

Inserts in today's print edition

BIG LOTS
RITE AID
Price Chopper

CVS pharmacy
Walgreens
Ozarka Valley Healthcare

Tomorrow's outlook

Rain

51°H
26°L

Weather details Page 2

LOCAL Celebrations Page 8

School lunches Page 8



Mahar makes it three straight with 64-54 defeat of Greenfield

Story on Page 6

Athol Daily News

Vol. CCCXXIII No. 6 75¢ Single Copy \$3.30 Per Week Delivered By Carrier Athol, Mass., Weekend, January 9-10, 2016 atholdailynews.com 12 Pages

Odor Investigated



REPORT OF ODOR — The Athol Fire Department responded to a report of a propane like odor at a downtown location on Main Street in the area of Never Grow Up on Friday morning.

Photo by Ashley Arseneau

Orange to bid farewell to retiring library director

ORANGE — The Friends of the Orange Public Libraries will host an open house on Wednesday, Jan. 13, to honor retiring Library Director Walt Owens, and to welcome new Library Director, Jessica Magelaner. The event will take place in the East Reading Room of the Wheeler Memorial Library from 4 to 7 p.m.

Owens has served the library and community since 2005. He is originally from Indiana and received his master's degree in library science from Indiana University in 1977. "I'm happy that I have had the chance to live and work in Orange. I really appreciate the support that the library has received from the citizens of Orange during some difficult times," he said. Owens also remarked that he has enjoyed working with a dedicated staff and board



Walt Owens



Jessica Magelaner

of trustees. Magelaner earned her bachelor's degree from Salem College in Winston-Salem, N.C., in 2004, and her

system in Charlotte, N.C., then moved to Great Barrington, Mass., where she has worked for four years as the assistant director of

Atholite to build homes with fellow students for Habitat for Humanity

PAXTON — This winter, a group of Anna Maria College students will spend the last week of their winter break volunteering in Pensacola, Fla., to help its local Habitat for Humanity affiliate build homes for those in need. Anna Maria's Alternative Winter Break will take place Jan. 10 to Jan. 16.

Joined by two AMC staff members, student volunteers, including Elizabeth Casella, of Athol, will stay at a local church in Pensacola

while immersing themselves in a Habitat for Humanity home-building project. They will join a large, group dinner and other community events hosted and attended by those who live in the area where the students are building future homes.

"Many students come to Anna Maria College with a drive to serve others, and offering an Alternative Winter Break is one of the many ways in which we help service-oriented young

people further develop this passion," said Anna Maria College President Mary Lou Retelle. "So many of our students have selected careers that allow them to give back, such as teaching, fire science, emergency management, music therapy and more. The Winter Service Break is one of many transformative experiences we work to provide, in order

Athol Page 5

US hiring at blistering pace, defying trends

By CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER
Associated Press
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — American employers added a robust 292,000 jobs in December, suggesting that the U.S. economy is so far defying global weakness and growing solidly.

The strong hiring underscores the resilience of the United States at a time of financial turmoil stemming from China's slowing economy and plummeting stock market. Most economists expect U.S. consumer spending to continue to offset over-

seas weakness, though many foresee only modest U.S. growth.

In its monthly jobs report Friday, the Labor Department said the unemployment rate was 5 percent in December for a third straight month. More Americans started looking for jobs and found them.

The government also said employers added a combined 50,000 more jobs in October and November than it had previously estimated. For the July-September quarter,

Jobs Page 5

Police dept: Gunman said he shot Philadelphia cop in Islam's name

By ERRIN WHACK
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A man using a gun stolen from police said he was acting in the name of Islam when he ambushed an officer sitting in his marked cruiser at an intersection, firing shots at point-blank range, authorities said Friday. Both the officer and suspect were injured during the barrage of gunfire.

The suspect, 30-year-old Edward Archer, also pledged allegiance to the Islamic State group when he was questioned after his arrest in the shooting late Thursday, police said.

The shooting of Officer Jesse Hartnett was an attempted assassination, Po-

Gunman Page 5



SHOOTING SCENE — Officers investigate the scene of a shooting Friday, Jan. 8, 2016, in Philadelphia. A Philadelphia police officer was shot multiple times by a man who ambushed him as he sat in his marked police cruiser, authorities said.

AP Photo/Joseph Kaczmarek

Athol tree hearing scheduled

ATHOL — A tree hearing will be held Monday, Jan. 25, at 4 p.m., in the Department of Public Works office, Room 24 of the town hall, at 584 Main St.

The tree hearing has been scheduled at the request of National Grid, and the trees in question are on White Pond Road.

The locations of the trees are:

- Pole #28 - #29 — A 20-inch dead white oak and a 20-inch hollow ash (located in a wooded area);
- Pole #46 - #47 — A 20-inch maple with a rotted seam that leans; and
- Pole #49 — A 20-inch maple with decay that is leaning.

Any persons wishing to object can do so by attending the meeting or putting their concerns in writing and leaving them at the DPW office.

Boyd selected for UMass' selective iCons program

AMHERST — The University of Massachusetts Amherst today announced that Hannah Boyd was one of only 61 undergraduate students selected for its highly competitive iCons (Integrated Concentration in Science) program. More than 160 freshman and sophomores applied for one of the coveted iCons spots through a competitive process available to roughly 5,000 undergraduate students majoring in science.



Hannah Boyd

Boyd Page 5

Drug lord 'El Chapo' Guzman re-arrested

By MARK STEVENSON
Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto announced Friday that fugitive drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman was apprehended and leaving them at the DPW office.

from a maximum security prison.

An official who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to be quoted by name said Guzman was apprehended after a shootout with Mexican police.

Guzman Page 5

Beacon Hill Roll Call

By BOB KATZEN
Your eyes and ears on Beacon Hill

BOSTON — Beacon Hill Roll Call records the votes of local representatives on roll calls from the week of Jan. 4-8. There were no roll calls in the Senate last week.

SEWER IMPROVEMENTS (H 3654) — The House 152-0, approved a bill that would allow cities and towns to reduce and spread out the annual tax that homeowners pay when

they are the beneficiary of a sewer betterment. A special assessment is permitted to be levied by a city or town when property within a limited area receives a special benefit or advantage, other than the general advantage to the community, from the construction of a sewer.

The proposal would increase from the current 20 years to 30 years the time period over which homeowners can spread out

Beacon Page 5

Hat Day Fundraiser



HAT DAY FUNDRAISER — On the Wednesday before winter break, students at the Athol-Royalton Middle School were involved in a hat day fundraiser to benefit the drama club. Shown are some students and staff members who participated in the activity.

School Photo

