

The Journal Register

SERVING PALMER, MONSON, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND & WALES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com May 14, 2026 | Vol. CLXXV, No. 16 | \$1.00 www.journalregister.turley.com

PALMER

Pathfinder recognizes 45 students in NHS ceremony

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

PALMER – Last week, Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School held a ceremony to recognize its inductees into the National Technical Honor Society.

The ceremony began last Wednesday, May 6, with a

procession into the cafeteria, set to “Acoustic Breeze” by Benjamin Tissot. It was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Kyle Cienciwa, graduate of the Class of 2026, followed by opening comments from NTHS Advisor Brenda Turner and Superintendent Eric Duda.

NHS | page 14



Autumn Nagle (right) and her mother, Kristy, immortalized her achievement by the garden in front of the school.

Photo by Marcelo Gusmão

MONSON

Schools celebrate diversity with Special Olympics

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

MONSON – Friday, May 1 was the annual district Special Olympics, which saw special needs students from Hampden-Wilbraham, Palmer, Belchertown, and Ludlow all gather at the Monson school campus for a day of athletics and inclusion.

The district has been hosting the regional Special Olympics for several years. Director of Special Education Colette Bidus is in charge of coordinating with the Special Olympics Committee and the other school districts.

“It’s a great day of inclusion,” Bidus said. “It really highlights all these students and the power of inclusion and empathy for students. Whatever level they’re at, kids love to participate, and they all had a great time doing it.”

Bidus talked about the work that she and the committee did to put on the event this year.

OLYMPICS | page 8



The Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts brought flags and torches to help kick off the Special Olympics. Submitted photo

MONSON

Concerns shared with school committee at meeting

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

MONSON – At last week’s School Committee meeting, members of the public and students from the schools spoke up about concerns affecting the school district.

The meeting began with the committee and the superintendent recognizing the dis-

trict’s teachers for National Teacher Appreciation Week.

“There have been some events to celebrate our teachers this week,” said Superintendent Paul Foster, “but I think you can never say thank you often enough, and our teachers do a phenomenal job.”

Foster also gave a shout out to the Parent Teacher Student Association, who provided lunch to the teachers and

wrote welcoming messages in chalk on the sidewalk on Monday.

“On behalf of the School Committee, we appreciate all of our teachers and everything that they do every day for our students,” said Committee Chair Alison Morgan. “Thank you, PTSA, for supporting and making them feel a little special this week.”

School Budget

Bob Lamb approached

the committee to talk about the school budget.

“It’s always a tense time every year, everybody knows that. It’s no fun for anyone here in town,” Lamb said.

Lamb compared the average dollar amount spent per student across various different towns in the commonwealth. The median, he found, was \$27,767 per student.

“Monson has 810 students, according to the De-

partment of Education,” Lamb said, “and we average \$22,827 per student, below the median number.”

Lamb noted that this is a relatively recent development, and that only a few years ago, the district was above the state average in spending per student, but has since dipped below the median line. Lamb then spoke with apprehension

MEETING | page 11

MONSON

Supt. updates on evaluation evidence for Entry Plan

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

MONSON – At the School Committee meeting on Wednesday, May 6, Superintendent Paul Foster presented evaluation evidence.

School Committee Chair Alison Morgan explained that the superintendent was asked to identify priority standards when he started in the district.

“For the evaluation tool that the state provides, there are tons of standards, so the School Committee voted on specific priority standards that we wanted the superintendent to focus on,” Morgan said. “These were chosen carefully by the committee based on what we felt were the biggest needs in our district, and which we wanted Superintendent Foster to come in and prioritize.”

Foster explained that there are four standards in the Superintendent Evaluation System in the commonwealth, which include instruction-

UPDATES | page 14

THREE RIVERS

St. Stan’s Polish Club provides venue for local indie bands

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

THREE RIVERS – Local bands filled the Polish Club with the sound of rock music, performed by five local bands.

On Saturday, May 2, five bands were invited to perform a concert at the St. Stanislaus Polish Club. Arranged by Zack Flebotte of Propolis, the event featured Newcastle Anchorman, 3-Phase, Seven Minutes in Heaven, and Ow! Ouch!! Owie!!! joining them for an evening of rock music.

“It was a show we put together a couple months ago,” Flebotte said. “I built a rapport with the owner, asked

for a date, then hit up the bands on Instagram. We got in contact with Ow! Ouch!! Owie!!!, and they helped us out with reaching out to other bands so we got a five band bill.”

Of the bands that performed on Saturday, two of them, Newcastle Anchorman and 3-Phase, were from the eastern part of the state, hailing from Boston and Lowell respectively. Flebotte said that he has played in various parts of Connecticut, including Mystic and South Whitney, with bands like Singe, Xur, and Venus Teal.

“We never played with any of those bands before, but we’re happy to invite anyone

BANDS | page 6



The band Ow, Ouch, Owie was one of the first contacted by Flebotte for the concert.

Photo by Marcelo Gusmão



Riding season kicks off with 'Blessing of the Bikes'

St. Paul's Church welcomes riders from across the region

PALMER – As warmer weather returns and motorcycles begin to reappear on New England roads, St. Paul's Church of Palmer will once again host its annual Blessing of the Bikes on Saturday, May 16, 2026 at 10 a.m., offering riders a meaningful and memorable start to the season.

Held in partnership with the Christian Motorcycle Association (Western Massachusetts Chapter), the event is expected to draw a wide range of riders—from longtime touring enthusiasts to newer riders discovering the freedom of the open road. In recent years, interest in motorcycling has seen a steady

resurgence, with riders of all ages embracing it not only as recreation, but as a source of connection, clarity, and adventure.

The Blessing of the Bikes has become a distinctive local tradition, welcoming cruisers, sport bikes, trikes, vintage motorcycles, and custom builds alike. Additional non-profit motorcycle groups will also be present, sharing their work and contributing to the sense of community that defines the event.

The gathering itself is simple and accessible: a brief outdoor ceremony offering a blessing for both bike and rider—for safety, awareness, and the shared experience of the road. It is a moment to pause before the miles ahead, acknowledging both the joy and the responsibility that come with riding.

Each rider will receive

a commemorative "Blessing of the Bikes" patch, and light refreshments will be available following the ceremony.

"For many riders, being on the road is something deeper than just getting from one place to another," said Rev. Steven Sousa, minister of St. Paul's Church. "There's a sense of freedom, focus, and even reflection that comes with riding. This event simply recognizes that—and offers a moment of goodwill and blessing for the season ahead."

The event is free and open to all riders, whether experienced or new, riding solo or with a group. No registration is required. St. Paul's Church is located at the Corner of Park & Central Streets in Palmer, Mass.

For more information, please contact St. Paul's Church at 413 283-8185 or visit StPaulsPalmer.org

Community Development meeting set for May 18

PALMER – The Town of Palmer's Community Development Department is hosting a meeting highlighting various projects managed by the Department. Past and ongoing projects include Housing Rehabilitation + Emergency Housing Rehabilitation assistance, Park Improvements, and Public Social Services such as Domestic Violence Prevention and transportation assistance for the Quaboag Connector.

The Department also provides winter heating assistance to Palmer residents

in need.

The meeting will be held Monday, May 18 at 5:30 p.m. at Hryniewicz Park located at 37 Front Street in Three Rivers, Mass.

All Community Development initiatives are open for discussion. Special emphasis will be directed to proposed infrastructure improvements to Front, Kelley & Park Street, within the Three Rivers section of town. Projects completed for infrastructure on Maple Street and Maple Terrace in Three Rivers, Mass. Improvements

completed include upgrades to the road and sidewalk surfaces, upgrades to the storm water drainage and sanitary sewer systems, and replacement of water lines.

The Department has applied for an FY 26 Community Development Block Grant (CDGB), and awaiting grant results. Residents are encouraged to attend the upcoming meeting to provide comments and support. For information, please contact the Community Development Department, 413-283-2614.

Public safety

Monson Fire Logs

MONSON – The Monson Fire Department responded to 4 fire calls and 21 medical calls for the week of Monday, May 4 through Sunday, May 10.

On Monday, May 4 at 3:36 p.m., the Department responded to Moulton Hill Road for the burn complaint. The Department returned

back in service at 3:58 p.m.

On Tuesday, May 5 at 4:36pm, the Department responded to Country Club Heights for the tree on a residence. The Department returned back in service at 10:01 p.m.

On Wednesday, May 6 at 07:37 a.m., the Department responded to Washing-

ton Street for the fire alarms sounding. The Department returned back in service at 08:06 a.m.

On Wednesday, May 6 at 11:06 a.m., the Department responded to Palmer Road for the fire alarms sounding. The Department returned back in service at 11:30 a.m.

what's the buzzzzzzzzzzzz?



This bumblebee is buzzing about an azalea looking for nectar. Turley photo by Kara Walsh-Vey

AMVETS LADIES AUXILIARY 74
SPRING TAG SALE
 To Help Fund One Of The Many Child Welfare Sponsorships
MAY 16, 2026
9AM-2PM
Location: 2150 Main St., Three Rivers
 LOOKING FOR VENDORS RENT A SPACE FOR \$25
 Only 26 Spots Available
Weather Won't Stop Us! Join Us Rain Or Shine
 Please Reach Out To Debbie If Interested In A Spot
413-335-8243
 Checks Made To: **Ladies Auxiliary Post 74**
 Mail To: **2150 Main St Three Rivers Ma01080**
 Attn: **Debbie Nowak**
Vendors Must Supply Their Own Tables, Chairs, And Canopies
 PLEASE RESERVE BY MAY 6, 2026



Actors sought for Living History Cemetery tour

BRIMFIELD – As part of Brimfield's 250th celebration of the American Revolution, a living history cemetery tour is being planned for June 13, 2026. The tour

includes powerful stories of the men who left home to serve in the patriot cause and the families they left behind. Registration details to follow.

Organizers are seeking a male actor to portray a notable Brimfield resident whose family sent fourteen men to fight for freedom. Narrators, who will read short graveside

scripts, are also needed. Contact Sue DeBruin through the Friends of Historic Brimfield at 413-239-0288 to lend your talents and make history come alive.

Pioneer Valley wine festival on June 6 and 7

BRIMFIELD – Brimfield Auction Acres, Birthplace of the world-famous Brimfield Antique Shows will host the 6th annual Pioneer Valley wine festival on Saturday, June 6 and Sunday, June 7 from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

2026 Marks the 7th year of the Pioneer Valley Wine and Food festival. This excit-

ing event brings together New England Wineries, Cideries, Distilleries, and Meaderies from across the Pioneer Valley and Farmers of many sorts selling their wares.

The event started in 2018 by the collaboration with farm wineries throughout New England and local farmers to create a festival to high-

light the magnificent products Massachusetts provides all in unison and support of Massachusetts Agricultural Department.

The festival will feature local vintners and craft brewers ready to spill their secrets, Live Art demonstrations, sizzling chef panel starring culinary celebs - to be an-

nounced soon. Last year celebrity guests include Brynn Gibson, the youngest Black Jacket finalist from Fox's Hell's Kitchen with Gordon Ramsay.

We also have Jared Forman, the culinary mastermind behind Deadhorse Hill, who brought the heat on Food Network's Beat Bobby Flay.

DAZED CANNABIS MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Dazed Cannabis is a local dispensary that is offering a mentorship program to a select number of residents from Monson, MA and surrounding areas. Applicants must be at least 21 years old. Preferred applicants either reside in the Town of Monson, or have a past drug conviction, but all applications are accepted.

The program will provide training across one or more of the following topics: job readiness and skill development, resume development and interviewing, cannabis retail business training, and compliance with MA cannabis regulations.

Dazed will assess the area/skill-set that would best assist each candidate. The program will last 90 days, and would require the candidate to meet with their mentor at least twice per month.

Qualified candidates who complete the mentoring program have the ability to apply for available job positions at either the Monson or Holyoke dispensaries.

Candidate slots are limited, so please inquire quickly by contacting: greg@dazed.fun

EARLY DEADLINES

In observance of Memorial Day, there will be an **EARLY AD DEADLINE** To advertise, place your ad no later than **NOON Thursday, May 21**

– Thank you!

A TURLEY PUBLICATION
 www.turley.com

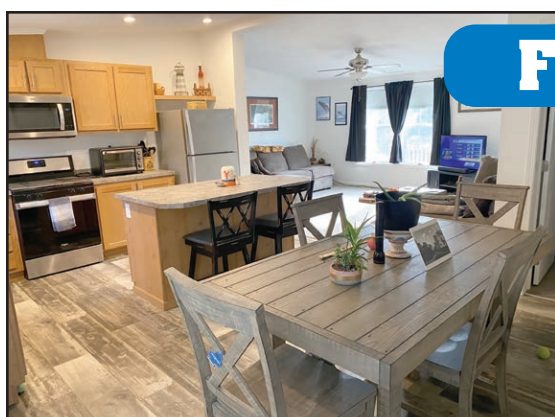
NESCO SALES INC. COMPLETE AUTO BODY CENTER

We Make It Easy For You! RS #1688

- Collision Specialists
- Free Estimates (By Appointment)
- We Help with Insurance Claims!
- Expert Color Matching

89 1/2 State Street, Bondsville, MA 01009
 www.nescoautobody.com

413-283-6403



FIVE ISLANDS

Georgetown, Maine
 2 Bedrooms, 2 Bathroom
 Washer/Dryer, Fully Equipped

- Walk to Five Islands Wharf and Ledgewood Preserve Beach
- Close to Reid State Park

\$1200/week

207-607-9333



Volunteers needed for water quality sampling

PALMER – C4R is seeking volunteers to conduct water quality sampling at sites in Wilbraham and Palmer twice a month on Thursday mornings in June, July and August and once in September.



Plant sale to be held on May 16

MONSON – The Down of Earth Gardeners will hold their 28th Annual Plant Sale on Saturday, May 16 from 9 a.m. to noon, rain or shine, next to the United Methodist Church located at 162 Main Street, Monson across from Dunkin' Donuts.

Many plants for shade or sun plus a large selection of perennials, ground covers, shrubs, herbs, vegetables and more.

For more information call Debi at 267-5207.

Monson native Stephen Slozak named 2026 Citizen of the Year

MONSON – Stephen Slozak, of 24 Mechanic Street, a native-born son of Monson, has been chosen as the 2026 Monson Citizen of the Year by a newly formed committee made up of past recipients of this honor.

While several worthy citizens were nominated, Slozak stood out based on his long-term positive service to our community. He began giving back to Monson as a coach for several little league teams demonstrating how to have fun, learning life skills, and perfecting their athletic talents through practice and perseverance.

Steve used his woodworking skills to contribute display cases for the Monson Schools Hall of Fame trophies.

The Monson Road Race, which hosted interna-

tional runners in this hometown event benefitted from his set up, take down, and clean-up efforts.

Slozak became a member of the Monson Parks and Recreation Commission in the early 2000's investing countless hours of time to keeping our youth sporting programs active and vibrant. He is probably best known for his leadership on the Monson Summerfest, Inc. Committee. He became a member in 2002 helping out where needed, becoming Vice-Chair in 2005, and has been serving as the committee chairperson since 2010. One of his many duties on the committee is booking a variety of entertainers for both the fireworks and Fourth of July Summerfest events. There are countless other duties which Steve completes behind

the scenes and limelight to continue keeping Monson Summerfest alive and well as part of our Monson culture.

During each patriotic time of year, one can't help but notice the red, white, and blue of our nation's colors proudly waving above our streets. They float with the wind because of a team led by Steve who raises and lowers them and repairs the brackets and poles.

The Citizen of the Year criteria seeks a citizen of Monson who continually volunteers, makes a positive difference in the lives of fellow citizens, demonstrates a willingness to energetically work with others in a positive manner, and is a person of honesty and integrity.

Steve Slozak is enthusiastic about our town and its citizens and works con-



Stephen Slozak 2026 Citizen of the Year.

Submitted photo

tinually towards the betterment of Monson.

Steve's huge heart is a shining example of our town's motto: "A Town with Heart."

A banquet in his honor is being planned in June. Details will be forthcoming and tickets may be reserved by contacting monsoncitizen@icloud.com

Plant, bake, craft, tag sale set for this weekend

HARDWICK – The Tri Parish Community Church welcomes the public to their 20th annual plant, bake, craft and tag sale May 16 and 17 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the beautiful Hardwick common. The sale will feature traditional, favorite, and connoisseur perennials, plus selected annuals, heirloom vegetable plants, and herbs. There is a wonderful variety in plants offered through Inishowen Farms of North Brookfield, Stillman's Farm and Howe's

Farm & Garden both of New Braintree, and "homegrown lovelies" from private gardens. A delicious assortment of home-baked desserts and breads will also be sold.

The church will be holding a drawing featuring the "best" of the plant sale. No purchase is necessary to win. Several outdoor activities and games will be available for children.

A number of craft vendors have rented space on the common for the event. The

Friends of the Stone Church will also be on hand, highlighting their preservation of the Stone Church Cultural Center in Gilbertville, as well as the upcoming programs that are offered at the center.

The Tri Parish Community Church's Pastor, Duncan Washburn, will lead a brief prayer service Sunday morning on the common in lieu of the 10 a.m. Sunday worship service.

The proceeds from the plant and bake sale support

the operational expenses of the church. Come spend the day enjoying all that Hardwick has to offer while supporting the fund-raising efforts of the church. Browse the plants and vendor booths, connect with old friends, visit the Hardwick Historical Society, open from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. both days, and the 1906 Paige Memorial library which will be open from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Saturday.

Both buildings are located near the common, a short

walk from the plant sale venue. Bring your bicycle and tour some of the great riding routes in the east-Quabbin area and scenic vistas preserved through the East Quabbin Land Trust such as the Mandell Hill property located just one mile east of the Hardwick common (we will hold your plants for you), and top it all off with a bite to eat at Mimi's Coffee House overlooking the common. All are welcome. This is a rain or shine event.



Palmer Senior Center

May activities

Friday, Movie Matinee
12:30 p.m.

with drinks and popcorn

May 15 – "A Walk in the Clouds" – Keanu Reeves, Anthony Quinn, and Giancarlo Giannini star in this visually breathtaking romantic drama. A young woman terrified of what her domineering father will do when he learns she is unmarried and pregnant, meets a disillusioned WWII vet who offers to pose as her husband for one night. It will change both their lives forever.

May 22 – "IF (Imaginary Friends)" – From writer, director John Krasinski, IF is about a girl who discovers that she can see everyone's imaginary friends—and what she does with that unique gift—as she embarks on a magical adventure to reconnect forgotten Ifs with their kids. IF stars many talented actors to portray wonderfully unique characters that reflect the incredible power of a child's imagination.

May 29 – "The Terminal" – After arriving at New York's JFK airport Viktor Navorski get unwittingly caught in bureaucratic glitches that make it impossible for him to return to his home

country or enter the US. Now, caught up in the richly complex and amusing world inside the airport, Viktor makes friends, gets a job, finds romance, and discovers America itself.

Monday Evening Programs
4:30 p.m.

May 18, "Quabbin-Eagles, Loons & Bears"

Activities

May 15 - Lunch & Learn - E.A.S.E. - presentation focusing on swindles and financial exploitation.

May 21 - Memory Café
May 27 - Elder Law Education Program - Everybody knows that Power of Attorney

and Joint Bank Accounts are two ways to avoid probate. But there are traps that people can fall into when the documents are not done right! Join Attorney John Roberts for a look at the latest Massachusetts Court cases that cover POA, Joint Bank Accounts/real estate. You will see/hear how Judges respond in circumstances where family members fight over plans that were intended to avoid probate.

Please Note: The Knit/Crochet group on Tuesdays at 9 is now called Handcraft Group. This is to be more welcoming to other talents such as needlepoint, embroidery and hand sewing to name a few.

COLLEGE NOTES

Robert Burke earns degree from East Stroudsburg University

EAST STROUDSBURG, PA – A total of 1,182 students will receive degrees from East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania during three commencement exercises on May 8 and May 9. All three ceremonies were held in Koehler Fieldhouse. Robert Burke, of Palmer, earned a B.S. in Business Management.

Palmer Fire & Water District #1 Notice of Annual District Meeting May 19, 2026 at 7 p.m.

The Annual District Meeting of the Palmer Fire & Water District #1 will be held on TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2026 at Palmer Public Library, 1455 N Main Street.

CORRECTIONS The Journal Register will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 2 or 3. To request a correction, send an email to: journalregister@turley.com, or call (413) 283-8393.

Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Journal Register, Attn: Editor, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA, 01069



Clean Out Solutions
Basement, Attic, Shed & Whole House Cleanouts
Shed, Pool & Hot Tub Removals
Arthur "Skip" Gervais (774)397-6500



Professional - Reliable - Fully Insured

Tree Trimming and Removal
Emergency Tree Work • Stump Grinding
Crane Service • Firewood Delivery

All Major Credit Cards Accepted
100% Financing Available

162 Sturbridge Road, Brimfield, MA 01010
508-641-5249 • office@robinsontreeservice.net
www.robinsontreeservice.net

McNeely Tree Service Insured • References

- Hazardous Tree Removal
- Bobcat Work
- Lot Clearing
- Emergency Services
- Firewood \$285/cord
- 101 ft Aerial Lift Rental POR
- Credit Cards, Cash & Venmo Accepted
- 100% Workers Compensation • 60 Ton Crane



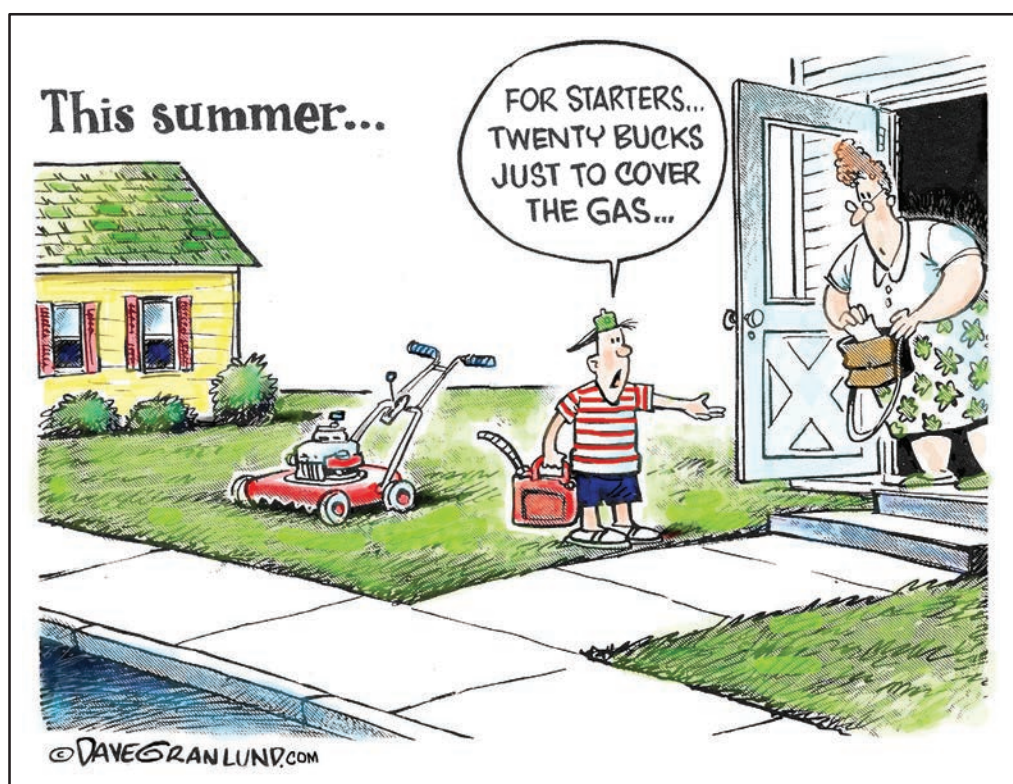
H: 508-867-6119 • C: 978-888-1693

DEADLINE

The Journal Register deadline for public submissions to Mondays.

To get your submission in for that week's edition space permitting, email Editor at journalregister@turley.com or call the office at 413-283-8393 by noon on Mondays. We appreciate the cooperation of our readers.

Viewpoints



Rhubarb, a perennial fruit worth growing

Recently I was chatting with a coworker who has a dozen varieties of rhubarb.

Yes, rhubarb. He asked if I wanted a division or two.

Although I love all things old, and this fruit (yes, fruit) is considered about as old-fashioned as they come, I politely declined. Rhubarb and I don't particularly get along.

But, that doesn't mean I'll knock anyone who can eat it and not visit the bathroom. All the more power to them.

Read on for some rhubarb trivia that just may earn you a prize on your next cruise.

Back in the day when everyone made time for baking, or baked out of necessity, rhubarb was indispensable in the garden. Today, most folks figure they can buy what they need when they long to make a strawberry-rhubarb pie or some preserves.

I say, "Why buy it, when it is so easy to grow?" And, as an added bonus, it may just out live you!

Rhubarb was featured on a cooking show and a lengthy discussion evolved between the celebrity cooks about whether it was a fruit or a vegetable. I never did hear the resolution, but did a little research of my own.

Apparently, rhubarb is a vegetable but after a court decision in 1947 it is legally a fruit and was not subject to taxation of the time.

The best time for planting rhubarb is early through mid-spring. If you are lucky enough to know someone with an established patch, it is very likely they will give

in the Garden

by Roberta McQuaid



you all of the divisions you need and then some.

You can also purchase roots or small potted plants from local nurseries. For an average family of four, plan on two or three divisions.

Rhubarb will do best in a spot in the yard that is in full sun or light shade. Most gardeners locate it separately from or at one end of the main vegetable garden.

Since we are dealing with a perennial plant, think carefully about where you site it - you may have to live with your decision for decades! Amend the soil with lots of organic matter prior to planting; the richer the better.

Finished compost or aged manure fit the bill just fine, and since rhubarb prefers slightly acidic soil, you'll want to hold the lime.

If you are getting divisions from a friend's garden, ask for some from the outer portion of the patch - these roots will be the least fibrous and most eager to thrive. Keep as much soil as possible around them during transport to prevent dehydration.

If you can't transplant them the same day dig a quick hole somewhere else in the garden and "heel them in." Your other alternative would be to pot up the divisions.

In either case, water well until you can plant them tentatively.

When it's time for your plants to make their way to

a permanent spot, dig holes two to three feet apart.

The depth of the holes will depend on the size of the divisions you have and how big their roots are.

Plant them at the same depth they were growing in your friend's garden or in the pot you bought them in. If you are planting roots, go by the buds - they should be planted about two inches below the soil surface.

During the first growing season our emphasis should be on root building. For that reason be sure that you water well and keep weeds at bay.

Do not pick stalks until the following spring, but do break off any flower buds that form. Once your patch has established itself there is no stopping it! All you'll need to do to maintain it is provide a topdressing of compost or rotted manure each spring and weed as needed.

Of course, you will also want to pick as much as you can! No knife is needed: simply hold the stem near the base and give it a quick pull along with a gentle twist.

Use only the stem since the foliage is known to be toxic.

The patch will need dividing every 5-10 years; the perfect time to offer up divisions to your friends!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 34 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Matters

By Russell Gloor

I'm still working; why didn't I get a higher Social Security benefit?

Dear Rusty:

I began collecting benefits at age 72 and am now 78.

Since that time, I have continued to work and have contributed over \$40,000 to Social Security over the last six years. At the time of my retirement, I was informed that the Social Security Administration would review my contributions annually and replace lower-earning years from my 35-year record with my current higher-earning years.

Despite my current annual income exceeding \$100,000, I have not seen an increase in my benefit amount over the past six years. I recently met with an SSA representative, who confirmed that my benefits are being reviewed annually but did not provide specific details or evidence of these adjustments. Could you please advise me on how to formally verify that my benefits are being accurately reviewed and updated to reflect my continued contributions?

Signed: Collecting and Still Working

Dear Collecting:

For information, your contributions from Federal Insurance Contributions Act payroll taxes to Social Security over the last six years are not what determines if you get an increase to your monthly SS benefit.

Although you contributed to SS since you started receiving SS benefits, those contributions do not affect your monthly SS benefit. Your monthly SS benefit is based only the highest inflation-adjusted 35 years of earnings over your lifetime. And for your monthly benefit to change, your current earnings each year would need to replace at least one of those 35 historical, inflation-adjusted year earnings.

We regularly hear from those who do benefit from SSA's regular review of work earnings after they start receiving monthly SS benefits, and our Advisory staff includes two individuals with a combined 70 years of service with the Social Security Administration. Thus, we are comfortable saying that SSA does, in fact, review your earnings annually to see if

your monthly SS payment should be higher.

From a process standpoint, SSA receives your annual earnings information from the IRS (i.e., directly from your annual tax return) by mid-year annually, after which SSA evaluates your recent earnings to see if an increase in your monthly SS benefit is warranted. If so, that increase is automatically applied, usually around October each year and you are paid the extra amount retroactively to the beginning of the year.

What you may not realize is that your lifetime earnings (your historical earnings) are adjusted for inflation. This is a good thing, because that means your current monthly SS benefit is calculated using today's dollar values for your past earnings, rather than the actual money amounts you originally earned and received.

For example, \$50,000 of 1990 earnings would be worth about \$125,000 today. Which also means that those 1990 earnings would only yield a higher current Social Security benefit if your recent earnings were more than \$125,000. And this is true for all 35 years of lifetime earnings used to calculate your current monthly Social Security benefit.

The best way for you to ensure that you are getting the right monthly benefit amount is to first obtain your lifetime earnings history from Social Security. This is most easily obtained through your online "my Social Security" account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. If you don't have an online account set up, you can also request an "Earnings Statement" by calling Social Security at 1.800.772.1213 (or call your local SS field office to request it). Next, I suggest you use Social Security's "Online Benefits Calculator" explained and available at this link: <https://www.ssa.gov/benefits/retirement/planner/AnyApplet.html>

If, after this, you believe you should be getting a higher monthly SS benefit because of your recent earnings, you can

SECURITY | page 5

The Journal Register

We Want to Hear From You

EDITOR

journalregister@turley.com

ADVERTISING SALES

Dan Flynn
dflynn@turley.com

SPORTS EDITOR

Greg Scibelli
sports@turley.com

The Journal Register (USPS 418-940) is published every Thursday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069.



WEB

journalregister.turley.com

PHONE

(413) 283-8393



ADDRESS

24 Water Street
Palmer, MA 01069

Turley Publications, Inc.

www.turley.com

Turley Publications, Inc. cannot assume liability for the loss of photographs or other materials submitted for publication. Materials will not be returned except upon specific request when submitted.

Letters to the editor policy

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length, and guest columns between 500-800 words. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require that the person submitting the opinion also include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must confirm authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, or defamation of character.

Please send opinions to:

The Journal Register
Letter to the Editor
24 Water St.
Palmer MA 01069
or by e-mail to:
journalregister@turley.com

The submission deadline for consideration is Monday at noon.

Election letters to the editor welcome

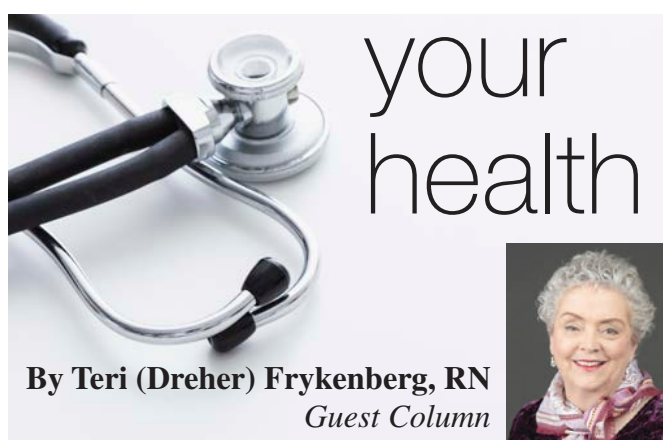
The Journal Register welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to The Journal Register, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to journalregister@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Thursday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

For more information, call the editor at 413-283-8393.

Campaign news

As part of its election coverage, the newspaper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers.

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in The Journal Register.



By Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, RN
Guest Column

your health

"But you look so good!" When someone with a disability hears those words, it's not necessarily a compliment. In fact, it may make them feel unseen and unheard. That's because many disabilities are not immediately apparent to others.

According to the World Health Organization, 1.3 billion people worldwide live with disabilities. In 2008, the number of Americans with disabilities was about 39 million, but that number is probably much higher now because

of the effects of the COVID pandemic. About 17 million adults report symptoms of "long COVID," with most saying that the symptoms limit their daily activities to some degree.

Many symptoms of long COVID, such as fatigue and "brain fog," are invisible. In fact, it's estimated that more than 70% of disabilities are invisible, including autism, ADHD, dyslexia, chronic illnesses and mental health conditions. Many invisible disabilities go undiagnosed or misunderstood, leading

Not every health challenge is a visible one

to barriers in education, employment, travel and marketplaces.

"True inclusion begins when we start recognizing what we cannot see," says Mary Anne Ehler, president of Protected Tomorrows in Lincolnshire, which helps special needs families prepare for the future. "Families in all walks of life experiencing all forms of disabilities, no matter if developmental, cognitive, physical or mental health disabilities, need specialized guidance and support."

Autism is a prime example. It lies along a spectrum from mild to severe, meaning that many children and adults who appear "normal" may in fact be struggling with work, school and social interactions. Someone could wonder why that person is behaving as they do without realizing that there is an underlying cause.

Another example in the news recently is dyslexia, which causes children and

adults to have difficulty with reading and writing because of how their brains are wired. Cruelly, children with dyslexia have been labeled "stupid" or "slow," when in fact, the only difference is that they approach learning differently. Many successful people, from Tom Cruise to Cher to California Gov. Gavin Newsom, have dyslexia.

If you've ever watched someone pull into a handicapped parking space and get out of the car without apparent difficulty, remember that three-fourths of those with disabilities don't use assistive devices, such as wheelchairs, walkers or canes, according to the Invisible Disabilities Association (invisibledisabilities.org).

"Everyone deserves to live their best life," Ehler said. "Whether or not a person utilizes an assistive device, if they are debilitated by symptoms such as fatigue, dizziness, mental health disorders

or cognitive difficulties, they are living with invisible disabilities."

People are quick to judge, writes Kathleen Bogart, a psychology professor at Oregon State University, Psychology Today. She cites a study that showed people are less willing to help individuals when the disability isn't visually apparent. "Society relies on appearance when deciding who is legitimate, truthful or entitled to support," she wrote.

Invisible disabilities may also cause doctors to overlook diagnoses or assume symptoms are exaggerated. "If providers overlook symptoms, individuals may choose not to disclose their disability at all or lose trust in the health-care system, leading to fewer supports, connections, and increased mental health strain," Bogart wrote.

In 2016, Gatwick Airport

HEALTH | page 5

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

E-mail items to journalregister@turley.com or mail to Calendar Editor, Journal Register, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, for receipt by Monday of week for publication.

The Journal Register encourages readers to contact event coordinators and organizers for updated event times. Have an event to promote? Email the information (in sentence form and as a Word doc or plain email text – no PDFs or flyers, please – to journalregister@turley.com.

UPCOMING

VENDORS FOR THE BAYSTATE WING HOSPITAL GIFT SHOPPE

May Vendors

May 19 - Wicked Good Treats
May 27 - Hobbit Hollow Herbs

May 30

Brimfield Town-Wide Tag Sale will take place on Saturday, May 30.

June 6 and 7

7th Annual Pioneer Valley Wine Festival. Brimfield Auction Acres, Birthplace of the world-famous Brimfield Antique Shows will host the 6th annual Pioneer Valley wine festival on Saturday, June 6 and Sunday, June 7 from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. 2026 Marks the 7th year of the Pioneer Valley Wine and Food festival. This exciting event brings together New England Wineries, Cideries, Distilleries, and Meaderies from across the Pioneer Valley and Farmers of many sorts selling their wares.

ONGOING

WALES CHURCH FARMER'S MARKET - Located in the church pavilion across from the post office on the corner of Route 19 and Monson Road. We will be open every Satur-

day morning from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. beginning on Memorial Day weekend and running throughout the summer until Labor Day weekend. We offer homemade baked goods, local honey, crafts, flea market items, antiques, and fruits and vegetables when in season. Vendors are welcome and there is no charge to set up a table.

2025-2026 Drama & Dance Program Beginning September 11th and running through May on Thursdays at PHCC. Does your child love dancing and acting? Have they always been interested but never tried? All levels and ages 5 plus welcome. (Drama students must be able to read.) Also offering Adult Hip Hop & Lyrical Dance Classes. Students must be available for show date in May. Date TBD. Adult class students can dance in show or choose not to as long as requested ahead of time. Contact: trulytorie2000@gmail.com for more info and to register.

THURSDAYS - WESTERN LINE DANCE CLASSES 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. and 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. \$10 for one lesson or both. Brimfield Winery at 35 Main Street in Brimfield. Check brimfieldwinery.com for any variations.

CRAFTERNOONS: Drop in 2 to 4 p.m. daily at the Holland Public Library, 23 Sturbridge Road to learn or practice different crafts. There are new crafts every Wednesday. For more information, call 413-245-3607.

KEEP HOMESTEAD MUSEUM: Located at 35 Ely Rd., Monson, nature trails are open daily until dusk for hiking, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. Trail maps can be found in the parking lot. For more information call 413-267-4137, email khm@keephomesteadmuseum.org or visit keephomesteadmuseum.org.

QUABOAG VALLEY QUILTERS GUILD: Members meet at 1 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays of the month in the Amvets post at 2150 Main St., Three Rivers. The Guild is a no-pressure group with varying degrees of accomplishments, from novice to Big E "Best In Show" winners. Dues are \$55 a year. For more information, contact Barbara Beaulieu at 267-4044 or Merry Mombourquette at 283-7577. Follow them on Facebook for more.

LINE DANCING CLASS: 3-5 p.m. and/or 6:30-8:30 p.m., every Thursday at the Monson Polish Club, 7 Bliss St, Monson. Rose's line dancing classes include absolute beginners and beginners, and participants get to dance to all types of music. \$10 per class. Please wear comfortable footwear, no sandals.

GAME NIGHT: 6-7:45 p.m. the second Tuesday at the Palmer Library at 1455 N. Main St. Free and open to the public. Play available board and card games or bring your own. Must be 16 or older unless accompanied by an adult. No Registration Required – just show up! Questions? Call 283-3691, or email palewis19@yahoo.com.

NOTCH VISITOR CENTER OPEN FOR WINTER SEASON: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday-Monday. The center is located on Rt 116, at the center of the Holyoke Range State Park. DCR Interpretive staff will be available for visitors. Coming in January, programs will also be offered to highlight the Range's special nature in winter, see the park web site for details.

QI GONG: Qi Gong at Monson Free Library with Randy Emerson. Every Tuesday from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m.

HEALTH | from page 4

and some partners created the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower as a way to for someone to voluntarily communicate their need for extra time or assistance without having to explain themselves over and over. The sunflower symbol is now recognized all over the U.K., and has been adopted at U.S. airports, too, including Boston Logan.

The Sunflower organization offers lanyards along with personalized ID cards that identify a person's hid-

den disability and the types of assistance they may need. Businesses and nonprofits can join the Sunflower network as well. Visit hdsunflower.com/ us for details.

The symbol conveys a universal request: Approach with patience and understanding. It is also a way to increase disability representation and show connection with the disability community.

Recognition of invisible disabilities is likely becoming a larger challenge because "inclusion" has been tainted as the current political climate

turns against diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI). Research shows that few employees reveal invisible disabilities to their employers, and even fewer are comfortable asking for accommodation, which they are entitled to under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

We can all play a part in building awareness of invisible disabilities by not being afraid to reveal them and showing kindness and consideration to those who do.

Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, R.N., a registered nurse and

board-certified patient advocate, is the founder of www.NurseAdvocateEntrepreneur.com, which trains medical professionals to become successful private patient advocates. A Monson, MA resident, she is the author of "How to Be a Healthcare Advocate for Yourself & Your Loved Ones" and her new book, "Advocating Well: Strategies for Finding Strength and Understanding in Health Care," available at Amazon.com. Contact her at Teri@NurseAdvocateEntrepreneur.com to set up a free phone consultation.

POETRY CORNER

On the Old Connecticut Shore

Warm sunshine returns to early spring -
With a sea-fragrance upon the air:
As cirrus clouds are the lyrics going by -
To the rising tide, surging higher ...
While standing here - at Saybrook Point -
Where the river empties itself into more.

And I think of my Miss Hoo-Hoo:
A Minerva ... among her own ...
Where owls perch upon her hillside -
To deliver loves chill before the dawn.
Do they speak to her of yesterday?
Or, of another world to come:
More mysterious is she ...
... Than the days of man .

And sooner will the night creatures forget -
Or not sing to us, from the woodlands dim ...
Than the old Connecticut shore lose its way -
When the earth beats now and then.

- Charles Barnes

SECURITY | from page 4

again contact SSA and tell them you believe they did not properly adjust your current SS benefit for your most recent earnings. Following that, you can submit a "Request for Reconsideration" (form SSA-561) which will result in a full separate review of your case

by an independent SSA person, followed (some months later) by a formal written determination on your assertion. If you received a letter from SSA because of your previous meeting with them, include a copy of that letter with your "Request for Reconsideration."

The Association Mature

Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. This article is intended for information purposes and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the Association Ma-

ture Citizens Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association To submit a question, visit amafoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory or email us at ssadviser@amafoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

The Library Loft

Schoolhouse Commons Historical Center • 1085 Park Street, Palmer

We are celebrating our
20th year at the Schoolhouse Commons.


Thanks to our wonderful "friends," volunteers and patrons.

HOURS:
Tues. 10am - 4pm • Wed. 10am - 4pm
Thurs. 10am - 4pm • Fri. 10am-4pm • Sat. 10am-2pm

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE

Book donations will be accepted at the Palmer Public Library or the Library Loft during open hours.
Please, no magazines or Reader's Digest Condensed Books.
We accept books only in good, clean condition.

For more information call 283-3330 ext. 100



Proceeds To Benefit the Palmer Public Library

NURSES: TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR CAREER & MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

- ✓ Become a Private Patient Advocate
- ✓ High Pay | Rewarding Work | Flexible Schedule
- ✓ Online Training & Mentorship with Expert Guidance
- ✓ Help Patients Navigate the Healthcare System



BOOK A CALL TODAY WITH TERI FRYKENBERG



www.NurseAdvocateEntrepreneur.com

HANNOUSH JEWELERS CHICOPEE

"A Family Business You Can Trust"
704 Memorial Dr., Chicopee
413-377-1433

Turn Your Gold Into Cash!


=


We Buy Gold in Any Condition

GOLD Is At An All-Time High!

10% Extra Cash
When Cashing In Your **GOLD**

25% Extra
When You Use Your **GOLD**
Towards A New Purchase

10% Off Jewellery Repairs expires 9/30/26.

Offers Valid at Hannoush Jewelers Chicopee ONLY
www.hannoushma.com



NEW CONSTRUCTION IN BELCHERTOWN!
3 Bedroom, 2 1/2 Bath, 2,294 sq. ft.
Beautiful contemporary ranch home
\$749,000.00

306 N. Liberty, Belchertown, MA



RESIDENTIAL LAND IN MONSON!
Ready to build your vision? 2 acre lot is the perfect blank canvas to build your dream home. Already Perced!
\$115,000.00
MLS #73474842

127 Munn Rd., Monson, MA



Pat Wheway, Assoc. Broker
C: 413-478-1166
patwheway@gmail.com



COLDWELL BANKER REALTY www.whewaygroup.com



Fanfare Brass presents patriotic music program

PALMER – The Fanfare Brass presents a Patriotic music program celebrating the 250th founding of our country on Sunday, June 7 at 3 p.m. at St. Paul Church located at 1060 Central Street in Palmer, Mass.

The program starts 1768 to current songs and we speak a little about the history of each song. A program/song sheet will be passed out for those who would like to sing along.

Program songs include: The Liberty Song, God Save Good Washington, The Girl I Left Behind, My Country Tis of Thee, British

Grenadiers, Chester, Yankee Doodle, Shenandoah, The Star Spangled Banner, Columbia, Battle Hymn of the Republic, Battle Cry of Freedom, Dixie, Cruel War in Over, When Johnny Comes Marching Home, Eternal Father, America the Beautiful, Stars and Stripes, You're A Grand Old Flag, God Bless America, It's A Long Way to Tipperary, Pack Up Your Troubles, Armes Forces Themes, Hail to the Chief, God Bless the USA.

For more information contact David Neill at 413-686-5027 or email tbn8@aol.com

Crafters wanted for fair

LUDLOW – Crafters Wanted for the Rosary Sodality's St. Nicholas Craft Fair and Raffle on Saturday, Nov. 14, 2026, at Christ the King Church located at 41 Warsaw Avenue in Ludlow from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The cost is a non-refundable \$40. fee for an 8-ft table, which will be provided by the church.

To reserve a table or for more information contact Debbie Martell at 413-547-8739 or Lorraine Bernier at 413-519-7658.

Light refreshments will be available.

ArtWorks Gallery invites artists to create a LandEscape

WARE – ArtWorks Gallery in Ware invites artists of all applied mediums from throughout the northeastern U.S. to submit works to LandEscape.

This exhibition aims to expand or even reimagine the traditional landscape as a personal sanctuary and urges creators to consider moving beyond mere geographical representation. Ultimately, the exhibition aims to document the diverse spatial forms of escapism that we need to recharge our spirits.

The deadline for entry is May 28 by midnight. The entry form and full details can be found on workshop13.org.

ArtWorks Gallery is located at 69 Main St. LandEscape will be on display from June 27-Aug. 2, opening with

a reception on Saturday, June 27, from 3-5 p.m. Gallery hours are Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4 p.m.

The juror for LandEscape is Shona Macdonald. Macdonald received her MFA in 1996 in studio arts from the University of Illinois at Chicago and her BFA in 1992 from Glasgow School of Art in Scotland. She has held selected solo exhibitions at Real Art Ways, (2025), McDonough Museum of Art, (2023), Zillman Art Museum, (2020-21), Brattleboro Art Center and Museum (2018), Roswell Art Museum, (2011), Tarble Arts Center (2015), Gridspace, (2014) Engine Room, Wellington, New Zealand, (2010), Proof Gallery, Boston, MA (2009), Reeves Contemporary, NY,

NY (2008), Den Contemporary, LA, CA, (2007), Sketos-Gabriele, Chicago IL, (2005), Galerie Refugium, Berlin, Germany, (2002), and Fassbender Gallery, Chicago (1998 and 2000).

About ArtWorks Gallery ArtWorks Gallery is Workshop13's gallery on Main Street. This space features numerous art exhibitions each year and is also available to rent for individual or group shows.

Workshop13 is a dynamic center where arts, culture, and community converge – expanding access to the arts and nurturing creativity and self-expression in our rural region.

For more information visit workshop13.org, or call 413-277-6072.

BANDS | from page 1

to play. I love mixed bills, because it gives you a scope of the scene," Flebotte said.

Club owner Josh Hoy said that he chose to waive the usual hall fee for the event after Propolis's recent concert, as he wanted the bands that are still starting out to have a better opportunity than what he called "pay-to-play venues."

"I'm a proponent of being a spot that won't charge young local bands to play," said Hoy. "(Flebotte) put in the legwork as far as getting bands together; our end was just offering a place where young or startup bands can have the opportunity to play without spending a bunch of their own money."

This arrangement ended up being mutually beneficial for the club, Hoy shared, as it

gave the bands an opportunity to perform for an audience, while also bringing customers in to experience the club and buy from the bar.

"Everything I heard from our staff was that everyone who came out was very polite and very respectful," Hoy said.

"Venues are not easy to find right now, so anywhere you can play is a good thing," Flebotte said. "This is one of

the first few times I've put the show together, and it's such a cool venue. It's a cool place, with decent size, a disco ball, and a bar on the other side – a cool spot. Lots of bands have not played there before."

Hoy said that the partnership with Propolis has already started bearing fruit, and that there are plans for another concert in October. The St. Stanislaus Polish Lyceum will start hosting its regular Cruise

and Concert nights at Pulaski Park this month, which run through the summer.

To learn more about the shows and events the St. Stan's club will be offering this summer, visit their Facebook page at "St. Stanislaus Polish Lyceum - St. Stan's," or go to their website at PulaskiPark.com. To get in contact with the members of Propolis, send them a Direct Message on Instagram at Propolis_MA.

C4R hosts birding paddle

BROOKFIELD – Join C4R for a special Birding on the Quaboag paddle on Saturday, May 16 from 8:30-11 a.m.

The Quaboag Marsh offers a special habitat for spring birds. Participants will listen for and perhaps see the American Bittern.

Meet at the Route 148 state boat launch, then park nearby. Limit is 15 paddlers.

RSVP required by emailing chicopeewater-shed@gmail.com.

Drive-thru Strawberry Supper in Ludlow

LUDLOW – The fantastic drive-thru Strawberry Supper at First Church in Ludlow on 859 Center Street in Ludlow returns on Saturday, June 13.

The menu includes phenomenal sliced ham, baked beans, potato salad, roll & strawberry shortcake for only \$18.

Curbside pickup time is between 4:30 and 5:30 p.m.

Call now to secure your reservations 413-547-8720.



Deegan Perry, Demari Muhammed Thomas, Wren Walker, and Xavier Jennings made up Seven Minutes in Heaven.



Newcastle Anchorman members Julia (bass), Dannon (guitar), and Tam (drums) rocked out at the Polish Club.



Coming all the way from Lowell, Connor, Aidan, Nick, and Alex made up the band 3-Phase.



Music-lovers danced and moshed while Newcastle Anchorman played their single, "Bloody Mary."

Photos by Marcelo Gusmão

LOWER PRICES TO BOOST YOUR BUDGET!

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS CENTER CUT PORK LOIN CHOPS or ROAST **\$2.77** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH SMOKED PORK SHOULDER PICNIC..... **\$1.99** lb

USDA INSP. FROZEN BONE-IN PORK LOIN LOIN END CHOPS **\$1.99** lb

USDA INSP. SLICED FROM OUR DELI VIRGINIA HAM **\$4.44** lb

USDA INSP. SLICED FROM OUR DELI PROVOLONE CHEESE..... **\$4.44** lb

GREAT ON THE GRILL

USDA INSP. STOREMADE BONELESS CAROLINA GOLD MARINATED CHICKEN THIGHS **\$3.69** lb

USDA INSP. STOREMADE BONELESS KOREAN BBQ MARINATED PORK BUTT STRIPS..... **\$3.35** ea

INFLATION

PRICE BUSTERS

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TENDERLOINS CUT FREE **\$12.98** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN BEEF SHORT RIBS FLANKEN STYLE THIN CUT **\$8.99** lb

USDA INSP. GROUND FRESH DAILY DIET LEAN GROUND BEEF **\$5.29** 5 LB BAG

PRICES IN RED ARE AT OR BELOW LAST YEAR'S PRICES!

USDA INSP. FRESH CHICKEN THIGHS 10 LB BAG **\$1.35** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH WHOLE CHICKEN TWIN PAK..... **\$1.49** lb

USDA INSP. FROZEN PEPPERIDGE FARM CHOCOLATE FUDGE LAYER CAKE 19.6 OZ..... **\$4.99** ea

USDA INSP. FRESH COAST TO COAST KITCHEN MINI EMPANADAS PIZZA, HAM, CHEESEBURGER **\$2.99** ea

USDA INSP. FROZEN FARM RAISED TALAPIA FILLETS..... **\$3.99** ea

90 Meat Outlet

90 Avocado St. Springfield

413-737-1288

www.90meat.com

Hours: Mon. - Wed. 8-4
Thurs. 8-6 • Fri. 8-6 • Sat. 8-3

BUY DIRECT FOR SAVINGS • SELECTION • SERVICE

We reserve the right to limit quantities.

TOP DOLLAR PAID CARS, TRUCKS & SUVs

GOOD OR JUNK

"WE COME WITH THE CASH"

Nate (413) 636-2929

D AND M AUTO

1422 Park St. Palmer, MA 01069

STIHL @Husqvarna

PARK SAW SHOP

LOGGING • ARBORIST • SAFETY

1292 PARK ST. PALMER, MA 01069 **1-800-232-6132** **(413) 544-9027**

Mon-Fri 6:30am-4pm • Sat 7am-Noon

Shipping Can Be Arranged

RENTALS AVAILABLE

Obituaries

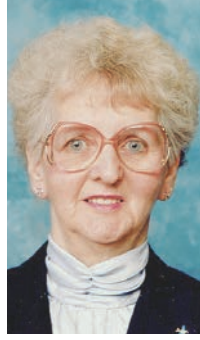
Josephine (Sisco) Dansereau-Calkins

Josephine (Sisco) Dansereau-Calkins, age 95, passed away at Chestnut Hill of East Longmeadow, MA, on April 25, 2026. Josephine (Sisco) Dansereau-Calkins, originally from Whitefield, NH, moved with her family as a young girl to New Braintree, MA, where they re-established their dairy farm. A graduate of Hardwick High School, she was an active member of the New Braintree Grange. In 1951, Josephine married Noel R. Dansereau (deceased) and began raising her family in Gilbertville before moving to Bondsville. There, she took great pleasure in cultivating her flower gardens, decorating cakes and sewing. Her professional career included 15 years as a clerical worker at Monson Development Center and 10 years as a real estate agent before retiring. Josephine resided in West Brookfield, MA, after her marriage to Charles A. Calkins (deceased), where they traveled the United States together. She moved to Brimfield and Ludlow before her final residence in East Longmeadow. A pillar of her community, Josephine was always eager to help those in need. She de-

lighted in hosting holiday celebrations with her loved ones, singing in the church choir, and took pride in knitting hats and gloves as treasured gifts. Josephine's generous spirit and kind heart will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

Preceded in death by her parents, Earline (Pike) Sisco-Jones and Leonard Sisco; her four brothers, three sisters, two half-brothers, and four half-sisters; her first husband of 30 years, Noel R. Dansereau; and her second husband of 15 years, Charles A. Calkins.

Josephine is lovingly survived by her four children: Betty & Raymond Rebello of Conway, SC; Sandra & John Kopacz of Belchertown, MA; Paul & Loretta Dansereau of Belchertown, MA; and Gayle & (Andrew, deceased) Smith of Wethersfield, CT. She leaves behind nine grandchildren: Lisa, Allison, Christina, Zachary, Katie, Kevin, Sara, Laura, and Allen; eleven great-grandchildren: Kyle, Camryn, Jacob, Annahliese, Zane, Tattiannah,



Madison, Charlotte, Rohan, Reza, and Florence; and three great-great-grandchildren: Margaret, Josephine, Theodore.

She is also survived by her stepson Charles; two step-grandchildren: Eric, Jacob, Ryan, and (Shane, deceased); and five step-great-grandchildren: Lizette, Laurn, Dillon, Kendal, and London. Josephine's legacy of love and devotion to her family will continue to be cherished by all who knew her.

A burial service is scheduled for June 6 at 11 a.m. at Saint Anne's Cemetery, located at 121 East Main Street, Three Rivers, MA. A friends & family gathering will follow at Tony & Penny's Restaurant, 18 Canterbury Street, Ludlow, MA.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial gifts be made in memory of Josephine to: Macular Degeneration Research, a BrightFocus® Foundation or National Audubon Society (reflecting her passion for birds)

Christopher J. Clark

Christopher J. Clark passed away on May 3, 2026. He was born on June 1, 1967, in Springfield, Massachusetts to his loving parents Attorney Owen S. Clark and Linda M. Clark. He was a long-time resident of Palmer, and recently of Ware, Massachusetts.



Christopher graduated from Palmer High School. He earned an Associate's Degree in Art from Holyoke Community College, and a B.A. in Education from American International College. He worked as a sales representative in the electronics depart-

ment of several retail stores.

Chris was a wonderful artist, winning awards for his paintings. In his youth, he was an avid chess player and collector of comic books. Chris also enjoyed playing Dungeons and Dragons, and later his favorite video game, Skyrim. He always shared a keen sense of humor with family and friends.

Christopher is survived by his mother, Linda Clark; sister, Anne McDonald, and her husband, Bob; sister, Lisa Lavoie; brother, Kevin Clark; and brother, Kenneth Clark, and his wife, Rachel Eisenhaure. He is also survived

by his nieces and nephews, Daniel and his wife Thamyris, Ryan and his wife Liesel, Katherine and her husband Taylor, Rainier, Caleb, Owen, Agatha, Margaret, and David. Christopher was preceded in death by his father, Owen Clark, and his brother-in-law, James Lavoie.

Services were on May 11, 2026 at the Beers & Story Palmer Funeral Home with a period of visitation from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. followed by a funeral home service at 12:30 p.m. Burial followed in Oak Knoll Cemetery in Palmer.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Palmer Food Share, 39 Walnut St., Palmer, Massachusetts, 01069.

Cindy (Lopata) Dupre

Cindy (Lopata) Dupre, born December 2, 1957, formerly of Three Rivers, MA, and most recently of Warren, MA, passed away peacefully at home on May 2, 2026.

For 25 years, Cindy devoted herself to working with special needs children — a calling that defined her and reflected the kind heart she brought to everyone she met. She found deep fulfillment in her work and loved being remembered by the people whose lives she touched. Her hands were rarely still. She was a gifted crafter, painter, and stained glass artist, and she found deep joy in creating beautiful things. She loved animals — especially dogs — and they always

seemed to know they had a friend in her. The ocean was one of her great loves, and she returned to it whenever she could. Holidays were her time to shine. She poured her love into making them special for the people she cherished most. Cindy was lucky to be surrounded by wonderful friends throughout her life, and she treasured every one of them.

Cindy was preceded in death by her former husband, Jimmy, her father, Walter Lopata and mother Ruth (Mozzar) Pierce. She is survived by



her sister Linda and brother-in-law Jon McGrath; her nieces Kinsley Minella, and Ashley and her husband Alex Macielak; and her great-nephew Jack Macielak and great-nieces Britt Minella and Penny Macielak, who held a place at the very center of her world.

Visitation will be Saturday, May 23 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Beers & Story Palmer Funeral Home with a service to begin at 3 p.m. Burial will follow in Four Corners Cemetery beside her father, Walter.

DEATH NOTICES

Josephine (Sisco) Dansereau-Calkins
Died April 25, 2026
Services June 6, 2026
Beers & Story Funeral Home

Christopher J. Clark
Died May 3, 2026
Services May 11, 2026
Beers & Story Funeral Home

Cindy (Lopata) Dupre
Died May 2, 2026
Services May 23, 2026
Beers & Story Funeral Home

Charles J. Carrington, Jr.
Died May 9, 2026
Services May 14, 2026
Lombard Funeral Home

Charles J. Carrington, Jr.

MONSON – Charles J. Carrington, Jr., 72, born on September 10, 1953, passed away peacefully on May 9, 2026. Charles proudly served his country in the United States Army for 12 years, receiving an honorable discharge. After his military service, he dedicated 25 years to his career as a machine mechanic with the United States Postal Service. He primarily worked at the bulk mail center in Shrewsbury until his retirement in 2016.

A high school graduate, Charles had a passion for woodworking and crafting. He especially enjoyed making metal birdhouses, sharing his creations as a known vendor at area craft shows. His love for his craft was appreciated by many in his community.

Charles is survived by his wife of 26 years, Deborah J. (Plante) Carrington. He was a proud father to sons Charles Carrington III and Edward

Carrington. In addition, he is survived by his stepchildren, Sara Harris-Graveline and Scott Graveline. Charles also leaves behind his brother, Christopher Carrington; a sister Charlene Wyle and a granddaughter, Kenna Vadniais. He was predeceased by his father, Charles J. Carrington, Sr. and his mother, Gloria (Tower) Lafleur.

Charles' life was one of service, family, and creativity. He will be remembered for his hard work, love of crafts, and the strong bonds he shared with his family. His memory will live on in the hearts of those who knew him.

Visiting hours will be held Thursday, May 14, 2026 from 5-7 p.m. at Lombard Funeral Home 3 Bridge Street in Monson. Burial will be held privately at the Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Agawam. For online condolences please visit www.lombardfuneralhome.com

Turley 
Publications, Inc.

Homegrown

NEWS SHOPPING DINING EVENTS IDEAS DEALS SPORTS JOBS FUN & MORE

12 HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS
www.turley.com • 413.283.8393
24 Water Street, Palmer

The Journal Register 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 \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice (with a word limit of up to 500 words) and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

Tent for Rent

The Palmer Lions Club is offering a 20' x 40' tent for rent – \$250.

8' tables for \$8 each to rent.

If interested please call Karen (413) 813-8445 for more information.

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.

Haluch's
MEMORIALS
haluchsmemorials.com

Cemetery Memorials + Markers
Granite Benches
Religious Statuary + Outdoor Display
RAY HALUCH INC.
1014 Center St | Ludlow, MA | 583-6508

Tell Us What You Think



Share your thoughts and suggestions with our staff and your fellow readers. Participate in our opinion pages, or contact us anytime with your feedback!

The Journal Register
Your Community Newspaper

www.journalregister.turley.com
journalregister@turley.com • 413.283.8393

Glenda's

Saturday, May 16th
7pm-11pm

Caboodle

EVERY FRIDAY
Karaoke

EVERY WEDNESDAY
Wise Guys TRIVIA
7:30-9pm

EVERY SUNDAY
DARTS
LUCK OF THE DRAW
5:30pm • All Welcome

Upcoming Events

Saturday, June 6th

The Loose Lips Whits

948 Main Street, Warren, MA • 413-436-8491

OLYMPICS | from page 1

“It takes almost a full year of planning,” Bidus said. “We have a committee of about 10 people who meet just about monthly starting in September to put it all together, whether it’s getting nominations for athletes and partners, coordinating with schools, or planning fundraisers.”

The district’s biggest fundraiser toward the Olympics is Monson Night Out, which features, among other things, a big raffle. Bidus said that some of the contributing restaurants will donate part of the proceeds for the event.

One new element to the Special Olympics was a stronger bond between Special Olympians and their partners. These ranged from game days, to arts and crafts, building posters, and preparing for the events as a way to highlight athletes.

“When participating, student athletes have a partner with them,” Bidus explained. “In January, we started having monthly athlete and partner events within the school, for the kids to build their relationships.”

This year, the school held a Spirit Week building up to event, where every day of the week featured a different theme. One example Bidus described was “Inclusion is Comfortable,” where students were encouraged to wear comfortable clothes or pajamas to school.

“We’re trying to build up and highlight the excitement for all students, and to raise awareness about inclusion,” Bidus said. “We want to make sure we’re seeing all our students for who they are, and everyone can participate in their own way.”

Bidus mentioned the pep rally that was held the Thursday before the Olympics, marking the second year of kicking off the Special Olympics. Bidus praised Physical Education Teacher Eric Degnan for his work arranging the pep rally, and said that it helps to teach students across the school the importance of the Special Olympics.

Local Scouting Troops helped to bring a torch to kick off the Special Olympics’



A student takes a shot at the basketball hoop during one of the rotations during Special Olympics.

Flag Ceremony, after which the Olympians came down to the track from Granite Valley Middle School and the high school, and paraded around the track. State Representative Brian Ashe and Superintendent Paul Foster both spoke at the beginning of the ceremony.

“It was just awesome,” Foster said during the School Committee meeting. “It was just a great day and a great event. Seeing our kids competing, seeing our kids celebrating, and also seeing our kids being celebrated, I think is hugely important.”

The Special Olympics feature nine different stations with their own athletic challenges, and students have a scheduled rotation from one event to the other as a group, so that everyone gets to participate in all the games.

In addition to nine Special Olympians from the district, along with their partner students, there were close to 300 students in attendance from the different districts, who attended the event with



Special Olympians took a lap around the track, and were greeted by their fellow students.

Submitted photos



Students gathered in the gymnasium at the high school before making their procession down to the field.

their families and staff from the schools. The Sheriff’s Department sent some of its mounted troopers to attend the event, as well as a representative from Senator Ryan Fattman’s office.

“One woman had never been there before,” Bidus recalled. “She said she’d never seen so many people, all smiling, in the same place at the same time.”

Bidus said that coordination between the five different school districts starts with reaching out to the Special

Education Directors of each district to look at what they’ll do within their district and offer support to coordinate staffing, transport, and service providers.

“They’re basically going on a field trip to another school, so they have their own ways of coordinating within the district,” Bidus said. “It takes a coordinated effort to bring all the pieces together and make it a great day.”

Bidus said that the superintendent was “pleased overall” after seeing the event for



Family members cheered on their Olympian, Colton, during the bright and sunny Friday event.



Family members cheered on their Olympian, Colton, during the bright and sunny Friday event.

himself. She said that after his opening remarks, he returned to hand out gold medals to all the participants, which were provided by the state’s Special Olympics organization.

“I do want to say thank you to Director Bidus and our whole Special Olympics Committee,” Foster said. “They start in October to plan the event for May, and they put a lot of time in to make sure it’s a great event.”

School Committee Chair Alison Morgan said, “I think it’s the one event that I look forward to the most every year, because all the students that are there, they’re unique in their own ways, and it’s the one day that they can just be them and be celebrated.”

Bidus said that, every year, the committee makes note of possible tweaks to make the future Olympics better, but that the biggest challenge for next year will

be fundraising and raising awareness. She discussed the potential of holding dinners or parties, or coordinating with the state’s Special Olympics organization for a large-scale event.

“We have our big fundraiser in April,” Bidus said. “One of our goals is looking at how we can expand on that throughout the year.”

The school’s Special Education department will continue to seek resources for its special needs students, and will look for ways to expand on those pieces.

“It’s an all-year effort for a fantastic day. All the students are appreciated and able to participate in their own way, and this event highlights that,” Bidus said. “The best part is being able to see the enjoyment of families and that their students can be appreciated like any other student.”



Ferrara Consulting & Properties
Consulting all Matters of Real Estate



Art Ferrara
(413) 348-5827

Facebook.com/FCPConsult WWW.FCPCONSULT.COM

Are you having difficulty communicating with your partner, struggling with boundaries, and healthy relationships?

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

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

Please contact **Pat James 413-726-8661.**

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Job Connection

HELPING YOU FIND HELP

Highway Dept. Skilled Laborer / Truck Driver

The Town of New Braintree Highway Dept. is seeking qualified applicants for the immediate full-time position of Skilled Laborer / Truck Driver. Applicants must have a valid Massachusetts Driver’s License, Class B (CDL) with DOT Medical Examination Certification and a Hoisting Engineer License Class 2B with DOT Medical Examination Certification. Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest and an employment application to: Highway Department, 110 West Brookfield Road, New Braintree MA 01531.

Highway Dept. Seasonal Laborer

The Town of New Braintree is seeking a qualified candidate to perform seasonal work in the maintenance of town commons, roadways, grounds and cemeteries. Applicants must have a valid Massachusetts Driver’s License (Class D). This is a seasonal position for 20 hours per week with a flexible schedule, May through October. Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest and employment application to: Highway Department, 110 West Brookfield Road, New Braintree MA 01531.

For further information, please contact Richard Ayer, Highway Superintendent, at 508-867-2451, or via email at Highway@newbraintree.gov.

A.A./E.O.E.

Turley Publications is looking for an outgoing, energetic person interested in selling advertising for our community newspapers plus more! The right candidate will assume an established territory with a portfolio of customers.

LET’S WORK TOGETHER

You must be a self-starter with excellent communication and organizational skills. Basic computer skills are required. Previous print sales experience is preferred but we will train the right candidate.

Join Our Team!
FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED

Turley Publications
Send resume & cover letter to:
Jamie Joslyn
24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069
Email: jamie@turley.com



NOW HIRING: Advertising Representative

Offering a competitive commission structure, 401k, and health plan.

sports@turley.com

@turleysports

facebook.com/turleysports

SPORTS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

SEND US SUBMISSIONS

www.sports.turley.com

BASEBALL

Palmer baseball edged by Ware

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

THORNDIKE – A decade ago, Zach Handzel won his final game as a starting pitcher for the Palmer baseball team against archrival Ware. Since becoming the Panthers varsity coach, Handzel hasn't been able to celebrate a victory in the rivalry series.

In the only meeting of the regular season between the two neighboring high schools, the Indians squeaked out a 3-2 senior night victory over the Panthers at St. Joe's Park in Thorndike on May 4.

"We didn't get the job done in tonight's game. We left a lot of runners in scoring position," Handzel said. "This has always been a huge rivalry game and the players on both teams know each other very well. I'm really hoping that we can play them during the postseason tournament."

The last time that the Panthers (8-5) defeated the Indians on the baseball diamond was in 2019. They were able to sweep the season series that spring. Joe Lombardi was the Panthers winning pitcher in both games.

The Indians had a 9-5 overall record following last week's non-league home win.

"This is a very big win for us against our rivals," said Ware interim head coach Shawn Clark. "Palmer is a very good team, but my guys came to play tonight. It was an outstanding pitcher's duel. We've lost a couple of close games this season, so it feels nice to win one."

One of the seniors listed on the Indians roster is Brady Guimond, who was the winning pitcher in his final regular season start against Palmer.

BASEBALL | page 10

SOFTBALL

Monson softball shut out by Ludlow

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW – Heading into last Friday afternoon's home game against Bi-County league foe Monson, Ludlow sophomore third baseman Olivia Slatton was leading her team with four home runs.

With two outs in the bottom of the fourth inning, Slatton hit her first grand slam at the varsity level. It took the pressure off freshman righthander Madison Goncalves as the Lady Lions cruised to a 7-0 shutout victory over the Lady Mustangs.

"I've hit five home runs so far this season and I have a lot of confidence at the plate right now," said Slatton, who went 2-for-4 with four RBIs against the Lady Mustangs. "It was also nice to have a

large lead because we didn't want to make another comeback against them."

When the two teams met in the season opening game at the Quarry Hill Community School softball field in Monson, the Lady Mustangs built an early 7-1 lead before the Lady Lions battled back for a 15-9 victory.

Ludlow had a 12-1 overall record and 11-1 league record following the home contest. Their only setback came at Northampton High School, 11-2, at the beginning of last week.

The Lady Lions, who'll finish the regular season in first place in the Bi-County League standings, will be competing in both the Western Mass. and state tourna-

SOFTBALL | page 10

SOFTBALL

Offense explodes in Palmer softball win

PALMER – Last Thursday afternoon, Palmer High School scored 10 runs in the first inning and rode that momentum to a 19-7 win over Holyoke. Harper Brouillette had three hits with three RBI, while Hannah Roy, Jaclyn Swiatlowski, and Amhia McElreavy all had two hits each. McElreavy drove in

three runs for the Panthers. Holyoke took advantage of several errors to put up their seven runs. Grace Bechard, Zomaris Robles, and Lily DeJesus had the hits for the Knights. Palmer is 4-9 this season while Holyoke is now 8-8, needing one more win to qualify for tournament this year.



Jaclyn Swiatlowski prepares to hit.

Turley photos by Maddox Baer



Amhia Mcelreavy steals second base.



Kierra Roche leads off towards third.



Cici Reed hits a ground ball into play.



Jillian Holbrook delivers a pitch.

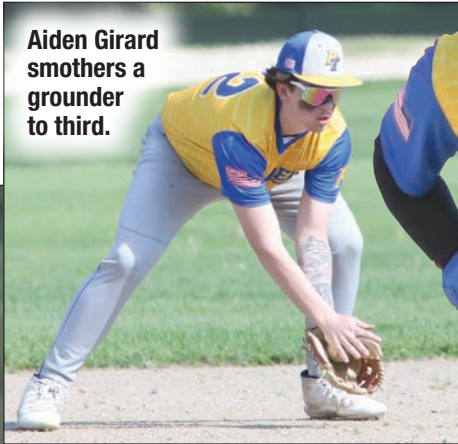
BASEBALL

Pioneers score first win of season

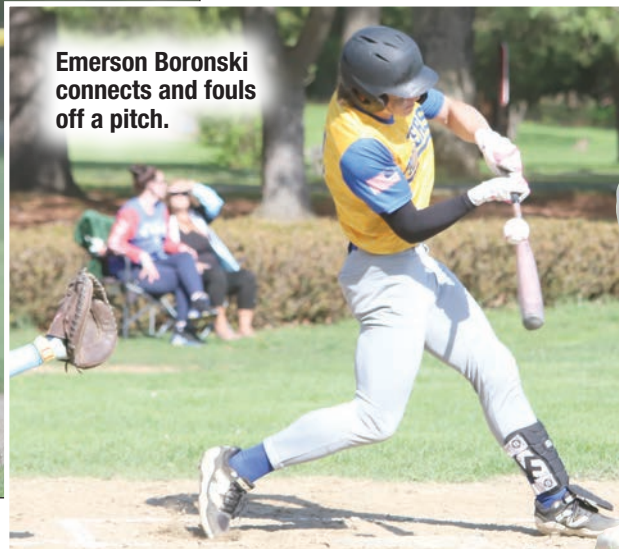
SPRINGFIELD – Last Monday afternoon at Forest Park, Pathfinder baseball defeated host Sci-Tech 14-1 for their

first win of the regular season. The Pioneers are 1-12 with just a few games remaining in the regular season.

Aiden Girard smothers a grounder to third.



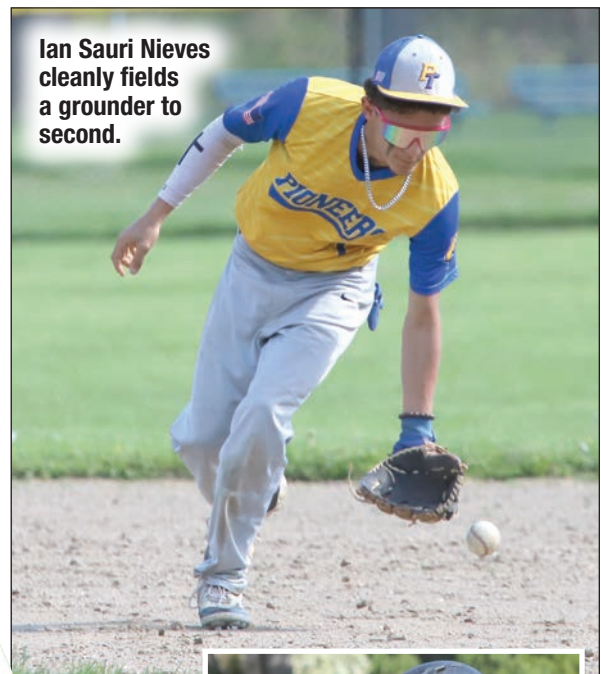
Emerson Boronski connects and fouls off a pitch.



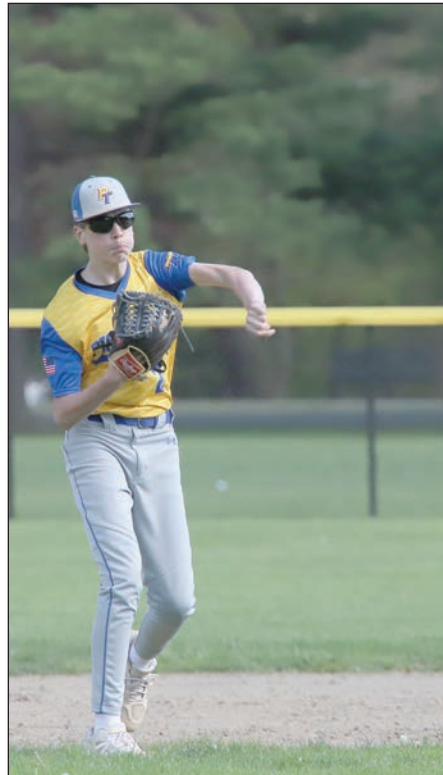
Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Dayne Shanley leads off second.

Ian Sauri Nieves cleanly fields a grounder to second.



Brody Wetnicka hustles for first base.



Zachary Smith makes a throw to first.

@turleysports www.turleysports.com facebook.com/turleysports

Turleysports



Athlete of the Week

Jaclyn Swiatlowski
Palmer High School

Swiatlowski was one of the offensive leaders helping Palmer defeat Holyoke last week. She would finish with two hits, two walks, and three runs scored for the Panthers.

To nominate someone for Athlete of the Week, contact Managing Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at 413-283-8393 or send an e-mail to gscibelli@turley.com.

MOULTON
Insurance Agency

A Trucredia Business

**Our Family
Cares
About Your
Family**

HOME – AUTO – BUSINESS – LIFE

CONGRATULATIONS ATHLETE!

**Very Competitive Rates • Experienced Professional Staff
99% Claim Satisfaction Rate • On-site Registry Processing**

143 West Street
Ware, MA 01082

45 North Main Street
Belchertown, MA 01007

www.moultoninsurance.com

413-967-3327

Safety Insurance
AUTO • HOME • BUSINESS

Boys lacrosse takes down Central

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

MONSON – Prior to last Monday's home game against Springfield Central, Monson senior Wyatt Breault had never been a goalie in a varsity lacrosse game.

The Monson offense helped their first-time starting goalie by scoring the first five goals of the Suburban League matchup. The Mustangs held onto the lead the rest of the way as they swept the season series against the Golden Eagles with a 10-6 victory.

"Our backup goalie played very well in his first varsity start," said Monson head coach Michael Quinn. "I'm sure that he was very nervous before the start of the game."

Breault, who made eight saves, replaced senior Riley Hurst, who was sidelined with the flu.

Breault and Hurst both attend Pathfinder Tech. They're able to play lacrosse for Monson as part of a co-op.

The other student-athletes from Pathfinder Tech listed on the Monson boys' lacrosse roster are freshman Grayson Contacos, senior Parker Libiszewski, senior Dom Menard, sophomore Lukas Roy, senior Bradyn Wilson, senior Harold Black, junior Gavin Peters, senior Rhees Hageman, freshman Parker Lang, and sophomore John Morrison.

One of the players from Monson High School is ju-

nior Kyle Beaudry, who led the way offensively with four goals against Golden Eagles. The duo of senior Landon Couture and Libiszewski chipped in with a pair of goals. Junior Brennan Peterson added a goal and a team-leading four assists.

The Mustangs, who had a 9-3 overall record, will be competing in the Division 4 state tournament for the first time since 2024. They only won one game a year ago.

"We only lost one player to graduation. Everyone else returned and we're a more experienced team this year," said Quinn, who works at Pathfinder Tech. "It always feels a lot better after you win a game."

While Breault didn't have to make any saves during the opening twelve minutes of the match, the Mustangs built a 4-0 lead.

"The four goals that we scored in the first period took a lot of pressure off Wyatt," Quinn said. "It's always very important to take an early lead in every game."

A little more than two minutes into the first period, Beaudry received a pass from junior Isaac Somers before firing a shot into the cage past Central senior goalie Vernon Charles (12 saves).

Peterson also scored a goal before the home team closed out the first period with goals from Libiszewski and Beaudry.

The Mustangs took a 5-0 lead a little more than a



Brennan Peterson looks for a teammate to pass to.

minute into the second period when Beaudry scored his third goal, which was assisted by Libiszewski.

Central finally broke the ice with an unassisted goal from senior Jayden DeLeon, who's planning to play lacrosse at Elms College. DeLeon added two more goals during the second period.

The Mustangs responded with goals from Couture and Libiszewski, as the home team held a 7-3 halftime lead.

DeLeon scored his fourth goal early in the third period.

The Golden Eagles (2-7) didn't get any closer than three goals.

After Beaudry whipped a shot into the cage, Menard added an unassisted goal which gave the Mustangs a 9-4 lead in the middle of the third period.

Central battled back with two goals before Couture scored the final goal of the contest with eight minutes remaining in regulation.



Landon Couture takes a run through the field.



Kyle Beaudry is pursued by the opposing defense.



Dom Menard looks to get around a defender.



Brendan Wilson goes to pick up a loose ball. Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

BASEBALL | from page 9

Guimond allowed two runs (one earned) on six hits with five walks and seven strikeouts in 61/3 innings. The only reason Guimond didn't finish the game on the mound was because he had reached the 115 pitch limit.

"It's always a lot of fun playing against Palmer, especially on senior night," Guimond said. "It's a little bitter-sweet."

The other Ware seniors, who were honored during a pregame ceremony are Troy Dufresne, Brodie Koczur, Alex Orszulak, Jack Gaudreau, Kyle Kaczuwka, and Marek Luongo, who's the team manager.

"It's an outstanding group

of seniors," Clark said. Baseball is a challenging sport, but the seniors always have an enjoyable time when they're on the field together. We're really going to miss them a lot next year. I thought the parents did an outstanding job of putting together the pregame ceremony for the seniors."

The Indians seniors had the opportunity to play catch with their fathers before the ceremony began.

The Panthers will also be the visiting team in a couple of other senior days before celebrating their own against McCann Tech at historic Legion Field on Friday afternoon.

The Palmer seniors are Matt Santos, Brendan Hess, Theo Haley, Chris Stapleton, and Sebastian Mayberry,

who was the starting pitcher against Ware.

Mayberry pitched six innings allowing three runs (two earned) on seven hits. He walked two and recorded five strikeouts.

The Panthers came out swinging against Guimond in the top of the first inning.

Santos and Haley began things with a pair of line-drive singles to left field.

Following a forceout at third base, the Panthers had a runner picked off at first base.

The visiting team did take a 1-0 lead when Mayberry lined a single into center field scoring Haley.

The Indians scored an unearned run in the bottom half of the opening frame.

After Mayberry retired the first two batters on

groundball outs, Kaczuwka doubled to rightfield. He stole third base before scoring on a throwing error by the catcher.

An inning later, Orszulak drew a leadoff walk and Gaudreau sprayed a single to left field putting runners at the corners. Orszulak scampered home on a wild pitch, which gave the Indians their first lead. Freshman Joe Cygan made the score 3-1 with a groundball single up the middle into centerfield.

With two outs in the third, Haley lined a single to left field and Hess walked bringing the potential tying run to the plate. Guimond escaped that jam with a forceout at second.

The Indians stranded a runner at third base in the bottom of the third.

Both teams also left runners in scoring position in the fifth inning.

The Panthers inched a closer bit closer during the top of the sixth inning.

With one-out, junior Dylan Holbrook singled to left field. Then eighth grader Josiel Ortiz beat out a slow groundball to the shortstop. Eighth grader Riley Presho hit another groundball to the shortstop and Holbrook scored following a throwing error.

Trailing, 3-2, with one out on the seventh, Haley walked and Hess grounded a single into left field putting the go-ahead run on base.

At that point, Guimond moved over to shortstop, and he was replaced on the mound by sophomore righty Logan

Millet.

"Logan is a very good relief pitcher," Clark said. "I have a lot of confidence in him."

The two base runners didn't advance as Millet retired the only two batters that he faced on groundball outs to Guimond.

"I didn't know if I could make the play on the last one, but I made a strong throw to first," Guimond said. "We've never lost to Palmer in baseball, which feels very good."

Unless the baseball teams face each other during the upcoming postseason tournaments, the next time that a boys' athletic team from the two high schools will be competing against each other will be during the 2026-27 winter season.

SOFTBALL | from page 9

ments for the first time since 2023.

"We've been playing very well," said Ludlow head coach Missy Rocker. "We're hitting the ball and limiting our errors defensively. I'm hoping to keep riding this wave into the postseason tournament."

Rocker is also very glad that Western Mass. tournament is still held before the start of the state tournament.

"Our main goal is to win a Western Mass. title," she said. "We also want to make a run in the state title."

While the Lady Mus-

tangs (10-6, 9-4) will also be competing in both tournaments, head coach Matt Hull wasn't very pleased with his team's performance in the second meeting of the regular season against Ludlow.

"We just made a lot of mistakes in today's game, which has been the story of our year," Hull said. "We struggled defensively. We also didn't perform very well offensively. We do have a winning record, but we haven't made very much progress during the regular season."

Neither team has a senior listed on their roster, so they won't be celebrating Senior Day this spring.

Monson's only base hits

against Goncalves were singles by sophomore first baseman Maddy Caron, eighth grade left fielder Veruca Battige, and junior Chelsea Hull, who was the Lady Mustangs starting pitcher. They also had two double plays due to poor base running decisions.

Goncalves finished her complete game performance with six strikeouts and only one walk.

It didn't take the home team very long to build a 2-0 lead against Hull, who's a lefty.

Sophomore first baseman Khole Davis hit a low laser shot into centerfield leading off the bottom of the first inning. She advanced to second

base on a groundball out by junior centerfielder Caitlyn Pecka. Slatton followed with a flyball which was dropped by the leftfielder, putting runners at second and third.

It was a costly mistake. A groundball out hit by sophomore catcher Madelyn Goncalves-Korny plated the game's first run. Goncalves followed with a groundball single up the middle into center, which scored the other run.

Another fielding error on a groundball hit by Goncalves-Korny enabled the Lady Lions to score their third run with one out in the third inning.

Hull, who's the Lady

Mustangs only junior, wound up standing on second base leading off the fourth inning following a throwing error by the second baseman. She advanced to third on a flyball out by Caron, but Goncalves got out of that jam by recording her third strikeout.

The Lady Lions loaded the bases in the bottom of the fourth inning. Junior second baseman Isabella Leutsch drew a walk with one out. After the next batter struck out, back-to-back singles by Davis and Peczkka set the stage for Slatton. She stepped into the righthanded batter's box and launched a bomb over the left field fence, which broke the game wide open.

"Olivia has been hitting the ball very well all season long," Rocker said. "It was a very close game before she hit the grand slam. She's a solid hitter"

The Lady Lions, who batted around in the fourth, had two more runners on base before Hull finally ended the long inning with her seventh strikeout.

Hull, who allowed seven runs (four earned) on seven hits, traded places with freshman second baseman Mai Uliana before the start of the fifth inning. The righty didn't give up any runs on two singles and a walk during the final two frames. She also had four strikeouts.

Mustangs take loss to Ludlow

LUDLOW – The Ludlow and Monson baseball teams have had a couple of spirited matchups this season. In their latest one, held last Monday

afternoon, Ludlow was able to score a 4-0 shutout, avenging a loss earlier this season to the Mustangs. Both teams are headed for the state tourna-

ment with Ludlow at 9-4 and Monson at 9-3 this season. The regular season will be winding down this week and early next week for both teams.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Jake Beaupre swings and connects for a base hit.



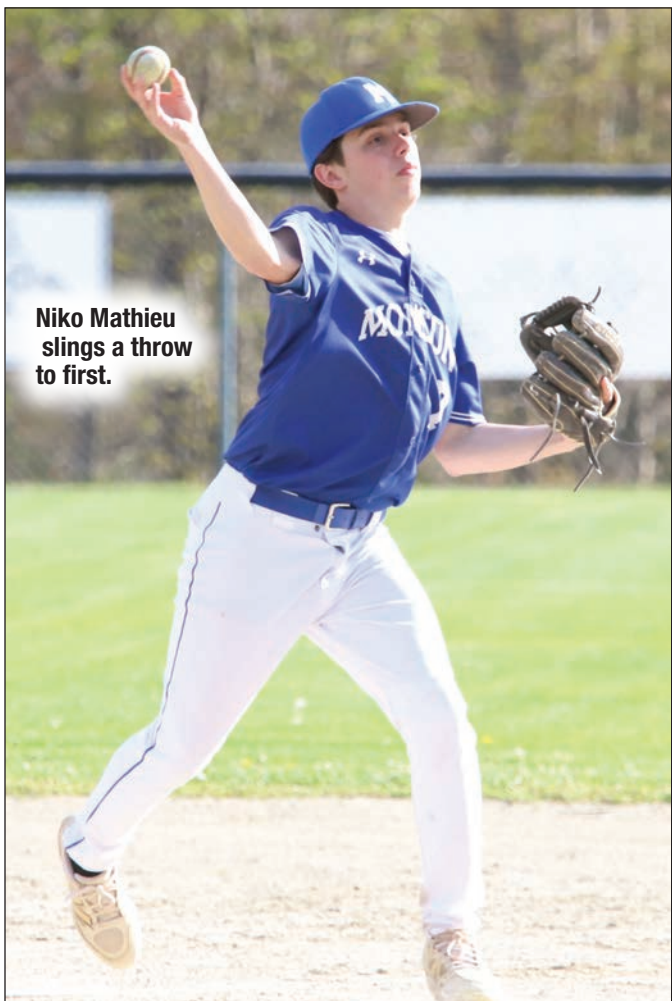
Austin Meacham leans off first base.



Shane Szado picks up an easy ground ball.



Anthony Tulloch sends a pitch home for the Mustangs.



Niko Mathieu slings a throw to first.



Austin Meacham tags out a runner in a rundown.

MEETING | from page 1

about the upcoming Annual Town Meeting, which was held on May 11.

“We have to be good citizens, good neighbors, and responsible for what we decide there,” Lamb said.

Lamb said he wanted to avoid the “feeding frenzy” that happened last fiscal year, which he said was not good for the town, let alone the school department. He described arguments over municipal spending driving neighbors apart, saying “this isn’t good for Monson.”

“Our anger and our focus is directed to the wrong place,” Lamb said. “Our fight is with Boston, it’s not with our neighbors here in Monson. Boston has been holding back money from cities and towns for a lot of years, and it’s getting worse, it’s not getting better.”

Lamb offered praise to the superintendent for stepping up to support the district. “He’s got a lot on his plate to turn this thing around,” Lamb said, adding that the committee does, too.

Lamb ended his comments with a call to action to take this fight to legislators in the state capitol, recommending that the committee coordinate with the Massachusetts Association of School Committees to put pressure on the state legislators.

“They need to represent us,” Lamb said. “We put them there to do a job, they need to do that job.”

Granite Valley Middle School

Nicole was a student who presented an argument toward re-opening Granite Valley Middle School to middle schoolers.

“Schools should support students at every stage of their growth and education,” Nicole said. “Middle school is one of the most important times, because students are changing a lot and getting ready for high school. Because of this, Granite Valley Middle School should go back to serving grades six to eight.”

Nicole explained that presently, Granite Valley only serves sixth graders, while seventh- and eighth-graders attend classes at the high school.

Nicole described this as an “uneven and confusing middle school experience,” and described the history behind the decision to move the grades into the high school.

“Costs like heat, electricity, and staff added up,” Nicole said. “To save money, the district moved older students into the high school; however, they kept Granite Valley open for sixth graders.”

Nicole said that, with a designated middle school, teachers would be able to students perform better in a space designed for their age.

“Middle school students are not little kids, but they’re also not ready for high school,” Nicole said. “Seventh- and eighth-graders in the high school building are surrounded by much older students, which can feel overwhelming. High school can be stressful and intimidating. Middle school should be a time to grow step-by-step, not to be pushed too quickly into a more serious environment.”

Nicole outlined potential downsides to bringing back the

full middle school, namely the financial cost to the town. “Saving money is important, but it shouldn’t be the only thing that matters when it comes to education,” Nicole said.

School Lunches

Foster said that a class at the high school has been attending and speaking at various events to learn civic engagement and public speaking.

“I’m excited to hear from our students, and I’m excited that our students are engaging in our community and talking about how we can make it better,” Foster said.

This segued into public comments, which began with students speaking about how they would like to see the schools improved. The first student, Asani S., approached the committee with criticisms of the school’s lunch program.

“From my experience of being a student, I’m most excited for lunchtime,” Asani said. “I think that goes for most students in high school, but sometimes our excitement and hopes get dwindled down when we see what’s being served to us.

There need to be some changes to how the food is made.”

Asani described the food being served is “microwaved and plastic,” referencing the french toast in particular. He also recommended that the cafeteria staff receive more training.

“Another thing that irks me about the school lunch is the portions,” Asani continued. “A lot of the time, after lunch, I’m still hungry.”

Asani called for more options for lunch, including more sandwiches and more choices of fruit. “Most of the time they usually hand out dried cranberries with your lunch, which doesn’t really motivate you to get your fruits in,” Asani said.

Asani asked for better food prepping, better trained lunch distributors, and better portions.

Curriculum

High schooler Kimberly presented to the committee about the lack of opportunities being offered by the high school. She started by noting the decrease in the number of students, and said that the high

school has not been able to provide programs to compete with other schools in the area.

“Due to a lack of classes offered that kids would want to go to during high school, for things that could help them learn what they want to do for the future,” Kimberly said, “they begin to go to more accessible schools for those opportunities.”

Kimberly’s research revealed that through 2024-25, the high school saw the enrollment of between 280-299 students, compared to 643-47 in Pathfinder Technical Vocational School. She mentioned the plumbing and welding classes that are held at Pathfinder, noting that the district only offers cooking and some robotics.

“With those opportunities, we should start trying to make it so we’re not just like Pathfinder, but have some more opportunities,” Kimberly said, “and have some classes that can help them in the long run, so they don’t leave to go to a school that can give them those opportunities.”

Parents, Grandparents & Friends **SPECIAL!**

Congratulate YOUR Graduate

Class of **2026**

We are offering a great deal for you to **CELEBRATE YOUR GRADUATE** in your community graduation issue. Submit a photo and a brief message.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION MAY 22nd

EMAIL YOUR AD TO: dflynn@turley.com

SPECIAL! \$55.00

MAIL YOUR AD WITH PAYMENT TO: Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069

Pay by check or credit card: Checks Payable to Turley Publications, Credit Cards be sure to include: Paper, Name, Address, Phone, Credit Card Number, Exp. Date & CVV

2x3 Black & White Grad Ad

Congratulations Karly Smith! We are so very proud of you and your accomplishments. Good luck at Springfield College!



Love, Mom & Dad

Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

FOR SALE

FIREWOOD

FIREWOOD
Fresh cut & split \$240.00
Seasoned cut & split \$375.00
All hardwood.
Tree length available
*Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap).
Quality & volumes **guaranteed!!**
New England Forest Products
(413)477-0083

MORE HEAT LESS WOOD. Central Boiler Classic Edge HDX Outdoor Wood Furnace. EPA Certified. Titanium Stainless Steel. \$2K Tax Credit.
Call **(508)882-0178**

MISCELLANEOUS

HARMON PELLET STOVE MODEL XXV. Like new condition, dark maroon enamel. \$2750. **413-848-2298.**

TAG SALE

"PELICAN CASE AND LIGHT SIDEWALK SALE"
Pioneer Plaza Palmer
Friday, May 15 and Saturday, May 16, 9am-1pm
1240 Park Street - in the same plaza as Acropolis Pizza and China House. Pelican and other plastic storage case and flashlight Dealer. Varying sizes of cases and lights overstocked and must go. Prices 50+ percent off across the board for overstock items!!!!

PRE-ESTATE SALE.
SATURDAY, MAY 16, 9AM-4PM.
16 Pleasant St., West Brookfield.
Collectibles, old books, vinyl, glass, furniture, etc. No Early Birds.

WANTED

WANTED! CASH for:

- Machinist tools, power tools & Snap on.
- Electronics & Audio Equipment.
- Sports Cards.
- 70s/80s/90s Toys.
- Antiques & Collectibles.

Much, much more!
Call/Text Sam
413-531-5381

WANTED TO BUY

ALL ANTIQUES AND OLD STUFF WANTED.

BUYING Bottles, Crocks, Jugs, Pottery, Costume Jewelry, Toys, Games, coins, sterling, Glassware, Silver-plated items, watches, Musical instruments, typewriters, sewing machines, tools, radios, clocks, lanterns, lamps, kitchenware, cookware, knives, military, automotive, fire department, masonic, license plates, beer cans, barware, books, oil cans, advertising tins, hunting, fishing, signs, and more.

Donald Roy **(860) 874-8396**

WANTED

ALWAYS BUYING ALL ANTIQUES:

Musical instruments, guitars, horns, keyboards, vintage electronics, jewelry, coins, watches, military cameras, sports memorabilia, art, sterling, signs, automotive, hunting, advertising, radios, ham radio equipment, audio equipment, toys, one item or entire estate.

Call Paul **413-206-8688**

JUNK REMOVAL

A Call We Haul FAST REMOVAL
Junk, Appliance, Cleanouts.
We load it & take it.
413-531-1936
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

ARA JUNK FURNITURE REMOVAL

Full house cleanouts, attics, basements, garages, pools, hot tubs, sheds, decks. Same day service. 8am-9pm. Credit cards accepted. Free estimates on phone.
Fully insured.
Call Pete **413-433-0356.**

SERVICES

A B Hauling and Removal Service

2***A & B HOUSEHOLD REMOVAL SERVICE*******
Cellars, attics, garages cleaned, yard debris. Barns & sheds demolished. Swimming pools removed. Cheaper than dumpster fees and we do all the work. Lowest rates. Fully insured. **(413)283-6512, cell (413)222-8868.**

DRYWALL, PAINTING AND CEILINGS, plaster repair. Drywall hanging. Taping & complete finishing. All ceiling textures. Fully insured. Jason at Great Walls. **(413)563-0487**

ELECTRICIAN

LICENSED ELECTRICIAN
I offer good quality electrical work, no project too small. Service upgrades, pools, trustworthy, dependable & insured.
Master Elec. #20773A.
Text/call Luis **413-218-3301.**

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES
FRIDAY AT NOON

SERVICES

ZEN ELECTRIC COMPANY LLC
Fully licensed and insured; Master Electrician on staff. Call for all your electrical needs. No job too small. Senior citizen and Veteran Discount. A veteran owned company. MA License #8101A1.

Call John at **(413)206-6509**

PJ's Electrical MASTER ELECTRICIAN
• Licensed & Insured •
Providing safe, reliable electrical services for residential and commercial projects.

NOW OFFERING FREE CONSULTATIONS.
Call today to schedule your appointment.
(413) 366-1703
(Lic. #24046-A)

HOME IMPROVEMENT

HOME IMPROVEMENT SPECIALIST
Decks, porches, repair service, roofing and siding contractor.
Tim **413-563-2229.** Licensed/insured. 35 year construction supervisor.

HOME IMPROVEMENTS. REMODELING Kitchens, baths. Ceramic tile, windows, painting, wallpapering, siding, decks. Insurance work. Fully insured. Free estimates. **(413)246-2783** Ron.

CHAMELEON PAINTING & REMODELING
INTERIOR/EXTERIOR
Remodeling & Deck Specialists
Residential/Commercial
Fully Insured • Free Estimates
413-351-1147

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Walker Home Improvement
Handyman Services
Licensed & Insured
Finish Carpentry • Framing • Drywall • Painting • & more!
(413) 687-5552

Find archives of this local newspaper at www.newspapers.turley.com

SERVICES

LANDSCAPING

A+ ROZELL'S LANDSCAPING & BOBCAT SERVICE
Excavator Services
Overgrown property?
Extreme Brush Cutting!
Shrub, Stump, Tree Removal
Lawn/Arborvitae Installed
Loam, Stone, Mulch, Sand
Storm Clean-up
Small Demolition/ Junk Removal
Insured
Josh Rozell 413-636-5957

****ALL SEASON****
Specializing in shrub trimming, pruning, design, deliveries, loader, backhoe, insured. Professional.
Please call Bob **(413)537-5789.**

MATT GUERTIN LANDSCAPING
Landscape Design and Installation
Paver Patios, Walkways
For more services visit mattguertinlandscaping.com
Call or text **413-266-9975**
Insured - Commercial - Residential

LAWN & GARDEN

A.A.A. ROTOTILLING Yes time to till gardens and flower beds too. Be safe grow your own. Call for appointment, fair and reasonable rates. Suburban residential only. **413-626-1927.**

MASONRY

STOP WET BASEMENTS

ABC MASONRY & BASEMENT WATERPROOFING
All brick, block, stone, concrete. Hatchway doors, basement windows, chimneys rebuilt & repaired, foundations repaired, basement waterproofing systems, sump pumps. BBB+ rating. Free estimates. Lic #14790. Call **(413)569-1611, (413)374-5377**

SERVICES

PAINTING

KEN'S PAINTING SERVICES. Interior painting/staining, wallpaper removal, wall/ceiling resurfacing, cabinet painting. Quality workmanship, fully insured. Free estimates. Call **413-896-8264.**

PRO PAINTING
Low, low prices. All phases interior, exterior painting and wallpapering. Also minor carpentry. **413-310-5099.**

PLUMBING

GREG LAFONTAIN PLUMBING & HEATING Lic #19196 Repairs & Replacement of fixtures, water heater installations, steam/HW boiler replacement. Kitchen & Bath remodeling. 30 years experience. Fully insured. \$10 Gift Card With Work Performed. Call Greg **(413)592-1505**

PRESSURE WASHING

HOT WATER PRESSURE WASHING. We use brushes and state of the art equipment. We remove grime and mold from homes, patios, fences, walkways, all decks, concrete & driveways. Senior Discounts. For free estimates call Bill **(413)519-9800.**

RUBBISH REMOVAL

BOB ROBILLARD'S RUBBISH REMOVAL Attics, Cellars, Garages cleaned, Pools/Hot Tubs Removed. Family owned/operated since 1950 **(413)537-5090**

TREE WORK

AAA-TROM'S TREE SERVICE PROFESSIONAL SERVICE. Residential removal of trees. Free estimates. Fully insured W/Workman's Comp. Remove them before the wind takes them down. Cordwood, stump grinding. Call **413-283-6374.**

AFFORDABLE STUMP GRINDING
Fast, dependable service. Free estimates. Fully insured. Call Joe Sablack **413-436-9821, Cell 413-537-7994**

DL & G TREE SERVICE- Everything from tree pruning, tree removal, stump grinding, storm damage and brush chipping. Honest and Dependable. Fully insured. Now offering a Senior Citizen and Veteran discount. Call today for free estimate **(413)478-4212**

Buying? Selling?
Our Classifieds Get Results!

SERVICES

TUNE-UPS

LAWNMOWER TUNE UP & REPAIR

A&M TUNE-UPS
Push Lawnmowers, Riding Mowers and Small Engine Repair.
Work done at your home.
FREE PICKUP OF UNWANTED LAWN EQUIPMENT
Call Mike **(413) 348-7967**

STUMP GRINDING

DL & G STUMP GRINDING Grinding stumps of all sizes, insured & certified. Senior discounts. Call Dave **413-478-4212**

AUTO

CAMPERS

2011 KEYSTONE MONTANA MOUNTAINEER MODEL RKD
LENGTH 33; 2 SLIDE-OUTS, REAR KITCHEN, SLEEPS 4, LOTS OF STORAGE. \$8000.
BRIMFIELD - **(413)374-1880**

HELP WANTED

HOUSE CLEANER POSITION AVAILABLE!
Established company, flexible schedule, competitive wages, supportive team, respectful clients! Work around college classes or meeting the bus! Call today to see if we are the right fit for you! We are eager to have you join our Team!
413-267-4297 or 413-695-8087.

LABORERS AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR
Positions available with local work. Proper licenses required including OSHA compliance. Compensation will commensurate with experience. Transportation required.
Email: bradwayconstruction@yahoo.com
with your resume and for more information.

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

15 MAPLE ST., BROOKFIELD. Available June 1. Unit 2, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, fenced yard, washer/dryer/dishwasher. Country style kitchen cabinets, quiet location. \$1500/mo. First/last/security. Good credit 700+.
Stone Group Realty 774-262-6667.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

FOR RENT

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

Post your job openings in our classifieds. **WE GET RESULTS!**
Call **1-413-283-8393**

FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 DEADLINES: FRIDAY AT NOON
or call: 413-283-8393

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	Base Price \$26.50	22	Base Price \$27.00
23	Base Price \$27.50	24	Base Price \$28.00
25	Base Price \$28.50	26	Base Price \$29.00
27	Base Price \$29.50	28	Base Price \$30.00
29	Base Price \$30.50	30	Base Price \$31.00
31	Base Price \$31.50	32	Base Price \$32.00
33	Base Price \$32.50	34	Base Price \$33.00
35	Base Price \$33.50	36	Base Price \$34.00
37	Base Price \$34.50	38	Base Price \$35.00
39	Base Price \$35.50	40	Base Price \$36.00

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Number of Weeks: _____ X per week rate = \$ _____
Credit Card: MasterCard VISA Discover Cash Check# _____
Card #: _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV _____
Amount of charge: _____ Date: _____

Quabbin Village Hills
Circulation: 50,500

Hilltowns
Circulation: 9,800

Suburban Residential
Circulation: 59,000

All Three ZONES for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word.

GREAT VALUE!
ALL 3 ZONES NOW FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!
Make checks payable to Turley Publications

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

Public notices

Town of Monson Zoning Board of Appeals LEGAL NOTICE

Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 40A, § 11, notice is hereby given that the Monson Zoning Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing on **Thursday, May 28, 2026, at 7:00 P.M.**, at Monson Town Hall, 110 Main Street, Monson, Massachusetts 01057, on the application of Andrea LeClair for a variance from the requirements of § 3.2, Table 2, Dimensional & Density Regulations, of the Monson Zoning Bylaws. The application seeks relief to allow construction of a 12' x 24' deck that will encroach upon the required rear setback. The property is located at 10 Pine Street, identified as Map 113, Parcel 36G, and is situated within the Rural Village zoning district. A copy of the application is available for review from the Monson Zoning Board of Appeals and Town Clerks office.

David Beaudoin, Chair
05/14, 05/21/2026

Palmer Conservation Commission Public Hearing Notice

In accordance with the Wetland Protection Act, MGL c.131 s.40, and the Town of Palmer Wetlands Bylaws, the Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing at **6:45 PM, Tuesday, June 2, 2026** at the Town Administration Building, 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA to consider a **Request for Determination of Applicability** for proposed activities associated with construction of a mountain pond in-ground pool with concrete patio and safety fence. Work is proposed to occur within the 100-foot buffer zone of bordering vegetated wetlands. The project address is 135 Thompson Street in Palmer (Assessors Map 8, Lot 167). The applicant making the request is Danielle West of Julian's Pools. Any interested person wishing to be heard on the application should appear at the time and place designated. Elizabeth O'Connor, Acting Chair, Palmer Conservation Commission.
05/14/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 Docket No. HD26D0063DR Lisette I Molina Alicea vs Saul A Cardona Rosales DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING

To the Defendant:
The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown.

The Complaint is on file at the Court.

An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. **SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.**

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon:
Lisette I Molina Alicea
42 Home Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, MA 01104

your answer, if any, on or before **07/09/2026**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court

WITNESS, Hon. Claudine T. Stoudemire, First Justice of this Court.

Date: April 29, 2026
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
05/14/2026

NOTICE OF CABLE TELEVISION PUBLIC HEARING

Please take notice that the Select Board of the Town of Brimfield, Massachusetts, as Issuing Authority for a cable television license under M.G.L. c.166A, will hold a public hearing on **Monday, June 1, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.** The public hearing will be held in the Brimfield Elementary School. The purpose of the public hearing will be to determine whether to issue a cable television license to Spectrum Northeast, LLC. All applica-

tions, reports, statements and license drafts to be considered at the hearing that constitute public records under state law are available for public inspection during regular business hours and for reproduction at a reasonable fee. Members of the public are invited to attend and be heard on the topic: (a) whether the current cable operator is in full compliance with its currently-existing cable license; and (b) what are the Town's future community cable-related needs.

Martin J. Kelly
Select Board, Chairperson
Town of Brimfield
05/14, 05/21

TOWN OF PALMER PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 40A, Sections 10 & 11 M.G.L. the Palmer Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on **Monday, June 8th, 2026 at 5:45 PM** at the Palmer Town Administration Building, 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA.

The applicant, Northborough Realty Holdings, LLC, is requesting a variance from §171-35 Dimensional and Density Regulations. The variance request is for relief from the frontage requirements to allow for a residential building lot. The property is located off Foster Street, Palmer. This parcel is also known as Assessor's Map 41, Lot 10.

A copy of the application may be inspected at the Planning Department office in the Town Administration Building from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM Monday through Thursday.

Anyone interested in more information or wishing to be heard on the application can contact the Planning Department at 413-283-2605 or appear at the time and place designated above.

This notice shall also be posted on the Massachusetts Newspaper Publishers Association's (MNPA) website (<http://masspublicnotices.org>).

Palmer Zoning Board of Appeals
05/14, 05/21, 05/28/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD26P1005EA Estate of: Lawrence A Guimond Date of Death: 01/25/2026 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Nancy Guimond of Easthampton, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that Nancy Guimond of Easthampton, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 06/09/2026.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled

to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Claudine T. Stoudemire, First Justice of this Court.

Date: May 11, 2026
Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
05/14/2026

NOTICE TO BIDDERS PAINTING PATHFINDER REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL 240 SYKES STREET PALMER, MASSACHUSETTS 01069

The Pathfinder Regional Vocational - Technical High School District, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids for the Painting at Cold Spring Building, 57 South Main Street, Belchertown, MA 01007.

The work involves all labor and materials necessary for the repainting of mostly walls, some ceilings, and exterior perimeter fascias. Estimated construction cost is one hundred ninety thousand dollars (\$ 190,000). DCAMM qualification in the Painting Prime category and update statements are required with the bid.

Bidder selection, procedures and contract awards shall be in conformity with M.G.L. Chapter 149 Section 44A-H. State mandated prevailing wage rates must be paid according to M.G.L. Chapter 149 sections 26-27H.

DCAMM certification in the Painting Prime category and DCAMM update statement are required to be included in the bid package

Digital copies of the drawings and specifications may be obtained by emailing requests to the office of Roy S. Brown Architects at 85rsba@gmail.com after Wednesday, 05.13.2026 at 2:00 pm.

A project walk-thru is planned for Wednesday, 05.20.2026 at 3:30 pm at Cold Spring Building.

Written questions will be accepted until Monday, 05.26.2026 at 2:00 pm. via email to 85rsba@gmail.com.

No filed sub-bids are required. General bids will be accepted by email at the Office of the Business Manager, 240 Sykes Street, Palmer, MA 01069 until 2:00 pm, Friday, 05.29.2026, at which time they shall be publicly opened and read aloud. A bid security in the form of a bid bond, cash, or certified check in the amount of five percent (5%) of the value of the total bid price must accompany the bid. Bids should be labeled "Painting, General Bid" and addressed to: falcone@pathfindertech.org. Gregory Falcone, Business Manager, Pathfinder Regional School District, 240 Sykes Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

The Awarding Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids, should it be deemed in the public interest to do so.

Gregory Falcone,
Business Manager
05/14/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 Docket No. HD15P1669PM In the matter of: Timothy J Patenaude of Monson, MA, MA Protected Person/ Disabled Person/Respondent CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF CONSERVATOR'S ACCOUNT

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, you are hereby notified pursuant to Rule 72 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court, that the ninth account(s) of

Karen Patenaude of Monson, MA
James Patenaude of Monson, MA

as Conservators of the property of said Respondent has or have been presented to the Court for allowance.

You have the right to object to the account(s). If you wish

to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **06/15/2026**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to object to the account(s). If you fail to file the written appearance and objection by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you, including the allowance of the account(s).

Additionally, within thirty days after said return day (or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order), you must file a written affidavit of objections stating the specific facts and grounds upon which each objection is based and a copy shall be served upon the Conservator pursuant to Rule 3 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court.

You have the right to send to the Conservator, by registered or certified mail, a written request to receive a copy of the Petition and account(s) at no cost to you.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

Witness, Hon. Claudine T. Stoudemire, First Justice of this Court.

Date: May 04, 2026
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
05/14/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 Docket No. HD15P1669PM In the matter of: Timothy J Patenaude of Monson, MA, MA Protected Person/ Disabled Person/Respondent CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF CONSERVATOR'S ACCOUNT

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, you are hereby notified pursuant to Rule 72 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court, that the tenth account(s) of

Karen Patenaude of Monson, MA
James Patenaude of Monson, MA

as Conservators of the property of said Respondent has or have been presented to the Court for allowance.

You have the right to object to the account(s). If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **06/15/2026**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to object to the account(s). If you fail to file the written appearance and objection by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you, including the allowance of the account(s).

Additionally, within thirty days after said return day (or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order), you must file a written affidavit of objections stating the specific facts and grounds upon which each objection is based and a copy shall be served upon the Conservator pursuant to Rule 3 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court.

You have the right to send to the Conservator, by registered or certified mail, a written request to receive a copy of the Petition and account(s) at no cost to you.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named

person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

Witness, Hon. Claudine T. Stoudemire, First Justice of this Court.

Date: May 04, 2026
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
05/14/2026

NOTICE TO BIDDERS REPLACEMENT CEILING PATHFINDER REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL 240 SYKES STREET PALMER, MASSACHUSETTS 01069

The Pathfinder Regional Vocational - Technical High School District, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids for the Replacement Ceilings at Cold Spring Building, 57 South Main Street, Belchertown, MA 01007

The work involves all labor and materials necessary for the installation of suspended acoustical tile ceilings and a smaller amount of adhered acoustical tile and drywall ceilings. Estimated construction cost is One Hundred Fifty Two Thousand dollars (\$152,000). DCAMM qualification in the category of Acoustical Ceilings, prime and update statements are required with the bid.

Bidder selection, procedures and contract awards shall be in conformity with M.G.L. Chapter 149 Section 44A-H. State mandated prevailing wage rates must be paid according to M.G.L. Chapter 149 sections 26-27H.

Digital copies of the drawings and specifications may be obtained by emailing requests to the office of Roy S. Brown Architects at 85rsba@gmail.com after Wednesday, 05.13.2026 at 2:00 pm.

A project walk-thru is planned for Wednesday, 05.20.2026 at 3:30 pm at Cold Spring Building.

Written questions will be accepted until Monday, 05.26.2026 at 2:00 pm. via email to 85rsba@gmail.com.

No filed sub-bids are required. General bids will be accepted by email at the Office of the Business Manager, 240 Sykes Street, Palmer, MA 01069 until 2:00 pm, Friday, 05.29.2026, at which time they shall be publicly opened and read aloud. A bid security in the form of a bid bond, cash, or certified check in the amount of five percent (5%) of the value of the total bid price must accompany the bid. Bids should be labeled "Replacement Ceilings, General Bid" and addressed to: falcone@pathfindertech.org. Gregory Falcone, Business Manager, Pathfinder Regional School District, 240 Sykes Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

The Awarding Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids, should it be deemed in the public interest to do so.

Gregory Falcone,
Business Manager
05/14/2026

NOTICE TO BIDDERS RESILIENT FLOORING PATHFINDER REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL 240 SYKES STREET PALMER, MASSACHUSETTS 01069

The Pathfinder Regional Vocational - Technical High School District, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids for the Resilient Flooring at Cold Spring Building, 57 South Main Street, Belchertown, MA 01007

The work involves all labor and materials necessary for the installation of VCT, LVP, rubber tile and base.. Estimated construction cost is one hundred fifty nine thousand dollars (\$ 159,000). DCAMM qualification statement in the Resilient Flooring category and update statements are required with the bid.

Bidder selection, procedures and contract awards shall be in conformity with M.G.L. Chapter 149 Section 44A-H. State mandated prevailing wage rates must be paid according to M.G.L. Chapter 149 sections 26-27H.

Digital copies of the drawings and specifications may be obtained by emailing requests to the office of Roy S. Brown Architects at 85rsba@gmail.com after Wednesday, 05.13.2026 at 2:00 pm.

A project walk-thru is planned for Wednesday, 05.20.2026 at 3:30 pm at Cold Spring Building.

Written questions will be accepted until Monday, 05.26.2026 at 2:00 pm. via email to 85rsba@gmail.com.

No filed sub-bids are required. General bids will be accepted by email at the Office of the Business Manager, 240 Sykes Street, Palmer, MA 01069 until 2:00 pm, Friday, 05.29.2026, at which time they shall be publicly opened and read aloud. A bid security in the form of a bid bond, cash, or certified check in the amount of five percent (5%) of the value of the total bid price must accompany the bid. Bids should be labeled "Resilient Flooring, General Bid" and addressed to: falcone@pathfindertech.org. Gregory Falcone, Business Manager, Pathfinder Regional School District, 240 Sykes Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

The Awarding Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids, should it be deemed in the public interest to do so.

Gregory Falcone,
Business Manager
05/14/2026

The Awarding Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids, should it be deemed in the public interest to do so.

Gregory Falcone,
Business Manager
05/14/2026



EARLY DEADLINES

In observance of Memorial Day,
PUBLIC NOTICES
EARLY AD DEADLINE
Place your public notice
no later than NOON
Thursday, May 21
- Thank you!

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to notices@turley.com
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Friday at 3 p.m.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

NHS | from page 1

“The thing that always makes me feel the best is that, literally, when I’m standing here with these students behind me who are looking out at them, I know that they are the best of the best,” Duda said. “They are hard workers, high achievers, students that care about their future, students that care about others, students who have taken the path to professionalism and our core values extremely seriously, and understand that there is so much possibility and potential. They just have to take it, and we’re happy to help them and hold their hands the entire way and lead them.”

Duda then introduced Senator Jake Oliveira, who he described as a “true champion” for the school, mentioning grants that the senator has helped secure for Pathfinder in recent years.

“I thought I was going to be on point tonight with Pathfinder colors,” Oliveira lamented. “Then I found out it’s silver and purple tonight.”

“Pathfinder is something that is a crown jewel of our career and technical education programs in Western Massachusetts,” Oliveira said. “The community partnerships that Pathfinder has with not just the nine member communities, but throughout Western Massachusetts, is unmatched. They’re desperately needed right now, and it’s the leadership of people like (Duda) and his entire team that he’s built, and the school committee for constantly investing there.”

Following the opening comments, Turner spoke about the purpose of the Honors Society, describing the values of the society, such as honesty, responsibility, initiative, teamwork, productivity, leadership, and citizenship, and the criteria for becoming a member.

“Grades are one component, but we have to remember that the character traits are equally as important,” Turner said. “Being a good person is

at the forefront of this honor as well.”

Turner went on to describe the symbolism of the NTHS’s logo and colors, with silver representing value and worth, white representing truth and honesty, and purple representing achievement and honor. After her presentation, she called up Academic Director Daniel Whalley to lead the candle-lighting ceremony.

Each candle was lit by a different member of the school’s community, as announced by Whalley. The candle for ‘knowledge’ was lit by Math Teacher and Instructional Coach Heather Anderson, the candle for ‘skill’ was lit by School Counselor Nicole Horton, the candle for ‘honesty’ was lit by School Committee Member Lorraine Alves, the candle for ‘service’ was lit by School Committee Member John Nagan, the candle for ‘responsibility’ was lit by School Committee Member David Dross, the candle for ‘scholarship’ was lit by Administrative Assistant Serena Robare, the candle for ‘citizenship’ was lit by School Counselor Erica Dupre, and the candle for ‘leadership’ was lit by Social Studies Teacher Mike Martin.

Whalley then read the names of each of the 23 returning members of the NTHS: Zachry Ahlman, Natalie Aparvis, Zachary Bera, Brandon Charron, Kyle Cienciwa, Stephen Curtis, Adin DeCarlo, Gage Desabrais, Thomas DeWitt, Addison Doktor, Kasey Dwyer, Jenna Jacque, Korbin Jordan, Mia Keegan, Matthew Burke, Jannah Leclerc, Leeann Murdza, Brady Noonan, Noel Plumadore, Madison Robare, Destiny Rodriguez, Mason Sarette, and Tianna St. Marie. Three of the members were not present to receive their accolades.

Whalley then read the names of the 22 students who were being newly inducted into the NTHS: Derek Aldrich, Julianna Andrejack, Sarah Breault, Autumn Brunette, Gabriel Cardenales, Cole Chevalier,



Superintendent Eric Duda (center) praised the students who were being inducted into the National Technical Honors Society.



Pathfinder students were led in by procession to sit in front of the audience during the ceremony.

Photos by Marcelo Gusmão



Academic Director Daniel Whalley led the students in reciting the NTHS pledge.



NTHS Advisor Brenda Turner led the ceremony by reading the opening comments.



Principal Ryan Rege described the ceremony as a “culminating event” in his profession.



State Senator Jake Oliveira praised Pathfinder Tech for being a hub of the community.

Cameron Collis, Melissa Corneliuss, Morgan George, Cady Hurd, Geraldine Larronde, Luke Longacre, Timothy Marciniac, Nicholas Martel, Autumn Nagle, Silas Patel, Makayla Patrick, Ashtyn Pietrowski, Christian Ribeiro, Quinn Richardson, Hunter Sherman, and Andrew Stewart. Though not all inductees were able to attend, Whalley made sure to name all of them during the ceremony.

Following the NTHS Pledge, where the students promised to maintain the highest standard of personal conduct, apply themselves, and strive for excellence, the ceremony was closed with some words from Principal Ryan Rege.

“It’s been a celebration of commitment, growth and achievement,” Rege said. “It reflects the efforts each of our students has put into reaching this moment, to our inductees

and to our returning members.

After thanking Turner for running the ceremony, Rege took a moment to address the seniors who will be graduating from Pathfinder this year.

“As you prepare to take the next steps after high school, this distinction is not just about academic and technical success,” Rege said. “It speaks to your work ethic, your character, and the pride you take in developing real, meaningful skills, whether your focus is in health, assisting automotive technology, culinary arts, or another field; you’re gaining experiences that matter, not just for your futures, but for your communities that you serve to our families, friends, and faculty.”

Rege concluded his speech by thanking the faculty at the school for their support, encouragement, guidance, and belief in the students, which he credited as helping them reach this achievement. “That impact

“ Pathfinder is something that is a crown jewel of our career and technical education programs in Western Massachusetts. ”

– State Senator Jake Oliveira

cannot be overstated,” Rege said.

The presenters were all very honored to have been part of the ceremony, and emphasized the achievements of the students.

“It’s always an honor to be able to be up there and speak to these students,” Turner said. “Most of them were just awarded at the Renaissance awards, so being able to repeat the names is always fun to do.”

“It was a wonderful event as always,” Whalley said. “It’s great to see these students be super successful and driven, maintaining their grades and

academic performance in their tech programs and academics. We’re happy to celebrate these students, and it’s great to see our seniors get some recognition right before graduation.”

“These are our shining stars,” Rege said. “When you have a hard day as an educator, these are the students you seek out, these are the students that brighten your day. To give them a special event, an opportunity to be celebrated, not just for good grades, but for true character – I mean, that’s what it’s all about. I feel like this is really like the culminating event for me as a professional.”

UPDATES | from page 1

al leadership, management and operations, family and community engagement, and professional culture. These standards then expand into further elements, which the superintendent elaborated on.

“The indicators that the committee voted on back in the fall, that would be my priority standards for this year are curriculum and instruction, human resource management and development, fiscal systems, communication, and shared vision,” Foster said.

Foster also described five goals that were agreed on for him to work towards over the

course of the year. Foster then presented about the progress the district has made on the priority standards and goals.

The first goal that Foster described was “effective entry and direction setting,” which he described as “learning a lot and listening a lot.” This goal has been discussed regularly in previous meetings, with Foster’s entry plan shared to the committee in October, findings shared in February, and an all-staff meeting in March.

“We’ve been having District Instructional Leadership Team meetings,” Foster said. “I’ve been working with our district ILT on both developing an instructional vi-

sion and a five-year strategic plan.”

Foster said the district was also commissioning a study from Rebus and Associates to look at tiered systems of support for students struggling both academically and behaviorally.

The second goal was to maintain focus on continuous improvement. “Essentially, as I’m coming in new, keeping it moving,” Foster said.

This plan involved Foster visiting classrooms and getting to know the different schools, and updating procedures, including the crisis management plan and the bullying intervention plan.

Foster said the third goal,

financial sustainability, was “a big focus over the last several months,” as the school presented its budget request to the town. He said that most of these benchmarks were met, adding that the budget presentations would be familiar to the members of the school committee.

The fourth goal, relative to curriculum, was the one that Foster said was “still in progress.”

“We have a curriculum committee meeting next week, where I’m hoping to come to you with recommendations for our new English Language Arts curriculum in kindergarten through eighth grade,” Foster said. “We’re

also looking at our Social and Emotional Learning curriculum.”

Foster reported that the district has made the decision to move forward with Project Lead The Way for its science curriculum, after “living across two curricula” for some time.

Lastly, Foster presented on his participation in the New Superintendent Induction Program, saying that he has attended every session and completed all his assignments, and that he holds monthly meetings with his coach.

“I know this is ‘my’ evaluation, but it’s never just my work,” Foster said. “It reflects

the work of a lot of people in our district, really all the people in our district, working really hard.”

Morgan praised Foster’s communication with families, comparing informational videos to the inability to respond during public comments.

“I’ve heard from many people in the town that they really appreciate those videos in response to that stuff that’s out there on those questions or things that people are arguing about,” Morgan said.

The committee praised Foster for his efforts, and discussed the potential of examining other priorities in future years.



Locally owned businesses here to serve you!

COMMUNITY BUSINESS CONNECTION

Adventure tours of Warren
Share the Adventure with us!



Boothbay Harbor Vacation

June 9-12 4-Day Boothbay Harbor Vacation\$899
 June 27....Lake George Cruise & Lunch\$185
 July 11.....Provincetown by Fast Ferry.....\$220
 Sept. 26...Pickity Place Lunch.....\$130
 March 1...12-Day Caribbean Cruise..... Balcony \$2499

Share the Adventure with us soon!
 For further information call Randall at (413) 436-5357
 or email adventuretours@att.net
 or go to www.adventuretoursforwarren.com

Accepting New Patients

KELLY & VELÁZQUEZ EYE CENTER

PETER J. KELLY, M.D., P.C.
 LEONARDO J. VELÁZQUEZ, M.D.
 DENNIS M. DORANS, O.D.
 KELLY N. POULIOT, O.D.

1504 North Main St. Palmer, MA 01069 (413) 283-3511

362 Sewall St. Ludlow, MA 01056 (413) 589-7308

PALMER HOURS: Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
LUDLOW HOURS: Hours vary, please call

The Optical Shop
at Kelly & Velazquez Eye Center

“The Finest Quality at Reasonable Prices”




The Most Advanced Lens Designs Available

Frames to Fit Any Budget

Large Selection of Designer Frames For All Ages

SUNGLASSES
Maui Jim • Ray Ban




1504 N. Main St., Palmer, MA 413-283-3511

362 Sewall St., Ludlow, MA 413-589-1806

Expert guidance in selecting the right frame with the best fit & lenses for every lifestyle.

Advertise Your Business Here Contact Dan Flynn at (413) 297-5886 or dflynn@turley.com