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COMMUNITY Wildlife & Landscape exhibit opens ...p. 3



GRANBY Election sees two contested races..p. 7



BUSINESS Belchertown resident promoted...p. 10



SPORTS Orioles win over Agawam...p. 11



Search Social held

The 2nd Annual Search Social took place in Belchertown's newest disc golf course with friends and family of the Chris Grazioso

BY RYAN DRAGO to honor the memory of Chris Staff Writer Grazioso of Belchertown. Sunday, rdrago@turley.com April 21 was not only the date for the event, but Chris Grazioso's BELCHERTOWN - Friends

> Several years ago, Chris had the idea of installing disc golf in town for residents to enjoy and spark interest in players from amateurs to professionals. Grazioso

enjoyed the sport of disc golf and no matter is a player was skilled or unskilled, competitive, or not, disc golf is a therapeutic blending of fresh air and exercise.

To grow the sport and provide additional recreation opportunities for the residents of Belchertown,

Please see **SOCIAL**, page 4

SB hears from Granby **Rod and Gun Club**

Stray bullet investigation ongoing

BY MELINA BOURDEAU Correspondent

BELCHERTOWN - Following public outcry at its previous meeting Granby Bow and Gun Club President Ryan Downing

came before the Select Board to

View Drive, according to a press release from the Northwest District Attorney's Office. The DA's office opened an investigation into bullets hitting homes last summer. Most

Within the last year, two bullets struck homes on Mountain

recently, it was reported that there was an incident on March Before opening public comment, Select Board Chair Ed

Please see **GUN CLUB**, page 10

Selectboard signs contracts, welcomes new businesses

BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS

Staff Writer epappas@turley.com

read a statement.

GRANBY - The Selectboard got together this past week to conduct two public hearings, sign department head contracts and more.

The April 22 meeting was led by Chair Glen N. Sexton, and he was joined by Clerk Crystal Dufresne, member Richard Beaulieu and Town Administrator Christopher **Public hearings**

Arthur Pearlman came to address the board on behalf of James Gibbons to open up a request to transfer an all-alcohol package store to be transferred from Bruso's Liquor Mart to 367 East Street Inc.

The board moved to approve of the request for the transfer of license, as well as moving to make Gibbons the manager of the package store.

Please see **CONTRACTS**, page 4

Belchertown celebrates

Celebrating through Native customs

and family gathered at the disc

golf course for the 2nd annual

This event is supported by

the Chris Grazioso Foundation

Search Social.

TURLEY PHOTO BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS Ray LaChance began the Earth Day demonstration with a sona and drums.

BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS

epappas@turley.com

BELCHERTOWN - The Clapp Memorial Library hosted Ray LaChance to perform a special Earth Day ceremony in the tradition of the Native American tribes.

Kwai N'dobak! Wli wni", LaChance said to the group, meaning "Hello and greetings, thank you." He led the group through various customs and traditions of the Indigenous Peoples of the area, and taught some valuable lessons.

"I want them to understand how important our environment is," LaChance said. "We need to protect the Earth."

He stressed the importance of remembering that we live

Please see **CLAPP**, page 8

Free seedling trees given out at town wide clean-up

BELCHERTOWN - The Office of Conservation, the Department of Public Works and the Energy & Sustainability Committee hosted a town wide clean-up to celebrate Earth Day on April 20.

Douglas fir seedlings were also given out by the DPW, in recognition of Arbor Day.

In celebration of Earth Month, Belchertown showcases its commitment to environmental stewardship through significant strides in energy efficiency and sustainability over recent years.

Recognized as one of the state's first Green Communities in 2010, the town has been steadily achieving reductions in municipal energy usage thanks to grants and utility incentives for energy-efficient equipment, reducing both energy



SUBMITTED PHOTOS BY SARAH FORTUNE AND JOANNE COLLINS

On April 20, 2024, Belchertown Department of Public Works Director Linda Leduc rewards Karen Tetrault of Belchertown with a Douglas fir seedling for participating in the town wide cleanup sponsored by the Office of Conservation and the DPW.

consumption and operating costs. Furthering its environmental commitment, Belchertown has

embraced its role as a Pollinator-Friendly Community, with the

Please see **CLEAN-UP**, page 8

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Celebrate Belchertown Wildlife & Landscape

Photo exhibition opening May 3 at Clapp library

BELCHERTOWN - All are invited to celebrate the awardees and all participants in the inaugural Belchertown Wildlife & Landscape Photo Contest Exhibition with an exhibition opening on Friday, May 3 from 5-6 p.m. at Clapp Memorial Library.

The exhibition will be on display through May 31.

Light refreshments will be served, and postcard prints of the awarded photographs will be available for the public, both during the opening and after for Clapp Memorial Library visitors. After the exhibition, awardees will receive the prints of their exhibited photos.

The Belchertown Wildlife & Landscape Photography program is an annual, intergenerational opportunity to participate in learning, exploration, and expression. It's a partnership between the Clapp Memorial Library, Town of Belchertown Planning Department, and Town of Belchertown Conservation Commission.

The photo contest was open to all Belchertown residents, including youth, teens, and adults, to submit up to three images in either or both categories of wildlife and landscapes. These photos must have been taken in Belchertown, and celebrate the open spaces and nature that are core to the identity of Belchertown.

Participants were urged to explore the town conservation lands. Awarded photos include a mother fox and her kit, Lake Wallace blanketed in fog, a red tailed hawk in flight, spectacularly colored fungi, farming landscapes, and so much more.

The full awardee list follows:

Youth (12 and under)

Wildlife: Grant Lussier, "Turkey, Turkey, and more Turkeys!'

Landscape: Grant Lussier, "Double Rainbow, where is the pot of gold?"

Teen

Wildlife: Alyssa Lussier, "My Girls'

Landscape: JenaRose Zawalski, "Quabbin Reservoir", Alyssa Lussier, "Summer Flowers" and JenaRose Zawalski, "Two Pine Cones"

Please see **EXHIBIT**, page 5



"Big fish for a small heron" by Paul Lambert.



"Fungi, The Quabbin" by Gabriella Fox.



"My Girls" by Alyssa Lussier.



"Herman Covey Wildlife Management Area, Red Tailed Hawk" by Wendy Queiros.



"I see you" by Adrian Manning.



"Quabbin Reservoir" by JenaRose Zawalski.



St. Francis of Assisi hosts craft, vendor fair

BELCHERTOWN - St. Francis of Assisi Parish is having a Craft & Vendor Fair at the parish center on the Belchertown Common on Saturday, May 11 from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

It is a fundraiser to help with the expense of our parish building a brand-new social center on the parish grounds. This will be the final piece of the original construction plan to build a new Church, rectory and social center.

The craft fair will feature 50 vendors and crafters, indoors and outdoors, with many great gift ideas just in time for Mother's Day. There will be a snack bar for lunch, and a huge raffle with prizes from all the crafters/

All proceeds will go toward the building fund.

CONTRACT from page 1

Laurie Ann Bernier came forward to the board seeking a Wine and Malt Beverages (Restaurant on Premises) License. The business will be a dine-in restaurant with a bar to order and drink alcoholic beverages on the premises.

The request was made for Something Special Catering Service and Café, and Bernier would be the manager. The board moved forward with approving of the license and appointed Bernier as the manager.

Department head contracts

The board signed various department head contracts including the police chief and the head of the Council on Aging. They also moved to approve of the director of senior services employment and signed the contract.

The board also moved to appoint and approve Damien Cody for appointment as a sign officer, as well as to the storm water phase two committee, and as a zoning enforcement officer.

Town Administrator's report

Town Administrator Christopher Martin gave several reports about various things including a Dufresne rental for a graduation party on June 22 at the large pavilion.

Martin also announced the Memorial Day Parade with a change of route where it will come out at The Heart of St. Mary's

The Granby Lion's Club is hosting a Meet the Candidates Night in the East Meadow cafeteria on May 1 at 7 p.m.

New business and information

The board briefly touched upon various departmental reports to be touched on, and a maintenance warrant on some tools that were damaged and are in need of repair.

The board then moved into approving various 2024 Common Victualer's Licenses.

Dufresne also moved for Glen to sign the Audit Engagement Letter, a Single Audit, for Scanlan and Associates to do their fiscal year 2023 audit.

Old and other business

The new director of the Council on Aging has been hired, and Martin announced that her first day was on April

"We're hoping she settles in nicely and we are available for any questions she may have," Martin said. The COA Cookout for the spring will be held sometime in May.

The Route 202 Massachusetts Department of Transportation project has begun and has trucks coming in at 7 a.m. and leaving at 4 p.m.

For the One Stop for Growth Grant, Martin submitted for the Water Project again. The Senior Work-Off Program is in the process of being developed for guidelines to be brought to the board.

The Green Communities are underway, and Dufresne, who is in charge of the Open Space Committee, will take pictures of the area for the committee.

For the West Street Building Committee, the removal of the building has been approved, and there will be police presence to keep people from coming to see the removal in order to keep people safe.



This bench dedicated to Chris Grazioso is at the start of the 18-hole disc golf course at Constantino Field.

SOCIAL from page 1

Chris spearheaded the movement to build a public Disc Golf facility in cooperation with the Belchertown Select Board and Recreation Department.

Friends and family created the Chris Grazioso Foundation to continue his mission to grow the sport of Disc Golf, support player development, and provide additional recreational opportunities in our local community. The goal of the fundraiser is to continue to upgrade the course paths, tee pads, and signage in phases as funds and volunteers allow.

Currently running the foundation is Nick O'Connor. Alongside fellow disc golf players, O'Connor was excited to get started for their twohour event the Search Social. O'Connor mentioned that the foundation also sponsors local players, donates disc

golf equipment for the schools and helps promote recreational fun in town.

O'Connor served on the Select Board and currently runs the Chris Grazioso Foundation with his wife. Alongside Grazioso they collaborated with the Director of the Belchertown Recreation Department Kyle Thibeault to bring a disc golf course to

A full 18-hole course would soon be installed next to Ron Constantino Recreation Facility. The course is set for amateur and professional layouts. O'Connor is excited to have disc golf in

town and mentioned future events currently in the works, including a tournament.

"We're working on our first annual tournament in the fall," O'Connor said.

Joining the Search Social is Chairman of the Belchertown Select Board Ed Boscher. About six years earlier Boscher recalls hearing a lot of demand and interest from local residents to have disc golf in town.

At the time, Boscher knew how big of a 111 Sargent St.



The Chris Grazioso Foundation's mission is to grow the sport of disc golf by working with local school districts, assisting in building, and maintaining new courses, and supporting player development.

project it would be to get a disc gold course and it would take multiple sources to make it happen.

"A big project to get done on a municipal level," Boscher said.

All in good time, the idea came to life and the field was built just outside of the Constantino Field and Facility. It took numerous volunteers to get the disc golf field made. There were volunteers from Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical School, Belchertown Recreation Department and the town Department of Public Works.

Thanks to this existing piece of land, disc golf can now be enjoyed in the town of Belchertown. Boscher admits he is new to the game of disc golf but plays for the fun of the game and collaboration of other play-

To learn more about the Chris Grazioso Foundation visit search4disc.com. The sport of disc golf can be enjoyed outdoors next to the Ron Constantino Recreation Facility at



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BCTV Schedule Highlights

Thursday, May 2

- 8 a.m. Select Board April 29 meeting
- 9:30 a.m. Belchertown Energy Choice 11 a.m. - Opioid Settlement Presentation
- 6:30 p.m. Finance Committee Channel 192
- 7 p.m. Select Board April 29 meeting
- 8:30 p.m. Belchertown Energy Choice
 - 10 p.m. Opioid Settlement Presentation

Friday, May 3

- 8 a.m. Conversation with Pakman
- 9 a.m. Council on Aging April 24 meeting
- 9:30 a.m. Communications Committee April 25
- 5 p.m. Conversation with Pakman
- 7 p.m. Council on Aging April 24 meeting
- 7:30 p.m. Communications Committee April 25

Saturday, May 4

- 8 a.m. What's Happening at the Clapp in May
- 8:30 a.m. Blue Ribbon Cooks Soup 'n Bread
- 9:30 a.m. Belchertown Voices for Justice Stories Told and Untold
- 10:30 a.m. BHS Jazz Concert 2024
- 5 p.m. What's Happening at the Clapp in May
- 5:30 p.m. Blue Ribbon Cooks Soup 'n Bread
- 7 p.m. Belchertown Voices for Justice Stories Told

• 8 p.m. – BHS Jazz Concert 2024

Sunday, May 5

- 4:30 p.m. St. Francis Roman Catholic Church
- 6 p.m. Christ Community Church
- 7 p.m. Hope United Methodist Church
 - 8:30 p.m. What's Happening at the Clapp in May 8:45 p.m. - Belchertown Energy Choice

Monday, May 6

- 8 a.m. Conversation with Pakman
- 9 a.m. BHS Jazz Concert 2024
- 5 p.m. Conversation with Pakman
- 6 p.m. What's Happening at the Clapp in May
- 6:30 p.m. Select Board Channel 191

Tuesday, May 7

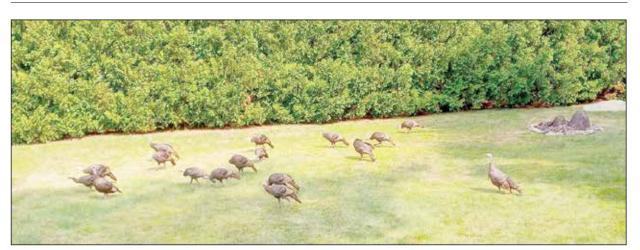
- 8 a.m. What's Happening at the Clapp in May
- 8:15 a.m. Belchertown Energy Choice 10 a.m. - Opioid Settlement Presentation
- 5 p.m. Belchertown Energy Choice
- 6 p.m. School Committee Channel 192

- Wednesday, May 8 8 a.m. – Conversation with Pakman
- 5 p.m. Conversation with Pakman
- 7 p.m. Agriculture Commission Channel 192
- 7:30 p.m. Board of Health Channel 191

BHS presents upcoming show May 10 and 11

BELCHERTOWN - Students at Belchertown High School. 142 Old Springfield Road, will be performing "35MM: A Musical Exhibition" under the direction of Nora Dyer-Murphy on May 10 at 7 p.m. and May 11 at

Tickets are \$10 for general admission and \$8 for senior citizens and children under age 12.



"Turkey, Turkey, and more Turkeys!" by Grant Lussier.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS

EXHIBIT from page 5

Adult

Wildlife: Adrian Manning, "I see you", Ryan Alekman, "Fox tossing mole", Paul Lambert, "Big fish for a small heron", Wendy Queiros, "Herman Covey Wildlife Management Area, Red Tailed Hawk" and Christl Hansman, "Barred Owl on Bay Road"

Landscape: Gabriella Fox, "Fungi, The Quabbin", Michael Brozek, "Summer Peach Picking", Andrea Filipkowski, "Farm on West Street at Sunset", Natalie Santana, "Gateway of Fog", Amanda Saklad, "Look Up"

E. Maude Haak-Frendscho, Creative Economy Coordinator, shared that "we were overwhelmed by the incredible photographs that were submitted, showing the natural beauty, hidden gems, and extraordinary wildlife that you can encounter in Belchertown. All of the participants should be proud; the work that we saw far surpassed our expectations, and make clear that Belchertown is rich with creativity.'

Sarah Fortune, Conservation Administrator, added: "Through these photos, we saw familiar places like the Ouabbin and Town Common in new light, and sometimes in close-up details that we might miss when visiting, and got to explore off the beaten path in conservations areas that, now,

we're reminded to go back to." The photo contest was juried by photographer Mark Lindhult, who led photography programs at the library earlier this spring, Sarah Fortune, and E. Maude Haak-Frendscho, with Clapp Memorial Library Director Cyndi Harbeson and Youth Librarian

Jennifer Whitehead. The Belchertown Wildlife & Landscape Photography program will run again next year. Start taking your incredible shots to submit to the contest in 2025.



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OPINION



Minister wants to maximize Social Security benefit

Dear Rusty:

I want to apply for Social Security, but I want to make sure I get all the benefits I have earned.

I am a veteran with a 10% disability rating (not sure if that matters). I am 68 years old. I am a minister and have been exempt from Social Security taxes for most of my income since I was about 30, but I still have the 40 quarters needed.

I have also worked off and on in the secular workplace and continued paying Social Security taxes.

One hears a great deal about those who want to "help" us apply for Social Security, but which turn out to be a scam or want a fee. How do I apply and maximize my benefits with my unique situation?

Signed: Seeking Answers

Dear Seeking:

Don't worry about fees here at the AMAC Foundation – there is never a fee for the services we provide as we are non-profit. And I want to thank you for your military service, you may find the "For Veterans" section at our AMAC Foundation website interesting at www. amacfoundation.org.

To your question:

Your VA disability rating does not affect your Social Security benefit. At 68 years old, your Social Security benefit payment has been earning Delayed Retirement Credits since you reached your Full Retirement Age of 66 years and 4 months in July 2022.

That means that your benefit, if you claim now, will be about 13% more than it would have been had you claimed at your FRA. FYI, if you continue to delay, your SS benefit will continue to grow by 8% per additional year you delay, up to the month you turn 70.

At that time, your SS benefit will be 29% higher than it would have been at your FRA. Nevertheless, if you wish to claim a smaller amount now, you can do so in a couple of ways:

You can call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 or your local SS office to request an appointment to apply. They will most likely set a date/time to call you to take your application over the phone, they discourage office visits these days.

Once you have applied, it typically takes a month or two to process your application, but they will pay your benefits effective with the month you say you want them to begin. Note, they will likely also offer you six months of retroactive benefits but be aware that if you accept that offer your monthly payment will be permanently reduced by 4%.

You can apply for your SS retirement benefit online at www.ssa.gov/apply. Applying online is, by far, the most efficient method, as shown in this short video: www.ssa.gov/hlp/video/iclaim_r01.htm. However, to apply online you will need to first create your personal "my Social Security" online account at www.ssa. gov/myaccount. Once you have your personal online account set up, you will be able to see what your SS retirement benefit will be now and at future ages should you plan to wait longer to claim.

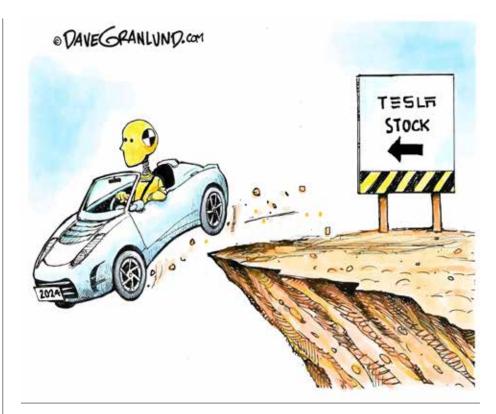
Your SS retirement benefit will be based on your lifetime record of earnings from which Social Security FICA taxes were withheld or self-employment earnings on which SS payroll taxes were levied.

In any case, your SS benefit will be based on your lifetime earnings record contributing to Social Security, as well as your age when you claim. You'll get your maximum benefit based on those factors.

Although your situation is somewhat uncommon, it is not exceptionally unique. Your VA disability rating does not affect your Social Security benefit and, because you are a member of the clergy, you are not subject to Social Security's Windfall Elimination Provision. a rule which reduces SS benefits for those with a pension earned while not contributing to Social Security.

In other words, your SS benefit will be based entirely on your lifetime record of earnings from which Social Security payroll taxes were withheld and your age when your benefit starts.

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.



LETTER

BAC thanks community for supporting tag sale

Belchertown Animal Control would like to thank all the contributors and all the shoppers who made the Pet Supply & Gifts Tag Sale such a huge success.

Over \$1,300 was added to the BAC Gift Fund to help shelter and community pets in need.

Another sale is planned for this fall, so any clean and usable pet items can be left in the donation bin outside the shelter. As always, any donated items are used by the shelter pets first and only items that are not needed go into the tag sale.

Belchertown Animal Control



What to do when and how to do it

The last few gorgeous days got us all outside and into our home landscape.

Maybe you looked at this or that and said "Now what do I do?" Here is a column straight from the archives to best guide you through the next oh so fun (and busy) weeks in the garden.

DO remove spent blooms from spring flowering bulbs. Once "deadheaded" the bulb won't expend energy making seeds, instead, it will store it and delight you with an even healthier stand of flowers next year.

DO NOT cut, braid or otherwise alter bulb foliage. It may not be the prettiest, but as long as it is green, (and to some degree even when it is yellowish) it is photosynthesizing, making a storehouse for next spring's blooms.

DO turn under your covercrop of winter rye now, a few weeks prior to planting your vegetable garden. Plant residues will have a chance to break down without stealing valuable nutrients from newly transplanted seedings.

DO NOT add fresh manure to garden plots as it will burn plants. Be sure to compost it for at least six months prior to use. Make your compost pile "hot" by balancing the amount of green and brown ingredients and by turning it regularly. The result is a near neutral weed-free source of organic matter.

DO prune spring flowering shrubs soon after blooming. Forsythia and lilac for example, bloom on the previous season's wood. By pruning once their blooming period is complete you will allow enough time for regrowth without sacrificing next year's blooms.

DO NOT prune fruit trees now. Better to wait until the trees are dormant. You can, however, rid apple trees of pencil sized or smaller water sprouts in mid summer. Simply grab one with your hand and give it a quick jerk. Removing a small portion of the branch from which it grows will likely prevent future sprouts in this area.

DO begin to harden off homegrown seedlings and garden-bound indoor plants over the course of the next few weeks. By gradually acclimatizing plants to the outdoors you will likely prevent transplant shock and other maladies such as sunscald and windburn. Start off with a few hours outside each day, working up to all day and overnight. Then, as long as the threat of frost has passed the plants can successfully be planted in the ground.

DO NOT plant pepper seedlings until the soil has sufficiently warmed (usually by the first week in June). Research indicates that planting peppers in cold soil will stunt plants and reduce yields. You can warm the soil where peppers (and other heat lovers) are to grow by laying down sheets of IRT mulch a couple of weeks prior to planting. Then simply cut holes in the plastic and plant as normal.

DO cut asparagus with a knife just under the surface of the soil. In established plantings you can harvest spears for about six weeks. Leave those that are thinner than a pencil. Although we wish the season could go on forever, allowing foliage to form will only return energy to the roots, making for tasty shoots next spring!

Please see **GARDEN**, page 7

Turley Election Policy

This newspaper will print free self-submitted statements of candidacy only four weeks or more out from the election. All candidates running in both contested and uncontested races are asked to submit their statements to the editor to include only biographical and campaign platform details. Total word count for statements is limited to between 300-500 words maximum. Please include a photo. We will not publish any statements of candidacy inside the four weeks from election threshold. To publish any other campaign publicity during the race, please contact our advertising representatives.

We also do not allow personal attacks against other candidates or political parties in statements of candidacy, nor do we publish for free any information about key endorsements or political fundraisers.

Letters to the editor of no more than 250 words from supporters endorsing specific candidates or discussing campaign issues are limited to three total per author during the election season. No election letters will appear in the final edition before the election. We reserve the right to edit all statements of candidacy and letters to the editor to meet our guidelines.

Turley Publications Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters to the editor should be 350 words or less in length. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require letter writers to include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous or contain unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, defamation of character and offensive language. All unknown or alleged facts and quotations offered by the author need to cite credible, unbiased sources. Send letters to: Sentinel, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 or via email to sentinel@ turley.com. The deadline for submissions is Friday at 5 p.m.



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■ PUBLIC SAFETY

Belchertown Police Log

Editor's note: The following are brief explanations of select entries in the Belchertown Police log and arrests for the weeks of April 17 through April 23. The information was provided by a member of the police department based on the review of the detailed log summary. This feature is designed to provide context and explanation to some of the calls police respond to every day. Of the 365 calls police responded to, there were 17 incidents, three accidents, four arrests/summons and 29 cita-

ARRESTS/SUMMONS Thursday, April 18

1:20 p.m. – A 37-year-old Palmer male was issued a summons on charges of speeding and operating with a suspended license. An officer was monitoring traffic around River Street due to recent speed complaints and observed a vehicle traveling 48 mph. The officer stopped the vehicle and found the person had a suspended license. They were charged accordingly, and another person came to pick up the vehicle.

Monday, April 22

6:27 p.m. - Michael K Pirog, 42, of 88 Blaine St., Springfield, was arrested on charges of two counts of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, several civil rights violations and a warrant. Officers received multiple 911 calls about a person chasing two juveniles. The person allegedly threatened the juveniles with a verbal altercation. The officer was later updated that the person had a BB gun. Officers took statements from the people who were on scene. The person allegedly made racial slurs at the juveniles after trying to play a game of basketball with them.

Tuesday, April 23

12:39 a.m. - Mary Ann Lachapelle, 61, of 491 North Washington St., Belchertown was arrested on charges of operating under the influence of alcohol, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, possession of an open container of alcohol in motor vehicle and a marked lanes violation. An officer parked on State Street in a parking lot was watching a vehicle on State Street cross lanes and go up onto the sidewalk. The vehicle continued on the sidewalk and the officer pulled the vehicle over. The vehicle stopped in the middle of the northbound lane. The person said they didn't have anything to drink and a field sobriety test was administered. The person was charged accordingly and the vehicle was towed.

ACCIDENTS/INCIDENTS Thursday, April 18

9:17 a.m. - An officer spoke with a resident about an incident of credit card fraud. The resident got an email from a business using an online credit card to purchase items. The person didn't authorize the purchases. The person contacted their realtor and their bank, who reported the charges would be removed. They froze all their cards. The matter was documented.

4:35 p.m. - An officer took a report of a low-speed crash. A vehicle was rear-ended by another vehicle near Federal Street and George Hannum Road. There was a report of a dented license plate and broken trailer hitch pin. The drivers exchanged informa-

Friday, April 19

6:49 a.m. - An officer responded to an accident on Main Street. Vehicle traveling north on Main Street stopped for a pedestrian crossing the road. The vehicle behind the first was unable to stop in time and rear ended the first vehicle. There were no injuries reported and no tows needed.

8:45 a.m. - An officer responded to residence for a report of an ongoing verbal domestic situation.

11:09 p.m. - An officer responded to the intersection of Mill Valley Road for a report of miscellaneous car parts scattered in the roadway. Three was a front headlight and bumper assembly of a Nissan. Three mailboxes attached to a post were struck and damaged. The officer was unable to locate a vehicle matching the description in the immediate area. The next day the officer spoke with a resident who reported this is the second time this year that their mailboxes were struck.

Saturday, April 20

9:35 a.m. - An officer spoke with a person about harassing social media posts.

1:06 p.m. - An officer responded to a State Street residence to investigate drug paraphernalia left on the person's property. The person said they checked on their camper and found a purple backpack on a bed in the camper. There was also a clear white bag with a powdery substance. The camper's door doors failed to lock. An inventory on the backpack was completed. The matter is under investigation.

6:37 p.m. - An officer responded to assist Belchertown Fire for a report of a backyard fire. Officers arrived on scene and the fire was on the south side of the building, melting playground equipment into the ground. The fire was extinguished. The resident was unsure how the fire started.

Sunday, April 21

10:30 p.m. - An officer responded to a Main Street to residence for a report of a

broken window. The resident reported a broken window after hearing a loud bang outside. The person didn't see anyone or anything right away. It appeared something cracked the window and cracked it. Photos of the damage were taken.

Monday, April 22

4:26 a.m. - Officers responded to assist Belchertown fire and paramedics.

1:41 p.m. - An officer to North Main Street business to meet with person about missing property.

3:37 p.m. - An officer serviced a 209A order. The person had to surrender their keys to a residence. They were entered into property.

6:52 p.m. - An officer responded to the town's transfer station to assist the Belchertown Animal Control Officer about a sick raccoon that needed to be eutha-

Tuesday, April 23

8:19 a.m. – An officer took a driver's license a resident found. The licensee was associated with an address in Belchertown, but their address was listed in West Brookfield. A note was left on the door at the Belchertown address. West Brookfield Police reported the licensee was no longer living in town and the license was placed

11:11 a.m. – An officer responded to an accident on Daniel Shay's Highway. A vehicle backed up and didn't see a second vehicle parked in a parking lot. The operator said the vehicle was large and their view was obstructed. Both vehicles had minor damage. There was no tow and no injuries reported.

5:49 p.m. – An officer responded to Barton Avenue to assist a Belchertown Animal Control Officer with a sick rac-

Granby Police Log

Editor's Note: The Granby Police Department responded to 172 calls for the week of April 19 through April 25. Those arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. The Granby Police Department provides all informa-

Saturday, April 20

7:40 a.m. - While on patrol, an officer observed a motor vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed. Radar confirmed that the vehicle was traveling at 47 mph in a 30 mph zone. The vehicle was stopped and it was discovered that the operator had a suspended Massachusetts driver's license and the registration was revoked for insurance. The operator was issued a criminal citation

East Street resurfacing begins May 20

GRANBY - Road resurfacing on East Street between New Ludlow Road and Pleasant Street. Work will commence on the week of May 20.

Please seek alternate routes if possible. Roadway detours and/or closures are anticipated, and residents may experience short term inconvenience/delays due to construction operations.

for speeding, operating with a suspended driver's license, operating with a revoked registration, and no insurance.

11:05 a.m. - Several motorists reported that a vehicle struck a utility pole. Granby Police and Fire responded. The operator was transported to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

5:37 p.m. – A motorist reported a minor rear-end accident in parking lot. There were no injuries.

8:12 p.m. - While on patrol an officer observed a vehicle that had a headlight out. After stopping the vehicle, it was discovered that the registration plates belonged to another vehicle. The operator was issued a criminal citation for a light violation, attaching plates, and unregistered motor vehicle.

Sunday, April 21

3:06 p.m. – A resident reported that their vehicle had been broken into and items were stolen. An incident report was com-

5:02 p.m. – A motorist reported that their pickup truck was on fire. They stopped and got out of the truck upon smelling a burning smell as they were driving. Granby Fire and Police responded. There were no injuries, and the fire was extinguished.

Thursday, April 25

4:57 p.m. - While on patrol, an officer observed a motor vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed. Radar confirmed that the vehicle was traveling at 53 mph in a 35 mph zone. The vehicle was stopped and it was discovered that the operator had a suspended Massachusetts driver's license. The operator was issued a criminal citation for operating with a suspended driver's license and speeding.

GARDEN from page 6

DO NOT allow weeds to take over the strawberry patch! Applying a mulch of shredded leaves, composted sawdust or pine needles will not only keep the weeds at bay, but it will feed the plants and keep developing berries clean at the same time!

DO sow grass seed soon, before crabgrass has a chance to take hold. Or better yet, sow seed in late August, or early September, when this dreaded

weed is near done its life cycle. Water sown areas daily to promote timely germination.

DO NOT rototill patches of perennial weeds; you are merely spreading them about the garden! Better to hand weed, digging out the roots completely. After planting is complete mulch around plants to cut down on future weeds, conserve moisture, and add organic matter to the soil. When applying mulch around trees and shrubs remember to pull it back, away from the trunk to

prevent girdling.

DO have fun in the garden this spring!

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.

Quaboag Relay for Life craft/vendor fair is June 8

BELCHERTOWN - There will be over 80 crafters and vendors 3rd Annual Spring Craft/Vendor Fair to be held on Saturday, June 8 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on the Common, Routes 9 and 202.

There will be face painting all day, balloon sculpting by Ed at the Quaboag Relay for Life's Popielarczyk from 12:30-2:30 p.m. and raffles.

> All proceeds from the fair will benefit the American Cancer Society, Relay for Life.



Dickinson Farms & Greenhouse Mother's Day is Sunday, May 12th!

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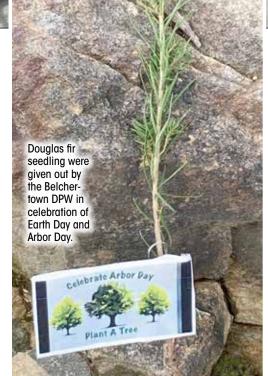


CLEAN-UP from page 1

Conservation Department leading initiatives to protect pollinators by promoting the planting of native species and chemical-free gardening.

The town's green journey continues with the 2023 adoption of a Climate Resilience and Sustainable Growth Plan and a decarbonization pledge by the Select Board, aiming to decrease carbon emissions and uphold sustainability goals.

These efforts, especially poignant during Earth Month, underscore Belchertown's dedication to creating a greener future, detailed further on Belchertown's Energy and Sustainability Committee's web page at belchertown.org/ committees/energy_and_sustainability.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS BY SARAH FORTUNE AND JOANNE COLLINS

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Love Mom, Dad, John and Chloe

Belchertown announces board, committee vacancies

BELCHERTOWN – The town's Select Board is seeking citizens to share their expertise by serving on a town board or

Those who have time and are interested in getting involved in the town's activities are asked to submit a letter of interest to: Select Board, The Finnerty House, One South Main Street, P.O. Box 670, Belchertown, MA 01007, or by email to selectboard@belchertown.org (unless otherwise indicated below).

The town has announced that it wishes to fill the following vacancies:

Animal Control Advisory Board Three vacancies

The Town wishes to fill three vacancies on the Animal Control Advisory Board. This board has the authority to conduct hearings as allowed in the Town's by-laws and pose reasonable conditions as deemed appropriate. The ideal applicants may be a dog breeder, a dog trainer, a veterinarian, non-pet owner from the community, a medical professional specializing in emergency medicine, animal enthusiast or caregiver, pet owner and/or interested residents.

Deadline: Friday, May 31

Belchertown Age and Dementia Friendly Implementation Group Community member vacancy

The Belchertown Age and Dementia

Friendly Implementation Group is looking to fill a vacancy for a community member. The main goal of the team is to implement the recommendations listed in the Age and Dementia Friendly Belchertown Community Assessment and Action Plan. We meet quarterly at the Senior Center to prioritize, monitor progress and track out-

Deadline: Friday, May 31

Belchertown Diversity, Equity, and **Inclusion Task Force** Community member vacancy

The Town of Belchertown is accepting letters of interest to fill a community member vacancy on the newly developed Belchertown Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force. The focus of the Task Force is to develop a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement for the Select Board to review and to consider adopting, to seek out opportunities to acknowledge and/or celebrate the diversity within our own community and to welcome the whole community to join in, and to offer suggestions on how the town addresses specific or potential acts of violence, including hate speech, should such acts arise in our community, region, or state.

Efforts should be made to include voices from the community or communities that

Please see **VACANCIES**, page 13



TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS

Ray LaChance led those gathered in the Cherokee "Morning Song", where all of the things of this Earth are celebrated.

CLAPP from page 1

on indigenous land - land that was taken care of people who were stewards of it, and ensured it was taken care of.

"My grandfather told me at a very young age that we need the land to survive," LaChance said. "There's so many things we can all do.

LaChance led the group in a Cherokee song called "The Morning Song", which was sung by the Native Americans as they were pushed from their lands during the Trail of

"When the indigenous people were pushed from their land, the white people began to use as much as the resources as they could, moving away from the practices of conservation the Natives used," La Chance explained.

As the history of the land and how it should be taken care of was taught, he also led the group through a game involving corn husks and feathers.

Nothing went to waste, everything was used, and with everything being used, lessons were taught to the children by the elders of how to take care of the land the Creators had given them.

At the end, he led them all in a ceremony where a tree outside the library was blessed



A Medicine Wheel, also known as the Wheel of Life, depicts the colors that represent man, and their journey through life from birth to death.

with fresh soil, water, smoke from burning sage incense, and a sprinkle of corn meal.

The special event taught all who attended the importance of taking care of the Earth and everything it has given us, all the time, and in every possible way.

GRANBY

Selectboard, Housing Authority contested in annual election

BY MELINA BOURDEAU Correspondent

GRANBY - The Selectboard and Housing Authority have contested races in this year's annual town election.

However, seats will go unfilled on the School Committee and the Library Trustees.

Selectboard member Richard Beaulieu is not seeking reelection to the Selectboard this term and will be replaced by either John Arcouette, David LaBonte, Nathaniel Masse or Micheline Turgeon. The position has a threeyear term.

Ronald Richard and Douglas Smith are running for a four-year term on the Housing Authority.

The remaining positions available all see incumbents running.

Dakota Richards is running for

re-election as an Assessor with a three-year term.

Lee Lalonde is running for re-election to the Board of Health. This position has a three-year

Running for a three-year term as the Town Moderator is Lynn Snopek Mercier. The position has a three-year term.

Nicole Menard is running for re-election as the Town Collector. The position has a three-year term.

Running for the position of Town Treasurer is Steven Nally. The position has a three-year term. Running for the five-year term on the Housing Authority is

Joseph Furnia. James Tromke is running for re-election to the Planning Board.

The position has a five-year term. Gordon Landry is running for re-election as the Commissioner

of Burial Grounds. The position has a three-year term.

Jennifer Bartosz is running for re-election to the School Committee. The position has a three-year term. One seat is avail-

Denise Conti is running for re-election as a Library Trustee. The position has a three-year term. There are two available seats.

The annual town election will be on Monday, May 20 from noon-7 p.m. in the gymnasium of the Granby Junior Senior High School, 385 East State St.

If you wish to vote by mail, the last day to file a vote-by-mail application is Monday, May 13.

For more information call the Town Clerk's office at 413-467-

School committee pursues superintendent search

BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS

Staff Writer epappas@turley.com

GRANBY - The School Committee got together last week to discuss updates from the student representative, and further discuss the superintendent

The April 23 meeting was led by Chair Jennifer Bartosz who was joined by Vice-Chair Jill Pelletier, and members Michael Durham and George Bahlke.

The meeting was also attended by Superintendent Stephen Sullivan, Director of Finance and Operations Todd Dorman, Student Representative Coe Fuller, and Granby Education Association Representative Cheryl Denette, and members of the Senior Leadership Team.

Superintendent search

Dorman shared the various grants, support, and trainings they have created to dive in to how the board and school have been working towards the Strategic Plan.

"We want to welcome, respect, and embrace diversity and provide training and support to our staff and believe that everyone in the Granby Public Schools can grow, shift, and succeed under the right conditions and with the appropriate supports," Dorman said.

The committee is continuing its search for a superintendent and is forming a committee according to the Strategic Plan to ensure that all students will be helped and get the structure they need.

Student Representative report

Cole Fuller, the student representative, came to the School Committee with several announcements as the school vear nears its end.

East Meadow School is having its final push, as the English Language Arts section of Massachusetts Cumulative Assessment System will begin in the next few weeks.

A community garden is being planted as well for learning opportunities. The schools are also painting a buddy bench, a special spot for friends to sit together off to the side.

The Spring Fling Dance will be on Friday, May 17, and Teacher Appreciation Day is on Wednesday, May 1. The Civics MCAS is coming up, and the final academic schedules for next year has been made.

STA Art Night will be happening from 5-8 p.m. on May 16 for students to show off their art to parents and friends. Students are also looking forward to the upcoming Brownstone Adventure Sports Park and Sonny's Place field trips.

The school has also partnered with the Department of Conservation and Recreation in order to provide free classes for lifeguard certification for all interested students.

Library hosts Spring Book Sale

GRANBY - The Friends of of CDs, DVDs and audiobooks. the Granby Free Public Library will host their annual Month-Long Spring Book Sale during the month of May in the Community Room of the Library.

Now through May 31 you will be able to choose from a large assortment of used and like-new hardcover, softcover, paperback books, teen books and children's books, along with a selection Stop in during the library's regular operating hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Thursday from 10:30 a.m.-7 p.m. and Saturday from 10:30 a.m.-1:30

The Granby Free Public Library is located at 297 East State St. All proceeds benefit the Friends of the Granby Library.

Ranger Tasha offers programs for kids

GRANBY - Spring Nature Discovery for Kids In New England with Nature Expert, Ranger Tasha on Tuesdays at the Granby Free Public Library. 297 East State St. at 10:30 a.m.

Enjoy a seasonal nature theme story, learning, hands on and craft about the world around us in New England, and even go outside on nice days. This program is presented by Tasha Daniels, Park Ranger/

Visitor Services Specialist at the Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

On May 7, the theme will be Birds & Nesting; May 21, Moose on the Loose; June 4, Bullfrogs; and June 11, Fireflies.

This drop in program is for ages 3-5, with siblings and homeschoolers welcome.

'Baby Shower' donation drive benefits Bethlehem House

GRANBY - The Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Granby will be collecting baby items to be donated to the Bethlehem House in Easthampton.

Baby item donations will be collected on Saturday, May 4 and Saturday, May 11 from noon-3 p.m. at the IHM Rectory Carport, 256 State St.

Items needed are: diapers (sizes 1, 4 and 5), boy and girl onesies (0-3 months). any girl clothing (0-3 and 3-6 months), sleepers (up to 18 months), Dove soap (unscented), baby washcloths, baby wipes (unscented) and gift cards (Costco, Dollar Tree and Dollar General).



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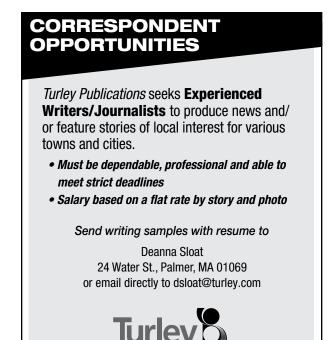
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email: oldiesfrom@aol.com 45 Parker Street, Indian Orchard Wed.-Fri. 10-4:30, Sat. 10-2:30, Closed Sun. - Tues. *Are you having difficulty communicating* with your partner, struggling with boundaries, and healthy relationships?

We invite you to join us Friday afternoons from 1-2:30 pm to explore these topics and more.

This group will be held in zoom, is educational, confidential, and free.

Please contact Pat James 413-726-8661.



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BUSINESS

Duprey named Business

Development Manager at CMT

DEATH NOTICE

Joyal, Caroline E. (Swanson) Died April 21, 2024

The Sentinel OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of

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

The other is a Paid Obituary, costing \$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries

should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

■ OBITUARY

Caroline E. (Swanson) Joyal, 85

BELCHERTOWN - Caroline E. (Swanson) Joyal passed on April 21, 2024, with family at her side, at the age of 85.



Born in Hinsdale, New Hampshire, she was the daughter of Edwin and Marcia (Stanclift) Swanson.

Caroline worked as an ber of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 239.

She was happiest when spending time with her grandchildren and had a great love

of the ocean and her gardens and houseplants. She also enjoyed square dancing, skiing, playing board games, feeding the songbirds that frequented her yard, and walks around town and along the beach in York, Maine.

Caroline will be dearly missed by her husband of 61 years, Samuel Joyal, her daughters Sheila Janocha (Peter), Kimberly Croke (Barry) and Heidi Terault (Christopher), and her grandchildren, Nicole, Thomas, Michael, Karen and Alexandria.

She is also survived by her loving siblings, Beverly, Geraldine, Marcia (Marty), Donna, Evelyn (Mike), James (Gail), and Bertha, as well as many wonderful nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her parents, her sister Judy and brothers, Edwin, and Carl.

Please visit beersandstory.com to sign the online registry. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Caroline's memory to NORD at rarediseases.org or to BARC at barcfriends.com.

administrative assistant for many years at the Belchertown State School and was a mem-

Technology, an advanced manufacturing training facility that offers a wide range of flexible and customizable, certificate-based, day and evening, on-site or off-site, in-person and online, paid and free programs to meet the critical training needs of candidates and manufacturers across New England.

> A native of Holyoke, Duprey graduated from Dean Vocational Technical High School and served as a U.S. Air Force combat engineer in England and Germany for three years. He then held several private-sector design engineering positions before joining MACDAC, a Mastercam CAD/CAD Reseller and advanced manufacturing training facility in Somers, Connecticut.

WOBURN - Holyoke native and

Belchertown resident Brian A. Duprey has

been appointed Business Development

Manager at the Center for Manufacturing

Duprey spent 23 years at MACDAC, being promoted from a Mastercam CAD/ CAM software instructor to partner and director of operations and technology. When MACDAC was sold in 2021, Duprey worked as Product Director and in Enterprise Sales for TriMech.

The Center for Manufacturing Technology is based in Woburn, 10 miles northwest of Boston, in a 3,000 square foot industrial facility consisting of classrooms and a hands-on manufacturing lab that gives students valuable experience with manual and CNC milling, Prototrak, manual and CNC turning, inspection, welding, sheet metal and grinding machines that are



Brian Duprey of Belchertown has been appointed Business Development Manager at the Center for Manufacturing Technology.

used throughout the machining industry. CMT also provides classes on machine shop best practices, NIM's Credentialing, CNC programming and basic shop safety.

"If you are someone with a desire to enter the growing advanced manufacturing workforce, or an employer who needs to provide high-quality training to shop floor employees, please contact us today," said Duprey in a press release. "That's what we're here for."

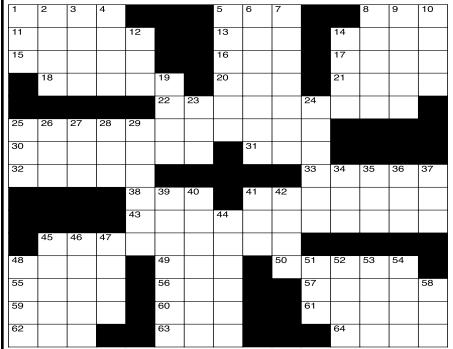
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CLUES ACROSS

- Lions do it 5. In favor of
- 8. Rest here please (abbr.)
- 11. Pulpits
- 13. Leisure activity
- 14. Fertility god 15. Financial
- obligations 16. When you anticipate getting somewhere
- 17. Spanish river
- 18. Sporting events
- 20. Type of tree 21. Ceased to be
- 22. Persons
- 25. Synthetic resin 30. Relates to photochemical

reactions

- 31. Father 32. Former Cowboys
- coach
- 33. City in Finland 38. Run batted in

- 41. Got through
- 43. They darken skin 45. In a harmful way 48. Form of weaving
- 49. City of Angels hoopster 50. Caucasian
- language 55. Syngman _ Korean president
- 56. Sun up in New York 57. Paddled
- 59. Fishes
- 60. Affirmative 61. Nimble 62. Doctor of
- Education 63. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 64. A small island **CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Cool! measure
- 2. Hebrew unit of
- 28. Bark 3. Swedish rock

- group
- 4. College army 5. Favor over another
- 6. Called it a career 7. Egg-shaped wind instrument
- 8. Israeli statesman 9. Hurries
- 10. Slog 12. Midway between south and southeast
- 14. Benedictine monk 19. Self-immolation
- by fire ritual 23. Family of regulator genes
- 24. Surrendering 25. Political action committee
- 26. S. American plant 27. Long-term memory
- 29. Breathes in 34. Take hold of 35. Everyone has one

- 36. Valentine's Day color
- 37. Drivers' licenses
- and passports 39. Outer walls of castles
- 40. Enters with force 41. One thousandth of an inch
- 42. Deceased Chinese politician 44. Sugary secretion
- of plants 45. Expressed pleasure 46. Shelter
- 47. Utilizes 48 Forest resident
- 51. Fashion accessory 52. A sharply directional antenna
- 53. __ Kristofferson, actor 54. A bad place to
- end up 58. MLBer Gordon

GUN CLUB from page 1

Boscher read a statement provided to the town by its attorney, Gregg Corbo.

"We are working with state and local police who are investigating the matter presently...We are aware of recent statements made by the chair of the Granby Board of Health, and we want to make clear that he did not accurately represent the board's position or the town's position on

this matter," Boscher read. The remainder of the statement emphasized allowing the police investigation to conclude before any legal action is taken against the club.

In its April 9 meeting, Granby Board of Health Chair Richard Bombardier said he was referring to the board's previous decision when he said, "Unless the government [in] Belchertown stepped up to the plate and said, 'Our people are at risk here and we need something done...' and maybe it in involves an operation in Granby, maybe the Board of Health would be willing to be involved in a joint effort to go to the state to get help.'

Resident Jake Hulseburg wrote to the board about the March 29 incident where a bullet "shattered a neighbor's back door."

"Our neighborhood is directly downrange from the recently constructed, 'longrange' at the Granby Bow and Gun Club," wrote Hulseburg.

The range is about a mile west of the Mountain View neighborhood, which is near the Granby/Belchertown line and where the two incidents occurred.

Included in the letters to the Select Board, the residents state they "live in fear."

We face a very real danger. Our little children cannot play in their yards," the letter states. "Our older children suffered acute trauma and required services.

The club claims its "preliminary investigation indicates the club was not the source of the bullet," according to its website.

The website notification later reads, "We are using our investigation of this incident as an opportunity to reevaluate Club policies and procedures to ensure the Club continues to meet high standards for safety."

In the board's meeting on April 29, Downing said as a courtesy to residents, the club continues its temporary cessation of all rifle shooting for the next two months. The club will allow previously scheduled competitive and training rifle events since they are difficult to cancel or relocate.

Downing said the club will alert the residents and town of any events involving rifles as well as keeping records of the shooters, firearms and range safety officials participating in events.

The club is cooperating with the police led investigation and "provided the district attorney with all information concerning the identify of anyone who was at the club's

property the day of March 29." Downing said the club has experts who wish to examine the homes, with permission from the owners, to look at the site of impact and recovered bullets.

He said they also submitted a Freedom of Information Act request to Belchertown and the Belchertown Police Department for "all correspondence from the residents about the stray bullets and a copy of the police's 2023 investigation report."

In the April 16 meeting, residents also requested a safety audit to look at how the gun club operates, how its supervised and what procedures are in place.

Residents emphasized that they weren't looking to shut the range down, but wanted to prioritize safety.

Select Board member Lesa Lessard Pearson said she didn't feel comfortable with Corbo's statement being read into the record and "can't express what I want to express."

Boscher said the reason he brought the residents forward that evening was to be able to listen to them and he didn't want the investigation "dragged out" either.

He suggested improving communication with the community about the investigation.

Town Manager Steve Williams said while he couldn't comment on the matter, he does spent time with police chief, local legislators and Granby town council every day.

"We are doing everything we can to expedite the investigation and look for any avenue we can," Williams said.



Cemetery Memorials + Markers Granite Benches Religious Statuary + Outdoor Display

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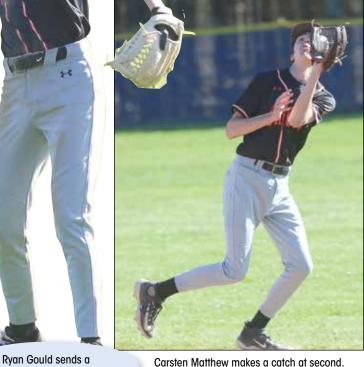
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Tough fielding issues hurt Agawam



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM Jake Waller pitches for the Orioles.

BELCHERTOWN - Last Thursday, Belchertown baseball took advantage of seven Agawam errors for an 18-8 win. Belchertown scored six times in the first and six times in the third to put the game out of reach. Agawam had one push early in the game, scoring five times in the top of the first. For Agawam, Joe Szemela went 3-for-4 with and RBI. Aiden Lavelle went 2-for-3 with a home run and three RBI. Belchertown got two hits each from Canyon Charron and Evan Ferguson. Ferguson had four RBI and Kamden Houle added three RBI. Agawam is 3-6 on the season.



Carsten Matthew makes a catch at second.



Evan Ferguson socks a hit to the outfield.

Olympics lead to change in **HoopHall** induction

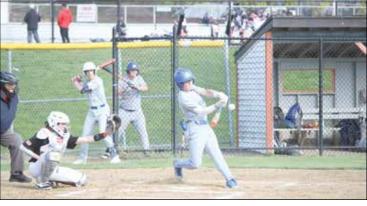
SPRINGFIELD - The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame has announced it will move its Enshrinement Ceremonies from Aug. 16-17 to Oct. 12-13 to accommodate requests of the vast global bas-ketball community amid an extensive and expanding summer schedule, highlighted by the 2024 Summer Olympics. The date change will continue to position the Hall of Fame event as a successful, well-produced standalone event not compromised by potential production conflicts.

"The Hall of Fame appreciates the input from friends across the basketball community and the recommendations of our production partners regarding a schedule adjustment for our Enshrinement Ceremonies," said John L. Doleva, President & CEO of the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame. "We understand the importance of the burgeoning Olympic basketball events to our broader constituencies and regret any inconvenience caused by the change. This one-time move to October assures that we are best positioned to once again create a great experience for our guests and deliver viewers a first-class

Please see **HOOP HALL**, page 13



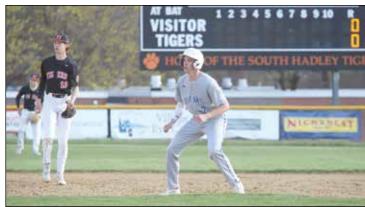
Brady Jolly looks to make a tag.



Brandon Carillon connects on a grounder to the infield.



Gavin Moreno comes up with a ball in



Nik Misiaszek leads off second base.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

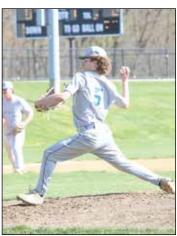
Rams strike fast, but Tigers strike more



Sam Moure makes solid contact.

SOUTH HADLEY - Last Wednesday afternoon, neighboring rivals Granby and South Hadley met in baseball action. After two scoreless innings, Granby managed to get on the board. But the Tigers would roar back, taking advantage of a couple of Granby miscues to plate four runs. The Tigers would then add six more runs in the fourth inning to take a 10-1 commanding lead, and the Tigers would go on to 13-3 in six innings. Granby managed just five hits, with Colin Murdock collecting one

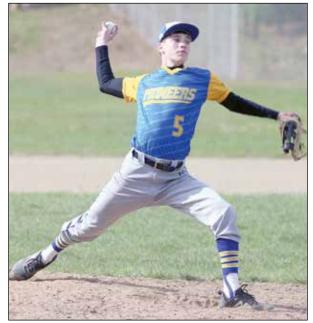
of them, and RBI, and two runs scored. South Hadley got three this each from Logan Carpenter and Gavin Carpenter. Logan Carpenter, Burke Belsky, Jackson Keller, and Jack Maziarz drove in two runs each. John Viola pitched for innings, allowed four hits, an unearned run, and walked one for the win. Anthony Santiago pitched five innings for Granby, allowing only three earned runs of the 10 scored off him. He walked three and struck out one. The Rams are 2-6 while the Tigers are now 7-2.



Anthony Santiago delivers a pitch for

Pioneers walk off

SPORTS



Andrew Sullivan delivers a pitch for the Pioneers.





Camron MacDonald catches a pickoff throw to first. TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM



Hunter Griswold gets dirty as he slides safely into second.



Zander Auffrey heads for second.



Branden Hnitecki slides into an opposing player.

T-Birds put bow on successful season

SPRINGFIELD - The Springfield Thunderbirds completed a historic season in style on Saturday, hosting a 14th consecutive sellout crowd inside the MassMutual Center. The capacity crowd for the finale also marked the 20th time during the 2023-24 season that "the Thunderdome" hit its maximum

occupancy. Both 14-game sellout streak and the 20 total sellout crowds set Springfield AHL hockey records, and those were merely two statistics from a year full of shattered

records and overwhelming support from the fanbase. The Thunderbirds' ticket sales department saw distinct growth in numerous categories, including group ticket revenue (up 30% from 2022-23), season ticket revenue (up 15%), and total full-season tickets sold (up 5%).

"The support this franchise has received from day one has been indescribable," said Thunderbirds President Nathan Costa. "It takes so many factors for an American Hockey League franchise to succeed, and our front office staff is right up there with the best in the business. Their tireless efforts, coupled with the passion and energy of the Thunderdome crowd, made this historic season a reality. We have no intention of slowing down either, which should make our fans so excited for what will come.'

Of the 6,321 fans who attended Thunderbirds games on average last season, about 25% were members of various groups participating in a wide variety of in-game experiences, from Premium Suite and Executive Perch parties to on-ice activities like national anthem performances and

> the club generate the eighth most group tickets sold in the league. We have long worked at making Thunderbirds games a lifelong memory for fans of all ages," said Costa. "In the process of doing that, we have been able to showcase members of our com-

high-five tunnel teams. Springfield's

front office staff efforts helped

which has led to amazing munity, opportunities for these groups to have a huge audience and grow their followings. Performing at Thunderbirds games has become a checklist item for thousands in this area, and we take great pride in that."

This season, the T-Birds saw an average of 93.1% of all seats filled inside the MassMutual Center, the highest average attendance to capacity in the AHL's Eastern Conference and second-highest in the league. Such successes in filling the arena directly led to the Thunderbirds' corporate sales department reaching new heights

In the 2023-24 season, the T-Birds saw a 15% growth in corporate revenue while sitting atop the league rankings in total sponsorship deals. Integrations with sponsors have continued to be showcased across various mediums, from in-arena and in-ice signage to social media post sponsorships and elements of the in-game broadcast pro-

"Having widespread support from our business partners is also paramount to success in the American Hockey League," Costa added. "Our corporate team has fostered meaningful relationships beyond return on investment and emphasized Springfield's pride for the city. Their accomplishments are remarkable when compared to markets of exponentially greater size.'

Supplementing the Thunderbirds' success in tickets and corporate business, the franchise experienced a seventh consecutive season of brand development and merchandise growth as the club rose to the top 10 in the AHL in-game night merchandise sales, with an emphasis on creating high-quality product lines across not just the T-Birds brand, but specialty nights as

"We are aware of how impactful merchandise can be from a grassroots marketing perspective," said Costa. "Giving our fans the ability to show their pride for specialty evenings like Pink in the Rink, Ice-O-Topes, and Military Appreciation further bolsters our connection between our team and the community."

The Thunderbirds will look to build upon their record-breaking success when the 2024-25 season, the eighth Thunderbirds hockey campaign, gets underway this October. Schedules and single-game tickets will go on sale later this summer. Fans can reserve their seats for Thunderbirds' hockey action in the 2024-25 season with a ticket membership by calling (413)-739-GOAL (4625) or visiting www.SpringfieldThunderbirds.com.

Quabbin League wants to fill remaining roster spots

Rosters spots are dwindling, but there are still some spots available as the Quabbin Valley Over-28 Baseball has begun it season. There are still several open spots to get filled despite the season being underway.

Registration for the 2024 season is now open and any interested players can go to www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org to get registered, or to seek more information or make inquiries about the league.

The league plays most Sunday from late April through late August with playoffs following that. The league plays a 15-game schedule and typically fields six teams each year. Games are usually played at 10 a.m. with fields in Easthampton and South Hadley used as well some expansion to the surrounding area this season. The league does not play on Mother's Day or Memorial Day weekends.

The Quabbin Valley league is an all-abilities league and all are welcome to join. Eligibility is players who are age 28 and over. You must be 30 to be eligible to pitch in the league. Your age for eligibility is whatever age you will turn in 2024. The league is also able to entertaining taking in an entire group as a team to add to the league. Please email the league board for to inquire about entering a team. The league can also pro-rate registration at this point. Simply contact a league board member. Contact information is located at the registration link.

Registration now open to take part in Bay State Games

WOBURN - Registration for the 42nd annual Bay State Summer Games is now open. The 2024 Summer Games will include thirty sports with competitions from May 11 – July 27 at venues throughout eastern and central Massachusetts including Game On in Fitchburg, Boston Sports Institute in Wellesley, Union Point Sports Complex in Weymouth, and North Star Ice Sports in Westborough. Bay State Games participants range in age from 5 to over age 75 and represent more than 300 Massachusetts communities as well as surrounding New England States in some sports. From grassroots participants to accomplished amateur athletes, the Bay State Games provide opportunities for the athlete in all of us.

Seven high school showcase sports will take place for a variety of sports, including baseball, basketball, field hockey, ice hockey, soccer, softball, and volleyball. Athletes currently in grade 8-11 who live or go to school in Massachusetts are eligible to attend regional tryouts during the month of June. These tryouts will determine teams representing the various regions of the Commonwealth that will compete against each other in July. Check each sport page for specific eligibility requirements.

The Summer Games include a wide variety of individual sports including swimming, track & field, figure skating, pickleball, wrestling, weightlifting, badminton, and more. These sports are open to a wide range of ages and skill levels from youth participants to masters-aged athletes. Adaptive sport divisions in archery, swimming, and track & field are offered, as well. Bay State Games also organizes tournaments for pre-existing teams in rugby, and 6v6 field hockey.

Returning in 2024, Table Tennis will

take place on June 1 at PingPod in Boston after a 5-year hiatus from the Summer Games sport lineup. New venues include Babson College, which will host the Girls Basketball Showcase, and NorthStar Ice Sports, which will host Figure Skating and the Girls Ice Hockey Showcase. Game On in Fitchburg will serve as a hub venue for eight sports. Bay State Games expects 1,500 athletes and their families to attend competitions at Game On during the second week of July.

For questions, email info@baystategames.org or call 781-932-6555.

VACANCIES from page 8

are directly affected. Partnership opportunities with surrounding towns to strengthen regional or state efforts might also be explored. This is a seven member committee to include: A representative from law enforcement, a representative from Town Hall, and five community members representing diversity in one or more of the following areas: Racial and ethnic backgrounds, Social positions with respect to gender identity and sexual orientation, social positions with respect to disability, and Age groups and prior vocational experiences. All are encouraged to apply. Please submit a letter of interest to: Select Board, The Finnerty House, One South Main Street, P.O. Box 670, Belchertown, MA 01007 or by email to selectboard@belchertown.org.

Deadline: Friday, May 31

Belchertown Family Center Committee Three voting member vacancies

The Belchertown Family Center Committee is seeking passionate, service-minded individuals to fill three active voting member positions. This committee is charged with oversight of the Belchertown Family Center and its support programming for families, and is actively working to create a breadth of resources for our community.

Deadline: Friday, May 31

Communications Committee Three full member vacancies

The Town wishes to fill three full member seats on the Communications Committee. The purpose of this committee is to develop a communication plan for the Town of Belchertown to improve information flow from the Town to the public. Experience with marketing, communications, and/or social media is highly preferred.

Deadline: Friday, May 31

Conservation Commission Full member vacancy

The Town wishes to fill an anticipated full member vacancy on the Conservation Commission. The Commission is charged with the protection of the community's natural resources and advises other municipal boards and committees on conservation issues relating

to their areas of responsibility. Interested applicants will need to familiarize themselves with the Wetland Regulations and attend workshops and meetings regu-

Deadline: Friday, May 31

Council on Aging One vacancy

The Town wishes to fill one vacancy on the Council on Aging. Members of the Council on Aging coordinate programs and services for the elderly population and oversee the Belchertown Senior Center.

Deadline: Friday, May 31

Cultural Council One vacancy

The Town wishes to fill an anticipated vacancy on the Cultural Council. The Cultural Council promotes an appreciation of the arts and culture by participating in the development and administration of funds for local cultural activities.

Deadline: Friday, May 31

Historic District By-Law Commission Full member (Real Estate) seat

The Town wishes to fill a full member seat (Real Estate Seat) on the Historic District By-Law Commission. The Commission has regulatory control over new construction, reconstruction, alterations, movements, and demolition of all exterior architectural features of buildings and structures within the Historic District which are visible from any public street, public way, or public park.

Deadline: Friday, May 31

Pioneer Valley Transit Authority Advisory Board One representative

The Town is seeking an individual to represent and serve as a Liaison to the Town of Belchertown on the PVTA Advisory Board. Interested individuals should have the time and desire to attend respective meetings in Springfield and periodically review the PVTA's services to the Town and its contiguous communities.

Deadline: Friday, May 31

PUBLIC NOTICES

Belchertown **Conservation Commission** LEGAL NOTICE

Pursuant to the authority of the Wetlands Protection Act (M.G.L. Ch. 131, Sec. 40, its Regulations (310 CMR 10.00) and the Belchertown Wetlands Protection Bylaw (Chapter 139), the Belchertown Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 7:00 PM in the Lawrence Memorial Hall Conservation Office, located at 2 Jabish Street in Belchertown, MA 01007 to review a Notice of Intent permit application submitted by Hancock Associates c/o Nancy McMorrow for the proposed construction of a common driveway at Lot 24 Gold Street (Assessor's Map 207-24) in Belchertown. Work is proposed to occur within Bordering Vegetated Wetlands. Anyone interested in this matter should appear at the time and place designated. 05/02/2024

> **Public Hearing Legal Notice** Belchertown

Zoning Board of Appeals

In accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40A, Section 11 the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

This hearing will be held

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.

in the Select Board's meeting room of Lawrence Memorial Hall, 2 Jabish Street, Belchertown, MA on the application from Kyle Koob for 270 Mill Valley Road Map 249 Parcel 51.02 in Zoning District AG-A requesting variance for signage greater than by-law allows to dimensional to the building,145-22. Sign will be attached to the building. A copy of the application may be inspected at the Town Clerk's office (Room 201) 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday, Lawrence Memorial Hall, 2 Jabish Street, Belchertown, MA. or at website https:// www.belchertown.org/com mitees/zoning_board_of_ appeals/index.php

Any Person interested and wishing to be heard should appear at the time and place designated.

Jennifer Sharrow, Chair Person, Zoning Board of Appeals 04/25, 05/02/2024

Public Hearing Special Permit Legal Notice Belchertown **Planning Board**

In accordance with the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40A, Sections 9 and 11, the Planning Board will hold a public hearing to discuss a Common Drive Special Permit submitted by Nancy McMorrow, 31 Gold Street, Belchertown, MA 01007, Gold Street, Map 207, Lot 24, Belchertown, MA.

A public hearing will be held as follows:

Place: Belchertown Town Hall, 2 Jabish St., Belchertown, MA

Date: May 14, 2024 Time: 7:00 PM

The application is available for inspection during regular business hours at the Town Clerk and Planning Board office, 2 Jabish Street.

Daniel Beaudette Chair, Planning Board 04/25, 05/02/2024



HOOP HALL from page 11

presentation to celebrate our esteemed Class."

Enshrinement Weekend will begin at Mohegan Sun on Saturday, Oct. 12, with the Tip-Off Celebration and Awards Gala. The Class of 2024 and returning Hall of Famers will then assemble in Springfield, for the annual events taking place at the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame and Springfield's Symphony Hall on Sunday, Oct. 13.

The updated schedule of events for Enshrinement 2024: Saturday, Oct. 12, at Mohegan Sun (Uncasville, Conn.)

Enshrinement 2024 Autograph Session Enshrinement 2024 Press Conference

Enshrinement Tip-Off Celebration and Awards Gala

Sunday, Oct. 13, in Springfield

Enshrinement Ceremony VIP Reception at Springfield Marriott

Enshrinement Ceremony Red Carpet Show at Symphony

Enshrinement Ceremony at Symphony Hall

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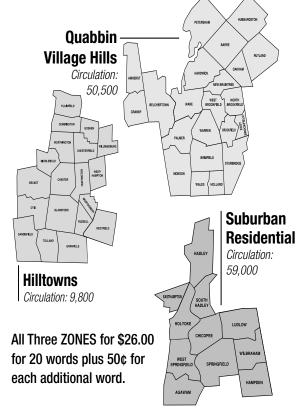


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Qualifications include:

- A minimum of five years' experience in the supervision of building construction/ design or, in the alternative a four-year undergraduate degree in a field related to building construction/design or a combination of education and experience which would confer equivalent knowledge and ability, as determined by the BBRS.
- Shall have general knowledge of the accepted requirements for building construction, fire prevention, light, ventilation and safe egress, as well as a general knowledge of other equipment and materials essential for safety, comfort and convenience of the occupant of a building or structure.
- Must be certified as Building Commissioner/Inspector of Buildings by the BBRS or have a prior approval letter from the BOCC or BBRS to obtain certification, as defined in 780 CMR 110.R7.
- Must have a valid Class D Driver's license.

This is a part-time position - 12 hours a week. Pay range: \$33 - \$39 per hour. Detailed job description can be found here:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1DURzlpx_U-Ela1ddsuXZQsHiWWoCw_1G/ edit?usp=sharing&ouid=111270427003763858270&rtpof=true&sd=true

and on the Town's website: www.worthington-ma.us. Please mail your letter of interest, resume and references for all related positions held in the past five years to: Worthington Selectboard, PO Box 247, Worthington, MA 01098 Or send via email to: selectboard@worthington-ma.us Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. No phone calls please. The Town of Worthington is an equal opportunity employer

NOTICE

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

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ALIX & SONS COMPUTER CENTER. PC/Macs, Laptops, Screen Repairs. New Computer Sales and Accessories, PC Diagnostic Repairs and Upgrades, On Site Work, Home or Office. 40 Daniel Shays Highway. 413-323-1122. John Alix, Owner.

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COUNTRY STYLIST, 171 Federal St., Belchertown. 413-323-6012. Great cuts for men and women. A full service hair salon. Open Tue-Sat., evening hours available.

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TO ADVERTISE ON THE BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY PLEASE CALL 283-8393



Belchertown Education Foundation seeks members

make a meaningful difference by giving just a few hours a month?

Consider joining the Board of the Belchertown Education Foundation, a non-profit that recently celebrated six years of community impact providing grants totaling \$86,000, solely to Belchertown schools.

The Foundation is now at a pivotal point of redesigning fundraising efforts and building its governing Board. There

SUBMITTED PHOTO

This photo shows the current Board of Directors of the Belchertown Education Foundation.

BELCHERTOWN - Do you want to are several Board openings that need to be filled to ensure a strong future for the Foundation.

> Being a Board Member requires monthly meeting attendance to vote on important decisions to grow donors and ensure appropriate use of resources. Board members contribute ideas, provide expertise and foster community connections in support of our friend-building and fundraising efforts.

> Parents, retired teachers, business leaders and professionals with ties to Belchertown, and any member of the community, are invited to learn more. Please send a note of interest to info@ BelchertownEducationFoundation.org.





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