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# Granby appoints new superintendent

By Walter Hamilton Correspondent

GRANBY – Sheryl F. Stanton, current assistant superintendent of the Southbridge schools, will

begin serving as the schools superintendent here on June 1.

School Committee Chairman Emre Evren said the committee and Stanton agreed to a two-year contract during an executive session on Jan. 27. She will be paid \$130,000 per year.

Evren said the committee had been impressed with Stanton in interviews prior to offering the job initially to Agawam High School Principal Steven Lemanski. He, however, declined the job for personal reasons, Evren said.

See SUPERINTENDENT, Page 5

# CHCS staff member no longer employed

By Aimee M. Henderson ahenderson@turley.com

BELCHERTOWN – The employee who brought an unloaded gun to Chestnut Hill Community School Jan. 13 is no longer employed at the school.

Superintendent Karol Coffin confirmed Tuesday that the staff member's tenure ended, effective Friday, Jan. 29. Coffin would not state whether the person was let go or chose to end his or her employment.

Coffin did say, however, that there is always a process for making such a decision "regardless of the circumstances." She said the end result always protects all parties involved.

"[The employee] felt so bad about this," the superintendent said

School Resource Officer

See CHCS STAFF, Page 9



# Belchertown author pens illustrious family history

By Tyler W. Leahy Staff Writer

BELCHERTOWN — Now retired educator Robert J. Stanton had a penchant for scholarly research during his decorated career as a college professor and high school teacher. During his waning years in the profession, Stanton focused his efforts on his personal history – culminating 18 years later in the first volume of a three-part memoir set.

"I began researching in 1998 and I retired from teaching in 2006 – I was 64 years old at the time. Then I started really delving into research and I ended up using well over a thousand sources," said Stanton.

Now complete and privately published, the first volume titled

the first volume, titled *Trapped*In Time: A Genealogy, details



Robert Stanton

350 years of Stanton's pioneering American ancestors, 600 years of English ancestors and an additional 1,200 years of noble and royal ancestry from the Nottingham side of his family.

"The genealogy is interesting from a historical point of view, simply because I'm

torical point of view, simply because I'm a tenth-generation American. My seventh-great grandfather Thomas Stanton had come as a Puritan in 1634," said Stanton. "He became the general interpreter for all transactions between various colonial governors of New England and the American Indians."

Stanton explained that 13 of his great grandfathers were English knights, some of them partaking in The Crusades.

The genealogy is Stanton's

See STANTON, Page 5

# School dept. answers budgetary questions

By Aimee M. Henderson ahenderson@turley.com

BELCHERTOWN – Members of the school department appeared before the selectmen last week to answer budgetary questions.

The board questioned why the school district did not return unused funds to the town's free cash account last year, but instead spent the money on projects. Departments across town were instructed to return any unused funds. More than \$200,000 was returned from various departments, bringing the free cash total to \$759,000.

Superintendent of Schools Karol Coffin, Director of Buildings and Grounds Robert LaChance, and School Committee

See BUDGET, Page 8

**GRANBY** 

# Vote on school bonding set

By Walter Hamilton Correspondent

GRANBY – Town Meeting voters will be asked on Monday to authorize borrowing \$34.2 million to build a new pre-K to grade 3 elementary school and renovate the East Meadow School – a sum that will be reduced by more than half by a Massachusetts School Building Authority contribution.

If the borrowing is approved by a two-thirds majority of Town Meeting, and a majority of voters in a March 1 townwide ballot approve a debt-exclusion Proposition 2 1/2 override, the Select Board is expected to authorize town Treasurer Steven Nally to immediately borrow 90 percent of the \$17 million town share to take advantage of current low interest rates.

Town Administrator Christopher Martin recommended borrowing 90 percent of the project cost over

See BONDING, Page 4

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# **COMMUNITY**

# Historical Assoc. holding annual mystery dinner

BELCHERTOWN – The Belchertown Historical Association announces its eighth annual murder mystery dinner, and this year's event will again feature actors from the Belchertown United Congregational Church.

The Historic Association continues its successful partnering with BUCC's Playhouse, so the dinner theater will serve jointly both as a much-needed fundraiser for the historical association and also as a fundraiser for the Congregational church.

Get your Irish on and join the group for a night of "Top of the Murder to You" presented by BUCC's Playhouse.

There will be two shows available for residents of Belchertown and Granby: Saturday, Feb. 27 at the Belchertown VFW, 41 Pelham Road, serving corned beef; and Saturday, March 5 at the Villa Rose in Ludlow on Route 21, serving chicken.

Special guest stars: Dizzy O'Jameson and the Shamrocks. The doors will open for a cash bar at 6:30 p.m. and the show will begin at 7 p.m. featuring a complete dinner.

"We are very excited that this year's event will be a fundraiser for two local organizations, as well as creating business for a local restaurant," says Tom Stockton, president of the Historical Association. "This is always a fun evening, and we expect that this will be a positive event for the whole community."

The cost remains the same as the last two years, \$35 per person, and tickets are on sale at Cold Spring Discount Liquors (on the Common), the venues for each show, or from Tom Stockton (323-0946.)

### About the show

Doctor Paddy McFaddey, an expert on "all things Irish," is ready to unveil some highly publicized Irish artifacts during tonight's lecture on Ireland. His assistant, Patches McButterpants, is ready, willing, and able to help him with anything he needs on an off the job. An unexpected guest disrupts his plans. A journalist and museum curator, who travelled all the way to the United States to cover this event, are also in for a surprise.

The luck of the Irish doesn't seem to be present at this hilarious event...and what is that hidden underneath the shamrock?

# Annual farmers' meeting set

BELCHERTOWN – The Belchertown Agricultural Commission is holding its annual farmers' meeting Saturday, Feb. 20 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at the Town Hall. The meeting is a fun time to visit with fellow farmers and share ideas. They will have updates on the Farmers Market and Lampson Brook Farm. Anyone interested may join.



# 507 Cubs offer Valentine sweets

BELCHERTOWN - Does your Valentine like chocolate and popcorn? Are you lucky in love and raffles? Then mark Saturday, Feb. 13, as your lucky day and head to Tractor Supply Store between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. for a chance to score a basket of decadent milk chocolate favorites.

For \$2 a ticket or three for \$5, you just may be the lucky recipient of a basket chockfull of chocolate covered pretzels, Sea Salt Spray and Mud Puddles. All certified "delicious" by St. Francis Pack 507 taste testers. The proceeds will further reduce the cost of June's Big Adventure Bronx Zoo.

Also available is a small, but tasty, array of popcorn tins and hot air popping buckets. Pop for your valentine – come meet our wonderful 507 Cubs and families. Winner will be announced Valentine's Day and delivered directly to your home by Cubmaster Gloria.

# Firearms safety course offered

BELCHERTOWN – State certified instructor officer Edward Oey will be offering a firearms safety course Sunday, Feb. 14.

Class will be held at the Swift River Sportsman Club, 350 Cold Spring Road (Moore Road) in Belchertown starting at 9 a.m.

As required by state law, it is an eight-hour classroom. Pre-registration is required to guarantee a seat. For applicants' convenience applications are available at R&R Sports Shop on Federal Street or email robocop50@aol.com.

Applications are being accepted for beginner and intermediate shooting classes.

# BELCHERTOWN MEETINGS

## Monday, Feb. 8

- 7 p.m. Belchertown Family Center at Family Center
- 7 p.m. Conservation Commission at Town Hal
- 7:30 p.m. Board of Selectmen at Town Hall Tuesday, Feb. 9
- 7 p.m. Planning Board at Town Hall
- 7:30 p.m. Historical Commission at Town Hall

#### Wednesday, Feb. 10

• 7 p.m. – Pathfinder Reg. Voc. Tech HS Dist. Committee at Pathfinder

Due to the newspaper's deadline, some meetings may have changed or are not listed here. Current meetings along with agendas are available at www.belchertown. org. Click on "Town Hall", "Town Clerk" and the meetings are listed in the left hand column. For a complete listing of Belchertown's committee meetings, please refer to the official meeting bulletin board located on the outside wall by the parking lot entrance to Town Hall.

# Little League registration open

BELCHERTOWN – Registration for the 2016 Belchertown Little League season (intermediate, majors, minors, challenger) is here. There will be an in-person registration date Feb. 6 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Belchertown Police Department. As of now, registration is open online for the 2016 season at belchertownlittleleague. org. Registration is \$100 (intermediate is \$125).

Players born between May 1, 2003 and Sept. 1, 2007 are eligible for minors/majors play and all who try out will be placed on a team.

Players born between May 1, 2002, and April 30, 2003, are eligible only for the tryout-based Intermediate league play, which has a limited number of roster spots on one team. Questions can be emailed to Btownlittleleague2013@gmail.com.

## Winter lecture features history of pie

BELCHERTOWN - The Stone House Museum in Belchertown continues its winter lecture series with a presentation by Robert Cox, head of special collections and university archives at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, and author of New England Pie: History Under A Crust. Whether sweet or savory, pies were an important part of early American cuisine. Cox will explore the seasonal components and unique ingredients of early New England pie making. Join us at the Stone House Thursday, Feb. 18 at 7 p.m. for an historical perspective on this menu favorite. The lecture is free; donations are welcome. Refreshments served.



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#### POLICE LOGS

## **Belchertown Police Department logs**

Compiled by Aimee M. Henderson ahenderson@turley.com

Editor's note: The following are brief explanations of select entries in the Belchertown Police log and all arrests. 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.

The Belchertown Police responded to 265 calls during the week of Jan. 20-26. Of those calls there were 11 incidents, five accidents, two arrests and 10 citations issued.

#### ARRESTS/SUMMONS

## Tuesday, Jan. 26

10:43 a.m. – Jonathan Laurence, 55, of 410 Liberty St., Springfield, was arrested for a failure to appear upon recognizance warrant. An officer on a traffic detail reported that a male had fallen on Maple Street. The officer asked for him to be checked on by police and medical personnel. The responding officer observed the male walking on the hill, unsteady on his feet. The ambulance evaluated the person. A check by the officer revealed he had an active warrant and subsequently he was arrested.

### INCIDENTS/ACCIDENTS

#### Wednesday, Jan. 20

2:14 p.m. – Police were called to an accident on State Street in which a vehicle was stopped in traffic to turn left and a second vehicle rear ended it. The second vehicle was towed.

2:54 p.m. – Officers were called to assist Department of Child Services workers with removing children from a residence.

## Thursday, Jan. 21

10:32 a.m. - An officer met with a resident in the lobby for concerns that a passport, birth certificate and other paperwork that was lost.

3:18 p.m. - Officers were called to an accident on Turkey Hill Road in which a vehicle was stopped to take a left and was hit from behind by a second vehicle.

## Friday, Jan. 22

12:26 p.m. – Police were called to an accident on North Main Street near the parking lot of the bank ATM. A vehicle was exiting the lot onto Federal Street after a large truck had stopped to let them out, when another vehicle traveling eastbound did not see the vehicle exiting and the two collided. There were no injuries reported.

12:31 p.m. – A resident went to the police station to speak to an officer about their daughter, who had opened a credit card and electric account in their name. The case is open.

## Saturday, Jan. 23

9:36 a.m. - Police were called to an accident on Bardwell Street in which a vehicle had missed a driveway and backed up, but didn't see the vehicle behind them. The two collided. There were no injuries reported.

10:15 a.m. - A resident and their child went to the station to file a larceny report. The child had brought a video gaming device to school, which was later discovered missing. A report was filed and the information was forwarded to the school resource officer.

10:55 a.m. - A resident went to the station to hand in a cell phone they had found. The owner was identified and notified. It was entered into property until the owner could recover it.

2:38 p.m. - An officer met a person in the lobby to talk about an incident that transpired when the person had left work. The officer informed them of their right of a harassment order. The incident was documented.

## Monday, Jan. 25

9:06 a.m. - The detective was dispatched to a business for a past break in. The detective spoke with the owner and learned entry was gained through a window. Items were taken. It is being investigat-

9:24 a.m. – A business reported that someone had passed a check for more than \$250 and there was insufficient funds. The officer tried to contact the check writer of a Class A drug. and will follow up.

### Tuesday, Jan. 26

12:51 p.m. - Officers were called to an accident on George Hannum Street in which a vehicle traveling eastbound toward Jackson Street was unable to negotiate the turn and hit a ditch. The vehicle was towed by AAA.

4:21 p.m. – Police were called to an apartment complex on North Main Street for a male causing a disturbance.

## **Granby Police Department logs**

Editor's Note: The Granby Police Department responded to 214 calls and made two arrests during the week of Jan. 22-28. Those arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. All information is provided by the Granby Police Department.

#### **ARRESTS**

## Friday, Jan. 22

9:37 p.m. - William Stetson, 42, of 65 Harris St., Granby, was arrested for operation under the influence of alcohol.

## Monday, Jan. 25

10:44 p.m. - Taylor Holt, 26, of 12 Granby Heights, Granby, was arrested for operation with suspended license and possession

## **INCIDENTS**

### Friday, Jan. 22

12:22 p.m. – Officer investigated a report of illegal dumping on Morgan Street.

3:44 p.m. – Officers investigated a reported hit in run accident involving two vehicles. Operator that left scene was located and a criminal citation was issued for leaving the scene of property damage.

## Sunday, Jan. 24

10:52 a.m. - Resident reported their vehicle was vandalized on their property. Report taken and incident was investigated.

#### Monday, Jan. 25

2:13 p.m. - Three-car accident investigated. No injuries reported. 5:58 p.m. - Officers investigated a hit and run motor vehicle accident. Operator that left scene was located and issued a criminal citation for leaving the scene of property damage.

## Wednesday, Jan. 27

8:37 p.m. - Resident reported their house was broken into. Officers investigated and located person who broke into house. Offender was charged with breaking and entering in the nighttime, larceny over \$250 and malicious damage.

#### Thursday, Jan. 28

11:50 a.m. - Two-car accident investigated. Injuries reported.

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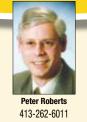


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# Investigation ongoing after officer is injured at police academy

By Aimee M. Henderson ahenderson@turley.com

GRANBY - The investigation into an incident that left a Granby police officer nearly blind in one eye is still ongoing, according to officials.

Executive Office of Public Safety and Security public information officer Felix Browne said last week there is no timeline for which the investigation will be complete. It is being investigated by the Municipal Police Training Committee and the Massachusetts State

On the morning of Nov. 30, 2015 the Granby Police Department was informed by the director of the Western MA Police Academy that patrolman Shawn Rooney, of Chicopee, was injured during defensive tactics training, according to Chief Alan Wishart.

"Shawn Rooney had been struck in the eye



Turley Publications file photo Officer Rooney is sworn in to his full-time position.

with a police baton during training... The officer was transported to the hospital for treatment," he said in a statement at the time.

Wishart said on Friday it is too early to say whether or not Rooney will return to his position with the police department. The chief called Rooney's injury "significant."

Currently, the town is still paying the officer. Rooney was expected to graduate from the police academy in February, however due to the injury, that will not happen. This unexpected change has had some impact on the police department.

Wishart said, on top of Rooney being injured and unavailable for work, another part-time officer retired at the end of January. Before being promoted to a full-time officer, Rooney worked part

To help fill the gap, Ryan Barthelette, who had been an auxiliary officer with Granby since 2013, was sworn in as a part-time officer in early January.

"It's just a Band-aid on it right now," said Wishart. "Our plan was to have him [Rooney] to fill that position [retirement], but now, because he's not back we have to rearrange so we don't run short."

Wishart called the situation "tough," but emphasized the most important part of the entire thing is seeing Rooney get "as healthy as possible.'

The Granby Police Relief Association held a pancake breakfast in December to raise money to support Rooney and his family during this time. The association is also selling T-shirts, ongoing.

Rooney served as a parttime officer in Granby for 11 years before he was promoted to the full-time spot in February last year.

#### **BONDING I from Page 1**

a 25-year payback period, based on information provided last week by Marine Pacella, Eastern Bank fiscal adviser. She predicted an interest rate of 3.25 percent on the 25-year bond.

If approved, the property taxes on the average Granby home valued at \$228,000 would rise by \$410 per year, based on a \$1.80 increase in the \$18.87 per \$1,000 valuation tax rate. The additional taxes would amount to a 9.52 percent increase in property taxes per year over the 25-year bor-

If the town were to wait until construction is completed three years from now, the interest rate on the 90 percent on the town's share would be 4.5 percent, resulting in a \$2.00 per \$1,000 valuation, or \$461 per year increase on the average home, according to Pacella's information.

She also provided information on 20-year and 30-year bonding that would have, respectively, increased annual payments or total interest

Martin recommended bonding for 90 percent of the town's share, and delay borrowing the final 10 percent until the final price tag of the project is known. It's possible the final borrowing will not be needed if the project is completed without using all or part of a \$1.3 million contingency fund for unexpected costs that is included in construction estimates, Martin said.

Also, a limited amount of interest on the borrowed money, if placed in an interest bearing account until it is needed, could be used to help pay for final costs, he said.

He also recommended not reducing the amount of bonding by using town Stabililization Fund money because those funds might be needed to pay for repairs and upgrades to the Junior-Senior High School roof, windows and laboratories. Stabilization money could be used to pay final construction costs to avoid final bonding, he said.

In other business, Martin recapped a meeting last month of the Granby Historic District Commission with Christopher Skelly, a Massachusetts Historical Commission expert on local government historic districts.

Skelly, according to Martin, after discussing at length the Aldrich Hall controversy, determined that "errors were made on both sides," and recommended "starting over from scratch" on the issue.

Select Board member Mary McDowell, who also attended the meeting, said she learned through

Skelly that the local Historic District Commission "has a great deal of authority and autonomy" in regards to the district, and recommended going "ahead with the process" on the future of the town-owned Aldrich Hall which the board has previously sought to demolish.

Skelly also advised the local boards on setting a fee schedule for applications, how to improve public relations, how to deal with unauthorized alterations and what kind of projects require action by the full historic district board, Martin said.

The board also:

- Instructed Martin to write a letter to Suzuki of Western Mass. Owner Dan Darcy that, based on their advice by Town Counsel Ed Ryan, he is required to submit a site plan before licenses for sale of new and used vehicles can be reissued for the 43 W. State St. business. Darcy has claimed his business is exempt from the requirement, based on a "grandfather clause." Ryan, in his opinion, said a license is a "privilege," not a "right" and is subject to annual renewals based on town laws.

- Appointed Charlotte Mugnier a full voting member of the Personnel Board and made current member Diane Paquette an associate member at her request.



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### **SUPERINTENDENT | from Page 1**

Stanton had received one committee member's vote in the initial 4-1 ballot to hire Lemanski. The committee made the choice of Lemanski unanimous in a second vote.

"The lucky thing is that we thought highly of her (Stanton). And we ere able to reach out to her one more time." Evren said.

The committee was impressed with the depth of her experience, her strong background in curriculum development and her understanding of the Granby schools' strategic plan, Evren said.

The committee cited Stanton's performance in dealing with the challenges, as both assistant superintendent for Teaching and Learning and acting superintendent, during the 2014 and 2015 school year in the Southbridge schools, a district found "chronically underperforming" that was taken into receivership by the state on Jan. 26.

'We know that from what we heard, she was very successful at keeping things going," Evren said. "She would bring people together for a solution."

In her role as Southbridge assistant and acting superintendent, she gained experience in budgeting and running a school district, he said.

Another "huge plus" was Stanton's strong background in curriculum development – a prime responsibility in her position as assistant superintendent, Evren said.

The committee was also impressed that she studied Granby's strategic plan before her interview and created a presentation showing how she envisioned implementing and strengthening the plan, Evren said.

From 2009 to 2014, Stanton was the principal of Baird Middle School in Ludlow. She was principal of Veterans Park Elementary School in Ludlow from 2007 to 2009.

She began her career in the Springfield Public Schools. From 1996 to 2000 she was a seventh grade language arts teacher. From 2000 to 2003, she was a special education teacher. From 2003 to 2005, she was a professional development teacher; from 2005 to 2007 she was a district instructional technology specialist and an instructional leadership specialist.

A resident and native of Somers, Conn., Stanton earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Connecticut at Storrs, a master's degree from Elms College in Chicopee, and is currently a doctoral student at the University of Phoenix.

Interim Superintendent of Schools Judy Houle has pledged to stay on the job until high school graduation day, Evren said. Graduation this year is set for June 4.

# A little football history for the big game

By Scott Feldman sfeldman@turley.com

Although this year will not feature the New England Patriots in the Super Bowl, chances are you're still going to watch it anyway as Super Bowl 50 figures to be the biggest sporting event in the nation.

Football is a grand American tradition that dates back to the 1800's. To get ready for the big game, even if you're just watching it to root against Peyton Manning and the Broncos, here's 10 facts (which is about how many chicken wings you might consume during the game) fun facts about the history of the game.

- 1. The first football game that was recorded happened on Nov. 6, 1869, when Rutgers and Princeton played each other.
- 2. Walter Camp, who played on Yale's football team from 1877 until 1882, widely credited with creating many of the rules of modern football,

such as the line of scrimmage, the hike and the concept of set plays.

- 3. The forward pass was illegal until 1906. Prior to its institution, most plays were just masses of people charging into each other. by making it legal, the game opened up.
- 4. The Arizona Cardinals, have the longest clear lineage of any professional football team as they can trace their roots to the Morgan Athletic Club, which was formed on the south side of Chicago in 1899
- 5. The first professional league, which featured 11 teams, was called the American Professional Football Association and was established in 1920, It changed its name to the National Football League in 1922.
- 6. American Football League (AFL) was a major professional American football league was that operated from 1960 until 1969 when it merged with the National Football League (NFL).
- 7. The first Super Bowl was played in 1966 between the AFL Champion Kansas City Chiefs and the NFL

Champion Green Bay Packers. The Packers won the game 35-10.

- 8. The First Super Bowl was originally called the AFL-NFL Championship Game but in July 1966 the Kansas City Star quoted Chiefs owner Lamar Hunt as calling it the Super Bowl. The media immediately began using the term and it grew from
- 9. The Pittsburgh Steelers hold the record for most Super Bowl wins with six. The Dallas Cowboys and the San Francisco 49ers are tied for second place with five. The New England Patriots, New York Giants and the Green Packers have four Super Bowl wins apiece.
- 10. Three teams the Patriots, Steelers, and Colts – accounted for 10 of the AFC Super Bowl appearances and six wins from 2001 through 2010. with those same teams often meeting each other earlier in the playoffs. In contrast, the NFC saw a different representative in the Super Bowl every season in that time frame.

## STANTON | from Page 1

eighth book and his first published privately. One of his most decorated works is Views from a Window: Conversations with Gore Vidal, which sold more than 30,000 copies while in print for 20 years. Amongst his many scholarly works, he has also published Collected Word Paintings, a book of 88 poems, most of which had been previously published in literary magazines and jour-

"I finished the researching, writing and editing [for the genealogy] just recently at the end of 2015. It turned out to be 554 pages long—and it is only one chapter. I had the idea to write a memoir before I started thinking about the genealogy. I began looking into the genealogy more seriously around seven years ago," said Stanton.

The first memoir component of Stanton's genealogymemoir trilogy, Trapped In Time: A Memoir Of Eternal Recurrence, is also complete and he hopes to publish it by the end of 2016. Volume One will span 1942 to 1987. Volume Two, which Stanton is currently writing, will span 1988 to 2016 with a publish date in 2017.

"The memoirs show the struggles I've had—the strug-

gles of being born into a working class family, being in the working class after quitting high school and the struggles of education, writing and teaching," said Stanton.

Stanton explained that after he dropped out of high school in Plainridge, New York, he spent a decade working manual labor jobs before getting his G.E.D. He then began going to night school at Hofstra College (now Hofstra University).

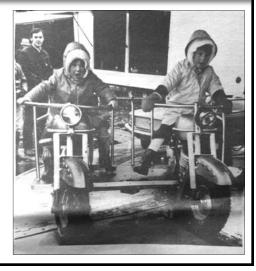
Stanton completed his bachelor's degree in English in 1969. He obtained a masters degree in English from University of Massachusetts Amherst in 1972. During his teaching career, he spent time at Jacksonville University, where he spent time as the chairman of the Division of Humanities, as well as time at Flagler College, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Kenny High School and Southside Skills Center in Jacksonville.

While Stanton does not expect many readers to purchase Trapped In Time: A Genealogy, he hopes some interested will urge local libraries and colleges to do so. The genealogy costs \$62 and was privately published by Higginson Book Company in Salem, Mass. Inquiries about the genealogy or about Stanton's other work can be sent to bobjstanton@gmail.com



# October 1977

Brenna and Meghan McCarthy tear around on their motorcycles on one of the many rides at the Belchertown Fair.





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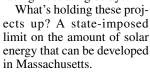
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# **O**PINION

GUEST COLUMN

# Building a clean energy economy

From the Berkshires to Cape Cod, up and down the Pioneer Valley, and everywhere in between, projects that produce clean solar power for communities, save money for taxpayers and create thousands of high-paying jobs are ready to go but are facing frustrating delays.





STATE SENATOR

This limit comes at a crucial juncture for our Commonwealth's economy. Statewide, the clean energy sector has created nearly 100,000 jobs at over 6,000 companies, a growth rate of 64 percent since 2010. These are very good jobs, with nearly three-quarters paying more than \$50,000 per year

And Western Massachusetts, in particular, is well-positioned to benefit from this fast-growing industry: our region has the state's highest density of clean energy employment.

The solar industry's rapid growth is also giving local governments new, innovative ways to save taxpayer money.

Solar power will save East Longmeadow \$125,000 on annual utility bills. Savings generated by Ludlow's solar field are estimated at \$100,000 to \$140,000 per year. Leaders in Hampden are looking for ways to turn a town landfill into a solar field.

There are examples like this across Massachusetts. These savings can be used to put more teachers in our schools, more police officers on our streets, and more money back into taxpayers' pockets.

Private businesses are also benefiting from the solar and clean energy renaissance. As just one of many examples, the Sullivan Paper Company, which employs more than 150 people in the Springfield area, is working to install solar panels at their East Longmeadow factory to save on energy costs. And they're not alone: businesses across the Commonwealth are looking to do the same.

All this progress is at risk unless the legislature lifts the cap on net metering, or the practice of allowing businesses, cities and towns to collect solar energy and sell it back to utility companies. This limit is forcing job-creating projects like Sullivan Paper's—and nearly 500 others across Massachusetts – into limbo.

That's why I voted last July on a successful, bipartisan bill sponsored by my Western Massachusetts colleague Senator Ben Downing to lift the net metering cap. I voted again, in November, on a compromise measure that will go a long way to help more cities and businesses save money through solar technology. Negotiators from the House and Senate are now working on a final version, and I'm optimistic it will raise the cap and continue our state's leadership in clean energy.

For generations, the Pioneer Valley has been at the cutting edge of industrial change. Just as Springfield led the way in the 20th Century with the first gas-powered automobile, in the 21st Century we can lead the way as a center for clean technology and all the savings that come with it.

Sen. Eric Lesser represents the First Hampden & Hampshire District, and is a member of the Legislature's Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies.

## **NEWS & FEATURES**

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for The Sentinel, please email ahenderson@turley.com.

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LETTERS

# Do not exclude Sgt. Pacunas for police chief

To the Editor:

I am no longer a resident of Belchertown, but am happy to have kept ties with the place I once called home through family and friends that still reside there today. I love that my nephew has a teacher in common with me- albeit a generation removed. I still share stories of The Belchertown Fair and high school hangouts with friends when the opportunities present themselves. The familiarity of common experiences that seem uniquely ours are ties that bind having grown up in a small town where neighbors and friends become extensions of family.

That being said, I feel compelled to comment on the existing search for a new chief of police out of concern for these same "small town values" that I feel are being threatened with the exclusion of an internal candidate.

Early in Sgt. Kevin Pacunas's career, there was a group of students (myself included), who were looking to create a group that would essentially be an extension of the D.A.R.E programs we were involved in throughout elementary and middle school. Focusing on leadership and responsible decision making, we wanted to identify ways that we could engage with the community, as well as community leaders to provide alternatives to drinking and recreational drug usage that had begun to negatively affect some of our peers. As I recall, we were focused primarily on making sure that regardless of what any of us chose to do, there was always an alternative to compounding one bad decision into another potentially fatal decision (i.e. driving under the influence). This is where I would like to speak to the dedication and character of both Sgt. Kevin Pacunas and Sgt. Bruce Jenks.

Along with some of our teachers at BHS, both officers took time out of their personal lives to support this group and became active participants in our cause. They accompanied us to leadership training and ropes courses in Braintree at the State Police training facility, amongst many other weekend/ evening activities. Perhaps the most important aspect of their involvement was their willingness to bridge the gap between "kids being kids" and the authorities charged with enforcing the law. They genuinely care for the community and the people that reside within- as evidenced by their actions and commitment of time, not

just talking the talk. They grew up in the environment that they were actively trying to affect positive change in because of the pride and compassion they have for the people they work hard to protect- not just to earn a paycheck. I am proud to call them friends for what they did during my years in Belchertown and for what they continue to do for the town today. As individuals, we wouldn't have been able to do much, but as a team- great things were accomplished due in large part to their contributions.

In my professional career in both health care and management, I've had the distinct pleasure and opportunity to lead on a national scale. I often speak in university settings about the importance of teamwork, trust and leadership as it relates to building successful teams comprised of talented individuals. As I reflect on some of my experiences, I will submit that the greatest compliments I've ever received are those that came at the hands of my peers - because they are the ones who challenge you the most to be effective and accountable. They can also serve to be some of your biggest critics and push you to be better. It is with this in mind that I am very troubled by the decision being made to exclude Sgt. Pacunas, who has been endorsed by his peers for the chief of police vacancy. Further, that the committee has taken away the OPPORTUNITY for a veteran of the police department to be interviewed at all.

I realize that nothing in life is given and should be earned through hard work and merit. I don't think anyone concerned with this issue takes the responsibility of the search committee to find a qualified candidate lightly. Similarly, I would suspect that the inclusion of an internal candidate does not warrant an obligatory appointment in the eyes of the community either. I am confident however that excluding an excellent internal candidate, who has earned the trust and respect of his peers and maintained an exemplary record throughout his tenure, is a breach of the trust and faith that the community has placed upon this committee. I hope that the committee will reconsider this decision and give a very deserving candidate the opportunity for an interview - he's earned it...

Respectfully,

Dr. Robert G. Morrison

# 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 Editor Aimee Henderson, PO Box 601, Belchertown, MA 01007, or via email to ahenderson@ turley.com. The deadline for submissions is Friday at 5 p.m.

# **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.

# Quabbin rattlesnakes, raise them somewhere else

To the Editor:

I can just imagine that the good people of Dana, Prescott, Greenwich, and Enfield would be thrilled to know that the Mass Department of Fisheries and Wildlife has "hatched" a plan to breed and raise 150 Timber Rattlesnakes until they are good and strong and then release them as permanent residents of the Quabbin Reservoir.

(They don't allow dogs into the park but see no problem with the snakes.) I would imagine that the people of those Quabbin towns spent a good many years trying to rid their land of this menace in order to farm their lands in peace.

Living only three miles from the Quabbin I'm sure, it wouldn't be too many years before I would encounter a Quabbin Rattler in my garden. (They do swim!)

We've got to put some of those people in Boston to work. They have far too much time on their hands.

You want to raise rattlesnakes? Raise them on Bunker Hill!

William Knightly Ware, MA

# Support Historical Association at murder mystery dinner

To the Editor:

I am writing on behalf of the Belchertown Historical Association to ask people to please support our annual Murder Mystery Dinner, which will be held this year on two dates: Saturday, Feb. 27 at 6:30 p.m. (show starts at 7 p.m.) at the VFW in Belchertown (corned beef), and again on Saturday, March 5 at the Villa Rose in Ludlow (chicken).

We are again very excited that our actors this year are BUCC's Playhouse, so this event will also serve as a fundraiser for the Belchertown Congregational Church, as well as providing revenue to a local business. This is always a fun, entertaining event and is a much-needed fundraiser for us this year.

The tickets are \$35 and include the show and a complete dinner. There will be a cash bar. Tickets are available at Cold Spring Discount Liquors (on the Common), the VFW (for their show) and the Villa Rose(for their show), or for more information people can call me at 323-0946.

I hope to see you all!

Sincerely,

Tom Stockton, President of the Belchertown Historical Association Belchertown, MA



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#### POUND | from Page 1

of which as the officer, has been instrumental in seeing to the changes. Now, the facility is a temporary home for animals, waiting to be reunited with their owners or even adopted out. Previous to her leadership some dogs that went in never left.

Fenton will even temporarily care for small wildlife until the proper authorities can retrieve them, such as raccoons. She's even brought goats back to the facility until their owners could pick them

Most recently, Fenton has even gone above and beyond, helping to reunite a poodle with its owner in North Carolina, connecting with Pilots N Paws. And, just before the new year, "Rocky" a dog that had been in the pound for five months, was adopted out through Train a Dog, Save a Solider. The program connects veterans with dogs for therapeutically reasons.

Upon arriving to the facility, visitors need to navigate through the DPW parking lot and locate the small building at the front left corner of the property. It is there where visitors are welcomed by a hand-painted sign announcing the building's use. There is also a green doublewide locker out front where people can leave donations of food, bedding, toys, treats and other animal-related needs. Fenton said the majority of her supplies come from the generous people of town.

Fenton's operating budget is \$63,000, which includes everything from payroll to paying utilities to veterinarian bills. The annual food budget takes just \$50 off the bottom line, again thanks to the donations from the community. There is \$3,000 earmarked for vet bills, though if even one animal comes in with needs of extreme medical attention, that money can be used up rather quickly.

the pound, as one enters the building, they may find a fence-like door closed. At this time, there is a sign announcing that Bob – a longhaired, black and white cat who

is like the resident welcome crew and rodent catchloose. He is appropriately named after his bobbed tail, though visitorsmay not catch a glimpse of him because he'd rather hang out with the other animals

than be seen by a person. Once through the door, it is hard not to notice the mound of blankets, towels, bedding and mate-

Although the current facility

has a laundry list of con-

cerns, it is filled with love.

rial piled in the corner. They reach from floor to ceiling. In the same room is Fenton's desk and paperwork, though she spends most of her time away from it tending to the animals or out in the community on calls.

Through a door to the back room is where people will find everything else - from kennels, food and cleaning product storage, to the one sink in the entire building. And if one is looking for a bathroom, they will have to go across the way to the DPW garage. There isn't one

on site for animal control employees. That is not the only thing lacking, however.

The building is void of fire extinguishers and smoke detectors,

Depending on who's staying at as well as a place to clean and groom animals. Luckily, Amy's Animals has agreed to groom the animals, free of charge. There is no quarantine area, either. Cats stay in dog kennels, and when kittens are

in, they find their way through the fencing because of their size. It is by the generosity and fundraising efforts of a local Girl Scout unit that there is a fenced-in play area outside for dogs to enjoy.

All in all, the facility – while still standing and operational does have some serious problems.

In November 2014, the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources received a complaint

about the overall condition of the facility, at which time they sent Stephanie Funk for an inspection of the property. Her report lists 13 concerns on top of additional comments and suggestions.

She wrote, "The facility is showing signs of age, and may be near the end of its usefulness unless it is updated extensively."

Some of Funk's observations included "significant rodent infestation," flooding that occurs with heavy rain coming through the doorway, the concrete floor showing signs of shifting in the doorway to the kennel, one outlet per room, no smoke detectors, no fire



Animal Control Officer Anna Fenton takes time to visit with one of the current residents of the facility - a cat in its 20s named Buddy.

extinguishers, only one door serving as the entrance and exit, and several more.

Funk also noted a fire could 'spread very quickly through the building given the nature of the old construction, wooden walls and large quantities of flammable material.

She also suggested that the building inspector examine the building. "It does not appear to meet any code standards the town or state may have," she wrote. Finally, Funk "strongly advised"

the town have the fire chief assess the building for safety, and to not allow the public in until this has

"Inspector Funk is very concerned that this may be a dangerous environment for the employees to be working in, and as it is right now, it is not a safe place to leave animals," reads the report.

It was around this time last year when a support group for animal control formed, calling itself Belchertown Animal Relief Committee - or BARC. The volunteers on the committee noticed a strong need for a new facility then, and their mission from the get-go was to raise money to build one.

They've been quite successful in their short time as a 501(c(3) organization, raising \$10,000 toward the goal. At this time it is estimated to cost \$100,000 for the new building. That includes reusing an old foundation across the street where the State School housed its pigs.

BARC Vice President Jenny Franz said the new building would be three times the size of the current one. It will bring the facility up to code and offer everything that is lacking currently.

There are plans for a quarantine area, cat room, grooming area, staff bathroom, a garage and more. The garage will allow Fenton to safely transfer animals from her vehicle to the building.

Above all, the new building will be a safer place for animals.

Currently, sanitation is a concern. Fenton said the walls and floors aren't properly sealed, and with it being a porous material bacteria can settle in to it. There are also connecting troughs running along the backside of each kennel instead of individual drains, which could easily spread disease and bacteria. Fenton said it could take just one really sick animal to infect the entire com-

The town's finance committee voted last week to present a \$90,000 warrant article to the town's people during Feb. 22 Special Town Meeting. Combining that with the funds already raised would give the project a "go ahead."

"The new building answers all our needs," said Fenton. "We just need people to show up and vote."

## **BELCHERTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS OPENINGS** Part Time Nurse (LPN)

SchoolSpring Job I.D. # 2324394

Applications are being accepted through SchoolSpring.com or written application for a part time Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) for the current school year. This position is for a 1:1 nurse (van transport) from 7:30 a.m.-9:15 a.m., M-F (8.5 hrs/week) and 2:10 p.m. - 3:45 p.m., M-Th. and 12:40 p.m. - 2:10 p.m. Fridays (8 hrs/week).

## Qualifications:

- Must have a current valid license to practice as a Licensed Practical Nurse in Mass.
- Two years of recent and responsible professional experience in pediatrics, preferred
- Current certification in CPR/AED
- · Knowledgeable in seizure disorders, asthma, and food allergies
- Salary: \$20/Hour

#### **School Counselor Chestnut Hill Community School (Grades 4-6)** SchoolSpring Job I.D. 2324364

Applications are being accepted through SchoolSpring.com for a CHCS School Counselor.

## Qualifications:

- Must have Massachusetts D.E.S.E. licensure as a Guidance Counselor or School Adjustment Counselor
- Salary: As per Teachers' Contract

Apply by: February 15, 2016 Apply to: Karol G. Coffin, Superintendent Belchertown Public Schools

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# **School Lunch Menu**

### **Cold Spring and Swift River School**

Lunches cost \$2.50. Students can choose between the main meal or grab and go lunch. All grab and go lunches come with veggies, fruit and milk. Options are: Monday: cereal, juice, cheese stick, package whole grain snacks, low fat yogurt; Tuesday: bagel with cream cheese, jelly, low fat yogurt, cheese stick; Wednesday: yogurt parfait made with low fat yogurt, granola and fruit, and whole grain snacks; Thursday: ham and cheese on whole wheat roll, package whole grain snacks, and juice; Friday: sunbutter and fluff sandwich, juice, whole grain snacks

Monday, Feb. 8: Hot dog on a whole wheat roll, mustard, oven fries, vegetarian baked beans, applesauce, milk

Tuesday, Feb. 9: Pancakes, sausage, syrup, baby carrots, hash brown, peaches, milk

Wednesday, Feb. 10: Cheese ravioli, whole grain, marinara sauce, corn, green beans, mixed

Thursday, Feb. 11: Chicken patty on a whole wheat roll, lettuce and tomato, cucumbers, half of baked potato, pineapple chunks, milk

Friday, Feb. 12: Personal pizza, Caesar salad, baby carrots, sweetheart cake, milk

#### **Chestnut Hill Community School**

Lunches cost \$2.60. Also available daily is cereal bowl, juice, cheese stick, yogurt; salad meal - garden salad with croutons, cheese stick and yogurt; or bagel with cream cheese, yogurt and cheese. Other options are: Monday: tuna wrap and bagged snack; Tuesday: chicken salad wrap and bagged snack; Wednesday: sunbutter and fluff sandwich and snack; Thursday and

Monday, Feb. 8: General Tso's chicken fried rice or whole grain waffles, sausage, syrup, carrots, green beans, fortune cookie, pears, milk

Tuesday, Feb. 9: Buffalo tenders, barbecue sauce, dinner roll or toasted cheese on ww bread, tomato soup, macaroni, peas, baked bean and corn salad, mixed fruit. milk

Wednesday, Feb. 10: Soft warm ww pretzel, cheese sauce, yogurt, or pulled pork on a ww roll, oven fries, broccoli, carrots, peaches, milk

Thursday, Feb. 11: Pizza or roasted chicken, mashed potato, chicken gravy, breadstick, cucumbers, Caesar salad, applesauce, whole grain cookie, milk

Friday, Feb. 12: Mozzarella sticks, marinara sauce, or barbecue rib sandwich, potato puffs, corn, strawberries with topping, milk

#### **Jabish Brook Middle School**

Lunch cost \$2.75. Also available daily is the cold alternate: bagel, cream cheese, cereal, yogurt, sunflower seeds and milk. Other options are: Monday: Caesar chicken wrap; Tuesday: buffalo chicken wrap; Wednesday: turkey bacon wrap; Thursday: buffalo chicken wrap; Friday: tuna salad wrap.

Monday, Feb 8: General Tso's chicken fried rice or mozzarella sticks, marinara sauce, potato puffs, baby carrots, cucumbers, fortune cookie,

Tuesday, Feb. 9: Grilled teriyaki, chicken dippers, dinner roll or macaroni and cheese, sweet potato, corn, mixed fruit, milk

Wednesday, Feb. 10: Cheese max sticks, mari-

broccoli, Caesar salad, whole grain cookie, pineapple chunks, milk

Thursday, Feb. 11: Buffalo chicken pattie, whole wheat roll, lettuce and tomato, or shepherd's pie, dinner roll, carrots, green beans, applesauce, milk

Friday, Feb. 12: Toasted cheese on whole wheat bread or oriole chicken bowl, popcorn chicken/ potato, corn, chicken gravy, dinner roll, vegetarian baked beans, pears, strawberry shortcake, milk

#### **Belchertown High School**

Lunch cost \$2.75. Available daily: Monday: Caesar chicken wrap, buffalo chicken pizza; Tuesday: buffalo chicken wrap, french bread pizza; Wednesday: chicken salad wrap, Mama Mia pizza shoppe, max sticks; Thursday: buffalo chicken wrap, personal pizza; Friday: tuna salad wrap, stuffed crust pizza

Monday, Feb. 8: General Tso's chicken, fried rice or pork lo mein with eggroll, carrots, green beans, fortune cookie, pineapple chunks, milk

Tuesday, Feb. 9: Sausage and pepper hero, southwestern white B, peas, black bean and corn salad, mixed fruit, milk, or taco bar

Wednesday, Feb. 10: Italian baked fish,

breadstick, rice, cucumbers, applesauce, whole grain cookie, milk, or pasta bar with Caesar salad.

Thursday, Feb. 11: Oriole chicken bowl, popcorn chicken/potato or meat or vegetable lasagna, dinner roll, corn, carrot-raisin salad, pears,

Friday, Feb. 12: Mozzarella sticks, marinara sauce, or sloppy Joe on a whole wheat roll, potato wedges, broccoli, baby carrots, peaches,

# Spin-a-thon will benefit BARC, Kev's Foundation

BELCHERTOWN - A spin-a-thon is being held Feb. 28 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to support BARC and Kev's Foundation. Simply Spin will be hosting the spin-a-thon where one can sign up for 30 minute slots at \$10 a slot. There will only be a total of 60 time slots available. Simply Fit will be hosting demonstrations of all classes offered in 20 minute segments. Each class will be \$5. Raffle tickets will be sold and prizes will be given away every 30 minutes. All proceeds from classes and raffles will be donated to both charities. Register at https://clients.mindbodyonline.com/classic/home?studioid=191210. Simply Spin is located at 442 State St. in Belchertown.

#### **BUDGET | from Page 1**

Chairman Richard Fritsch all appeared before the Board of Selectmen at their Jan. 25 meeting to answer that question.

Coffin said, while going through the budget last year, it came "apparent rather quickly" that although the town supports the school budget, it does not budget for capital projects.

Coffin said any maintenance or capital projects needed in the school district come from the school department's operational budget. She said this is not typical. Many communities budget capital projects for schools in the town's overall budget, seeing as the town owns the buildings.

"The operational budget of a school department is not intended to pay for large capital expenditures. The operational budget does factor in maintenance projects," said

A preliminary look at the district's projected maintenance for fiscal year 2017, without capital improvement expenditures, is estimated at \$177,000.

As for money the school district seemed to have at the end of the year, Coffin said, "It may appear we have money," but there are other services required by the state that have "unexpected impacts" on the budget.

Some of the maintenance projects last year, according to LaChance, included making Central Office handicapped accessible by installing a ramp and bathroom; it also included replacing tiles at Cold Spring School, which contained asbestos.

LaChance told selectmen the school department was "forced this year" by the state to replace the tiles in the allpurpose room, which cost \$50,000.

The conversation brought before the board last week stems from a warrant article requested for the Special Town Meeting. The article asks voters to approve \$17,500 of free cash to begin the process to remove and replace an old underground oil storage tank at Chestnut Hill Community School.

LaChance said tanks were installed in 1985 and brought up to code in 1998. In 2000 the town supported removing four of the tanks, but there is one remaining tank that needs to be removed by Aug. 17, 2017.

"Our concern is, as we get closer to the deadline, the prices will increase," said LaChance.

Selectman Archie Archible asked how long the school department had known that the tank needed to be removed and why they've waited to near deadline to do it. LaChance said the schools have known since 2009 that the deadline was 2017, but since then other major projects have come up.

Those projects include replacing bleachers at Jabish Brook Middle School, costing \$100,000, and the ongoing replacement of tiles that contain asbestos at Cold Spring, amounting to \$160,000.

The floors were installed in 1954 and are managed under the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act. To prevent fiber release episodes, tiles must be replaced before friable

The gym bleachers at JBMS were installed when the building was built in 1964. They are inspected on a yearly basis by a subcontracted company, and following the inspection of July 2012 the district was told they needed to be

"Health and safety items come first," said LaChance.

Selectman Nick O'Connor told the school representatives that money should be turned back in and presented as a warrant article, allowing the town the chance to review it and decide what is funded.

Coffin answered that however, stating that according to the state's Education Laws and Regulations, school districts do not have to return money.

In 603 CMR 10.06 section five it says, "...any funds remaining in the school district's account at the close of the fiscal year shall be reserved by the municipal accountant or regional school treasurer and shall be made available to the school district without further appropriation."

Both selectmen and school personnel agreed there needs to be transparency on spending in the schools, and Fritsch said the budget and five-year capital improvement plan is available on the school website.

Board of Selectmen Chairman Ronald Aponte said, if the school department does not have to return money to the town and uses it as they see fit, he does not see prioritizing a request come Special Town Meeting or Town Meeting time.

Aponte said if another department returns money at the end of the year and turns around and requests funds from free cash the following year, that department will push any school's request to the bottom half of the pile.

Despite some disagreement, the article requesting \$17,500 to begin the work removing and replacing the underground storage tank will be presented at Special Town Meeting on Feb. 22. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$230,000.

# nara sauce, or sloppy Joe on a whole wheat roll,

#### Thursday, Feb. 4

JBMS, Fourth annual JBMS Chili Dinner and Cook-Off with silent auction, 6 to 8 p.m.

BHS, College Night for juniors, Veterans' Memorial Auditorium, 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5

CHCS, SRE, Report cards issued JBMS, Report cards issued - sent home with students

JBMS, School dance, sponsored by JBMS Student Council, gymnasium, 7

to 9:30 p.m.

BHS, Second term report cards mailed home

CLASSROOM CALENDAR

Monday, Feb. 8

JBMS, BHS Counselors visit JBMS, 7:45 to 9:20 a.m., music assembly

Tuesday, Feb. 9

School Committee meeting, 7 p.m., **SRE Library** 

Wednesday, Feb. 10

Belchertown SEPAC open meeting, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., CHCS Library

CSS - Cold Spring School SRE – Swift River Elementary School

CHCS – Chestnut Hill Community School

JBMS – Jabish Brook Middle School

BHS – Belchertown High School

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# Senate passes bill requiring hands-free cell phone use

BOSTON – The Massachusetts Senate passed legislation requiring hands-free phone use while driving.

"Too many car accidents happen because drivers are distracted by their devices," Sen. Eric Lesser said. "This bill makes important updates to existing law to ensure that our roads are as safe as possible for all motorists and passengers."

The bill requires drivers to use their mobile electronic device in hands free mode while operating a vehicle.

Distracted driving accounts for over 1 million crashes and 3,000 fatalities every year in the United States. The National Safety Council estimates that one in four motor vehicle accidents now involve cell phone use.

The bill now heads to the House for consideration.

# Rabies, microchip clinic set

BELCHERTOWN – The Belchertown Animal Control and Mill Valley Veterinary Clinic will be holding a rabies and microchip clinic Saturday, Feb. 6 from 10 a.m. to noon at Tractor Supply in Belchertown.

Rabies vaccine is \$15 microchip is \$25. Dogs must be on leash and cats in carriers.

## CHCS STAFF | from Page 1

Jason Krol said the investigation into the incident is still open, and depending on the results from the state ballistics lab, charges may be pending against the staff member

Krol confirmed that the gun brought to school was an older gun, possibly from the World War II era, though he is not certain. He said ballistics is examining the gun to see whether or not it is capable of firing. The results of the tests will determine the next step in the investigation.

Parents and guardians of students who attend the grade 4-6 school learned Wednesday, Jan.13 at approximately 5 p.m. that a "shelter in place" directive was issued by Principal Paula Fitzgerald that same day. Following the release of unconfirmed information that a staff member had brought an unloaded gun to school, the district sent another message to parents, stating that everyone was "safe at all times."

In a message to parents confirming that an unloaded handgun was brought to the school, Coffin stressed, "at no time were any students, faculty or staff in danger."

Police were immediately notified and the gun was

# **OBITUARY**

# Raymond C. Bronner, 83

BELCHERTOWN – Raymond "Ray" C. Bronner passed away on Jan. 30, 2016 at the age of 83. He was born on Aug. 13, 1932 in Chicopee. Ray is survived by the

love of his life, his wife of 63 years, Marie "Claire" (Brunelle) Bronner. He was the proud father of his son Wayne Bronner and wife Ginnie of Fort Worth, Texas, son Raymond Bronner and his husband Dennis O'Reilly of Dallas, Texas, daughter Lynn Gregoire and partner Ned Hayward of Belchertown, daughter Debbie Tolzdorf of Belchertown, and son Mark Bronner and wife Marion of

Belchertown. He deeply loved his grandchildren, to whom he was "Gramps": Christopher Bronner, Tiffanie Maiers and husband Michael, Ryann Gregoire, Rachael Giammarino and husband Chris, Amber Johnson and husband Jeff, Michael Tolzdorf, Jeremy Bronner, Mark Bronner and wife Erin and Douglas Williams. The great-grandchildren he took such joy in: James Bernier of Belchertown, Jenna and Nathan Bronner of Crowley, Texas and Violet Johnson of Baltimore, Maryland. He was pre-deceased by his parents Antoine and Delia Bronner, and his elder five brothers and two sisters.

Ray lived his entire life in the Pioneer Valley and spent the last 50 years on the farmland that was his boyhood home. Ray had a passion for life and the phrase "I've never met a stranger" was often referenced when speaking about him. He had a big heart, a kind soul, and a loving and playful personality; one could not help but love him. He and Claire shared a 63-year love affair, and their travels took them to places like Paris, London, Mexico, the Caribbean, Hawaii, and most frequently to their home away from home, Texas, where two of his sons and their families live.

Ray was an avid athlete, scouted in high

school for his talents in both basketball and baseball. His strong sense of family though, kept him from following that path, as he remained at home to help man-

age the work around the family farm. Responsibility and hard work were the tenets of how he lived his life and passed along to his children. He continued to enjoy playing softball in various leagues and was a championship pitcher. He bowled and won many city tournaments and made appearances on TV. Later in life he enjoyed and became a top-notch golfer.

In addition to maintaining the family farm that he grew up on, Ray worked for many years for Pro-Seal construction. Ray suffered from a broken back while working on the farm. Ray worked tirelessly to provide for his family despite chronic pain. He never complained and always greeted everyone with a hug and a smile.

Ray and Claire's devotion to each other and their family was steeped in deep traditions of huge family gatherings at Christmas, Fourth of July, birthdays, weddings, and graduations and any other reason he could think to have his family together. Those celebrations and many family vacations are the ways he knew would bond and keep his family close. He made friends easily, was generous and would always lend a hand. His love was boundless and encircled many who he referred to as family.

Children were the apples of Ray's eyes, in lieu of flowers, the family is requesting that donations be made to: Team Jessica, P. O. Box 125, Belchertown, MA 01007 in his memory, in support of Jessica's Boundless Playground.

Calling hours will be at the Beers and Story Funeral Home, 10 Maple St., Belchertown, MA 01007, Wednesday, Feb. 3 from 4 to 6:30 p.m., with a Time for Remembrances at 6:30 p.m.

## **DEATH NOTICES**

Bronner, Raymond C.
Died Jan. 30, 2016
Calling hours Feb. 3, 2016
Beers and Story
Funeral Home
Belchertown

# The Sentinel Obituary Policy

**Turley Publications** offers two types of obituaries. One is a free, brief **Death Notice listing** the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place. The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$75, 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.

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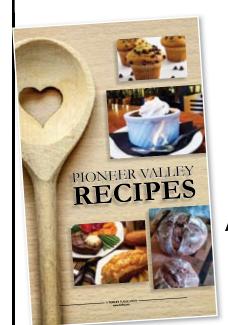
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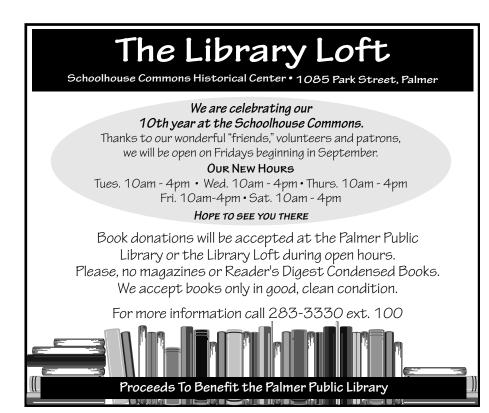
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Buddies and friends perform in the opening act.









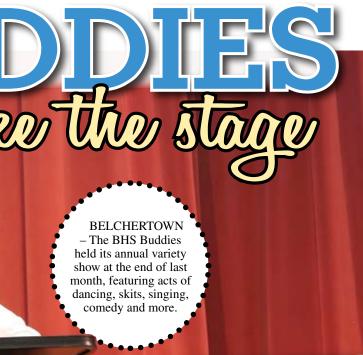
Buddies perform their version of Abbot and Costello.



Gabby performs on her violin.



The entire group gathers together for a photo.





Synchronized swimming out of the pool and on stage!

A hula hoop dance is





Senior Tatum is joined by Ruth Kampe, a teacher, and Rianna, Buddies president, at the end of the night.



Buddies drew applause with a Sponge Bob dance.



Grease and HS Musical are combined in this act.



Singing a duet are Becca and Eliza.



Students go all in with a lip syncing challenge.



The group gives a big performance at the finish.



Grease and HS Musical are combined in this act.

GRANBY – All activities take place at the Granby Senior Center, located at 10 West State St. (467-3239) and are free unless otherwise noted. The COA is open Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. No membership is required to take part in the activities/events. Anyone over 55 years of age is welcomed.

Lunch is served daily at 12 p.m. Reservations should be made by noon the previous day you wish to attend. The suggested donation is \$2.25. Anyone over 60 years of age is eligible. Call the Senior Center to make your reservation. Transportation is available to Granby residents for \$1 round trip.

Transportation is available Monday through Friday for Granby residents. This includes lunch, medical, activities and shopping. We travel to Springfield, Holyoke, Northampton, Florence, Chicopee and all towns surrounding

The S.H.I.N.E. Counselor is available by appointment. Please contact the Senior Center for assistance.

Please remember the Food Pantry is always looking for donations of protein products, like eggs, fish and chicken. The Food Pantry is closed during Foot Care

appointments until 1 p.m.

## **DAILY ACTIVITIES:**

Wednesday, Feb. 3: 9:15 a.m. Tail Chi, 10:15 a.m. Ballroom Dancing, 1 p.m. Fun Cards, lunch – turkey tetrazzini.

Thursday, Feb. 4: 9:45 a.m. Healthy Bones and Balance Exercise, 11:30 a.m. Blood Pressure Clinic, lunch - beef burgundv.

Friday, Feb. 5: 9 a.m. Veteran's Agent, 10 a.m. Fallon Health Insurance Informational, lunch – fish sticks.

Monday, Feb. 8: 10 a.m. Healthy Bones and Balance Exercise, lunch - sweet and sour meatballs.

Tuesday, Feb. 9: 12:30 p.m. Quilting and Needlework, lunch - baked orange chicken.

#### **SPECIAL EVENTS:**

Thursday, Feb. 4: Blood Pressure Clinic.

Friday, Feb. 5: Fallon Health Insurance informational

Thursday, Feb. 11: Foot Care, by appointment.

Monday, Feb. 15: Closed for President's

See SENIORS, Page 20

# ALENDAR

### Wednesday, Feb. 10

SEPAC MEETING: The Belchertown Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) invites the public to its next meeting on Feb. 10 to hear from members of the Belchertown School District's Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy. Learn how specialists from these departments help children in grades Pre-K to 12. The group meets on every second Wednesday at Chestnut Hill Community School (59 State St, Belchertown), in the library at 6:30 p.m. For additional information, contact Amanda Saklad, SEPAC President, at asaklad@icloud.com or 413-813-7547.

#### Thursday, Feb. 11

SCREENING ANDFILM DISCUSSION: A film screening will take place at Jones Library, Woodbury Room, Thursday, Feb. 11 at 6:30 p.m. This month's film is the story of Jackie Robinson (PG-13). A facilitated discussion will take place after the movie. Free and open to the public. For more information, please contact Janet Ryan at 413-259-3223.

#### Saturday, Feb. 13

MURDER MYSTERY DINNER: BSA Venture Crew 304 of Granby will holding its inaugural Murder Mystery Dinner to benefit the Crew. The dinner will be themed "Midnight at the Masquerade Ball" and will be held on Saturday, Feb. 13, 2016 at the Hadley Farms Meeting House. The doors will open at 6 p.m. and the murder mystery will begin at 6:30 p.m. Although not required, guests are encouraged to dress up for the event - evening wear, ball gowns, suits and tuxes. Masks will be provided. The tickets will cost \$50 with a Holiday Special for \$47 running through Dec.20. For tickets please visit www.granbyscouts.com.

## Thursday, Feb. 18

HISTORY OF PIE LECTURE: Stone House Museum in Belchertown continues its winter lecture series with a presentation by Robert Cox, head of special collections and university archives at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, and author of New England Pie: History Under A Crust. Cox will explore the seasonal components and unique ingredients of early New England pie making. Stone House Museum, Thursday, Feb. 18 at 7 p.m. for an historical perspective on this menu favorite. Lecture is free; donations are welcome.

Refreshments served.

BROWN BAG LUNCH: How a Small Town Makes Big Things Happen continues the League of Women Voters of Amherst's Brown Bag Lunch series with speaker Nancy Pagano, director of the Senior Center, Thursday, Feb. 18, 12 to 1 p.m. at the Bangs Center. All are welcome.

#### Friday, Feb. 19

BINGO: The Granby Free Public Library will host winter BINGO on Friday, Feb. 19 at 3 p.m. Join the library for a cozy game of winter theme Bingo. Warm up with hot cocoa too! Each family is asked to bring one Bingo prize to contribute to the prize pot. Pre-register for this sure to be popular event.

#### Saturday, Feb. 20

TEA PARTY: An American Girl tea party will be held Saturday, Feb. 20 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church. Tickets are for sale at the library. Participate in a doll parade and make some great crafts. Check out the American Girl doll raffle at the library.

4-H MEET AND GREET: Boys and girls between the ages of 5-18 are invited to a meet and greet event on Saturday, Feb. 20 at 11 a.m. at the library. Learn what do 4-H members does, including: go on field trips, go visual presentations, plan community service activities, exhibit at fairs, take part in contests, attend conferences, win awards, develop resumes and portfolio, and go to 4-H camp. Volunteers plan to start up a 4-H group in Granby.

FARMERS' MEETING: The Belchertown Agricultural Commission is holding its annual farmers' meeting Saturday, Feb. 20 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at the Town Hall. The meeting is a fun time to visit with fellow farmers and share ideas. They will have updates on the Farmers Market and Lampson Brook Farm. Anyone interested may join.

## Saturday, Feb. 27

ROAST BEEF DINNER: The Granby Veterans Memorial roast beef dinner will be held Saturday, Feb. 27 at 5:30 p.m. in the Immaculate Heart of Mary hall, located at 256 State St. Tickets are \$13. For tickets call Jason Richard at 413-246-9386 or Mike Pandora at 413-205-6646. All proceeds from this event will go towards the Granby Veteran's Memorial.

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## **CLUES ACROSS**

- Soybean paste
- 5. Unit of time
- 8. Watering holes 12. Joint
- 14. Certified public
- accountant
- 15 \_\_ Mater, one's school
- 16. Resells tickets
- 18. Batter's objective 19. Past participle
- of lie
- 20. State of Islands
- 21. Fed
- 22. Cause cell destruction
- 23. Daily Show host
- 26. Diagrammed
- 30. Cat sounds
- 31. Most sorry 32. Do wrong
- 33. Coral reef and lagoon island
- 34. That (Middle English)

- 39. Electrically charged **CLUES DOWN** atom
- 44. Frogs, toads, tree toads
- 46. Marioram
- 47. Where the Donald lives in NYC 49. Whale ship captain
- 50. A way to emit sound
- 51. Comparable 56. Isodor \_\_\_, American Nobel physicist
- 57. Businesswoman
- 58. A way to split up 59. Solo Operatic piece
- 60. No (Scottish) 61. In a way, tears
- 62. Bridge breadth 63. Single Lens Reflex 64. Thou \_\_ protest too
- much 63. Single Lens Reflex 64. Thou \_\_ protest too much

- 42. Nassau is the capital 2. South American Indian
  - 3. Cape at tip of Denmark
  - 4. A podrida cooking pot 5. Russian sourgrass
  - soup 6. Perfect example
  - 7. Supplier
  - 8. Unhealthy looking 9. Spanish beaches 10. Am. follower of the Mennonite Bishop
  - Amman 11. Well-balanced 13. Outer surface cells
  - 17. Fathers 24. Sun up in New York 25. Dweller above the
  - Mason-Dixon 26. Young women's association 27. Tell on

- 28. Bustle Korean War TV show 29. Poundal.
  - 35. An ugly, old woman
  - 36. Doctors' group 37. \_\_ Ling, Chinese
  - mountain range 38. Volcanic mountain in Japan
  - 40. Leaves parentless 41. Existing in or
  - produced by nature 42. Inclination 43. Extents
  - 44. Peninsula between the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf
  - 45. Language of Nile 47. Twyla \_\_, US dancer 48. Card game
  - 49. River in E. Turkey to the Caspian Sea 52. Scored 100%
  - 53. Tonight's former 54. \_\_ and ends
  - 55. Notable exploit

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# SPORTS

# Gatzounas helps Lady Tigers tip Granby

Great rivalry between two schools

**By Tim Peterson** Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY - South Hadley junior forward Sophie Gatzounas joined the 1,000-point club in a road game against Monson on Jan. 21. She was honored during a ceremony held prior to the start of the Lady Tigers first meeting of the season against archrival Granby, last Friday night.

Gatzounas and her teammates also celebrated a thrilling 57-52 victory against the Lady Rams before a large crowd at Thomas B. Landers Court.

"This is definitely a very special night for me and my teammates," said Gatzounas, who's the seventh 1,000-point scorer in school history. "It's just an incredible milestone and it's also a huge win for us against one of our biggest rivals."

Gatzounas scored 23 of her career-high 35 points during the second half. She made a total of 14 field goals, including three three-pointers.

"Good players make good coaches," said South Hadley head coach Paul Dubuc. "Sophie is one of the best high school girls basketball players that I've ever coached. She's also a great kid and a very good student. I'm very proud to be her coach."

The last South Hadley basketball player to score 1,000 points was Cam Earle, who graduated last June. Earle, who's currently a freshman member of the Westfield State University men's basketball team, finished his outstanding high school career with 1,015 points. The last Lady Tigers player to reach the elite milestone was Patty Stefanelli, who finished her high school career with 1,108 points. The school's all-time leading scorer is Jes Hambley with 2,069 points. Hambley also scored 1,000 career points during her collegiate career at St. Michael's College, which is located in Colchester, Vt. The only other Lady Tigers player to reach the milestone is Tiffany Kirk (1,152 points).



# Offense bountiful for Orioles

**By Dave Forbes** Turley Publications Sports Staff Writer

BELCHERTOWN - Goals were plentiful for the Belchertown hockey team in

their two most recent victories.

The Orioles scored a combined 18 goals in the six periods as they cruised to wins over Taconic and Turners Falls.

Belchertown put six goals on the board in the first period, one in the second and three more in the third in a victory over Taconic.

Ben Magarian led the offense with four goals for the Orioles. Nate Pacheco added two goals and two assists, while Zach Reidy had a goal and two assists. Kyle Mikulski also had a goal, while Aidan Dupont, Dylan Gillen, Adam Mattingly and Ryan Tatro each had an assist.

Cam Cass had two goals and two assists, as did Magarian in an 8-1 win over Turners Falls. Gillen added a goal and three assists, while Mattingly had two goals. Jordan Henault chipped in with two assists, while Dupont, Pacheco and Reidy each had one.

## SWIMMING

It was a very good week for the Belchertown boys as they swept Westfield, 87-79, and Amherst, 101-64.

See ROUND UP, Page 15

# Rams rally to overtake Dean Tech

# Hodgins reaches 150-win mark

**By Tim Peterson** Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

GRANBY - Despite having to forfeit the 106 and 113 weight classes, the Dean Tech wrestling team had a 24-12 lead against Suburban League rival Granby after the first six matches of the dual meet.

The Rams would then come storming back by winning seven of the final eight matches defeating the Knight Hawks, 51-30, for the first time in five years before a good size crowd at Sullivan Gymnasium, last Wednesday night.

night.
"It has been at least five years since we've been able to defeat Dean Tech," said Granby head coach Joe Denette "This also wasn't the first time this season that we've falling behind at the start of a match. It has happened



Turley Publications photo by David Henry sweetdogphotos.com Granby's Colin Williams (132) gets ready to grapple with his

several times, but we've always been able to make a comeback at the end. Having the crowd behind us was also a key factor tonight. This is a very big win for us."

opponent.

The last time that Granby (10-3-3) celebrated a victory against Dean Tech, who has captured the Western Massachusetts Division

3 title two out of the past three years, came in a road match on January 15, 2011 by the final score of 54-28.

"This is a very disappointing loss for us," said Dean Tech head coach Joe Griffin "I just have to

See WRESTLING, Page 14

# Sheehan reaches rare win number

**By Tim Peterson** Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

GRANBY - In order for a high school basketball coach to win 250 games over 17 years, they'll need to average about 15 victories per season.

Tim Sheehan Sr., who has been coaching the Granby boys varsity basketball team for the past 17 years, joined the elite 250-victory club following his team's 65-56 victory against Bi-County League rival Renaissance at Sullivan Gymnasium on Jan. 22.

"I've been coaching high school basketball for a very long time" Sheehan said. "Winning 250 games is a tribute to all of the players that I've ever coached here at Granby High

Before being named as the Rams varsity coach prior to the start of the 1999-2000 season, Sheehan coached the Granby 7/8 grade Suburban League

boys basketball team. He also coached the Rams junior varsity team for one season.

"The varsity coach at that time then left the following year and I was named as the varsity coach in 1999," he said. "I've been coaching the varsity team ever since."

While winning 250 games is a very special accomplishment, the most important thing for Sheehan was watching his team defeat a very good Renaissance squad

"250 wins is just a number," said Sheehan, who graduated from Agawam High School. "Winning the game against a very good Renaissance team was the most important thing to me. We played very well in that game."

Sheehan, who won his first career varsity game against Gateway, talked about how much the game has changed during his

See SHEEHAN, Page 19

# Coaching friends face each other on court

By Tim Peterson

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

MONSON - Prior to being named as the boys varsity basketball coach at Monson High School before the start of the 2014-15 regular season, Joe Trivisonno had never met longtime Granby head coach Tim Sheehan Sr.

The two basketball coaches shook hands at the end of a game for first time on Dec. 14, 2014 and they quickly became friends.

Trivisonno guided the senior-laden Mustangs to a 10-point victory in that contest. Monson also won the second meeting of the season between the two Bi County rivals by 16 points, which was played at Granby High School a month later.

The results were a little bit different this year, as Granby swept the season series.

After posting a 19-point home victory against the Mustangs back in the middle of December, the Rams won their third consecutive game and also snapped a two-game losing streak at Michael J. Kane Gymnasium with a 55-42 win on Monday night, Jan. 25.



Turley Publications photo by David Henry sweetdogphotos.com Granby's Noah Bleakley (12) dribbles the ball up the floor.

"We always want to win the game against each other, but Joe and I are friends off the court," said Sheehan, who recently won his 250th career varsity game. "I thought that we came out a little bit flat in the first quarter of tonight's game and our defense intensity wasn't there. We wound up allowing 15 points in that quarter, but we only gave up 27 points the rest of the game. We're definitely heading in the right direction."

The Rams, who had a 7-4 overall record and were sitting in third place in the league standings with a 6-3 mark following last Monday's game, last victory at the Monson High gymnasium came in the second meeting of the 2012-13 season by the final score of 68-52.

In the most recent game between the two rivals, Granby was led offensively by senior guard Colby Forbush, who scored 11 of his game-high 19 points, which was also his career-high, during the first half.

"This is definitely a tough place to play a game and it feels great to win a game here," said Forbush, who's also a tri-captain. "Monson is one of our biggest rivals and it's a huge win for us."

The other two Rams tri-captains are junior forward Zach Gorham, who finished with 14 points, and junior guard Joe Desormier, who scored 12 points.

"We only need three more wins to qualify for the postseason, so it's a very big win for us," Desormier said. "We also had two very big league victories last week against Hampshire Regional and Renaissance. We're now looking forward to playing our next game at home against first place Easthampton on Thursday night."

Forbush and Desormier were also teammates on the Granby boys varsity soccer team, which suffered a 4-0 loss against Monson, in a Western Massachusetts Division 4 semifinal match played on a damp night at Szot Park in Chicopee, last November.

Trivisonno has a tremendous amount of respect for both Sheehan and his basket-ball team.

"Granby is a very good team this year and they're also well coached," he said. "Coach Sheehan certainly has a wealth of knowledge and I really do enjoy talking basketball with him. We now have a 2-2 record coaching against each other and I'm really looking forward to facing him again next year."

See GRANBY BOYS, Page 20



Turley Publications photo by David Henry sweetdogphotos.com

Granby's Victor Magalhaes (138) has a side headlock on his opponent.

## WRESTLING | from Page 13

give the Granby kids a lot of credit because they came out ready to wrestle tonight."

Granby eighth grader Jack Kent and sophomore Kyle Roe didn't have to break a sweat, as they captured the 106 and 113 weight classes by forfeits giving the home team an early 12-0 advantage.

"The two forfeits at the beginning of the match really hurt us," Griffin said. "We had one kid transfer and another kid leave the team in the middle of the season. Both of them were very good wrestlers. We don't have anyone else on the team to replace them and it was too late to add another wrestler to the team. I really wish that we could fill those two positions because it's a 24 point swing in every match."

Dean Tech (12-4-1), who co-ops with Holyoke High School, would then win the next four matches.

Senior Giovanni Rios won the 120 weight class with a pin at the 4:34 mark.

Before pinning his opponent, Rios had dominated the first two rounds. He entered the final round of the match holding a 6-0 advantage

With 2 seconds remaining in the first round of the 126 weight class, Dean Tech junior Jack Moriarty recorded a pin tying the score for the first time at 12-12.

Then the Knight Hawks took the lead when sophomore Antonie Rodrigues pinned his opponent at the 1:23 mark in the 132 class.

The visitors from Holyoke extended their lead to 24-12 in the 138 class when senior Jose Berrios pinned his opponent with 3 seconds remaining in the second round.

A couple of weeks ago, Berrios became the fifth wrestler in school history to win 100 matches.

"Jose is our senior captain and he has

more than 100 wins now," Griffin said. "He's the type of a kid who is the first one to arrive at practice and the last one to leave. He just leads by example and we're really going to miss him next year."

Dean Tech's other four 100-win wrestlers are David Brazeau, Philip Fernandez, Christopher Vega, and Justin Perez.

The Rams began their comeback when junior Ben Rokowski posted a pin in the 145 class at 3:21.

In the 152 class, senior Collin Mick needed only 47 seconds to pin his opponent tying the score for the second time at 24-24.

The Knight Hawks briefly retook the lead when junior Jorge Velez recorded a pin at the 3:25 mark in the 160 class.

Granby won the next four matches by pins, which sealed their big victory.

The pins were posted by senior Jack Sarnacki (170), junior Clayton Yanosky (182), senior Nick Roberts (195), and senior Nolan Hodgins (220), who recently won his 150th career match.

"The win by Nolan put us over the top and it took a lot of pressure off our final wrestler," Denette said. "Nolan now has a 24-0 record this season and also has 156 career victories. He has really improved a lot since last year."

Hodgins, who's a team captain, gave his thought about reaching the 150 win plateau.

"It just feels great to have accomplished that win total during my high school career," he said. "This is also the first time that we've defeated Dean Tech since I've been a member of the wrestling team. Everyone on the team has worked very hard this year."

The other former Granby wrestlers who have reached the 100-win plateau are Jesse McGrath, Tyler Prottengier. Mack Ransford, Billy Os, and James Cupak.

With the Rams holding a 48-30 advantage, junior Brad Taft won the final match of the evening by a 7-5 decision.

## **GRANBY GIRLS | from Page 13**

Last Friday night's home victory improved the Lady Tigers overall season record to 11-1 and they were also sitting in first place in the Central Division standings with a 2-0 mark.

"Every night is a battle in our league and it's always been a great rivalry game against Granby. This is the first time that we've defeated them in a couple of years," Dubuc said. "We just know everything that they're going to do against us and they know everything that we're going to do against them. The players on both teams also know each other very well."

The last time that the Lady Tigers players celebrated a victory against the Lady Rams was also following a home game on February 19, 2014 by the final score of 74-61.

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Granby, who had a 10-3 overall record and a 2-1 league record following the road loss, swept the season series against a year ago. They won the first meeting, 59-54, before squeaking out a 66-65 home win in the second meeting of the season.

"This has always been a fierce friendly rivalry game," said Granby head coach Tom Burke, who is friends with Dubuc. "We want our kids to give an all out effort on the court and play hard, but most of them are friends off the court. I just told my team that I'm very proud of the way that they played tonight."

The Lady Rams were led offensively by junior guard Kate Sullivan, who netted 20 of her game-high 36 points after halftime. It was also her career-high. Sullivan's previous career-high was 23 points in the one-point home win against the Lady Tigers a year ago. She also made a season-high six three-pointers in last Friday's game.

"It's always a lot of fun playing against South Hadley," said Sullivan, who needs about 320 more points to reach 1,000 points. "I also enjoy playing against Sophie because we're good friends. It's just amazing that she has already scored 1,000 points in the middle of her junior season."

Gatzounas and Sullivan have been teammates on the Mass Frenzy AAU basketball team during the past couple of years.

"Sophie is just a great basketball player," Sullivan added. "It's definitely a lot more fun playing with her on the AAU team than against her. Both of us stepped up for our teams in this game tonight."

Gatzounas, who's a third year member of the varsity basketball team, has the same amount of respect for Sullivan.

"As much fun as it is playing against Kate, I really prefer being teammates with her," Gatzounas said. "She can shoot the ball very well and also makes great passes. She's just a great kid."

Gatzounas scored nine points in the opening quarter, which helped the Lady Tigers build an 18-5 lead.

Just before the buzzer sounded, Sullivan, who scored all

of the Lady Rams points in the opening quarter, was fouled while attempting a three-pointer from the top of the key. She made all three foul shots cutting the Lady Rams deficit to ten points.

Sullivan would score eight more points in the second

Sullivan would score eight more points in the second quarter, as the Lady Rams used a 17-8 run to close the gap to one point (26-25) at halftime.

Sullivan was helped out offensively by junior forward Kate Sarnacki, who scored seven of her nine points during the second stanza. Sarnacki should also be able to score 1,000 points before the curtain closes on her outstanding high school career next year.

In the middle of the third quarter, Granby sophomore forward Mallory Beauregard (four points) was fouled while making an inside basket tying the score at 31-31 for the first time in the game.

With 1:32 left in the quarter, Sullivan knocked down a 3-pointer from the right side, which gave the visiting team a 34-33 lead for the first time.

The Lady Tigers retook the lead following a runner in the lane by sophomore forward Abigail Edge (four points) and a Gatzounas layup. Another 3-pointer in the final seconds by Sullivan tied the score again.

The scoring duel between Sullivan and Gatzounas continued during the final 8:00.

The Lady Rams held a 44-42 less than 2:00 into the fourth quarter before Gatzounas scored her team's next six points.

A layup by sophomore forward Mikhaila Edge (10

points) increased the Lady Tigers advantage to 50-44 with 3:40 left in regulation.

A little more than a minute later, Granby tied the score

for the final time at 50-50 after Sullivan banked home her final long bomb from the top of the key.

The Lady Tigers would outscore the Lady Rams 7-2

The Lady Tigers would outscore the Lady Rams, 7-2, during the final minute.

The second meeting of the season between the two rivals is scheduled to take place on Feb. 17 at Granby High

## **ROUND UP I from Page 13**

On the girls side, they beat Amherst, 95-74, and fell to Westfield, 112-58.

Ben LaClair set a new school record in the 50-yard freestyle against Westfield with a time of 22.49 seconds. He also won the 100-yard backstroke in a time of 56.73.

Matthew Quinney was also a double individual winner in the 200-yard Individual Medley with a time of 2:00.03, and the 100-yard freestyle (51.60).

Belchertown also placed first in the 200vard medley relay at 1:51.12 and the 400yard freestyle relay at 3:24.59.

Quinney was also a double individual winner in the 200-yard Individual Medley (2:01.25) and the 100-yard backstroke (55.78) against Amherst.

LaClair did so in the 200-yard freestyle (1:48.70) and the 100-yard freestyle (49.46).

Dennis Lelic added a first in the 500yard freestyle.

The Orioles also swept all three medley relay races.

In the girls win over Amherst, Haley Synan was a double individual winner in the 200-yard freestyle at 2:04.14, and the 500-yard freestyle (5:27.13). Audra Hale did the same in the 200-yard Individual Medley (2:27.81) and the 100-yard backstroke (1:06.49).

The Lady Orioles also took the top spot in all three relay races.

Synan also had two first-place finishes in a loss to Westfield. She did so in the 200yard freestyle (2:03.65) and the 500-yard freestyle (5:27.27). Hale added a first in the 200-yard Individual Medley (2:26.92) and Aubrey Endress in the 100-yard butterfly (1:06.70).

#### **BASKETBALL**

The Belchertown boys dropped a close decision to South Hadley, 65-60.

Mitch Medina had a team-high 21 points for the Orioles. Connor Davis also finished in double figures with 19. Nolan Vogel added nine, followed by five from Hayden Bennis, four from Nate Wright and two from Spencer Caron.

The girls dropped the front end of a home-and-home to Chicopee, 53-41.

Kayla Henry topped Belchertown with 20. Cara McKenzie was second with eight, followed by three each from Payton McLean and Kylie Lounder, two each from Samantha Birks, Madison Duffy, and Emma Jopson and one from Jackie Johnson.

Dave Forbes is a sports editor for Turley Publications. He can be reached at dforbes@turley.com or by calling 413-283-8393 ext. 237.



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# **CODY HODGINS**

**GRANBY HIGH SCHOOL** 



ongratulations goes out to the wrestler. He reached the 150-win mark recently. To nominate someone for Athlete of the Week, contact Sports Editor Dave Forbes at 413-283-8393 ext. 237 or send an e-mail to dforbes@turley.com.

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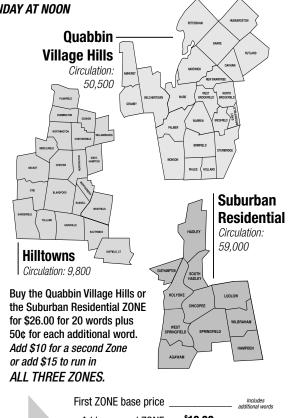
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## SHEEHAN | from Page 13

coaching career.

"The game is so much faster now and more players can shoot 3-pointers," he said. "When I first started coaching, there were only a couple of three-point shooters on my team, but now every player on the team can make that shot. It's a very big part of the game. The game has changed a lot over the years, but you still have to play good defense in order to win."

One of the goals for every high school basketball team in Western Massachusetts is to advance to the District semifinals and finals, which have been held for many years at the historic Curry Hicks Cage located on the UMass Amherst campus.

In Sheehan's first year as a varsity coach, the Rams lost against Pioneer Regional by three points in the Western Mass. finals at the Cage. Three years later, the Rams lost against Easthampton in the finals by two points.

Granby finally took home the Western Mass. Division 3 championship trophy for the first time in school history in 2005

"That was a very special season and it was just a great group of players," Sheehan said. "It really doesn't seem like it took place 11 years ago."

"We lost a tough game to St. Joe's in the quarterfinals the previous season, which helped propel us into the next season," Sheehan said. "Winning a championship title is such a wonderful thing, but it makes you want to win even more. I love being around all of these guys and I love coaching basketball, but I also want to win just like any other coach."

Sheehan has surrounded himself with a solid group of assistant coaches.

One of the Rams assistants is Rob Desormier, whose son, Joe, is a junior guard on this year's varsity team.

Jeremy Lapointe, Zack Gilley, and Dana Light, who are all former members of the Rams varsity basketball team, are also assistant coaches.

"It's always nice to have your former players come back and help you coach," Sheehan said. "Those guys are still young and they're able to relate to the current players very well."

Å first-year member of the Rams coaching staff is Tim Sheehan Jr., who played for his father's basketball team during the past three years.

"It's always difficult to coach your own son at the high school level," coach Sheehan said. "I'm sure that there were times that Tim thought that he was going to play in more games than he did."

Tim Sheehan Jr., is also a very good baseball player and he's planning to be a member of the Holyoke Community College baseball team this spring. His father also played college baseball at the same school.

"I was a member of the varsity basketball team when my father won his 200th game and I'm an assistant coach this year when he won his 250th game," Sheehan Jr. said. "I'm very glad that I was a big part of it and it's a very big accomplishment for him. Basketball is a big part of his life."

# LEGAL

THE
COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF
BELCHERTOWN
OFFICE OF
TAX COLLECTOR
NOTICE OF
TAX TAKING

To the owners of the hereinafter described land and to all others concerned. you are hereby notified that on February 19, 2016 at ten o'clock a.m. at 2 Jabish Street, pursuant to the provisions of General Law Chapter 60, Section 53, and by the authority vested in me as Collector of Taxes, it is my intention to take for the Town of Belchertown the following parcels of land for non-payment of taxes, liens, betterments, and/or CPA surcharges due thereon with interest and all incidental expenses and costs to the date of taking, unless the same shall have been paid before that

LIST OF PARCELS TO BE TAKEN ANDERSON SCOTT & DO-ALL CONSTRUCTION ANDERSON **CONTRACTORS**: A certain parcel of land situated at 220 Old Enfield Road, containing 40,500 square feet of land more or less as shown on Belchertown Assessors Map 232 111.040 and as described in H.C.R.D. Land Court Book 19, Page 116: FY2015 Real Estate \$1,229.04.

ATKINS, DALE H & PANSY HANNAH: A certain parcel of land situated at 259 Sabin Street, containing 40,000 square feet of land more or less with buildings thereon as shown on Belchertown Assessors Map 257 026.000 and as described in H.C.R.D. Book

2112, Page 338: FY2013 Real Estate \$20.67, FY2014 Real Estate \$3,552.86, CPA \$26.71, FY2015 Real Estate \$3,622.73, CPA \$27.51.

COOK, RICHARD L: A certain parcel of land situated on Chauncey Walker Street, containing 26.20 acres of land more or less as shown on Belchertown Assessors Map 267 038.000 and as described in H.C.R.D. Book 5238, Page 209: FY2015 Real Estate \$1,425.83.

COTE, ANTHONY A:
A certain parcel of land situated on Federal Street, containing 36,155 square feet of land more or less as shown on Belchertown Assessors Map 101 026.000 and as described in H.C.R.D. Book 5281, Page 246: FY2015 Real Estate \$67.98, FY2015 Tri Lakes Assessment \$690.38.

**DAUPLAISE, TODD** F: A certain parcel of land situated on Autumn Lane, containing 1.65 acres of land more or less as shown on Belchertown Assessors Map 275 041.000 and as described in H.C.R.D. Book 5380, Page 190: FY2015 Real Estate \$892.37.

FRANGAKIS, MARION M: A certain parcel of land situated at 410 North Washington Street, containing 1.728 acres of land more or less with buildings thereon as shown on Belchertown Assessors Map 261 021.000 and as described in H.C.R.D. Book 2185, Page 159: FY2015 Real Estate \$1,389.24.

FRANGAKIS, MICHAEL T & CHARLES E: A certain parcel of land situated at 1111 Federal Street, containing 2.62 acres of land more or less with buildings thereon as shown on Belchertown Assessors Map 205 089.000

and as described in H.C.R.D. Book 11542, Page 341: FY2015 Real Estate \$856.18, CPA \$12.84.

J A C K S O N BROTHERS PROPERTY MANAGEMENT LLC: A certain parcel of land situated on Stadler Street, containing 3,300 square feet of land more or less as shown on Belchertown Assessors Map 243 152.010 and as described in H.C.R.D. Book 9594, Page 44: FY2014 Real Estate \$203.64, CPA \$3.35, FY2015 Real Estate \$225.41, CPA \$3.38.

KOPACZ, MARIE A C/O DAVID P KOPACZ SR: A certain parcel of land situated on Fletcher Avenue, containing 5.00 acres of land more or less as shown on Belchertown Assessors Map 232 017.010 and as described in H.C.R.D. Book 6397, Page 166: FY2015 Real Estate \$700.81.

LANGEVIN, HARVEY ADELARD: A certain parcel of land situated at 57 Warren Wright Street, containing 1.10 acres of land more or less with buildings thereon as shown on Belchertown Assessors Map 228 065.000 and as described in H.C.R.D. Book 2487, Page 205: FY2015 Real Estate \$292.20.

M I T C H E L L, JOHNS & ROBERTS CONSTRUCTION LLC: A certain parcel of land situated on Barton Avenue, containing 3.20 acres of land more or less as shown on Belchertown Assessors Map 253 019.000 and as described in H.C.R.D. Book 8140, Page 242: FY2015 Real Estate \$1,381.11.

**PERHAM, GARY A:** A certain parcel of land situated at 172 Stebbins Street, containing 27,007 square feet of land more or less with build-

ings thereon as shown on Belchertown Assessors Map 240 074.000 and as described in H.C.R.D. Book 5251, Page 067: FY2015 Real Estate \$3,096.76, CPA \$19.62.

RIBEIRO, TONY J: A certain parcel of land situated on Barton Avenue, containing 1.01 acres of land more or less as shown on Belchertown Assessors Map 254 079.000 and as described in H.C.R.D. Book 11355, Page 282: FY2015 Real Estate \$874.82.

RIBEIRO, TONY J: A certain parcel of land situated on Sabin Street, containing 3.71 acres of land more or less as shown on Belchertown Assessors Map 248 017.050 and as described in H.C.R.D. Book 11557, Page 217: FY2015 Real Estate \$787.16.

**Lisa M. Banner** Collector of Taxes

2/4/16



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# 'Spring Dream' fashion show set

BELCHERTOWN – Have you been dreaming of spring? Here is your chance to dream spring in the heart of winter

On Saturday, Feb. 27 Hope United Methodist Church, 31 Main St., Belchertown will be sponsoring The Spring Dream Fashion Show, put on by The Little Black Dress LLC. The doors will open at 11 a.m. for pre-shopping. A light lunch of soup and sandwiches will be served at noon and the fashion show will begin at 12:45 p.m.

Admission is \$5 per person. Tickets are advanced sale and can be purchased by calling Lois Pare' at 413-467-9254 or by calling the church at 413-323-7584. All clothes are available for purchase at the show and payment is accepted by cash, check, Visa and Mastercard.

# Lions Club sets 'Groundhog Fuel Assistance Fund'

GRANBY – Once again this winter heating season, the Granby Lions Club has established an Emergency Fuel Assistance Fund for Granby residents. This fund, titled the "Groundhog Fund," will enable residents of Granby to obtain needed assistance for fuel to help them through the next six weeks of winter.

The Lions Club Groundhog Fund will begin helping residents the first week of February and will continue until mid-March. Residents who would like to

apply for needed assistance area asked to complete an application. These applications are available in the Senior Center/Council of Aging Office at 10 West State St. in Granby.

Other residents or businesses who would like to contribute to this fund are asked to send their donation to the Granby Lions Groundhog Fund, P.O. Box 195, Granby, MA 01033.

The Granby Lions Club appreciates the continuing support that the community of Granby gives to our projects and activities.

## SENIORS | from Page 12

Tuesday, Feb. 16: Brown Bag pick up; Valentine's Day celebration with Laurie Festa.

Thursday, Feb. 18: Blood Pressure Clinic; FOGE Ice Cream Social at Immaculate Heart of Mary, Parish Hall. Music by the Chordsmen.

Friday, Feb. 19: Health New England informational.

Thursday, Feb. 25: Foot care by appointment; Berkshire Hill Music Academy performs.

Friday, Feb. 26: Movie – Woman In Gold.

## **GRANBY BOYS | from Page 14**

The Mustangs saw their overall record fall to 3-9 and their league record drop to 1-8.

"They (Granby) handled us pretty good in our first meeting of the season, but we've made a lot of progress since that game," Trivisonno said. "I keep telling the kids that by the end of the season, we're not going to be a team that anyone will want to play against."

The Mustangs entered the Granby game with a little bit of momentum after defeating rival Ware, 76-70, in overtime, last Friday night. Senior forward Kyle Vedovelli scored a career-high 30 points with the help of five 3-pointers in the road contest.

Monson junior guard Bahu Abdul Wadud scored a team-high 14 points in the second meeting of the season against Granby. Junior forward Mike Tranghese added 11 points. Tranghese was also the starting goalkeeper for the boys' state championship soccer team, which was honored at a banquet, along with the members of the state championship girls' soccer team, last weekend.

The Mustangs held a 15-12 lead after the first quarter against the Rams, as Wadud and Tranghese combined to score 12 of those points.

Forbush took over the spotlight late in the first half by scoring nine points giving the Rams a 26-22 halftime lead.

Granby, who outscored Monson, 16-12 during the third stanza, held a 40-34 advantage entering the final 8:00 of the contest.

With 4:09 remaining in regulation, Wadud made a pair of free throws cutting the Mustangs deficit to 46-42.

Following a baseline jumper by Gorham, junior forward Ethan King sealed the deal by knocking down a 3-pointer from the right corner. It was King's only points of the ballgame. Forbush and Desormier would add a jumper from the top of the key and a layup giving the Rams a 13-point victory.





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