the years have enjoyed using the St. Patrick's Day Road Race as practice for the marathon because of the challenging

hills throughout the streets of Holyoke that runners must navigate through.

Of the more than 6,000 runners who were registered, 4,442 finished the 10K course last year. Race officials have said the participation level in the event is still rebounding from the pandemic. Prior to

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Please see **RACE**, page 10



The runners are off in the 2024 Holyoke St. Patrick's Day Road Race

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

# T-Birds beat Islanders, move toward playoff berth

BRIDGEPORT, Conn. — The Springfield Thunderbirds (30-20-2-4) blitzed the Bridgeport Islanders (12-38-4-3) for five unanswered goals in the final 40 minutes to pull away with a 5-2 win on Sunday afternoon at Total Mortgage Arena.

For a third straight game, the T-Birds were slow out of the gates, forcing Vadim Zherenko to be tested early and often in the first period, as 14 of the first 18 shots in the game went to the Islanders. Marshall Warren broke the levee 12:47 into the game with a wrist shot that eluded Zherenko through traffic, giving Bridgeport a 1-0 lead.

After the T-Birds were forced to go down a man on a post-whistle roughing penalty, Liam Foudy made Springfield pay with his seventh goal of the season series at 14:45 to buoy the Isles lead to 2-0.

Springfield finally got pressure on Hunter Miska's net in the closing minutes, finishing the period with the final six attempts on goal, but the Bridgeport netminder re-

mained perfect, stopping all 10 T-Birds shots in the first 20 minutes.

Zherenko was timely in the opening half of the second period as the Islanders continued to mount a push to extend the lead. The Springfield backstop shined, with a pair of odd-man stops off Jack Randl and Adam Beckman to maintain the 2-0 score.

The T-Birds finally snapped out of their offensive zone funk at 10:31 as, on his 31st birthday, MacKenzie MacEachern turned in the high slot and flipped a shot toward Miska's net that got a friendly deflection from Nikita Alexandrov before finding the twine. Alexandrov's 16th goal in just 33 games cut the Bridgeport lead in half, 2-1.

Like the Islanders did in the first, Springfield went to a power play and struck for the second time in as many minutes as Dalibor Dvorsky returned from retrieving a new stick on the bench and beat Miska under the crossbar at 12:17 for his ninth

power-play goal of the season. The game-tying goal brought Dvorsky into a tie among AHL rookies in man-advantage tallies.

The tie score carried into the final period, and the power play came up with the difference-making play as Matt Luff sent a puck perfectly into the paint, where Matthew Peca guided it past Miska just 1:17 into the third to give Springfield its first lead, 3-2. Peca's 26th of the season eventually became the game-winner, giving the captain his second game-deciding goal in as many days, an 11-game point streak, and the AHL lead in game-winning goals.

Samuel Johannesson picked up assists on both of the T-Birds' power-play goals, giving him 15 helpers on the man advantage for the season, tied for fifth most in the AHL. Corey Schueneman also had a two-assist night from the T-Birds' blue line.

Springfield's special teams were not finished, as just over five minutes after

the Peca goal, Otto Stenberg retrieved a loose puck at the offensive blue line and fed a perfect blind pass to spring Hugh McGing on a short-handed breakaway. McGing delivered the finishing strike through Miska, making it 4-2 at 6:22 of the third.

Bridgeport's power play could not make up the difference on a late chance, and Dvorsky capped the five-goal run with an empty-netter in the final minute to cap off the win.

Zherenko completed a magnificent bounce-back performance with 36 saves for his 10th victory of the season and fourth in his last five starts.

With their magic number down to 18 in pursuit of a Calder Cup playoff berth, the T-Birds begin a three-game weekend on Friday as they make their lone visit to Upstate Medical University Arena against the Syracuse Crunch for a 7:00 p.m. puck drop.

# Valley Wheel tryouts set for next month

Players looking to join the Valley Wheel Over-28 Baseball League can attend the tryouts beginning Sunday April 6. The time and location of the tryout is to be determined.

The league, which plays its games in Western Massachusetts and Northern Connecticut, makes sure that everyone gets a fair share of the action. Everyone plays a minimum of 4 innings in the field, and everyone bats. The league follows MLB rules with some modified rules adapted with safety in mind.

The Valley Wheel stands apart from other leagues across the country for this reason:

Their league charter and

one of their main goals, is to work toward having a league with teams of equal strength.

The league is now seeking new players to fill open roster slots. Enjoy the competition and camaraderie with a great group of guys who enjoy the game as much as you do. Stay in shape and make new friends. Be part of something that happens once a year, and with luck, win a championship that might be once in a lifetime. Grab your glove and cleats and join a team for a great adventure. It's not too late don't miss out; opening day is just around the corner. For more information, contact Jim Nason at 413-433-4308 or visit the website [www.ValleyWheelBaseball.org](http://www.ValleyWheelBaseball.org)

# Railers fall to Lions in weekend finale

TROIS-RIVIÈRES, QC – The Worcester Railers HC (27-24-2-4 60pts) lost to the Trois-Rivières Lions (38-12-4-2, 82pts), on Sunday afternoon by a final score of 3-1 in front of a crowd of 2,684 at the Colisée Videotron. The Railers are back on the ice next at the DCU Center on Thursday, March 13th at 7:05 p.m. EST.

Trois-Rivières scored first Sunday afternoon as Isaac Dufort (1-0-1) gave the Lions a 1-0 lead followed by a Tyler Hylland (1-0-1) shorthanded goal. Worcester answered back with a short-

handed goal of their own, as it was Tyler Kobryn (1-0-1) who cut the Lions lead to one. Anthony Beauregard (1-0-1) finished off the scoring with an empty net goal, leading to the 3-1 Trois-Rivières win.

Despite Worcester outshooting Trois-Rivières 14-5 in the first period, it was the Lions who went into the second period with a 2-0 lead. It was Isaac Dufort (11th) who scored the first Lions goal 7:15 into the first period on a loose puck in the slot. Tyler Hylland (10th) then scored a shorthanded goal on the

rush off of a Worcester turnover 18:47 into the first. The Railers brought in Michael Bullion in from the bench for Hugo Ollas following the second Lions goal after allowing two goals on five shots faced.

The Railers got on the board in the second period with a shorthanded score of their own. Tyler Kobryn (7th) made it a 2-1 game 15:42 into the second period. Despite power play opportunities for both sides neither team was able to net another goal in the second. Shots favored Worcester 13-7 in the

second.

The Railers had two power play opportunities to tie this one up in the third but were not able to capitalize on the man advantage. Later in the period Railers sent Michael Bullion to the bench in an attempt to tie the game up late in the third but Anthony Beauregard (23rd) was able to jump a pass and score on the empty Worcester net to give the game its 3-1 final score. Shots favored Worcester 17-11 in the third and 46-25 in the game.

# Registration now open for Quabbin Valley baseball

The Quabbin Valley Over-28 Baseball League is looking to infuse new talent into its league for the 2025 season.

Registration for the 2025 season is now open and any interested players can go to [www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org](http://www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org) to get registered, or to seek more information or make inquiries about the league. The league website will also be updated over the next month with information about the upcoming season.

There are many open roster spots available in the league for the 2025 season, which is tentatively scheduled to begin on Sunday, April 27. The league plays most Sunday from late April through mid-August with playoffs following that. The league plays a 15-game schedule and typically fields six teams each year. Games are usually

played at 10 a.m. with fields in Easthampton and South Hadley normally used.

The Quabbin Valley league is an all-abilities league and all are welcome to join. Eligibility is players who are age 28 and over. You must be 30 to be eligible to pitch in the league. Your age for eligibility is whatever age you will turn in 2025.

The next league board meeting is scheduled for Sunday, March 23 at 11:45 a.m. at the Hangar Pub & Grill in South Hadley. The league has also scheduled two open practices on Sunday, March 30, and Sunday, April 6. Both practices are scheduled to be held at Beachgrounds Park in South Hadley and are weather-permitting. The league website and social media accounts will have updates as the preseason continues.

# Pioneers release 2025 schedule

LUDLOW – For several years, the Western Mass. Pioneers have been a mainstay in spring-summer soccer and have entertained the early on many Fridays and Saturday nights with great semi-pro action.

The Pioneers will return to the field at Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow for another round of games in 2025.

One thing missing from the Pioneers schedule is an appearance in the Open Cup. The Pioneers have done that in late March or April the past two seasons, but it does not appear on their schedule this season.

The season opener for the Pioneers is against Boston City on the road

on Thursday, May 15 at 7 p.m. They will play the Albany Rush on Monday, May 19 after that, then gear up for their home opener on Friday, May 23 at 7:30 p.m. against league rival Seacoast United Phantoms. The Pioneers have a total of seven home games on their slate.

They also usually schedule a "friendly" game prior to the start of the season, though that has not been scheduled as of press time.

For more information on the 2025 Pioneers, go to [www.wmpioneers.com](http://www.wmpioneers.com)



The pace truck makes its way across the finish line followed by state police, which escorts the first set of runners.



Male top finisher and first overall Louis Serafini, of Cambridge, finishes the race at 30:12.



Anna Steinmen, of Springfield, was the top female finisher at 37:00.

# This Week in Rec

By Andrea Rust  
Administrative Clerk

WILBRAHAM - Are you ready to gain valuable leadership experience while having fun this summer? Our Spec Pond Day Camp is looking for enthusiastic, responsible, and motivated individuals to join our team as Counselors-in-Training (CITs). This is the perfect opportunity for teens ages 14-15 who want to continue their camp experience and build their skills in teamwork, communication, and mentorship. As a CIT, under the guidance and supervision of a designated CIT Director, you'll receive hands-on training, work alongside seasoned camp counselors, and play

a key role in supporting daily activities and ensuring a safe, exciting environment for our campers. CIT's assist camp staff in program planning and delivery, goal setting, communication, safety, developing team spirit and more, while emphasizing social and communication skill development.

Not only will you help create unforgettable memories for children, but you'll also learn how to lead, problem-solve, and develop a strong work ethic in a fast-paced and supportive setting. This program is designed to prepare you for future employment as a camp counselor or in any leadership role. Join us this summer and gain lifelong skills while making a

positive impact in the lives of campers. Apply today and become part of a team dedicated to fun, learning, and growth!

To apply for the CIT program, teens need to complete an application packet which includes 2 references, a questionnaire, and an essay. The CIT program is a three week or six week commitment. It is an unpaid position with the selected applicants incurring the cost for the program. The application will be available beginning March 17<sup>th</sup> and the deadline is Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup>. Applications can be downloaded from our website [Wilbraham-Rec.com](http://Wilbraham-Rec.com) and returned to Bryan Litz at the Recreation Office.

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

## RACE from page 9

the pandemic in 2019, race participants totaled about 7,000. The race was not held in 2020 and 2021 before it returned in 2022 with around 5,000 participants. More made their way out to the race last year, but that number was surpassed this year.

Because of that, the start of the race featured multiple waves, though 4RUN3 ran the bibs and electronic results kept accurate results for all those involved.

A number of this year's participants were featured in the usual celebratory costumes and outfits for St. Patrick's Day, while many others

opted for cartoon and other fictional characters, such as Spider-Man. Several local running clubs also made their way to the race, as did the youth of the region. Youth participants in the race were as young as seven-years-old.

Security was in full force at the event with plenty of presence from the Massachusetts State Police, Holyoke Police, and Hampden County Sheriff's Department, and the event went off without any incidents.

If you're still looking to participate in this year's race, go to [www.holyokestpatricksroadrace.org](http://www.holyokestpatricksroadrace.org).

**TILE** from page 1

University of Massachusetts - Amherst. She helped organize the event with Rachel Hapgood, the library's teen services and young adult librarian.

This was her first time hosting an event with the library.

"Arts for the kids, especially in the community, is really important to me," Antonacci said. "I'm really excited about the potential they (the library) have and the programs that they're offering, especially for teens. Growing up in Wilbraham and coming to the library, it's just really special for me to be back here and working with kids in this town."

Art Lessons with Ellie is taught out of Antonacci's home, as well as other places in the community such as recreational centers and libraries.

Hapgood, who has been the teen librarian for 10 years, also spoke on this event.

"I'm excited about this event because it's something that we haven't done before. Also, it is a new instructor for the teens of the library, and I think that she'll be able to bring a lot of new art and instruction to the teens. It's a new event, something different, and we had a lot of de-

mand for it. We had a lot of teens signed up and then a waitlist," Hapgood said.

Hapgood shared what she hopes the teens took away from the event.

"I want them to have fun, I want them to learn about art and have a creative time learning from Ellie. We have so many different activities and things to offer, so with our programs, sign up, grab a friend and sign up and you'll have a great time. Especially if you're interested in the activity," Hapgood said.

It was a great evening for the teenagers to try something new and fun with their friends. They were able to also learn about rotational symmetry in art through their tiles and they all were able to go home with something fun that they created, and something that they all should be proud of.

The Wilbraham Public Library and Ellie Antonacci did a phenomenal job putting this event together, showing teenagers how fun it is to do art. All of the teenagers had a great time with their friends trying out tile painting together and being in a creative space.

This event was sponsored by the Wilbraham Friends of the Library, with residents encouraged to join the Friends to support the library and



Turley photos by Noelle Hisgen  
**Ellie Antonacci holds up a painted ceramic tile as she leads the Teen Ceramic Tile Painting class at the Wilbraham Public Library.**

fund programs for all ages.

Upcoming Teen Events include an Oreo Taste Testing Challenge on March 11 from 6 to 7 p.m., and a Pop-Up Art Workshop to make a

sunflower card on March 25. The Sunflower Card Making Workshop is sponsored by a full grant from the Wilbraham Cultural Council.



**Teens start painting on their tiles. Getting creative with their designs.**



**Teenagers start sketching what they want for their tile.**

# SUMMER CAMP GUIDE



## Kamp for Kids to celebrate 50 years of summer fun for all abilities with a Golf FUN-raiser on April 10

**SPRINGFIELD** – Kamp for Kids, a summer day camp for children and young adults with and without disabilities, has planned a season of special celebrations in honor of the camp's 50th Anniversary, starting with a Golf FUN-raiser event on Thursday, April 10, 2025, from 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Max's Swing Lounge, located at 1000 Columbus Avenue in Springfield.

The Golf FUN-raiser event will bring together supporters, community members, campers and friends to begin a season of celebration

for 50 years of growth, inclusion, and joy for children and young adults of all abilities. Proceeds from the Golf FUN-raiser will directly benefit Kamp for Kids, helping to ensure that the camp continues to thrive for years to come.

Tickets are \$100 and include access to the driving range, mini golf, appetizers, two drinks, and the chance to win exciting contests and prizes. Tickets can be purchased at [kamp50.eventbrite.com](http://kamp50.eventbrite.com). Sponsorship Opportunities are also available for businesses and individuals.

Those interested in sponsoring this event should reach out to Kelly Brown at [Kelly.Brown@BHNInc.org](mailto:Kelly.Brown@BHNInc.org) or 413-654-0930. Sponsorships can also be made on the event website, [Kamp50.EventBrite.com](http://Kamp50.EventBrite.com).

Founded in 1975 by Dick and Judy Hoyt, Kamp for Kids was created to offer an inclusive camp experience for their son, Rick, who had cerebral palsy, and his brothers without disabilities. Over the years, the Hoyts

have championed disability inclusion, inspiring countless families worldwide. Today, Kamp for Kids continues to honor their legacy, demonstrating that every child—regardless of ability—deserves the chance to participate in meaningful, fun, and educational experiences.

Located in Westfield, Kamp for Kids serves children and young adults ages 5-22, both with and without disabilities,

hailing from cities and towns throughout Western Massachusetts. Each summer, the camp provides a unique environment for growth and inclusion, offering activities such as expressive arts, outdoor education, arts & crafts, non-competitive sports, and a spray park—all designed to create a sense of belonging and joy for every camper, serving about 150 campers in three sessions.

"Kamp for Kids is celebrating 50 years of creating a space where every child, re-

gardless of ability, can grow, learn, and have fun together," said Anne Benoit, Program Director of Kamp for Kids. "We're excited to celebrate this milestone and look forward to many more years of providing life-changing experiences that foster inclusion, friendship, and personal growth."

BHN has been providing behavioral health services to children and families in Western Massachusetts since 1938.

The agency provides community-based services that include innovative, integrated whole-health models as well as traditional clinical and outpatient and therapeutic services, day treatment, addiction services, crisis intervention and residential supports.

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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**

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

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**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**

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Post your job openings in our classifieds. **WE GET RESULTS!**



### HELP WANTED

**Executive Director for Community Survival Center**  
in Indian Orchard  
Resume and references to **survivalcenterio@gmail.com**  
Need experience in Management, Public Outreach, and Social Media  
Four-day work week; 5 weeks vacation; 5 days sick/personal time; holidays \$60,000 salary

**LOCAL TREE SERVICE** looking for climber and ground person.  
Must have driver's license in good standing. Call **413-507-1949**.

#### TOWN OF WILBRAHAM

##### FIREFIGHTER/EMT

The Town of Wilbraham is looking to fill a vacancy for Firefighter/EMT. Paramedic Certification or currently enrolled in paramedic school highly preferred.

For application and more info. visit **www.wilbraham-ma.gov**. Open until filled

##### Worthington Police Department Full-time Police Officer

The Worthington Police Department is seeking qualified candidates for **Full-time Police Officer**. Applicants must be a minimum of 21 years of age or older, a U.S. Citizen and possess a valid driver's license. They should also have a high school diploma/GED, license to carry and be certified by Massachusetts Municipal Police Training Committee and be POST certified.

This is a benefited position with a salary range of: \$52,000.00 - \$75,733.00. The successful candidate shall be highly motivated, self-disciplined, possess a community policing philosophy and live in or near Worthington. This position has the potential to be elevated to Police Chief.

Send letter of interest, resume and three references with relevant contact information to: **Worthington Police Department P.O. Box 247 Worthington, MA 01098** Or via email to: **sboard@worthington-ma.us** Subject line: Employment

Responses will be accepted and reviewed until the position is filled.  
The Town of Worthington is an Equal Opportunity Employer

### REAL ESTATE

#### FOR RENT

**NEWLY REMODELED 2 BR.,** 15 Vigeant St., Ware. Close to center of town, off-street parking, coin-op laundry. \$1250/mo. plus utilities. No pets. **413-323-8707**.



**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.

### 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 advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development " HUD " toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

**\$12.50 Each**



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Call For An Appointment  
The IRS does not endorse any particular individual tax return preparer. For more information on tax preparers go to irs.gov.

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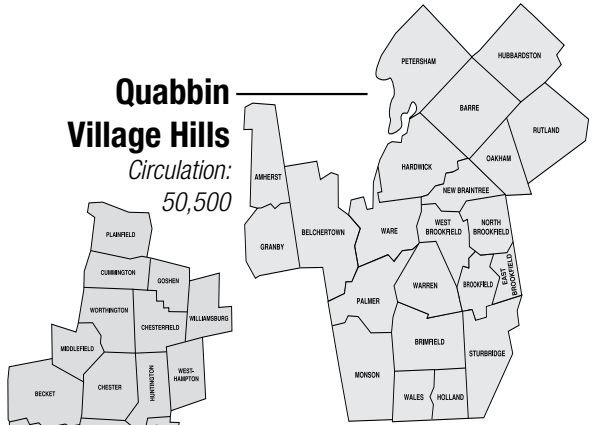


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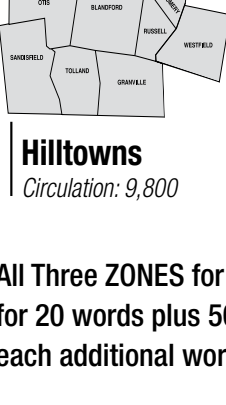
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29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
37 Base Price \$34.50	38 Base Price \$35.00	39 Base Price \$35.50	40 Base Price \$36.00

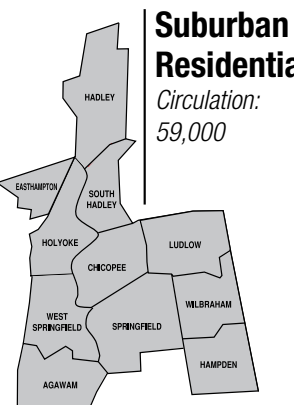
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ALL 3 ZONES NOW FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

**SCHOOL** from page 1

Plans and these teachers can't do it by themselves."

"It, really, it's a lot to cut there from what I understand. Not saying we're bare bones, but certainly we can't lose these paras and these programs that we have that make our school great. There's a lot of great departments here, we want to look after all of our employees, but, last thing I want to do is see our schools get cut and seeing these kids lose out on the opportunities of learning the way they intended to when we moved here. I mean, this is such a great district," Hodges said.

Aurora Pierangelo Frias said, "This budget is not just about the School Committee, but we really need to start thinking creatively about our entire town" and "we really need to take a hard look and act" on where and how money is spent and getting perspective from residents.

"I'm happy to hear that you guys are making future priorities a priority, but I got an email today from someone who texted me from 10 years ago when we were having these same conversations and it's exhausting as a parent and as a resident to continue to come to the table every March and figure out how your kindergarten teachers are going to be supported. How your ESL programs are going to continue. We know

that costs are rising," Pierangelo Frias said.

Genevieve Rose spoke about possible cuts for the elementary band program, listing the many benefits that would be lost for students' development including cognitive skills and brain development for hand-eye coordination when learning an instrument, auditory skills and memory and problem-solving and critical thinking skills, fostering creativity and artistic expression and a sense of discipline and commitment, which can be applied to all academic areas.

"So, taking away of that removes a humongous creative outlet for all of those students potentially and then all of those extra benefits that go along with it," Rose said. "I'm just hoping that with a little more reflection that people might realize that taking away the elementary band program would probably not be in our best interest. Definitely not in our best interest as a town."

Kira Smith, a fourth grader at Green Meadows Elementary School, was joined by her mother, Tracy, when addressing the School Committee. She has done chorus for two years and is in her first year of drama.

"I will give you a couple of reasons to not shut down these activities. One reason is that kids could find their passion and socialize. An-

other reason is drama course, strings and band are part of our lifestyle, but field trips are only once a year and not that important," Smith said. "Therefore, I think you should not shut down these activities."

Karen Romano--who also spoke at the Finance Committee meeting the night before and organized a petition with Renee Bracey to advocate for no cuts--stressed making sure the needs and talents of everyone are supported, along with coming together as a community with elected officials to have conversations on how to find other funding sources for the school district "outside of just taxes."

"You are put into a very difficult position, the Finance Committee's put into a very difficult position, but I can tell the people in this room right now or anybody who's listening online the conversations I have had this week with the elected officials in this town have been positive. They have shown support for the school, they have shown support for all of those programs and I just think it's important for everybody to know that. Nobody is out there saying that there's something more important than education, but it's a matter of balancing all of those needs, which is a difficult job to do," Romano said.

**WOMEN** from page 1

I will be stepping down this year. People usually stay for two years but the club asked me to stay on it. I love it and enjoy it, but there are other people that would like to step up so it's my time to step back and pay it forward," Pahl said. "I joined this club before the pandemic, I've been retired for around eight years but there are people who've been part of this club for over 40 years."

The St. Cecilia Women's Club started in 1952, with one of the more memorable details the women did back in the day was the Traveling Food Sale.

"They would go in their station wagons and would drive around selling baked goods. When you hear about a bake sale, it's usually held inside, but not them. It was nice!" Pahl said

In the year 1965, in 13 years, the club grew from 35 members to a total of 309 members. In 2025, the Women's Club has around 225 members in attendance, a statistic that Pahl is proud of.

Describing the inner workings of the club more, Pahl mentioned the variety of committees members can belong to and the freedom of volunteering time in the club. By having the ability to choose your own months, different people can pitch in at different times, making it accessible for members who are still working or leading a busy schedule.

"You choose your months and can choose different activities and events that you are interested in. You have chair people for all the committees, then that chairperson works with their committee in developing a schedule that would eventually be produced in a booklet. If peo-



Submitted photo Sue Agnew  
Left to right: Jackie Pahl, club president, Chris Veale & Kim Lawler, co-chairs of a fun evening.

ple are interested, guests are welcome to join our meetings and learn about the club. If they're interested, they can join, it's open to everyone. Any women in the parish," Pahl said. "I have been in this parish for over 25 years, I joined because I had family members that live in the town and had been to masses here and I just really liked the parish. Belonging here for over 25 years is unique, it's a very welcoming parish and this club is very welcoming. Everybody helps each other and people are friendly."

This Mardi Gras meeting was meant to be entertaining and offer a spiritual offering to make the members feel good about themselves. When asked if this meeting was particularly her favorite, Pahl said this.

"There's no particular

meeting of the year that I can say I like better, I like them all. They're all interesting. There's a lot of planning involved, when we determine what we want the vice president that's in charge calls speakers and sets up the meeting," Pahl said. "This Mardi Gras meeting is different because it was run by two members, Chris and Kim who both decorated the place with balloons, tablescapes, and ran all the activities."

Ending with a few words, Pahl summed it up this way.

"It's nice seeing the fun that people were having, you know? They were really having a good time with the games and it being Fat Tuesday, it's special because we know tomorrow and for the next few weeks, it's Lent. We won't be partying like this," Pahl said.

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**WILBRAHAM BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING**

The Wilbraham Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on **Thursday, March 20, 2025 at 5:30 PM** on the application of Matthew Reid for a special permit (ZBA25-02) under the provisions of Section 3.9.2.13 of the Wilbraham Zoning By-Law to allow a Screen Printing and Graphic Design (t-shirt printing) business to be operated as a Home Occupation in the existing attached garage on property owned by Matthew Reid located at 10 Joan Street as further specified in the application on file in the Planning Office and posted for public viewing on the Zoning Board of Appeals page of the Town of Wilbraham website at [www.wilbraham-ma.gov/135/Zoning-Board-of-Appeals](http://www.wilbraham-ma.gov/135/Zoning-Board-of-Appeals).

Both in person and virtual participation are available. To participate virtually go to <https://meet.goto.com/400439277> or call 866-899-4679 (Access Code: 400-439-277).

Edward Kivari Jr., Chairman  
03/06, 03/13/2025

**WILBRAHAM BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING**

The Wilbraham Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on **Thursday, March 20, 2025 at 5:45 PM** on the application of Western Recycling for a special permit (ZBA25-01) under the provisions of Section 3.4.6.9 of the Wilbraham Zoning By-Law to allow the installation of a 6,000 gallon diesel above-ground storage tank on property owned by 120 Old Boston Road Recycling Co., LLC, located at 120 Old Boston Road as further specified in the application on file in the Planning Office and posted for public viewing on the Zoning Board of Appeals page of the Town of Wilbraham website at [www.wilbraham-ma.gov/135/Zoning-Board-of-Appeals](http://www.wilbraham-ma.gov/135/Zoning-Board-of-Appeals).

Both in person and virtual participation are available. To participate virtually go to <https://meet.goto.com/400439277> or call 866-899-4679 (Access Code: 400-439-277).

Edward Kivari Jr., Chairman  
03/06, 03/13/2025

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD25P0340EA**

**Estate of: Lawrence W Hatch Date of Death: 03/11/2024 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons: A Petition for Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Eva A Wiseman of Hampden, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Eva A Wiseman of Hampden, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in unsupervised administration.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/19/2025.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without

**SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLE**

This ad is pursuant to MA Gen. Law Ch.255, Sec. 39A as of **March 28, 2025** the following motor vehicle will be for sale to satisfy a garage keepers lien:

Vehicle : 2009 Nissan Frontier VIN#: 1N6AA07C29N317650 COLOR: Gray LKO: Jarrett Kirsche 52 Hilltop Dr Manchester CT 06043

R & S Assoc. Inc PO Box 543 Wilbraham MA 01095 413-596-4374 03/13, 03/20, 03/27/2025

**Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.**

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**further notice to you. UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**

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

**matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.**

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court. Date: February 19, 2025 **Rosemary A Saccomani**, Register of Probate 03/13/2025

**Town of Wilbraham Invitation for Sealed Bids**  
The Town of Wilbraham invites sealed bids for the mowing of Town properties.

Bidding procedures shall be in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 30B.

Specifications and bid instructions available beginning Thursday, March 13th and can be acquired by visiting the Town of Wilbraham website at [wilbraham-ma.gov](http://wilbraham-ma.gov) or by emailing [sboyd@wilbraham-ma.gov](mailto:sboyd@wilbraham-ma.gov)

Sealed bids will be accepted at Wilbraham Town Hall, 240 Springfield St., Wilbraham, MA at the Select Board office **until March 27th, 2025 at 12:00 PM** at which time all bids will be opened and read aloud. 03/13/2025

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# DL&G TREE

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Structural  
Pruning



Crane  
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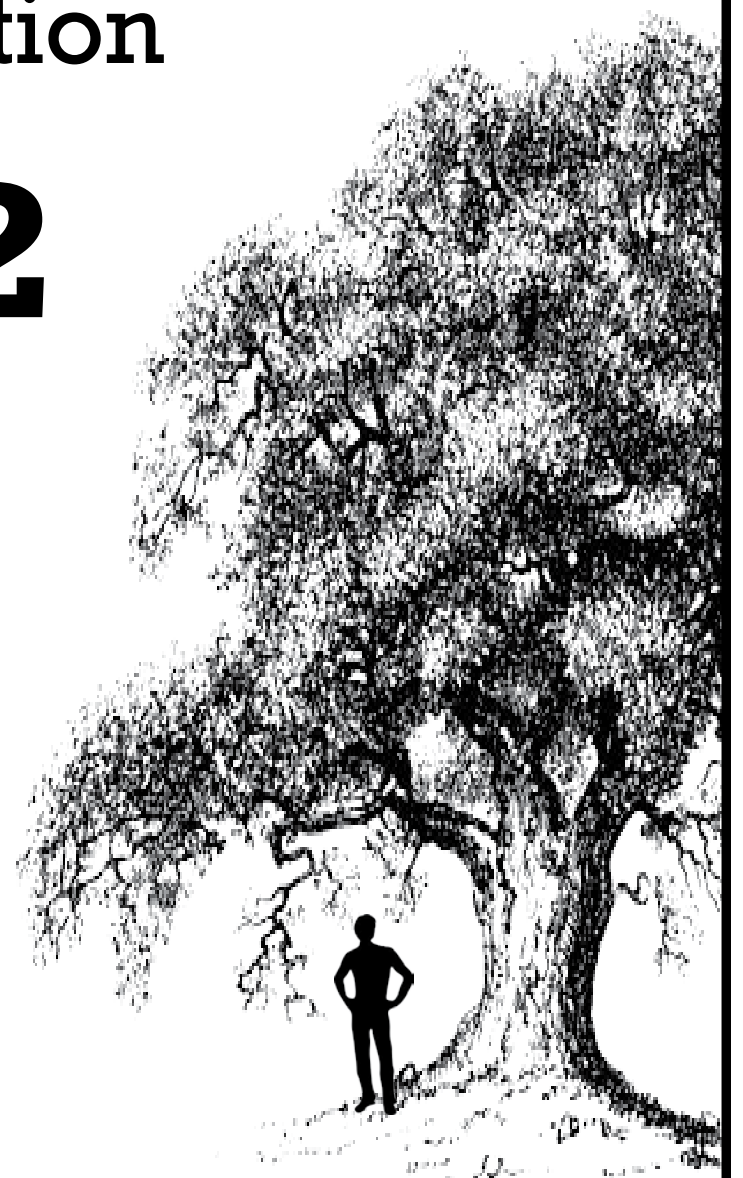
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