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SERVING PALMER, MONSON, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND & WALES

The Journal Register



A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

June 15, 2023 | Vol. CLXXII, No. 20 | \$1.00

www.journalregister.turley.com

GOVERNMENT

State Senator meets with Lake Thompson residents to talk taxes

By Michael Harrison
Correspondent

PALMER — Still reeling from a drastic increase in the assessed value of their property and the corresponding tax bills they received at the end of last year, residents who live on or around Lake Thompson continue a quest to change a system they say doesn't treat all property owners equally.

Back in February, Keri-Ann Wenzel, the town's principal assessor, invited the public to a meeting on the fundamentals of property value assessment and taxation. She and other officials, including Michael Burns, the vice chairman of the Board of Assessors, and Town Manager Ryan McNutt, also took questions.

Members of the Lake Thomp-

son Civic Association attended that meeting and some said afterward they felt even more frustrated. One of them, Ed Santini, said, "There's no guarantee they won't jolt us again" and added that he was "in the process of teeing up a meeting" with State Senator Jake Oliveira.

Tee time came on June 12, when several civic association members met with Oliveira at the Faragon Avenue home of Dave Golden. Despite amendments to file before the end of the day while the Senate continues its work on the state's next fiscal year budget, Oliveira, along with his District Director, Jennifer Pickering, and Communications Director Derrick Cruz, spent more than an hour with the residents. They listened to their stories, offered constructive feedback and promised to try to advocate for

change on the state level.

While the residents acknowledge an increase in property values nationwide — a trend that began a few years ago then surged during the pandemic — they said they find it hard to believe their modest homes built nearly a century ago on quarter-acre lots or smaller could be as valuable as they were assessed. Assessments are based in large part on comparable home sales and they argue that, because few homes around Lake Thompson change hands, the sale of one 1-acre home on Smith Street for \$552,000, substantially above the asking price, skewed the assessment process for everyone.

Oliveira expressed empathy with the residents, who are mostly retirees on fixed incomes. They discussed home rule, which means assessments are administered by

towns under guidelines from the state, and the senator said he will do what he can on the state level. He suggested residents continue working with local officials, particularly their town councilors, including at-large Councilman Robert Lavoie.

"I know you're between a rock and a hard place now," Oliveira said. "I would bring in Bob...your councilors should know what's going on. It's an appropriate question to ask people who represent you (locally)."

What he can do, Oliveira said, is speak with the Appellate Tax Board, which is the court of last resort for property owners who challenge their assessment, and explore what can be done, such as tweaking the guidelines towns follow, and ex-

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Turley photo by Michael Harrison
State Senator Jake Oliveira talks with resident Pat Conti during a meeting he had with members of the Lake Thompson Civic Association to discuss property tax assessment and tax issues.

SCHOOL

The Signs Say It All



Submitted photos

OMP 5th grade students part of their grad ceremony holding up "goodbye OMP we will miss you" signs.

PALMER — Fifth graders Step-Up from Old Mill Pond School on Friday, June 9 with a fun filled day. The day began with a ceremony held in the Palmer High School auditorium and was followed with a day of fun filled activities put together by the OMP PTO and volunteers. Some of the activities were a small petting farm, a dunk tank and plenty of black top games, activities and sports. The day culminated in the 5th grade only step-up neon glow dance party with a photo booth, a dj and plenty of dancing, laughing and snacks. A memorable and fun filled day for them to have as they head into their last week as OMP students and move on to Palmer High School. Please see page 8 for more photos.

Mr. Collamore and Mr. Hoffa OMP gym teachers who were the ones getting dunked by the students in the dunk tank.



POLICE

Kali Cannabis co-founder arrested on drug-trafficking charges

By Marcelo Gusmao
Staff Writer
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PALMER — Development of the Kali Cannabis dispensary on Shearer St. has been stalled after co-founder Evans Klimavich was charged with drug trafficking.

Klimavich was arrested after State Police searched his home to find a kilogram of cocaine, 50 pounds of marijuana, hundreds of vape cartridges, some psilocybin mushrooms, and approximately \$52,000 in American dollars. This was after police identified Klimavich as a conspirator with Stephen Marsden of Quincy, having intercepted three more kilograms of cocaine in connection to a state-wide drug trafficking ring.

According to Scott Croteau of the Worcester County District Attorney's office, Klimavich was arraigned on May 31 in Worcester District Court. He's been charged with cocaine trafficking, marijuana trafficking, possession of a Class C substance with intent to distribute, and possession of a Class B substance. The case was continued to August 23, with the judge ordering

KALI CANNABIS | page 12

COMMUNITY



Turley photo by Marcelo Gusmao

The gazebo at the First Street Conservation Area has been a repeated target for vandalism.

Conservation Commission targets vandals

By Marcelo Gusmao
Staff Writer
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PALMER — Conservation Commission Chair Donald Blais Jr. opened last week's meeting by voicing complaints about the state of the gazebo at the Conservation Area on First Street, which he had visited earlier in the day.

"Once again, we discovered some very dirty, disgusting graffiti," Blais said. "I'm really tired of having to say something like this, but this was beyond acceptable, and I'd like it to stop."

Blais and Conservation Agent Heidi Mannarino described walking to the police department to make a report. Blais said that the graffiti was "unfortunate to see," and that "It was beyond acceptable, and I expect better from people in this town, I really do."

"I don't get animated very often, but this is an exception," Blais said, "so I'm asking people out there to please tell your kids, whoever is responsible, to stop."

"Sharing other people's personal information in an attacking way like that is definitely harassment and will not be tolerated by us," said Mannarino, who said the graffiti would be removed in the coming days.

"It's a shame to see this type of vandalism going on, because it's really detrimental to the community," said Commission Member Nicholas Zeo, who added that he was pleased to see that the space is getting utilized.

"Summer is here, and it's going to get worse," Zeo said, and proposed sending a memo to Town Council on the matter.

VANDALISM | page 2

TOWN HALL

Town Council approves grant to purchase land near Chicopee River

By Marcelo Gusmao
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PALMER — Town Council has approved the Conservation Commission and Recreational Director to pursue a grant that would allow them to purchase properties along the Chicopee River.

On Monday, Recreational Director Andrew St. George and Heidi Mannarino of the Conservation Commission approached Town

Council to advocate for the purchase of approximately 13.3 acres of land by the Chicopee River.

In the five-minute video that St. George and Mannarino made, St. George says that "The 13-acre lot represents a lot of unique opportunities for the conservation of our natural resources as well as the ability to provide both passive and active recreational opportunities for the residents."

"By connecting with two other parcels of town-owned land," Mannarino said, "we are ensuring that the entire northern portion of the Chicopee River is protected by either the town or the state."

Mannarino reported to Town

Council that this project will help to establish trails and recreation opportunities along the waterways in town and protect environmentally-sensitive areas.

"How I see protection is, there's two sides of it," said Mannarino. "The literal physical protection by purchasing and preventing development on this land, but then also by sharing really incredible, beautiful, natural areas with the residents and providing recreational opportunities, that translates to a different kind of protection, which inspires people to care for these areas, not just in this parcel of land,



MPact Screenshot

For the video they submitted to Town Council, Heidi Mannarino (left) and Andrew St. George visited the Chicopee River.

GRANT | page 3



Pet of the Week



YOGI & PIERRE

This is Yogi and Pierre, and they are best buds. Yogi lives in Palmer, and Pierre in Monson. Pierre was adopted by his mom Susan Clark from Mutt Rescue in Chicopee. He was very malnourished and scared when he came up from Arkansas, but with the help of Yogi and his new family, he's living his best life up here in the wonderful woods of Monson! He enjoys going on walks every day, and plenty of playing! Is your fur friend a dog, cat, chicken, lizard, horse, bird, mouse... you get the point. Is there a pet you're fostering and trying to re-home? All pets are welcome! Email a high-resolution jpg of your pet with a little information to mharrison@turley.com.

HONORING U.S. HEROES



Contributed photo

PALMER — On Monday evening, May 22, the American Legion Palmer Post 130, Scouts and Venturers from Troop 164 replaced all the veteran flags at Oak Knoll and St. Thomas Cemeteries. The organizers express their gratitude to the groundskeepers for their assistance so the project could be completed prior to Memorial Day.

Baystate Wing Hospital welcomes two new volunteers

Others welcome to help

PALMER — Two new volunteers, Carole DeWolf and Luv Kataria, have recently joined the Baystate Wing Hospital team.

According to a news release, DeWolf, a retired nurse who will be volunteering in the Medical/Surgical Unit, is looking to give back to her community. Kataria, who is entering his senior year in college and is planning to apply to medical school, is interested in every area of hospital medicine. Kataria will be volunteering in the Emergency Room.

"Volunteers are extraordinary people who want to contribute to the greater good of things," said Marie Saunders, manager of Volunteer Services for Baystate Health.

"We have several opportunities open for individuals to share their talents and skills to support and assist our staff in creating wonderful experiences for our patients."

Volunteers are currently being sought to fill positions in various departments, including greeters, patient-care areas and the gift shop. Duties will vary depending on the assigned department. Volunteers



are assigned to a department/area according to their interests and the needs of the hospital.

"During their service at Baystate Wing Hospital, we want to ensure that all of our volunteers are doing something that they enjoy," Saunders said.

The Volunteer Services program is open to anyone who is interested in giving back to their community. All potential volunteers must be age 16 or older and complete a volunteer application, submit to and pass a background check and

meet all vaccination requirements. The program is an ideal opportunity for seniors and young adults who wish to volunteer in a health-care setting. Volunteers will receive training and support. Those who need it can receive credit for school. All can expect to grow personally through service to others.

For more information or to fill out an application online, visit baystatehealth.org/about-us/volunteer or call Tanya Dorman, volunteer coordinator for Baystate Wing Hospital, at 413-370-5295.

Low voter turn-out for Palmer election

By Marcelo Gusmao
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PALMER — Less than 300 residents participated in this year's town election, which decided the futures of School Committee and Town Council members.

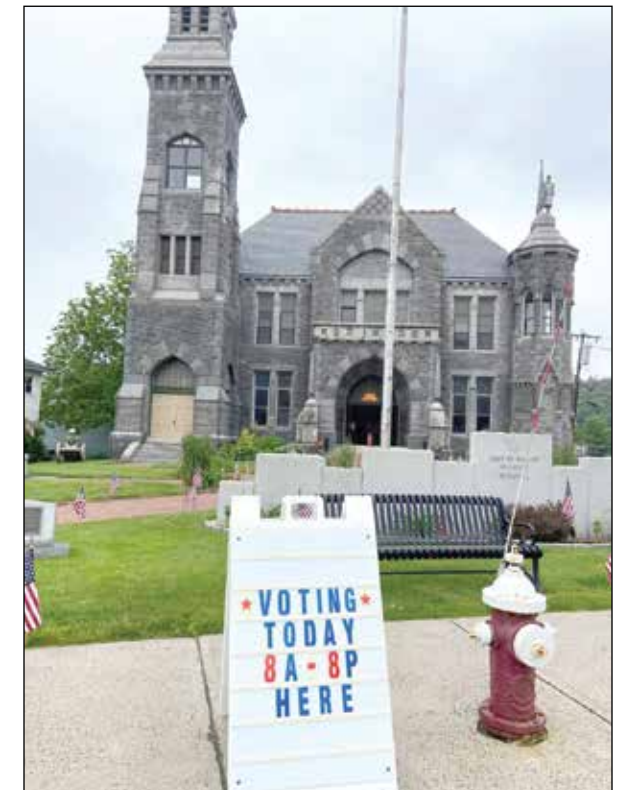
Matthew Lovell won a close race for seats on the School Committee with 182 total votes, defeating Bonny Rathbone by a margin of 12 votes, and Joseph Nompoggi by 58 votes.

Robert Lavoie won his unopposed election for Councilor at Large, with a total of 218 votes in his favor.

Scott Day won a seat on the Planning Board over Shelby Lamothe, earning a total of 220 votes.

Philip Hebert ran unopposed for Councilor of District One, with a total of 66 votes.

According to documents from the Town Clerk, there were a total of 278 votes across the election, representing only 3% of the registered voters in town.



Submitted photo

Memorial Hall on voting day.

Warren secures Select Board seat; Fire Station improvements OK'd

By Marcelo Gusmao
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MONSON — Town voters made their voices heard this Tuesday, as the results of this week's Town Election have been tallied.

This year's election saw important seats change hands, and victories won with margins of barely over a dozen votes.

The town's ballot question asked to relieve funds to pay for a bond issued to improve the Fire Station building, which handily passed with a total of 823 votes, compared to the 377 against.

A three-year seat on the Select Board was awarded to Peter Warren, with 621 total votes, beating out Anthony Allard and incumbent Mary Hull.

Dorothy Jenkins secured a win with 620 total votes, beating out Ronald Avery by a margin of 14 votes.

Karen Nothe-Valley won over Kourtney Senquiz for the three-year seat on the School Committee with 673 total votes.

Richard Smith had a decisive victory over Roxanne Gunther for the three-year position of Cemetery Commissioner, with 972 total votes.

Mary-Frances Watson ran unopposed for Town Clerk, earning 1,120 votes for the three-year position.

Marshall Harris ran unopposed for the three-year position of Water and Sewer Commissioner, earning 1,073 votes.

Christine Evans ran unopposed for a five-year position with the Housing Authority, which she won with 1,035 votes.

Jenna Ann Berry won her unopposed election for Parks and Recreation Commissioner, with 1,009 votes.



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(\$40 out of state)
Newsstand: \$1.00 per copy

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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 information to Editor at mharrison@turley.com, or call 283-8393, extension 236. Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Journal Register, Attn: Editor 24 Water St., Palmer, MA, 01069.



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June 22nd 23rd & 24th

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Friday
5:00 - 10:00

Saturday
3:00 - 8:00

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Food & Drink

Entertainment

Beer & Wine

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CAMPUS NOTES

Iowa State University

Colin P. Gunter-Donaghy of Palmer was named to the Dean's List at Iowa State University for the 2023 spring semester. To qualify, students must have earned a grade-point average of at least 3.50 on a 4.00 scale while carrying a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded course work.

Gunter-Donaghy, a rising senior, majors in Mechanical Engineering.

Clarkson University

Logan David Paradis of Monson, a junior majoring in software engineering, was named to the Dean's List at Clarkson University for the 2023 spring semester.

Dean's List students must achieve a minimum 3.25 grade-point average and also carry at least 14 credit hours.

Ty Morgan Sayball-Wimmer of Bondsville, a freshman majoring in business intelligence and data analytics, was named a Presidential Scholar for the 2023 spring semester at Clarkson University.

Presidential Scholars must achieve a minimum 3.80 grade-point average and carry at least 14 credit hours.

Western New England University

The following local students were honored during the Western New England University's College of Engineering Senior Awards Ceremony on May 21 in Rivers Memorial Hall:

Jason Malouin of Palmer received the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department Award for Outstanding Senior in Computer Engineering. This award is given to the outstanding senior in computer engineering.

Per University requirement the student must have a minimum of a 3.30 grade-point average and has at least 60 Western New England University credits.

Nathan Bruneau of Monson received the Henry L. Sundberg Jr. Award. This award is presented to the student chosen by the membership of the ASME Student Section to represent WNE in the Region I, ASME Student Paper Competition.

The University honored 16 graduating seniors who were selected based on their academic achievement in the major or based on their overall class standing.

James Madison University

Brimfield resident, Grace Timmins, has been named to the Dean's List at James Madison University for the spring 2023 semester. Students who earn dean's list honors must carry at least 12 graded credit hours and earn a GPA of between 3.5 and 3.899. Timmins is majoring in Health Sciences - BS.

Framingham State University

Monson resident, school teacher and volunteer Peter Matrow was selected for the Framingham State University Alumni Achievement Award Recipient for Leadership and Service.

The College of Saint Rose

Alexis Plumley of Brimfield earned Dean's List honors at The College of Saint Rose for the spring 2023 semester. Plumley is majoring in Forensic Psychology at Saint Rose.

Full-time undergraduate students, who complete a minimum of 12 graded credit hours and who achieve a semester average of 3.5 without a D, F, or Incomplete are eligible for the Dean's List.

East Stroudsburg University

Robert Burke of Palmer was named to the Dean's List at East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania for the spring 2023 semester. Students eligible for the Dean's List have attained a 3.50 quality-point average or better and are enrolled full-time. The letter grade "B" earns three quality points per credit, and the grade "A" earns four quality points per credit.

Husson University

Jack Young of Monson has been named to the President's List at Husson University for the spring 2023 semester. Young is enrolled in Husson's Bachelor of Science in accounting program.

Students who make the President's List must be enrolled as an undergraduate student, carry a full-time load of 12 credit hours, complete all attempted courses in the time allotted for the semester, and achieve a 3.80 to 4.0 semester grade-point average. Credits from pass/fail classes do not qualify toward meeting the minimum credit hour requirement.

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

The following local students made the Dean's Honor List for the spring 2023 semester at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute:

Johnathan Marucci of Holland, who is studying Chemical Engineering.

Lorenzo Mercado of Brimfield, who is studying Computer Science

Senate's state budget version funds local groups and causes

BOSTON — After three days of spirited debate, Senator Jake Oliveira (Hampden, Hampshire & Worcester District) and his colleagues in the Massachusetts State Senate approved a \$55.9 billion budget for Fiscal Year 2024.

Following a robust and engaging debate process, the Senate approved 478 amendments, adding \$82.2 million in spending to the budget, a news release from Oliveira's office states. The next step will be the formation of a Senate and House Joint Conference Committee to work out an agreed-upon budget to send to Gov. Healey.

According to the news release, Oliveira took the opportunity during the budget week to make his first speech on the Senate floor about the need to support public libraries and urged his colleagues in the Senate to add \$750,000 in additional state spending to "ensure libraries have the resources they need to protect equity and diversity and remain a backbone of our communities."

The Senate unanimously approved the increase in funding.

In addition to increasing support to public libraries, Ol-



Senator Jake Oliveira

iveira stressed the importance of regional equity for Western Massachusetts and secured an additional \$1.75 million dollars for the budget, much of which will go directly to municipalities in the district, as well as increase funds that will make their way to the district indirectly through broader funding of critical investments in areas like regional transportation, public higher education, and healthcare.

"I'm glad to see the Senate take action with a comprehensive and inclusive budget that will bring regional equity to Western Massachusetts, and I'm proud to have secured funding that will have a positive impact on the communities of the Hampden, Hampshire &

Worcester District," Oliveira said.

In addition to the \$750,000 in state aid to regional public libraries, Oliveira secured \$500,000 for an Advanced Manufacturing Training Program, \$200,000 for infrastructure improvements to the Cottage Avenue bridge in Wilbraham and Ludlow, \$50,000 for public safety improvements in Chicopee, \$50,000 for the Women's Fund of Massachusetts and \$35,000 for the Ludlow Boys and Girls Club.

All funds that Oliveira stressed are headed directly back to the district.

"The priority for me was equity across the board for the district and for Western Mass, and to ensure these funds go as far as possible and improve the lives of as many residents of the district as possible," Oliveira said.

"I want to thank Senate President Spilka, the chairs of the Senate Ways and Means Committee and their incredible staff and my colleagues in the Senate for working with me to make that happen."

Several recipients of the funding, including Donna Haghghat, CEO of the Wom-

en's Fund of Western Massachusetts, expressed gratitude to Oliveira and explained how the financing would directly impact the district.

"The funding Senator Oliveira and his team secured will fuel the dissemination of a first-ever Gender Equity Report, to be released this fall, as well as supporting women, girls, and other gender marginalized people through our grantmaking, our coming race and gender justice leadership program and so much more," Haghghat said.

Mayor Vieau of Chicopee stressed that Oliveira's successful lobbying for the \$50,000 from the Senate budget demonstrates his commitment to the well-being of Chicopee's residents and that "The crucial investment will not only enhance the safety of our streets but will also improve the quality of life in our city."

Katie A. Mitus, Interim President/CEO of the Ludlow Community Center/ Randall Boys and Girls Club, was thankful for the funding that Oliveira secured and for his continued support of the Club and the community of Ludlow and described how the funding would go directly towards improving

the center's gymnasium. "It will provide a much-needed upgrade to our gymnasium to keep it safe and functional for our members and their families."

When asked about his approved amendments, Senator Oliveira echoed the sentiments of Senate President Karen Spilka, "The Senate's budget prioritizes upholding fiscal discipline and responsibility and supports the long-term economic health of the state. The Senate budget delivers investments in education, housing, regional transportation, health care, workforce development, climate preparedness, and much more while centering equity and opportunity as part of a broader, more comprehensive strategy to make Massachusetts more affordable, inclusive, and competitive."

Once the Senate's budget is approved, a group of six House and Senate lawmakers will meet privately to iron out differences between the two budgets and then send the final document to Governor Maura Healey, who can accept or veto sections of the bill.

LAKE THOMPSON | from page 1

ploring possible legislation.

"We have to do some research," Oliveira said.

"We can move through the regulatory process right now, but, if there is something in our housing laws or tax code, there could be something we can file as a stand alone piece of legislation. I'll update (state Rep.) Todd Smola on it and see if there's any interest. He used to be on the select board and I think he really understands."

The appellate board handles cases individually and the Lake Thompson residents told Oliveira the paperwork is cumbersome and costs \$100 to file a single claim.

"There's a lot of legalese in there," Santini said. "You almost need a lawyer. And then you spend \$1,000 to save \$500."

The senator, a lifelong Ludlow resident with close family ties to Palmer, also suggested the civic association, which represents over 50 homeowners, consider petitioning the Appellate Tax Board "collectively." Pickering said there would be no harm in trying and, at the very least, it would get the homeowners' complaints on record with the state.

"That's the concern," Skowrya said. "That there was a collective increase to 57 properties."

Eligible property owners in town can lower their tax bills by \$500 by filing for an exemption. That is available for seniors over age 70 prior to July 1, when the new fiscal year begins; those who are sight-impaired or, disabled veterans. Taxpayers can also file for an abatement to lower their assessment and some of the Lake Thompson residents have done that.

According to Wenzel, who said "it takes approximately four months to a year" to go through the Appellate Tax Board, her office received 44 real estate abatement applications this year and of those, 36 were granted while eight were denied. Among those was one from Pat Conti, a Lake Thompson resident since 1978 whose property was assessed at \$370,100 – \$171,800 for the land and \$198,300 for her house, which lacked plumbing when she first moved in.

Conti said her abatement request was partially denied because her one-bedroom home now has air conditioning. The assessment for her land was reduced by \$5,700 after Wenzel inspected it, but the portion for her house went up \$14,000, Conti said.

She also studied data available online to compare Lake Thompson assessments with others in town and Conti said she found that in most other areas, assessed value increased 15 to 20%.

Conversely, Gary Kendrick, who bought his Fargon Avenue home last year, said his request resulted in a reduction of \$6,400 off his land assessment and the assessment of his house was lowered by \$90,000.

"My taxes are actually lower than when I bought it," he said.

His neighbors laughed at the irony.

GRANT

| from page 1

but in their own backyards as well."

Town Council unanimously approved pursuing the Land Grant, a state grant that exists to purchase properties like this, and the Conservation Commission and Recreational Director will move forward with pursuing the purchase over the next few months.



Turley photo by Michael Harrison

Lake Thompson Civic Association members (clockwise from left) Gary Kendrick, Ed Santini and Martin Skowrya during a recent meeting with State Senator Jake Oliveira.

DEADLINE

The Journal Register has changed its firm deadline for public submissions to Mondays. To get your submission in for that week's edition, email Editor at mharrison@turley.com or call the office at 413-283-8393 by noon on Mondays. We appreciate the cooperation of our readers.

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Viewpoints

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor

How will working affect my first year's benefits?

Dear Rusty: I retired from working in January of this year and have since claimed Social Security. I didn't work at all in February or March, but I began a part time job in April. I'm very confused about how Social Security counts earnings for the first year. I don't know if I need to keep each month's earnings under \$1,770 or if they average it. Some of the literature I've found says each month must remain under \$1,770 or no benefit will be paid that month. Two people at the Social Security office told me that they'll just dock me \$1 for every \$2 I am over that, even in my first year. I also cannot find anything about when they count your income. Is it when it's earned or when it's paid? If I go over in a month because there are three pay periods, can they withhold the benefit for that month? I'm just so confused!

Signed: Part Time Worker

Dear Part Time Worker: The Social Security earnings test during your first year collecting benefits before full retirement age is, indeed, somewhat confusing. The reason is because there are two methods, which Social Security may use during your first calendar year collecting early benefits, and they will use the one which results in the least financial impact to you.

To elaborate:

If you claim benefits mid-year before your full retirement age, for the remainder of that first year (starting in the month benefits begin and ending in December) you'll be subject to a monthly earnings limit (\$1,770 for 2023). If you exceed the monthly limit in any remaining month of that first calendar year, you won't be entitled to benefits for that month, so Social Security would (eventually) take back that month's benefit. That is, unless using the annual limit (\$21,240 for 2023) instead will result in a smaller penalty. If your total earnings for your first year collecting are over the annual limit (e.g., \$21,240 for 2023), the penalty would be \$1 for every \$2 over the annual limit and, if that is less than the penalty from using the monthly limit, they will assess the smaller penalty. In other words, Social Security will use the method, which is most beneficial to you when assessing a penalty for exceeding the earnings limit during your first calendar year collecting benefits. And just for clarity, the earnings limits are much higher and the penalty less during the year you attain Full Retirement Age.

Something else to be aware of: if you know in advance you will exceed the annual limit it would be best to inform Social Security in order to avoid an Overpayment Notice next year. If you don't, Social Security won't know about your 2023 earnings until you file your 2023 income taxes, so you'll get your 2023 monthly payments as usual. But when the IRS informs Social Security of your 2023 earnings later next year, Social Security will ask you to detail your monthly work earnings for 2023. If you have exceeded the limits, they will determine an overpayment amount and will ask you to either pay back what is owed in a lump sum or will withhold your benefits for enough months to recover what you owe for exceeding the 2023 earnings limit. Then, after you FRA, you'll get time credit for all months in which benefits were withheld, thus slightly increasing your monthly payment after your FRA.

Finally, it is when your income is earned that counts, not when it is paid. So, for example, if you worked in January 2023 and were paid for that work in February 2023, that is considered January income, which wouldn't count toward the February earnings limit.

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Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.



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Lots o' lettuce

The weather has been nothing less than unpredictable these last few weeks.

While there has been next to no rain at my locale, friends and family have talked about deluges and even quarter-sized hail blanketing their deck space. Temperatures for June seem bizarre, too.

If cold night temperatures weren't enough, a day of mercury bursting into the 80's will shock even well-watered plants. Before heat-lovers can adjust, it's back into the 50's and low 60's.

Strange indeed.

While it's too soon to say whether this year will be a bust or boom, I can say that my lettuce is doing wonderfully!

I started my lettuce indoors the first week of April, at the same time I sowed broccoli and kale seed. I saved little "plug" trays from a prior plant purchase and filled the tray with moist seed starting mix.

Lettuce seed needs light to germinate, so I pushed two or three seeds per cell into the soil to make contact but not so far as to have them get covered up. To keep the soil surface moist, I slid the whole tray into a clear plastic bag.

I left it in my laundry room in front of a window where it would get some afternoon sun and checked on it periodically, misting it a couple times a day. After about five days the seeds had sprouted.

It was a little challenging to keep them growing well indoors, but I did, and was able to move the tray outside on nice days where it could get some filtered sunlight.

On one such occasion I hit the end of the doorway with the tray, knocking a number of the cells loose! I re-filled the cells and transplanted what I could salvage and they adjusted fine.

About a month later, in early May, I planted the lettuce seedlings into the garden. Since I planned to grow the lettuce for leaves and not heads, I planted them fairly close to one another, just about six inches apart in a wide block about four feet long by two feet deep.

Every foot or so I interplanted a leek plant; leeks require a long growing sea-

son and will outlive the lettuce, but for now they make good companions.

I began harvesting the third week of May, and now, I can make a salad to feed an army. The bed is a beautiful blend of colors, textures and flavors.

Typically, I pick it right before I want to eat it, rinsing it in a sink of cool water before sending it through the salad spinner or blotting it dry with a paper towel.

Lettuce is undemanding in the garden as long as you provide it with rich soil and a daily watering if nature does not provide. Some compost mixed into the top

couple inches of soil will keep it well fed.

When temperatures rise, lettuce will bolt. Bolting simply means that the lettuce is going to seed. It will send up a main stalk that has little leaves on it, inevitably flowering at the end of the stalk.

The flowers are yellow, with seeds forming at the end of little pieces of fluff that help them to disperse in the breeze.

Sometimes lettuce will even self sow. I had a beauty come up in the middle of my mulched path this year and moved it to the wide bed.

To keep lettuce growing during the heat of summer gardeners get creative, often planting heat tolerant varieties and/or planting it in the shade of trellises of vines or under shade cloth.

I am planning on planting a succession crop soon so that I'll have replacement plants on standby to tuck into the bed that my garlic will be harvested from. My husband enjoys a big salad every night and this will surely help our grocery bill.

If you have never tried growing lettuce, I encourage you to give it a whirl!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 31 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.

GUEST COLUMN

Why are college costs so high?

By Eric Goodhart

The cost of private four-year colleges and universities have steadily increased to a level far beyond the means of the all but a small % of American households. There are two major reasons for that.

Breaking the Bretton Woods Agreement of 1944, President Nixon took the dollar off the gold standard in 1971. The Federal Reserve was printing dollars like there was no tomorrow during what is known as the "Guns and Butter" decade of the sixties. Nixon's move was the catalyst bringing about inflation as the dollar lost value.

A year later, Title IX of the Civil Rights Act was signed into law by Nixon. Many of the most expensive private colleges were beginning to admit women. Title IX prohibits gender-based discrimination in any college or any other education program that receives funding from the federal government.

The full cost of attendance for a four-year private college before 1972 averaged \$3,500 to \$4,500 per year. In 2023 those same colleges cost \$67,000 to \$82,300 per year. State Universities are \$39,000 per year.

Financial aid has not made the colleges affordable, in fact, in the majority of cases it has made them more expensive and put more students and their parents into more debt. The formulas used

to determine "need" penalize families that save for college. The Asset Protection Allowance in 1990 has been steadily reduced to zero now Congress does not even believe a family of four with the oldest parent age 48 does not need even an emergency fund of \$50,000 anymore.

Plus, Congress continues to bend under the pressure of the paid college lobbyists to NOT even increase the financial need when a family has more than one student in college at the same time! In other words, if the Expected Family Contribution was \$40,000 with one in college, it would be the same if two were in college, not \$20,000 per student.

The Department of Education's Federal Student Aid Office, changes will affect seniors, rising 11th graders and younger. Therefore, for planning purpose families of divorce, families with more than one student in college at the same time small business owners and family farm owners.

Here is a summary of current, or soon-to-be-implemented changes:

EFC, which has always been a shock to parents as the amount the government expects a family to pay. The DOE now cleverly calls it Student Aid Index. They say the difference in nomenclature is substantially that alone. Experience warns us that is probably not accurate in effect.

Letters to the Editor

Aaron's Race: Fun, awareness for community

Until it happens to you, the depth of that horrific moment is not understood. That moment is life changing, heart wrenching. The confusion and tears flood your being and the range of emotions is a tsunami.

Until it happens to you, then and only then will you know what it is like.

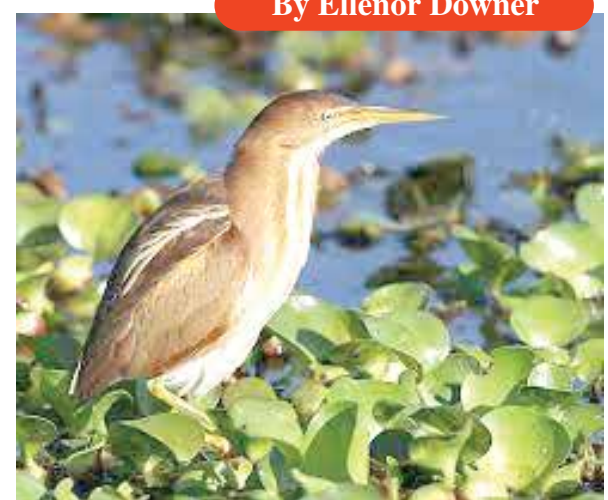
To prevent the above from happening as well as to give family and friends a head's up, the second Aaron's Race on Saturday, June 17, will take place on our Town Common and in our Old Town Hall (for the Pinewood Derby). It is first and always a day of remembrance of those who took their lives - those who didn't know how to work through whatever it was they were going through.

Aaron's Race is also an opportunity to "be there" when your teen summons the courage to share with you.

From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. there will be games, music, food, a Super Raffle and much more; but, it is an opportunity to come, share and learn. There will be opportunities to meet and talk with those who can help you and your teen move forward.

Heather Twining and Tim Plant, along with their legion of volunteers, have worked diligently to create a day where fun, remembrance, learning, and sharing are uppermost in all the staff's collective mind. Come to the Common and be a part of this endeavor to save a life.

Gloria Fortunato
Belchertown



Female least bittern

Massachusetts Audubon Society reported the sightings of a least bittern at Richmond marsh in Berkshire County, one at Great Pond in Hatfield in Hampshire County, two at High Head in Truro and one at Bell's Neck in Harwich, both on Cape Cod.

The least bittern is the smallest of the herons at only 13 inches tall. The male has a black crown and back and the female has a rich brown crown and back. Its chest is white with brown streaking. In flight, the buffy, inner wing patches are visible.

Least bitterns fly weakly with quick wingbeats. They inhabit marshes with dense vegetation. Least bitterns stalk through reeds in a crouched posture or stand in place. They eat small fish, frogs, insects, small mammals and sometimes bird eggs and chicks.

They nest in a small platform of sticks lined with live or dead vegetation placed in cattails, bulrushes or bushes above the water. The female lays two to seven pale blue or greenish, white eggs. In courtship, males make cooing sounds. The male also makes a guttural "uh-uh-uh-oo-oo-ooah" while the female makes ticking sounds. Both give a "tut-tut" sound.

The least bittern is a secretive bird. It will run through reeds in water and flutter briefly above the reeds. It has the same alarm posture as American bitterns of pointing its head skyward.

Other Audubon sightings

Other sightings included common ringed plover in Fairhaven; four sandhill cranes in Worthington and three in Plymouth County and four in Ashfield in Franklin County; worm eating warblers in North Brookfield; an Acadian flycatcher at gate 8 at Quabbin Reservoir in Pelham and two in Granville and an out of place pileated woodpecker in Provincetown on Cape Cod.

Other sightings included a gray-cheeked thrush in Northampton, a blue grosbeak at the Honey Pot in Hadley, a hooded warbler at the Grace Robson Wildlife Sanctuary in Westfield and a northern goshawk at gate 43 of the Quabbin Reservoir in Hardwick.

Turtle

Although a turtle is not a bird, I did see one before Memorial Day laying eggs in the small cemetery on Lincoln Road. I was planting flowers on my late husband's parents and grandparents graves. After planting the flowers, I walked by a smooth shelled turtle about seven to eight inches in size laying eggs. Water is nearby as there is a beaver pond across the street and another located behind the cemetery.

Several days later while driving past the cemetery, I saw two turtles, at different times, crossing the road in the general area of the cemetery. One was a large snapping turtle and the other much smaller, most likely a spotted turtle.

Other wildlife

An Oakham resident said she saw a large coyote and also heard of someone seeing one at Crocker Nye Spring in town.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100, emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

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

Journal Register

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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: mharrison@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 mharrison@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 editor Michael Harrison 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.

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 \$100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

COMMUNITY

Food Policy Council discusses local BOH structures and food code

By Dallas Gagnon
Staff writer
dgagnon@turley.com

REGIONAL – The Quaboag Valley Food Policy Council discussed the structure of local Boards of Health, food codes and Health Department responsibilities at a public information and training meeting.

During the May 31 training, Lead Public Health Field Trainer for Franklin County Regional Council of Governments, Bri Dupras led the event's presentation, focusing on topics such as residential kitchens, leased commercial kitchens and temporary food establishments.

"Historically, Health Departments have been severely underfunded," said Dupras.

According to Dupras, Massachusetts is one of the only states that do not receive funding from the federal government for public health work and is funded through local and state government funding.

Board of Health

Board of Health structures differ from towns and cities. Most towns have three to five members and members may be elected or appointed depending on the town.

In cities, the Board of Health is required to have at least three board members and at least one must be a physician.

Unlike most boards and committees, the Board of Health has the authority to enact regulations without holding a public hearing.

They also have the authority to grant variances, vote on appeals

and have overall authority over the Health Department staff.

The Board of Health also appoints agents to carry out their duties, and usually does not conduct inspections.

"You may find in really, really, tiny towns, the Board of Health will do the inspections," said Dupras.

She added the county is trying to "get away from that," as Board of Health members are usually volunteers who are not necessarily fully trained.

By law, the Board of Health is responsible for inspections of septic systems, housing, food establishments, public and semipublic pools, recreation camps for children, tanning and animal and rabies control.

The Board is also responsible for permitting tattoo and piercing shops, beaver trapping, wood broilers, bathing beaches, indoor skating rinks, funeral directors and solid waste and trash.

However, certain permit regulations and requirements may vary from town to town such as tattoos and piercings, well regulations and solid waste permits.

Other responsibilities include communicable disease surveillance, lead paint determinants, nuisances such as smells, dust and smoke, as well as algal blooms.

Not every city or town will have the same regulations and may even be stricter than state laws or food codes. Some examples include tobacco regulations, trash haulers, cannabis and wells.

The Board of Health has the authority to make reasonable health

regulations including preventative regulations to protect public health safety.

Once the Board enacts regulations, a notice must be published in a local newspaper and will be considered as a notice to all individuals in the public.

Health Department

The Health Department generally consists of paid staff that carry out the daily responsibilities of the Board of Health. Dupras said most of the time, Health Department staff are trained and qualified for the position.

"The Health Department is who you are going to deal with day-to-day. They receive permit applications, conduct plan reviews, issue permits," said Dupras.

However, any significant decision making, and appeals go before the Board of Health for final decision making.

According to Dupras, Health Departments are generally composed of a Health Director or Agent, Health Inspector, Administrative Assistant, health education and public health nurse.

In some cases, social workers are employed by the Health Department, which is "helpful with housing situations," said Dupras.

"Food is obviously a big part of our job," said Dupras. She added Health Departments "are required to inspect restaurants twice a year."

Health Departments are also responsible for housing inspections. Dupras said, "properties must comply with the Massachusetts minimum standards for human habita-

tion." While many housing complaints are from renters, Dupras said the Health Department also receives a lot of reports from police or EMT's regarding sanitation or accessibility concerns.

The Health Department is responsible for nuisance reports as well; such as odors, dust, smoke and noise.

"Depending on what department you work for, septic systems and Title V can be a big part of the job," said Dupras. She added septic tanks must comply with Title V regulations.

For departments in charge of septic systems, soil tests must be conducted and logged. Another responsibility of the Health Department is disease control investigations.

Dupras said if a citizen were to contract food poisoning, whatever lab tested the affected individual would report the case to the community.

"Then, the public health nurse would be calling [you] and starting an investigation," said Dupras.

Food Code

Massachusetts follows a merged food code between one provided by the state and one provided by the Food and Drug Administration.

Nearly all food establishments require permits including mobile and temporary food establishments, frozen dessert manufacturers, farmers markets, caterers and residential kitchens.

Dupras broadly defined food

establishments as "typical restaurants" and "prepared food" establishments.

Residential kitchens

A definition of residential kitchen establishments provided in the presentation was "a person who produces cottage food products in the home kitchen of that person's primary domestic residence and only for sale directly to the consumer."

Some examples include baked goods, jams, jellies, candy, granola as well as spices and seasonings. Foods that are not permitted in residential kitchens include cream filled pastries, cheesecake, cut fruit and veggies, tomato sauce and pickles.

Processing operations that are not permitted in residential kitchens include acidification, hot fill, thermal processing in hermetically sealed containers, vacuum packaging, curing, and smoking; with the exception of preservation of jam and jellies.

Dupras said residential kitchens will need to have well water tested prior to getting a permit and then annually after that.

Leased commercial kitchens

Leased commercial kitchens are food preparation facilities that provide space and access to professional equipment on a lease or rent basis.

Lessees must obtain a retail or wholesale food permit and are not allowed to share the leased space with others who do not have a permit.

Temporary food establishments "A permit is required essential-

ly any time food is going to be sold or given away...food is essentially anything edible," said Dupras.

Temporary food establishments operate for a period of time no longer than 14 consecutive days in conjunction with a single event or celebration.

"You do not need to have a commercial food kitchen to have a temporary food set-up if you're going to prepare all the food on-site," said Dupras.

She added non-profit organizations are typically exempt from paying permit fees, allergen awareness training, an allergen awareness training and posting an allergen menu board unlike other temporary food establishments.

Bake sales do not require a permit if only non-temperature-controlled food is offered.

Mobile food establishments

Mobile food establishments do not require a permit for every event they attend, as long as they are serving in the same town their annual permit is obtained from.

However, anytime a food truck or mobile food establishment leaves town they must receive a permit from the town they plan to serve food in.

Farmers markets

Farmers market vendors may be issued a seasonal permit.

Bathrooms must be provided and may be temporary or permanent. While shared handwashing set ups are allowed, they must be within 25 feet of vendors.

COLLEGE COST | from page 4

With the replacement of the Data Retrieval Tool with the Direct Data Transfer tax returns become more determinative of basic, financial qualification.

Families of divorce will be asked which parent provides the most financial support for the student rather than, with whom is the student living one-half of a year plus one day, or longer. As of the date of this article, no time parameters are determined. What does that mean? Having observed the decisions of colleges for decades, it means college financial aid offices are going to dig deeper into the financial arrangements of families of divorce.

Child Support will no longer be counted as "untaxed income," but rather as a parent asset.

The current asset exclusion of family-owned businesses and family-owned farms is gone. The asset value of each shall be included in the SAI calculation.

Simplified Needs Test (which removes assets from an SAI calculation) is based on AGI under \$60,000. But if the parent operates a small business, buyer beware. The financial aid officers are trained to watch out for business owners because they are told that the AGI on the tax return can be reduced at will.

The number of family members in college at the same time, as a consideration, will be phased out; although "professional judgement may allow for that to be considered. Therefore, it should be noted in "Other Information" provided to the colleges.

Two other considerations represent the proverbial double-edged sword. One is that the end of PELL Grant eligibility after 12 semesters is removed. The other side is that Direct Student Loan time limit of 150% of satisfactory academic progress is also removed. Students will be able to drag out their college education beyond six years. Over the last 30 years, the statistics show that only 38% of students graduate in four years. The 50 or so, most competitive colleges have over 90% graduation rate in four years. That is because they have many applicants each year to fill seats. Getting through college in those colleges is much easier than getting in.

Presently, this reporter is researching each of the Community Colleges that largely served the western part of Massachusetts beginning with Mount Wachusett and Greenfield Community Colleges. So far, some nice surprises, but some are facing challenges. Each week there will be a profile of the colleges.

With college costs being so high, does it make financial sense to go to a Community College for two years and then transfer to as a junior to a four-year college? As is the case to many scenarios...it depends. Those will be explored and explained.

If the reader has personal experience with a Community College, as a student or parent in Massachusetts or elsewhere, they may email Eric Goodhart at barrenews@turley.com.

Food policy council looks to form leadership team

By Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Members of the Quaboag Valley Food Policy Council continued discussion about the organizational structure of the Council.

Council Coordinator Caitlin Geaghan said since its formation, Council members have talked about its vision and mission, decision making styles, organizational structure and the needs of the 12 communities it serves.

Members of the Council do not need to be experts, Geaghan said, they just need to have an interest in the food needs of the community.

"Anyone can take part in our food policy council," she said.

Geaghan went on to explain at the June 12 meeting, that each food policy council is different and can focus on different needs, depending on the community.

After discussing the organizational structure, members of the Council agreed that Geaghan and Project Coordinator for Community Health Emily Coderre would handle the day-to-day business of the Council, such as scheduling meeting dates and times.

A leadership team will be formed to narrow down topics before they reach the general Council membership.

"These narrowed down topics are presented to the whole food policy council for discussion," Geaghan said.

The leadership team would be

comprised of a representation of the 50 active members of the Council covering different communities and demographics, such as farmers, those who've experienced food insecurity, low-income, business owners, local government, geographic and ethnic diversity.

The general membership will then come to an agreement on the topic that everyone can live it.

Geaghan said this means that not everyone will love the decision, but no one will be fully opposed to it either.

All in attendance at the meeting agreed that this was an effective plan to conduct the Council's business.

Council members also discussed current food needs in the community, with one being homelessness and access to hot, cooked meals.

Food pantries have been an invaluable resource to provide food for people, but preparing meals poses an extra challenge to those without anywhere to cook or store them.

Hosting community dinners was suggested, such as the ones many of the local churches hosted prior to the pandemic.

Members also discussed organizations that collect expiring food from grocery stores in order to distribute it to those in need.

While there are no organizations like this that directly serve the Quaboag Valley region, there is Rachel's Table in Springfield, a program of the Jewish

Federation of Western Massachusetts, as well as another based in Boston.

Members discussed the possibility of reaching out to either of these groups, to learn how food can be collected and distributed not only to address hunger, but also to cut back on food waste.

Coderre said the Council is also looking to conduct a community food assessment to determine where gaps in resources are, and who is affected by these gaps. This assessment could take a couple of months to compile.

The Council will be hosting hybrid training opportunity about Food Policy and Advocacy 101 on Wednesday, June 28 from 4-5 p.m. at E2E, 79 Main St., with Zoom access available.

About QVFPC

The Quaboag Valley Food Policy Council is funded through a grant received by the Town of Ware in partnership with Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation, covering the towns of Ware, Belchertown, Palmer, Monson, Wales, Holland, Brimfield, Warren, Brookfield, West Brookfield, North Brookfield and East Brookfield.

The Council is open to all, and everyone is welcome to join in the discussion.

For more information, people may email Geaghan at cgeaghan@townofware.com or Coderre at ecoderre@townofware.com.

Old Sturbridge Village Commemorates Juneteenth

STURBRIDGE – Old Sturbridge Village will be having programming for Juneteenth on Mon. June 19, from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. This year's event is free to the public and will be rich with history, learning, hands-on activities, and food. "The Village has taken a robust approach to deepening the programming that interprets life in the 19th Century for today's visitor and commemorates the lives and experiences of Black people in America," says Jasmin Rivas, director of diversity, equity, inclusion and

access.

Juneteenth commemorates the emancipation of enslaved African Americans in 1865—marking the day when troops arrived in Galveston, Texas to ensure the freedom of those enslaved, more than two years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation.

Visitors to Old Sturbridge Village on June 19 will be encouraged to consider Juneteenth's historical

and present-day significance, engage in discussions with interpreters and special guests, and participate in activities that help broaden their understanding of history and culture.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

E-mail items to mharrison@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 mharrison@turley.com.

THIS WEEK

CELEBRATE RIVERS MONTH: Join the Chicopee Rivers Watershed Council for a paddle from the upper Chicopee at 9 a.m. on June 17. Watch for eagles and explore islands and scenery along the river for the 7-miles, two-and-a-half hour outing. RSVP at chicopeewatershed@gmail.com. Interested in the haiku and picture contest? Find details at tinyurl.com/ujwh6fb9.

SUMMER DANCE PROGRAM: Kids and teens age 7 to 17 are invited to a Summer Drama and Dance Program Tuesdays and Thursdays June 20-Aug. 27 at the Palmer Historical and Cultural Center, 2072 Main Street in Three Rivers. Sign up for either drama or dance or both. All students will take part in an end-of-season performance.

For more information, go to palmerhcc.org.

UPCOMING

JIMMY FUND WALK: Registration is now open for the 2023 Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk Scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 1. Proceeds from the event support all forms of adult and pediatric patient care and cancer research at one of the nation's premier cancer centers, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. All four routes will culminate at the Jimmy Fund Walk Finish Line in the Fenway neighborhood. If walkers want to participate a bit closer to home, the Jimmy Fund Walk has flexible opportunities, including virtually. Register as an individual walker, team member or start a team at JimmyFundWalk.org or by calling 866-531-9255.

GOLF TOURNEY FOR PETS: Second Chance Animal Services' 11th annual Charity Golf Tournament will be held at Cold Spring Country Club on Monday, July 24. The event offers golfers a great golf outing on a world-class course and will benefit programs assisting the underserved

at Second Chance Community Veterinary Hospitals in the region. Individuals and foursomes are welcome. Second Chance encourages golfers to purchase tickets early. Check in will be 9 a.m. and the tournament will commence with a shotgun start at 10 a.m. Registration and information on sponsorships and item donations can be found at secondchanceanimals.org/events/golf/.

INTERESTS

CRAFTERNOONS: Drop in 2-4 p.m. daily at the Holland Public Library, 23 Sturbridge Rd. to learn or practice different crafts. 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. The Phillips Sculpture Garden is open year-round (handouts in box on one of the sign posts). For more information call 413-267-4137, email khm@keephomesteadmuseum.org.

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.

ONGOING

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 of every month at Top Floor

Learning (third floor of 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 283-2329, or 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: 6 p.m., every Tuesday night at Memorial Hall with Randy Emerson. Free, no registration. Presented by Monson Parks & Rec and the Monson Free Library,

Pathfinder receives donation from former Rotary Club



Submitted Photo

Superintendent Eric Duda (center) receives a check for \$15,000 from former Rotary Club members.

PALMER – The former Rotary Club recently made a huge donation to Pathfinder Vocational Technical School.

Though the town's Rotary Club has reportedly been dissolved, it was able to make a \$15,000 donation to support schol-

arships for Pathfinder students who graduated this year, as well as for years to come.

Resilient Bernese Mountain Dog still waiting to find a home

EAST BROOKFIELD — Mack has captured the hearts of many as he navigates shelter life, waiting for a loving home.

The remarkable 2-year-old Bernese Mountain Dog mix was surrendered to Second Chance Animal Services over a year ago with both hearing and sight impairments. Despite the challenges he faces, Mack's indomitable spirit and unique communication style will make him a truly special companion.

Mack's journey has been marked by resilience and determination. Unable to rely on traditional sensory cues, he has developed alternative ways to communicate and engage with his surroundings. Using his mouth as a means of expression, Mack does sometimes resort to inappropriate mouthing to convey his emotions.

Understanding his distinctive communication style requires patience, observation, and above all, empathy.

To give Mack the best chance at a second chance, he participated in Second Chance's Project Good Dog. He received 24/7 training and



Contributed photo

Mack, a 2-year-old Bernese Mountain Dog mix, is Second Chance's longest shelter resident. He loves to go for car rides.

support from one of the inmates at the Worcester County Sheriff's Office. While Second Chance provides supplies and toys for Project Good Dog pups, Mack's most favorite thing from his time there was a milk crate. He loved to carry it around and the sheriff's office made sure he had one to bring back to Second Chance as a very special graduation

present.

Mack has made great progress over the past year and Second Chance Animal Relocation Director Wendy Hall said in a press release she hopes Mack can find a family who will help him continue his work.

"Working with a professional trainer or behaviorist who specializes in special needs dogs can provide invaluable guidance in helping Mack develop alternative communication methods and manage his emotional responses," Hall said.

"By approaching interactions with understanding and care, it is possible to create a nurturing environment for Mack to thrive and form deep connections."

Mack's journey serves as a powerful reminder of the adaptability of animals. Despite the challenges he faces, Mack has the potential to flourish and bring immeasurable joy to his new family. He seeks a family who can offer him patience, understanding, and the commitment to his well-being that he deserves.

If you are interested in providing a loving home for Mack or would like to learn more about him, you contact Second Chance at 508-867-5525 or come meet him in person at the Adoption Center, 111 Young Road in East Brookfield. No appointment is needed to visit during adoption hours, which are: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday; 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday evenings and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays.

About Second Chance

Second Chance Animal Services is a nonprofit animal welfare organization founded in 1999. Second Chance began as an animal shelter and grew to help more pets in need. Today, Second Chance operates Community Veterinary Hospitals in North Brookfield, Southbridge, Springfield, and Worcester, providing access to the highest-quality veterinary care for all.

Subsidized rates are provided to underserved communities to ensure access to care for all pets in need. Last year, Second Chance helped over 44,000 pets live better lives through full-service veterinary care, spay/neuter services, adoption services, community & educational outreach programs, training, and a pet food pantry.

For more information, visit Second Chance's website at secondchance-animals.org.

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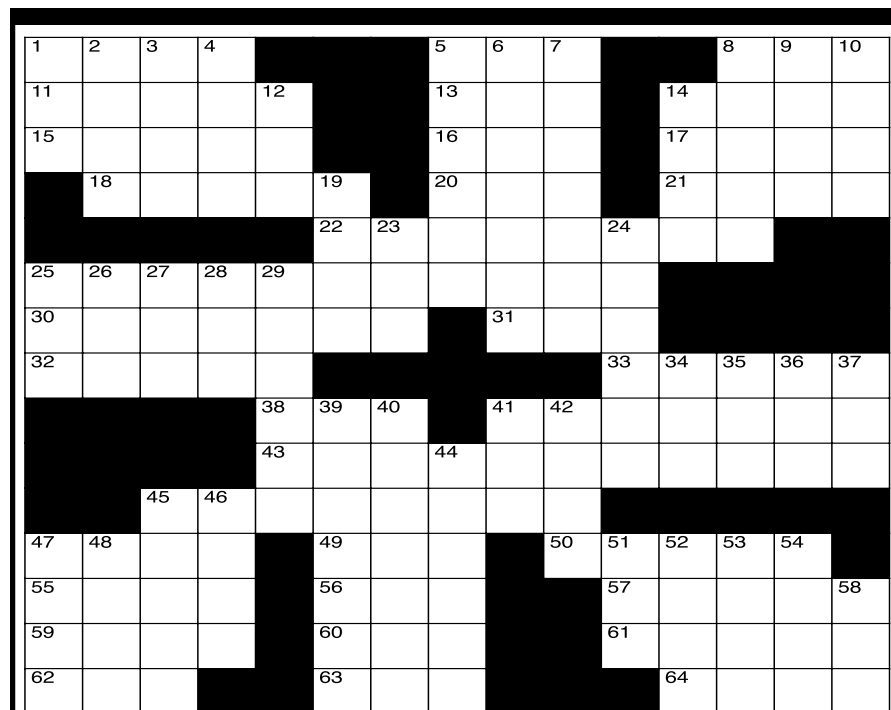
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June 21, 2023

PUBLICATION DATES

July 12, 2023



CLUES ACROSS

1. In a place to sleep
5. Chemical compound (abbr.)
8. A way to fish
11. Classic Linklater film "___ and Confused"
13. Legume
14. Indonesian island
15. Smooth, creamy substance
16. Arctic
17. Wood sorrels
18. Defied
20. Cattle
21. Tableland
22. Honorably retired and retaining one's title
25. Repossession
30. Danced
31. Adult males
32. A type of section
33. Type of Japanese animation
38. Satisfaction

41. Fit
43. "Ain't No Sunshine" singer
45. Failure
47. Israeli city
49. French river
50. Cavalry-sword
55. Nocturnal S. American rodent
56. Liquefied natural gas
57. Afflicted
59. Electronic counter-countermeasures
60. Popular HBO fantasy series (abbr.)
61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
62. Large body of water
63. ___ kosh, near Lake Winnebago
64. Impudence

CLUES DOWN

1. Payroll firm
2. Unit of transmission

3. Rockers Better Than ___
4. Bambi is one
5. Highest parts of something
6. Correct behavior
7. Batty
8. Cyprinid fishes
9. Expression of sorrow or pity
10. Site of the famous Leaning Tower
12. American rocker Snider
14. W. African language
19. Symbol to mark for removal
23. ___ Squad
24. Resident
25. Federal savings bank
26. Paddle
27. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
28. One point south of due east
29. Winter melon

34. Last or greatest in an indefinitely large series
35. Anger
36. Central European river
37. First responders
39. Spanish noble
40. Persons with absence of skin pigment
41. Defunct airline
42. Small island (British)
44. The extent of something from beginning to end
45. Capital of Bangladesh
46. Dutch cheese
47. Imitates
48. A contest of speed
51. Swiss river
52. Prejudice
53. Actor Idris
54. UNLV's are Runnin'
58. Criticize

Tantasqua's Class of 2023 moves forward to future



Students walk across the Tantasqua school track for the last time as students.



A student smiles as they prepare for graduation.



Students are shown smiling and waving as the crowd cheers on the graduating class of 2023.



A graduate is shown smiling as they make their way to their seat for the commencement ceremony.



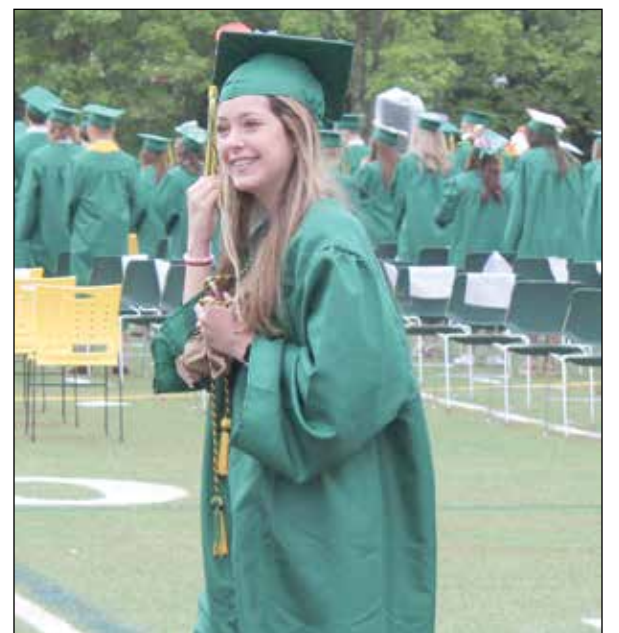
The graduating class walks in front of the bleachers as friends and family show support to the graduates.



Graduates walk with enthusiasm as they get ready to receive their diplomas.



A graduate is shown in her cap and gown.



A student is shown in graduation attire, ready to receive their diploma.

By Dallas Gagnon
Staff Writer
dgagnon@turley.com

STURBRIDGE – Friends and family joined Tantasqua's graduating class of over 270 students for the 2023 commencement ceremony held this past Saturday.

The humming of the spectators' conversations broke when "Pomp and Circumstance" began as the graduates entered the field, prompting attendees to stand and cheer instead.

Class Treasurer Grace Chisholm opened the ceremony by announcing the event as a gathering to "celebrate the combination of our high school years."

This year's theme was inspired by the C.S. Lewis quote "you can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending."

"It is time to look ahead and remember what we leave behind," said Chisholm.

On par with the event's theme, the Tantasqua Choraleers sang "You are the New Day," by David arranged by Knight, celebrating the beginning of the class's journey after high school.

Class President, Kaitlynn Riley said, "I know the past four years have not been easy, but with perseverance we have made it through."

Riley said that while COVID-19 pandemic affected the class's high school experience, she called on C.S. Lewis to remind the class "you can't change the beginning."

Riley believes the class has proven they "are not only capable of dealing with adversity, but striving through it."

Academic honor student Lilly Ehrhard welcomed the class to "the day we've all been talking about since day one," adding that "after today, everything is going to change for all of us."

While Ehrhard said she counted down the days until graduation, she has learned "going forward, we should never lose sight of the present."

Ehrhard said she is "thankful for the protective bubble" being in high school with the class provided for her, as leaving it behind is bittersweet.

She added that although the class will no longer be spending time together "we don't have to give up our positive mindset and spirit...there will be plenty more opportunities in the future."

She advised the class to "be deliberate with your time."

Technical honor student Sierra Murray also asked the class to consider the value of their time as they embark on the next chapter of their lives.

"Hard work is great - but not at the expense of your relationships," said Murray.

She added "nothing will be more important than the relationships you have with others... nothing is guaranteed - have no regrets."

As rain began lightly drizzling down on all attendees, Tantasqua Principal Leigh Joseph said she believed the rain was "tears from Heaven," from those who were not able to make it to graduation.

She added two forget-me-nots were planted two weeks prior to the ceremony in the same flower pot, which had merged to form one plant.

The plants were placed on a chair by the stage to symbolize two students who passed away and would have otherwise attended the June 3 commencement ceremony.

Following the Tantasqua concert band performance of the "Washington Post March", Tantasqua School Committee Chairman Michael Valanzola gave a presentation speech.

Valanzola spoke to the class about the importance of perspective, sharing the story of former U.S. Marine Sergeant Johnny "Joey" Jones.

Jones, a former Explosive Ordnance Disposal technician, served in Afghanistan and experienced an injury resulting in the amputation of both legs from above the knee as well as other injuries.

Following the accident, Jones went on to obtain a bachelor's degree from Georgetown University and shares his story to inspire others to continue pushing forward despite life's challenges.

Valanzola said Jones' emphasis on a positive perspective was critical in his recovery and his motivation.

"No matter how hard of a day you have - everything is a matter of perspective," said Valanzola, adding Jones was "driven by a positive perspective."

"Remember the way you make people smile... remember your academic achievements - you have so much to be proud of class 2023, yet so much more to achieve," said Valanzola.

District Superintendent Deborah Boyd shared her hopes for the Class of 2023.

While many people claim high school is "the best years of [their] lives," Boyd said she hopes "so much more," for the class moving forward.

"I hope we gave you a few things to move forward with," said Boyd.

Boyd asked the class to consider some of the obstacles they have, and have not, overcome throughout their high school experience.

"Over the next few days as you celebrate, look back and reflect on those obstacles...It'll give you motivation to move forward," said Boyd.

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OMP 5th Grade Steps-up

Everyone enjoyed the creatures during the petting zoo time.

Submitted photos



Black-top games for the students to play.



PTO members and parent volunteers who were part of arranging and chaperoning all of the activities.



PTO Volunteer Patience Monty Hartley and 5th grade student Olivia Drewnowski with one of the piglets from the petting farm.



Chalk time is an activity they had at recess for the kids to participate in.

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Friends Addy Allard, Aria Nompoggi, Emily Provost, Harper Brouillette getting props before their photo booth pic at the 5th grade step-up dance.



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5th grade friends pose for a pic as volunteers get set up for the dance

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SOFTBALL

Pioneers season ends in Division 5 state tournament

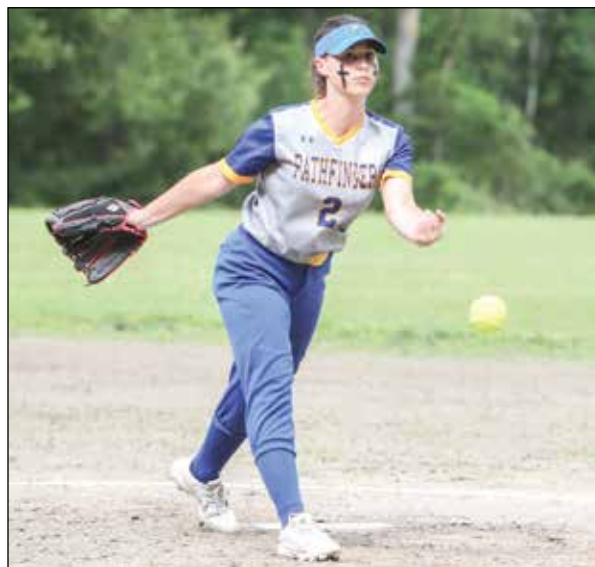


Turley photos by Jack Cascio NEAP.smugmug.com
Jennifer Kinney swings at a pitch.

PALMER – Pathfinder softball has been slowly making its way back into playoff contention, and this year qualified for the Division 5 state tournament. The Pioneers faced an Eastern Mass. school in the preliminary round, Minuteman High School. The Pioneers were defeated 14-1 on the road, and their season ends at 7-8.



Greenly Lagimoniere looks to make contact.



Emma Chevalier pitches for the Pioneers.



Olivia Ward makes a catch in the outfield.

Pioneers recognized



LUDLOW – At a recent Western Mass. Pioneers game, the Lusitano Club recognized high school soccer players for their outstanding seasons last fall. Pathfinder, which co-ops with Palmer, had two players present, Evan Costa and Tucker Sikes.

Evan Costa receives his award.



Tucker Sikes is recognized for his soccer season last fall. He is shown with Lusitano Club member Joseph Jorge, Sr.

BASEBALL

Tantasqua beats Pittsfield in second round of playoffs

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

FISKDALE—The Tantasqua Regional baseball team entered last Thursday afternoon's Division 3 round of 16 contest against Pittsfield High School having lost only one game at William R. Emrich Field this spring.

The fifth-seeded Warriors closed out the home slate by celebrating a 5-3 victory over the 12th-seeded Generals.

"We battled hard and found a way to win our final home game of the season," said Tantasqua head coach Jon Leroux. "We just made a couple more plays than they did, which was the biggest difference."

The seniors listed on the Tantasqua varsity baseball roster, who walked off Emrich Field victorious for the final time in a varsity game, are Henry Blake, Devin Krochmalnyckyj, Aubyn Phillips, Steven Parent, and Ryan Kelly.

"All five of us seniors really wanted to win our final home game. It really means the world to us," said Blake, who's the Warriors' starting catcher. "I really love playing games on this field. It's awesome."

The Warriors (20-3), who are looking to capture the state title for the first time since 1977, only home loss this season was to West Springfield, who played in the Division 2 state tournament.

Both of their road losses came at neutral sites. They lost to Shrewsbury High School in the championship game of the John Ahern Tournament at Hudson High School during the April school vacation. Their other loss was to Leominster in the finals of the Central Mass. Tournament held at Tivnan Field in Worcester.

"We were a really young team last year with only a couple of seniors," added Blake, who'll be playing baseball at MCLA in North Adams next year. "Everyone on this year's team has stepped up and have played a key role."

Phillips tossed a five-inning perfect game against David Prouty at the beginning of the regular season, but he's not the ace of the Warriors pitching staff. That title belongs to Henry's younger brother, Miles, who's only a sophomore.

Henry Blake had the opportunity to catch for his brother at least one more time at the high school level. Miles Blake, who's a lefty, was scheduled to start against fourth-seeded Oakmont in the round of eight road game last Sunday afternoon.

"It has been a lot of fun being the catcher for my brother during the past couple of years," Henry Blake said. "I also enjoy catching all of our other pitchers."

Junior right-hander Joe Amaru was the starting pitcher against Pittsfield (12-9). He went the first 4 1/3 innings allowing two runs (one earned) and four base hits. He struck out four and issued just one walk.

Sophomore righty Lucas MacNevin, who started in right field, took over on the mound with one-out in the fourth and was able to get out of a jam. MacNevin allowed the tying run in the top of the sixth inning, but he wound up as the winning pitcher.

"Joe did an awesome job of throwing strikes, and we made the plays behind him. Joe wasn't the winning pitcher, but he has won a lot of games for us this year," Leroux said. "He and Lucas have worked very well together all year long. Lucas did a great job in relief."

MacNevin was also the winning pitcher in the Warriors 3-1 home win over 28th-seeded Dover Sherborn on June 5.

The score of the round of 16 game was tied 3-3 entering the bottom of the sixth inning.

Junior first baseman Jack Rapose (2-for-3) singled to left field leading off the frame. Following a sacrifice bunt by MacNevin, junior centerfielder Ryan Wright hit a flyball single to center putting runners at the corners. Then junior DH Petey Casine, who's

normally a pinch hitter, slapped a single past the Generals third baseman scoring the go-ahead run.

"We decided to make a change today to spark our offense," Leroux said. "Petey has been our main pinch hitter this year and he got the job done in that situation."

Another run crossed the play on a ground ball hit by junior third baseman Colm McGrath.

MacNevin allowed a leadoff single in the top of the seventh inning to Pittsfield junior pinch hitter Roshan Warrior before retiring the next three batters. He ended the game with his only strikeout before being mobbed by his teammates.

"I just kept throwing the last batter curveballs and he couldn't hit them," MacNevin said. "It's a lot of fun winning a postseason game. We're not done yet."

Amaru was helped out in the top of the first inning with a couple of outstanding defensive plays made by Krochmalnyckyj, who's the Warriors' starting shortstop, and Rapose.

McGrath poked a single into center field leading off the home half of the frame. After stealing second base, McGrath moved to third on a bunt hit by junior left fielder Chace Fredette before scoring the game's first run on Krochmalnyckyj's sacrifice fly to right.

The Tantasqua defense turned a 5-4-3 inning ending double play in the top half of the fourth inning.

With two outs in the bottom of the fourth, Tantasqua junior center fielder Ryan Wright gave his team a 3-0 advantage by hitting a two-run groundball single into left field.

The Generals battled back with two runs in the fifth before tying the score with another run in the following inning.

The Warriors never trailed as Casine came up with a clutch base hit and MacNevin got the job done on the mound.

LACROSSE



Turley photos by Jack Cascio NEAP.smugmug.com
Seth Mitchell breaks away from this defender.

Tough season for lacrosse co-op

MONSON – Monson boys lacrosse, which has had a co-op the last two seasons with Pathfinder Regional, had a rough end to the season as the Pioneers simply had a tough time stopping goals. The Pioneers played to a 2-15 record overall. Their final game was a nonplay-off win over Central High School, the source of their other win in the regular season on May 6.



Kyle Baudry passes to a teammate.



Osvaldo Nieves makes a great save at goal.



Talon Clark maintains control despite the defensive efforts.

Pioneers gets another draw



Lucio Berron dribbles up the field.



Tomas Duben socks a corner kick away.



Augustine Boadi dribbles toward the goal.



Connor Hicks makes a throw-in.

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—The last two Western Mass. Pioneers home matches have ended in draws. It's something that hasn't taken place at Lusitano Stadium since 2018.

Four days after playing a scoreless draw against Black Rock FC, the Pioneers had to settle for a 1-1 home tie versus the Boston Bolts, last Wednesday night.

"Another tie really doesn't help us very much," said Pioneers head coach Federico Molinari. "We've been having trouble putting the ball into the net during the past couple of games."

At the beginning of the 2018 regular season, the Pioneers posted back-to-back 1-1 home draws against the Boston Bolts and the GPS Portland Phoenix.

The Pioneers also played a road tie against the Seacoast United Phantoms and a home tie against the Westchester Flames in back-to-back matches at the end of the 2018

regular season.

The good news is the Pioneers haven't lost a regular season match at Lusitano Stadium since June 22, 2018, when they suffered a 2-1 setback to Black Rock FC.

The Western Mass. squad had a 3-0-3 overall record after their first six matches of this season. Their other tie came in the first meeting of the regular season with the Phantoms, which took place away from the friendly confines of Lusitano Stadium on May 25.

The Pioneers posted a 3-0 road victory over the Bolts in the season opener on May 16.

Western Mass. was trailing 1-0 at half-time of last Wednesday's home contest.

The Bolts (0-3-3) took a 1-0 lead following a header by Harry Sankey, which was assisted by Tanner Barry, during the 21st minute.

The home team, who played much better during the second half, had several very good chances to put the ball into the net past Bolts goalie Nikola Antich.

Alec Hughes, Jared Smith, Lucio Ber-

ron, and Khalid Rose had shots on goals for the home team.

Augustine Boadi, who's a first-year member of the Western Mass. Pioneers squad, finally got the job done during the 84th minute.

Boadi, who'll be entering his sophomore season as a member of the Boston College men's soccer team in the fall, received a pass from Hughes before firing a shot off the post into the right corner of the net for the game tying goal.

"It was the third goal that I've scored as a member of the Western Mass. Pioneers," said Boadi, who was born in Accra, Ghana. "I scored my first goal of the season in a home match against Pathfinder. The second one came at Boston City, which was a 10-1 win. Another tie wasn't the result that we really wanted in tonight's match, but it's one of those games we need to learn from."

Boadi also does a very good job in the classroom at Boston College. He was recently selected to the ACC All-Academic Team.

Prior to playing soccer for Boston College, Boadi attended Northfield Mount Hermon where he was named as the Massachusetts Gatorade Player of the Year as a senior.

Frankie D'Agostino, who's a former Pioneers player and is currently the associate head coach of the B.C. men's soccer team, recommended Boadi to Molinari.

"Frankie played a key role in getting me to play for the Pioneers this year," Boadi said. "Vermont and the Bolts also wanted me for them. Frankie told me about this team and stadium, so I decided to come here. It has been a lot of fun so far. This is a very special place and I'm hoping to come back here next year."

D'Agostino, who grew up in Longmeadow, had the chance to watch Boadi play a soccer match at Lusitano Stadium for the first time last Wednesday night.

It looked like the Pioneers would take a 2-1 lead with a stoppage time goal, but the referee never called it a goal.

"From my point of view, I thought the

shot by Andrew Serafino did go into the net," Boadi said. "It was either a goal or we should've been given a penalty kick because of a hand ball."

Molinari gave his thoughts about the no goal call.

"All of the players told me it was a goal," he said. "If it was a goal, it's disappointing that the referee didn't allow it, but there isn't anything we can do about it now. We now must win the rest of our games if we want the chance to make the playoffs."

Nicholas Oberrauch, who's the Pioneers captain, didn't play in the Pioneers home match against the Bolts because of an injury.

After playing a couple of road matches, the Pioneers will be returning home to battle rival Seacoast United at 7 p.m. on June 23.

HONOR ROLL

Winter Season

ALL STARS

PALMER HIGH SCHOOL

GIRLS BASKETBALL
Charlotte Theriault

BOYS SWIMMING
Wayne Podsiadlo
Marcus Yetts



MONSON HIGH SCHOOL

BOYS BASKETBALL
Colin Beaupre

GIRLS BASKETBALL
Olivia Chrzan
Aniah Myrie

BOYS SWIMMING
Caleb Becker

GIRLS SWIMMING
Madelyn Moreau
Emily Nadeau
Emmy Roberts
Annabelle Tulloch
Isabella Zeppa



MONSON SWIMMING
ISABELLA ZEPPA
100 backstroke
Central/West
runner-up



ALL STARS

PATHFINDER REGIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

BOYS BASKETBALL
Cody Ostiguy
Hunter Griswold

GIRLS BASKETBALL
Greenly Lagimoniere
Stephanie Kozlik



PATHFINDER WRESTLING
TARAN PRAK
Central Mass.
D3 runner-up

PATHFINDER WRESTLING
WILLIAM BURKE
D3 state champion
Central Mass.
D3 champion



TANTASQUA REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

BOYS BASKETBALL
Colm McGrath – First Team
Bryce Tessier – Second Team
Adam Howe – Second Team

GIRLS BASKETBALL
Gabby Scanlon – First Team
Kelsie Wotton – Second Team
Nikki Vejack – Second Team
Maeve Early – Second Team

HOCKEY
(CO-OP WITH AUBURN)
Braeden Rich
Ethan LaPlante

BOYS INDOOR TRACK
Avant Fitzpatrick – First Team
Camden Foley – First Team
Cameron Murphy – Second Team
James Segatore – Second Team

GIRLS INDOOR TRACK
Haley Courtney – First Team
Haley McCormack – First Team
Keoni Savoie – First Team
Tess Chevalier – Second Team
Katie Riley – Second Team
Olivia Magierowski – Second Team
Lili Shiers – Second Team

BOYS SWIMMING
Ethan Korenda
Eben Mazioka
Sam Merchant
Ethan Zhu

GIRLS SWIMMING
Kira Dambly
Zoey Zhu



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Rollins takes win in Late Model race

WINCHESTER, N.H. – Veteran wheelsman Geoff Rollins rocketed to victory Saturday at Monadnock Speedway, gobbling up the competition as he won the first round of the 2023 Teddy Bear Pools NHSTRA Late Model Triple Crown series at the storied high-banked speedplant.

The Bay State hot shoe was one of four drivers scoring his first win of the year Saturday on the high banks. Nate Wenzel, NHSTRA Modifieds, Louie Maher, Mini Stocks, and Michael Yeaton, Six Shooters, each earned his first victory lap of the summer, while Pure Stocker Chris Davis and Young Gun Adrian Smith both won for the second time.

Starting up front in the 50-lap main event after dominating his heat race, Rollins never looked back en route to running away with the \$1,000 top prize. Strongman Chris Buffone stayed with him the first ten laps but when Buffone suddenly dropped out on lap 11, it was all Rollins. Behind him, though, the competition was fierce for spots two through five.

With only one caution, on lap 47, slowing the rapid-fire event, gains were hard to come by as the sizzling field blasted through the fog. Kenny Thompson claimed the duce at Buffone's demise, but had Tim Wenzel glued to his bumper.

Matt Sonnhalter, charging from row four, took second on lap 35, but Wenzel stayed just inches behind. With three to go, Rollins lost his half-lap lead, while the two top contenders set up for a furious finish. Sonnhalter's last-lap backchute dive netted him second, with Wenzel, Thompson, and Hillary Renaud rounding out



Submitted photo
Geoff Rollins got a victory at Monadnock Speedway last Saturday evening.

the potent top five.

Sophomore speedster Nate Wenzel led all the way in the NHSTRA Modified 40-lapper, keeping defending track champ Tyler Leary in his shadow to score his first victory of the summer. Brian Chapin edged Aaron Fellows for third, while JT Cloutier, spun on lap five, stormed back through the field to come home fifth.

The crowd held its breath in this one, as the red waved on lap five when Kimmy Rivet's open-wheeler took a wild ride in turn two, landing on top of the backstretch wall. Something appeared to have broken in Cole Littlewood's car, sending him into Rivet and then into the wall, but both drivers fortunately walked away from the carnage.

Louie Maher made the move of the night on lap three of the Mini Stock feature to take the lead from Skyler Shippee and then hold strong to score his first win of the season in the caution-free

25-lapper. Shippee finished at his bumper, with Kevin Clayton strong in third.

Chris Davis held second-generation pilot Nolan McClay in his shadow for all 25 laps to win his second Pure Stock feature in a row. Reigning Claremont champ Chris Chambers was third, taking the checkers just ahead of Kodi Sabins and CJ Johnson.

Week one winner Steve Miller and son Steve Jr. brought the Six Shooters to the green but, if this one was supposed to be a Marvelous Millers show, Michael Yeaton hadn't read the script. Yeaton took over on lap three and never looked back. Miller Jr. was strong in second, with Renegade Robert Shaw coming home third.

Markus O'Neil led the first eight laps of the Young Guns feature before giving way to event winner Adrian Smith. Owen Zilinski got up for second on lap 11 but couldn't reel in the speedy Smith, while O'Neil stayed strong to earn the third podium spot.

After a weekend off, Monadnock Speedway will return to action on Saturday, June 24, when it hosts the 50-lap Pure Stock Shoot Out. The NHSTRA Modifieds, Pro 4 Modifieds, Mini Stocks, and Young Guns, along with the NELCAR Legends and Bandaleiros, will all be in action too.

Monadnock Speedway June 10 Unofficial Top Tens:

TEDDY BEAR POOLS TRIPLE CROWN LATE MODEL 50: Geoff Rollins, Matt Sonnhalter, Tim Wenzel, Rupert Thompson, Hillary Renaud, JD Stockwell, Erik Smith, Isabella Minchella, Gordon Farnum, Chris Castor.

NHSTRA MODIFIED: Nate Wenzel, Tyler Leary, Brian Chapin, Aaron Fellows, JT Cloutier, Cory Plummer, Joel Belanger, Eric Leclair, Adam LaPoint, Kevin Pittsinger.

MINI STOCK: Louie Maher, Skyler Shippee, Kevin Clayton, Cam Sontag, Erin Aiken, Jon Fultz, Chris Sontag, Robert Williams, Jake Puchalski, Pat Houle.

PURE STOCK: Chris Davis, Nolan McClay, Chris Chambers, Kodi Sabins, CJ Johnson, Colton Martin, Jimmy Zellman, Andrea St. Amour, Colton Hull, Ricky Melcher.

SIX SHOOTER: Mike Yeaton, Steve Miller Jr., Robert Shaw, Steve Miller Sr., Andrew Scott, Ethan Meyette, Mike Comtois, Zach Zilinski, Jacob Scott, Russell Mason.

YOUNG GUN: Adrian Smith, Owen Zilinski, Markus O'Neil, Madison Cousino, Addison Brooks, Cambri Hubbard, Kailyn Hubbard, Sofia Rego, Jordan Higbee.

Turleysports

Athlete of the Week



Tucker Sikes
Pathfinder

Sikes was among several athletes recognized by the Lusitano Club for his outstanding soccer season last fall.

To nominate someone for Athlete of the Week, contact Managing Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at 413-283-8393 ext. 258 or send an e-mail to gscibelli@turley.com.

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ARBELLA INSURANCE

Blue Sox open regular season



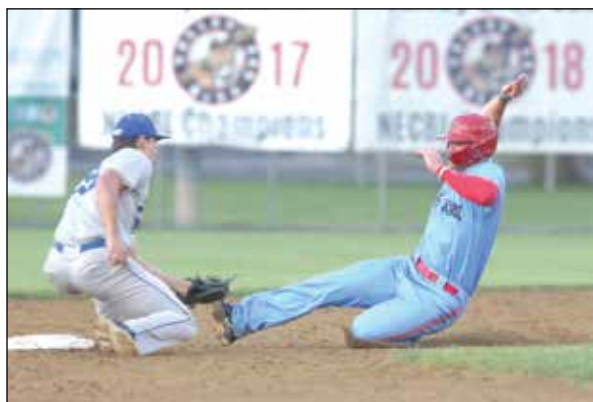
Matthew Garcia ranges to pick up the grounder.



Nick Callano winds and fires.



Miachel Zarrillo fires to first.



Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Matthew Bergevin slides safely into second.



Eliot Dix makes a play.

HOLYOKE – The Blue Sox dropped their final game of their four game homestand, losing to the Martha's Vineyard Sharks by a score of 11-4 on Sunday afternoon. The Blue Sox tallied three hits on the day, and all their runs came in the third inning. The team fell to 2-3 on the season.

The Sharks scored 11 runs off of nine hits, with Clemson's Nathan Hall going 3-5 on the day with two triples. The Blue Sox allowed nine stolen bases and seven advancements on wild pitches or passed balls, and will hope to limit the traffic as they head on the road for their next game.

In one of the most peculiar innings of play so far this season, the Blue Sox were able to score four runs while not tallying a hit the entire inning. The runs all came from walks and hit batters, allowing four runners to score thanks to the Blue Sox excellent plate discipline. Martha's Vineyard walked eight batters today and hit two.

Matt Bergevin was able to produce quality at-bats in each of his plate appearances today, going 1-3 with two walks. With strong plate discipline Bergevin worked three consecutive at-bats to a full count.

EJ Kreutzmann stayed hot at the plate, going 1-5 with an RBI.

The Blue Sox opened the regular season on the road, then had four-games from Thursday to Sunday.

Athletes invited to participate in sports clinics

LUDLOW – Lions Pride Sports Clinics are back. Young inspiring athletes have the opportunity to participate in one or all of our exciting clinics. The 2023 lineup consists of, Soccer session 1 from June 26 to 30, Soccer Session 2 from July 17 to July 21. Athlete Prep strength and conditioning program from June 27 to Aug. 10, Basketball from July 10 to 14, High School and Beach Volleyball June 20 to Aug. 15, Volleyball Basics July to Aug. 16, and Wrestling July 10 to Aug. 16. All clinics are held on the campus of Ludlow High School and are geared toward the development of fundamental skills. For more information log on to lionspridesc.wix.com/lpsc or contact Tim Brillo TBrillo1723@gmail.com. Registration is now online at https://www.family-id.com/organizations/lions-den-sports-clinics

Registration open for 2023 Bay State Games

WOBURN – Registration for the 41st annual Bay State Summer Games is now open. The 2023 Summer Games will include thirty sports with competitions from June 3 to July 29 at venues throughout eastern and central Massachusetts including Game On in Fitchburg, Boston Sports Institute in Wellesley, Union Point Sports Complex in Weymouth, and New England Sports Center in Marlborough. Bay State Games participants range in age from 5 to over age 75 and represent more than 300 Massachusetts communities as well as surrounding New England States in some sports. From grassroots participants to accomplished amateur athletes, the Bay State Games provide opportunities for the athlete in all of us.

Eight high school showcase sports will take place for a variety of sports, including baseball, basketball, field hockey, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, and volleyball. Athletes currently in grade 8-11 who live or go to school in Massachusetts are eligible to attend regional tryouts during the month of June. These tryouts will determine teams representing the various regions of the Commonwealth that will compete against each other in July. Check each sport page for specific eligibility requirements.

The Summer Games include a wide variety of individual sports including swimming, track & field, figure skating, pickleball, wrestling, weightlifting, archery, judo, badminton, and more. These sports are open to a wide range of ages and skill levels from youth participants to masters-aged athletes. Adaptive sport divisions in archery, swimming, and track & field are offered, as well. Bay State Games also organizes tournaments for pre-existing teams in girls lacrosse, rugby, and 6v6 field hockey.

The 2023 Summer Games will feature Game On in Fitchburg as the host venue for 8 sports. Bay State Games expects 1,500 athletes and their families to attend competitions at Game On during the sec-

ond week of July. "We are excited to expand the roster of sports being held at Game On this year," said Kevin Cummings, Executive Director of the Bay State Games. "This state-of-the-art facility allows us to enhance the athlete and spectator experience and provide a true Olympic-style multi-sport atmosphere for our participants."

An additional feature in 2023 is that in over a dozen sports, athletes who win a gold, silver, or bronze medal at the 2023 Bay State Games will qualify to participate in the 2024 State Games of America in San Diego, California. The State Games of America feature more than 8,000 athletes from over 30 different state games programs nationwide. To see the list of qualifying sports, please visit www.statgamesofamerica.com.

In addition to sports programming, Bay State

Games offer college scholarships, a sportsmanship initiative, college internship opportunities, and a High School Ambassador program.

For more information on all sports in the 2023 Summer Games, links to online registration, and information on other programs, go to www.baystategames.org.

For questions, email info@baystategames.org or call 781-932-6555.

OPPORTUNITY

newspaper correspondent

Turley Publications seeks **Experienced Writers/Journalists** to produce news and/or feature stories of local interest for various towns and cities.

- Must be dependable, professional and able to meet strict deadlines
- Salary based on a flat rate by story and photo

Send writing samples with resume to



Eileen Kennedy, Executive Editor
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Police/Fire

Police Logs

Palmer Police Dept.

The Palmer Police Department reported 560 incidents on its logs for June 6-13, including:

June 6
Police responded to a complaint of assault and battery at St. Joe's Field. No other details were provided.

June 9
Police arrested a 15-year-old on a charge of assault and battery. No other details were provided.

Also that day, police responded to a complaint of breaking and

entering of a motor vehicle on Prospect Street.

June 12
Police arrested a 16 year-old at Palmer High School on charges of assault and making a bomb or hijack threat. No other details were provided.

Louis Isaiah Santos, 25, of 2082 Palmer Road in Three Rivers, was arrested and charged with trespassing and disorderly conduct.

Dallas Tyler Uraco, 27, of 18 Sword Ave. in Enfield, Conn., was arrested and charged with OUI liquor and negligent operation of a motor vehicle after a traffic stop

in the vicinity of High and River streets.

Monson Police Dept.

The Monson Police Department's log for the week ending June 10 included the following incidents:

June 10
On June 10, Ashley M. Parizo, 33, of 28 Flynt Street in Palmer, was arrested and charged with OUI liquor, second offense, negligent operation of motor vehicle and a marked lanes violation.

Fire Logs

BONDSVILLE

The Bondsville Fire Department responded to three calls for the period June 6-12:

On Tuesday, June 6 at 4:45 p.m., the department responded

with mutual aid to Old Warren Road in Palmer for a structure fire. The department returned to service at 10:25 p.m.

On Thursday, June 8, at 1:40 p.m., the department responded to Thorndike Street for a motor vehicle accident with fluid spill. The de-

partment returned to service at 2:08 p.m.

On Monday, June 12, at 12:13 p.m., the department responded to Jim Ash Road for a lift assist. The department returned to service at 12:28 p.m.

Jubilee Ministries host diaper drive Saturday

WARE – The United Way and Trinity Episcopal Church, Jubilee Ministries Diaper Mission will be

outside Walmart this coming Saturday, June 17 from 10 a.m.-noon to collect diapers, pull-ups, wipes and

monetary donations.

These donations will be used to assist in the effort of supplying materials to the local surrounding communities in order to meet their diapering needs. The greatest need is for larger sizes; size 4 and up diapers and 4-5T and up pull-ups.

All donations benefit 15 agencies serving families across Franklin County, Hampshire County and the North Quabbin region. To donate online, people may visit uw-fh.org/diaper-drive.

Job Connection

HELPING YOU FIND HELP

TOWN OF PALMER: ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, ASSESSORS OFFICE

Town of Palmer is seeking qualified candidates for a full-time, 32.5 hours Monday 8:30am - 7:30pm, Tuesday through Thursday 8:30am - 4:30pm.

The position works under the direct supervision of the Principal Assessor. Please go to www.townofpalmer.com for full job description. Send resume and cover letter to kwenzel@townofpalmer.com or to 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA 01069. Salary commensurate with experience between \$22.26 - \$25.77 per hour.

This position requires a high school education; and one (1) to three (3) years of experience in a real estate or office setting; Experience in appraisal and assessment practices desired; or any equivalent combination of education and experience. Associates Degree preferred.

Experience with Vision, Munis and GIS is desirable.

The Town of Palmer is an EOE/AA employer.

KALI CANNABIS

from page 1

bail at \$100,000.

Suzanne Melanson, Klimavich's business partner and co-owner of Kali Cannabis, was unavailable for comment as to how this will impact the business, which was scheduled to open in July.

According to the Cannabis Control Commission, "certain types of felonies will disqualify a person from being either a licensee or registered agent of a marijuana establishment," but added that "the Commission cannot comment on an individual applicant's suitability for licensure."

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.

Support the local businesses that support your local newspaper.

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Journal Register

DEATH NOTICES

Faichney (nee Lee), Elizabeth Wayne
Died April 23, 2023
Services were private

Fauteux (Boucher), Jeannine R.
Died June 11, 2023
Funeral June 15, 2023

Wrubel (Tremblay), Lorette M.
Died June 7, 2023
Funeral June 16, 2023

Lloyd (Tomaszewski), Cynthia A.
Died June 11, 2023
Funeral June 17, 2023

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 \$100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

O B I T U A R I E S

Elizabeth W. Faichney

MONSON—Elizabeth Wayne Faichney (nee Lee), 95, passed away April 23, 2023. Elizabeth was born in Paterson, NJ to the late Fredrick and Josephine Lee (nee Jeffery). Known to friends as Betty, she married James B. Faichney of Monson MA in 1971 and she was predeceased by James (February 8, 1988) along with her two sisters Barbara Lee and Margaret Four (nee Lee). She leaves behind two nephews: Emile and Laurent.

She was a long time resident of Fair Lawn, NJ, and was employed as a legal secretary for many years with the law firm of Boyle and Boyle in Bergen County, NJ. Betty was not a shy retiring woman. She was always actively involved in life and that of her community. She was a well versed and an avid reader. After her retirement from the

law firm, she and Jim relocated to Monson where she again became involved and invested in the community she grew to love deeply...Monson. Their property was filled with trees, bushes, shrubs, and wild flowers. She had a passion for gardening and was a member of the local Garden Club for years. For a number of years Betty was a member of the local business owners group with her small but quaint shop known as the Grain Bin. She took pleasure in meeting and talking with her customers. Another love of hers was the Monson Library to which she contributed and volunteered many hours. She assisted with fund raising especially when the rehab and new construction took place some years back. The Monson Senior Center also found great advantage in Betty's past experiences, especially her

knowledge of legal issues where Betty worked as a program manager. This advantage was a valuable asset in her work to provide access into assistance programs for senior residents of the area.

Betty shared time with several close friends enjoying their visits, conversations, and dinners out at local restaurants. She was definitely a food connoisseur. Visiting her two sisters was always a treat. In earlier years they especially looked forward to their annual trips at Hilton Head every summer.

Gifts of remembrance in her name may be donated to the Monson Library or the Monson Senior Center. All services were private and were entrusted to Lombard Funeral Home of Monson. For online condolences please visit www.lombardfuneralhome.com

Jeannine R. Fauteux, 1934-2023

MONSON—Jeannine R. (Boucher) Fauteux, 89, passed away Sunday, June 11, 2023. Jeannine was born in Holyoke, May 11, 1934 to the late Gilbert H. and I. Rita (Brindamour) Boucher. She was a graduate of Precious Blood High School and has been a resident of Monson for over 60 years. Jeannine always made her family and friends come first. She was unfailingly optimistic. She led her life with courage, dignity and good humor. She was a homemaker most of her life. Jeannine was an avid reader, she also enjoyed crossword puzzles, baking and cooking, the arts and home decorating.

Jeannine leaves her loving

husband of 70 years, Albert W. Fauteux; their sons, Michael Fauteux of Monson, Daniel Fauteux of Texas and James Fauteux of Belchertown; seven grandchildren, nine great grandchildren; a sister, Shirley Fitchet and her husband, William of Springfield; sisters in-law, Ardella Boucher of TX and Lucille Boucher of NH. Jeannine was predeceased by a son, Richard Fauteux; a sister, Janet Boucher and her brothers, Richard Boucher and Rolland Boucher.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, June 15, 2023 with



Liturgy of Christian Burial at 10am in St. Patrick's Church 22 Green St. in Monson. Family and friends are asked to gather directly at the Church by 9:45am. Burial will follow at Bethany Cemetery also in Monson. There are no visiting hours. In lieu of

flowers please consider a memorial donation in Jeannine's name to Boy's Town PO Box 8000 Boys Town, NE 68010. Lombard Funeral Home of Monson has been entrusted with the arrangements. For online condolences/directions please visit www.lombardfuneralhome.com

Cynthia A. (Tomaszewski) Lloyd

MONSON—Cynthia A. (Tomaszewski) Lloyd, 76, passed away, Sunday June 11, 2023 surrounded by her loving family. Cynthia was born in Holyoke, February 18, 1947 to the late Joseph and Claudia (Pobieglo) Tomaszewski. She was a graduate of Palmer High School and has been a resident of Monson for many years where she raised her family. Cynthia enjoyed gardening, sewing, and crocheting. She kept a daily journal of her family and loved ones. Cynthia's infectious laugh was contagious. Her greatest joy came from spending time with her children and grandchildren. She would often participate in activities at the Monson Senior Center.

Cynthia leaves her children, Peter J. Lloyd Jr of Monson, Shawn M. Lloyd Sr and his wife Leslie of Palmer, and Deborah A. McNaughton and her husband Paul of Hampden; nine grandchildren, Tanisha Soya, Desiree Hagen, Treyana Soya, Shawn Lloyd, Jr., Autumn Lloyd, Tyler Lloyd, Brennan Casey, Shea McNaughton, Tagan McNaughton; two great grandchildren, Gavin Goudreau and Veda Stiebitz; two brothers, Frank Tomaszewski and Joseph Tomaszewski.

Lombard Funeral Home of Monson has been entrusted with the arrangements. Visiting hours



will be held Friday, June 16, 2023 from 4-7pm in the funeral home. A funeral procession will be formed on Saturday, June 17 from 8:45-9:15 at Lombard Funeral Home 3 Bridge St. in Monson for Liturgy of Christian Burial at 10am in Divine Mercy

Parish 2267 Main Street, Three Rivers, MA 01080. Burial will follow at St. Peter and St. Paul Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Monson Senior Center 106 Main Street Monson MA 01057. For online condolences please visit www.lombardfuneralhome.com.

Lorette M. (Tremblay) Wrubel, 91

THREE RIVERS — Lorette M. (Tremblay) Wrubel, 91, passed away June 7, 2023. Born in Springfield, MA on May 20, 1932, she was the daughter of Oscar and Maria Tremblay. Lorette lived in Three Rivers for most of her life. During her working years, she was employed at Tambrands in the office and later in life, after raising her children, for Turley Publications. She was a communicant at the former St. Anne's Church, then at Divine Mercy Parish. Lorette was an avid reader and enjoyed other quiet activities like crossword puzzles and knitting/crocheting. She regularly cheered on the Boston Celtics and enjoyed spirited Bingo and card games with family and friends.

Time on the ski slopes in Vermont and at the beach in Wells, Maine were treasured memories for Lorette. She had a big personality, a contagious laugh, and was often the life of the party. During the holidays, Lorette was famous for her French meat pies and homemade fudge. In 2008, she was predeceased by her loving husband, Walter J. Wrubel. Lorette will be deeply missed by her two children, Wayne Wrubel of Three Rivers and Brenda Turner and husband, Jeffrey of Monson as well as the apple of her eye, beloved grandson, Crosby Turner. Lorette was the youngest of seven children



with one sister, also her closest friend, Theresa Prosperi of Brimfield who survives her. She leaves many nieces and nephews who were all near and dear to her heart. Visitation will be held Friday, June 16 from 8-9:30 a.m. at

the Beers & Story Palmer Funeral Home with a funeral mass at 10 a.m. at Divine Mercy Parish. Burial will follow at Sts. Peter & Paul Cemetery. For those wishing, donations may be made in her memory to the Palmer Public Library.

Please visit www.beersandstory.com

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Public Notices

Town of Monson Zoning Board of Appeals LEGAL NOTICE

In accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 40A § 11 the Monson Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing **Thursday, June 22, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.**, at the Monson Town Hall 110 Main St. Monson, Ma 01057, on the application of Ronald Griswold Jr. for a variance from the requirements of §3.2, Table 2, Dimensional & Density Regulations, of the Monson Zoning Bylaws. The applicant seeks to install a 24ft. x 25ft. garage style metal building for storage that will violate the required setbacks. The property is located at 106 Fenton Road, Map 146 and Parcel 007, zoned Rural Residential. A copy of the application is available for review with the Monson Zoning Board of Appeals.

David Beaudoin,
Chairman
06/08, 06/15/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Division Docket No. HD23P1188EA Estate of: Kathleen A. Biastoff Date of Death: April 25, 2023 INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Mary G. Biastoff of Easthampton, MA**. **Mary G. Biastoff of Easthampton, MA** has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without** surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

06/15/2023

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Ann Blackburn to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Accredited Home Lenders, Inc., dated July 10, 2006 and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 16040, Page 201, as modified by a certain modification agreement dated November 13, 2017, and recorded with said Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 21993, Page 19, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. to US Bank National Association, as Trustee for CSFB Heat 2006-7, recorded on March 12, 2010, in Book No. 18214, at Page 540 Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Accredited Home Lenders, Incorporated to US Bank National Association, as Trustee for Credit Suisse First Boston Mortgage Securities Corp., Home Equity Asset Trust 2006-7, Home Equity Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-7, recorded on March 20, 2012, in Book No. 19170, at Page 405 US Bank National Association, as Trustee for Credit Suisse First Boston Mortgage Securities Corp., Home Equity Asset Trust 2006-7, Home Equity Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-7, recorded on

August 24, 2016, in Book No. 21325, at Page 244 for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at **11:00 AM on July 5, 2023**, on the mortgaged premises located at 218 Cedar Swamp Road, Monson, Hampden County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage.

TO WIT: All that certain piece or parcel of land, located in the Town of Monson, Hampden County, Massachusetts, situated on the easterly side of Cedar Swamp 'road shown as Lot 2 on a plan entitled "Plan of Land in Monson, MA surveyed for Donald J. Cirroir and Daniel E. Hunt, Scale 1" = 100'. June 8, 1994, Sherman and Woods Land Surveying & Engineering, 118 Park Street, Palmer, Mass.," said plan recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 290 Page 18, more particularly bounded and described as follows:

Northwesterly: by the easterly side of Cedar Swamp Road, a total distance of Two Hundred and 50/100 (200.50) feet as shown on said plan;

Northeasterly: by Lot 1, a distance of Eight Hundred Six and 90/100 (806.90) feet as shown on said plan; Southeasterly: by land now or formerly of Phoebe E. Dugay, a distance of Two Hundred Fifty-Two and no /100 (252.00) feet; and Southwesterly: by other land now or formerly of Donald J. Cirroir and Daniel E. Hunt, a distance of Seven Hundred Fifty-Seven and 11/100 (757.11) feet.

This lot contains 175,742 square feet or 4.034 acres. For mortgagor's(s') title see deed recorded with Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 16040, Page 199.

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE: A

deposit of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR CREDIT SUISSE FIRST BOSTON MORTGAGE SECURITIES CORP., HOME EQUITY ASSET TRUST 2006-7, HOME EQUITY PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-7 Present holder of said mortgage

By its Attorneys, HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C. 150 California St. Newton, MA 02458 (617)558-0500 22898

06/01, 06/08, 06/15/2023

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION CARE AND PROTECTION TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS DOCKET NUMBER 22CP0147SP Trial Court of Massachusetts Juvenile Court Department COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS Hampden County Juvenile Court 80 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 413-748-7714

TO: Ryan Fortier or the father of Riley Mae Demetrius born on July 8, 2022 in Springfield, MA to Samantha Joan Demetrius: A petition has been presented to this court by DCF South Central, seeking as to the following child:

Riley Mae Demetrius that said child be found in need of care and protection and committed to the Department of Children and Families. The court may dispense the rights of the person(s) named herein to

receive notice of or to consent to any legal proceeding affecting the adoption, custody, or guardianship or any other disposition of the child named herein, if it finds that the child is in need of care and protection and that the best interests of the child would be served by said disposition.

You are hereby ORDERED to appear in this court, at the court address set forth above, on the following date and time: **07/31/2023 at 9:00 AM Other Hearing**

You may bring an attorney with you. If you have a right to an attorney and if the court determines that you are indigent, the court will appoint an attorney to represent you.

If you fail to appear, the court may proceed on that date and any date thereafter to a trial on the merits and adjudication of this matter.

For further information call the Office of the Clerk-Magistrate at (413) 748-7714.

WITNESS: Hon. **David B. Paradis, FIRST JUSTICE,**

DATE ISSUED: 06/01/2023

Paul R Viets, Clerk-Magistrate 06/08, 06/15, 06/22/2023

Section 00.11.00 ADVERTISEMENT TO BID

The **Palmer Housing Authority**, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from Contractors for the **667-1 Insulation & Air Sealing, Electrical Panel Replacement & Bath Fan Installation , #227036** in Palmer, Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by **Shekar & Associates, Inc .**

The Project consists of: Installation of new bathroom exhaust fans & related ductwork; Replacement of existing load centers, light fixtures, insulation & air sealing and related components with new; Asbestos and mold remediation.

The work is estimated to cost **\$570,000.**

Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.149 §44A-J & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §26 to 27H inclusive.

THIS PROJECT IS BEING ELECTRONICALLY BID AND HARD COPY BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Please review the instructions in the bid documents on how to register as an electronic bidder. The bids

are to be prepared and submitted at www.bidsonline.com. **Tutorials and instructions on how to complete the electronic bid documents are available online (click on the "Tutorial" tab at the bottom footer).**

General bidders must be certified by the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) in the following category of work, **General Building Construction**, and must submit a current DCAMM Certificate of Eligibility and signed DCAMM Prime/General Contractor Update Statement.

General Bids will be received until **2:00 PM on Friday, 14 July 2023** and publicly opened online, forthwith.

Filed Sub-bids for the trades listed below will be received until **2:00 PM on Friday, 30 June 2023** and publicly opened online, forthwith.

Filed sub-bidders must be DCAMM certified for the trades listed below and bidders must include a current DCAMM Sub-Bidder Certificate of Eligibility and a signed DCAMM Sub Bidder's Update Statement. **SUBTRADES** Section 23 00 00 - HVAC Section 26 00 00 - Electrical Work

All Bids should be submitted online at www.bidsonline.com and received no later than the date and time specified above.

General bids and sub-bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than five (5%) of the greatest possible bid amount (considering all alternates), and made payable to the **Palmer Housing Authority.**

Bid Forms and Contract Documents will be available for pick-up at www.biddocs.com (may be viewed electronically and hardcopy requested) or at Nashoba Blue, Inc. at 433 Main Street, Hudson, MA 01749 (978-568-1167).

There is a plan deposit of **\$50.00** per set (maximum of 2 sets) payable to **BidDocs ONLINE Inc.**

Plan deposits may be electronically paid or by check. This deposit will be refunded for up to two sets for general bidders and for one set for sub-bidders upon return of the sets in good condition within thirty (30) days of receipt of general bids. Otherwise the deposit shall be the property of the Awarding Authority. Additional sets may be purchased for **\$50.00**

Bidders requesting Contract Documents to be mailed to them shall include a separate check for **\$40.00** per set for UPS Ground (or \$65.00 per set for UPS overnight), nonrefundable, payable to the BidDocs ONLINE Inc., to cover mail handling costs.

General bidders must agree to contract with minority and women business enterprises as certified by the Supplier Diversity

Office (SDO), formerly known as SOMWBA. The combined participation benchmark reserved for such enterprises shall not be less than 10.4% of the final contract price including accepted alternates. **Request for waivers must be sent to DHCD (David.McClave@mass.gov) 5 calendar days prior to the General Bid date if the work is estimated to cost less than \$500,000 OR 10 calendar days prior to the General Bid date if the work is estimated to cost \$500,000 or more - NO WAIVERS WILL BE GRANTED AFTER THE BID DATE. See Contract Documents - Article 3 of the Instructions to Bidders.**

PRE-BID CONFERENCE / SITE VISIT:

Date and Time: Wednesday, 21 June 2023 at 11:00 AM Address: 13 Fletcher Street, Palmer, MA 01069

Instructions: Meeting will begin at the Community Building and then proceed to typical units.

SITE VISIT BY APPOINTMENT: NONE

The Contract Documents may be seen, but not removed at:

Palmer Housing Authority 13 Fletcher Street Palmer, MA 01069 413-283-9311

Nashoba Blue Inc. 433 Main Street Hudson, MA 01749 978-568-1167

06/15/2023

Town of Monson School Department ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The School Department for the Town of Monson, Massachusetts seeks sealed bids for the furnishing and delivering of **STUDENT VAN TRANSPORTATION** to the Monson Public Schools.

Sealed bids must be labeled **SEALED BID - STUDENT VAN TRANSPORTATION** and will be accepted at Monson Public Schools, c/o Leah Zippin, Director of Business & Operations, 43 Margaret Street, Monson MA 01057. All bids must be received by **Friday, June 30, 2023 no later than 1:00PM EST.** All bids will be publicly read, as read on the clock in the Central Business Office area at that time, at 43 Margaret Street.

Specifications for bidders may be obtained on or after May 26, 2023 at 9:00AM EST at the Margaret Street address or by email (zip-pin@monsonschools.com). The Monson Public Schools reserves the right to reject any or all bids, or to accept any parts thereof which it considers most advantageous to the Town of Monson.

Monson Public Schools 43 Margaret Street Monson, Massachusetts 01057

06/15/2023



Palmer Senior Center

- MENU
- **Wednesday June 21, 2023**
- Korean Meatballs
- Oriental Blend Veg
- White Rice
- Oatnut Bread
- Chilled Applesauce
- **Friday June 23, 2023**
- Lemon Chicken
- Steamed Broccoli
- Rice Pilaf
- WW Bread
- Fruit Ambrosia
- **Monday June 26, 2023**
- Hamburger w/Chz/Lettuce/Tomato
- Oven Roasted Potatoes
- Wheat Burger Bun
- Fresh Fruit

- **Wednesday June 28, 2023 BIRTHDAY MEAL**
- Chicken Marsala
- Tossed Salad w/Italian
- Penne w/Sauce
- Whole Wheat Roll
- Birthday Cupcake/Diet Cake
- **Friday June 30, 2023**
- Shrimp Fried Rice
- Oriental Blend Veg
- Whole Wheat Roll
- Mandarin Oranges

- **HAPPENINGS**
- **June 15th**
- 12 pm Homeowners Information Seminar with Cheryl Coakley-Rivera, Esq. outreach team.
- **June 20th**
- 9 am trip to Encore Casino
- **June 23rd**
- 11 am-2 pm Senior Center Paint Group Art Show. This group meets on Tuesdays from 1-3 pm. The public is welcome to come view the art show.



There are just a few weeks of summer left and back-to-school preparations to begin!

This handy guide will help parents plan late summer activities and prepare for the upcoming school year.

in the CLASSROOM

preschool • elementary • middle school • high school • college • trades

ADVERTISING DEADLINE JULY 12, 2023



AUGUST 2023 A SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT TO Turley Publications, Inc. WWW.TURLEY.COM

EARLY DEADLINES

In observance of July 4th, there will be an **EARLY AD DEADLINE** To advertise, place your ad no later than **NOON Thursday, June 29**

– Thank you!

A TURLEY PUBLICATION www.turley.com

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

EARLY DEADLINES

In observance of July 4th, **PUBLIC NOTICES EARLY AD DEADLINE** Place your public notice no later than **NOON Thursday, June 29**

– Thank you!

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 \$180.00
Seasoned cut & split \$270.00
All hardwood.
Tree length available
*Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & volume **guaranteed!** New England Forest Products (413)477-0083

!!!!FRESH CUT!!!! Over a cord guaranteed. Cut, Split, Prompt delivery. Call D & D Cordwood (413)348-4326.

MORE HEAT LESS WOOD. Central Boiler Classic Edge HDX Outdoor Wood Furnace. EPA Certified. Titanium Stainless Steel. 26% Tax Credit. Call (508)882-0178

MISCELLANEOUS

2011 KEYSTONE MONTANA MOUNTAINER MODEL RKD length 33', 2 slide outs, rear kitchen, sleeps 4, lots of storage. Brimfield (413)374-1880

JUNK REMOVAL

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.
Call Pete 413-433-0356.

WANTED

WANTED TO BUY

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

SERVICES

1***A CALL WE HAUL WE TAKE IT ALL WE LOAD IT ALL**
Lowest rates, accumulations, junk, estates, attics, garages, appliances, basements, demo services. Dumpsters available for rent. All Major CC's
CALL NOW (413)531-1936
acallwehaul@gmail.com

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.

SERVICES

BILODEAU AND SON ROOFING.

Established 1976. New re-roofs and repairs. Gutter cleanings and repairs. Licensed/ insured. Call (413)967-6679

CHAIR SEAT WEAVING & refinishing - cane, fiber rush & splint - Classroom instructor, 20+ years experience. Call Walt at (413)289-6670 for estimate.

CLEANING SERVICES

RELIABLE HOUSE CLEANING 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE CLEANING AND ORGANIZING. EXCELLENT REFERENCES AVAILABLE CALL (413) 455-9633

ELECTRICIAN

DEPENDABLE ELECTRICIAN, FRIENDLY service, installs deicing cables. Free estimates. Fully insured. Scott Winters electrician Lic. #13514-B Call (413)244-7096.

EXCAVATING

ELIOT STARBARD EXCAVATION 35 yrs of happy customers. 508-882-0140

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES
QUABBIN & SUBURBAN FRIDAY AT NOON
HILLTOWNS MONDAY AT NOON

SERVICES

HOME IMPROVEMENT

HOME IMPROVEMENT SPECIALIST Decks, Porches, Doors, Windows, Repairs, Cement repairs, asphalt repairs, mulch, stone and screened loam BBB approved Vinyl Fence Tim (413) 563-2229

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

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 (413)538-7954.

BRUSH CLEARING, VEGETATION CONTROL Clearing of fence lines, overgrown properties, hiking trails. Call Gary (413) 531-3538

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

PAINTING

DUTCH TOUCH PAINTING Interior only \$199.00 for average 12x16 room. Very neat, references, prompt service call (508) 867-2550

KEEP IT PAINTING - Klems excellent exterior painting. Interiors too. Specializing in all aspects of quality painting and staining. 25 years experience. Free consultation. Steve (413)477-8217

SERVICES

TREE WORK

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

H & H TREE SERVICE All phases of tree care. Call Dave (413)668-6560 day/night.

STUMP GRINDING

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



SAW STUMP GRINDING Call for a Free Estimate, Veteran Owned, Fully Insured 413-213-5470

HELP WANTED

FIRE DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT The Town of Hampden seeks qualified applicants for the position of Administrative Assistant providing support to the Hampden Fire Department. The successful candidate will perform diversified duties in support of the Department; effective communication skills, computer literacy and the ability to operate office equipment are required. Standard job requirements and a job description may be found online at hampden-ma.gov. Send resumes to [Robert Merkel at 625 Main Street, Hampden 01036](mailto:Robert.Merkel@hampden-ma.gov) or email (preferred) at townadmin@hampden-ma.gov by June 21.

PCA NEEDED, easy work, flexible hours, pleasant environment in Brimfield For more info call Connie (413)271-0573

Post your job openings in our classifieds. WE GET RESULTS!

HELP WANTED

TOWN OF PALMER: ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, ASSESSORS OFFICE

Town of Palmer is seeking qualified candidates for a full-time, 32.5 hours Monday 8:30am - 7:30pm, Tuesday through Thursday 8:30am o 4:30pm. The position works under the direct supervision of the Principal Assessor. Please go to www.townofpalmer.com for full job description. Send resume and cover letter to kwenzel@townofpalmer.com or to 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA 01069. Salary commensurate with experience between \$22.26 - \$25.77 per hour. This position requires a high school education; and one (1) to three (3) years of experience in a real estate or office setting; Experience in appraisal and assessment practices desired; or any equivalent combination of education and experience. Associates Degree preferred. Experience with Vision, Munis and GIS is desirable.

The Town of Palmer is an EOE/AA Employer.

TOWN OF WILBRAHAM

POLICE OFFICER (2) The Town of Wilbraham is looking to fill two vacancies for Police Officer. For application and more information please visit www.wilbraham-ma.gov. Review of applications begins immediately. Open until filled. EOE

DRIVERS

DRIVER WANTED
To provide transportation to individuals with developmental disabilities to and from work, volunteering and other activities in the Belchertown area. Flexible hours Part time 10 -20 hours per week M-F Must have. A valid driver's license, and clean driving record \$17.00 to start Apply in person at 442 State St. Belchertown, MA or email ashleton@communityoptionsma.org

REAL ESTATE

COMMERCIAL RENTALS

COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT LOCATED IN BELCHERTOWN, MA 1200 sf. 12x14' overhead door. 16' ceilings. 1/2 bath with small mezzanine office area. Propane heat. Internet available. Commercial use only. \$1050/mo Call or text Tim (413) 315-1614

COMMERCIAL STORAGE UNIT FOR RENT 20' wide by 30' deep. 11' ceilings. Each unit has one garage door 10' wide by 9' high and one man door. Units have electricity, but no heat or plumbing. Perfect for a tradesman to store tools, etc. Located in Belchertown, MA \$550/mo Please call or text Tim (413) 315-1614

REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT



ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, 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 advertised 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.

REAL ESTATE

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 advertised 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.

HELP WANTED

JOB OPENING

STAFF WRITER

Turley Publications, based in Palmer, is seeking a storyteller who is curious about everything, and who understands how town government works to join our team of weekly reporters. Experience in covering town government is a huge plus, and any experience in community journalism is as well. Staff writers cover all aspects of communities from features to municipal meetings to crimes and fires. Successful candidates must have people skills, plenty of curiosity and able to tell a story. If you're a self-starter who enjoys community journalism and who can envision themselves connecting with our communities, we encourage you to apply for this position. Not a remote position.

Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience
- A determination to get the story, whatever it might be
- Equally comfortable writing hard news, features and event coverage
- Ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
- Proficiency in Associated Press style

Please tell us in a cover letter why you would be a good fit for this position and send it along with a resume and three writing samples to Eileen Kennedy, Executive Editor 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 or email directly to ekennedy@turley.com



EARLY DEADLINES

In observance of July 4th, the Classifieds have an **EARLY AD DEADLINE.** To advertise, place your ad no later than **NOON Thursday, June 29**

Thank you!

A TURLEY PUBLICATION
www.turley.com

FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

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

DEADLINES: QUABBIN & SUBURBAN - FRIDAY AT NOON
HILLTOWNS - MONDAY AT NOON

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40

Quabbin Village Hills
Circulation: 50,500

Hilltowns
Circulation: 9,800

Suburban Residential
Circulation: 59,000

Buy the Quabbin Village Hills or the Suburban Residential ZONE for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word. Add \$10 for a second Zone or add \$15 to run in ALL THREE ZONES.

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: _____

First ZONE base price _____ Includes additional words
Add a second ZONE **\$10.00**
Add a third ZONE **\$5.00**
Subtotal _____
x Number of Weeks _____
TOTAL Enclosed _____

Run my ad in the following ZONE(s):
 Quabbin
 Suburban
 Hilltowns

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

Community Newspaper EDITOR WANTED

Turley Publications is looking for a "hands on" energetic candidate who loves telling stories to be the editor for two weekly publications. This position will include managing and coaching a small news staff that will provide the community with a great local newspaper. The editor will need to cover local government and events while representing the newspaper at public venues. The successful candidate will have strong community journalism skills and is also expected to gather news and write stories for the two papers as well as for other occasional companywide publications. This is a job for a self-starter who has a vision for growing and connecting with our valued readers, and who thoroughly enjoys community journalism. This full-time position with flexible schedule is based in our Palmer office at 24 Water St., this is not a remote position.

Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience
- Willingness to mentor a staff writer and correspondents
- Editing experience and ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
- Proficiency in Associated Press style
- Management experience and/or experience managing content for a print publication.

Please send resume and writing examples to: Eileen Kennedy, Executive Editor 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 or email directly to ekennedy@turley.com

Prominent resident honored by Framingham State University

FRAMINGHAM — Framingham State University recently announced that longtime Monson resident and school teacher Peter Matrow (FSU Class of 1973) has been named the recipient of the 2023 Alumni Achievement Award for Leadership and Service.

Matrow graduated from FSU and became a faculty member of the Monson School System teaching fifth grade for nearly 36 years. According to a news release, “service to others has guided his career, and he has consistently demonstrated how small-town values and hard work can positively impact youth.”

A Boy Scouts of America committee member, Matrow is chair of Monson Venture Crew 168 and a unit commissioner serving on the Eagle Scout Board of Review team. He was the dean of the Western Mass Council’s College of Commissioner Science and worked for 10 years on BSA’s national team overseeing course development and syllabus revision.

“Peter embodies the qualities of leadership and service and we are honored to present him with this well deserved award,” Eric Gustafson, Framingham State’s vice president for Development and Alumni Relations, said.

In Monson, Matrow volunteered his

time for over 20 years on the Monson Summerfest Committee, a group of volunteers who lead Monson’s annual Fourth of July celebration, and is the current treasurer. He volunteered to serve on the School Building Committee for Quarry Hill Community School and chaired the disposition committee for the old Main Street School and was the co-chair of the Building Committee for the new town office building and Police Department.

When a devastating tornado struck Monson and the other parts of the region, Matrow “spent countless hours with his chainsaw helping those in need,” the release states. In 2016, he was elected as the Monson Town Moderator.

During his time as an educator, Matrow participated in the Monson Parent Teacher Association as well as volunteered to represent educators at the local and statewide levels of the Massachusetts Teachers Association.

His commitment to service is also evident in his work at St. Patrick Church, where he serves as a reader, usher, Extraordinary Minister of Communion, funeral coordinator and member of the funeral choir, and pre-cana coordinator, the release states.



Submitted photo

More than 300 people attended a ‘Spring into Adventure’ event organized by Monson-based Travelnitch.

Hundreds ‘Spring into adventure’ at Silver Bell Farm

MONSON — Travelnitch welcomed over 300 friends and neighbors to Silver Bell Farm last Saturday for its first-ever Spring into Adventure: Family Travel Fair.

This event was free to the public thanks to a generous grant from the Mass Cultural Council, a press release states.

Families enjoyed free travel-themed arts and crafts, face painting, a family travel hunt and visiting with local destination vendors like Springfield Museums and Storowton Village Museum.

“This event brought together so many like-minded people—most impor-

tantly, families who were looking for new ways to get out and explore together this summer,” said Amanda Renna, founder and CEO at Travelnitch.

“It fulfills our mission in such a special way.”

The 501(c)(3) nonprofit is based in Monson, but attracts a global following. Renna said she hopes Spring into Adventure will become the organization’s signature event, helping it develop even stronger ties to the local travel community.

To learn more, join the adventure online at travelnitch.org.

Using sunscreen: Tips from the Cancer Foundation

As summer approaches and we spend more time outdoors, the Skin Cancer Foundation would like to remind everyone how to use sunscreen safely and effectively as part of a sun protection routine.

Although no single sun protection method is foolproof, research has shown that daily sunscreen use not only reduces skin cancer risk but also helps prevent premature skin aging caused by ultraviolet rays from the sun, a news release states.

“My patients often ask, ‘What is the best sunscreen for me?’” says Deborah S. Sarnoff, MD, president of The Skin Cancer Foundation.

“I say the best sunscreen is the one you’ll actually use. Finding a product that works with your skin and lifestyle makes it easier to incorporate it into your daily routine. Using sunscreen every morning should be as second nature as brushing your teeth.”

What’s on the Label?

Selecting a sunscreen can seem overwhelming; you’ll encounter many different formulations, and language on product packaging may be unfamiliar (and sometimes unpronounceable!). However, The Skin Cancer Foundation believes everyone can find a sunscreen that works for them. Deciphering a sunscreen’s label is the first step to choosing your perfect product.

The first thing to consider is the sunscreen’s Sun Protection Factor.

One way to think about SPF is in terms of percentages: SPF 15 filters out approximately 93 percent of all incoming ultraviolet B rays. SPF 30 keeps out 97 percent and SPF 50 keeps out 98 percent of UVB. A sunscreen with a minimum of SPF 15 may be fine for days that you’re mostly inside,

but if you’re spending an extended amount of time outdoors, pick a water-resistant formula with an SPF of at least 30.

The second thing to check for on a label is the term “broad spectrum.” It’s vital that your sunscreen offers broad-spectrum protection, which means the product protects against both ultraviolet A and UVB rays. Both types of UV rays penetrate the skin and cause damage that can lead to skin cancer. So if a sunscreen only screens out one type, you’re leaving your skin vulnerable.

Once you’ve decided on your SPF and checked that a product has broad-spectrum protection, you can decide on other qualities based on personal preference and lifestyle. For example, check the list of active ingredients on the bottle. Look for a physical filter (zinc oxide or titanium dioxide) if you have sensitive skin — they’re less likely to cause skin reactions than chemical ingredients. Many sunscreens combine both chemical and physical filters.

You can also look for the formulation and product “feel” that is right for you. There are quality sunscreen options available in lotions, gels, sticks and sprays. Many offer tinting, anti aging ingredients, a dry “sports” feel or benefits for acne-prone skin. There are now many skin care items like serums and moisturizers that include UV filters as well. The most important part is using the product correctly.

How Much, How Often?

You’ve selected an appropriate SPF, chosen a broad-spectrum formula and found a product that you like. But it won’t protect your skin if you don’t use it as directed. Understanding application is a must. Use one ounce of sunscreen, about

the amount that would fit into a shot glass, to cover the entire body. For the face, a nickel-sized dollop works. Slathering on sunscreen in the morning isn’t enough to protect you all day, though — when you apply matters. The Skin Cancer Foundation recommends applying sunscreen 30 minutes before going outside, then reapplying every two hours and immediately after swimming or sweating.

Water-resistant sunscreens typically offer 40 minutes or 80 minutes of protection while you’re in the water. No sunscreen is truly waterproof, however, so in these situations, be aware of how long the product claims to protect against moisture, and keep an eye on the clock. With reapplication, a person should use up one four-ounce bottle of sunscreen during a full day outdoors.

To find products that have earned The Skin Cancer Foundation’s Seal of Recommendation for safe and effective sun protection, visit SkinCancer.org/recommended-products.

More Sun protection

Now that you’ve picked out the sunscreen that’s right for you, it’s important to remember that no single sun protection method can protect you completely. The Skin Cancer Foundation has always recommended a multi-pronged approach to sun safety. While using sunscreen is a crucial part of any sun protection routine, it’s also important to seek shade and cover up with clothing, including a wide-brimmed hat and UV-blocking sunglasses.

For more information, visit SkinCancer.org.



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We Answer Your Call

Departments respond to barn fire on Old Warren Road



The Fire Department found the barn on Old Warren Road fully engulfed in flames.



Photos submitted by Ryan Gauthier of Palmer Fire Department. Firefighters formed attack lines to put out the fire.



An excavator was brought in to clear away the debris from the fire.



Firefighters were on the scene from close to 4 p.m. to after 10 p.m.

By Marcelo Gusmao
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

PALMER – Several local Fire Departments, including Palmer, Monson, Three Rivers, and Bondsville, responded to a barn fire on Old Warren Road last week, taking over six hours to fully extinguish last week.

The Palmer Fire Department was dispatched to respond to a report of a barn on fire. When firefighters arrived on the

scene, they found the barn was fully engulfed in flames, threatening a nearby home, according to Captain Ryan Gauthier.

The State Fire Marshal's office determined that the cause of the fire was a lightning strike, which was witnessed by the homeowner's children from a second floor bedroom.

After the strike, the homeowner told the Fire Department that she didn't see any smoke or fire, but moments later, she saw people pulling over in front of her

house and saw that the back half of the barn was engulfed with flames.

"Palmer Engine 161 and Three Rivers Engine 201 arrived on scene and immediately deployed 1 3/4" attack lines," Gauthier said, and described attack lines as being used to protect and cool the home and a nearby propane tank, which was disconnected and moved away from the fire.

The firefighters then turned their attention to the barn to extinguish the fire. Other local fire departments were called in to assist with water supply and man-

power.

"Once a water supply was established, ground monitors were deployed at the front and rear of the barn," Gauthier said.

The fire captain's report goes on to say that a tanker shuttle was established on Old Warren Road with fill sites on Thorndike Street next to the rug mill. At 6:45 p.m., a tanker task force was called to bring additional resources from District 7 Task Force Bravo.

Approximately 150,000 gallons of

water were brought in from local mutual aid companies, according to Gauthier.

An excavator from Arment Trucking was brought in to clear away debris. The amount of water on the ground compromised the integrity of a nearby cinder-block silo, and so the building department deemed the structure to be a hazard and it was brought down with an excavator, Gauthier said.

The fire from the barn caused minor thermal damage to a nearby fence and windows on the side of the house.

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Seminar on tardive dyskinesia offered online next week

The National Alliance on Mental Illness MetroWest will conduct a free virtual education seminar on tardive dyskinesia – known simply as TD – at 7 p.m. on June 21.

Individuals who have an SMI diagnosis or have a family member with an SMI diagnosis could find this information valuable.

Some people living with a mental health condition may experience tardive dyskinesia, an involuntary movement disorder associated with prolonged use of certain mental health medicines (antipsychotics) that are used to treat bipolar disorder,

clinical depression, schizophrenia and schizoaffective disorder (SMI- Serious Mental Illness).

Other prescription medicines used to treat upset stomach, nausea and vomiting may also cause TD, which can impact patients socially, emotionally, and physically. Approximately 600,000 people in the U.S. may be affected by TD. Nearly 70% of Americans with TD are undiagnosed. In general, 80% of people taking antipsychotics are at low risk, and 20% are at high risk. 60-70% of cases are mild, 20-30% of cases are moderate, and 3% are

severe. TD can be treated and managed.

At the seminar, Dr. Robert Karr, M.D., will present an overview of TD and conduct a question-and-answer session. Karr is currently the associate medical director of Advocates, Inc. Dr. Karr graduated from the Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University in 1981 and practices both forensic psychiatry and general psychiatry. He has over 34 years of experience.

Registration is required at tinurl.com/25xmnuve.

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