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The Journal Register

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PALMER



Turley Photos by Marcelo Gusmão
Above, members of the Fire Department were on hand, (from left) Josh Rutola, Grace Leone-Forgette, Jason Cousineau and Captain Pat Jessop. Right, Palmer Police Chief Christopher Burns (right) stood on the Light Side from Darth Vader.

National Night Out

Community and good weather show up for annual event

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
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PALMER – The Police Department joined other departments around the country for the annual National Night Out celebration.

On Aug. 4, the community was invited to visit

the Police Department for a community event filled with snacks, games and informational materials from various town departments.

“It’s a free event to bring the community together with stakeholders and civic groups,” said Lieutenant Erin Sullivan, who arranged the event for the town. “It’s a night and evening of fun to have the public come and see officers when there isn’t a crisis occurring, in a more casual setting.”

“We have been doing this for, I don’t even remem-

ber anymore, but it’s been a long time,” said Police Chief Christopher Burns. “We were doing it back in the early 2000s, and it stopped for a little bit, but now it’s probably been 10 years. Since we’ve been here, we’ve been doing it.”

National Night Out presented an opportunity for members of the public to meet with police officers and learn more about their work, as explained by Officer Tom Cowell, who was seen talking to members of the commu-



nity about his K-9 partner, Vici.

“It’s good to interact with the community and to be able to answer a lot of their questions, because a lot of times I don’t get a chance to hang out with a canine handler or see the canine himself,” Cowell said. “For us to be able to showcase and have these conversations with people is huge, because a lot of people just see like a dog and think, ‘oh, dog, dog, dog,’ but

these are working dogs. We find missing people, narcotics, go after and chase bad guys and all that fun stuff.”

The event had a great turn-out, with families arriving early, eager to participate in the festivities.

“Like I pulled up right around 6 o’clock, and I couldn’t believe the cars are down the street,” said Fire Chief William Bernat. “A guy said when they got here around like at 5:30 p.m., it

NNO | page 6

VETERANS

Towns join forces to support veterans

By Kevin Flanders
Staff Writer
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Following state approval, Ludlow and Palmer have officially united to expand services for veterans.

The intermunicipal agreement merges the veterans services departments of both communities, creating the Ludlow-Palmer Veterans Services Department.

Recently greenlighted by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Veterans Services, the agreement enables veterans living in Ludlow and Palmer to benefit from a stronger, more comprehensive regional department.

“This is more than a merger. It’s a commitment to providing the highest level of service to those who served our nation,” said Eric Segundo, the Director of Veterans Services for the Ludlow-Palmer District. “This partnership reflects our commitment to ensuring every veteran receives the benefits, services and respect they have earned.”

The state approval marks

VETERANS | page 12

PALMER

Lemonade Day returns to Palmer and entices entrepreneurship

By Kevin Flanders
Staff Writer
kflanders@turley.com

PALMER – In a quickly growing town tradition, residents are looking forward to the return of Lemonade Day this month.

Set for Saturday, Aug. 22, the event will run from

noon-3 p.m. at lemonade stands set up by local youngsters throughout town.

“Lemonade Day is a fantastic adventure where kids dive into the world of entrepreneurship,” read a statement posted to the town website. “They discover vital business and life skills, like setting ambitious goals, craft-

ing smart plans, and working hard to turn dreams into reality.”

Now in its third year, the event is expected to be bigger and better than ever.

During event hours, lemonade stands will be set up across town. Residents are encouraged to show their community spirit by going

out and supporting young participants.

“It’s a great way to bring the entire community together. Every member of the town can get involved, whether they’re helping to set up stands or shopping at them,” said event organizer Julia Taylor.

After assisting with a

similar event when she lived in Nome, Alaska, Taylor brought its inspiration with her to western Massachusetts. She hopes enthusiasm for the event will continue spreading throughout town, which could pave the way for neighboring communities to arrange their own versions.

In addition to being a fun

program that brings the community together, Lemonade Day also teaches kids about the importance of organization and financial literacy.

“Lemonade Day is a tremendous opportunity for our young people to learn the fundamentals of financial literacy.”

LEMONADE | page 8

MONSON

ADA grant funds help transform park

Dave Grieve Memorial Park to be rededicated

By Kevin Flanders
Staff Writer
kflanders@turley.com

MONSON – Following a major grant-funded improvement project, residents are looking forward to a rededication ceremony at Dave Grieve Memorial Park and Gazebo.

The town received a Municipal ADA Improvement Grant to address longstanding accessibility challenges at the park. The completed project trans-

forms one of the community’s most active and visible public spaces into a fully inclusive site for individuals of all abilities.

The total grant award for the project was \$105,257, disbursed by the Massachusetts Office on Disability. Final project expenditures amounted to \$105,187.27, resulting in a favorable balance of \$69.73 under budget.

“The Dave Grieve Park project is a great example of what can be accomplished when communities actively seek out and pursue grant opportunities,” said Town Administrator Jennifer Wolowicz. “Local budgets alone often cannot fund projects of this scale, which is why researching

GRANT | page 11

PALMER

Lovell celebrates 90th birthday ON THE TRACK



Turley Photos by Kevin Flanders
Janice Lovell told Palmer Motorsports Park official Al Sandy about her birthday wish. Driver Glen Wiley made Janice Lovell’s birthday wish come true in his Corvette Z06.

By Kevin Flanders
Staff Writer
kflanders@turley.com

PALMER – Surrounded by family, Janice Lovell celebrated her 90th birthday with high speeds at Palmer Motorsports Park.

Lovell, a lifelong Palmer resident, made it her birthday wish to reach 90 MPH in celebration of 90 years young.

LOVELL | page 16



Police and fire join 250th celebration parade

PALMER – Members of the Palmer Police Department, Three Rivers Fire Department and Bondsville Fire Department recently participated in the town of Ware’s U.S. 250th celebration parade on Aug. 1.

With over 70 participants, the parade featured public safety responders and their vehicles from Ware and surrounding towns.



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

Lieutenant Grimes of the Three Rivers Fire Department drove a 1933 antique fire truck in the town of Ware’s U.S. 250th celebration parade held on Aug. 1.



Mandie Burns handed out candy to parade spectators.



Palmer Police Chief Christopher Burns drove a cruiser in the parade.



The 1933 antique fire truck was featured in the parade.

Town Clerk announces new polling location

MONSON – Officials have announced a polling location change.

Future elections in town will take place at Quarry Hill School, 43 Margaret St.

Please use the pool entrance when entering the school.

For more information about the change, contact the Town Clerk’s office at 413-267-4115. You may also send an email to: town-clerk@monson-ma.gov.

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Town Clerk lists early voting information

PALMER – Early voting hours have been announced for the Sept. 1 State Primary.

The following dates and times are available for early voting at the Palmer Town Clerk’s Office, 4417 Main St.

Hours include Saturday, Aug. 22 (9 a.m.-5 p.m.). This day is also the deadline to register to vote and/or change your party designation for the Sept. 1 State Primary election (deadline is 5 p.m.)

Early voting hours will also be held on Monday, Aug. 24 (8:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.); Tuesday, Aug. 25 (8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.); Wednesday, Aug. 26 (8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.); and Thursday, Aug. 27 (8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.).

Monson announces early voting dates

MONSON – All early voting for the State Primary will take place at the Town Office Building in the Public Meeting Room, 110 Main St.

Early voting hours will be held on Saturday, Aug. 22, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. This is also the final day to register to vote and change your party affiliation.

Additional early voting hours will take place on the following dates: Monday, Aug. 24 (8 a.m.-4 p.m.); Tuesday, Aug. 25 (8 a.m.-4 p.m.); Wednesday, Aug. 26 (8 a.m.-6 p.m.); Thursday, Aug. 27 (8 a.m.-4 p.m.); and Friday, Aug. 28 (8 a.m.-4 p.m.).

The State Primary election will take place on Tuesday, Sept. 1.

The polling location is Quarry Hill Community School. Please use the pool entrance.

Polling hours are 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

For more information, please contact the Town Clerk’s office at 413-267-4115. You may also send an email to townclerk@monson-ma.gov.



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Library hosts 'After-Hours' lock-in for young readers

PALMER – Local youth summer readers will celebrate their love of books with a unique event this month.

Hosted by Palmer Public Library, an After-Hours Library Rave program will take place on Friday, Aug. 21, at 7 p.m. Participants who have spent their summer enjoying books during the library's summer reading program will have the opportunity to stay overnight at the library until Saturday, Aug. 22.

In order to receive an invitation to the party, area kids were challenged earlier this

summer to read 40 or more hours through the Palmer Public Library's Summer Reading Program.

Activities will include Capture the Flag, lawn games, Rank That Snack, a nail salon, Nintendo Switch games, Bracelet Bonanza, achievement badges, pearler bead projects, pizza, ice cream sundaes, a waffle bar breakfast buffet and more.

Activities will take place throughout the library. Registered participants are encouraged to bring their own blankets, pillows, pajamas and

toiletries.

Registration for this event opens on Saturday, Aug. 15, at 12:15 a.m.

Youngsters ages 10 and 11 can party at the library until 11 p.m.

Participants ages 12-17 are welcome to sleep over at the library.

A parent/guardian permission slip and registration are required for attendance.

The library is located at 1455 North Main St.

To learn more about upcoming activities at the library, visit www.palmerlibrary.org.

Bondsville author has book launch at Palmer library

PALMER – On Tuesday, Sept. 1 at 6 p.m. Bondsville author Suzanne Strempek Shea will have a book launch for "Compositions", a memoir of from a Catholic school student at the Palmer Public Library, 1455 North Main St.

"Compositions" features 42 essays by one student through her eight years in Catholic school, which is the 12th book and latest release by Strempek Shea.

The author writes

about her early years in a close-knit 1960s and 1970s Polish-American grade school and community of Three Rivers and Palmer.

"Compositions" details a life that revolves in a circle of faith and family.

Fine societal distinctions are made: Polish Catholics and French-Canadian Catholics, the two majorities in her village, each have their own churches and their own schools, even their own

funeral homes.

At Strempek Shea's school – known in the village as "Polish school" – the most important grade was for conduct.

Written in the author's voice and point of view from grades one to eight, the humorous and poignant essays show a past still fully present.

Registration is not required for this program. Books will be available for purchase from the author immediately following the program.

Lions Club hosts Family Fest on Sept. 5

MONSON – Guests of all ages are invited to enjoy special activities at the Monson Lions Club Family Fest.

The event will take place on Saturday, Sept. 5, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Westview Farms Creamery,

109 East Hill Road.

The event will feature food trucks, vendors, a kid zone, a magician, live music and several other highlights.

If you are interested in becoming a vendor at the event, text Karen at 413-544-1555.

Monson Together hosts golf tournament Aug. 22

MONSON – Area residents are invited to support Monson Together's second annual golf tournament.

Set for Saturday, Aug. 22 at Quaboag Country Club, the event will benefit Roots of Remembrance, toy drives, senior gift bags and the Monson Community Cupboard.



The tournament cost is \$400 per team. The cost includes 18 holes.

Two tee times will be offered (8 a.m. and 1 p.m.). A total of 15 teams will take part in each tee time.

The event will also include a meal, music and raffles.

To register for the tournament, please text Karen at 413-544-1555.



PALMER – The Palmer Senior Center, located at 1029 Central St., lists upcoming activities and programs for the months of August and September.

Please sign up for all programs by calling 413-283-2670, extension 3.

For more information about senior center happenings, follow "Palmer Senior Center" on Facebook or visit www.townofpalmer.com.

Movie Matinee
Matinees are held on Fridays at 12:30 p.m. Drinks and popcorn are available.

Aug. 14 – "Water for Elephants" is an epic tale of forbidden love. Against all

'Burial Grounds of Palmer' presentation planned for fall

PALMER – Take part in Palmer's MA 250th anniversary celebration by joining local historian Robert Comeau in this presentation about the "Burial Grounds of Palmer" on Tuesday, Oct. 6 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Community Room at the Palmer Public Library, 1455 North Main St.

To register for this program, please visit: <https://palmerlibrary.com>

In addition to this presentation, Comeau will host

a tour at the Four Corners Cemetery on Saturday, Oct. 10 from 11 a.m.-noon, 4287 Main St.

These events are brought to you by the Palmer Historical Commission and the Palmer Public Library.

This program is funded in part by a grant from the Palmer Cultural Council, a local agency, which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

This program is free, but registration is requested.

Annual water quality report available

MONSON – The 2025 annual water quality consumer confidence report for Monson is available at <https://www.monson-ma.gov/622/Water-Quality-Report-CCR-Index>.

This report contains important information about the source and quality of your drinking water.

Hard copies are available at Monson Town Hall located at 110 Main St., the Monson Free Library located at 2 High St. and the Monson Senior Center located at 106 Main St.

Please call 413-267-4130 if you would like a paper report delivered to your home.

Ware Grange hosts BBQ dinner Aug. 29

WARE – The Ware Grange is holding a barbecue dinner at the annual Grange Fair on Saturday, Aug. 29 at 4 p.m.

The menu includes pulled pork, chicken, brisket, baked beans, coleslaw, cornbread, drink and dessert

for \$25. Eat outside under the tent or take your meal to go.

Reservations are required. Please call 413-284-1135 or email waregrange164@gmail.com to make your reservations for the barbecue.

Palmer Senior Center

odds, a veterinary student and a beautiful circus performer from a bygone era meet and fall in love through their shared compassion for a special elephant, but their secret romance incurs the wrath of her dangerously volatile husband.

Aug. 21 – "Pearl Harbor" brings history alive in this unforgettable epic picture. This real-life tale of catastrophic defeat, heroic victory and personal courage focuses on the war's devastating impact on two daring young pilots and a beautiful, dedicated nurse.

Aug. 28 – "Small Things Like These" is set in 1985 when coal merchant Bill Fur-

long uncovers disturbing secrets in a small Irish town that is controlled by the Roman Catholic Church.

Monday Evening Programs
Monday Evening Programs begin at 4:30 p.m.

Aug. 17 – Family Feud and dinner (American chop suey), \$3

Aug. 24 – Gift bag purses with Marlene and dinner (meatball grinders), \$3. Seating is limited.

Aug. 31 – Fall craft with Kim.

Activities

Aug. 13 – Please note there is no blood pressure clinic today.

Aug. 19 – Seashell mirror/tray craft with Kim. The

cost is \$10.

Aug. 25 – Volunteer Luncheon. This event is by invitation. If you have not received an invitation and feel you should have, please contact Marlene on extension 1.

Aug. 26 – Fruit and veggie stand made possible through a QHCHIP2026 mini-grant provided by Healthy Quaboag through the town of Ware.

Upcoming Events

Sept. 11 – Annual Picnic at Pulaski Park, will be held from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Entertainment will be provided by The Gemstones, and the meal by Tony and Penny Catering. The cost is \$15, which is due when you sign up.

NOTICE

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Viewpoints

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor



Is the Medicare Part B Premium a percentage of our Social Security amount?

Dear Rusty:

I have a simple question: Is the amount we pay for Medicare Part B premium a percent of our Social Security amount we receive?

Signed: Curious

Dear Curious:

Your Medicare Part B premium is not based on a percentage of your monthly Social Security benefit amount.

Medicare Part B premiums are set in October of each year by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and are based upon anticipated total costs of the Medicare program in the forthcoming year.

Generally speaking, Medicare Part B enrollee premiums are expected to offset about 25% of CMS' anticipated total Medicare Part B costs; the rest is borne by the Federal Government.

So, when CMS estimates Medicare program costs for the upcoming year, they also look at the number of anticipated Part B enrollees. They then divide 25% of total anticipated Part B program costs by the number of expected Part B enrollees, resulting in the "standard" Medicare Part B premium for next year.

For 2026, the standard Part B premium amount is \$202.90. The standard premium for 2027 will be announced in October 2026 and will likely be different.

It's important to understand also that not everyone pays the "standard" Part B premium. Some lower income seniors may pay less because of the so-called "hold harmless provision," and some higher income folks may pay more than the "standard" monthly Part B premium because of a provision called Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount.

The "hold harmless provision" says that monthly Social Security benefits cannot decrease as a result of a Medicare premium in-

crease, so if the annual SS Cost Of Living Adjustment is insufficient to offset any increase to the standard Part B premium, then the SS beneficiary may pay a smaller Part B premium amount so that their SS benefit doesn't decrease (note there are exceptions to this rule).

Conversely, those with a higher "provisional income" (an IRS definition), may pay more than the standard Medicare Part B premium. That's because of a provision known as IRMAA, which adds a supplemental amount on top of the standard Medicare Part B premium.

IRMAA supplement amounts are determined using a sliding scale to define the required higher Part B premium for each income level category and IRMAA will cause the Part B premium to be more than the standard premium amount.

For those with exceptionally high incomes, the Part B premium can be as much as \$690 per month.

For your information, income reported to the IRS two years ago is used to determine if an individual is subject to IRMAA for the forthcoming year.

The reason for this is timing: when next year's Part B premium is determined in October of each current year, the IRS has processed all tax returns for the preceding year but doesn't yet have individual income for the current year.

Thus, they must use a person's income from October of the preceding year to determine who will pay the standard Part B premium next year, and who will pay a higher IRMAA amount.

And just to complete this picture, you should be aware that IRMAA also applies to Medicare Part D premiums. And that means that those with higher incomes who are affected by IRMAA for Part B will also pay a higher Medicare Part



Midsummer questions for Garden Lady

Karen, who has a vegetable garden in Hardwick, is concerned over her tomatoes cracking and is asking the Garden Lady for some advice.

"With all the rainstorms we've had, one measuring over 5 inches last week, my cherry tomatoes, and even some of my paste types are starting to crack. Is this a normal occurrence and if so, is there anything I can do to prevent this from happening in the future?"

This is a timely question, Karen, and one that I am sure a lot of readers can relate to. I know I can.

It's always exciting when the tomatoes start ripening and then this happens.

Fruit cracking around the stem, either in rings or radiating downward is caused by overwatering; we or Mother Nature can be at fault. This year I will blame her for some of it.

A week ago many gardeners in the area received an inch or more of rain in two separate deluges. Keep in mind that most veggies require about an inch per week.

Adjust your irrigation to accommodate for the excess.

Mulches do well to moderate soil moisture; if you mulch, you can water less often. If cracking ends up being a big problem for you, consider scouring the seed catalogs for varieties that are resistant to it.

As long as the cracks

And yes, they are safe to eat.

Some people comment that the berries with this disorder are a little tough or flavorless. It doesn't really bother me.

Moldy berries would look furry and the area would be raised.

Bill is growing basil for the first time and he had this question for the Garden Lady: "My basil was slow to take off. I came back from vacation and it is in flower. While the bees seem to enjoy the flowers, I was hoping to harvest some of the leaves. Do you have any advice as to how to get it out of flower mode and into leaf production?"

Yes, I do. It involves giving the basil a hair cut. Sure enough, your plant needs to be rid of those flowers.

Once you do that, provide some nitrogen to get them greened up and growing. This could be by the addition of a little blood meal at the base of the plant or a foliar feed of fish emulsion or compost tea.

In no time your plant will rebound. Just be sure to keep those flowers trimmed off.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 32 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.



by Roberta McQuaid



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Please send opinions to:

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The submission deadline for consideration is Monday at noon.

Election letters to the editor welcome

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

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

Campaign news

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

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

My daughter, Paula Pouimette, took this photo of a juvenile brown headed cowbird watching her run laps with her dog, Jo Jo.

The young cowbird perched on a fence near the driveway of the elementary school in Hardwick.

My daughter used the Seek app by iNaturalist to get the identification. It stayed there for about 20 minutes before flying off.

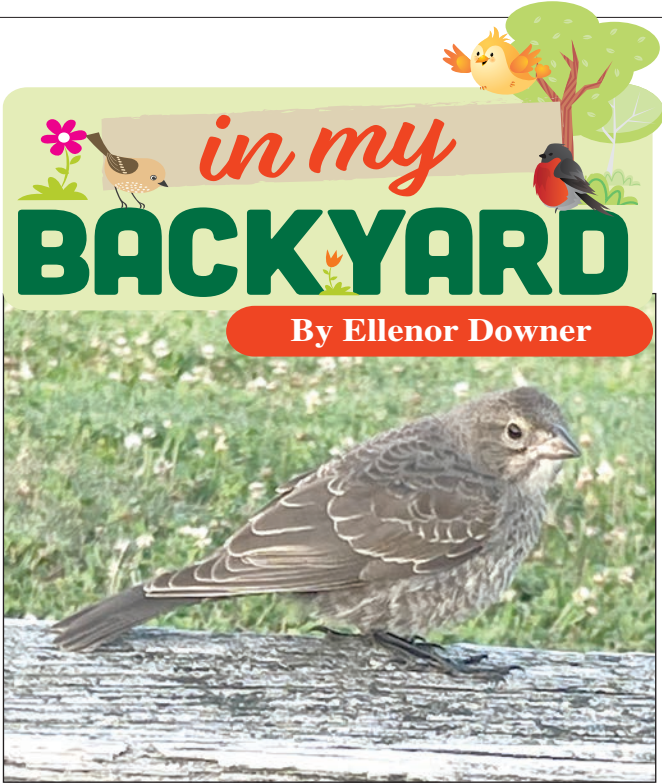
She said there were no other cowbirds around, but cowbirds lay their eggs in nests of birds smaller than then in hopes they will raise their young.

Obviously, this young cowbird looks well feed. I wonder what bird raised it, often at the expense of their own offspring.

Warblers and vireos are the most common cowbird hosts. Their nestlings weight less than half as much as the cowbird nestling.

Some species will either push the cowbird egg out of their nest or leave that nest and start another nest.

The brown-headed cowbird is a stocky blackbird. The females do not build a



Juvenile brown headed cowbird

nest and instead produce up to three dozen eggs per summer.

They lay the eggs in the nests of other bird species and let them raise their young, know as brood parasitism.

Brown-headed cowbirds are native to North America,

but many people consider them a nuisance bird because of their parenting style.

Cowbirds destroy the eggs and young of smaller songbirds and have been implicated in the decline of several endangered species, including Kirtland's warbler and black-capped vireo.

Adult male cowbirds have glossy black bodies and brown heads, hence their name. In poor lighting, the male's head looks brown.

The female is brown with the head lighter brown than the body. She has fine streaking on the belly/ Both sexes have thick, conical bills and black eyes.

They are 7.5 to 8.7 inches long. They feed on the ground and can be seen walking behind livestock to eat what their hooves stir up.

They are found in open habitats such as fields, pastures, meadows, forest edges and lawns. They also perch on a prominent branch high in a tree.

They are primarily seed-eaters and insectivores, adapting their diet based on availability and season, often gleaned from the ground or by following grazing animals. They will come to feeders as well and prefer sunflower seeds and millet.

Other Hardwick birds

My daughter, Paula, saw lots of bluebirds, swallows, robins and one hen turkey with a poult. She said there were probably more underneath the hen turkey, but only

one was brave enough to come out.

Red tail hawks

I have several red tail hawks in Barre, New Brain-tree and Oakham. Recently, one flew off and the sunshine showed off the hawks red tail. They are often seen by freshly mowed fields in hopes of featching some rodents, who stand out on a newly cut field.

Great blue heron

Long Pond in Rutland is a popular spot to find a great blue heron "fishing" in the shallows along Route 122.

Meal worms

I continue to have catbirds come for the mealworms I leave them on the picnic table. The other day I heard a catbird make its meowing call. Males use the call to establish territory and females for communication and alarm purposes.

Raven

Recently, the common raven flew overhead making its gurgling croak. I could hear it, but I was unable to see it with all the trees.

People may report a bird sighting by emailing edowner@turley.com or calling or texting 774-262-5882.

Viewpoints

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Whalen could bring change to Congress

To the Editor

I was “introduced” to Jeromie Whalen via a Facebook post he made after volunteering for a local food pantry.

I loved what he was actively doing for the community, and he got me thinking about congressional elections for the first time in, well, ever. Neal has been in the seat in district MA 01 for so long, that I had forgotten that there was even the potential for other options.

For the first time, I thought maybe there is an opportunity here to influence positive change!

I met Jeromie, followed his page, and saw how he included everyone in his considerations. I really felt that his goal was to make as much impact as possible for as many people as possible.

I loved the idea of having someone in Congress that clearly cared about those around him, and how he could improve lives en masse with policies that

would be built for all, not just the wealthy, and certainly not for corporations.

He takes no PAC money, so can’t be bought, which is incredibly important. No one wants a puppet in Congress.

One of the biggest policy changes I would like to see is Medicare for All, and he fully supports that.

I don’t know how we ever got to the point where Health Insurance rules so many life and financial decisions, but imagine if the oppressive weight of that was taken out of the mix? It should not be a driver in decisions we make for our lives, and I would love to see this policy, among others, implemented.

But you don’t have to believe me, just go follow his page to see what he is up to and get a taste of what may be to come. And vote in the primaries in September.

Be the winds of change!

Irina Vidomanets
Springfield

Reader supports Whalen for Congress

To the Editor

Through the course of my life, I’ve had the privilege of serving my community in many different ways.

I recently retired after over 20 years in the Massachusetts Army National Guard, I’ve spent nearly two decades as a federal civilian employee, and I’ve dedicated countless volunteer hours to suicide prevention, LGBTQ+ advocacy and nonprofit leadership.

Those experiences have taught me that the best leaders aren’t the ones who seek attention; they’re the ones who show up, listen and work alongside the people they serve.

Those are the qualities I see in Jeromie Whalen.

Politics has become increasingly divided, but I believe our representatives should be judged less by political rhetoric and more by their character, accessibility, and willingness to serve. Jeromie approaches leadership with humility, compassion,

and a genuine desire to hear from the people he hopes to represent. Rather than talking at constituents, he listens to them.

Rather than promising easy solutions, he’s willing to have honest conversations about difficult issues.

After spending my own life in public service, I’ve learned to recognize leadership that comes from a place of service instead of ambition. That is why Jeromie has earned my support.

Every voter deserves to make an informed decision, and I encourage everyone to take the opportunity to meet the candidates, ask questions, and engage in the democratic process. As for me, I’ll be casting my vote for Jeromie Whalen because I believe he represents the kind of thoughtful, community centered leadership that Massachusetts’ First Congressional District deserves.

Amber DeGrandpre
Chicopee

Readers supports re-election of Neal

To the Editor

As the primary election approaches, voters across Western Massachusetts face a choice about who will best represent our region in Washington.

I am writing to express my strong support for Congressman Richard Neal for re-election.

Congressman Neal’s track record of delivering tangible results speaks for itself. Recently, his leadership was instrumental in securing vital federal funding for Chicopee as well as other community water treatment infrastructure.

By bringing these dollars back home, he directly offset substantial infrastructure costs that otherwise would have fallen on local households, keeping municipal water rates manageable for everyday ratepayers.

Furthermore, Congressman Neal’s unwavering support for Westover Air Reserve Base has been essential to our local economy

and national defense. His efforts to fund the construction of the new maintenance hangar for the C-5M Super Galaxy aircraft ensure that the base remains at peak operational efficiency while securing Westover’s mission and presence in Chicopee for decades to come.

In Washington, effective representation depends heavily on influence and relationships. Congressman Neal’s seniority, depth of experience, and steadfast commitment to Western Massachusetts ensure that our region continues to have a powerful, respected voice where key decisions are made.

We need a proven advocate who delivers real results for our infrastructure, economy, and community stability. I urge my fellow residents to join me in voting to re-elect Congressman Richard Neal.

Michael Pise
Chicopee

SECURITY | from page 4

D premium.

Medicare Part D is private insurance coverage for prescription drugs). But none of this is related to your Social Security benefit amount.

The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. This article is intended for information purposes and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the Association Mature Citizens Foundation’s staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. To submit a question, visit amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory or email us at ssadviser@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

PLEASE REMEMBER
TO RECYCLE
THIS NEWSPAPER



your health



By Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, RN
Guest Column

“Why didn’t our mothers tell us?” seems to be the predominant feeling about menopause on the part of Gen X women, those approximately between the ages 40 and 60. For my mother’s generation and those that came before her, it was simply “The Change.” Just get on with it.

And doctors don’t seem to pay it much mind either, even though it affects half of their patients and comes with 34 known symptoms ranging from hot flashes and irregular periods to night sweats and mood changes.

“Doctors seem to think we are either pre-pregnant, pregnant or invisible,” one

woman commented.

In the last few years, though, the conversation has been shifting. Women are more assertive about getting treated for menopause symptoms, new treatments are emerging, and it seems some doctors are increasingly recognizing the need for better menopause care.

And celebrities aren’t shy about it, either. Actor Naomi Watts said on Instagram that she felt like she had been hit by a truck. “How could I figure this out when no one was talking? ... It’s oddly like an unwritten code of silence: Women should suck it up and cope, because that’s how generations past have done it.”

Menopause is having a moment

In perimenopause, which can start in a woman’s late 30s, and menopause, estrogen levels begin dropping, which is what brings on a host of physical and emotional symptoms. Each month after puberty, your body prepares for pregnancy. In menopause, the ovaries stop that process, sometimes gradually and sometimes abruptly, as when a woman undergoes a hysterectomy that also removes the ovaries.

There seem to be two main themes surrounding the discussion of menopause today: Better treatment and management of symptoms and the sense of empowerment a woman can gain when her child-bearing years are past.

Menopause is a natural process, not an illness or condition. Hormone replacement therapy (HRT) has long been in use as a front-line treatment for easing menopausal hot flashes. It also eases other menopause symptoms and slows bone loss. It’s best used by people who are younger than 60 and within 10 years

of the onset of menopause.

Not everyone can use estrogen because of cancer risks, although low-dosage creams or rings that can be inserted into the vagina are generally helpful for vaginal dryness, urinary issues and painful intercourse.

It’s encouraging to see new therapies emerging and new uses being found for existing medications. Low-dose antidepressants (SSRIs) and the anti-seizure medication gabapentin have been shown to reduce hot flashes, one of the most common complaints. Medications to slow bone loss and additional calcium are helpful. Soy may also reduce frequency and severity of symptoms.

Researchers are working to develop treatments that effectively manage menopausal symptoms while minimizing risks associated with HRT. A new non-hormonal treatment from AbCellera just completed a successful phase two clinical trial in which participants reported 83% fewer hot flashes and better sleep. It works by targeting

a receptor that helps regulate body temperature.

I think the most promising development in menopause treatment is the “matriarchal revolution,” the realization that post-menopausal years can be a time of increased empowerment and leadership, as women find new opportunities to embrace their wisdom and life experiences.

Gen X won’t let their daughters and granddaughters suffer, either. As one woman wrote on social media, “We’re going to be out there teaching Gen Z and Gen Alpha about what to expect and how to treat symptoms.”

You go, girl.

Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, a Monson resident, is a registered nurse and board-certified patient advocate. She is the author of several books on advocacy and founder of Nurse Advocate Entrepreneur, which equips medical professionals with the knowledge and skills to start their own advocacy businesses. Contact her at Teri@NurseAdvocateEntrepreneur.com.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

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

UPCOMING

VENDORS FOR THE BAYSTATE WING HOSPITAL GIFT SHOPPE

September Vendors

- Sept. 1 - In The AM Floral
- Sept. 8 - Heart Arts Crafts
- Sept. 9 - Hobbit Hollow Herbs
- Sept. 15 - Wicked Good Treats
- Sept. 16 - How Charming
- Sept. 21 - Geriations & Sew On
- Sept. 23 - Crystal Clear Emotions

ONGOING

WALES CHURCH FARMER’S MARKET: Located in the church pavilion across from the post office on the corner of Route 19 and Monson Road. The farmers market is open every Saturday morning from 9 a.m.-noon beginning on Memorial Day weekend and running until Labor Day weekend. Offerings include homemade baked goods, local honey, crafts, flea market items, antiques and fruits and vegetables when in season. Vendors are welcome and there is no charge to set up a table.

THURSDAYS - WESTERN LINE DANCE CLASSES 6:30-7:30 p.m. and 7:30-8:30 p.m. \$10 for one lesson or both. Brimfield Winery at 35 Main St., in Brimfield. Check brim-

fieldwinery.com for any variations.

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

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

QUABOAG VALLEY QUILTERS GUILD: Members meet at 1 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays of the month in the AMETS 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. Follow them on Facebook for more information.

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

GAME NIGHT: 6-7:45 p.m. the second Tuesday at the Palmer Library at 1455 N. Main St. Free and open to the public. Play available board and card games or bring your own. Must be 16 or older unless accompanied by an adult. No registration required. For more information call 413-283-3691, or email palewis19@yahoo.com.

QI GONG: Qi Gong at Monson Free Library with Randy Emerson is held every Tuesday from 5:45-6:45 p.m.

POETRY CORNER

N.B. Pease

Who needs heaven ...

Says Mr. N.B. Pease, entrepreneur of Palmer -
When I have Beverly, - and these vintage rooms?
Of stringed instruments, pianos, organs, sheet music;
More alive than the new. Where was it ever better!
Busts of musicians, inventors, statesmen, benefactors -
Like they were neighbors and friends.
It's as if we never left. Come on in.
With more comforts, color, and sound order.
And the honey-suckle blooming there by the door -
More sweet than anything left on earth?

And it's true, he says;

Despite modern powerful parodies,
Representing us in Washington, and the world -
We have yet our two political parties:
The National, and, the American.

May they endure!

Tho' no one understands the road you take it on ...

In the moonlight - and cool air upon us ...
My motor car open - to all the thrills;
Victorian times acoming ...
Answering to these - beyond the hills.

– Charles Barnes



Waving flags for National Night Out were Cara and Greg Sullivan, Mariah Kakley, Joshua, who turned 8 this Wednesday, Jaiden, age 6 and Carl, 21 months.



Jahieem and Blake, aged 14, wore plastic firefighter hats to participate in the National Night Out activities.



Happy that the weather cooperated, (from left) Bonnie Rathbone, Mary Charette and Bernie Fontaine.



Members of the Police and Fire departments from town met up, (from left) Maria Puckett, Emily Usher, Ian Grimes, Police Chief Christopher Burns, McKinley Chase and Fire Chief William Bernat.



The School Department team caught a nice spot in the shade, (from left) Old Mill Pond Assistant Principal Sonia Rodriguez Medina, Assistant Principal Amy Herring, Assistant Principal Enrique Sanchez, Principal Sue North, Superintendent Matthew Francis, Principal Holly Riopel and Assistant Principal Kerry Lynch.



Enjoying the sunny community day, (from left) Jeff Staiti, Palmer Police Officer Joshua Wood, Deyton Ritchotte and Gavin Ryder.



Providing information from the District Court, (from left) Amanda Rodrigues, Martyna Currie, Jerryanne Johnson and Dre Urena.



The Soccer Association table was manned by (from left) Jil Croshetiere, Jessica Hines, Eli, age 8 and Knox, a dog from Knoxville.



Turley Photos by Marcelo Gusmão
Lauren Reutenauer regularly brings Elijah, age 8 and Riley, age 2, to National Night Out.



Jayden was able to climb into the Building Department's vehicle to see what it was like from the driver's seat.

NNO | from page 1

was already full of people everywhere.”

There was a good variety of booths and tables from town departments, nonprofits and local organizations and businesses, with games and pamphlets to hand out to the public.

“I am just so happy that the weather cooperated,” said resident Bonnie Rathbone. “It’s so nice to see this many people here, and also the number of people who came with their tents. It’s so nice to see them. Everything worked out – especially the weather.”

“We’re excited to come together to thrive,” said High School Principal Susan North.



Phil Hale and Jay McDiarmid met up with family members Lisa and Colin McDiarmid.



The Scouts were well represented this year, (from left) Andrew Sikorski Sr., Andrew Sikorski Jr., Stephen Salmond Sr., Stephen Salmond Jr., Michael Roblinski, Jayden Roblinski and Logan Cusson.



The Lemieux family admired the turn-out from the Chamber of Commerce's table, (from left) Madison, Matt and Sharon.

Town Council recognizes volunteers

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

PALMER – At this week’s Town Council meeting, the town recognized the work of local volunteers, received updates regarding the Cultural Council, and read a proclamation for Lemonade Day.

The Aug. 10 meeting began with a community spotlight for Jacob, a student from Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School that worked on the town’s website with Director of Administrative Services Ashley Place.

“He was in our information technology co-op (at Pathfinder),” Place said. “He was instrumental, and kind of my right hand through the whole website process.”

Jacob described the experience as “a blast,” and said that the website is looking great and running smoothly.

“It’s been my first time working on a website for somebody,” Jacob said.

Place presented Jacob with a certificate as a token of appreciation for his dedication and extraordinary contribution.

“We’d like to express our sincere appreciation for your dedication and enthusiasm,” Place said. “Your contributions have played an important role in supporting the completion of our town’s official new website.”

Cultural Council

Chair of the Cultural Council, Lisa Newton, provided an update on the council, which has been in a “transition year” as the council’s leadership has changed. Newton said that the council is coordinating well with the Town Council and other committees, and praised the new website.

“The new application process information, if you’re interested in applying, is on the town website on the PCC page, but also on the Massachusetts Cultural Council page, and its information on how to apply,” Newton said.

Newton shared how the council determines priorities regarding grants by using town surveys for community feedback. Those priorities, as Newton listed, are using community green space for entertainment, supporting teens after school, supporting Council on Aging events and serving the most people in town as possible.

Lemonade Day

The council made a proclamation for Lemonade Day on Aug. 26, recognizing the free, community-wide educational event for providing children with the opportunity to learn and apply entrepreneurial thinking and create a foundation for success in the global economy. Place read a statement from Julia Taylor, who has been the primary coordinator for Lemonade Day.

“I want to thank everyone for their support as we continue to host and grow this nation-

wide program,” Place read. “We currently have 12 stands located all around Palmer from noon to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 22, and we’d like to invite you and the entire community to come and support our amazing youth during the third annual Lemonade Day Palmer.”

Place said that a brochure with a printed map and an interactive Google map will be launched on the website later this week. Some of the young entrepreneurs who will be running lemonade stands during Lemonade Day were present in the audience during the meeting, and spoke about their experience with the stand last year and their hopes for it this year.

“What I liked about doing the lemonade stand last year is that it was great for learning entrepreneurship, and you make a profit out of it,” said sixth-grader James.

In addition to lemonade, the stands will also offer things like boardhouses, cotton candy, pins, stickers and 3-D printed items.

“Lemonade Day exists to infuse today’s youth with the spirit of enterprise, teaching the basic business and entrepreneurial skills necessary to become successful, contributing members of their communities,” read Council President Barbara Barry. “Lemonade Day has a core philosophy of spend, save, and share that is implemented by teaching children how to start, own, and operate a business, learn goal setting, develop a business plan, establish a budget, seek investors, provide customer service and give back to the community.”

“Lemonade Day offers opportunities for families, businesses, schools, youth organizations, faith-based communities, neighborhoods, institutes of higher learning, and governing agencies to unite for a common purpose to train the next generation of entrepreneurs,” Barry continued. “Lemonade Day is an event that demonstrates to young people of the town and surrounding communities that they are important and citizens care about their future.”

The town saluted and commended organizers, volunteers and participants of Lemonade Day as a program that advances life skills, character, and entrepreneurship and extended best wishes for its successful and rewarding observance, and proclaimed Aug. 22 as Lemonade Day Palmer and encouraged residents of the town and surrounding communities to participate and have a role by either selling or buying lemonade.

Council Member Ryan Gauthier added a message from the Board of Health, advising lemonade sellers that only commercially-prepared and pre-packaged foods will be allowed to be sold during the lemonade sale.

Lions Club sponsors concert

Sounds Legit performs at Veterans Field

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

MONSON – This Tuesday, the Lions Club sponsored a concert by Sounds Legit, who performed in Veterans Field.

The Lions Club started its first series of concerts last summer. After a successful season, the bands from last year approached the Lions Club about returning this year.

“We planned for concerts in June, July and August, so three concerts over three months,” said Lions Club Chairperson Ginny Pizzichemi. “They kept getting rained out, so we’re looking for alternate days in September.”

The band that performed on Aug. 11 was Sounds Legit, a group of local acoustic musicians, who cover rock and country music from the 1960s all the way up to the present.

This year, the Lions Club set up a table with hot dogs and refreshments, which Pizzichemi said was very well received. The club also had a 50/50 raffle and sold Lucky Duck tickets.

“Anyone who comes has a good time,” Pizzichemi said.

The Lions Club hopes to schedule another concert in September with one of the bands that cancelled due to the weather. That same month, the club will be holding its second annual Motorcycle Ride for Sight on Sunday, Sept. 13.

“All money raised is going to the Massachusetts



The Lions Club sold refreshments, Ginny Pizzichemi, Donny Vacyon, Remo Pizzichemi, Dot Jenkins, Barry and Lloyd Farrin, Diane Vacon, Mike and Vicky Lee and Debbie and John Davis.



Turley Photos by Marcelo Gusmão

Sounds Legit played music from various different time periods to residents and concert attendees.

Lions Eye Research Fund,” said Lions Club member Curt Jameson.

Jameson said that last year, the club was able to raise \$2,500 for its cause. The Lions Club has arranged insurance for the event, and collaborated with the Quabog Riders to put it on.

“I was recently at what they call an Eyeball Banquet, where we awarded the five major Boston hospitals,” Jameson said. “We awarded each of them, in total, a lit-

tle over \$900,000 – almost \$1,000,000 – and that all goes directly to eye research, and the stuff they do is amazing.”

Jameson went on to say that the club has been able to start a Second Opinion Program, which provides people throughout the commonwealth with a resource in case they disagree with the results of their eye exam.

“With all the money we donate to them, we can get you in faster than probably

most people can for a second opinion,” Jameson said.

Jameson said he hopes that this year’s race will go up by the Quabbin Reservoir and end at the motorcycle club, which will open up to sell meals and hopefully raise more money.

For more information about what the Lions Club has to offer, you can visit their page on Facebook under Monson Lions Club, or go to the national club’s website at LionsClubs.org.

Tips offered to avoid hazards during storms

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

PALMER/MONSON – This past Saturday, the National Weather Service determined that a macroburst with wind speeds ranging from 60-70 mph caused damage reported across parts of the region during the evening’s thunderstorm.

The storm began around 5:45 p.m. in West Springfield, before weakening as it reached Springfield, damaging trees and power lines along its path, as well as minor damage to buildings.

Fortunately, it seems that the damage in Palmer and Monson was minimal.

“As far as I know, there was only one tree downed, on Betty Jean Drive,” said Monson Fire Chief Brian Harris. “It was cleared up within three hours by National Grid subcontractors, there was no

need for fire services.”

Harris said he was able to watch the debris get cleared out by the subcontractors, as he lives near the site where the tree went down.

Captain Ryan Gauthier of the Palmer Fire Department similarly reported that the storm had caused minimal damage in town.

“With this storm, we only had one call directly related to it, that was for a tree that fell on a house,” Gauthier said. “The tree was leaning up against the house and some of the branches punched through, causing water to leak into the house. We put up catch basins to mitigate that, but the tree is going to have to be removed by a professional company.”

Gauthier said first responders from the Fire Department and the Building Department were dispatched to River Street, and that neither the house’s sole resident,

nor her five cats, were hurt, but the house was deemed unsafe by the Building Department. The department contacted Mill Towns Regional Animal Control to house the resident’s cats, and she found a place to stay for the night until the damage can be repaired.

“There was really no way of knowing,” Gauthier said. “Once we investigated the tree, we could see the whole inner core had been eaten by ants, but from outside it looked like a very healthy tree. A big gust of wind was the final straw.”

Sudden storms like these can be dangerous, even deadly, without taking the proper precautions, and so the Fire Chiefs offered advice on how to best protect your home during a storm. Gauthier recommended stocking up on “basic supplies.”

“A reserve of food and clean drinking water, flash-

lights, spare batteries, battery banks for cell phones, if you can have a backup generator,” Gauthier said. “If you have animals, you will need a way to transport them, such as carriers.”

Gauthier also recommended looking out for dead and hanging vegetation and trees that look sick, though it may not be obvious, such as in the case of the fallen tree this weekend. Harris also noted some poor behavior from drivers that he noticed during the repairs this weekend.

“One piece of advice,” Harris said. “If you see a tree hanging over the roadway, don’t drive under it. If there are barricades in the road, don’t drive around them.”

If you’d like to thank the Fire Department for protecting the community from storms, you can attend Monson’s sixth annual Public Safety Night Out on Oct. 17.

Department of Conservation and Recreation announces \$131,000 grant

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis
Staff Writer
zachf@turley.com

BROOKFIELD – Priscilla Geigis, Deputy Commissioner for Conservation and Resource Stewardship at the Department of Conservation and Recreation announced a \$131,000 grant from the administration of Gov. Maura Healey and Lieutenant Gov. Kimberly Driscoll during a press conference at the Brookfield Fire Station last Friday.

According to the press release, Brookfield received \$3,489.

This grant from the Volunteer Fire Capacity Program is split among 45 fire departments in the Commonwealth for those that serve populations of 10,000 or less, or are 80% or more staffed by volunteers. Geigis thanked state Sen. Peter Durant and

state Rep. Donnie Berthiaume during her speech, as they were unable to attend.

Geigis said these grants are to help fire departments with training and response, and to help them steward and protect the land, citing the immense impacts of wildfires, including in Washington and Minnesota. She said this money comes from the U.S. Forest Service, and said these grants are a good example of federal, state and local governments working together.

DCR wildland firefighter Andrew Regan gave thanks to firefighters in the state, and the state itself, and said this funding better helps to equip communities. Regan said fire stations use the money for personal protective equipment, tools, pumps and radios to name a few.

Director of Rural Affairs Anne Gobi said these grants

show support for local communities, and also called out the importance of mutual aid from other states in the event of wildfires. Gobi said the training that fire chiefs give is important for their firefighters to come home safe.

“When those tones go off, you’re there,” she said.

Brookfield Fire Chief Peter Martell thanked everybody for coming, along with the DCR, and said the town has been fortunate to take advantage of the grant for years.

Other communities’ fire chiefs were present as well, like Three Rivers Fire Chief Stephen Nodurf, who said this is the first year the town has taken advantage of the grant, and are using the funds for 12 sets of brush gear. Three Rivers received \$3,390.

Chief Jamie Hyatt from Windsor gave thanks to the DCR, saying “we’ve been

blessed to have this grant.” He said the funds are small, but impact the budget.

Windsor received \$3,482. Other communities rep-

resented were New Braintree, who received \$3,500 and Warren with Lt. Seth Beall. Warren received \$2,750.

Area towns also receiv-

ing funds are Brimfield with \$3,500, Wales with \$3,500, Barre with \$2,903, Petersham with \$3,500 and North Brookfield with \$815.



Submitted Photo

The Department of Conservation and Recreation announced more than \$131,000 in grants to 45 rural, call, or volunteer fire departments across Massachusetts through the Volunteer Fire Capacity Program. The program helps smaller departments train personnel, prevent forest fires and strengthen emergency response in their communities. DCR announced the VFC recipients at the Brookfield Fire Station, alongside local elected officials on Aug. 7.

In the classroom

CAMPUS NOTES

Palmer’s Pacensa earns degree

PALMER – Anthony Joseph Pacensa, of Palmer, earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from the University of Maryland Global Campus this past spring. Pacensa was one of more than 7,300 students worldwide who earned degrees from the UMGC in the spring 2026 term. The UMGC was founded more than 75 years ago to serve the higher education needs of working adults and military servicemembers. Today, the UMGC is the largest provider of post-secondary education in Maryland.

Classes of 1976 plan 50th reunion on Oct. 17

PALMER – The Palmer High School Reunion Committee invites the 1976 graduates of Palmer High School and Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School to a 50th Anniversary Reunion Party on Saturday, Oct. 17 from 5-10 p.m. Faculty is also welcome to attend the reunion party. Graduates and guests are invited to eat, drink and be reunited in the outdoor venue at Vanished Valley Brewing Co., 782 Center St., Ludlow. The cost is \$35 per person, includes entertainment by Kingdom of Jones Band and a BBQ style buffet with cornbread, salad, BBQ ribs, BBQ chicken, pulled pork, mac n’ cheese, rice and beans and coleslaw. Please RSVP by contacting Sue Warner Prosseri at suewpro@gmail.com. Registration and payment are due no later than Sept. 30.

PHS Class of 1966 plans September get-together

PALMER – The Palmer High School Class of 1966 is planning a get-together on Saturday, Sept. 19, at 2 p.m. at Teresa’s Restaurant, 325 Palmer Road in Ware. The cost of the meal is \$34. To register, please contact dgouvin@yahoo.com or Gail Clark at 413-262-9568, by Aug. 31.

CHECK OUT ALL THE

TurleyPublications

www.turley.com

School Supply List

Suggested School Supply Donations:

 Box of Colored Pencils

 Plastic Pencil Box *(Unlabeled)*

 Erasers *(Not Pencil Top)*

 Thin Set of Crayola Markers

 Thick Set of Crayola Markers

 Scotch Tape

 Pack of Post-It Notes

 Box of 24 Crayons *(No Larger)*

 Colored Pencils

 Children’s Scissors

 Elmer’s Glue Sticks

 Expo Markers

 Single Subject Notebooks *(Any Color)*

 Erasers *(Pencil Top Style)*

 Lots of Pencils *(Ideally Ticonderoga)*

 Pencil Case/Box/Bag

 Cm/Inch Ruler

 Hand-Held Pencil Sharpener

Items For Sharing With The Class:

 Lysol/Clorox Wipes

 Tissues

 Hand Sanitizer

 Expo Markers

 Paper Towels

Gov. Healey awards grants to area schools

The Healey-Driscoll Administration awarded nearly \$24.7 million to 71 school districts and one educational collaborative to strengthen literacy instruction and improve reading outcomes for students across Massachusetts. Through four Partnership for Reading Success–Massachusetts grant programs, districts will implement high-quality instructional materials, expand professional learning for educators and strengthen evidence-based literacy instruction from pre-kindergarten through grade 12. The awards build on Governor Healey’s Literacy Launch initiative and legislation she signed to strengthen early literacy instruction. They also come as more than 1,000 educators are participating in Literacy Launch Institutes this summer to deepen their knowledge of evidence-based reading instruction. “Reading is the foundation for everything students do in school and throughout their lives,” said Governor Maura Healey. “That’s why we’re making historic investments to strengthen literacy instruction, support educators and help every student build the skills they need to succeed.” “Districts across Massachusetts are doing important work to strengthen literacy instruction, and we’re proud to support them,” said Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll. “These investments will help schools build sustainable systems that give every student a strong foundation in reading.” “Improving literacy outcomes takes more than a one-time investment—it requires sustained commitment to high-quality instruction,” said Education Secretary Steve Zrike. “By helping districts strengthen curriculum, build educator capacity, and support effective imple-

mentation, these grants will create lasting improvements for students across the Commonwealth.” “We’re committed to strengthening implementation of high-quality literacy instruction and continuing to address persistent disparities in access and achievement,” said Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner Pedro Martinez. “Our work through PRISM grants and Literacy Launch Institutes is designed to help all students become strong readers and writers.” The four PRISM grant programs support districts at every stage of implementing high-quality literacy instruction, from building strong early literacy systems, to adopting new instructional materials, and expanding evidence-based practices through grade 12: Thirty-six new grantees were awarded a total of \$5.9 million from the PRISM II second cohort grant. This award will help them to support the evaluation, selection, purchase, launch and implementation of high-quality instructional materials for pre-K through third grade. Local school districts receiving the PRISM II second cohort grant were: Monson Public Schools, \$86,718; Quabbin Regional School District, \$117,000; and Ware Public Schools, \$110,000. Nineteen new grantees were awarded a total of \$5.6 million from the PRISM III second cohort grant. This awarded will be used for resources, targeted coaching and professional learning support to evaluate, select, purchase, launch and implement high-quality instructional materials for grades four-12. Local school districts receiving the PRISM III second cohort grant were: Monson Public Schools, \$181,260; and Quaboag Regional School District, \$221,445.

LEMONADE I from page 1

literacy, entrepreneurship, and responsibility in a fun, hands-on way,” said Town Manager Brad Brothers. “Financial literacy is one of the most important foundational skills we can teach our youth and this program brings those lessons to life.” On Lemonade Day, youth participants are also encouraged to sell a craft or other items along with lemonade. This will ensure that every stand has a different theme. “What they learn here will help them in the future. It’s been amazing to see the growth of this event,” said Taylor, who now resides in Palmer. In years past, kids have enjoyed opportunities to decorate their stands and come up with special themes. Everything from local sports to Minecraft has been represented at stands in the past. Town officials thank Taylor for her hard work in supporting the next generation of entrepreneurs. “We are proud to be celebrating the third year of Lemonade Day in Palmer, made possible through the dedication of our volunteers and community partners, especially Julia Taylor, whose leadership has helped the program grow,” Brothers added. “I encourage residents to visit one or more of the lemonade stands on Aug. 22 and support these young entrepreneurs.” To learn more about the event, check out the town website: www.townofpalmer.com. As the event draws nearer, the website is also expected to feature the locations of stands. Meanwhile, a Lemonade Day class is scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 18, from 5-7 p.m. (top floor of the library). “We invite all community members and those from neighboring towns to come out in support of our youth and all of the hard work they have put into their pop-up

businesses,” Taylor added. “The community support we have received in bringing this program to fruition in our wonderful town of Palmer has been phenomenal.” Looking ahead, officials and participants are excited to envision where the program could go from here. “I thank everyone for their continued support as we grow the Lemonade Day program here in Palmer and are hopeful by next year other communities will bring this fun, youth-based financial literacy program to their town, too,” Taylor said. If you have questions about the event, or to learn about how to bring the program to your community, please send an email to: lemonadedaypalmer@yahoo.com.

DEADLINE

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

CORRECTIONS

The Journal Register will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 2 or 3. To request a correction, send an email to: journalregister@turley.com, or call (413) 283-8393. Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Journal Register, Attn: Editor, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA, 01069



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BASKETBALL



Ray Labonte eyes the hoop as he enters the paint.



Eli Nissenbaum goes for a shot.

Monson finishes up season

BELCHERTOWN – The Spec Pond Summer Basketball League held playoff last week, utilizing a few sites in addition to the courts at Spec Pond. Monson, a 5-6 team, were involved in a matchup held in Belchertown at Chestnut Hill Community School.



Alex Potter looks for an open teammate just past midcourt.



Turley photos by David Henry
Nate Zimmer looks to pass.

SOCCER



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
West Side Sports Shop, featuring adult female players from throughout the region, took the PVSSL Women's Championship.

Sport Shop grabs ladies title

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW – Since joining the prestigious Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League in 2021, West Side Sports Shop has claimed the women's championship title five times. West Side Sports Shop entered this year's playoffs as the fourth seed. They posted a 2-0 shutout victory over second-seeded W. Mass Xtremes in the women's finals held at historic Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow, last Friday night. "We might be the fourth seed, but we played very well in the playoffs," said West Side Sports Shop head coach Chris Andre. "We lost to the Xtremes twice during the regular season." The only year that West Side Sports Shop didn't take home the championship trophy was in 2024. They beat top seeded Here for Beer in the fi-

nals a year ago. "We've set a high stranded here," Andre added. "A number

LADIES | page 10



Chapin Jeannotte takes the ball up the sideline.



Sydney Mercier sends a free kick away.



Julianna Beaulieu sends a pass away.



Kaela Mochak heads up the field.

SOCCER

Mount Carmel takes Men's title

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW – Anthony Bourget was an assistant boys' soccer coach under longtime varsity coach John O'Keefe at Minnechaug Regional High School before stepping down at the end of last season. Bourget was also the head coach of Villa FC, which captured the last two Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League men's championship titles. Villa FC changed sponsors before the start of the 2026 summer league season and are now known as Mount Carmel FC. Mason Perham is one of the former Minnechaug soccer players listed on the Mount Carmel roster. Perham scored a second half goal, which helped topseeded Mount Carmel FC win the championship title once again with a

MENS | page 10



Shane Sewell sends a pass away.



Jake Durham plays the ball off his toe.



Deandrae Brown dribbles away from a defender.



Anthony Basile turns play around.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Mount Carmel captured the PVSSL Men's title this year.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY
WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM
Olivia Sujdlon hustles toward the hoop.

Warriors finish up season

WILBRAHAM – The Spec Pond Summer Basketball League held playoff last week, utilizing a few sites in addition to the courts at Spec Pond. Tantasqua, a 7-8 team, were involved in a matchup held in Wilbraham at Minnechaug Regional High School.



Madison Peterson struggles to make a layup attempt.



Annabele Creelman starts her way down the court.



Camilla Benitez takes a shot.



Katlein Daboul eyes a teammate down the court.

LADIES I from page 9

of these players have been playing for me since our first year in this league. We also add a couple of new players each year. The players get along with each other very well and we always have a lot of fun.”

West Side Sports Shop, who finished the 2026 regular season with a 7-4-0 record, defeated the fifth-seeded Lusitano Women, 5-1, in the quarterfinals. Just like they did a year ago, they beat top seeded Here for Beer, 3-2, in the semifinals. West Side Sports also won the regular season match-up Here for Beer.

“Here For Beer is a very talented soccer team,” Andre said. “We played very well against them the other night.”

The West Side Sports Shop captain is Rhiann Ryan, who graduated from Minnechaug a couple of years ago.

“I love being a member of this soccer team,” Ryan said. “It feels nice to finally beat Xtremes, especially after losing to them twice during the regu-

lar season.”

Six other players listed on the Westside Sports Shop roster played soccer for legendary head coach Nundi Goncalves at Minnechaug. They are Emily Howard, Gabby Rita, Lylah Jeannotte, Chapin Jeannotte, Gaby Williams, and Claire Poindexter.

One of the West Side Sports Shop starters in the championship match was Malory Pereira, who graduated from Ludlow High School.

Julianna Beaulieu, who graduated from Chicopee Comp, was selected as the M.V.P. of the women’s championship game.

“I never expected to be the M.V.P. of this game, but I knew we could win another championship title,” Beaulieu said. “I’ve now won three championships with this team, which is very special. It’s been a lot of fun playing soccer for this team.”

Beaulieu, who played both basketball and soccer at Utica University, scored a pair of goals in the finals.

She got things rolling

during the 16th minute of the opening half by putting a shot into the back of the net past goalie Madison Harmon.

“Once the ball left my foot, I knew it was going into the net,” Beaulieu said. “It set the tone for the rest of the game.”

The Xtremes, who went 10-1-0 during the regular season, had an opportunity to tie the score during the 27th minute. Gianna Sakowski, who also graduated from Minnechaug, fired a shot on goal, which sailed high over the crossbar.

Beaulieu scored her second goal early in the second half.

Sara Avery, who was the West Side Sports Shop starting goalie, didn’t have to make very many saves in recording the shutout. Avery lives in Belchertown and she graduated from the MacDuffie School. She’ll be a senior on the AIC women’s soccer team this fall.

The members of the West Side Sports Shop will be looking to win another PVSSL championship title next summer.

MENS I from page 9

crisp 2-0 win over second-seeded Rumbleseat before a large crowd at Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow on Friday, July 31.

“We’ve won the last two men’s championship titles with Villa, and this is our first one with Mount Carmel,” Bourget said. “Winning the championship game is something that we expect to do every year. It was a hard fought battle tonight. Rumbleseat played very well against us.”

Mount Carmel FC, who finished the PVSSL regular season with a 10-1-0 record, defeated fourth-seeded CF Ardor, 2-0, in the semifinals.

Rumbleseat, who also lost to Mount Carmel during the regular season, entered the playoffs with a 9-1-1 record. They advanced into the men’s finals for the first time in more than ten years

after knocking off the third-seeded KO Elites FC, 2-1, in the semifinals.

“This is the first time that we’ve made the finals in many years, and it was a fun game tonight,” said Kyle Giroud, who was an outstanding three-sport athlete at Chicopee Comp. “It’s always a great time playing in this league and I’m looking forward to playing again next year.”

Giroud is also a member of the Skidmore College men’s soccer team.

The men’s finals was scoreless at halftime.

Mount Carmel broke the ice four minutes into the second half.

The scoring play began with a crossing pass from Joao Miranda to Deandrea Brown, who fired a shot from the top of the box past Rumbleseat goalie Luke Theroux.

Miranda was selected as the M.V.P. following the match.

About ten minutes later, Perham scored a goal,

which was assisted by Brown.

“It just felt awesome to score a goal in the championship game,” Perham said. “We took control of the game at the start of the second half. We had another great season.”

Perham has been a member of Villa/Mount Carmel for the past four years.

“I’m very happy for Mason,” Bourget said. “He began playing with us the year after he graduated from Minnechaug. We also have a couple of other Minnechaug players on our team. We have a bunch of talented players on this team.”

The other former Minnechaug soccer players listed on the Mount Carmel roster are Kyle Atkin, Nick Cianflone, Chase Henderson, and Cam Rigney.

The members of the Mount Carmel FC are hoping to make it a four-peat in the summer of 2027.

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Select Board hears from town employees, public

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

MONSON – At this week’s Select Board meeting, the board was approached by members of the public and municipal employees with information for the public.

Town Clerk Mary Watson approached the Select Board with information about the primary, to be held on Tuesday, Sept. 1.

“The Sept. 1 primary will be held at Quarry Hill School,” Watson said. “Voters will go into the pool entrance, as in previous elections.”

Watson said that Early Voting would be available starting on Saturday, Aug. 22, and will run through the week from Monday to Friday. She also announced that all the vote-by-mail ballots have been shipped, and residents can track their ballot’s progress on the town’s website at Monson-MA.gov, on the Town Clerk page, in the blue column that reads “Elections 2026.”

“On that page, if you scroll to the bottom, it gives you all kinds of information regarding the elections this year in September and November,” Watson said. “It also gives you sample bal-

lots, and you can also track your ballot.”

Watson recommended that residents who have submitted their ballot can visit the “Track My Ballot” link and look up their ballot to see if it’s been received.

“If you’re not seeing it in there, please give us a call,” Watson concluded.

Curt Jameson also approached the board on behalf of the Lions Club to announce the annual Motorcycle Ride for Sight, a fundraiser to raise money for eyesight.

Reed Coles also approached the board to criticize the decision to close Memorial Hall to the public.

“It’s a community building,” Coles said. “In terms of finances, I don’t see how it can not work out for it to be open.”

Valerie Boguez Beaudoin approached the board to address comments at a previous meeting regarding the Bylaw Committee, which she served on back in 2013.

“The town has had bylaw committees at least through the 1960s,” Beaudoin said. “We have always been at the disbursement of what the Select Board wanted us to do.”

Beaudoin described doing the work of checking bylaws for other towns and regions to adhere to state laws.

“I made a Public Records request and one of the last times that the Select Board reactivated the committee was on March 26, 2013, at which point there were several petitions that came from the general public that the Select Board wanted to watch,” Beaudoin said.

The committee was previously reactivated on a full-time basis to review existing bylaws, and Beaudoin described spending years going over the bylaws, presenting them to the board and the town, with Town Meeting passing the updated bylaws in May of 2025.

“I don’t know how things

could have changed so much in a year that the Select Board wants to revisit the existing bylaws,” Beaudoin said.

Beaudoin also criticized comments from the Town Administrator that said a single person could easily go over the bylaws without worrying about a “heavy lift.”

“This is a heavy lift,” Beaudoin said. “Monson is its own town, Monson has her own idiosyncrasies, and with a Bylaw Committee, you can very easily have people talk and have real discussions.”

Beaudoin concluded that she feels it’s important the Bylaw Committee be reinstated.

GRANT | from page 1

and applying for available grants is so important.”

The rededication program will take place on Friday, Aug. 21, at 6 p.m.

Located in downtown Monson, the park serves as a hub for several community events, including the annual Fourth of July Summerfest, Agricultural Commission farmers markets, Garden Club plant sales, holiday craft fairs and Arts Council programs.

Prior to the grant-funded project, the park lacked adequate accessibility features, which limited its usability for individuals with mobility impairments.

The project included the installation of ADA-compliant pathways; the addition of designated accessible parking areas with appropriate grading and direct connection to pedestrian routes; and the addition of accessible seating and picnic facilities.

The project also featured new signage, upgraded landscaping, and the installation of an ADA-accessible drinking fountain and water filling station.

Dave Grieve Park was dedicated in honor of David “Dave” Grieve, a longtime Monson resident whose commitment to community service, civic engagement, and

support of local initiatives left a lasting impact on the town.

Once the grant-funded project began, initial work focused on the removal of existing granite curbing, the clearing of shrubs, and preparations for regrading and infrastructure installation. For safety reasons, the park was closed to the public during the construction phase.

A major component of the project’s success was the town’s strategic use of in-house staff for many elements of the work, officials said.

Under the leadership of Facilities Director Justin Larivee, municipal employees contributed their skills throughout the project, allowing the town to maximize its grant funding.

Expenditures covered a range of materials and services, including paving operations; concrete work for sidewalks and accessible surfaces; grading and soil preparation; and the installation of specialized infrastructure such as water fittings and accessibility features.

Additional funds supported landscaping, irrigation, pathway lighting, railings and other site enhancements.

A life of service

David W. Grieve (June 3, 1926-July 25, 1987) was born and raised in Springfield. He graduated from the former Technical High School in

1943, then served in the U.S. Navy from 1944-1946.

After graduating from Springfield College in 1950, he earned his master’s degree from the University of Connecticut.

In 1951, Dave married Yolanda (Yolie) Grieve. They lived in Monson and raised their children – Nancy, Cynthia and Peter – in town.

Dave enjoyed 37 years as a teacher, administrator and coach before retiring in 1985. His teaching career began at Monson High School, where he also coached basketball. He then transferred to Stafford, Connecticut, where he was a teacher and an administrator until his retirement.

Also extremely active in the community, Dave served as director of recreation in Monson for many years. During the summers, he ran Monson’s Summer Day Camp, and he also served on the Monson School Committee.

Additionally, he was a member of the First Church of Monson, serving as a trustee, deacon and Sunday School director.

As a member of the former Monson Rotary Club, he helped raise scholarship funds for Monson students by organizing and chairing committees for walk-a-thons, bike-a-thons, and other

events.

After his retirement, he founded the “Monson Streetwalkers,” a group of fellow retirees who walked together in downtown Monson for exercise and socialization. Countless times, he passed the area that now honors his legacy of service.

“As a member of our former Monson Rotary Club for over 27 years – and one of its past presidents – I would like to extend a special thank-you to the Town of Monson in refurbishing Dave Grieve Park and Gazebo,” said resident Dorothy Jenkins, who is coordinating the rededication program. “In existence for over 85 years, the Rotary Club was a true example of service above self. This park was built in memory of David Grieve, a dedicated Rotarian. Many wonderful Rotary events have been held at the park over the years.”

An enduring legacy

The recent project ensures that Dave Grieve’s mission of community betterment continues in his memory.

Not only has the project received high praise from residents, town officials, and visitors, but also downtown business owners.

“As the owner of a coffee shop across the street, I’ve heard nothing but excitement from our customers. They’re thrilled to have a beautiful place to sit, enjoy their coffee, and eat their breakfast or lunch while taking in the space,” said Amanda Roy, owner of The Better Bean. “We are incredibly fortunate to have such proactive town employees who identified the opportunity, secured the grant, and saw the project through from start to finish.”

Officials are excited that the park can now be used by all guests, thanks to the accessibility improvements.

“We are proud of the work that was accomplished through this grant, and grateful for the partnership with the Massachusetts Office of Disability. This project demonstrates what can be achieved when dedicated staff, community support,

and grant funding come together to remove barriers and create equal opportunities for all residents and visitors,” said Larivee.

The town thanks everyone who came together to make the project possible. Larivee was commended by officials for his hard work in several facets.

“This project would not have been possible without the dedication and leadership of Justin Larivee, who guided the effort from the initial grant application through project management and completion,” Wolowicz added. “We are incredibly grateful for his hard work and commitment to improving our community. The rededication of this park is a testament to what can be achieved through persistence, collaboration and strategic investment in our public spaces.”

The Municipal ADA Improvement Grant was applied for by Larivee, Penny Gustafson and Tim Pascale.

The park is located at 179 Main St.



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Craft Fair held in memory of Sarah Hermanson

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

HARDWICK – The Hardwick Vineyard & Winery hosted the inaugural Sarah Hermanson Memorial Craft Fair this past Saturday.

Sarah’s daughter Olivia Hermanson of Creations by Liv talked about how her mother always encouraged her to bring her work to craft fairs. In addition to being a supportive mother, Sarah loved supporting small businesses and would attend craft fairs on a regular basis.

“She was a supportive mom,” Hermanson said. “She loved going to craft fairs.”

Sarah loved watching her daughter do all sorts of crafts, especially crocheting. She also loved the chicken coasters.

Hermanson said Sarah was not only her mom, but also a chicken mom and a dog mom. In addition to craft fairs, Sarah loved going to paint and sip events and loved supporting those who loved to craft.

Proceeds from the craft fair are going to the National Brain Tumor Society. With raffle purchases and vendor fees, the Sarah Hermanson Memorial Craft Fair is able to support a great cause and raise awareness about trying to combat brain tumors and help improve patients’ lives.

“Our goal is to try and raise as much awareness as possible,” Hermanson said.

Hermanson is planning to make this memorial craft fair an annual event as a way to keep her mother’s name and memory alive.

The first year of the craft fair had a great turnout with a total of 33 vendors, includ-

ing some food trucks.

Hermanson said the Hardwick Vineyard & Winery was a “nice and comforting place” to host the craft fair.

Hermanson is based out of Palmer and founded her company Creations by Liv in 2023. Hermanson’s craft work included crochets, sublimation tumblers and embroidered shirts.

Artisans of all kinds were featured in the craft fair and provided some neat handmade items.

One vendor had catnip products for sale, including catnip pillows, balls and mats. The catnip is an herb that was home grown and dried and placed inside the materials and could last a long while.

Jurassic Soap Co. was at the craft fair and sold handcrafted oat milk soaps for bath, body and much more. Their uniquely crafted soaps come in all designs including the design of Highland cows and flower beds.

Guests cooled off during the craft fair with some ice cream from the Batch Ice Cream truck.

Art by Ashley Rose of Holyoke has been working in art since 2019 and had all sorts of oil paintings, bookmarks and prints.

The memory of Sarah Hermanson continues thanks to this craft fair named in her memory. It also continues thanks to the artisans who share their work by attending craft fairs.



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago
Left, The inaugural Sarah Hermanson Memorial Craft Fair was held at Hardwick Vineyard & Winery this past weekend. Above, members of the Hermanson family arrived at the craft fair dedicated to the memory of Sarah Hermanson. Shown from left are Lillian, Tony, Sarah Hermanson’s daughter Olivia Hermanson, and Mike Hermanson.



Artwork by Ashley Rose was one of the vendors at the Sarah Hermanson Memorial Craft Fair.



Highland cow-themed soap was made by Jurassic Soap Co., which features handcrafted oat milk soap.



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VETERANS | from page 1

the culmination of months of planning between municipal leaders. Discussions focused on improving access to benefits, streamlining operations and expanding services for veterans and their families.

The regional department will continue providing all services available through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Massachusetts Chapter 115 benefits, and numerous local, state and federal programs.

Veterans will also have access to expanded outreach initiatives, transportation assistance, benefits counseling, food pantry resources, educational programming and referrals to community partners.

Unlike many regional consolidations that reduce local access, the Ludlow-Palmer partnership preserves a presence in both communities.

Full-time operations will continue at the Ludlow Veterans Center, while office hours will remain available in Palmer. The setup ensures that veterans in both communities have convenient access to services.

The Ludlow Veterans Center will serve as the headquarters for the Ludlow-Palmer Veterans Services Department.

“As budgets get tighter and candidate puddles dry up, partnering with neighboring communities is more important than ever, if we want to continue to deliver high-quality services,” said Ludlow Town Administrator Marc Strange. “We are thankful for the Town of Palmer’s collaboration on this important initiative for veterans in our communities.”

Officials emphasize that the merger does not change veterans’ eligibility for benefits. Instead, it expands opportunities for outreach, education and assistance while ensuring long-term sustainability of veterans’ services in both communities.

The Ludlow-Palmer Veterans Services Department encourages all veterans, surviving spouses and eligible dependents to contact the office to learn about benefits that may be available.

Services include VA disability compensation, pensions, Chapter 115 financial assistance, healthcare enrollment, survivor benefits, emergency resources, employment and education assistance and numerous community programs throughout the year.

“The IMA with Ludlow has been extremely successful for Palmer, providing highly qualified staff and ensuring our veterans receive the quality services they deserve,” said Palmer Town Manager Brad Brothers. “We are fortunate to partner with neighboring communities that embrace innovative shared-service models, and I believe this approach will become increasingly important for smaller municipalities as we navigate workforce shortages in addition to budget challenges.”

The Ludlow Veterans Center is located at 487 Holyoke St. in Ludlow. To reach the center, call 413-707-5050.

Services in Palmer are available by calling 413-283-2600. The address is 4417 Main St. in Palmer.

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Public safety

Palmer Police Logs

During the week of July 26-Aug. 1, the Palmer Police Department responded to 68 building checks, 34 motor vehicle stops, seven motor vehicle violations, 97 informational calls, 22 medical emergencies, seven animal complaints, 24 calls for officers wanted, 20 alarms, 19 silent, accidental, abandoned or hung up 911 calls, 10 fire calls, one fraud call, eight investigations and 10 motor vehicle accidents.		
Sunday, July 26		
12:30 a.m. Medical Emergency, Beacon Drive	1:18 a.m. Gathering, Squier Street	1:38 a.m. Alarm Unknown, North Main Street
1:48 a.m. Noise Complaint, Holbrook Street	6:39 a.m. Alarm Medical, Hillside Drive	6:49 a.m. Medical Emergency, Central Street
9:17 a.m. Disturbance, Birch Hill Drive	9:22 a.m. Property Return, Temple Street	9:31 a.m. Hazard-Road Condition, Main Street and State Street
11:22 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Park Street and Nipmuck Street	11:49 a.m. Medical-Mutual Aid, Upper Palmer Road	11:52 a.m. Property Return, Randall Road
1:05 p.m. Investigation, Church Street	2:36 p.m. Property Found, River Street	2:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Mass Turnpike
3:19 p.m. Property Return, Main Street	3:41 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Church Street	4:40 p.m. Property Return, Temple Street
5:15 p.m. Medical Emergency, Gates Street	5:51 p.m. Medical Emergency, Pleasant Street	7:32 p.m. Medical Emergency, Boston Road
9:02 p.m. Medical-Mutual Aid, Keyes Street	9:51 p.m. Property Return, Temple Street	
Monday, July 27		
12 a.m. Fire-Electrical, Pleasant Street	8:21 a.m. Trespass Complaint, Main Street	10:25 a.m. Medical Emergency, Taft Street
10:30 a.m. Property Return, Main Street	10:35 a.m. Missing/Runaway, Palmer Road	12:04 p.m. Animal Complaint, Ford Street
12:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Theft, North Main Street	1:23 p.m. Water Leak/Hazard, Breckenridge Street	3:00 p.m. Hazard/Wire/Pole/Tree, Belchertown Street
3:25 p.m. Fire/Smoke, Anderson Street	3:40 p.m. Fraud, Main Street	6:05 p.m. Property Return, Temple Street
6:30 p.m. Assault and Battery, Central Street	6:38 p.m. Noise Complaint, Maple Terrace	7:19 p.m. Property Return, Temple Street
7:44 p.m. Medical Emergency, Shearer Street	9:03 p.m. Fire-Burn Complaint, Anderson Street	
Tuesday, July 28		
6:29 a.m. Medical Emergency, Lathrop Street	6:37 a.m. Animal Complaint, Emery Street	11:38 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat
Wednesday, July 29		
10:13 a.m. Motor Vehicle Disabled, North Main Street and Shearer Street	10:21 a.m. Vandalism, Flynt Street	12:18 p.m. Unwanted Person, Commercial Street
12:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Disabled, Ware Street and Stimson Street	12:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Disabled, Bridge Street	Arrest: Andre P. Cadieux Jr., 60, Palmer
OUI Liquor or .08%; Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle; Inspection/Sticker, No; Alcoholic Beverage, Possession/Consumption in Open Container (Ordinance)	5:03 p.m. Soliciting, Main Street	5:24 p.m. Medical-Lift Assist, Anderson Street
5:37 p.m. Animal Complaint, Calkins Road	6:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Repossession, Katie Lane	7:22 p.m. Medical Emergency, Thorndike Street
Thursday, July 30		
5 a.m. Hazard/Wire/Pole/Tree, Robinson Street and Boston Road	6:02 a.m. Alarm/Burglar/Hold-Up/Panic, Wright Street	7:01 a.m. Medical Emergency, Beacon Drive
8:37 a.m. Alarm Burglar/Hold-Up/Panic, High Street	8:45 a.m. Hazard/Wire/Pole/Tree, Breckenridge Street	9:55 a.m. Medical Emergency, North Main Street
10:21 a.m. Alarm Burglar/Hold-Up/Panic, Wright Street	11:43 a.m. Alarm Fire/Smoke/CO, Bennett Street	1:14 p.m. Property Return, Main Street
1:48 p.m. Medical Emergency, North Main Street		
Friday, July 31		
5:57 a.m. Hazard-Other, Beech Street	7:38 a.m. Animal Complaint, Thorndike Street	8:36 a.m. Alarm Burglar/Hold-Up/Panic, North Main Street
9:20 a.m. Alarm Fire/Smoke/CO, School Street	9:29 a.m. Medical Emergency, Pine Street	11:29 a.m. Medical Emergency, North Street
11:31 a.m. Investigation, Main Street	11:41 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violations, Sykes Street	Arrest: Michelle D. Hale, 53, East Longmeadow
OUI Liquor or .08%; Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle; Marked Lanes Violation	12:54 p.m. Medical-Mutual Aid, Old Reed	1:09 p.m. Fire-Burn Complaint, Old Warren Road
1:27 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Green Street	1:49 p.m. Alarm Fire/Smoke/CO, Edgewood Street	1:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Repossession, Main Street
2:04 p.m. Missing/Runaway, Palmer	6:00 p.m. Alarm Fire/Smoke/CO, River Street	6:13 p.m. Investigation, Walnut Street
6:44 p.m. Medical Emergency, Juniper Drive	7:03 p.m. Hazard-Wire/Pole/Tree, Thompson Street	
Saturday, Aug. 1		
1:52 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Shearer Street	Arrest: Kyle Vonick, 30, Palmer	OUI Liquor or .08%; Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle; Speeding Rate of Speed Greater Than Was Reasonable and Proper; Marked Lanes Violation
7:32 a.m. Unwanted Person, School Street	10:15 a.m. Medical Emergency, Nipmuck Street	11:29 a.m. Missing/Runaway, Main Street
12:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Disabled, Main Street	12:46 p.m. Property Return, PalMain Street	2:27 p.m. Medical Emergency, Palmer Road
4:05 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Calkins Road	5:28 p.m. Medical Emergency, High Street	6:50 p.m. Suspicious Person, Main Street
7:22 p.m. Water Leak/Hazard, Breckenridge Street	8:30 p.m. 911 Hang Up, Hill Street	Arrest: Connor O’Kane, 22, Ware
Motor Vehicle, Malicious Damage To; Assault; Drug, Possess Class B	8:48 p.m. Alarm Burglar/Hold-Up/Panic, Fairview Street	9:51 p.m. Medical Emergency, Main Street
10:59 p.m. Motor Vehicle Disabled, Wilbraham Street		

Monson Police Logs

During the week of Aug. 3-9, the Monson Police Department responded to six miscellaneous calls, 45 administrative calls, 11 property checks, 16 traffic assignments, eight traffic violations, three motor vehicle accidents, four disturbances, 10 safety hazards, 11 investigations, one assist other agency, 35 police vehicle checks, 21 motor vehicle stops, eight directed patrols, 28 details/overtimes, 11 phone calls and one car wash.		
Monday, Aug. 3		
7:23 a.m. Safety Hazard	7:47 a.m. Safety Hazard	8:49 a.m. Investigation/Follow Up
10:39 a.m. Safety Hazard	12:06 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted	12:51 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance
1:13 p.m. Investigation/Follow Up	3:19 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance	4:16 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call
4:53 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat	6:46 p.m. Safety Hazard	7:46 p.m. Investigation/Follow Up
Tuesday, Aug. 4		
9:33 a.m. Investigation/Follow Up	12:58 p.m. Investigation/Follow Up	1:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Crash – No Injuries
5:11 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance past	6:05 p.m. Fire Investigation	
Wednesday, Aug. 5		
7 a.m. Investigation/Follow Up	7:22 a.m. Investigation/Follow Up	9:17 a.m. Investigation/Follow Up
6:29 p.m. Investigation/Follow Up	7:57 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call	9:14 p.m. Investigation/Follow Up
10:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle Crash – No Injuries		
Thursday, Aug. 6		
9:37 a.m. Investigation/Follow Up	2:34 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call	
Friday, Aug. 7		
12:38 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop	Arrest: Keron White, 25, Springfield	Fugitive From Justice on Court Warrant
3:34 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call	9:22 a.m. Disturbance/Nuisance	
Saturday, Aug. 8		
1:45 a.m. Safety Hazard	2:53 a.m. Safety Hazard	4:10 a.m. Safety Hazard
4:49 p.m. Safety Hazard	6:17 p.m. Safety Hazard	9:40 p.m. Safety Hazard
Sunday, Aug. 9		
9:43 a.m. Suspicious/Wanted	3:48 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call	4:06 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call
3:09 p.m. Motor Vehicle Crash – No Injuries	5:39 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call	6:42 p.m. Trespass/Unwanted
10:22 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted		

Monson Fire Logs

MONSON – The Monson Fire Department responded to nine EMS calls and six fire calls for the week of Aug. 3-9.	
On Tuesday, Aug. 4 at 6 p.m., the department responded to 359 Main St. for an illegal burn investigation. The department returned to service at 6:17 p.m.	On Wednesday, Aug. 5 at 10:23 p.m., the department responded to the area of 181 Wilbraham Road for a motor vehicle collision with fluid spill. The department returned to service at 10:58 p.m.
On Thursday, Aug. 6 at 11:18 p.m., the department responded to 200 West St., Ware for station coverage. The department returned to service at 12:02 a.m.	On Saturday, Aug. 8 at 4:54 p.m., the department responded to 289 Wales Road for a downed power line. The department returned to service at 5:26 p.m.
On Saturday, Aug. 8 at 6:08 p.m. that same day, the department responded to 2 Betty Jean Drive for a blown transformer. The department returned to service at 7:09 p.m.	
On Sunday, Aug. 9 at 5:58 p.m., the department responded to 165 Upper Hampden Road for an oil spill on the road. The department returned to service at 6:31 p.m.	



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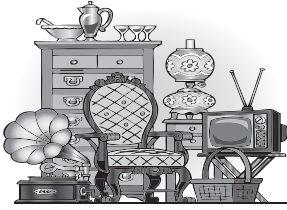
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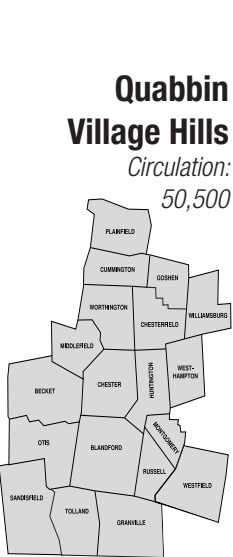
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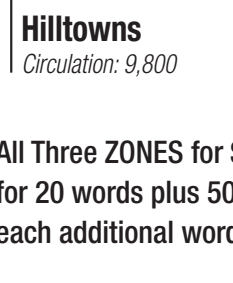
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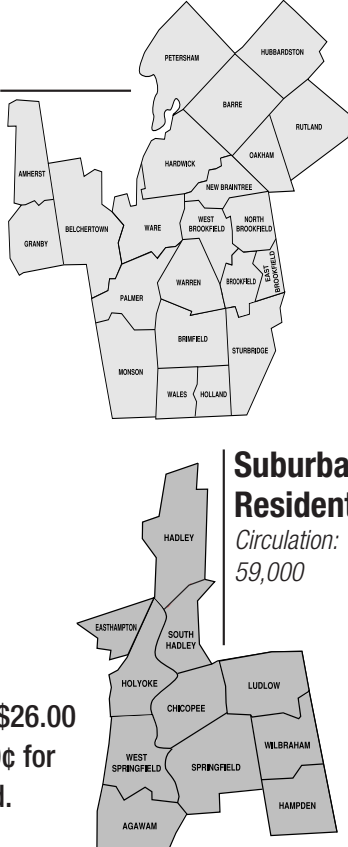
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Public notices

Town of Wales
Zoning Board of Appeals

In accordance with the provisions of MGL Ch 40A §10 & §11, the Wales Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on **August 27th, 2026, at the Wales Senior Center at 5:30 p.m.** on the application submitted by Bethany Sivula of 17 Orchard Rd. in Wales. The application is being reviewed by the ZBA due to the access to the site being on a private road, therefore safe vehicle and emergency access must be ensured prior to building permit approval. Any person interested and wishing to be heard of this application should refer to August 27th, 2026, agenda on the Zoning Board of Appeals page on the town website (www.townofwales.net). If you have any questions or concerns, please email planning@townofwales.net

LEGAL NOTICE
MONSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Under the requirements of M.G.L. Chapter 131, §40, the Monson Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday August 26, 2026 at 7:10 PM** in the Large Meeting Room, Town Office Building, 110 Main St. Under consideration is a Request for Determination of Applicability to determine if the work associated with pavement improvements within Riverfront Area for the property located at 31 State Street, identified as Assessor's Map 114, Parcels 93 & 99, is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act. The Applicant is the Monson Housing Authority. Submitted by: Monson Conservation Commission

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
COMPLAINT TO FORECLOSE TAX LIEN [seal] No. 23 TL 000863

Mark Aronofsky, deceased, formerly of Springfield, and also formerly of Holland, Hampden County, and said Commonwealth; Paul F. Aronofsky, now or formerly of Hudson, and Marianne Aronofsky, now or formerly of Pepperell, both in Middlesex County, and said Commonwealth; Robert S. Aronofsky, Jr., now or formerly of Jacksonville, in the State of Florida; The Bank of New York Mellon, a duly existing Mortgage Loan Servicer, chartered under the laws of the State of New York, as it is Trustee, Series CWALT 2006-OA22, having a usual place of business in New York City, in the State of New York; or their heirs, devisees, legal representatives, successors, and assigns:

A Complaint has been filed by the Plaintiff Town of Holland. The Complaint asks the Court to enter a judgment ending any ownership rights or interests in the land described below. The Complaint is about two parcels of land located in the Town of Holland, Hampden County, Massachusetts, described in the Complaint as follows:

(1) A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 3700 Square Feet located and known as APPLE TREE LN shown on the Town of Holland Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier R13/G/02 and being part of the premises recorded in book 9094 in page 556 in the Hampden Registry of Deeds. Assessed To ARONOFSKY MARK.

(2) A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 3375 Square Feet located and known as 15 APPLE TREE LN shown on the Town of Holland Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier R13/G/03 and being part of the premises recorded in book 9094 on page 556 in the Hampden Registry of Deeds. Assessed To ARONOFSKY MARK.

To respond to the Complaint, you or your attorney must take these steps by the Deadline to Answer, which is September 28, 2026.

First, prepare a written Answer. You may write your own Answer or use the form or the online guided interview program on the Court website. Second, file your Answer with the Land Court Recorder's Office, or in the Assistant Recorder's Office at the

Registry of Deeds where the land is located, or using the Court's online eFiling system. Third, serve a copy of your Answer to the Plaintiff by mail or e-mail.

If you do not answer the Complaint by the above Deadline to Answer, this Court will find you in default. If you do not answer the Complaint by the above Deadline to Answer, this Court will find you in default. You may lose the chance to answer or dispute the facts listed in the Complaint or pay the taxes owed. You may lose all ownership rights or interest in the land described above. If a judgment of foreclosure is entered, you will lose ownership of your property. If the property is worth more than the amount owed to cover the tax debt and foreclosure costs, you may be entitled to receive any remaining funds (excess equity) from the Plaintiff.

It is ordered that this citation be published right away, once in Journal Register a newspaper circulated in Town of Holland.

Witness, **GORDON H. PIPER**, Esquire, Chief Justice of said Court, this sixth day of August in the year two thousand and twenty-six.

Attest with Seal of said Court.
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder

Plaintiff's Attorney:
Amy J. Megliola, Esq.,
1350 Main St, Suite 210,
Springfield, MA 01103
Tel: (413)732-3600

08/13/2026

ADVERTISEMENT
The **Brimfield Housing Authority**, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from Contractors for the **Exterior Lighting Upgrades** project at State Aided Development: Colonial Park (667-1), in Brimfield, Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by Hesnor Engineering Associates, PLLC.

The Project consists of: Upgrade exterior lighting at Colonial Park
The work is estimated to cost **\$53,130**

Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.30 §39M and 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. All bids shall be submitted online at biddocs.com and received no later than the date and time specified.

General Bids will be received until **2:30 PM on Friday, August 21, 2026** and publicly opened online, forthwith.

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 **Brimfield Housing Authority**. Note: A bid deposit is not required for Projects advertised under \$50,000.

Bid Forms and Contract Documents will be available on **Wednesday, August 5, 2026** for review at biddocs.com (may be viewed and electronically downloaded at no cost).

The Contractor and all subcontractors (collectively referred to as "the Contractor") agree to strive to achieve minority and women workforce participation. The Workforce Participation benchmark is set at **6.9% for women and 15.3% for minorities**. The Workforce benchmark percentages are a **statutory** requirement under MGL c. 149 § 44A(2)(G).

A pre-bid walkthrough is scheduled for **Tuesday, August 18, 2026 at 11:30 AM. Meet at the community building.**

07/30, 08/06, 08/13/2026

TOWN OF BRIMFIELD
CEMETERY COMMISSION
Invitation for Bid
FY27 Cemetery Wall Repairs

Sealed bids, appropriately marked, for repairs to the masonry cap of the cemetery wall located at 35 Wales Road will be received by **Thursday, August 20, 2026 at 10:00AM**. Sealed bids will be publicly opened and read on Thursday, August 20, 2026 at 10:05AM. in the Brimfield Town Annex, Select Board Office, 23 Main Street, Brimfield, MA. The following items for Fiscal Year 2027 will be awarded by the Select Board on Monday, September 2, 2026 at their duly posted

meeting.

A pre-bid meeting will be held at 9:00AM on Wednesday, August 12, 2026 at 35 Wales Road to review the section of wall to be bid on. All prospective bidders are strongly encouraged to attend.

Bid specifications will be available for pickup beginning August 3, 2026 at the Brimfield Highway Department, 34B Wales Road, Brimfield, MA from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday - Thursday or by emailing the Chief Procurement Officer at selectboard@brimfieldma.org. All questions must be submitted in writing to the Chief Procurement Officer. All questions/answers and addendums will be distributed to all bid package holders.

Envelopes must be clearly marked **IFB2026CMTRY01 FY27 Cemetery Wall Repairs and include the bid opening date. All bids must be submitted on the Town of Brimfield Bid form (included in the bid packet).** No bids will be accepted after the time and date specified. Executed Certificates of Corporate Authority, Non-Collusion, Tax Compliance, Labor Harmony and OSHA Training must be included in all bid submissions. A bid deposit of 5% of the total estimated bid amount must be submitted.

Prevailing Wage Rates have been established by the Department of Labor and Industries under the provisions of provisions of Chapter 149, M.G.L., section 26-27D. Bids submitted for masonry are subject to the provisions of the Prevailing Wage law where applicable.

The contract will be awarded based on the price per square foot to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. The Select Board reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids, accept that bid deemed to be in the best interest of the Town of Brimfield, and/or waive any minor informality on bids received.

Steve Phifer
Cemetery Commission Chair
Brimfield, MA 01010
cemetery@brimfieldma.org

08/06, 08/13/2026

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
HAMPDEN, ss.
LEGAL NOTICE
SUPERIOR COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
CIVIL ACTION NO. 2579CV00352

JOSHUA DELAND
Plaintiff

v.
LAURIE A. GELINAS, MARY L. PETROLATI, LOUISE R. MAUTER, JOHN FRATINI, and the heirs or legal representatives of ELIZABETH M. GELINAS, PHILIP R. GELINAS a/k/a Philip R. Gelinas and ANGELO FRATINI, who may claim an interest in certain land in Wales, Hampden County, Massachusetts by purchase, descent or otherwise

Defendants
NOTICE OF HEARING

Please take notice that the Plaintiff, Joshua Deland, will bring forward its Motion for Assessment of Damages, Declaration of the Rights of the Plaintiff and Defendant and Entry of Final Judgment against the Defendants pursuant to Mass. R. Civ. P. 55(b) (1) and (2) for a hearing before this Honorable Court on Tuesday, September 1, 2026 at 2:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard.

Witness: Townsend, J.
Attest:
Laura S. Gentile, Clerk,
Hampden County Superior Court
08/13/2026

LEGAL NOTICE
MONSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Under the requirements of M.G.L. Chapter 131, §40, the Monson Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday August 26, 2026 at 7:00 PM** in the Large Meeting Room, Town Office Building, 110 Main St. Under consideration is a Request for Determination of Applicability to determine if the work associated with the construction of a 12-ft long by 3-ft wide bridge over an intermittent stream on conservation land for the property located at East Hill Road, identified as Assessor's Map 155, Parcel 007A, is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act. The Applicant is Laney Wilder.

Submitted by: Monson

Conservation Commission
08/13/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
Docket No. HD26P1330EA
Estate of:
Betty Ann Lipp
Date of Death: 03/02/2017
INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Sharon E. Stephens of Venice, FL** a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Sharon E. Stephens of Venice, FL 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.

08/13/2026

LEGAL NOTICE
Town of Holland
Public Hearing
Tuesday, September 1, 2026
6:00 PM
in the Holland Town Hall
27 Sturbridge Road,
Holland, MA 01521
May Brook Road
Infrastructure Improvement
Project Design Review

The Holland Select Board will conduct a public hearing on **Tuesday, September 1, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Holland Town Hall located at 27 Sturbridge Road, Holland, MA** regarding its FY22/23 CDBG grant to include the review of Engineering Plans regarding the May Brook Road Infrastructure Improvement Project. During the hearing an overview of the project and proposed design will be provided, and the Select Board will seek public input on the project.

All persons with questions or comments regarding the performance review will have an opportunity to be heard. Persons who require special accommodations for the hearing should contact the town several days prior to the hearing date at (413)-245-7108 ext. 101. Those unable to attend can send written comments to the Holland Town Administrator, 27 Sturbridge Road, Holland, MA 01521, Attn: Stacy Stout.

For further information contact Sarah Maroney at PVPC at (413) 781-6045 or smaroney@pvpc.org.
08/13, 08/20/2026

TOWN OF PALMER
TOWN COUNCIL
NOTICE OF PASSAGE

On August 10, 2026, the Palmer Town Council passed Ordinance 2027-01, amending the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Palmer, Chapter 171, §-5, Table of Use Regulations. The purpose of this amendment is to include previously undefined and new uses within the Definitions section of the Ordinance, and to amend and reconfigure six articles of Chapter 171 -Articles VII through XII -so as to compile all use regulations for the residential, commercial, industrial, and village center zoning districts into a single, unified table. The amendment further serves to clarify certain existing uses to ensure that the Town's land use controls continue to meet their intended purpose. The amendment does not alter any district boundaries or dimensional requirements.

A complete text of this Ordinance is available at www.townofpalmer.com/notices, the office of the Town Manager and Town Clerk, 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

Town Council of Palmer, MA
August 13, 2026

08/13/2026

TOWN OF PALMER
TOWN COUNCIL
NOTICE OF PASSAGE

On August 10, 2026, the Palmer Town Council passed Ordinance 2027-02, amending the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Palmer, Chapter 171, Sections 5 and 89, relating to Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs). The purpose of this amendment is to update the Town's zoning regulations to comply with recent changes to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40A regarding Accessory Dwelling Units. The amendment establishes new definitions, creates standards for both "Protected Use" and "Local" ADUs, and sets forth dimensional, parking, permitting, and occupancy requirements. It also replaces the Town's existing ADU regulations with updated language intended to increase housing opportunities while maintaining compatibility with existing residential neighborhoods.

A complete text of this Ordinance is available at www.townofpalmer.com/notices, the office of the Town Manager and Town Clerk, 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

Town Council of Palmer, MA
August 13, 2026

08/13/2026

TOWN OF PALMER
TOWN COUNCIL
NOTICE OF PASSAGE

On August 10, 2026, the Palmer Town Council passed Ordinance 2027-03, amending the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Palmer, Chapter 171, Article XVII, § 171-94, Signs. The purpose of this amendment is to establish regulations for blade signs within the Village Center (V) Districts. Blade signs are defined as small, two-sided signs that project perpendicular to a building and are intended to enhance business visibility for pedestrians. The amendment sets standards governing the number, size, location, height, projection,

and illumination of blade signs, while also clarifying that these standards may not be modified through the special permit process.

A complete text of this Ordinance is available at www.townofpalmer.com/notices, the office of the Town Manager and Town Clerk, 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

Town Council of Palmer, MA
August 13, 2026

08/13/2026

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
Docket No. 26 SM 002525
ORDER OF NOTICE TO:

Jose Saez
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (*et seq*):

Onslow Bay Financial LLC claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in **Palmer, numbered 106 Pinney Street**, given by **Richard Paul Mailloux, III** to **Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.**, as mortgagee, as nominee for **Academy Mortgage Corporation**, its successors and assigns, dated **May 31, 2022**, and recorded in **Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 24570, Page 74**, as affected by a **Loan Modification Agreement dated June 1, 2025**, and recorded at said **Registry of Deeds in Book 25884, Page 428**, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/ Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before **9/21/2026** or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of non-compliance with the Act.

Witness, **GORDON H. PIPER** Chief Justice of this Court on 8/6/2026.

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson,
Recorder

08/13/2026

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.

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LOVELL | from page 1

And she was thrilled to have her wish come true in front of generations of cheering family members on Aug. 7.

Adding to the nineties theme, 90-degree heat baked down on the track as Lovell put on her helmet – but she was all smiles after climbing into an air-conditioned 2024 Corvette Z06 driven by Glen Wiley.

“I’m very excited to do this in the area where I grew up,” Lovell told The Journal Register before her ride arrived.

After Wiley drove Lovell onto the track, her family waved a collection of colorful posters as she went past on her first lap. Her cheering section could easily be seen overlooking the scenic 2.3-mile course carved out of Whiskey Hill.

“She couldn’t wait to celebrate 90 with a ride-along at 90 MPH,” said Lovell’s youngest daughter, Leah Belitsos, a member of the massive birthday “pit crew.”

For Al Sandy, a member liaison at Palmer Motorsports Park, it’s always a thrill to hold special events that introduce community members to the facility.

“We’re all about working with the community and helping people make memories here,” said Sandy, who has also helped organize events supporting military servicemembers, food banks and several other community members and organizations.

But for as many events as Sandy has facilitated over the years, a 90th birthday ride-along at high speed was a first.

“It’s such a unique facility, and we want to share it with the community as often as we can,” Sandy added.

Once a month, the Palmer Motorsports Club runs a class introducing drivers to the track and how to operate at high speeds. For Lovell, a special birthday celebration ride gave her an unforgettable experience of speeds nearing triple digits.

At the conclusion of her pioneering run on the track – which features the steepest vertical grade of any facility in North America – Lovell was presented with a checkered flag and congratulated by family.

“After everything she’s done for her seven kids, 14 grandkids, and 10 great-grandkids, she deserves to wave this checkered flag,” said grandson Alex Belitsos.

For years, Lovell served her community as a census taker for the town. Her late husband, George Lovell, spent many years hunting in the Whiskey Hill section of town where the track was eventually built.

From the moment the track at Palmer Motorsports Park was paved in 2014, Lovell knew the facility would be great for the community.

“She was so excited when they started to build this place. When she found out about this opportunity, she couldn’t believe it,” added Leah Belitsos.

After her children were grown, Lovell assisted the next generation of youngsters as a member of the lunch staff at Palmer Public Schools. She has always had a passion for giving back to her community, and the Palmer Motorsports Park family was eager to help make her birthday wish come true.

“She had a great time. It was a pleasure to get to know her and see her smile after we got back,” said Wiley, who has driven at the track since it opened in May of 2015.

After accomplishing her “90 at 90” ride-along mission, Lovell’s early celebration of her Aug. 18 birthday was only just beginning. Over the weekend, she enjoyed a family baseball game in the backyard, as well as hot fudge sundaes.

When she isn’t tearing up the track, Lovell spends plenty of time tending to her flowers, trees and gardens back home. And she’s already dreaming big for her centennial birthday celebration in ten years – 100 at 100, she told her pit crew.

“Her life is a testament to hard work, family, friends, and a deep appreciation for the simple joys of nature,” read a statement released by her family.

Palmer Motorsports Park is visited each year by racers from throughout the country and the world.

To learn more about track events, driving programs and memberships available at Palmer Motorsports Park, visit www.palmermsp.com.



Above, Janice Lovell's birthday wish became reality. Inset, Janice Lovell waved to family members before hitting the track.



A checkered flag was presented to Janice Lovell by her birthday driver, Glen Wiley.



Family and staff helped Janice Lovell put on her helmet.



Family members showed off their signs.



Janice Lovell was congratulated by Al Sandy, a member liaison at Palmer Motorsports Park.

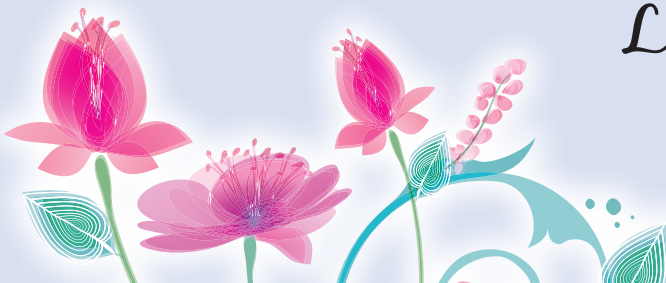


Family members celebrated the occasion with a group photo.



Janice Lovell got ready for her big ride.

Turley Photos by Kevin Flanders



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

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