

Postmaster named for town of Dalton

By Tony Dobrowolski, Berkshire Eagle Staff

Wednesday, December 29, 2004 - DALTON -- The U.S. Postal Service recently named Anthony M. Gubelman as the new postmaster for the town of Dalton, replacing Christine S. Forgea, who retired Nov. 1.

Gubelman, 49, who lives in Pittsfield, has yet to be sworn in, but assumed the position Dec. 11. He served as postmaster in Southfield for five years before coming to Dalton in October, about a week before Forgea's retirement became official.

After serving as officer in charge, or second in command to the postmaster in Dalton, he applied for Forgea's position and was named as her replacement.

He expects the swearing-in ceremony to take place after the holidays.

"It's closer to home," Gubelman said, when asked why he decided to transfer from Southfield to Dalton.

"It's a lot busier," he added, comparing the amount of customers and responsibilities between the two post offices. "There's different situations and challenges."

He said there is only one business in Southfield, a village in New Marlboro, and the post office has only one letter carrier. In Dalton, he said, the post office deals with several businesses and has seven letter carriers and two clerks.

"I love it," said Gubelman, who has been employed by the Postal Service for 16 years. He also has also worked in the Great Barrington, Lenox and Stockbridge post offices.

"The post office I was in before was small. ... I like challenges, and I like to work."

The 58-year-old Forgea, who began working for the Postal Service in 1977, succeeded Francis J. Morrison as Dalton's postmaster in 1987. A graduate of Wahconah Regional High School, she also was postmaster of Windsor for nine years, officer in charge in both Cummington and West Stockbridge, and a clerk in Pittsfield.

She resides in Windsor, where she previously served on the Board of Registrars and as town clerk. Her late father also worked in the Dalton post office under the late Postmaster Edwin Culver.

"I enjoyed the job a lot," she said. "I had my years in, and I just felt that it was time to move on."

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