



Comes up short

Mount Everett keeps Frontier from winning Western Mass. title.

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Seeing it through

Greenfield Mayor William Martin wants to finish what he's started.

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MOSTLY SUNNY

Alec Kirkendall
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GREENFIELD, MASS

MONDAY

JUNE 11, 2012

75¢

Spirit fully on display at Relay for Life

By DAVID RAINVILLE
Recorder Staff

GREENFIELD — This year's Franklin County Relay For Life brought in nearly a quarter-million dollars for the fight against cancer.

For 21 hours, members of 73 teams walked and ran countless laps around the Franklin County

Fairgrounds' track, as volunteers busily tallied the thousands upon thousands the teams raised. While teams mustered their members for a cool-down lap, volunteers checked over their totals. This year, the Relay brought in \$230,000.

"The best year we had was 2008, before the recession," said volunteer accountant Michael Nelson. "That year, we brought in about \$450,000.

■ This year, the Relay brought in \$230,000 in the fight against cancer.

We still bring in more than \$200,000 each year."

One thing the recession didn't decrease was the participants' spir-

its. Every year's relay has a theme, and each year, teams spend hours crafting decorations for their campsites, only to do it again the next spring for something else. Last year's theme was right at home on the fairgrounds — "cirque du relay" had everyone bringing out their biggest best. This year's theme was "road work," and some teams made hand-painted traffic signs like "STOP

cancer," while others turned their camps into job-sites, and donned hardhats and reflective vests.

And other teams did their own thing. Take Parrotheads For a Cure, for example.

They set up a tiki-bar and slipped on Hawaiian shirts, grilling up "cheeseburgers in paradise" and

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OH THAT WINNING FEELING



Special to The Recorder/J. Anthony Roberts

Turners Falls softball players are all smiles during the championship trophy presentation after the Indians rallied to beat Granby, 7-6, in the Western Mass. Division III championship at the UMass Softball Complex in Amherst. Turners advances to the state semifinals on Tuesday at 3 p.m. against Assabet Valley of Marlborough. For more on the game, see story, Page B1.

Undoing health law may be messy

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — It sounds like a silver lining. Even if the Supreme Court overturns President Barack Obama's health care law, employers can keep offering popular coverage for the young adult children of their workers.

But here's the catch: The parents' taxes would go up.

That's only one of the messy potential ripple effects when the Supreme Court delivers its verdict on the Affordable Care Act this month. The law affects most major components of the U.S. health care system in its effort to extend coverage to millions of uninsured people.

Because the legislation is so complicated, an orderly unwinding would prove difficult if it were overturned entirely or in part.

Better Medicare prescription benefits, currently saving hundreds of dollars for older people with high drug costs, would be suspended. Ditto for preventive care with no co-payments, now available to retirees and working families alike.

Partially overturning the law could leave hospitals, insurers and other service providers on the hook for tax increases and spending cuts without the law's promise of more paying customers to offset losses.

If the law is upheld, other kinds of complications could result.

The nation is so divided that states led by Republicans are largely unprepared to carry out critical requirements such as creating insurance markets. Things may not settle down.

"At the end of the day, I don't think any of the major players in the health insurance industry or the provider community really wants to see the whole thing overturned," said Christine Ferguson, a health policy expert who was commissioner of public health in Massachusetts when Mitt Romney was governor.

"Even though this is not the most ideal solution, at least it is moving us forward, and it does infuse some money into the system for coverage," said Ferguson, now at George Washington University. As the GOP presidential candidate, Romney has pledged to wipe Obama's law off the books. But he defends his Massachusetts law that served as a prototype for Obama's.

While it's unclear how the justices will rule, oral

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Proactive past hurts Whately State not recognizing town's energy work

By KATHLEEN MCKIERNAN
Recorder Staff

WHATELY — Whately is too green to be green.

While neighboring towns of Conway and Sunderland have submitted applications to become designated as official state Green Communities in time for this year's May 22 deadline, Whately cannot qualify and has not applied.

The main reason is the town cannot reduce

its energy usage by 20 percent in the next five years — one of the five benchmarks a town must meet for the program.

The Green Community Grant Program "is detrimental to towns who already have taken action to reduce energy costs," said Town Clerk Lynn Sibley. "We've been making improvements to the elementary school over the years, but we can't count that. Because we were proactive in the past, we can't become a green community."

The Green Communities Designation and

Grant Program — an initiative of the state Department of Energy Resources — provides funding to qualified municipalities for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.

The program, born out of the 2008 Green Communities Act, is designed to help the state decrease its use of fossil fuels and harmful emissions that increase global warming.

To date, the program has helped 86 cities and towns earn the designation. More than \$15

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An active interest in all kinds of pickles

The world's in a pickle, and Addie Rose Holland is doubly involved in helping with what just might be solutions.

"I joke that there couldn't be anything less related than climate research and pickle-making," says the 32-year-old Montague woman best known around these parts as a partner in Real Pickles, the Greenfield business that put "green" back into pickle-making. "But I do think a connection is there."

Holland, the business partner and since 1999 life partner of Real Pickles founder Dan Rosenberg — they're getting married this week — works at the Wells Street pickle factory a day or two a week, working on the website, on special projects and as part of the three-member management team that guides the 11-year-old company.

About Town
with
Richie Davis



But although she worked in the pickle kitchen until about 2007, slicing cucumbers, making brine, shredding cabbage, mixing spices and packing the organic products into jars, Holland's now playing a role at the University of Massachusetts Climate System Research Center, cooking up ways of responding to a planet that's heating up.

In the spring of 2009, she even traveled to Lake El'gygytyn in

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Recorder/Peter MacDonald

Addie Holland with one the Real Pickles' signature garlic dills with barrel working behind her in the factory on Wells Street in Greenfield. The 32-year-old Montague woman is playing a role at the University of Massachusetts Climate System Research Center, cooking up ways of responding to a planet that's heating up.

