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Santa visits HPL for Christmas Party

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
krivers@turley.com

HAMPDEN - The community was treated to a special visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus at the library on Dec. 13.

The annual event featured children telling Santa and Mrs. Claus what they wanted for Christmas along with a craft and creating reindeer food with teen volunteers.

Refreshments were donated by the Friends of the Hampden Free Public Library.

Also, patrons dropped off donations of new mittens, gloves, scarves and hats, new child-sized pajamas and non-perishable food items for the Mitten Tree, Pajama Drive and Food Drive, which ran through Dec. 17.

That annual fundraising drive supports the Community Survival Center.

Jean Hall, a member of the Friends, shared Cathy Mahoney, the Friends president,



Turley photos by Kristin Rivers

The Rochford Family legacy continues with their newest addition, the adorable 10-month-old Maeve Iris Reed, who joins her brother, Beau Francis Reed, now two and a half years old, and their parents Jack and Julie Reed. Jack Reed is the grandson of Margaret "Peg" Rochford, who served as children's librarian in Hampden for 25 years, which the Rochford Reading Room at the Hampden Free Public Library was named for in her honor.

Please see **SANTA**, page 13

Educators take a stand

By Patricia Sullivan
Correspondent

WILBRAHAM - Educators from the Hampden Wilbraham Regional School District held five standouts—two at the Wilbraham Middle School, two at Minnechaug High School and one on Main Street—in December to make the public aware that they have been working for months under an expired contract.

The current three-year contract expired at the end of the 2024-2025 school year. Despite sustained negotiations over the past year, no agreement has been reached. The Hampden Wilbraham Education Association (HWEA), the union that represents more than 375 teachers, paraprofessionals and service providers, and the School District agreed that negotiations have reached an impasse and consequently jointly filed for contract mediation through the Massachusetts Department of Labor Relations on Nov. 25.

Under this process, the state assigns a mediator who relays proposals between the two parties. The state mediator does not have the authority to impose a settlement. Several Massachusetts school districts, including Bedford, Belmont, Cambridge, Nantucket and Worcester have filed for state contract mediation in recent years.

The timeline of the state mediation process is variable, but does prioritize speed.

About 50 HWEA union members and others stood out on Main Street near Crane Park after school on Dec. 12. They held signs reading, "Fair Contract Now," "Living Wage for Paras," and "We Work Here. We Live Here."

HWEA Union President Damian Konkoly, an English teacher at Minnechaug Regional High School, stood with the demonstrators.

"We want the public to be informed that we have been working under an expired contract," Konkoly said. "We hope that members of the public will let their elected officials, including the School Committee, know where they stand."

Konkoly said that another goal of the public standouts was to be available so that people could stop and ask questions about the contract and school district.

Major points of contention in the contract negotiations

Please see **EDUCATORS**, page 4

The story behind this year's Hampden Tree Lighting

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
krivers@turley.com

HAMPDEN - The community enjoyed an extraordinary event in this year's Annual Tree Lighting at the new town hall on Dec. 7.

What many people may not know is, there's quite a story behind it.

Paul Marcelina, the man who started it all, shared it began last year when his grandson, Jayden, attended the event.

From there, Marcelina—a resident of Hampden for over 20 years who also raised his two kids in town

Please see **TREE LIGHTING**, page 8



Turley photo by Noelle Hisgen

The St. Cecilia Youth Choir joins the Adult Choir for the song "O Come, Little Children."

St. Cecilia Parish hosts Festival of Carols

By Noelle Hisgen
Correspondent

WILBRAHAM - On Dec. 14, the Adult and Youth Choirs of St. Cecilia Parish hosted their annual Festival of Carols.

The adult choir performed a vast arrangement of 19 total songs, including the jazzy "We Three Kings," along with the classical "O Holy Night" and "Mary, Did You Know?"

The Adult Choir was directed by Dr. Todd A. Rov-

elli, and the Youth Choir was directed by Carolee McGrath.

During the concert, the choir invited the audience to participate in songs such as "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing," "O Come, All Ye Faithful," and "Joy to the World." The concert also featured the Youth Choir in two songs, "O Come, Little Children" and "Believe" from the hit film "The Polar Express."

The concert also showcased various subgroups of

the adult choir.

The women of the choir performed "Go, Tell It On The Mountain," which is a traditional African-American spiritual arrangement for three-part women's voices.

The St. Cecilia's cantors: Carol Adamski-Maggi, Jena Fallon, Mary Kate McGrath, and Leo Morrisey, performed a quartet arrangement of "Child of the Poor" and "What Child is This?"

Please see **CAROLS**, page 8



Turley photo by Kristin Rivers

This year's Annual Tree Lighting in Hampden has quite the origin story. Pictured here on the left is the grandson of Paul Marcelina, Jayden, with his friend Colton during the festivities enjoying their hot cocoa.

HISTORICAL WILBRAHAM

Another look at 'People from the Past'

From Joshua Brooks to Gen. Henry Knox

By Charles F. Bennett
Times Editor Emeritus

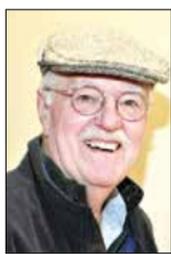
We received quite a few comments about our recent columns featuring Wilbraham historical figures that I call "People from the Past" - providing a brief profile on why they were important to the town.

They join historic figures

like Rev. Noah Merrick, the town's first minister, and Nathaniel Hitchcock, the town's first settler and more modern town characters like Town Meeting regular Don Flannery and peach grower and selectman Jesse Rice.

General Henry Knox

Because the new year will bring much attention to the country's 250th Birthday



Charlie Bennett

it also means that historians will be celebrating a revolutionary event tied to our hometown, when The Knox Trail came through Wilbraham led by Colonel Henry Knox's "noble train of artillery". They hauled captured British cannons from Ft. Ticonderoga at Crown Point, New York, traveled through Wilbraham, to the Continental Army camp outside Boston early in the Revolutionary

War. The cannons laid siege to Boston and ultimately forced the British troops to withdraw.

I will always make the connection between The Knox Trail and the late former Selectman John Lovejoy who passed away a few years ago of Covid-19.

I will always have an image of Lovejoy, donning a tri-cornered hat in 1976 when he participated in a re-enactment of trekking the route of

Please see **HISTORICAL**, page 8

62 Years Ago

'Blyth Spirit' to be Staged

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 December 1963 edition. "Blythe Spirit" by Noel Coward will be presented by the Wilbraham Community Theater on Thursday, Dec. 5 and Friday, Dec. 6 at the Minnechaug Regional High School. Parent-Teacher groups of the three Wilbraham schools are sponsors of the play. Proceeds will benefit scholarships.

Tickets are available from Mrs. Joseph Cotton of Memorial School; Mrs. Joseph Valentine of Pine School and Mrs. Francis Hartigan of Stony Hill School."

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HPD hosts Stuff-a-Cruiser Toy Drive

By Angelina Acevedo
Correspondent

HAMPDEN - As the holidays come closer with each passing day, it's important to remember children in need, and think about what their Christmas will be like.

In order to help local children and families during this time, the Hampden Police Department hosted Stuff a Cruiser on Sunday, Dec. 13.

Ofc. William Jacques, the town's school resource officer, explained what Stuff-a-Cruiser is, and how it helps to give children a better holiday.

"Basically, Stuff-a-Cruiser is a drive where people can come in and drop off new unwrapped toys. After we will take them, we put them in a cruiser, with the goal to fill it up as much as possible," Jacques said.

Jacques, along with Ofc. Michael Kane, volunteer Robert Dupre, and Chief Dan Bruno collected toys at Monson Savings Bank from 9 a.m. to Noon, but toys could, also, be dropped off at the Hampden Police Department up until Thursday, December 18.

Jacques shared what comes next.

"After the toys get sorted through, they get distributed through the schools to families who could use a little extra help during this time. We also give toys to families around town at their doorstep, which is also a great feeling," Jacques said. "This year, we received a bunch of winter jackets for kids and adults, so we'll also pass those out to children, seniors, and other adults who don't have access to one."

After entering Monson Savings Bank, donors were greeted with extra holiday surprises, like hot chocolate and coffee donated by the Bagel Nook, munchkins from Dunkin, and popcorn from the bank. Along with these offerings, Mr. and Mrs. Claus were waiting to take photos with excited children and hear what they wanted for



A group photo comprising of Chief Dan Bruno, Ofc. Michael Kane, William Jacques and Volunteer Robert Dupre. *Turley photos by Angelina Acevedo*

Christmas.

"We get a lot of educational toys, which is a really good thing," Jacques said. "We get some Barbie dolls, trucks, and a lot of other toys for younger kids around seven or eight. We've received a couple cash and check donations, which I'll use to buy gifts for the older teen range. So far, we haven't received many gifts for the 14 to 15 age group, so that's what those donations will go towards."

Jacques shared how Monson Savings Bank got involved in the event this year.

"Normally, we've done this event just at the Hampden Police Department, but Monson Savings Bank reached out to us and wanted to partner up. We're grateful for that opportunity, since we can reach more and new people through this location. All the donations and help we've received also deserves a very big thank you from the Department," Jacques said.

Santa and Mrs. Claus later stopped by the library up the road for a visit with families there, telling Times Editor Kristin Rivers they were moved by the community's support of the toy drive.

"We went there because the police officers were there and they were collecting toys for the boys and girls that might not get anything this year, so it was very nice to see generous people come in and leave toys for these boys and girls," he said. "It was a very, very nice event. We were very happy to see the people come in. There was quite a few and hopefully, this Christmas, them children that would not have received anything will get something and enjoy their Christmas."

Mrs. Claus was also moved by the generosity.

"People came in with boxes and bags of things and some people that saw that—didn't bring in anything—and they gave money as a do-

nation. So, that was a good thing, that was very nice, and they had hot chocolate and donuts and things for the people to have just coming in to the bank to do business," she said. "So, it was very nice. Everybody was friendly and talked to us and they talked to everybody. Some children came, but even the adults came and liked to say Merry Christmas and talk with us, so it went well."

The Hampden Police Department has done Stuff-a-Cruiser for five years in a row, with countless families around town offering their support to those in need of extra holiday magic.

"When I'm able to give a toy to a child in need, it makes me feel good. Families can do a lot of work to provide for their children, but this extra help can really bring a well-deserved smile to a child's face," Jacques said.

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Baby's First Christmas 2025



Fia Angelina Ferrentino

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Grandparents: Joao and Maria Dos Santos, Ludlow
Angelina Ferrentino, Longmeadow
Great Grandmother: Noemia Tereso, Ludlow



Lillian Marie O'Brien

August 28, 2025
Parents: Autumn and Michael O'Brien, Ellington, CT
Grandparents: Cynnaron and Steven Hebert, East Hartford, CT
Michael O'Brien, Sr., Natick
Great Grandparents: Carol Silva, Wilbraham
Denise and Adrian Hebert, East Hartford, CT

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Select Board approves letter of support after WMS discussion

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
krivers@turley.com

WILBRAHAM - The Select Board unanimously approved a letter of support to the School Committee to withdraw from the accelerated repair program and apply for the core building program for Wilbraham Middle School.

The Dec. 8 announcement comes after the board, the Hampden Selectboard and School Committee's joint meeting on Dec. 2.

Chair Michael Squindo thought the joint meeting "was a very productive meeting."

"I thought it was probably of the meetings that we had on this particular, general topic, one of the more positive and driven ones in terms of feeling like we're moving in the right direction as a group of partners," Squindo said.

Clerk Sue Bunnell

agreed.

"We're at a point of what, where we obviously, I think, in many ways are thankful to Mr. Ducey and his raising the brakes on the MSBA accelerated repair program to throw pieces of correction and adjustments and improvement at the Wilbraham Middle School building without a deep dive into bigger, more thorough assessment is unwise," Bunnell said. "So, I agree."

Vice Chair Marc Ducey also agreed on the meeting being productive.

"I thought the meeting was as productive as we could expect it. I was very happy with the progress we've made and look forward to seeing what comes ahead," Ducey said.

After Squindo noted the letter was still being drafted that evening, the board did their motions and votes.

The letter was later sent to the School Committee.

EDUCATORS from page 1

include cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) raises for teachers, compensation for paraprofessionals and paid parental leave.

COLA adjustments have not kept up with inflation, says Konkoly, and pay for paraprofessionals does not take into account the full importance of the work they do.

"Our former contracts reflected an age when paras were assistants; now they are more enmeshed in the educational process. For students with academic or emotional needs, paras are integral to our process," Konkoly said.

The lack of paid parental leave in the district is affecting family decisions regarding whether or not to continue teaching or to remain in the district, Konkoly added.

Darcey Walulak, an eighth-grade math teacher at Wilbraham Middle School and member of the bargaining committee, joined the demonstrators on Dec. 12.

"We haven't had a reasonable COLA in many years," Walulak said. "Our paras don't earn a living wage; some of them are working three jobs. There are ongoing maintenance and repair issues at Wilbraham Middle School, including a broken HVAC system, that aren't being addressed. We need to hire more people to get students the support they need. We've been bargaining in good faith for over a year on these issues. We've bent a lot—and nothing has happened."

Georgina Trebbe, is a licensed library teacher at Minnechaug Regional High School, vice president of the HWEA and a longtime Wilbraham resident.



Turley photo by Patricia Sullivan

Hampden-Wilbraham educators hold a demonstration on Main St. Dec. 12.

Trebbe said she came to the standstill on Main Street because, "Our community needs to know that we really care about what we do and the school. My kids went through the school system and my grandchildren will too. We know there is only so much pie in the town budget, but we want the community to be aware that they can support the community by supporting teachers and students."

Emma Pluta, a music teacher at Stony Hill and Soule Road schools, brought a sign reading: "We teach. We care. Students and staff deserve fair."

Pluta says she is hopeful for a fair contract that supports teachers.

"There is more on our

plates every year and we've been giving and giving," Pluta said.

Several at the demonstration agreed that working without a contract for so long has been demoralizing.

"Our requests are not being heard or and not being met with reasonable responses," said Konkoly said.

"It results in uncertainty and we feel undervalued," added Walulak.

The HWRSD School Committee did not provide a comment on the standouts when contacted via email, but both the union and the School Committee have expressed hope for a timely resolution of contract negotiations.

In a prior statement submitted to the Times from

School Committee Chair Michal Boudreau on behalf of the School Committee, the committee wrote in part:

"Our goal has been to settle these contracts quickly so we can provide well-deserved raises and keep the district focused on teaching and learning. We recognize that prolonged negotiations create uncertainty for staff and families....Both parties have concluded that we are at an impasse and have jointly requested mediation. We will participate fully and in good faith, with the shared goal of reaching an agreement that supports educators, protects students, and remains financially sustainable for both communities."

Men's Glee Club to begin rehearsals

WILBRAHAM - The Wilbraham Men's Glee Club (TTBB), accompanied by Marcia Jackson and conducted by Raymond Drury, will begin rehearsals for the 2026 concert season on Monday evening, Jan. 5, at Christ The King/Epiphany Church on Main Street in Wilbraham at 7 p.m.

Rehearsals will continue each Monday thereafter and culminate with two concerts in the spring, one in Wilbraham and one in Longmeadow.

Drury has chosen an

eclectic and compelling program, consisting of classical pieces, contemporary works, folk songs, pop tunes with a few surprises along the way.

While no auditions are required, singers should be able to sing a tenor, baritone bass part independently and comfortably within the context of traditional 2, 3 and 4 part choral music. A modest fee will be imposed to cover the cost of sheet music.

For more information, please visit us at Wilbraham Choral Society on Facebook.

Hope to see you there.

Visit us at www.turley.com

Crafternoon at Wilbraham Senior Center

WILBRAHAM - Join us for a special Crafternoon, "Vision 2026" on Thursday, Jan. 22 from 1 to 3 p.m.

Create an inspiring vision board to keep your goals front and center as we head in 2026.

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'Warbirds of WWII' land at Hampden Senior Center

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
krivers@turley.com

HAMPDEN - The community gathered at the senior center on Dec. 10 to enjoy a presentation on the Warbirds of World War II.

The event was presented by the New England Air Museum and showcased several warbirds on display including the Boeing B-29 Superfortress, the Goodyear ZNP-28 Blimp Control Car, the Sikorsky R-4 helicopter or "Hoverfly", the P-47 Thunderbolt and the Vought XF4U-4 "Corsair."

Also, a history of the museum and its programming was presented along with unique items directly from the museum including a helmet, parachute, flight goggles, headphones and a bomber jacket, and Christopher Doyle, a resident who served in the Air Force for 35 years as an active duty member and reserve member at Westover with the 49th Fighter Wing, showcased his artwork.

The event was sponsored by Pat Sherman from Edward Jones.

Doyle, who also served as an avionics flight chief before retirement and did 9 years with the FAA, shared his art pieces began in 1983 and vary from pencils to paint and chalk.

"So, what you did was you came up with a composition and you went forward with it. So, with every airplane you see here there's probably three sketches, four sketches, just to get the composition and the look and then when I decided on one, I would go with it," Doyle said.

Doyle was thrilled with the turnout and enjoyed the



Air Force Veteran Christopher Doyle shows off his artwork.

event. "Just to see the people come out and see the facts that are out there, the information that was there," Doyle said. "It was nice. I mean, that's what the senior center is for and I support that."

Two of Doyle's art pieces are also on display at the Pentagon.

"The Air Force Art Program (at the) Pentagon is anybody can petition them with work— with artwork— and if you go through the paperwork and commission, they'll accept the pieces then. What they do as they see fit, they take the ownership of the piece and they reproduce them on G Class and they send them out as a package to different bases, so the bases can hang the pictures in their squadrons and headquarters and stuff like that. So, there's a lot of pictures out there," Doyle said.

Tiana Darling, operations and programs manager at the New England Air Museum, has been with the museum for nearly seven years and started in the education department when she was a graduate student. From there, she moved to her current role, along with overseeing the Adult Aerospace Academy programs.

"We have a lot of really cool programs at the museum, including our Adult Aerospace Academy, which brings a lot of different lectures and presentations to the museum for our audience, including things like history of Pratt and Whitney, aircraft accident investigations.



A close-up of the bomber jacket worn during World War II.

We've done some with astronauts and different programs of sorts, so we do those in the spring and fall," Darling said.

Darling was elated with the engagement during the presentation, explaining this was also done at the East Longmeadow Senior Center, which is how the HSC found them.

She also expressed a desire to do more of these in Hampden in the future, adding on-site and virtual programs are usually offered.

"It's really great to be able

Please see **WARBIRDS**, page 9



Turley photos by Kristin Rivers. This slide showcases the history of the Vought XF4U-4 "Corsair."



Here, an interior shot of the cockpit for the Boeing B-29 "Superfortress."



The Sikorsky R-4 helicopter or "Hoverfly" was another World War II warbird presented to the audience.

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VIEWPOINTS

SOCIAL SECURITY

Matters

By Russell Gloor

Why won't Social Security give me my benefits?

Dear Rusty:

I called the Social Security office, as well as went with my husband when he went to collect his Social Security. Because I work full-time at about \$800/week, they said I could not file for my Social Security. Yet I seem to read articles all the time about people doing so.

My husband just filed for his benefits and is now collecting them. Out of the two of us, his Social Security will be larger. Please advise me.

Signed: Wanting my Benefits

Dear Wanting my Benefits:

If you have not yet reached your SS Full Retirement Age and you are working full time, you are likely being affected by Social Security's Annual Earnings Test, which limits how much you can earn while collecting Social Security prior to your FRA. Your FRA is somewhere between 66 and 67, depending on when you were born. The annual earnings limit for those collecting SS benefits prior to FRA in 2025 is \$23,400 (changes yearly) and, if that is exceeded, Social Security will take away benefits equal to \$1 for every \$2 you are over the limit. If you applied for your benefits and are still working, and were denied, it's likely because Social Security determined that your current annual earnings considerably exceed the earnings limit and, thus, you cannot collect benefits. That's because the penalty for exceeding the limit would be more than your benefit amount.

FYI, the earnings limit will go away when you reach your full retirement age so, after FRA, you can claim your benefits even if you are still working. Or if you stop working before your FRA you can collect your SS benefits at that time.

None of this means you are losing money, because your monthly SS payment will continue to grow until you later claim (e.g., after

you stop working, or only work part-time), or until you reach 70 years of age. When you later claim, your monthly benefit will be higher and, depending on your longevity, you may recover what you didn't get now because you are working. And that includes both your own SS retirement benefit and any spousal boost you may be entitled to from your husband.

So, my suggestion is this: as long as you are working full time and exceeding Social Security's annual earnings limit, continue to wait to claim your Social Security. Then, when you reach your full retirement age – again, between 66 and 67, depending on the year you were born or if you stop working before that, go ahead and apply for Social Security again.

At that time, your application will be approved, and you will be awarded your own earned SS retirement amount plus any additional amount you may be due as your husband's spouse. To be entitled to a spousal boost from your husband, your own FRA entitlement must be less than 50% of your husband's FRA entitlement. But the amount you get will be reduced if you claim before your full retirement age.

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



Holiday safety reminder

WILBRAHAM/HAMPDEN - As the holiday season approaches, many will unwrap gifts containing lithium-ion batteries.

Always avoid leaving devices plugged in overnight or charging them unattended, and ensure you use chargers specifically designed for your device. Regularly inspect batteries for signs of damage, swelling, or leaks; if any issues arise, discontinue use immediately and dispose of the battery properly.

When using space heaters, exercise caution by keeping them at least three feet away from flammable materials and never leaving them unattended. Additionally, ensure your home is equipped with working smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detection.

Let's continue to make 2026 a safe and happy year for our community!

A message from your Wilbraham and Hampden fire & life safety educators.

Editorial

Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus

By Francis P. Church in 1897

Dear Editor,

I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say that there is no Santa Claus. Papa says "If you see it in the Sun, it is so." Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?

Virginia

Your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except what they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds.

All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as cer-

tainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to our life its highest beauty and joy.

Alas! How dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus? You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your Papa to hire men to watch all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove?

Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men

can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders that are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, or even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernatural beauty and glory beyond.

Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else as real and abiding.

No Santa Claus? Thank God he lives and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, maybe 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the hearts of children.



Two holiday plants suited for gift giving

Are you in need of a plant for a hostess gift this holiday season but poinsettias aren't your cup of tea? Look no further! I will give you my top two non-poinsettia picks, and share my experiences growing these plants.

Hopefully you will find the perfect gift for someone on your list.

Florist Cyclamen (Cyclamen persicum) is a delightful indoor plant that flowers during the winter months and is available at local nurseries and box stores. Its quarter-sized blooms in red, pink and white are unique in that the petals are bent back and held above pretty, heart-shaped, silver-margined leaves.

There are varying types available with fancy flowers and intricately patterned foliage.

The cyclamen plant is tuberous and unfortunately is best propagated by seed or by division of its fibrous roots. Usually this task is left to the experts who are best able to deal with erratic germination and roots that are susceptible to rot.

A few years back I became the owner of my very first cyclamen (thanks, Mom!). I had a little trouble after awhile.

During the spring its leaves yellowed and fell off so I threw it out. Little did I know that leaf loss was supposed to happen! It was going dormant.

With the cyclamen's bloom time during the winter, it has a period of dormancy mid spring through the end of summer when it's leaves will yellow and shed and it will demand next to no water. This time frame is opposite of

what we are used to with our perennial flowers that bloom during the summer and

in the Garden

by Roberta McQuaid



go dormant during the winter.

In late August, we can begin watering again and leaves will sprout anew before the blooming cycle begins during the fall.

Another favorite holiday plant by the name of Paperwhites start out as a bulb. The bulbs are available now by mail and from local nurseries and garden centers.

Sometimes you can "fill a bag" with the exact number you want, which is really neat. Upon inspection of the bulb and the picture on the label, you'll note that Paperwhites look very much like our outdoor daffodils.

Paperwhites are cousins to these spring harbingers and bloom easily inside with little more than light, something to

anchor the developing roots (soil or rocks) and water to get them growing. They don't need to go through a period of cold in order to bloom like outdoor narcissus do.

In just about four weeks after planting you'll be delighted with flowers galore!

Decide for yourself if you like the fragrance or you find it a little overpowering. Prevent leaves and stems from stretching by placing your container in a cool spot in your home during the night and enjoy the flowers in your living spaces during the day.

After flowering is done, throw the bulbs out free of guilt; they won't bloom again consistently. One year you may remember that I did try to regrow the bulbs by allowing them to dry out within the container I had first grown them in. Of the four bulbs, two had life left in them a year later.

I watered and waited and leaves did grow, but no flowers ever came. I ended up chalking it up to an experience and starting over with new bulbs the following winter.

Have fun experimenting with these plants or any number of beauties worthy of a good home for the holidays.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 33 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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Correction Policy

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.

The Wilbraham-Hampden TIMES is published every Thursday by Turley Publications, Inc. One year out of town subscriptions are available at \$45, out of state \$50 by calling 800-824-6458 Ext. 201. The deadline for submission of news material, letters to the editor and photos is Monday at 12 p.m. The TIMES is not responsible for submitted photos.

Election letters to the editor welcome

The Wilbraham-Hampden Times welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to Wilbraham-Hampden Times, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to krivers@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Thursday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

For more information, call the editor at 413-283-8393.

Campaign news

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

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in Wilbraham-Hampden Times.

A COMMUNITY GALLERY

Life in &

Readers are encouraged to send in medium to high resolution photos for this page by e-mail to krivers@turley.com or mail to TIMES, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

WILBRAHAM HAMPDEN

Rotary donates toys to YWCA Women's Shelter.....

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



Submitted photo and caption Cherie Spinks

State Rep. Puppolo supports Toy Drive

Representative Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr. (D-Springfield) stopped by HasBeen Collectible Toys & Comics in Wilbraham at a recent event to contribute to their Holiday Toy Drive for Toys for Tots (Rik Alvarez, Owner, HasBeen).

Garden club decorations bring Christmas cheer



Submitted photo and caption Susan Austin

Members of the Hampden Garden Club contributed to the town's Christmas spirit by decorating the gazebo at the Hampden Town Offices with holiday greens and garlands. The Club also donated poinsettias and helped decorate the Hampden Town Library.



Photo and caption courtesy of Charlie Bennett

Each member who attended the Dec. 10 Wilbraham-Hampden Rotary Club Holiday Party at LaCucina in Hampden donated a toy to the YWCA Domestic Violence Shelter Dec. 12 in Springfield. YWCA Executive Director Liz Dineern (left) accepts toys from Rotary members (left to right) Larry Ottoson, Charlie Bennett and Brad Sperry. For information on joining the club, call Sperry at 413-537-4171. (YWCA photo)

WMS Robotics winning Robot Performance Award



Submitted photo and caption Samuel Kar Kin Lam

WMS Robotics team wins Robot Performance Award and advances to the FLL State Championship at Worcester Polytechnic Institute: (L-R) Reid Blanchard, Sam Castellano, Genette Fanning, Riya Kar, George Lam, and Joe Montano.

WMS Robotics winning Robot Design Award at State Championship



Submitted photos and captions Samuel Kar Kin Lam

WMS Robotics team wins first place out of 72 teams in the robot design category at the FLL State Championship in Worcester Polytechnic Institute: (L-R) Genette Fanning, George Lam, Sam Castellano, Joe Montano, and Riya Kar.



WMS Robotics team showcases engineering prowess at the FLL State Championship: (Front row, L-R) FLL volunteer, Riya Kar, Genette Fanning, Reid Blanchard, Joe Montano, and FLL volunteer.



Submitted photo and caption Jill Moccio Connors

Babes for a Cause supports Shriner's Children's

The Third Annual Babes For A Cause, Shop For A Reason The Holiday Tour took place on Nov. 29 at The Starting Gate at GreatHorse in Hampden to support Shriner's Children's New England. The event featured 48 women-owned businesses, a VIP session from 2 to 4 p.m. with VIP bags of local goodies and first dibs on shopping and complimentary services from Salon Tres Chic and Day Spa, Deb Koske (Reiki Master) Lisa Bernardini LMT, and Kathleen Farris (Spiritual Mediumship Reader). By general admission time, just under 400 guests arrived to enjoy signature cocktails, small plates for purchase, a 360 photobooth, live acoustic music provided by Dave Feeley and Rob Jacque of Project 267 and more. The event raised \$24,167 thanks to support from numerous sponsors, ticket sales and vendor and guest donations!

THIS PAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU AS A COMMUNITY SERVICE BY:

MERRY EVERYTHING!

May the spirit of goodwill and unity reach every corner of our community!
Thank you for being a part of our hometown community news.

CAROLS

from page 1

Rovelli also performed two piano duets with choir member Ella Gagliarducci, performing “Deck the Halls” and “Jingle Bells.”

The choir also had a special surprise song for the end, as they performed the opening theme to the popular movie, “Elf.”

The choirs were accompanied by Bruce Diehl (Saxophone, Clarinet, Flute), Donna Kennedy (Flute), Jill Mongeau (Percussion), Sawyer Lisowski (Percussion), Peter Roe (Trumpet), Ella Gagliarducci (Piano), along with Rovelli (Piano, Organ)

Rovelli spoke about the festival.

“What you hear at the performance represents three and a half months of rigorous weekly two-hour rehearsals. The creative process of producing the concert and watching the choir progress from week-to-week is something I always enjoy,” Rovelli said. “The music we perform



The Adult Choir performs one of their holiday selections for the audience.



Music Director Dr. Todd A. Rovelli welcomes the audience to the Festival of Carols.

is uplifting for me personally and even more so when it brings joy to the audience. It’s amazing to me that the adult and youth choirs, which range in age from seven to 93 and consist entirely of volunteers, combine to make such beautiful music. I can’t wait for Festival of Carols 2026!”

Speaking on behalf of the adult choir was member Diane Diehl.

“The concert this week was a beautiful expression of the love for each other and for our community. Music has the

ability to bring us together in a shared experience that transcends everything else. Those two hours were magical, spiritual and healing,” Diehl said.

Carolee McGrath, the youth choir director, was also excited about the concert.

“This a great opportunity to bring both choirs together. It’s beautiful to see people of all ages singing their hearts out for the Lord. The concert is really about glorifying Christ and it’s an honor to be able to do that,” McGrath said.



Turley photos by Noelle Hisgen

The audience joins together to sing “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing.”

McGrath enjoys singing with the choir at the parish, especially around the holidays.

“This year’s experience was special once again! I was able to sing next to my daughter who is now a leader in the youth choir - she started out when she was three years old with the youth choir. Music

ministry has been a great gift in our family and it was an honor to sing with this talented group,” McGrath said.

It was a beautiful celebration of voices in music coming together in harmony to celebrate the season of Christmas.

TREE LIGHTING

from page 1

with his wife—wondered what could be done to enhance the event for all.

“It just seems that as things evolve and time has passed, the tree lighting continued to reduce in size and I don’t know why. After looking at last year’s events, I said to myself, ‘There’s got to be something that we can do to enhance this and recreate that experience that my kids grew up with,’” Marcelina said. “I think it’s important. I think it’s great when community comes together for a common goal and it was my desire to kind of get back to the days of the past and create something that was exciting and we could continue to build on.”

As a member of the Spirit of Springfield event in Springfield, Marcelina explained he had the ability to acquire light fixtures that he origi-

nally thought would be illuminated down Allen Street, East Longmeadow Road into Wilbraham Road and the area around the old town hall on Main Street.

However, when that didn’t pan out, he reached out to Valerie Santilli who lives in Avon, Connecticut, who wanted to donate lights her father used for a display in New Hampshire.

“His display encompassed 30 acres and had over six million lights. It was incredible and he did this for his community. He just did it for community involvement, as a way to give back and a way for everyone to celebrate the holidays together, because it’s one of the few times a year that we all seem to put our differences aside and focus on what really matters, and that’s our children and the magic of the holiday season,” Marcelina said. “I want to do that in Hampden because I think that’s important, as a com-

munity, we support the future generation.”

The support Marcelina received from the community, which included Paul Picknelly, Valerie Santilli and her parents, John Chakalos and Rita B. Chakalos, Reverend Mark S. Stelzer, pastor at St. Mary’s Parish and co-vicar for clergy for the Diocese of Springfield and local business support from Lou’s Bagel Nook, Nick Tournberg with East Meadow Enterprises, Kevin Sacco with KSacco Electrical, Sami Hajrizi from Green Stone Landscaping, Springfield Thunderbirds, Uno’s Chicago Grill, the carolers and the police and fire departments, meant a lot.

“I asked them for support and it was, ‘What can I do?’ They didn’t even have to think about it. So, for me, it was very motivating and humbling that there was a handful of local businesses that saw the importance of this and rose to the occasion

to help put this together for the community,” Marcelina said. “We put on, in my opinion, for year one, a wonderful event for the young community of the town of Hampden and the surrounding communities for sure.”

Marcelina’s goals moving forward—now that the tree lighting will be at the new town hall on Wilbraham Road—include several ideas, from looking for a permanent sound system as opposed to using a portable one, getting the word out more about the annual event by bringing back or creating an event committee to expanding the event to include a Toys for Tots collection drive.

Also, utilizing the gazebo and tree throughout the year, whether displaying red lights on Valentine’s Day, orange lights for Halloween or pink lights for Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

“So, it can be a visual message throughout the course of

the year,” Marcelina said.

For Marcelina, it’s all about bringing community together.

“Sunday night says it all, right? On a Sunday night, people gave up a couple hours of their time and came out and supported the tree lighting in its new location,” Marcelina said. “I’m sure there was skepticism, I’m sure there was people that didn’t know what to expect, and yet you had over 200 people in attendance and they were singing along with the carolers. When the parade came down the street, the kids ran. Ran with excitement to the end of the driveway yelling, ‘Santa! Santa! Santa!’ I mean, that, itself, is why.”

He also observed the parents and grandparents expressing joy.

“Hampden is an incredible town, it’s wonderful,” Marcelina said. “As I enter Hampden, you see the wild. You see the animals, we have deer, we

have bears, we have turkeys. It’s just an incredible community and area to live in. It’s a community that supports each other.”

On what he enjoyed most about this year’s tree lighting, it was all of the community support and success.

“Knowing it was successful on year one, I just want to be able to grow it year two and three and so on and so forth. I think there’s a lot we can introduce to the future years,” Marcelina said.

Marcelina thanked the community for their support, also encouraging others to get involved in the parade and share their ideas.

“I promise that next year will be bigger and we’ll have improved communications and we’ll have other activities,” Marcelina said. “Again, thank you for those that helped. If you came out, I hope you enjoyed yourselves and if you couldn’t make it, we hope to see you next year.”

HISTORICAL from page 1

Colonel *Henry Knox’s* entourage on the Knox Trail. They had traveled through Wilbraham on Route 20 (Boston Road) commemorating *Knox’s “Train of Artillery”* from Ft. Ticonderoga to Boston in the winter 1775-1776.

For a good background on why the Knox Trail was important to Wilbraham, you should read local historian Dave Bourcier’s chapter “General Knox’s Epic Expedition with his ‘Noble Train of Artillery Through Wilbraham’” in his 2025 book, “Historic Tales of Wilbraham”. The book is for sale at the Old Meetinghouse Museum Gift Shop in the center of town.

Knox was commissioned by George Washington to transport 59 cannons from captured forts on Lake Champlain, to the Patriot army camp outside Boston to aid in the war effort against the occupying British forces.

Knox passed through here on Jan. 15 and 16, 1776 and reported to Gen. Washington on Jan. 24, 1776. The heavyset, portly Knox was the first secretary of war.

The re-enactment in 1975 was part of the country-wide celebration of the country’s Bicentennial of 200 years of nationhood. Lovejoy joined the re-enactors and was photographed with the trekkers as they journeyed through town to the Palmer line with oxen pulling the antique cannons.

In 1975 my family and our friends, the late Wilbraham Police Sgt. Ned Baker and his wife Carolyn, walked down from their house on Maynard Road to where it emptied out onto Boston Road and watched the reenactors, men and oxen, travel by on their way east to Boston. There is a granite marker commemorating the Knox Trail in Wil-



Gen. Henry Knox hauled captured British cannons from Ft. Ticonderoga at Crown Point, N. Y. and traveled through Wilbraham to Boston in 1775-76 at the start of the Revolutionary War. (Times file photo)

braham at the corner of Main Street and Maple Street.

For our own 250th birthday, Lovejoy was the keynote speaker in the kickoff of the town’s celebration of its 250th birthday on a frigid New Year’s Eve, 2013.

Joshua Brooks

Joshua Brooks, an industrialist and gentleman farmer from Wilbraham did a lot of work to develop and make the Big E a household word.

According to material provided by the Big E, Joshua L. Brooks, just shy of 21 years old, opened his own business in Boston in 1888. The J.L. Brooks Bank Note and Lithographing Company produced business forms and labels, along with other stationery supplies.

The following year, he relocated his business to Springfield and by 1900 was an innovator in the printing industry. Later he moved his manufacturing facility to what is now called Mason Square, formerly Winchester Square, section of Springfield on Wilbraham Road, less than eight miles from Wilbraham.

He was active in the

Greater Springfield business community. Joshua was also the owner of Brookmont, a 300-acre farm in Wilbraham. The hilly Brookmont residential area of town on the east side of Main Street got its name from his farm that was situated there.

Joshua’s passion for farming, derived from his agricultural work in Wilbraham, inspired his goal to advance the science.

Joshua’s rare gift of excelling both in farming and business alike brought him to help found the Eastern States Exposition. He wrote, “I carried the idea of what has become the Eastern States Exposition around with me, in my head and on bits of scrap paper, for almost two years before I finally decided the time had come for action,” he said.

With the help of 12 others in the community, Brooks, purchased 175 acres of former swampland in West Springfield, which became the home of the Exposition. Brooks served as president from 1914 to 1942.

He needed to book a show that would attract the community and benefit local farmers. So, he and his colleagues



Joshua Brooks, an industrialist and gentleman farmer from Wilbraham, did a lot of work to develop and make the Big E a household word. (Times file photo)

traveled to Chicago and met with the executive board of the National Dairy Show ultimately bringing the Midwestern show to the Exposition grounds in 1916.

Sadly, after enjoying many years of Big E milestones, Joshua Brooks was struck with a cardiac-related illness in 1941 and resigned as president. He died in 1949. His son J. Loring Brooks, also of Wilbraham, later served as exposition president from 1958 to 1967.

1st Lt. Theodore**A. Hodgdon**

In December of 1963 Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Hodgdon of Ridge Road received word that their son 1st Lt. Theodore

During that period he exhibited courage “under extremely hazardous conditions including continuous harassment by unfriendly forces.”

Lt. Hodgdon was educated in Wilbraham public schools and at the time of his combat action he had three aunts living in town. They were Mrs. Harold (Clara) Elkas, Mrs. Marino Scafidu and Mrs. Raymond Trombley.

Revolutionary Moment

We continue to honor our country’s birthday, 250 years of freedom, each month.

Luther Ainsworth of Wilbraham served in Capt. John Carpenter’s Guards of Springfield from Oct. 19, 1779 to April 20, 1780. He also served in Capt. Levi Ely’s Company and enlisted in John Brown’s Regt for three months in 1780. Luther died in battle along with 45 others near Little Falls (west of Albany) when Brown’s Regiment, marching up the Mohawk River to relieve the New York Frontier, was ambushed by a party of Indians and Tories who were defeated later that same day at Fox’s Mills by Gen. Van Rensselaer.

Sources: “History of Wilbraham Bicentennial Edition 1763-1963” edited by Charles Merrick; “The History of Wilbraham, 1731, 1763-1913 by Chauncey E. Peck; “Military Rolls of Outward Commons” by J. Bruce Tingle.

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.

His citation said he participated in sustained aerial flights as a pilot in the Republic of Vietnam from March 14, 1962 to May 9, 1963.

WARBIRDS from page 5

to share that history with everybody and to be able to engage such a big audience," Darling said. "We love to get out in the community and connect with people."

Darling's personal favorite warbird is the Goodyear ZNPK-28 Blimp Control Car.

"It is the control car for World War II-era blimp that is used to protect shipping convoys from German U-boats during the war, so that one's my favorite because it's unique. We have the only one in the world restored back to its World War II era and a lot of people don't know that blimps were such an important part of Naval World War II history," Darling said.

She added the museum's biggest goal is getting information out to the public, thanking Edward Jones, the senior center and attendees for their support.

"We love to educate, whether that is little children up to adults and beyond, so we love to be able to bring this history to people to connect with it, learn from it. It's really important to keep that history alive for the next generation," Darling said.

Doyle thanked the senior center for bringing the museum to the community.

"The senior center, especially, should be proud of themselves for bringing the people here to see this information. The last 20 years, I heard about the museum, but I haven't seen anything. This is good, this is

good," Doyle said. "Everybody that leaves this room today is going to repeat what they heard to somebody, so the message, the folders I hope she hands out, it's going to magnify and I think they're going to see an influx of visitors. I'm going to go!"

The New England Air Museum is currently open Tuesdays through Sundays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and neam.org has more information on programs and events.

One of the New England Air Museum programs includes the Adult Aerospace Academy. In this photo, attendees had the opportunity to virtually meet Fred Haise, an astronaut pilot on the Apollo 13 mission.



Happy Holidays

FROM ALL OF US TO ALL OF YOU!

Thank you for making our whole year brighter with your visits and for your continued trust in us. We wish you joy, peace and abundance today and all year!



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MRHS Student Council holds crafting event

By Natalie Proulx
Correspondent

WILBRAHAM - On Sunday from 10 a.m. to Noon on Dec. 14, Minnechaug Regional High School's Student Council arranged a Santa Crafting event for family members of district employees.

Families were able to see Santa arrive at Minnechaug in a firetruck, construct seasonal crafts at stations hosted by members of the Student Council, and be able to enjoy treats supplied by the Hampden-Wilbraham Partners for Youth Coalition.

When families first arrived, they were greeted at the doors of the Minnechaug cafeteria by Santa's Student Council elves, as well as by ambassadors of the Hampden-Wilbraham Partners for Youth Coalition, who supplied hot cocoa and cookies for the event.

One of the ambassadors mentioned how attending this holiday function, "...doing something good for the community and giving back," was the basis for a feel-good event.

Student Council members also ushered kids and their families outside to see the exciting arrival of St. Nick trav-

eling to the high school via firetruck. After his grand entrance, Santa is welcomed into the Minnechaug Christmas Workshop, with families being called to see Santa while they hop from craft to craft.

From popsicle stick snowmen, to Christmas gnomes, to metal snowflakes, all different varieties of crafts were hosted around 14 tables in the Min-

Please see **MRHS**, page 13

Photo courtesy of Lucy Haile
Minnechaug's Student Council posing with Santa Claus.



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SPORTS

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Fourth-quarter comeback helps Falcons score win

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

WILBRAHAM— Four of the previous five games played between the Agawam and Minnechaug Regional boys' varsity basketball teams were decided by less than ten points.

The only meeting of the 2025-26 regular season between the two squads was another close affair.

The Minnechaug Falcons overcame a four point deficit at the start of the fourth quarter to defeat the Brownies, 67-56, in their home opener, last Monday night (Dec. 15).

"Since I joined the varsity team as a freshman, we've played a couple of close games against Agawam," said Minnechaug senior guard Miles Fergus, who scored 13 of his game-high 23 points after halftime. "We played locked down defense in the fourth quarter, which was the difference maker in tonight's game. We also made our shots."

A year ago, the Falcons pulled out a 60-56 non-league win over the Brownies at Cliff Kibbe Gymnasium. They also faced each other in a non-playoff game last February with Agawam celebrating a 59-52 home win in that contest.

The home victory improved the Falcons overall record to 2-1, while the Brownies fell to 1-1.

"We lost a couple of close games last season," said Minnechaug head coach Mike Orzech. "I think that experience has helped us so far this season."

One of the Falcons newcomers this winter is sophomore guard Max Fergus,

who's Miles younger brother. He contributed 18 points in the home opener.

"It's awesome playing on the same basketball team with my younger brother for the first time," Miles Fergus said. "He makes my job a lot easier."

Max Fergus transferred to Minnechaug from Pope Francis before the start of the school year. He scored 71 points as a freshman member of the Cardinals varsity hoop team.

"I'm very glad that I made the decision to come to school here," Max Fergus said. "My brother is a senior and I just wanted to play on the same basketball team with him."

The younger Fergus, who was a member of the Pope Francis varsity basketball team last year, chipped in with 18 points in the home opener against Agawam.

Minnechaug senior forward Caden Duke scored eight of his 11 points over the final eight minutes of the contest.

"Caden does all of the little things for us," Orzech said. "He contributed offensively in tonight's game."



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Max Fergus flies for a shot.

Javmiel Martinez sends the jump shot away.

Freshman forward Nelson Cohen added eight points for the home team.

The Brownies also have a transfer player this year. Sophomore guard Trevor Moynihan scored 700 career

points for the Hoosac Valley boys basketball team as an eighth grader and sophomore before switching high schools. He began this season by scoring 26 points in a 68-40 win over West Springfield at the Pioneer Valley tip-off held at the UMass-Amherst Mullins Center two days ear-



Miles Fergus attempts a three-pointer.

lier.

Sophomore guard Dylan Jorgensen came off the bench to score a team-high 17 points against Minnechaug. Sophomore guard Brody Sheehan, whose father, Tim, is the Brownies varsity basketball coach, also reached double digits with 11 points. He made a total of three 3-pointers in the second quarter.

The Agawam head coach wasn't very pleased with his team's performance in the road loss.

"We're a young team and we made a couple of costly mistakes," said Tim Sheehan boarding the team bus for the trip home. "They had a couple of players step up in the fourth quarter when the game

was on the line. I have high expectations for my players, and we just need to play a lot better."

The only two seniors listed on the Brownies varsity roster are Jaiden Briotta and Aiden Lavelle. Neither player scored any points against Minnechaug.

The Falcons, who entered the fourth quarter trailing, 49-45, scored six unanswered points. They grabbed a one point lead (50-49) following an inside hoop from Duke with six minutes remaining in regulation.

A little more than a minute later, Moynihan made a pair of free throws which tied the score for the final time at 51-51.

Minnechaug then scored six more points. The spurt began with a Duke put-back basket before Max Fergus made a lay-up and two foul shots.

Jorgensen cut the Brownies deficit in half by sinking a 3-pointer from the left side with 3:15 left on the scoreboard clock. A minute later, Jorgensen made two free throws, which made the score 59-56.

Agawam, who missed several 3-pointers, couldn't get any closer than that, as Minnechaug scored the final eight points of the game.

Miles Fergus scored four points on two lay-ups before his younger brother made four free throws sealing the Falcons first home win of the regular.

The Falcons raced out to a 13-2 lead in first four minutes of the opening quarter.

"We got off to a quick start at the start of the game,

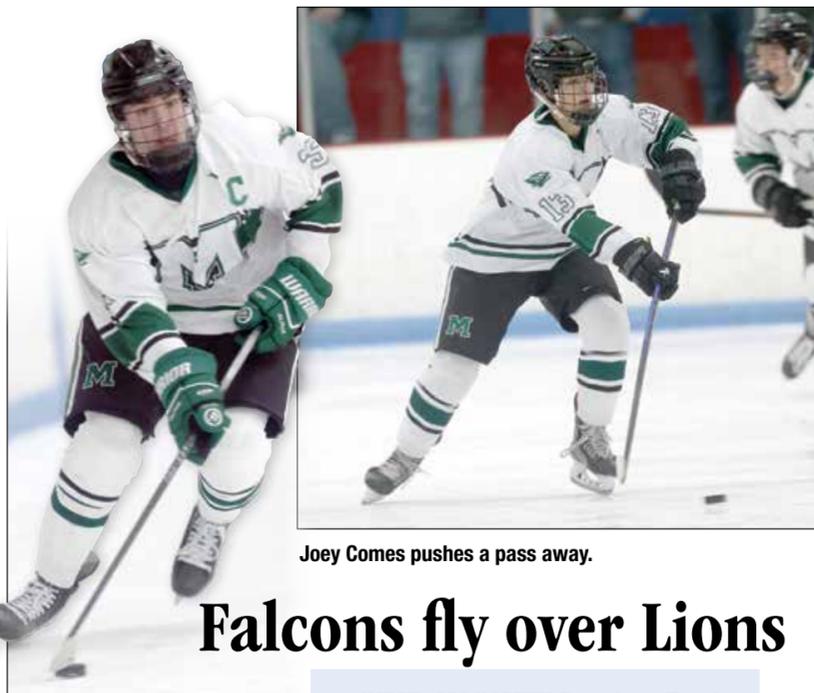
Please see **FALCONS**, page 12



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Billy Lapalm heads into the offensive zone.



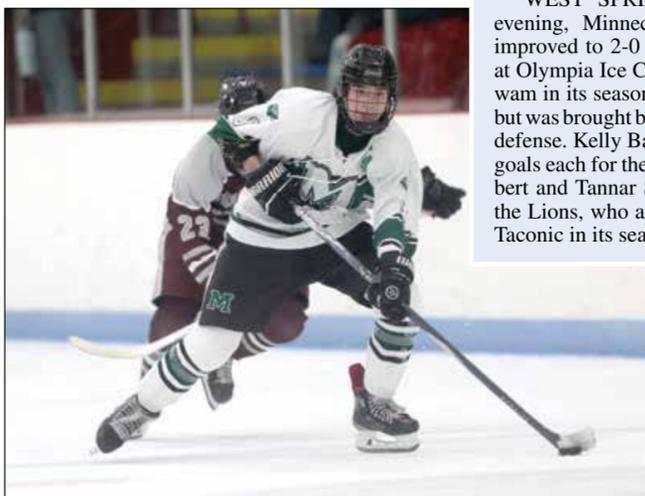
Kelly Balog looks at an open teammate.



Joey Comes pushes a pass away.

Falcons fly over Lions

WEST SPRINGFIELD – Last Tuesday evening, Minnechaug Regional ice hockey improved to 2-0 with a 5-2 win over Ludlow at Olympia Ice Center. Ludlow trounced Agawam in its season opener, scoring eight goals, but was brought back to Earth by Minnechaug's defense. Kelly Balog and Jake Moore had two goals each for the Falcons while Andrew Lambert and Tannar Severyn had single goals for the Lions, who are 1-1. Minnechaug defeated Taconic in its season opener 12-0.



Dom Fiorentino looks ready to shoot.



Brady Faneuff goes after the loose puck.

Chaug girls make it 2-0 with win

NORTHAMPTON – Last Monday night, Minnechaug Regional High School girls basketball defeated Northampton on the road with a huge offensive performance.

The Falcons were strong in the middle of the game and led to a 75-35 victory. Minnechaug defeated Westfield in its season opener on Dec. 12.

Against the Blue Devils, the Falcons had three double-digits scorers, led by Zahara Wilson with 28 points. Cailin O'Brien had 17 points and Abbi Stachowicz scored 13 points. Elizabeth Woytowicz chipped in nine points.

The Falcons will face South Hadley at home on Tuesday, Dec. 30 at 6:30 p.m.

SPORTS

Rogers recognized by MIAA

FRANKLIN – The MIAA recognized 21 game officials from across the state as the 2024-2025 Game Officials of the Year during a celebratory banquet held Monday, Dec. 15 at the Doubletree Milford.

The MIAA annually recognizes the best game officials from the over 5,000 officials in Massachusetts as nominated by their peers. The following individuals were nominated and ultimately selected as the best in their craft:

Among those recognized was longtime umpire Andrew Rogers from South Hadley. Rogers is also the umpire assignor for Western Mass. high school baseball and multiple adult leagues as well as American Legion summer baseball.



Offense gets going early in Worcester Railers win

WORCESTER – Although they are very much alive in the ECHL's North Division playoff race, they were — for one night anyway — the late Worcester Railers.

They beat the Norfolk Admirals 6-2 last Wednesday and scored a goal in the closing seconds of all three periods. Worcester got one with two seconds left in the first, 10 seconds go in the second and 2.1 ticks remaining in the game.

Worcester's goals were all scored by different players. Ten different players had points. Parker Gahegan continued his wonderful play in net by stopping 31 shots. That included 16 of 17 in the second period when Norfolk desperately tried to get back into a game it trailed, 4-0, after 20 minutes.

That's right. The Railers had a 4-0 lead going into the second period. That had happened only once before in team history, on Jan. 26, 2019 here, in what became a 5-1 victory over Adirondack.

Prior to this game Worcester had spent most of its first periods in survival mode, especially at the DCU

Center. "I think we really tried to channel our road type of mentality," coach Nick Tuzolino said. "When you get into this amount of games you start pre-scouting yourself and I was pre-scouting us I'd probably say 'pounce on 'em in the first period. "That seems to be their weakness."

Riley Ginnell, Drew Callin, Anthony Repaci and Michael Suda scored the first period goals. Matt DeMelis got one in the second period, Gleb Veremyev in the third.

Drew Callin was 1-2-3. Suda was and Repaci were both 1-1-2 and Anthony Callin had two assists.

Jack O'Leary scored both Norfolk goals. The Railers did something unusual to achieve the triumph. They beat Norfolk goaltender Isaac Poulter, a very good one just down from the American Hockey League. Prior to Friday night Poulter had put together a streak during which he allowed the Railers to score just two goals in three full games.

The first period goals were scored by, in order, Ginnell, Drew Callin, Repaci and Suda.

Ginnell converted a 2 on 1 break with a short side wrist shot from the left circle at 5:39. Drew Callin deflected home a shot by his brother at 10:11, Repaci took advantage of a Norfolk turnover and sizzled a wrist shot past Poulter at 12:26, then Suda blasted a low shot home from 55 feet away with just two seconds left in the period.

Norfolk got one back at 8:10 of the second period as the teams traded 2 on 1 breaks. Worcester's came first and when Ross Mitton came down the right side missed to the far post on a wrist shot, that set up the Admirals' 2 on 1. O'Leary scored at 8:10.

The Admirals were all over the Railers for most of the period. Just when it looked like Worcester would escape with the 4-1 lead, DeMelis extended his goals streak to four by putting a 20-footer past Poulter at 19:50 and the Railers were up by four again.

Both teams had someone in the penalty box so it was a 4 on 4 goal.



Darren Duah fights through a guard to get a shot.

T-birds inch closer to .500 with win at Lehigh

ALLENTOWN, PA – The Springfield Thunderbirds (8-11-3-2) rode yet another phenomenal night of goaltending and special teams to a 3-1 win over the Lehigh Valley Phantoms (13-10-1-2) last Wednesday night inside PPL Center.

In a first period devoid of scoring on 13 combined shots, Vadim Zherenko carried over momentum from his phenomenal outing 10 nights earlier in Providence with eight first-period denials, including two on a Phantoms power play.

Newest T-Bird Troy Murray quickly warmed himself up to his teammates and fans, as the 28-year-old dropped the gloves with Sawyer Boulton on the first shift of his AHL

career following more than 200 professional games across three leagues before his T-Birds debut on Wednesday.

Springfield's penalty kill, which has operated better than any other road PK in the AHL, continued its remarkable run with a second-period clinic. The T-Birds killed off three disadvantages, and on the third of those, Chris Wagner added his second shorthanded goal of the season, as he circled Aleksei Kolosov's net and stuffed a wraparound home at 15:57 of the middle period, making it a 1-0 game heading into the final frame.

Zherenko kept up his end

of the bargain with nine more stops in the second to make it a two-period total of 17 denials against the Phantom attack.

The Phantoms did not stay quiet forever, though, as Alex Bump ripped a perfectly placed shot over Zherenko's glove hand at 3:19 of the third, tying the score, 1-1.

However, the Thunderbirds once again proved they were not ruffled, and just 1:58 later, moments after Garrett Wilson committed a delay of game minor for clearing the puck over the glass, Alek Kaskimaki shuffled a rebound past Kolosov following an initial try by Calle Rosen.

The second-year Finn's fifth goal of the season restored the Springfield lead, 2-1.

The penalty killers stiffened one more time, completing a perfect 5-for-5 night with a man down, and with the Phantoms' net empty in the final minute, Michael Buchinger lobbed a clear all the way down and into the yawning cage to put the nail in the coffin.

Zherenko completed another magnificent performance with 23 stops to secure the victory. Springfield has now earned points in nine of the last 10 games, and the club has begun this five-game road trip with three consecutive triumphs.



FALCONS from page 11

but I knew they were going to make a run," Orzech said. "We were able to put-together run in the fourth quarter, which sealed our win."

The Brownies battled back with a 10-0 run. Their comeback began with an inside hoop from freshman forward Michael Dilizia, which was his only points of the game. Jorgensen then made a pair of 3-pointers and added a lay-up slicing the Brownies deficit to 13-12 at the start of the second stanza.

With the help of Sheehan's three 3-pointers, the Brownies held a slim 31-29 halftime lead.

The Falcons took a 43-39 lead with 3:40 remaining in the third quarter following a Miles Fergus lay-up.

Miles and Max Fergus combined to score 14 points during the final quarter, which helped the Falcons celebrate a double digit win.



Landyn Eldridge shoots on the run.

Ski or Shop event set for February, sign up now

WILBRAHAM – Sign up for a Ski or Shop event on Friday, Feb. 13. Depart Memorial School at 9 a.m., 310 Main Street, Wilbraham. Arrive by 8:45 a.m. for a 9 a.m. departure. We will return to Memorial School by 4 p.m.

All prices are per person (gratuities included). Make

checks payable to: The Wilbraham Senior Center.

Option 1: Ski Butter-nut 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (\$140)

We'll drop all skiers at the main entrance where you can pick up your equipment and lift pass. Then enjoy three

uninterrupted hours on the mountain with an optional lunch on your own. Guests should meet back at the main entrance by 2:15 p.m. for a 2:30 p.m. departure.

Option 2: Shop 'til You Drop 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. (\$35) After we leave our ski

friends, we'll head to Great Barrington cultural district for those who prefer to shop + dine at their leisure. Guests should return to the bus by 2 p.m. for a 2:15 p.m. departure.

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Max Baroni is pressured as he tries to one-hand a shot.

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Differently decorated Christmas trees start off the season...

Tree Festival dudes...

Wilbraham Atheneum Trustees Chuck Clark (left) and Bradley Gregory (right) help folks enjoy the Old Meetinghouse Museum Christmas Tree Festival Dec. 7. The tree at their left was decorated by Five Star Landscapers. (Charles F. Bennett photo)



Town folks, young and old, flocked to the Old Meetinghouse Museum's Christmas Tree Festival to see eight trees decorated in all sorts of holiday scenes on Dec. 7 in the museum, owned by the town and overseen by the Atheneum Society.

After the festival, parents and children walked down Main Street to Gazebo Park to see Santa, arrive by fire truck, to flip on the Town Christmas Tree lights for the first time this season at the Tree Lighting presented by the Wilbraham-Hampden Rotary Club.

The Tree Festival presented a variety of Christmas trees, all decorated with a specific holiday theme. They were Five Star Gardens, Friends of the Wilbraham Library, Karen Geaghan Photography, The Wilbraham Art League, The Wilbraham Children's Museum, Wilbraham Flowers, The Wilbraham Garden Club, and the Wilbraham Girl Scouts.

Over 150 visitors were welcomed by an ice carver, hot cider, a wreath raffle and a special display on the museum's porch with the theme "The Twelve Days of Christmas". Kids visiting the museum that day got to take home an ornament of their own provided by the Wilbraham Art League.



Mrs. Claus greets Tree Festival visitors...

Mrs. Claus (Atheneum Trustee and Festival Chair Marianne Wagner) greets visitors in the Children's Room of the Old Meetinghouse Museum during their Christmas Tree Festival Dec. 7. The tree was decorated by the Wilbraham Children's Museum (Charles F. Bennett photo)

Museum-quality Holiday tableaux...

A Christmas Tree decorated by Wilbraham Flowers sits by the fireside at the Old Meetinghouse Museum Christmas Tree Festival Dec. 7. (Charles F. Bennett photo)



An icy day at the Tree Fest...

Ice carver Joey Almeida uses his chainsaw to carve out a holiday angel at the Old Meetinghouse Museum Christmas Tree Festival Dec. 7. (Charles F. Bennett photo)



No one is too old to see Santa, as the teen volunteers stopped in to take a group photo with Santa and Mrs. Claus, too.



Members of the Friends of the Library provided the Santa experience of milk and cookies to attendees. The refreshments were donated by the Friends.



Jackson was eager to meet Santa and tell him what he wants for Christmas.

SANTA from page 1

got the cookies from Armata's Market, providing the full Santa experience of milk and cookies for attendees.

The cookie spread included chocolate chip, M & M cookies, sugar cookies, oatmeal cookies and more.

"Seeing all the kids in town use the library on a daily, weekly basis, it's really nice to meet people," Hall said. "I've lived in town for over 30 years and I've always been associated with the library because it's one of my favorite places to retreat, get a good book, meet other friends."

Hall said the Friends is always happy to support all the library events.

"It gives me a sense of community," Hall said. "I'm an active member of the Book Club in town and that's always a lot of fun to attend the meetings about the books that we read. We have the Social Justice Book Club. It's always fun to understand everyone's different perspectives and perceptions of society and the

culture that we live in."

Hall's Christmas wish is for peace, that everyone in her family is happy and healthy and she gets to see everyone.

Jillian Rubner and Isabella Lafield were among the teen volunteers helping children create their own reindeer food, which involves glitter and oats that are put out on Christmas Eve for the reindeer to come right to people's houses.

The girls shared what they love about the event.

"It's just so nice to see the kids looking forward to Christmas because I used to be one of those kids, so it was nice to be behind the table helping them," Lafield said.

"I really like seeing the kids have fun, especially being enthusiastic when we ask them to help us," Rubner said.

Lafield and Rubner look forward to giving gifts to their respective families this year, with Lafield wanting clothes for Christmas and Rubner looking ahead to family time.

The girls also enjoy the opportunity to volunteer, encouraging other teens to get



Jillian Rubner and Isabella Lafield were among the volunteers helping children make reindeer food ahead of Christmas Eve.

involved in future community events.

"It means a lot because I live in the town of Hampden, so it's nice that I get to help out at public events and stuff. I just feel really nice helping kids do stuff for Christmas," Lafield said. "We're really excited about it."

"I really enjoy being able to take part in something for other people because I remember when we were younger, we would always come to the events and have

the other teen girls helping us make things, so I'm really glad we can do that for other people," Rubner said.

As for Santa and Mrs. Claus, they were happy to be back at the library and see all the little kids share their wishes.

"Santa looks forward to even next year meeting all the boys and girls again. It's so much fun and it's so much pleasure to see all these boys and girls. We really enjoy coming from the North Pole

to visit with everybody and Santa would like to wish everybody a very, very, Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year," he said.

Santa said the boys asked for electronic videos or trucks, while Mrs. Claus added the girls asked for a dollhouse, makeup kit and nail polish.

Barbies and Barbie clothes were also another popular wish.

Their message was this. "I'd like to wish them

all the very best and I'd like them to have a very Merry Christmas, a Happy and Healthy New Year and hope to see them next year when we come back from the North Pole," Santa said.

"And peace to all. We want peace in this world with our children and adults. There's not enough of that going on today, so we need peace and good health to everybody," Mrs. Claus said.

MRHS from page 10

nechaug cafeteria. Student Council members supervised and directed the little ones in making their crafts.

Nina Semanie, a senior at Minnechaug and vice president of the council, was excited about the event.

"Seeing them interact," Semanie said. "is so great because you can tell that they care and they want to be here... they go out of their way to talk to the kids."

Planning for the safety of little ones, Abigail O'Sullivan, one of the main coordinators of Sunday's event, explained how the council took precautions for the safety of the kids and putting age groupings on the crafts. She also mentioned how they, "have hot glue guns tucked away by the walls and students are manning them rather than the children...so



Santa arriving at Minnechaug with the Wilbraham Fire Department.

that nobody gets burned." The tables were also formatted for convenience and safety, opening the area to make sure no one tripped, being able to hop from table to table, and using longer tables as areas for hot glue guns or barriers from outside the crafting area.

O'Sullivan explained how it took about six weeks to search for crafts to make, organize, and purchase all the materials.

"We spend a lot of money on purchasing crafts," O'Sullivan said, "this is probably the one event that our Student

Council budget spends the most on in terms of just giving back to our staff. Instead of the generic teacher appreciation gift card, members of the district were gifted with an experience with their families."

O'Sullivan was happy to

see attendees enjoy themselves.

"We'll spend money on teacher appreciation gifts or things like that," she stated, "but it never quite equates to this."

O'Sullivan discussed that the motivation behind this event was to just give back to district employees. About two years ago, it used to be an event only for the Minnechaug teachers but "we wanted to open it up to the whole district."

"And it's also a really nice way for the district employees to see their former students all grown up and giving back and doing good," O'Sullivan said.

She mentioned that you leave the building, whether you're a student or a faculty member, feeling good. With lots of positive feedback from families last year, the students' collaboration created

memories for many families within the district.

Semanie described her favorite part about the event.

"It's so sentimental to see the parents' reactions to the kid's first time seeing Santa," Semanie said. "You know that this is a core memory that they're going to have now, to look back on when their kid grows up."

Being a senior, Semanie reminisced on her last year being a kid and her many "firsts of many lasts."

Her message to the world this holiday season is to, "savor the moment because it's very bittersweet, to experience all this stuff, knowing that this is going to be really one of my last Christmases at home."

"It's those sweet moments that I hold close to my heart," Semanie said.

Turley photo by Natalie Proulx

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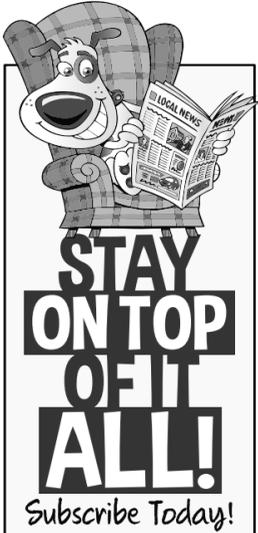
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PUBLIC NOTICES

Town of Wilbraham Conservation Commission LEGAL NOTICE

The Wilbraham Conservation Commission will hold a public meeting on Monday, January 5, 2026 at 7:15 PM on the Request for Determination of Applicability...

Christopher Brown, Chairman 12/25/2025

Town of Wilbraham Conservation Commission LEGAL NOTICE

The Wilbraham Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing Monday, January 5, 2026 at 7:05 PM in Conference Room 1 at the Wilbraham Town Hall...

Christopher Brown, Chairman 12/25/2025

Town of Wilbraham Conservation Commission LEGAL NOTICE

The Wilbraham Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Monday, January 5, 2026 at 7:30 PM on the Notice of Intent filed by Cassandra Swaby-Passmore...

Wetland. The project also includes restoration of previously unpermitted BVW and buffer zone alteration. Information relating to this application is on file with the Conservation Commission.

Christopher Brown, Chairman 12/25/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 CITATION ON PETITION FOR ALLOWANCE OF ACCOUNT

Docket No. HD25P2512PO Phillip Stoddard Revocable Trust In the matter of: PETITION FOR ALLOWANCE OF ACCOUNT

To all interested persons: A Petition has been filed by: Ashley Stoddard of Portland, OR requesting allowance of the first and final Trustee's account(s) and any other relief as requested in the Petition.

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 01/14/2026.

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 date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

Witness, Hon. Barbara M. Hyland, First Justice of this Court. Date: December 09, 2025 Rosemary A. Saccomani Register of Probate 12/25/2025

LEGAL NOTICE Sale of Motor Vehicle Under G.L. c. 255 Sec. 39A

Bach Towing Inc., 165 Benton Drive, East Longmeadow, MA is holding a private sale of the following vehicle on 01/09/2026 at 2:00 p.m. to satisfy our garage keepers lien thereon for storage and towing charges and expenses of Notices of Sale.

Noemi Dalgado 7 Wallace St. Enfield, CT 06082 2011 Jeep Patriot VIN: 1J4NF1GB5BD282711 12/18, 12/25/2025, 01/01/2026

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. HD25C0334CA In the matter of: Martha Anna Ponchita Dunnigan CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Martha Anna Ponchita Dunnigan of Wilbraham, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Anna Martha Ponchita Dunnigan

IMPORTANT NOTICE Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/14/2026.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court. Date: December 17, 2025 Rosemary A Saccomani Register of Probate 12/25/2025

SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLE

This ad is pursuant to MA Gen. Law Ch.255, Sec. 39A as of January 9, 2026 the following motor vehicle will be for sale to satisfy a garage keepers lien:

Vehicle: 2017 Hyundai Elantra VIN#: KMHD74LF2HU433078 COLOR: Gray LKO: Joanne Hish 167 Kirkland Ave. Ludlow, MA 01056 Lein: Santander Consumer USA Fort Worth, TX 76161

R & S Assoc. Inc PO Box 543 Wilbraham, MA 01095 413-596-4374 12/25/2025, 01/01, 01/08/2026

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Felix L. Santana, Jr. to Thames Realty, LLC, dated August 9, 2024 and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 25526, Page 548 of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Pub-

lic Auction at 11:00 A.M. on Thursday, January 22, 2026 at 3281 Boston Road, Wilbraham, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

To wit: The land with the buildings and improvements thereon located at 3281 Boston Road, Wilbraham, Hampden County, Massachusetts being shown as a parcel of land identified as the Land belonging to Felix L. Santana on a Plan entitled "Plan of Land In Wilbraham, Massachusetts Surveyed and Mapped For Felix Santanta", said plan being dated July 19, 2024 and recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 400, Page 111.

The above parcel contains approximately 8,349.20 square feet or 0.19 acres according to said Plan.

Being the same premises conveyed by Manomednet LLC to Felix L. Santana, Jr. by Deed dated September 26, 2022 and recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 24797, Page 10.

Subject to a Driveway Easement between Give Them Sanctuary Inc. and Felix L. Santana, Jr. dated August 3, 2024 and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 25526, Page 545.

Premises to be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, including condominium fees and assessments, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are

applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

Terms of sale: A deposit of \$10,000.00 by cash, certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. This sale is subject to a 5% buyer's premium. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at the Mortgagee's law offices within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. In the event of an error in this publication, the description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control.

Other terms will be announced at the sale.

Thames Realty, LLC, Present holder of said mortgage, By its Attorney, Joseph J. Lange, Esq. Lyon & Fitzpatrick, LLP 14 Bobala Road, Suite 4 Holyoke, MA 01040 (413) 420-4086 12/18, 12/25/2025, 01/01/2026

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. HD25P2512PO Phillip Stoddard Revocable Trust In the matter of: Petition to Terminate Trust TRUST CITATION

To all interested persons: A Petition has been filed by:

Ashley Stoddard of Portland, OR requesting the trust be terminated all as more fully set forth in said petition.

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 01/14/2026.

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 date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court. Date: Decelmber 09, 2025

Rosemary A Saccomani, Register of Probate 12/25/2025

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.

NOTICE

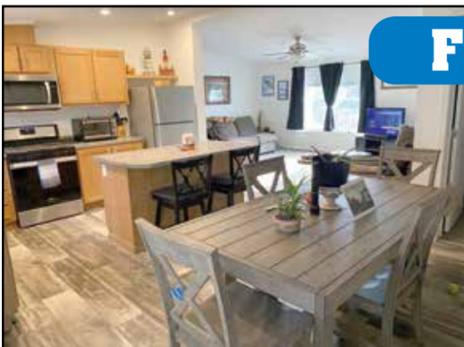
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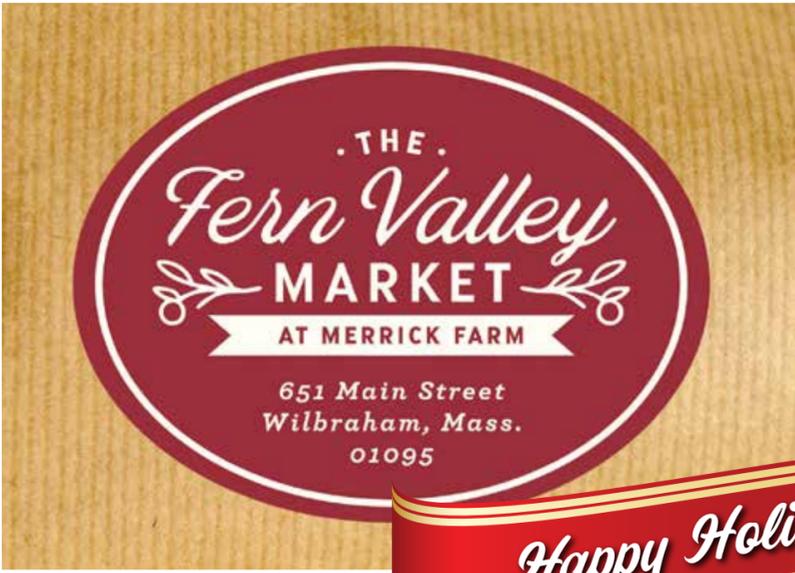
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EARLY DEADLINES FOR ADS & LEGAL NOTICES. New Year's will bring early deadlines for all ads & legal notices to run in TURLEY PUBLICATIONS the week of Dec. 29, 2025 - Jan. 2, 2026: Friday, December 26 at 2 PM for January 1 issue, Monday, December 29 at 2 PM for January 1 issue, Tuesday, December 30 at 2 PM for January 2 issue. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069 413-283-8393 • www.turley.com



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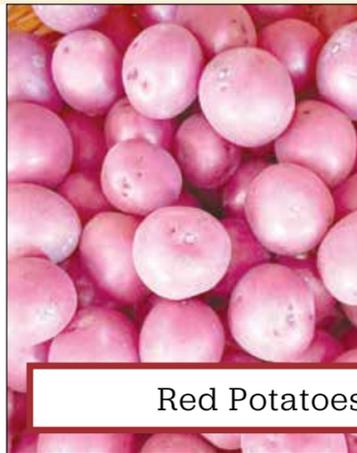
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