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MONSON

Agencies locate missing teen and two dogs

Editor's Note: District Attorney's office reported just before 1 p.m. that the boy was found with his dogs and brought to a hospital as a precaution on July 1.

Staff Report

MONSON – On June 30, Westcomm Regional Dispatch received a call regarding a missing 16-year-old male juvenile and two family dogs in the area of Moulton Hill and Childs Road.



Missing teen

The juvenile was reported missing at approximately 8:13 a.m. Monson Fire and Police departments were immediately dispatched to the residence and started a search of the area. A security camera was located that showed the juvenile traveling south toward Connecticut with the

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PALMER



Bob Havalas (seated) was dressed in Revolutionary War uniform to sign the scroll he read from.

Submitted Photo

Town uncovered original Declaration of Independence

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
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PALMER – Several town departments have been collaborating to preserve the town's Declaration of Independence with a commemorative event.

Last Saturday, July 26, was the opportunity for a collaboration between several different entities in town to highlight and pre-

serve an essential part of the town's history; its Declaration of Independence.

"For people who are really into local history, I felt like it was a great event," said Patience Hartley, Chair of the Historical Commission. "Everyone was beaming with pride to be there and respecting the founding fathers of our town. It felt like a lovely community event."

Hartley explained how she worked with librarian Helene O'Connor, along with the Historical Cultural Center to find the town's Declaration.

"We already knew it existed, we had references to it in a few different articles," Hartley said, describing the research done by the different organizations to track down this document.

"We were doing re-

search at the Historic Commission, and Helene and I found inventory from the '80s," Hartley said. "Helene has been manifesting cool historic objects – she reads about them, thinks about them, and they show up – so she and I and Steve and Fran Nowak I gravitated toward one box that said documents from the 1700s, and it was five or six papers in."

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MONSON

Select Board revamped after town election

By Marcelo Gusmão
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MONSON – At last week's Select Board meeting, the board was restructured, and discussed several celebratory items for the town.

The June 23 meeting began with the reorganization of the Select Board following the election of Keith Valley and the departure of Peter Warren. Pat Oney was appointed Chair, John Morrell was appointed Vice Chair, and Valley was appointed Clerk.

"I know we can all work together for the good of Monson," said Morrell, as he welcomed Valley to the board.

The board then read the proclamation for Citizen of the Year Stephen Slozak, which recognized his years of commitment to the community and declared July 4, 2026 to be Stephen Slozak Day.

"Steve has been a Monson native since birth," read Valley. "He married his wife Michelle 'Mickey' LeBlanc in 1978, and raised his children Joshua, Tara, Christopher, and Terry here in town.

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PALMER

ROCK 201 to return for Pulaski Park Cruise 'N' Concerts

By Marcelo Gusmão
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PALMER – Summer concerts will take a brief break this week at Pulaski Park, before resuming for the Cruise 'N' Concerts series.

Last Friday, June 26, residents flocked to Pulaski Park to enjoy a performance by the classic rock cover band, Rock 201. This is part of the St. Stanislaus Polish Club's summer concert and car show series.

Concerts are held at Pulaski Park on Fridays over the summer, with a portion of the park available for classic cars to participate in the car

show. Josh Hoy, President of the club, said that this year's turn-out has been going well.

"The majority of the bands we bring in are crowd favorites from years prior," Hoy said. "People say they really like them, so we try to bring in the bands that people enjoy."

This strategy has proven

ROCK 201 | page 7



Fans of Rock 201 joined the band on the stage after the performance.

Submitted Photo



FRIDAY, JULY 10TH
10:00AM - 2:00PM

Please join us at the Palmer Public Library for a
BICENTENNIAL PARADE
WATCH PARTY 2.0

Did you miss our Semiquincentennial Shindig in June? Due to popular demand, here's one more chance to enjoy this footage of Palmer's 1976 Bicentennial Parade. This will be the last community viewing. The video will show on repeat from 10:00AM - 2:00PM.

NEW! Additional parade photos have been added to the interactive photo exhibit! Find yourself or your loved ones in the parade or crowd!

This program is free and registration is not required.

ONGOING FOR ALL AGES:

- Plant A Seed, Read: Register for the 2026 Summer Reading Program at the Palmer Public Library or by visiting: <https://palmer.beanstack.com/reader365>
- SUMMER READERS: be sure to write your name on a leaf to be added to our participation display. Help bring our George Washington Elm to life!



Check out the great programs at the Palmer Public Library by visiting: www.palmerlibrary.org/events

SPECIAL EVENTS FOR:

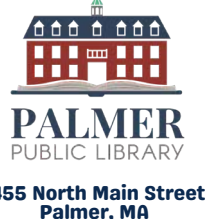
ADULTS, TEENS & KIDS



Sign the 250th Commemorative Scroll to be preserved for Palmer's celebration in 2076

Last chance to view the "Declaration 1776" museum exhibit

For details of all 250 events, visit: www.palmerlibrary.org/palmerma250



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BASEBALL

Monson Legion Post 241 falls at home to Aldenville

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

PALMER – The final American Legion baseball game of the regular season at historic Legion Field in Palmer was a vintage pitcher's duel.

Aldenville (Chicopee) Post 337, who only had nine players available for the road game, snapped its four-game losing streak by edging Monson Post 241, 1-0, last Wednesday night.

"We battled the entire game," said Matt Sutton, who was the winning pitcher for Aldenville. "I focused on staying calm on the mound, pitch to pitch, and this is a huge win for us."

Aldenville had a 2-4-1 record following the shutout victory, while Monson fell to 2-4.

The two squads were scheduled to face each other for the second time this summer at St. Joe's Park in Thorn-dike on Wednesday night.

Monson is also scheduled to face Longmeadow Post 175 in another home game at St. Joe's Park on Thursday night, and West Springfield Post 207 at Veteran's Field in Monson on Monday night.

Last Wednesday's contest marked Sutton's first career victory as a member of the Aldenville Post 337 baseball team.

Sutton, who was a junior member of the Chicopee

Comp's varsity baseball team this past spring, gave up only three base hits while striking out eight in his performance against Monson. The righthander issued four walks and hit a pair of batters in six innings. He threw a total of 102 pitches.

"I thought Matt pitched a great game," said Aldenville manager Nate Carillon. "We've been mostly using him as a relief pitcher so far this season. He stepped up in tonight's game."

Sutton, who earned a save in Aldenville's season opening road victory against Westfield Post 124, made his second start of the Legion season. His first start came against Northampton Post 28, which was a home loss a couple of weeks ago.

Memphis Huertas, who's normally Aldenville's starting catcher, didn't attend last Wednesday's game at Legion Field. Noah Carillon, who's Nate's younger brother, strapped on the catcher's gear for just the second time during his Legion career.

"Noah used to be a catcher in little league. He also caught a Legion game at North Adams last year," Nate Carillon said. "He played very well back there."

Noah Carillon made a diving catch on a foul pop-up in the first inning and threw out a runner trying to steal



Grayson Griswold lunges to pick up the ground ball.



Theo Haley takes a lead off first. Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

third base in the third inning.

"It was Noah's first time as a starting catcher and he did a great job behind the plate," Sutton said. "I'm very proud of him."

Monson righthander

LEGION | page 10



Liam McGrath sends a grounder to third base.



Brayden Mega sends a pitch away for Post 241.

SOCCER

Strong start for Lusitano Women

LUDLOW – Last week, the Lusitano Women took on West Side Sport Shop in PVSSL adult soccer action. Lusitano Women, which includes players from

Ludlow and some surrounding communities, are out to a great start, with a 4-1 record, good for second place with 12 points. West Side is an even 3-3 and sits in

fifth place heading into the Fourth of July break. The teams will be back in action after the holiday weekend.



Sydney Scyocurka tries to make a trap.



Lizzie Roman sends a pass away.



Alyssa Hyland makes the off-balance pass.



Julia Farnham gets the side pass away.



Nora Young brings in a pass.

Olivia Crespo dribbles up the field.

SOCCER

Mutiny shut out by Vermont Green FC

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW – Even though the New England Mutiny had already been eliminated from the USL W playoffs, they still had a chance to influence the race for first place in the Northeast Division entering the regular-season finale.

Had the Mutiny pulled off an upset victory against Vermont Green FC, the Hudson Valley Crusaders would have finished at the top of the Northeast Division table.

However, it was Vermont Green FC players and their rowdy supporters doing all the celebrating following a 3-0 shutout win over the Mutiny at Lusitano Stadium last Saturday night.

"We wanted to play the spoiler role in today's match," said New England Mutiny midfielder Avery Klingensmith, who's from Belchertown. "We were hoping to make the playoffs in our first season playing in this league, but it's always a lot of fun trying to impact another team's season."

Vermont Green FC captured the inaugural USL W League Northeast title with a 6-0-4 overall record.

They're scheduled to host the Eastern Conference playoffs this weekend.

One of the Vermont Green's ties came at Lusitano Stadium against the Mutiny (1-1) on May 26.

Vermont Green squeaked out a 2-1 home win in the

MUTINY | page 10

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com