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The Walk for Partnership to End Addiction on May 20 raised about \$2,500 for Partnership to End Addiction. (Photos courtesy of Jay Dalessio)

'Walk for Partnership to End Addiction' draws approximately 100 attendees

By Dalton Zbierski
Editor
dzbierski@turley.com

WILBRAHAM – Minnechaug Regional High School's Above the Influence Club held its sixth annual "ATI Club Walk for Partnership to End Addiction" on May 20, drawing approximately 100 student participants.

Those on hand collected about \$2,500 in donations for Partnership to End Addiction, the nation's leading organization dedicated to addiction prevention, treatment and recovery.

Despite the inclement weather, a strong number of participants made their way to the high school to participate in the walk, which occurred between 9:30-11 a.m.

Jay Dalessio, an alternative learning program teacher, coordinates the Above the Influence Club. He credited Athletic Director Steve Burndrett for reaching out to the athletic teams to see if they would be interested in participating.

"We ended up having about 12 kids from the cross country team, we had three girls from

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Principal Steve Hale presenting to Benjamin Langone during the Minnechaug Regional High School Scholarship night. Langone received the Clarkson University Achievement Book Award. (Staff photos by Kristin Rivers)

Minnechaug recognizes students during scholarship award ceremony

The evening honored the underclassmen and graduating seniors

By Kristin Rivers
Staff Writer
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WILBRAHAM – Minnechaug Regional High School held a scholarship ceremony on May 17 to present awards and scholarships to its students.

The ceremony was split into two presentations to celebrate the underclassmen and soon-to-be graduating seniors.

Geraldine Fimognari and Damian Konkoly served as the Masters of Ceremony.

During the presentation, students received awards and scholarships from varying school departments and organizations, including the Rotary Club of Wilbraham-Hampden,

Please see **SCHOLARSHIP**, page 19

HISTORICAL WILBRAHAM

'The Pesky Sarpent' returns

'The bite heard around the world' comes alive at museum June 4

By Charles F. Bennett
Times Editor Emeritus

Editor's note: Some words in this story might appear to be misspelled but they are authentic to the time frame when they were written when words had many variations of spellings.



*On Springfield Mountain there did dwell A likely youth was knowne full well Lieutenant Mirick onley son A likely youth nine twenty-one

The date of the tragedy was August 7, 1761, two years before the Town of Wilbraham was incorporated. The following simple notation was made in the 18th century "Journal of Samuel Warner":

"Timothy, son of Thomas Mirick and Mary Mirick, was Bit By a Ratel Snake on Aug. the 7th, 1761, and Dyed within about two or three ours he being twenty two years two months and three Days old and vary near the point of marridge."



Hampden singer/songwriter Peter Lehndorff will perform America's oldest folk song "The Pesky Sarpent/On Springfield Mountain" at Old Meeting House Open House Sunday, June 4 at 2 p.m. (Lehndorff photo)

A paragraph in the "History of Wilbraham 1763-1963" edited by Charles Merrick in 1963 briefly explains the origin of one of America's oldest folk songs "The Pesky Sarpent" otherwise called "On Springfield Mountain" that dramatizes a famous tragedy that the history book said, "brought sorrow to the

Please see **HISTORICAL**, page 8

Board of Selectmen announces reorganization after town election

ARPA Funds discussion with Economic Development Committee major meeting highlight

By Kristin Rivers
Staff Writer
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WILBRAHAM -- The Board of Selectmen announced a reorganization of roles on May 22 as they welcomed newly elected member Michael Squindo.

Squindo won the May 20 town election and will serve as clerk, with Sue Bunnell as vice chairman and Theresa Goodrich as chairman for the coming year.

"We'd like to welcome and congratulate Mike Squindo to the Board," Goodrich said.

Next, the board heard from Economic Development Committee Chairman Mike Mazzuca and Xiomara Alban DeLobato, a committee member, to discuss ARPA Funds.

Mazzuca explained the focus is growing businesses in town and finalizing an up to \$15,000 funding request.

"With the closing of the Eastfield Mall, a number of businesses have become displaced, and we look at this as an opportunity," Mazzuca said. "The opportunity is this: to show that Wilbraham is open for business down here. One of the great places that, really, companies, small businesses, family businesses, should come and move here."

DeLobato explained the town welcomed two businesses: School of Fish, a tropical fish store, and Mall Barber, a barber shop.

The funding would be up to \$7,500 per business to support moving costs and other expenses.

"Wilbraham will be one of the first towns to actually approve this," DeLobato said. "Springfield has secured x amount for their businesses and Holyoke has as well."

Mazzuca said the request was unanimously approved by the EDC and wanted "to make sure everyone was on board" before moving forward.

Bunnell asked about the standards and framing the eligible expenses.

DeLobato said providing receipts and a formal lease purchasing a site in town will be part of the process. She added the EDC will oversee the document collections and administrating correspondence.

"Those are the two main things these municipalities already have as a form to ensure where exactly where the dollars are going and what they're going towards," DeLobato said.

Squindo asked how this funding will affect what other APRA Funds are already planned.

Town Administrator Nick Breault clarified as of April 21, there's "approximately \$1.312 million" in APRA Funds available.

Goodrich expressed concern about the funding as local businesses did not receive as much support, especially during the pandemic.

"I think it's hard to give money to a business coming in to town when there's businesses in town that haven't had the same opportunity for this aid," Goodrich said.

Goodrich said the funds should go towards supporting broadband, which in turn will support all the businesses in town along with residents.

If funding for the EDC request is approved, she added, it should provide opportunities to local businesses too.

"What about the businesses that have struggled through COVID and stayed



Staff photo by Kristin Rivers

Board of Selectmen Clerk Michael Squindo, Chairman Theresa Goodrich, Vice Chairman Sue Bunnell and Town Administrator Nick Breault discuss ARPA funding with Economic Development Committee member Xiomara Alban DeLobato and Chairman Michael Mazzuca.

open in Wilbraham?" Goodrich said.

Squindo provided this perspective, "By bringing in two new businesses, we're also bringing in some additional revenue."

"It's something. I think at that point it then becomes part of our community," Squindo said.

Bunnell also felt encouraged by the new businesses and the EDC's request.

"I think this \$15,000, within the up to 15 that you're asking for, is a very reasonable approach," Bunnell said.

Mazzuca reiterated the message of creating opportunity for the town.

"Brings in more people, brings in more

business and it's just going to be better for the town," Mazzuca said.

A motion was presented to approve the \$15,000, with up to \$7,500 available for each business.

Goodrich proposed an amended motion to approve \$10,000, with up to \$5,000 for the two businesses.

"I think we need to be careful with our money, with what we have here," Goodrich said.

The amended motion was defeated 2-1.

The original motion, meanwhile, passed 2-1.

Hampden Selectmen, Tighe & Bond revisit Town Hall repairs

By Dalton Zbierski
Editor
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HAMPDEN – In March, consulting firm Tighe & Bond reported to the Board of Selectmen that repairs and accessibility upgrades to Town Hall could cost between \$4 million and \$7 million.

The firm said the building is need of structural improvements, an elevator, improvements to elevator ramps, new doors

and perhaps new bathrooms. To create space, Tighe & Bond recommended removing the library from the building.

The Selectmen left the presentation unsure of how to digest it. On May 22, the board revisited the conversation alongside Yvonne D'Errico, a Tighe & Bond senior architect, who attended the meeting virtually.

"It was a presentation (in March) that I'm not really sure spoke to where the

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Zoning Bylaw Amendments were a major topic at May 15 town meeting

Also, the fiscal year budget and voting rights were discussed

By Kristin Rivers
Staff Writer
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WILBRAHAM - Last week, this paper highlighted the results of the May 15 Annual Town Meeting held at Minnechaug Regional High School.

This week, here is a look at what voters had on their minds.

Articles 30 and 31 were a major topic, focusing on two Zoning Bylaw Amendments regulating accessory buildings or structure sizes and parking and storage restrictions for trucks and buses in residential areas.

The discussion lasted nearly 45 minutes.

Marjorie Pessolano expressed her concerns to Planning Board member John McCloskey, wondering what the advantages would be for homeowners if Article 30 is approved.

"I think it sounds like a disaster waiting to happen," she said. "I really don't know why we need to make the building inspector's job easier and I see no advantage to neighborhoods."

Pessolano added she sees "a definite disadvantage" and "a continual downgrading of the standards by which this town is, not just physically, in every way run," including affecting home sales.

"We have Boston Road, folks. Let's leave Boston Road on Boston Road. That's my opinion," Pessolano said.

The article passed 211-18, earning a two-thirds vote.

For Article 31, questions were raised about gross vehicle weight and its definition.

Robert Mediarmid was one of them and is a contractor.

"We're going to get bigger vehicles in the driveways next to the homes where we all live, on residential streets. I don't see any need for it," Mediarmid said.

The article passed 189-26 with a two-thirds vote.

The Fiscal Year 2024 budget was also a topic of discussion.



Brenna Levitan reads a document during questions and concerns from the public on town warrant articles during the May 15 Annual Town Meeting in Wilbraham. (Staff photos by Kristin Rivers)



Don Flannery presents questions to Town Moderator Jim Jurgens during the May 15 Annual Town Meeting in Wilbraham.

showing recommendations for the school budget assessment, free cash and more.

Hanks explained where the town stands financially.

"The town is in a very strong financial position. We have continued the precedent this year of not spending to the levy limit. The result of this is we are approximately \$1 million under the levy limit," Hanks said. "As part of this budget, we're recommending adding \$465,000 and \$500,000, respectively, to the stabilization and OPEB accounts, and in recent years the stabilization accounts have been utilized in funding the senior center."

Don Flannery asked about the stabilization fund.

"I'm just curious as to why you have to put another half-million dollars into the stabilization fund, another half-million dollars into the free cash fund and at the same time you're telling me that you had a very difficult year negotiating the budget," Flannery said. "At what point do we get to where you don't have to put a half-million dollars into each of these savings accounts?"

Article 19 passed by a majority vote.

Lastly, Article 46 on a proposed bylaw amendment for the Town

Clerk stirred debate. It would have made the Town Clerk an appointed position as opposed to an elected one if passed.

Brenna Levitan had several concerns, including what the vote does if everyone says no and being able to vote.

"It's very concerning to me that we would go from over 10,000 registered voters deciding this to three people on the Selectboard," Levitan said.

John Haggerty said "voting is our right" and "taking away our right to vote is wrong."

"Let the voters make the choice," Haggerty said. "Why should it be any different for our town clerk?"

Tom Mangeau agreed, saying he's worked with all three town clerks.

"That office for 58 years has run so efficient and we never had any problems at all, and I just can't understand why we're even considering changing it to an appointed position because someone wants a change," Mangeau said. "I don't see any sense in making changes when something's been running fine."

The article was defeated.

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Sasen talks fishing derby, Memorial Day

By Dalton Zbierski
Editor
dzbierski@turley.com

HAMPDEN – After about 400 fish were dropped into the Scantic River for the occasion, VFW Post 9397’s fishing derby on May 13 drew 58 participants.

Hampden Board of Selectmen Chair John Flynn was the celebrity judge. VFW Quartermaster Jered Sasen was thrilled with the day’s outcome.

“It’s such a feeling of accomplishment for all of us; for every one of the VFW members that are down there, helping, getting the

worms together, judging, cooking,” he said. “Once it’s over, it’s one of those things where we’re so grateful to be able to have that event and continue doing it. It’s a great feeling.”

Sasen quickly turned his attention to Hampden Memorial Day parade, which will depart from St. Mary’s Parish on Somers Road at precisely 10 a.m. on May 29.

“Then, we take a sharp left down Main Street,” Sasen said. “I think it’s about a mile-and-a-half march in total, where we will then commence into our Memorial Day ceremony in the center of town, where again we will have the VFW firing squad, while the Min-

nechaug Regional High School band plays ‘Echo Taps.’”

The ceremony in the Town Center will be highlighted by the laying of the wreath at Veterans Memorial. Civic organizations that would like to march in the parade are encouraged to reach out to the VFW’s Facebook page.

“It’s a beautiful little ceremony. It’s very personal, but it’s also very celebratory of the town as well. With obviously Memorial Day being a day of solemn remembrance and honoring, it is also a celebration of those who did give their lives for us too,” Sasen said.

On Sunday, May 28, Wilbra-

ham’s Memorial Day ceremony will take place at Crane Park’s Wilbraham Soldiers’ Monument. The ceremony will last about 45 minutes, and light refreshments will be provided by Pafumi’s.

“We want to afford the residents of both communities to be able to see both events,” Sasen said, on the scheduling. “(The May 28 ceremony is) going to be a nice quiet ceremony in our town where we honor and remember but also celebrate those who have made the ultimate sacrifices for the freedoms we enjoy today.”

Sasen is also Wilbraham’s Director of Veteran Services.

Death Notices

Lt. Colonel Nelson H. Newhouse,
Died May 13, 2023
Services May 25, 2023

Sharon E. Medeiros
Longtime Wilbraham resident died peacefully on May 16, 2023
Wilbraham Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.



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Hampden Memorial Day Parade

HAMPDEN – The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #9397 and the Town of Hampden will sponsor the Memorial Day Parade on Monday,

May 29, 2023, starting at 10 a.m. The parade will start at St. Mary’s Church parking lot and proceed to the Town Common where a memori-

al program will be held. The annual plant sale will be held by the Garden Club at Academy Hall which will be open for visitors wishing to view Hampden’s historical treasures cared for by the Historical Society.

The firefighters will host the annual Hot Dog Social on the grounds between the Town House and the Fire Station immediately following the parade and the Police Department will be serving ice cream.

The library will host Jeff Gavioli and his Bad News Jazz and Blues Orchestra, sponsored partly through a grant from the Hampden Cultural Council on the front lawn of the Town House after the ceremony has ended.

In the event of rain, the memorial exercises will be held in the Town House auditorium. The town looks forward to seeing you all there.



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VFW Post 9397 held its fishing derby on May 13. (Photos courtesy of Jered Sasen)



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VIEWPOINTS

GUEST COLUMN

Why are college costs so high?

By Eric Goodhart

The cost of private four-year colleges and universities have steadily increased to a level far beyond the means of the all but a small % of American households. There are two major reasons for that.

Breaking the Bretton Woods Agreement of 1944, President Nixon took the dollar off the gold standard in 1971. The Federal Reserve was printing dollars like there was no tomorrow during what is known as the "Guns and Butter" decade of the sixties. Nixon's move was the catalyst bringing about inflation as the dollar lost value.

A year later, Title IX of the Civil Rights Act was signed into law by Nixon. Many of the most expensive private colleges were beginning to admit women. Title IX prohibits gender-based discrimination in any college or any other education program that receives funding from the federal government.

The full cost of attendance for a four-year private college before 1972 averaged \$3,500 to \$4,500 per year. In 2023 those same colleges cost \$67,000 to \$82,300 per year. State Universities are \$39,000 per year.

Financial aid has not made the colleges affordable, in fact, in the majority of cases it has made them more expensive and put more students and their parents into more debt. The formulas used to determine "need" penalize families that save for college. The Asset Protection Allowance in 1990 has been steadily reduced to zero now Congress does not even believe a family of four with the oldest parent age 48 does not need even an emergency fund of \$50,000 anymore.

Plus, Congress continues to bend under the pressure of the paid college lobbyists to NOT even increase the financial need when a family has more than one student in college at the same

time! In other words, if the Expected Family Contribution was \$40,000 with one in college, it would be the same if two were in college, not \$20,000 per student.

The Department of Education's Federal Student Aid Office, changes will affect seniors, rising 11th graders and younger. Therefore, for planning purpose families of divorce, families with more than one student in college at the same time small business owners and family farm owners.

Here is a summary of current, or soon-to-be-implemented changes:

EFC, which has always been a shock to parents as the amount the government expects a family to pay. The DOE now cleverly calls it Student Aid Index. They say the difference in nomenclature is substantially that alone. Experience warns us that is probably not accurate in effect. With the replacement of the Data Retrieval Tool with the Direct Data Transfer tax returns become more determinative of basic, financial qualification.

Families of divorce will be asked which parent provides the most financial support for the student rather than, with whom is the student living one-half of a year plus one day, or longer. As of the date of this article, no time parameters are determined. What does that mean? Having observed the decisions of colleges for decades, it means college financial aid offices are going to dig deeper into the financial arrangements of families of divorce.

Child Support will no longer be counted as "untaxed income," but rather as a parent asset.

The current asset exclusion of family-owned businesses and family-owned farms is gone. The asset value of each shall be included in the SAI calculation.

Simplified Needs Test (which removes assets from an SAI calculation) is based on AGI under \$60,000. But if the parent operates a small busi-

ness, buyer beware. The financial aid officers are trained to watch out for business owners because they are told that the AGI on the tax return can be reduced at will.

The number of family members in college at the same time, as a consideration, will be phased out; although "professional judgement may allow for that to be considered. Therefore, it should be noted in "Other Information" provided to the colleges.

Two other considerations represent the proverbial double-edged sword. One is that the end of PELL Grant eligibility after 12 semesters is removed. The other side is that Direct Student Loan time limit of 150% of satisfactory academic progress is also removed. Students will be able to drag out their college education beyond six years. Over the last 30 years, the statistics show that only 38% of students graduate in four years. The 50 or so, most competitive colleges have over 90% graduation rate in four years. That is because they have many applicants each year to fill seats. Getting through college in those colleges is much easier than getting in.

Presently, this reporter is researching each of the Community Colleges that largely served the western part of Massachusetts beginning with Mount Wachusett and Greenfield Community Colleges. So far, some nice surprises, but some are facing challenges. Each week there will be a profile of the colleges.

With college costs being so high, does it make financial sense to go to a Community College for two years and then transfer to as a junior to a four-year college? As is the case to many scenarios...it depends. Those will be explored and explained.

If the reader has personal experience with a Community College, as a student or parent in Massachusetts or elsewhere, they may email Eric Goodhart at barrenews@turley.com.

Mid spring questions for the Garden Lady



Lisa, who has a beautiful daffodil collection in Palmer, wrote in with this question for the Garden Lady: "I planted a Rugosa rose bush that has encroached on a planting of 'Barrett Browning' Daffodils. For the first year in over a decade, I had no blossoms at all! I want to move them out of the way of the rose bush but I don't know if it is the right time or not. Can I lift and divide them now or should I wait?"

Thank you for your question! It is the perfect time to move your daffodils!

One thing to keep in mind, however, is that the bulbs will likely be in the ground deeper than you think. I actually use a spade when I have to dig mine up, so that is it a straight, up and down slice.

I start four or five inches all the way around the clump and then carefully lift it out entirely, foliage intact.

Usually, it is pretty easy to tease the bulbs apart by hand, separating them by size. The biggest ones I replant at the same depth they were planted prior, with ground level at the point where the foliage turns pale.

The general rule of thumb for distance from one another is twice the width of the bulb apart. This can vary depending on the variety.

A sprinkling of balanced fertilizer mixed in with the soil in the planting hole and thorough watering will get them off to a great start, hopefully with flowers for many years to come!

A question about sowing annual flowers came in from Melinda, who is introducing her young daughters to flower gardening. "I have never had much luck planting flower seeds directly in the ground. Either the rain washes them away or they come up too close. Is it too

late to start a few easy flowers indoors?"

I love that you are sharing your love of gardening with your children! My mom did that with me and it shaped my career path, for sure.

I would so eagerly anticipate planting our garden every year! (Happy Mother's Day, mom!) Certainly it isn't too late to get a head start. I would recommend sowing easy to handle annuals, plants like zinnia, marigold, calendula and bachelor's button.

They don't take long to germinate and would be a manageable size by the end of the month, ready to be moved into the garden after the danger of frost has passed.

Generally, I fill up six-packs with moist potting soil and press two seeds per pack into the soil and cover slightly.

I like to keep them warm to start, but once the seeds sprout, I try to have them outside for most of the time, so that they don't get too leggy

in the house. If both seeds sprout, I'll separate them at planting time.

One variety that does not need to be started indoors is the sunflower, if you try, usually the plants will end up spindly and tall and difficult to transplant. Simply sow these in place, thinning to at least a foot apart.

My friend would always allow the seeds to mature on the plant and let them fall where they may, creating a colorful and eye-catching vegetable patch!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 31 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.



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The TIMES will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper and can be substantiated. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on the editorial pages. To request a correction, send information in an e-mail or mailed communication to the editor at the above address listed above.

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(L to R) Grace Barone, executive director of the ERC5 Chamber of Commerce, Heidi Pafumi, realtor at Slope Realty, Katie Krupka, certified senior advisor at Assisted Living Locators, Mary-Anne Schelb, director of business development, Western MA Market, at JGS Lifecare and Liz Davila, owner of Kind Hands Care at Home, pose for a group photo during the "Should I Stay or Should I Go?" presentation at Hampden Senior Center.



Seniors enjoy continental breakfast offerings during the "Should I Stay or Should I Go?" presentation at Hampden Senior Center.



Mary-Anne Schelb, director of business development, Western MA Market, at JGS Lifecare photo during the "Should I Stay or Should I Go?" presentation at Hampden Senior Center.



Katie Krupka, certified senior advisor at Assisted Living Locators shares information on assisted living options during the "Should I Stay or Should I Go?" presentation at Hampden Senior Center.



(L to R) Presenters Heidi Pafumi, realtor at Slope to Shores Real Estate, Katie Krupka, certified senior advisor at Assisted Living Locators, Mary-Anne Schelb, director of business development, Western MA Market, at JGS Lifecare and Liz Davila, owner of Kind Hands Care at Home take questions during the "Should I Stay or Should I Go?" presentation at Hampden Senior Center.



Liz Davila, owner of Kind Hands Care at Home, talks with attendees about in-home care options during the "Should I Stay or Should I Go?" presentation at Hampden Senior Center. (Staff photos by Kristin Rivers)

Senior center holds interactive presentation on home care options

By Kristin Rivers
Staff Writer
krivers@turley.com

HAMPDEN - The senior center held an interactive presentation on May 10 highlighting resources for seniors.

The presentation, "Should I Stay or Should I Go?", was presented by the East of the River Five Town Chamber of Commerce.

The topics included in-home care options, downsizing your home, independent, assisted and memory care living options and long-term care options for seniors and their loved ones.

A continental breakfast was sponsored by JGS Lifecare.

ERC5 Executive Director Grace Barone explained the presentation is one of several the chamber will present at varying senior centers.

"We have a great population of membership that has a wonderful focus on senior living. The more we look out there, there are so many resources available to us to make sure our senior years are our best years," Barone said.

Mary-Anne Schelb of JGS Lifecare discussed long-term care options, including assisted and independent living.

"It matters what you're looking for,

what kind of size," Schelb said.

Schelb stressed the importance of considering downsizing.

"I tell people to already start to downsize as you go along because, especially if you get a small apartment, you really don't need a lot. So I tell people to save their favorite things and bring those favorite things with you," Schelb said. "This next chapter in your life should be your best yet."

Heidi Pafumi of Slope to Shores Real Estate elaborated on right-sizing, or finding the right home size and fit for a current home or future options.

She stressed people also do not need to sell their homes if they don't want to.

"At the end of the day, some people do want to stay in their homes. They're not ready to sell and that's completely okay," Pafumi said. "What I do is I just talk you through the options of what that would look like if you wanted to."

Liz Davila, owner of Kind Hands Care at Home, said her organization provides caregivers for care-at-home services.

"They're there because they want to help you. They want to get you back to a better place of where you were before," Davila said.

She cautioned attendees when hiring care outside an agency.

"That's okay, but just remember there's a couple of things you have to think about. An agency takes on all liability," Davila said. "If they get hurt and you hire them privately without an agency and the liability, you're going to take that on and it can get very costly."

Katie Krupka, a certified senior advisor at Assisted Living Locators, provides advocacy to give seniors the care they need including benefits, elder law resources, finances and more.

"I help you--without you having to go around the Internet and look through all the resources yourself--I can kind of be that resource for everybody at no cost to help connect you to all these different resources," Krupka said.

Sue Watts attended the presentation with her husband, Phil. They heard about the event through an advertisement on

television while at a car dealership.

She also asked the presenters questions about in-home care and agency recommendations.

"I was just sitting there and I saw it," Sue Watts said. "I was interested because we're in the process of deciding whether we are going to downsize or not."

Watts said, for her, the presentation focused more on assisted living and home care, but she still got a lot of good information.

"It was a great job and very nicely done," Watts said.

Phil Watts agreed.

"I think it was a good program with a variety of people, different thoughts, different ideas. It's always good," Phil Watts said.

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Hampden, Wilbraham announce election results

By Dalton Zbierski
Editor
dzbierski@turley.com

Following this month's elections, the towns of Hampden and Wilbraham have announced their election results.

In Wilbraham's contested race for a seat on the Board of Selectmen, Michael Squindo narrowly defeated Carmela Blair by a total of 874 to 845 votes.

In Wilbraham's contested race for a position on the Hampden-Wilbraham Regional School Committee, Sherrill Caruana earned 966 votes and Michael Tirabassi received 945 votes.

Both earned a spot on the committee, defeating Christina Beckel, who received 799 votes.

In Hampden's contested school committee race, Richard Rediker defeated Meredith Sample by a total of 173 votes to 59.

In Wilbraham's race for Cemetery Commissioner, Donald Bourcier surpassed Mandell Greene by a total of 1144 votes to 405. In Wilbraham's race for Library Trustee, Linda Dagrada earned 1070 votes, compared to 1059 for Cheryl A. Wesolowski.

In Wilbraham's Planning Board race, John Luttrell earned 961 votes compared to Bruce Williams' 569.

On May 20, a total of 1,748 Wilbraham voters voted, a turnout of 15.42%.

On May 15, 239 residents voted in Hampden, a turnout of 7%.

HISTORICAL from page 1

town, tears to an intended bride, re-enacted on the stage, immortalized in song and still is the subject of controversy."

The one-person calamity unfolded when Timothy Merrick, son of Lt. Thomas Merrick and his wife Mary, was scheduled to be married to the "Village Sweetheart" Sarah Lamb in two weeks hence. He was cutting hay with a scythe in the south of town near where Oakland Street is now. Town tradition has always placed the site of the snake bite as being in a meadow on the west side of Main Street near the present Wilbraham-Hampden Town Line.

The exact location is subject to controversy and could be located in what is now Hampden, that used to be part of Wilbraham. More than 260 years have passed since Merrick died and much could have changed since then.

A brief article in "Wilbraham History and Culture, Volume IV" edited by Joan Paris, the fourth history book of the town, mentions the unpleasant occasion. To honor where the famous incident took place, on October 15, 1973 the book says the town voted to appropriate by eminent domain 70 acres on the easterly side of Main Street consisting of old fields and woodlands.

David Bourcier, historian and president of the Wilbraham Atheneum Society, which operates the Old Meeting House Museum, has a lot to say about the incident. Author of the "Wilbraham Historical Tidbits" website Bourcier said the article talks about the land that was taken over by the town and that it was owned by Dudley Bliss back in the 20th century. "This area is now the Pesky Serpent Conservation area," said Bourcier.

After the (snake) bite, Timothy headed back home to get help. At some point, he collapsed and died. The spot on which he was found was within sight of his new house that he had built for him and his new bride. Bourcier added, "But he also never made it to the West Road (Main Street). Looking at maps he would have picked the shortest distance to his home which was to cross the fields in a northeast direction", which



Timothy Merrick's grave. He was buried in Adams Cemetery shortly after he died on August 7, 1761. (Charles F. Bennett photo)

Bourcier believes is in Hampden. (Then part of Wilbraham.)

Four Town Histories

The incident is mentioned in all four town history books. First written in 1863 by Rev. Rufus P. Stebbins, D.D., then in 1913 by Civil War veteran Chauncey Peck, then by Merrick in 1963 and finally the latest one by Paris. In the first three, they all mention that the next day a group returned to where Merrick was bit, found the rattlesnake coiled up by the scythe that he had dropped, and killed it.

The rattlesnake, probably in search of water near the present Oakland Street Brook on a drought-stricken Wilbraham day in 1761, came down from the mountain (later named "Rattlesnake Peak") and bit the 22-year-old Merrick on the heel.

Merrick's death left the fiancée, family and town grief-stricken but the Merrick history says, "Death claimed Timothy but immortality is his in what is probably the earliest of the original American ballads." No one knows, but the song, "The Pesky Sarpent", was probably composed to sing as a sad tribute at Timothy's funeral before he was buried in Adams Cemetery on Tinkham Road. His gravestone is still visited by history and folksong buffs alike.

The song, which has many different versions, became known as "On Springfield Mountain" grew in popularity and was sung by iconic folk artists like Woody Guthrie, who said he learned the song because his mother sang it to him as a child. Burl Ives, Harry Belafonte, Tara Maclean and Tennessee Earnie Ford have also recorded it. It is included in the book "Folk Songs of North America" by Alan Lomax.

Legend Revisited

"The Pesky Sarpent/On Springfield Mountain" remains in the memory of town residents and they just can't forget it. The song was sung at the 100th anniversary celebration of the town's incorporation in 1863. It was sung at the 150th anniversary celebration held in the cafeteria of Wilbraham Academy. It was sung on May 24, 1963, as part of a "Historical Pageant" held at Minnechaug Regional High School.

Wilbraham resident Tom Presz and his family held a number of events named for the Pesky Sarpent in the 1990s that drew as many as 50 contestants. They were called "The Pesky Sarpent Challenge" and "Serpentpalooza". Another annual event was called "The Pesky Serpent Triathlon" that included swimming Nine Mile Pond, biking Wilbraham Mountain and roller blading Main Street. Tee shirts were given out, a large party would follow that featured barbecuing a side of beef or a stuffed pig. There were horseshoe tournaments, lawn games, country music and free beer and soda according to notes from Presz's father Dr. Walter M. Presz Jr.

Open House

To keep the legend alive The Wilbraham Atheneum Society, who operates the Old Meeting House Museum in the center of town, will be holding an Open House on Sunday, June 4. Part of the festivities will be a concert at 2 p.m. in the Wilbraham & Monson Academy Chapel, across the street from the museum, by singer/songwriter/humorist Peter Lehndorff from Hampden, who will sing the famous song. The event is free and open to the public

Lehndorff has been talked about by the

62 Years Ago Special Service Slated at United Church

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 June 1961 edition: "A special anniversary service in observance of 50 years of Christian unity of the Methodists and Congregationalists making up the Wilbraham United Church will take place July 9, 1961 at 9:30 a.m. according to Dr. Walter T. James, pastor.

Special invitations have been sent to members and other friends who were living in the town 50 years ago. Dr. James said a special display of historical pictures and clippings will be on view and anyone who has such material available is asked to call the church office so that a complete display can be compiled."

Lowell Sun: "Lehndorff uses humor to point out life's little truths." He writes folk and jazz songs. Some are humorous observations about everyday life in our small towns.

Lehndorff and his accompanist fiddler Susan Hill of Bristol Conn. will perform a new version of "The Pesky Serpent" written especially for this program. "There are many versions of this song from serious dirges to humorous tunes, to soundtracks for movies. I will attempt to put some of the historic facts back into the story," said Lehndorff.

Lehndorff has appeared at coffee houses and venues throughout New England. He calls his performances "Stand-Up Folk" as a combination of folk music and stand-up comedy. He has played in a trio made up of well-known locals, Hampden Trailmaster Charlie Thompson and now retired attorney Fred McCoy at the Majestic Theater. He recently performed at the Open Mic at the Drake in Amherst and has recorded several CD's. The most recent CD is an optimistic one, called "Don't be Discouraged" and features accompaniment on the fiddle by close friend Susan Hill.

He was a winner of the 2020 Connecticut Folk Festival Songwriting competition. Lehndorff has performed at Berklee Performance Center as one of the finalists in the Boston Acoustic Underground competition. And several of his car-related tunes were on the National Public Radio show "CarTalk". When his first wife Kathy was diagnosed with the disease in 2007 he became a tireless supporter of the fight against Huntington's Disease, the same brain disorder that Woody Guthrie had.

The Best Person

As program chairman of the Atheneum Society, I had wanted to present a program on the "Pesky Sarpent" at one of our Sunday Open Houses. I felt that Peter Lehndorff would be the best person I know to sing "On Springfield Mountain".

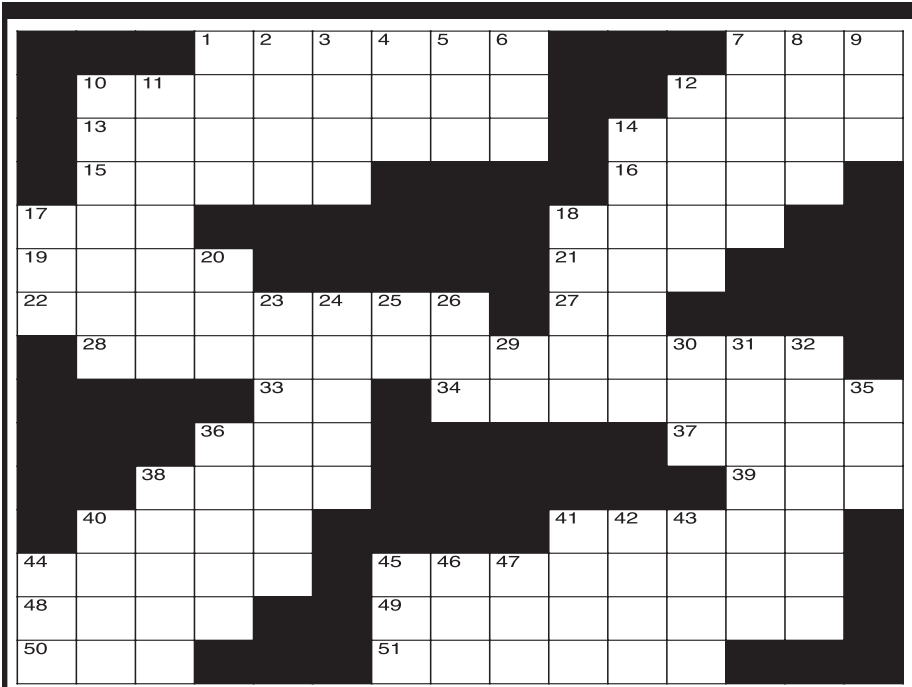
In my mind, he personifies the folksy demeanor that one needs to sing a ditty first sung 262 years ago. And, since he lives only three or four miles from where Timothy Merrick was bitten by the snake, I asked him last winter to perform at our June 4 Open House. I gave him a copy of the Merrick history book, which includes the sheet music of the song, and he embraced and loved the idea.

For more information about the Old Meeting House Museum Open House email president@wilbrahamatheneum.org.

*Opening lyrics of "On Springfield Mountain".

Sources: "History of Wilbraham" by Rufus P. Stebbins (publ. 1863); "History of Wilbraham Bicentennial Edition 1763-1963" edited by Charles Merrick; Chauncey Peck who wrote "The History of Wilbraham, 1731, 1763-1913. "Wilbraham History and Culture Volume IV" edited by Joan Paris. "A Collection of Life Stories" by Dr. Walter M. Presz Jr.

Editor Emeritus Charlie Bennett is a member of the 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.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Wear away by friction
- 7. Insecticide
- 10. Elicited a secret vote
- 12. Beef
- 13. Disagreement
- 14. ___ Crawford, supermodel
- 15. Jeweled headdress
- 16. Digits
- 17. Trillion hertz
- 18. Snap up
- 19. Classical portico
- 21. Residue after burning
- 22. Large integers
- 27. Free agent
- 28. Where ballplayers work
- 33. Blood type
- 34. Scottish city
- 36. Google certification (abbr.)

- 37. Serbian monetary unit
- 38. Make a sudden surprise attack on
- 39. Wood or metal bolt
- 40. Relaxing attire
- 41. Famed neurologist
- 44. Dullish brown fabrics
- 45. Member of ancient Jewish sect
- 48. Griffith, Rooney
- 49. Lawmakers
- 50. Government lawyers
- 51. The arch of the foot

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Nonflowering aquatic plant
- 2. Britpop rockers
- 3. National capital

- 4. Consumed
- 5. The habitat of wild animals
- 6. Sun up in New York
- 7. Cygnus star
- 8. Male parents
- 9. Talk to you (abbr.)
- 10. A place to clean oneself
- 11. Southwestern US state
- 12. South Korean idol singer
- 14. Pirate
- 17. Pituitary hormone (abbr.)
- 18. Mistake
- 20. Promotions
- 23. Prepares
- 24. Partner to flowed
- 25. State lawyer
- 26. Patti Hearst's captors
- 29. Pound
- 30. Electronic data

- 31. Sports player
- 32. Treats with contempt
- 35. Apprehend
- 36. Excessively talkative
- 38. Highways
- 40. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
- 41. College organization for males
- 42. Any customary observance or practice
- 43. Employee stock ownership plan
- 44. Male parent
- 45. The 23rd letter of the Greek alphabet
- 46. Female bird
- 47. Autonomic nervous system

HAMPDEN from page 1

board wanted to go. And, in my mind, it brought more questions up than gave us answers," Selectboard Chair John Flynn said. "I wonder did you see any kind of solution that didn't move the library out?"

Flynn asked D'Errico if relocating the library is the best way to proceed. She said it is given the problem at hand: a lack of space for departments operating in the building.

D'Errico said the departments need more room for physical storage, room for growth, meaning more employees, an additional room to meet in and space to meet accessibility requirements.

"For the physical expansion or growth of the current Town Hall, there is no other way other than to get rid of the library and either move the library to another building or put the Town Hall in another building," she said. "Based on the parameters I was given, that would be the only solution. There is no more space in the building."

Selectman Craig Rivest encouraged his fellow Selectmen to backtrack their thoughts completely. He questioned what the town's long-term goal is and, referencing past projects, asked if the best decisions are being made.

"Are we going to throw money into a police station to find out we're not going to host dispatch? Then, now we need a fire department where we could have made a municipal complex how many years ago. I think a lot of the shortsightedness over the past 10 years or so is starting to rear its head now with capital needs for the town," Rivest said.

Flynn, a veteran member of the board, questioned if shortsightedness is the correct word to describe the past but acknowledged that the future requires thinking progressively and outside of the box.

"That's why we're in these seats. We have to present these types of ideas for the town," Flynn said.

Selectman Donald Davenport listed numerous potential options.

"We can do nothing and just continue to fix things as they break, we can think about a three to five-year plan to rehab this building that would mean offices would have to move out temporarily some place, or we could abandon the building," Davenport said. "If they close Thornton Burgess (School), there's the option of going over there. You could create a town hall, you could create a library and you also could contain a senior center annex."

He also said the current Town Hall could be demolished and a new building could be built in its place, although he estimated the project would cost \$100 million. Regardless, he pointed out what the town's next move should be.

"I think we have to really tell the town that here's the

real situation. We're talking either \$7 million or (really expensive) either way," Davenport said.

Flynn is hesitant to commit to the \$7 million project and offered his own temporary solution.

"What we can do is keep putting band aids on this until we have a little bit of a better option," he said.

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A COMMUNITY GALLERY



Winner of Gregg Sapere Scholarship...

Wilbraham-Hampden Rotary Club Vice President Peter Salerno presents the Rotary's Gregg M. Sapere Scholarship to Audrey LaPre of Minnechaug Regional High School at the Country Club of Wilbraham May 9. Sapere was remembered as a former president of the club, successful businessman and ardent promoter of club activities. (Don Flannery photo)



Receives Social Service Scholarship...

Wilbraham-Hampden Rotary Club Past President Donald Flannery presents the Rotary's A. Davis Baker Social Service Scholarship to Minnechaug Regional High School student Reese Jordan at the Country Club of Wilbraham May 9. Reese received the scholarship for her work exemplified by the Rotary motto, "Service Above Self". (Peter Salerno photo)



The Wilbraham Women's Club awarded four scholarships to graduating seniors from Wilbraham. They are: (left to right) Norah Doyle, daughter of Kathleen & Christopher Doyle, who will attend Endicott College; Patrick Cowles, son of Alicia & Matthew Cowles, who will attend University of Southern California; Audrey LaPre, daughter of Leslie Delgado & Matthew LaPre, who is going to University of New Hampshire; and, not pictured, Alyssa Penna, daughter of Carey & Anthony Penna, who will attend Quinnipiac University. (Photo courtesy of Sue Agnew)

Life in & HAMPDEN
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WILBRAHAM HAMPDEN

Rotary Scholarship



The Wilbraham-Hampden Rotary Club presented its 2023 scholarships to students from Wilbraham and Hampden in ceremonies at the Country Club of Wilbraham on May 9. The students are (from left) Ian Dzierwinski, Ava Aguiar, Samuel Manteria, Reese Jordan, Audrey LaPre and Molly Olsen. All of the students except Aguir are from Minnechaug Regional High School. Aguir is from Wilbraham & Monson Academy. Other recipients, not pictured, were David Noel, Isaiah Kozub and Marissa Warren all from Minnechaug. (Charles F. Bennett photo)

Parents congratulate Rotary Scholars...

The parents and students from Minnechaug Regional High School and Wilbraham & Monson Academy celebrate at the Country Club of Wilbraham after the students received scholarships from the Wilbraham-Hampden Rotary Club May 9. (Charles F. Bennett photo)




Young scholars and Rotarians celebrate...

The Wilbraham-Hampden Rotary Club, pictured here with recipients of their 2023 scholarships, celebrate at festivities at the Country Club of Wilbraham on May 9. Each scholarship was \$1,500 and given for academic achievement and service to the community. (Charles F. Bennett photo)



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Community Bulletin Board



Wallace family celebrates multiple milestones

HAMPDEN – Robb and Lynne Wallace of Hampden are pleased and excited to announce the engagement of their daughter Patricia Wallace of Denver, CO to Dan Addante of Austin, TX. Patsy graduated from Minnechaug Regional High School and received her B.A. from Calvin College. She is a senior account executive with ZAYO telecommunications. Dan received his Bachelors at Western Ill. University, Chicago and is a fireman and EMT, and land developer. Following a June wedding, Patsy and Dan will reside near Austin, TX. (Photo courtesy of Lynne Wallace)

Happy lucky 13th Birthday Harlowe Elizabeth!

You radiate kindness and light up every room. Smart, athletic, artistic and effortlessly cool, I am so proud of my running & sunning partner! Keep working hard & believe in yourself & no more broken bones please, bbg!

Love & ice cream, Mom

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 dzbierski@turley.com



The St. Cecilia Knights of Columbus Council 10195 recently held a Scholarship Dinner at which it gave three \$1000 Scholarships. The photo above shows L-R Nikolas Supczak with his parents & brother and Molly Olson with her parents. Gwendolyn Duggan was unable to attend the dinner to receive her Scholarship.

(Photo courtesy of Don Flannery)

At the Scholarship Dinner, the Knights also gave a \$500 check to John Williams, the Seminarian pictured to the right, and a \$500 check to another Seminarian Max Pape who was unable to attend.

(Photo courtesy of Don Flannery)





(Photos courtesy of Jay Dalessio)

WALK from page 1

the tennis team, and we had about 10 or 12 kids from the boys' soccer team. And then eight from the swim-

ming team, including the coach Erik Mandell. I was appreciative of their support... They didn't just come casually to walk; they came as a group, which I thought was pretty neat,"

Dalessio said.

Several members of the Rotary Club of Wilbraham-Hampden were also there to support the effort.

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Events & announcements schedule

Run for Rice's 5K Road Race set for June 3

WILBRAHAM – The 11th annual “Run for Rice’s 5K Road Race” will be held on Saturday, June 3 at 9 a.m. This popular, family-friendly 5K road race begins at Christ the King – Epiphany Church, 758 Main Street, Wilbraham, MA, and winds through a flat, fast course in surrounding neighborhoods, ending at Rice Fruit Farm across the street from the start. Pre-registration fee for runners and walkers is \$20, while day-of-race registration is \$25. Ages 18 and under registration is \$15 including day-of registration. The first 150 registered runners by May 20 will receive our famous race t-shirt featuring the “Running Apple” logo, and all registered runners will receive a free Rice Fruit Farm ice cream with their bib number on day of race only. Cash prizes will be awarded in several categories, and all proceeds benefit the Rice Nature Preserve maintenance fund of the Minnechaug Land Trust. Race day registration will be open from 7:30-8:45 a.m. On-line registration now available at RunSignUp.com, and paper registration forms can be downloaded at the Minnechaug Land Trust website www.minnechauglandtrust.org.

Rotary Club is holding a Calendar Raffle

WILBRAHAM – The Wilbraham-Hampden Rotary Club is holding another Calendar Raffle throughout the months of May and June to raise money for local community projects. Calendars will be on sale now through the end of June for \$10 each and are available from any club member.

The raffle is different from the one held last fall in that only cash prizes will be awarded. Prizes will be awarded every day of the month of June. “There will be a winner every day. That gives every entry many chances to win,” announced club president Tracey Perry of Country Bank. To purchase a calendar contact Perry at 413-627-2571 or email Happytral6@gmail.com. All proceeds will be given back to the community through various service projects and scholarships.

Hampden Senior Center Trips

HAMPDEN – The senior trip “Cruise on the Cape Cod Canal” will happen on Tuesday, June 13; all-you-can-eat lunch at Mezza Luna Restaurant before our narrated cruise; a stop at Wright’s Dairy Farm & Bakery all for only \$125/pp. Payment deadline May 31.

A tribute to Garth Brooks at the Log Cabin will entertain us on Wed, July 12 with your choice of Lobster or Prime Rib for lunch all for only \$85/pp. Payment deadline June 23. No bus, Self-Drive.

A great trip to The Aqua Turf Club on Tuesday, Aug 15th for “Come Fly with Me”, a musical journey through the decades; coffee/donuts, free drink, lunch, show & door prize, all for only \$119/pp. Payment deadline Aug 1.

On Tuesday, Sept. 12, start the day with a great lunch a Maggiano’s Little Italy in Boston; the Fun begins when you board your Boston Duck Boat for a fascinating tour, including background info on the Ducks, Free Time in Quincy Market, all for only \$140/pp. Payment deadline Aug. 29.

Any questions/for more info call Bobbi at 413-566-8271.

Newport Playhouse on Thursday, Sept. 28 is offering a Hilarious play “Ghost of a Chance”, along with an All-u-Can-Eat Buffet and a second Cabaret Show, all for only \$142/pp. Payment deadline Sept. 14.

Above prices based on a minimum of 35 passengers; any questions/for more info call Bobbi at 413-566-8271

Healing Touch Spiritual Practices at Federated Community Church

HAMPDEN – Healing Touch Spiritual Practices will be offered on Wednesday evenings from 7-8 p.m. at Federated Community Church, 590 Main St. in Hampden. First come, first served. Donations are accepted. Come and experience intentional prayer so that the spirit of healing may flow freely through your body. Please enter through the door in the back of the church – the group will meet on the second floor.

Honor Flag visits Rick’s Place

By Dalton Zbierski
Editor
dzbierski@turley.com

WILBRAHAM – The evening of May 17 was a special one at Rick’s Place, as the facility hosted the Honor Flag, a flag that became a symbol of hope for Americans across the country following the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

Rick’s Place exists to support grieving children, teens and families through facilitated peer activities, school-based programs and community outreach. The non-profit works to provide a trusting environment to support an individual grieving the death of a loved one, offering them a platform to share their experiences and find comfort.

Rick’s Place is named after Rick Thorpe, a Wilbraham native who worked in the South Tower and was killed on Sept. 11, 2001. He left behind his wife and 15-month-old daughter.

Rick’s Place Executive Director Therese Ross learned about the Honor Flag last year and expressed interest in hosting the flag at Rick’s Place. In January, she learned that Rick’s Place would be able to host the flag on its final tour.

“The Honor Flag is the flag that flew over the rubble of 9/11. It’s a flag that has traveled around the world since then. There’s a group of folks from the Massachusetts Chapter of Honor and Remember organization who are the caretakers of the flag,” Ross said.

On May 17, the Wilbraham Fire Department led a procession from the fire department to Rick’s Place, escorting the flag.

At Rick’s Place, several guest speakers shared their experiences.

“Then, we had this opportunity to be on site at Rick’s Place and hear the



On May 17, Wilbraham Fire Captain Mullen, FF. Dimitropolis and FF. Hodges attended an Honor Flag ceremony at Rick’s Place located in Post Office Park. The Honor Flag and accompanying marble cross, are being shared in communities as a memorial to the victims and first responders who perished in this tragic event. (Photo and caption courtesy of the Wilbraham Fire Department)

story of the flag and where it had been. There’s a special letter that goes along with the flag’s journey, and there’s also a particular cross that was cut out of silver marble from one of the towers that travels with the flag,” Ross said.

Ross said that everyone at Rick’s Place was pleased to host the flag because it was important to be able to have that connection and to honor it. She also thanked the flag’s caretakers for their generosity.

“They were incredibly great at working with us. They were really pleased that we were so interested in having the flag at our site so they were just terrific,” Ross said.

For more information about Rick’s Place, one can visit <https://ricksplace-ma.org/>.

PUBLIC NOTICES

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. HD23A0075AD
In the matter of:
Lorelei Sylvia Lalchandani
CITATION
G.L. c. 210, § 6
TO:
any unnamed or unknown parent and persons interested in a petition for the adoption of said child and to the Department of Children and Families of said Commonwealth.
A petition has been presented to said court by:
Benjamin David Willis of Hampden, MA
Niki Dupras of Hampden, MA
requesting for leave to adopt said child and that the

name of the child be changed to
Lorelei Sylvia Willis
If you object to this adoption you are entitled to the appointment of an attorney if you are an indigent person.
An indigent person is defined by SJC Rule 3.10. The definition includes but is not limited to persons receiving TAFDC, EACDC, poverty related veteran’s benefits, Medicaid, and SSI. The Court will determine if you are indigent. Contact an Assistant Judicial Case Manager or Adoption Clerk of the Court on or before the date listed below to obtain the necessary forms.
IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT Springfield ON OR BEFORE TEN O’CLOCK IN THE

MORNING (10:00 AM) ON: 06/16/2023.
WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court.
Date: May 17, 2023
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
05/25/2023
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD21P1850EA
Estate of:
Frances Ann Lanier
Also known as:
Frances A Lanier
Date of Death: 06/12/2021
CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE

SETTLEMENT
A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by Cheldon Octavius Lanier, Jr. of Springfield, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 06/20/2023.
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a

timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.
WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M. Hyland, First Justice of this Court.
Date: May 16, 2023
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
05/25/2023
Town of Hampden
Notice of Public Hearing
The Hampden Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 6:15 PM in the Town House, 625 Main Street, Hampden, MA on the application of Bedrock Financial, LLC as trustee Cumberland Blues Realty Trust for Special Permit Approval for Substandard

Frontage Lots for Parcels 15-035-0, Lot C and 15-035-0, Lot D under Section 7.2.4 of the Hampden Zoning Bylaw and Special Permit Approval for a Common Driveway under Section 7.542 of the Hampden Zoning Bylaw to access Parcel 15-035-0, Lot A; Parcel 15-035-0, Lot B; Parcel 15-035-0, Lot C and Parcel 15-035-0, Lot D. All parcels are located on Thresher Road and owned by Bedrock Financial LLC.
Information related to this application is on file in the Town Clerk’s Office and is available for review by the public during normal business hours.
For the Board,
Madison Pixley,
Chair of the Hampden Planning Board
05/25, 06/01/2023

SENIORS

Monthly highlights for June at the Hampden Senior Center:

HAMPDEN – Reservations for special events and Grab & Go Dinners will be taken on the first business day of the month, on a first-come, first-serve basis. All other reservations will be accepted anytime.

HELP US STOCK OUR SHELVES with Toilet Paper!

Thank you to those that donated shampoo last month. Every month we will target a different item to fill our shelves.

Create your own Greeting Card with Ellie! Monday, June 5, 1-3 p.m.

The cost is \$3 per person; all materials are provided. Please call 566-5588 to reserve your seat for June or future dates. Future scheduled dates are Mondays, July 3, Aug. 7, and Sept. 11.

D & R FARM:

Farmer's Market, Tuesday, June 13th, 9 a.m. to noon

Fresh fruits, vegetables, eggs, homemade canned items, breads, cookies, and more!

SNAP Accepted

Winter Farm Share, PICK-UP is Wednesday, June 14 & 28 at 9:30 a.m.

Summer Farm Share, Starts Wednesday, July 5 at 9:30 a.m.

FREE with SNAP/HIP if you qualify! If you do not qualify for SNAP/HIP you may purchase a share for \$40 cash per month. If interested, contact Wendy ASAP to get your application in! Shares are limited. Please call Wendy at 566-5588, or email outreach@hampdenma.gov to sign up.

Drumming & Movement with Tara Six-week session on Wednesdays

starting Wednesday, June 14th through July 19, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Cost is \$25 per person if paid in full and includes one free class. Or, \$5 per class as a drop-in, space pending. Call ahead to schedule a drop-in class. Space is limited.

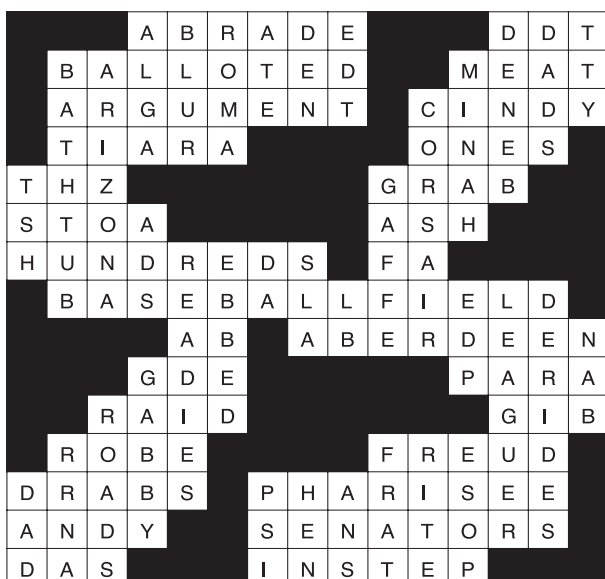
The Longest Day, June 21

The Longest Day is the day with the most light — the summer solstice. On June 21, people from across the world will fight the darkness of Alzheimer's through fundraising activities. For a donation of \$5 or greater, you will receive a lantern to shine a light for a loved one living with Alzheimer's. We invite you to bring your lantern to our Longest Day events to remember and honor those we fight to find a cure for.

Lanterns are available now at the Hampden and Pleasant View Senior Centers.

Events will be held at the following two locations:

Hampden Senior Center at 7:30 p.m.
Pleasant View Senior Center at 8 p.m.



104 Allen Street, Hampden, MA 328
North Main Street,
East Longmeadow, MA
Please call to sign up:
Hampden at 566-5588
Pleasant View at 525-5346

Donations for the lanterns support the Tri Town Walk to End Alzheimer's Team consisting of Hampden, East Longmeadow, and Longmeadow Senior Centers.

Summer Kick-Off Luncheon, Thursday, June 22 at noon

Hot Dog with Bun, Baked Beans, Italian Pasta Salad, and Dessert!

Lunch is provided by Greater Springfield Senior Services: Suggested donation of \$2.00 per meal.

Music with audience participation performed by: Gary & Natalie Jones/Father & Daughter Duo!

Sponsored by the Polish National Credit Union and Bluebird Estates

Please call 566-5588 to sign up. Taking reservations beginning June 1st.

Introduction to Ukulele Workshop, Friday, June 23 at 1 p.m.

Instructor Chris Foe from The Community Music School of Springfield will begin to teach you the necessary skills to master this accessible and charming instrument. This workshop is relaxed, but highly engaging, and designed to start you on the path of making music. The cost is \$5 per person. Please call 566-5588 to reserve your spot now. Space is limited.

Grab and Go Dinner, Thursday, June 29, pick up is 2 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Sweet Sausage Grinders with Peppers and Onions, Pasta Salad, and Dessert. \$5 per person. Please call 566-5588 to order your dinner. Taking reservations beginning June 1st.

Liz from the Hampden County Sheriff's Department will be here Friday, June 30 at noon

Lunch and learn session to discuss the following programs and why they are important for you and first responders:

File of Life Program

Is Your Number Up? (Is your house # visible from the street?)

Lock Box Program

Lunch is provided by GSSSI. Shrimp Fried Rice, Oriental Blend Vegetables, Whole Wheat Roll, and Mandarin Oranges. Suggested donation of \$2.00 per meal. Please call 566-5588 to reserve your spot.

The Friends of Hampden Senior Citizens is looking to fill two openings on the Board of Directors. If you are interested in joining the group, or you have any questions, please call Claudia Kapinos at 566-8896.

The Friends is a non-profit organization established to assist in fundraising efforts to support programs and activities of the Hampden Senior Center.

Wilbraham Senior Center announces programming

WILBRAHAM – The Wilbraham Senior Center, located in Post Office Park, has announced the following programs.

Baked Goods

On Wednesday and Friday morning, the senior center offers Big Y baked goods at a reduced cost.

Closed June 19

The Senior Center will be closed on Monday, June 19th to celebrate June-teenth.

Grief Support Counseling- FREE

Second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 11 a.m.

Drop ins welcome. Free

Owner and Founder, Liane Smola will be joining us monthly to discuss topics such as; the nature of grief, managing difficult emotions, self-care, remembering the person who has passed, coping with the stress of change, handling special occasions, reaching out for support, and finally share some ideas on how to support others in your life who also may be faced with grief. This course will also allow you a space to share the story of your lost loved one, and will offer soft guidance and support for your continued grief journey. All are welcome. Call 596-8379 to sign up.

Weekend Meals On Wheels

If you are a Wilbraham resident and you qualify for Meals on wheels during the week, you can also get meals on the weekends. Just call Jen at 596-8379.

Total Hip and Joint Replacements June 12 at 10:30 a.m.

Dr. O'Sullivan from New England Orthopedic Surgeons will be here to discuss total hip and knee replacements. He will answer questions like what to expect and how it is diagnosed. He will also discuss alternatives for conservative treatment. Come with your questions. Sign up for this free presentation at 596-8379.

To Bury Or To Cremate? That Is The Question

June 15 at noon. Join Pre-Planning Director, Gary Szweczyk from Forastiere Smith Funeral & Cremation for a free lunch as he answers one of the most frequently asked questions to come up during the pre-planning process. He will discuss the options that are available to you for burial, cremation, and both to help you make the best decisions for yourself and your loved ones. Call 596-8379 to register.

REAL ID

June 26 at 10:30 a.m.

Do I need a Real ID? What are the benefits of having a Real credential versus a Standard license or MA ID? What documents are required for licensing? When am I in renewal status for my license? What RMV transactions can be done at AAA? Pricing, document review,

vision screen requirements sign up at 596-8379.

TOUR: Christopher Heights of Belchertown

On June 30. Bus leaves at 10:30 a.m. Join us for a group tour of Christopher heights of Belchertown. If you are thinking about a senior living facility for yourself or a loved one, this is a great way to start exploring your options. Take the senior center van with Jen. On the tour you will experience their different style apartments, common areas, meet current residents, and have plenty of time for questions with the staff in their PUB. Please sign up at 596-8379.

YOGA TIME CHANGE

Yoga will now be held on THURSDAY at 11 a.m. Starting June 1.

Caring Transitions: Part 2

June 2 at 1:30 p.m. with Christina White. Owner of Caring Transitions talks about what everyone can do to help you or your loved ones as they are going through tough transitions and help when it comes to any relocation, estate sale, or down-sizing project. Sign up at 596-8379.

June Special Lunch

Join us on Tuesday, June 13 for a Special Lunch at the senior center. Musical entertainment by Chet Kurr. This month's lunch is kindly sponsored by Loomis Lakeside at Reeds Landing who will be providing your meal from their in house kitchen. Doors open at 11:45, lunch is served at 12pm. 596-8379 to sign up by June 8. Free Sign up begins June 1st. All communities welcome.

QUILTING CLUB

Join us to make your own quilt. Bring all your own supplies. Wednesdays at 10:30. Stop in to check out this new program.

Hiking Club

Sign up with Jen @ 596-8379
Please call Jen with your trail suggestions. Meet at the trail head
Tuesday, June 13 at 9:15 a.m.
Minnechaug Mountain area – three miles Moderate loop
87 South Road, Hampden
Tuesday, June 27 at 9:15 a.m.
Koala Trail Loop (Part of Facing Rock Area) Easy 4.2 miles. Park at the end of 111 Bridle Road, Ludlow

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Photos by Sofia DiGrande

WILBRAHAM – Last Thursday afternoon, Minnechaug boys tennis finished up the regular with season with a 5-0 defeat against visiting Northampton. The Falcons finished the regular season with a 5-11 record.



Kelvin Oheming winds up a long hit.



Alex Gormeley returns a hit.

Owen Perry keeps the play going with a running backhand.



Hayden Richard returns while on the run.



Ethan Ray gets set to serve.



Mereck Epperson follows through on a hit.

Falcons ready for tournament



Isaiah Kozub holds the ball looking for an open teammate. Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

WILBRAHAM – Last Saturday capped an excellent regular season for Minnechaug boys lacrosse as the Falcons won their fourth straight game, 19-9. The Falcons improved to 12-3 for the season, and host Westfield in the semifinals of the Western Mass. tournament on Thursday, May 25.



David Noel holds the ball high.



Colin Elliot looks for a low save.



Jackson Derosia runs for the goal.



Sean Murphy heads up the field after making a play on defense.

Chaug heads for tourney

WILBRAHAM – Minnechaug girls tennis has wrapped up the regular season and will head for the Western Mass. and state tournaments. The Falcons finished up the season with a 15-2 record, and split their season series with Longmeadow, a team they have histori-

cally struggled against. Recently, the Falcons were also very successful in the Western Mass. individual tournament, which saw its top two singles players face each other in the finals as Norah Dumala defeated Ellie Gaudreau to take the title. The Falcons are scheduled to

face West Springfield in the Class A tournament earlier this week. Following the Western Mass. tournament, the Falcons are currently ranked No. 6 in the state and could host two or three matches in the Division 2 tournament.

Pioneers open regular campaign with win



Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Goalie Gianluca Cerosimo kicks the ball away.

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW— Alec Hughes scored ten goals for the UMass men's soccer team as a junior. The forward has netted almost half that many goals in the Western Mass. Pioneers first two regular season matches.

Hughes scored a pair of goals in the season opening shutout victory at the Boston Bolts on May 16. He added two more goals to his stat sheet in the home opener, as the Pioneers celebrated a 3-0 win over Pathfinder FC on a miserable, rainy night at Lusitano Stadium last Saturday.

"I had never played a match at this stadium before last week's friendly, so scoring two goals in the home opener is very special for me," said Hughes, who's from Glastonbury, Connecticut. "Despite the rain, we still had a very good crowd here tonight. I can't wait to see the atmosphere at this stadium on a nice night. I just want to do anything that I can to help me team win."

Ben Brewster, who's the associate head coach of the UMass men's soccer team, recommended Hughes to Pioneers head coach Federico Molinari. Brewster, who's a former Pioneers player, also coaches the club's USL Academy boys' team.

"I was very impressed with Alec when I watched him play for UMass last year," Molinari said. "He's a key player for us, but we need everyone to contribute in order to have a successful team."

Hughes, who played for Hartford City a year ago, thinks playing for the Pioneers will help him prepare for his senior season at UMass.

"We have several players from several different countries on this team," Hughes added. "It's also a little bit higher level than the Hartford team that I played for last summer."

The Pioneers, who are looking to qualify for the USL League Two playoffs for the fourth time since 2019, had several scoring chances during the first 45 minutes, but the contest was still scoreless at halftime.

"It was a little bit frustrating not scoring any goals during the first half," said Hughes, one of the first-year players listed on the Pioneers roster. "We had some good scoring opportunities, but we finally scored in the second half."

A little more than ten minutes into the opening half, Western Mass. midfielder Khalid Rose sent a pass into the box from the right side. A shot attempt from Tomas Duben, who's also a forward, was deflected away by Pathfinder FC goalkeeper Eirik Elvestad, who made the diving save.

Hughes also had a couple of headers during the first twenty minutes, but they either sailed wide or were saved by Elvestad, who finished the match with a total of five saves.

Pathfinder FC, who played their first match of the season, are from the **Poughkeepsie**, New York area.

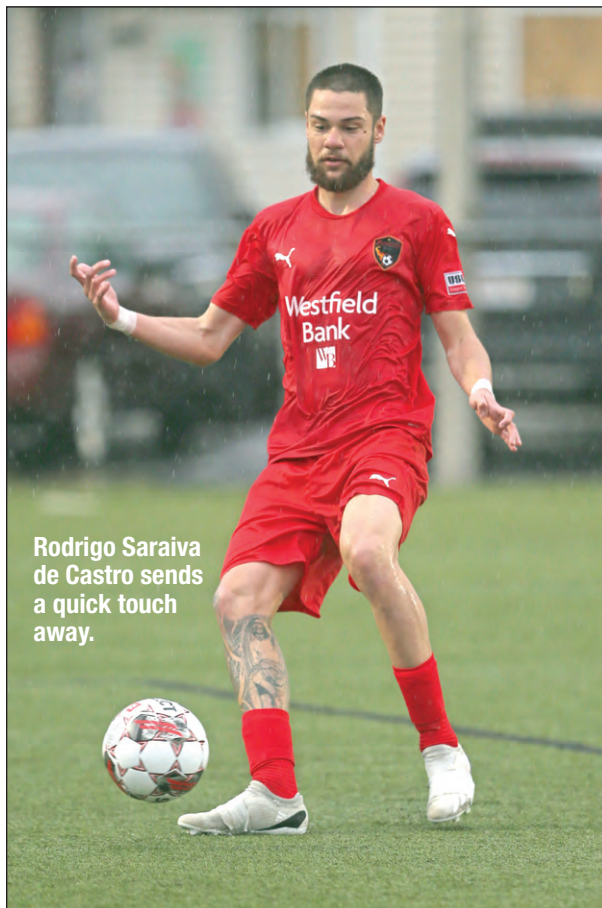
Down at the other end of the field, first-year Western Mass. starting goalie Gianluca Cerosimo didn't see very much action on the rainy and windy night.

Cerosimo, who was a grad student on the L.I.U men's soccer team last fall, made a kick save late in the first half. It wound up being his only save of the match.

Cerosimo received plenty of support from his defense, which was led by Rodrigo Saraiva de Castro, Gabriel Pacheco, Jared Smith, and Nicholas Obberauch, who's the Pioneers captain.

Connor Hicks, who helped the Monson boys' varsity soccer team win two state titles and three Western Mass. titles during his memorable high school career, is another Pioneers defender. After sitting out the season opening match with an injury, Hicks entered last Saturday's contest during the second half.

Another Monson resident listed on the Pioneers roster is Jonathan Murphy, who'll be a junior on the Boston College men's soccer team in the fall. Frankie D'Agos-



Rodrigo Saraiva de Castro sends a quick touch away.

tino, who's also a former Pioneers player, is the Eagles associate head coach.

Ten minutes into the second half, a shot attempt from Pioneers forward Augustine Boadi deflected off the far post.



Nicholas Obberauch gets the throw-in.

Another shot by Hughes was saved by Elvestad.

The home team finally gave their faithful supporters something to cheer about during the 67th minute. Rose was tripped up in the box by a Pathfinder defender resulting in a penalty kick.

Hughes stepped up to the line and blasted a shot into the back of the net giving his team a 1-0 lead.

"I just booted the ball as hard as I could down the middle into the back of the net. It's always a good feeling whenever you score a goal and your teammates are happy for you," Hughes said. "I also made a P.K. at UMass last year at Central Connecticut."

The Pioneers took a 2-0 lead six minutes later.

After receiving a pass from Rose, Boadi fired a low shot that skipped on the wet turf into the right corner of the net.

Rose, who's one of the Pioneers elder statesmen, was also credited with the assist on the second goal scored by Hughes during the 77th minute.

"The rain made it very difficult to see, so it was nice to score those three goals in the second half," Rose said. "We didn't have very many fans here tonight, but you could still hear them on the field. It's always an amazing feeling whenever we win a match at this stadium."

The Pioneers are scheduled to play a couple of road matches before returning to the friendly confines of Lusitano Stadium to face Black Rock FC at 7 p.m. on June 3.

Run for Rice's 5K Road Race set for June 3

WILBRAHAM – The 11th annual "Run for Rice's 5K Road Race" will be held on Saturday, June 3 at 9 a.m. This popular, family-friendly 5K road race begins at Christ the King – Epiphany Church, 758 Main Street, Wilbraham, and winds through a flat, fast course in surrounding neighborhoods, ending at Rice Fruit Farm across the street from the start. Pre-registration fee for runners and walkers is \$20, while day-of-race registration is \$25. Ages 18 and under registration is \$15 including day-of registration. The first 150 registered runners by May 20 will receive our famous race t-shirt featuring the "Running Apple" logo, and all registered runners will receive a free Rice Fruit Farm ice cream with their bib number on day of race only. Cash prizes will be awarded in several categories, and all proceeds benefit the Rice Nature Preserve maintenance fund of the Minnechaug Land Trust. Race day registration will be open from 7:30 a.m. until 8:45 a.m. On-line registration now available at RunSignUp.com, and paper registration forms can be downloaded at the Minnechaug Land Trust website www.minnechauglandtrust.org.

Blue Sox in need of host families

HOLYOKE – The Valley Blue Sox is still searching for a few host families for the 2023 season.

To be a host family, all you need is a private room for the player to stay in, food options, and access to a kitchen.

In return, 2023 volunteer host families will receive:

Free general admission to all Valley Blue Sox home and away games

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Access to our fan bus to an away game to be determined

If you are interested in being a host family, please contact matttd@valleybluesox.com for more information.

Hall of Fame Classic teams announced

SPRINGFIELD – The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame announced the field of teams for the Basketball Hall of Fame Classic at the MassMutual Center on Saturday, Dec. 16. Florida Atlantic, whose 2022-23 season culminated in a Final Four berth, will join UMass, West Virginia, and St. Bonaventure in an exciting doubleheader.

Saturday, Dec. 16

UMass vs. West Virginia

Florida Atlantic vs. St. Bonaventure

"We are thrilled to welcome these four teams to Springfield in December for what is sure to be an exciting doubleheader," said John L. Doleva, President and CEO of the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame. "Since the City of Springfield is the birthplace of basketball, we look forward to providing a unique experience to the teams and their fans which will include a visit to the Hall of Fame."

The Basketball Hall of Fame Classic is one event in the Hall of Fame's series of collegiate events, which continues to grow in an effort to celebrate the game outside the museum walls. The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame is proud to continue its relationship with LEARFIELD for sponsorship representation of its portfolio of collegiate events and Position Sports in an event operations, content and communications capacity.

Tickets for the 2023 Basketball Hall of Fame Classic will go on sale Friday, June 2 via massmutualcenter.com and the MassMutual Center Box Office. Game times and television broadcast details will be released at a later date. For more information, please visit hoophall.com.

Bonsignore gets the checkered flag at Riverhead

RIVERHEAD, N.Y. – A classic short-track battle between two of the veterans of the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour ended with Justin Bonsignore's 10th career Riverhead Raceway win on Sunday afternoon in the Buzz Chew 200. Bonsignore started from the top spot after scoring his 25th career pole in qualifying and ran second for much of the race, but was able to roll the outside lane by Ron Silk on a late restart to get back to Victory Lane.



Submitted photo

Justin Bonsignore scored a modified win at Riverhead Raceway last weekend.

Silk led much of the race – but a caution late stacked the field up and gave Bonsignore another shot. The two battled side-by-side, beating and banging during a short-track battle in New York. Off turn four, Bonsignore was sideways on the outside lane, but a caution flew for a multiple-car accident and Bonsignore was out front, holding the advantage for the final restart of the 200-lap race.

Bonsignore drove off turn four to the checkered flag. The victory places Bon-

signore just one short of the Whelen Modified Tour wins record at Riverhead – 11 – held by Mike Ewanitsko. Bonsignore will have a chance to tie when the series returns to Riverhead on June 24.

The win was also Bonsignore's 36th career – giving him sole possession of fourth place on the all-time wins list on the Whelen

Modified Tour. He now sits just seven wins short of Ted Christopher for the top-three.

"Ron and I have been beating the heck out of each other all year," Bonsignore said. "The caution towards the end was good for us. You just have to keep yourself in these races and it fell our way today. It's unbelievable to get number 10 at Riverhead. I can't thank everyone on this team enough. It's a cool way to get to Victory Lane. All of these are special. Tying Mike has been a goal of ours for a long time and to get this close to the record is special. These races never get any easier to win."

In just six days, Justin Bonsignore will return to the track with the next race on the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour schedule – the Granite State Derby at

Lee USA Speedway – on Saturday, May 27. For more information and tickets for the race, visit JDVProductions.com.

For more information on Justin Bonsignore and the Kenneth Massa Motorsports team, visit JustinBonsignore.com and follow his Athlete page on Facebook for the latest news and updates.

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Minnechaug recognizes students during scholarship award ceremony



Special Education Teacher Jay Dalessio presenting the President's Award for Educational Excellence & Service Award – Above the Influence to senior Aleena Wilkinson during the Minnechaug Regional High School Scholarship night.



Principal Steve Hale presenting the MRHS Life Skills Achievement Award to senior Thomas Lecky during the Minnechaug Regional High School Scholarship night. (Staff photos by Kristin Rivers)



Superintendent Dr. John Provost presented to freshman Hannah Donovan the National School Development Council National Award for Academic Growth and Student Leadership in Learning during the Minnechaug Regional High School Scholarship night.



Band Director and Music Teacher Dave Morris presenting to Benjamin Rivas during the Minnechaug Regional High School Scholarship night. Rivas received the John Philip Sousa Band Award.



Donald A. Roberts of American Legion Post 277 presenting to Chad Santos during the Minnechaug Regional High School Scholarship night. Santos received the Boys State Delegate, the Junior History and Social Science Department Award and the Brown Book Award.



U.S. Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Kenneth Tally presenting to senior James Carlin during the Minnechaug Regional High School Scholarship night. Carlin received the U.S. Marine Corps Semper Fidelis Award for Musical Excellence – First Chair Player.

SCHOLARSHIPS from page 1

the Wilbraham Women's Club, the U.S. Marine Corps and U.S. Army Reserve, the Knights of Columbus of St. Cecelia's, Boys State Delegates, the Minnechaug Sports Booster Club and more.

During his remarks to the underclassmen, Principal Steve Hale congratulated the students and said the awards represent "our appreciation and our thanks for your hard work and dedication."

"We believe our students are amongst the best in the state and our country. Not just because of their high achievements in the classroom but also because of the young women and men they are becoming," Hale said.

Hale encouraged the students to thank and recognize the teachers who helped them grow during the year.

"As you think about those teachers who have helped you along, please be sure to take the time to let them know and thank them," Hale said.

Hale also praised the parents and families for their support.

"You are their first and best teachers. You believed in them, you comforted them, you helped them deal with stress, you encouraged them," Hale said. "You also taught them to value education, and that's why they're here tonight."

For his remarks celebrating the se-

niors, Hale explained 49 of them received the Wilbraham-Hampden Scholarship Foundation Scholarship, whose purpose is to provide scholarships to Minnechaug seniors residing in Wilbraham and Hampden who will attend college.

"We want to thank the volunteers of that board who served tirelessly just to give these students scholarships to their next stage of their educational career," Hale said.

This year's WHSF scholarships amounted to \$67,500.

"This exceeds \$1.3 million that the foundation has awarded since 1961," Hale said.

Hale also encouraged the graduating class to thank their teachers as they participate in senior activities.

"Take the time to write a thank you note to one of those teachers in your career that made a difference as you prepare to graduate," Hale said.

Candee Costa, administrative assistant for Student Activities, was happy to recognize the students for their achievements. She helped organize the ceremony alongside Assistant Principal Joanne White, who served as chairperson.

Costa loves working for and being part of the school administration and district.

"I love that the Minnechaug school administration and the district are open to new ideas and it is an "All In" team effort.

They make you feel heard, valued and at the end of the day we make it's all about our kids," Costa said.

Costa added she loves seeing the students' reactions as they receive their awards.

"The students are unaware of which award they are receiving prior to the ceremony. It is absolutely heartwarming to see the students at all different levels be recognized. To see the students' smiles and glow of pride radiate as they stand on stage accepting their award in front of family, peers and faculty is priceless," Costa said.

Costa wants the community to know the students are heavily involved at the high school and learn a lot.

"Our students are amazing! They work hard throughout the year academically, athletically and within the community. Our students are involved in over 50 clubs at Minnechaug. These clubs touch on everything, school spirit, character, leadership and giving back to the community," Costa said.



Fine Arts Teacher Jennifer Zera presenting to Miles Fergus during the Minnechaug Regional High School Scholarship night. Fergus received the Freshman Technology Department – Business Award.



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