

The Journal Register

SERVING PALMER, MONSON, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND & WALES

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COMMUNITY

Palmer Night Out 2025



Turley photos by Abigail McCoy

Children and adults explore the variety of fire engines that came out to support the Palmer Police Department.

Public safety on display at Night Out

By Abigail McCoy
amccoy@turley.com

PALMER—On Tuesday, Aug. 5, the front parking lot of the Palmer Police Department buzzed with excitement and camaraderie as residents gathered for the town’s annual Palmer Night Out; a local

celebration of the nationwide National Night Out campaign aimed at fostering stronger relationships between law enforcement, emergency responders, and the community they serve.

The event drew a broad spectrum of participants, from local police officers and

firefighters to community service organizations, businesses, and families eager to enjoy an evening of entertainment, education, and togetherness. Under a clear summer sky, the town’s spirit of unity was palpable.

Lieutenant Aaron Sullivan of the Palmer Police De-

partment explained the core purpose behind the event. “This day is about bringing the community together with all the stakeholders who work here. For us in law enforcement, it’s a chance to show a different side of ourselves...

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COMMUNITY



Turley photos by Abigail McCoy

Consumer Advocate from National Grid, Jennifer Clouthier.

Energy fair offers Monson residents relief and resources

By Abigail McCoy
amccoy@turley.com

MONSON—Rising utility costs and confusing billing statements were top of mind for residents who attended the National Grid Energy Fair at the Monson Senior Center on Aug. 7. The two-hour event, running from 4 to 6 p.m., gave local customers the chance to meet face-to-face with a National Grid representative to explore ways to reduce costs, avoid scams, and better understand their energy bills.

Jennifer Clouthier, a consumer advocate with National Grid for the past six years, led the session. Clouthier’s role focuses on community outreach, particularly in lower-income communities, by helping customers manage their accounts, set up payment

arrangements, and connect with assistance programs.

“We’re here to advocate for the customer,” Clouthier explained. “That means listening to their situation, finding the right programs for them, and making sure they have the tools they need to keep their service affordable.

A major focus of the fair was helping residents determine if they qualify for National Grid’s discount rate program. Customers who receive certain state benefits, such as MassHealth or SNAP (food stamps), may be eligible for a 32% monthly reduction on their energy bills.

Those who qualify can also enroll in a bill forgiveness program. Over a 12-month period, customers

ENERGY | page 8

TOWN COUNCIL NOTEBOOK:

Council sees results of spending survey

By Abigail McCoy
amccoy@turley.com

PALMER – The Palmer Town Council’s Monday, Aug. 11, meeting combined routine administrative approvals with forward-looking discussions on zoning changes, infrastructure financing, and recreational enhancements along the Quaboag River.

Zoning Amendments Adopted

Two zoning changes, both vetted through pub-

lic hearings, were approved unanimously:

Map 29 Lot 1 and Map 24 Lot 4: rezoned from Rural Residential to Neighborhood Business.

Map 55 Lots 143 and 145: rezoned from Town Residential to Highway Business.

When asked whether the second change related to proposed passenger rail projects, Councilor Mark Caci clarified it was not:

“These are just two parcels that conjoin into a bigger

COUNCIL | page 8

COMMUNITY

Greek Mythology brought to life

By Abigail McCoy
amccoy@turley.com

MONSON – On Wednesday, Aug. 6, the Monson Free Library transformed into a miniature Mount Olympus, welcoming visitors of all ages to immerse themselves in the world of Greek gods, heroes, and monsters during a special Greek Mythology Day.

The event, organized and presented by Sarah Thomas, was inspired directly by the library’s teen patrons. “We always ask participants what they’re interested in doing at the library and what they’re



Turley photos by Abigail McCoy

Michael Menard found a clue to the Odyssey Scavenger Hunt.

into in school,” Thomas explained. “The thing that kept

a lot of them grew up reading Percy Jackson and other Rick Riordan books. The interest in mythology was already there, and they said, ‘We want to have a Greek Mythology Day.’ I said, ‘That sounds great...what’s a Greek Mythology Day?’ And they replied, ‘We don’t know, give us one.’ So this was my attempt to do so.”

What followed was a creative, multi-room cele-

GREEK | page 7



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Library closes out summer with bowling party



Turley photos by Abigail McCoy
Vincenzo Gasbarino, throws a straight shot with his bowling ball down the middle of the lane.



Wide view showing a large number of people milling about in the background and also playing Candlepin bowling.



Young Rogan, 3, uses an assistance device available to young kids to have fun bowling with his family.



Many families showed up to play and support the library and their programs.

By Abigail McCoy
 amccoy@turley.com

PALMER – The Palmer Public Library wrapped up its summer programming on Monday night, Aug. 11, with an energetic End of Summer Reading Party, bringing together families, teens, and adults for an evening of food, community, and candlepin bowling at Diamond Junction Candlepin Bowling Lanes at 1446 N Main St. Palmer.

The event, offered free to the public but requiring advance registration due to limited space, was split into two sessions: a family round from 5:15 to 6:30 p.m. and an adult-only round for participants 18 and over from 6:45 to 8 p.m.

Attendees were welcomed with a spread of refreshments, including egg salad, chicken salad, and tuna salad sandwiches, fresh oranges, an assortment of chips, and bottled water. Teams of five competed on the lanes, with single players and smaller groups matched together to make up full teams.

This marks the first time the Palmer Public Library has partnered with Diamond Junction for a community event, according to Adult Services Librarian Amy Golenski.

“It’s been a lot of fun,” Golenski said. “They’ve been great, and they’re being super



Collection Development Librarian Helene O'Connor hands out a variety of sandwiches to guests.

generous. We’re right across the street from each other, so it’s nice to keep it local.”

In addition to bowling, attendees were welcome to take home commemorative backpacks from the library’s 20th anniversary at its current building.

Diamond Junction Candlepin Bowling Lanes has been a Palmer fixture since 1920, weathering changes in ownership and evolving with the times. The current owners, John Havens and his daughter, Kristen Havens, purchased the business in December 2019; just months before the COVID-19 pandemic forced a temporary closure from March to August 2020.

“This place is a staple of the town,” Kristen Havens said. “We’ve been working to keep that tradition going while also adding new things.”

While the bowling alley is typically closed to the



Lincoln Quinn gets a running start and good stance while releasing the bowling ball.

public on Mondays except for fall and winter league play, it opened specially for the library event.

Diamond Junction offers a variety of activities year-round, including birthday parties, tournaments, and its monthly “King of the Hill” competition for league members. Black light bowling is held every Friday and Saturday from 9 p.m. to midnight as an all-you-can-bowl, three-hour special.

League play runs Monday through Friday in the fall and winter, with summer leagues on Thursdays. Prospective bowlers can sign up by visiting the front desk or calling the alley at (413) 289-

0013 to be connected with league coordinators.

While Diamond Junction has supported the library in the past through sponsorships and donations, this was the first event they co-hosted. Both organizations expressed interest in exploring future collaborations.

As laughter and the sound of falling pins filled the lanes Monday night, the atmosphere underscored the goal of the event: ending summer on a high note while bringing the community together.

“Just come check us out,” Havens said. “We’ve been here since around 1920, and we’re still going strong.”



DEADLINE

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



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Concert to celebrate the restoration of the Johnson Organ

MONSON – On September 13, First Church of Monson, 5 High Street, will hold a concert to celebrate the Restoration of the Swell Division of the Johnson, Opus 781, 1892 Organ. The recitalist will be Robert Greene, nationally known organist and composer.

The program includes favorite pieces and well-known crowd pleasers that have given Greene joy over the years. He has chosen repertoire that best shows off the capabilities of the historic Johnson Organ. Works will include Toccata and Fugue in D minor, BWV 565; Suite Gothique, Op. 25 by Leon Boellmann; Sonata in C minor; Opus 65 by Felix Mendelssohn; and original composition by Mr. Greene.

Robert Greene received the Bachelor of Music degree from Oberlin College Conservatory of Music where he majored in Piano Performance and Technology in Music and Related Arts. As a missionary for the Associate

Reformed Presbyterian Church, Greene has taught music to indigenous people in the Huasteca region of Mexico.

He received the Master of Arts degree in Theology/Pastoral Music from Colgate Rochester Divinity School and Eastman School of Music. As a church musician, Greene has served congregations as organist and music director in Florida, New York, Tennessee, and Virginia. He has received awards and commissions for his instrumental and choral compositions and is published by Morning Star Music and Saint James Music Press.

The historic Johnson Organ has recently undergone the Restoration of the Swell Division. The work was undertaken by the firm of Messrs. Czelusniak et Dugal, Inc. and included the removal of all wooden racking and expression system components and complete restoration of the Swell Division of the organ.

Dust and dirt had accumu-

lated in the Swell Division due to the 2011 tornado and work done in refurbishing the First Church sanctuary. The entire Swell box had to be emptied, evacuated, cleaned and rebuilt from the toe boards up. The project was begun in January, 2025, and completed in May, 2025. First Church is indebted to the Community Preservation Committee and the voters of the Town of Monson for underwriting this extensive project for the benefit of the community.

The concert will be preceded by a baked ham dinner at 5 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall followed by the recital at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. Dinner and concert tickets of \$20.00 may be obtained by contacting Gail at 413-267-4818. Concert tickets will be available at the door at a cost of \$5.

The event is sponsored in part by the Monson Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the MA Cultural Council, a state agency.

22nd Annual T-pots & Tings Exhibition and Sales

MONSON– Juliet Rose Pottery Studio invites you to celebrate our 22nd Annual T-pots & Tings Exhibition and Sales. Join us from August 15 to 18, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day and enjoy walking through our many beautiful gardens as you view new and exciting works by Linda Spelko and Juliet Bacchas.



Together Linda and Juliet are co-owners of Juliet Rose Pottery Studio for over twenty years now. They have worked together in a seamless relationship creating teapots, mugs, bowls, bird-baths, garden globes, wall reliefs, sculptures and so more unique and one-of-a-kind items for your

homes and gardens. This event is open to the public and is free of cost.

The studio is located at 191 Reimers Road, Monson, MA 01057.

For more information email: julietrosepottery@gmail, 4135639916 or message us on instagram.com/julietrosepottery or Facebook.

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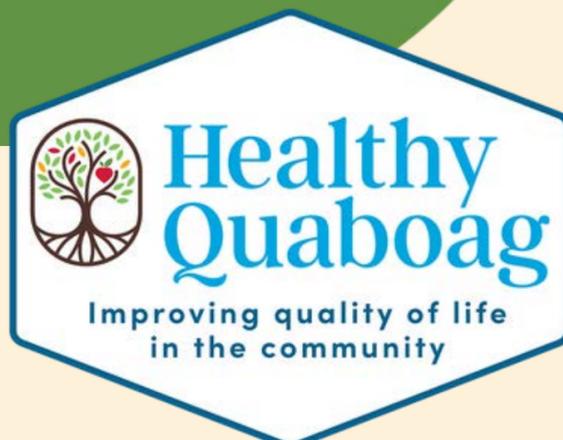


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For any questions, please contact Nisha Humayun at nhumayun@townofware.com or (413) 207-7698



Viewpoints

SOCIAL SECURITY

Matters

By Russell Gloor

Can my wife get her full spousal benefit at 62 or must she wait?

Dear Rusty:

I'm 64 and my wife is 62.

If my wife starts her own benefit now, she will get about \$700 on her own at 62. I will retire next year and claim Social Security when I am 65. SSA says my wife can draw \$1,100 under spousal benefits, so if she claims now will they give her spousal benefits of \$1,100 or does she need to wait until I claim at age 65 to get the \$1,100?

Signed: Trying to Understand

Dear Trying:

If your wife is now 62, then her Full Retirement Age for Social Security purposes is age 67 and if she claims any SS benefit before reaching her FRA, the amount will be reduced for early claiming. If your wife were to claim now (before you), she would get only her own SS retirement amount (the \$700 amount), and that would be a reduction of about 30% from what she would get if she waited until her FRA to claim.

Your wife cannot get a "spousal boost" (an additional amount as your spouse) until you claim your SS retirement benefit (at age 65?). And her benefit as your spouse at that time will also be reduced because she will not have yet reached her FRA. If your wife is already collecting her own SS retirement benefit when you later claim, she will be given her "spousal boost" to make her benefit equal what she is entitled to as your spouse. But her total monthly benefit as your spouse will also be reduced because it will be awarded before her FRA. The only way your wife can get her full spousal benefit from you is to wait until she is 67 to claim Social Security. If she claims any earlier, her monthly amount will be permanently reduced.

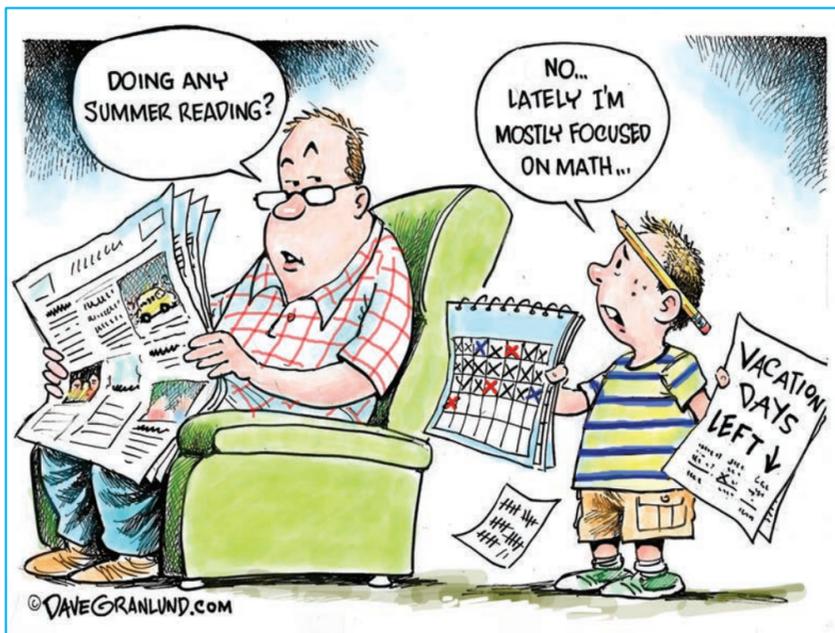
FYI, if you plan to claim at age 65, you should also be aware that your full retirement age (FRA) is also age 67 and claiming at age 65 will mean that you will get about 87% of the amount you would get if you waited until age 67 to claim. Again, these reduc-

tions are permanent, except for normal Cost of Living Adjustments awarded annually thereafter.

Having said all of that, deciding when each of you should claim your Social Security benefit is a matter of financial need, while also considering your life expectancy. If your life expectancy is short and/or you need the money, then claiming early is likely the right decision. But if your life expectancy is longer and you don't urgently need the money, then you might both consider waiting longer to claim a higher monthly amount and get more in cumulative lifetime benefits.

Finally, please remember that whenever SS is claimed before full retirement age, Social Security has an annual earnings test which limits how much can be earned by working while collecting early SS benefits. The earnings limit for 2025 is \$23,400 and, if that is exceeded, SS will take back \$1 in benefits for every \$2 over the limit (they take back by withholding future SS payments). FYI, the earnings limit for those who claim SS early changes (increases a bit) yearly and goes away entirely once full retirement age is reached. So, if either or both of you are working, you should evaluate whether claiming your Social Security benefit early (before your respective FRA) is a prudent choice.

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 ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.



This summer try freezing the harvest

Freezing fruits and vegetables is an easy way to preserve the harvest. More nutrients are retained by this method of food preservation than any other, and the color, flavor and texture are as close to fresh as you can get.

Freezing works by curbing the growth of organisms that cause food to spoil. The key to longevity is to use packaging that will keep out air and moisture. Thick plastic freezer bags, tight-fitting plastic containers (square make better use of freezer space than round), or boilable bags that are made for vacuum sealers are all great options for that purpose.

Fresh berries are easily frozen whole. I've been doing my share of that lately. Any blackberries we don't eat get popped on an aluminum pie tin to freeze, once frozen they are moved into freezer containers where I can easily take out just what I need.

Many people also freeze tomatoes whole, figuring that it's too hot to make sauce now, but it won't be in a couple of months. Thawing frozen whole tomatoes makes for easy skin removal.

Vegetables such as peas, yellow and green beans, broccoli and more are all easily frozen once you know the method.

Here is how you do it: Grab a pot from your cupboard to blanch your produce – this part of the process will help to retain the desirable characteristics that I mentioned above. You can blanch by steaming or boiling.

Reportedly, steaming is superior for nutrient preser-

vation. While you wash and chop your veggies to bite-size pieces, bring a few

cookie sheet with freezer or waxed paper. Arrange your dry produce in a single layer and pre-freeze for an hour or two, then fill your bag.

This way you will be able to grab exactly what you need when making a meal – pieces won't be frozen together in a big block. Vacuum packers are great for freezing dinner-sized portions. Simply pack the bags with your blanched, air-dried veggies and seal. Without one you can do a good job of removing air from your freezer bags by simply squeezing out as you can manually then inserting a straw into an unsealed corner and inhaling to draw out what remains.

The kids will find this part of the preservation process to be a lot of fun! Be sure to label the contents with the date – most produce will keep for at least a year at zero degrees.

For a more detailed look at freezing and other types of food preservation consult these great books by Storey Publishing: "The Beginner's Guide to Preserving Food at Home" by Janet Chadwick and "The Big Book of Preserving the Harvest" by Carol W. Costenbader.

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.

This next step is a must if you are freezing in big bags rather than exact dinner-sized portions: Line a

In the Garden

by Roberta McQuaid



inches of water to a boil in a covered pot equipped with a steamer basket. When the water begins to boil hard insert a single layer of veggies into the basket and replace the lid (this part is critical). Blanch for 3-6 minutes, depending on thickness, for broccoli and 4 minutes for green or yellow beans.

Don't have a steamer pot? Try boil blanching instead. Bring a pot of water to a rapid boil then carefully immerse your vegetables to avoid splattering. When the water returns to a boil begin timing.

Broccoli will take 2-3 minutes using this method; beans need 3.

Once blanching is complete, you must cool down the produce as quickly as possible to stop the cooking process from going any further. This is accomplished by plunging the food into a waiting bath of ice water.

I remember reading somewhere that it should stay in the bath for about as long as it took to blanch it. Once cooling is complete, drain the veggies and allow them to air-dry on a clean towel.

This next step is a must if you are freezing in big bags rather than exact dinner-sized portions: Line a

Helping birds

A reader from South Hadley suggested I include a section about ways to help birds. She even provided several tips for future columns. In hot weather and during dry periods, it is important for birds to have a clean, cool source of water. Even something as simple as putting out a bird bath and water dishes and keeping the water clean and cool during the summer heat will help birds.

Many people don't realize that birds get dehydrated and the bird baths help them keep cool but equally important, maintain the health of their feathers. A bird bath doesn't have to be fancy, even an old ceramic serving dish would work as long as the water isn't too deep. One reader, who sends emails quite frequently has a more elaborate system with a dripping water.

South Hadley birds

A South Hadley resident emailed she hears an owl in

her neighborhood, but has never seen it. She reported seeing red tailed hawks and turkey vultures. When she sees road kill, she moves it to a safe spot away from traffic so that vultures don't get hit by cars.

Great blue heron

Saturday night my daughter, Paula, took the girls to the McDonald's in Ware just as it was getting dark. A great blue heron flew into the parking lot from the river across the street and tried to unsuccessfully land on top of a lamp post. When it couldn't, it flew just a few feet over their heads into the swamp in the back of the parking lot.

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

The Journal Register

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

Please send opinions to:

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

journalregister@turley.com
The submission deadline for consideration is Monday at noon.

Election letters to the editor welcome

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

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

Campaign news

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

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



By Ellenor Downer



Cedar waxwing

The cedar waxwing is medium sized and sleek. Their crest often lies flat and droops over the back of the head. Waxwings are social birds and often seen in flocks year round. They sit in fruiting trees swallowing berries whole or pluck them I mid-air with a brief fluttering hover. They also course over water for insects, "flying like slightly, clumsy swallows."

It takes the female about five to six days to build a nest. They occasionally take nesting materials from other birds nests.

My daughter, Paula and family enjoy watching a large flock of cedar waxwings by the bridge near Hardwick Pizza in Gilbertville. They also watch "tons" of bats leave the chimney of the old senior center each night at dusk. Some nights there must be about 50 of them. They fly out and then make big circles around the building while screeching. They do a great job of controlling the mosquitoes population.

The cedar waxwing is one of the few North American birds that specialize in

eating fruit.

It can survive on fruit alone for several months. It is a silky smooth songbird with a black mask, tan head and breast, yellow belly and grayish brown under parts. The tail has a yellow band at the tip and some wing feathers have waxy red tips, hence the name waxwing.

Adults perch on high, exposed perches where they are easily seen and heard. They also have a prominent crest. During courtship males and females pass a small fruit or other item back and

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

WING MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUXILIARY SHOP
40 Wright St., Palmer

AUGUST VENDOR SALES
August 18 Generations of Cookes
August 19 Hobbit Hollow Herbs
August 20 How Charming

AUG. 19

THE MONSON LIONS CLUB WILL BE HOLDING ITS 2ND SUMMER CONCERT SERIES at Dave Grieve Park & Gazebo, Main Street, Monson on Tuesday, August 19. Free Admission. "Ultraviolet", a local Band from Belchertown will be performing from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Food Truck, Fry'd Guys is available for food offerings starting at 5:00 pm. Please bring your chairs, along with friends and family. Enjoy a beautiful summer evening of great music and delicious food. Special appreciation to Monson Savings Bank for supporting this Concert Series.

HITCHCOCK SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

For more information, visit www.hitchcockacademy.org. Hitchcock Academy is a community center located at 2 Brookfield Road in Brimfield.

AUG. 20

UnionJack British Invasion Band, British Invasion | Flippin' the Bird BBQ

All concerts will take place 6-8 p.m. on the Brimfield Town Common. Rain dates are Thursdays.

AUG. 22

FRIDAY NIGHT ROCKS from 6:30 p.m. To 11:30 p.m.

Youth Rocks Networking Portion For Young Musicians To Meet Others. Torie Jock & Damage Control are hosting FRIDAY NIGHT ROCKS! A rock band series occurring at PHCC!

Bring your own beverages and your ID's are required.

\$10 entry fee and doors open at 6 p.m. Bands for August 22 are Ultraviolet, Take 2, and The Blares!

Special Guests: Jonas Clark, Sofia Roman, Max V.

Email toriejockmusic@gmail.com for more info and for band/vendor/food truck booking.

SEPT. 13

On Saturday, Sept. 13, First Church of Monson, 5 High Street, will hold a dinner and organ recital celebrating the restoration of the Swell Division of the Johnson Organ. Guest organist will be Robert Greene, nationally known composer and organist. The concert will feature works by Bach, Boellmann, and Mendelssohn as well as Greene's original compositions. The baked ham dinner will be served at 5 P.M. followed by the concert at 7 p.m. Tickets for the dinner and concert are \$20.00 available by calling Gail at 413 267 4818. Concert donations of \$5.00 are available at the door. The concert is supported in part by the Monson Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the MA Cultural Council, a state agency.

ONGOING

2025-2026 DRAMA & DANCE PROGRAM Beginning September 11th and running through May on Thursdays at PHCC.

Does your child love dancing and acting? Have they always been interested but never tried? All levels and ages 5 plus welcome! (Drama students must be able to read.)

Also offering Adult Hip Hop & Lyrical Dance Classes!

Students must be available for show date in May!

Date TBD. Adult class students can dance in show or choose not to as long as requested ahead of time.

Contact: trulytorie2000@gmail.com for more info and to register!

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

FRIDAY NIGHT CAR CRUISES with Bruce Marshall 4 p.m. to 9 p.m., come check out the amazing car collection. Brimfield Winery 35 Main St. in Brimfield

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

KEEP HOMESTEAD MUSEUM: Located at 35 Ely Rd., Monson, nature trails are open daily until

dusk for hiking, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. Trail maps can be found in the parking lot. The Phillips Sculpture Garden is open year-round (handouts in box on one of the signposts). For more information call 413-267-4137, email khn@keephomesteadmuseum.org or visit keephomesteadmuseum.org.

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

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

WALES CHURCH FARMER'S MARKET - Located in the church pavilion across from the post office on the corner of Route 19 and Monson Road. Every Saturday

morning from 9 a.m - noon. It will begin on Memorial Day weekend and run throughout the summer until Labor Day. We offer homemade baked goods, local honey, crafts, flea market items, antiques, and fruits and vegetables when in season. Vendors welcome and there is no charge to set up a table.

GAME NIGHT: 6-7:45 p.m. the second Tuesday of every month at Top Floor Learning (third floor of the Palmer Library at 1455 N. Main St.). Free and open to the public. Play available board and card games or bring your own. Must be 16 or older unless accompanied by an adult. No Registration Required – just show up! Questions? Call 283-2329, or 283-3691, or email palewis19@yahoo.com.

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

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

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

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Trivia Night

Monday, June 16
See Website for More Information



Scouts from Troop 164 demonstrated activities at their booth and were also handing out cotton candy and popcorn.



Families climb aboard and around a large tractor-like vehicle. Turley photos by Abigail McCoy



Visitors mill about in front of the Palmer Police Station checking out the various tents set up.



The Drug Addiction Recovery Team (DART) had their own tent with lead responders Jade Torrance and Brandon Williams.

NNO | from page 1

not during crises or emergencies, but as people who care and want to build trust.”

Sullivan noted that police officers often meet residents during difficult times, during: mental health crises, accidents, or other emergencies. “People don’t get to see us at our finest moments. Usually, if you see a cop, it’s because something’s wrong. So this event flips the script.”

Sullivan added, “It’s a nationwide event, held on the first Tuesday of August. Some departments have it on other days, but this is Palmer’s day, a day to have fun and hopefully provide a low-stress environment for everyone.”

The Hampden County Sheriff’s Department was a prominent presence at Palmer Night Out, with Lt. Sady and her team showcasing their special operations boat, canine unit, and tactical teams. Though not directly part of the Palmer Police Department,



Palmer Girl Scout Troop 64913 promotes their group with a mini game of matching animal tracks to the animals, their tent was joined by Stephanie Chichakii and Colleen Seymour.

ment, the Sheriff’s office is currently in partnership with Palmer PD, assisting with patrols and emergency coverage.

“We’re here for the community and for the kids,” said Lt. Sadie. “It’s about relationship-building and being accessible.”

Across the grounds, other first responder groups mingled with families and attendees. Representatives from the Palmer Fire Department were

on hand alongside emergency medical personnel, answering questions and demonstrating equipment.

Palmer Night Out also served as a resource fair, featuring a wide array of local groups offering information and support.

The Drug Addiction Recovery Team (DART) brought a critical message of hope and assistance for those struggling with substance use. Brandon

Williams and Jade Torrance, lead responders for this region of the program, described the work they do in Hampden and Hampshire counties.

“We respond to overdoses and other crisis situations,” Williams said. “Our goal is to ensure people are safe and then to offer education and support... harm reduction tools, referrals to rehab, and a connection to recovery resources.”

Williams emphasized the importance of removing stigma from addiction. “Too often people feel unworthy of help. When we come to someone’s door and say, ‘We care,’ it can make all the difference.”

Palmer’s local Domestic Violence Task Force worked alongside the Behavioral Health Network’s larger regional task force to raise

awareness and provide immediate assistance for survivors of abuse. Crystal Rondeau, who coordinates the Palmer task force, explained the relationship between the two groups.

“Our task force focuses on local, immediate help and raising awareness in Palmer,” she said. “BHN covers a wider region and provides long-term support and resources. Together, we work to ensure survivors get the help they need.”

Also present were representatives from the Palmer Council on Aging, Palmer Public library, Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School, and numerous businesses including Monson Savings Bank, J. Stolar Insurance, and Country Bank.

Children enjoyed a variety of activities throughout the evening. Scouts BSA Troop 64 offered sand art projects and snacks, while Girl Scouts from Palmer displayed crafts and information.

The Star Wars-themed inflatable obstacle course drew enthusiastic crowds of youngsters, laughing and racing through the bouncy challenges.

The Destined to Dance Academy, a new dance school based on Central Street, introduced themselves with a spirited performance and invited attendees to learn more about their classes. Owner Jennifer expressed pride in their first recital, marking the academy’s second year in Palmer.

Beyond the festivities, the heart of Palmer Night Out lies in the informal conversations and connections made between residents and the

professionals who serve them.

Sullivan explained that when people meet officers in a relaxed setting, it builds trust and understanding. “We want people to see that we’re just like them; people who care about this town and want to keep it safe.”

For DART responders, that trust can be a lifeline. Williams shared that his team works to build relationships tailored to each person’s story and background. “It’s not about judgment, it’s about empathy, connection, and making sure people know they’re not alone.”

Lt. Sady echoed the sentiment of community collaboration. “Whether it’s police, fire, or support organizations, we’re all here to help... and it’s important the community knows that we’re approachable and ready to listen.”

Palmer Night Out 2025 succeeded in its goal of bringing together a cross-section of the town: law enforcement, emergency services, community groups, local businesses, and families; in a celebration of partnership and care.

As the sun set and children ran through the inflatable obstacle courses, families chatted with officers and firefighters, and resource tables buzzed with conversation, the event was a clear reminder of the power of community.

Whether through dance recitals, sand art, or simply a friendly conversation, Palmer Night Out showcased the town’s commitment to safety, support, and shared well-being; values that strengthen the fabric of this vibrant community all year long.

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EARLY DEADLINES

In observance of LABOR DAY, **PUBLIC NOTICES EARLY AD DEADLINE** Place your public notice no later than **NOON Thursday, August 28**

— Thank you! —



Kids use the button-making machine to create custom pins with their favorite Greek god or goddess on it.



Two young participants, Isabell Mossa and Kaden Mossa, work together to solve clues for the scavenger hunt.



Sarah Thomas explains what activities the Greek Mythology Day had and also how to follow the scavenger hunt using the proper tools given out to each group.



One of the clues hidden throughout the library. Turley photos by Abigail McCoy

GREEK | from page 1

bration that blended puzzles, games, and art activities with mythology-inspired snacks and music. Visitors were greeted by tables filled with word searches, crosswords, matching games, and coloring pages featuring gods, heroes, and mythical creatures like Zeus, Athena, Poseidon, the Minotaur, a centaur, Pan, and even a harpy. Colored pencils, crayons, and markers were available for anyone looking to bring the ancient figures to life with their own flair.

A central attraction was the Monson Library Odyssey Scavenger Hunt, a puzzle-solving journey through

the library designed to mirror the epic adventures of Odysseus. Participants began with a “puzzle-solving packet” that included tools such as a Caesar cipher grid to decode clues. From there, they followed a trail of stations representing episodes from Homer’s Odyssey, starting with the land of the Lotus Eaters and moving on to encounters like the Cyclops Polyphemus, each challenge leading to the next.

“The scavenger hunt tests participants’ knowledge of Greek mythology, their puzzle-solving skills, and their familiarity with The Odyssey,” Thomas said. “I wanted it to be fun for people who

might not know much about mythology, but also full of little Easter eggs for those who do.”

Alongside the scavenger hunt, attendees could make their own themed buttons, collect bookmarks featuring gods and goddesses, and relax in front of a large screen playing Epic: The Musical while Hades, a mythology-inspired video game, was available on the Nintendo Switch.

No Greek-themed event would be complete without a taste of the Mediterranean. Guests sampled hummus, feta cheese, pita crackers, preserved lemons, olives, and fresh vegetables, all paired with water to keep adventur-

ers hydrated.

While many attendees came for the love of mythology, others came simply to help. One young volunteer admitted, “I’m not really into Greek mythology...I just like helping out.”

The blend of interactive learning, creative arts, and cultural flavors made Greek Mythology Day both accessible and engaging, appealing to seasoned mythology enthusiasts and newcomers alike. Judging by the laughter, concentration, and the occasional “aha!” when a puzzle was solved, Monson Free Library’s experiment in bringing ancient myths to life was a resounding success.

CAMPUS

notes

UMass Amherst announces spring 2025 graduates

AMHERST – Approximately 5,000 students received bachelor’s degrees in over 100 majors at the University of Massachusetts Amherst’s Undergraduate Commencement on May 16, 2025 at the McGuirk Alumni Stadium.

Below is a list of students from your area that received a bachelor’s degree from the University of Massachusetts Amherst:

- Brimfield:**
Ethan Charles Eroh,
Cooper Garrett Hurt
- Holland:**
Alexis Carson, Clement Theodore Carson, Timothy James Hagen, Alexa Lynn Knight, Kassandra Lee Knight
- Monson:**
Joseph Michael Angelica, Nicholas J. Farquhar, Zheng Lin, Camille Elizabeth Lobik, Siobhain Murphy, Hannah Marie Schipano
- Palmer:**
Ali Ghaede Heydare
- Wales:**
Joseph James Adams

PHS Class of 1975 Reunion

PALMER – Join us for our 50th Class Reunion on Oct. 18, 2025, 6 p.m. to 12 a.m. at Tony and Penny’s in Ludlow –enjoy dinner, music, and great company. Tickets are \$60 per person.

Please RSVP to ccolburn172@comcast.net for yourself and guest by August 9, 2025.

The payment deadline is Thursday, Sept. 11, 2025. Please make checks

payable to “PHS 75 Reunion” and mail them to: PHS 75 Reunion, PO Box 213, Palmer, MA 01069-0213

We would like a recent photo if possible, to add to our slideshow. If you would like to share any other photos from high school days, it would be appreciated. Photos can be e-mailed to Cindy at: ccolburn172@comcast.net

Monson Concert Series Aug. 19

MONSON – The Monson Lions Club will be holding its 2nd Summer Concert Series at Dave Grieve Park & Gazebo, Main Street, Monson on Tuesday, August 19, 2025.

Free Admission. “Ultraviolet”, a local Band from Belchertown will be performing from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Food Truck,

Fry’d Guys is available for food offerings starting at 5 p.m.

Please bring your chairs, along with friends and family. Enjoy a beautiful summer evening of great music and delicious food.

Special appreciation to Monson Savings Bank for supporting this Concert Series.

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

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

This group will be held in zoom, is educational, confidential, and free. Please contact **Pat James 413-726-8661.**

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VETERANS DAY SALUTE
The Journal Register ~ November 6, 2025

The Journal Register will be saluting our local veterans (from all wars and branches, including honoring deceased veterans), reservists, active duty U.S. Military members.

Please submit a photo of your veteran with his or her name, rank, branch of military and hometown by email to **dflynn@turley.com** or drop off a photo to **The Journal Register, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069**. All photos will be returned.

Please submit your photo no later than Monday, October 13, 2025.

There is no cost to submit a photo. No photos will be accepted after deadline. If you would like to use a prior submitted photo, please contact Dan Flynn no later than October 13th (413) 297-5886.

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Palmer Senior Center

Activities for August

PALMER—The Palmer Senior Center is bringing back **Healthy Bones and Balance every Wednesday from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.** The class will be taught by Denise who is a volunteer for RSVP. Denise also works at the YMCA with Erin, the Wednesday Strength Training Class.

Friday, Movie Matinee at 12:30 p.m. with drinks and popcorn

August 15, Activity Coordinator Choice

August 22, "Beautiful Day in The Neighborhood" with Tom Hanks, is a 2019

American biographical drama film on the TV presenter Fred Rogers, directed by Marielle Heller and written by Micah FitzermanBlue and Noah Harper, inspired by the 1998 article "Can You Say... Hero?"

August 29, "Fly Me to the Moon", Set against the backdrop of the historic Apollo 11 mission, the film stars Scarlett Johansson as Kelly Jones, a savvy marketing specialist, and Channing Tatum as Cole Davis, the serious launch director at NASA. The story unfolds in late 1968, during a time when public interest in the Space Race is waning, and NASA is under pressure to ensure the success.

Upcoming Events Starting Monday, Sep-

tember, 8 the center will be open from 8:30:30 PM and every Monday after that. Each month we will post what will be taking place in the newsletter, I hope that you can join us and bring along some new friends.

Annual Picnic, on Friday, September 12th from 11 to 2 p.m. at Pulaski Park. Pick up tickets \$10 at the center a week before the picnic

Boston Harbor Cruise - October 9, 2025—\$110 includes transportation & tips, cruise w/ buffet lunch and three rounds of Bingo, onboard DJ. \$55 due at sign up and \$55 due by August 1. The center has acquired another bus. If interested, please sign up at the center.

ENERGY | from page 1

pay a set monthly amount based on their average bill. As long as payments are made on time, National Grid credits a portion of the outstanding balance each month; potentially erasing the debt entirely after a year.

Clouthier also highlighted the benefits of no-cost home energy audits for customers on the discount rate. Through the state's Mass Save program, auditors inspect insulation, appliances, heating systems, and water heaters to identify energy drains. If upgrades such as insulation or oil tank replacement are needed, these can often be completed at no cost to qualifying households.

For customers who do not meet the discount rate criteria, energy audits are still free, with various rebates

available for improvements.

When bill reductions and payment arrangements aren't enough, Clouthier connects residents with other resources such as the Salvation Army or the RAFT program (Residential Assistance for Families in Transition), which can provide up to \$7,000 in utility payment assistance depending on income eligibility.

A growing concern for National Grid customers is the proliferation of third-party energy suppliers, which market themselves at retail locations such as Walmart or BJ's with promises of lower rates and incentives.

"Sometimes people sign up without realizing it, and it can end up costing them more," Clouthier said. At the fair, she directed residents to a government website that allows them to compare suppliers and make informed de-

isions.

Clouthier covers a large territory, including Monson, Palmer, Brimfield, Wales, and Holland. While she regularly hosts events in Monson and Palmer due to higher attendance, she noted that Brimfield's fairs tend to draw fewer people. Outreach is done through flyers posted in local facilities and email blasts sent four weeks before the event, with a reminder going out the week of.

The next local Energy Fair is planned for Oct. 22 at the Palmer Public Library, though the exact time is still to be determined.

"Especially as we head into the colder months, we want people to know help is available," Clouthier said. "A lot of customers don't realize they're eligible for these programs until they sit down with us."

COUNCIL | from page 1

parcel where there's already a building on," Caci said.

Opioid Settlement Funds: Survey Results and Next Steps

Public Health Director Nicole Gauthier and members of the Palmer for Tomorrow coalition presented the results of a 2024-25 community survey on how to spend the town's share of national opioid lawsuit settlements.

Palmer is expected to receive \$611,375.99 over the life of the settlement, with \$187,242.19 already in hand. The payments run through 2039 and must be used for prevention, treatment, recovery, and harm reduction.

The survey, which drew 206 responses, showed:

35% prioritized trauma treatment for individuals and families.

63% favored harm reduction outreach, including peer recovery coaches.

Strong calls for expanded access to Narcan, youth prevention programs, and local treatment options such as a methadone clinic.

Councilors questioned how the funds would be allocated, and Gauthier said the next step is to launch a mini-grant program in September, with the first approvals expected in January.

"Palmer was very engaged. It was excellent," Gauthier said, noting that participation exceeded expectations.

Cultural Council Appointment

Janice Fountain was appointed to the Palmer Cultural Council for a term ending June 30, 2028.

"She's wonderful," Councilor Karl Williams said in support.

Printer Purchase to Save \$11,000

The council approved Resolution 2026-01, transferring \$6,000 from the Capital Stabilization Fund to purchase outright a wide-format printer currently under lease.

Town Manager Brad Brothers said the move would save about \$11,000 in remaining lease costs. The printer, used primarily for blueprints and large maps, has not required service calls in its first two years. Some councilors voiced concern about future maintenance costs after the warranty expires.

"Buying it outright for six grand... makes total financial sense," Brothers said.

DPW Contract Update

The council ratified a one-year contract with the DPW administrative unit, including Council on Aging van drivers. Changes include:

Extending the probationary period by up to 90 days if needed.

Raising the meal allowance for 5+ hour call-backs from \$9 to \$12.

A 2% wage increase. Annual clothing allowance (five shirts, one sweat-shirt).

"It's a one year contract, not a three," Town Manager Brothers summarized.

Floodplain Ordinance Update

The first reading of a proposed update to the town's floodplain ordinance was completed. The revisions, the first in 21 years, bring the bylaw into compliance with FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program, designate a floodplain administrator, update definitions, and require permits for all proposed development in the floodplain district.

Blue Trail Project and Donation

Conservation Agent Jessica Ladin and Chicop-

ee Four Rivers Coordinator Keith Davies detailed a plan to formalize river access points as part of a "Blue Trail" network for paddlers.

Lavalette Field in Three Rivers has been identified as a key take-out location, where a \$3,000 private donation will fund improvements to the rocky embankment. Proposed signage would include river safety information, QR codes linking to real-time flow data, and warnings for novice paddlers.

An additional take-out site on Palmer Street is also under consideration to alleviate parking congestion during events at Lavalette.

"It's just like a hiking trail, but it's on the water," Ladin said.

The council accepted the \$3,000 donation under Resolution 2026-02.

Exploring District Improvement Financing

Sean O'Donnell of the West Mass Area Development Corporation presented District Improvement Financing (DIF) as a potential tool to fund infrastructure upgrades on Thorndike Street, including water and sewer line replacement.

DIF allows a town to earmark future property tax revenue from new growth within a defined district to repay bonds for public infrastructure. It does not raise tax rates or impose additional taxes on businesses.

O'Donnell suggested pairing DIF with a state MassWorks grant, which now requires a 20% local match. Setting the district boundary before major projects like Liberty Plaza open would maximize future revenue capture.

"It's not a new tax rate increase... it's capturing what's new growth," O'Donnell explained.

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4. Each completed delivery using the promo code **BIGE** between now and Sept. 9, 2025, will automatically earn you one (1) entry into the sweepstakes. Limit one entry via this method per person, per day.

Free Mail-in Entry NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN
BlazeXpress "Big E Blaze to Win" Sweepstakes, PO Box 6403, Holyoke, MA 01041. Mail-in entries must be postmarked by Sept. 9, 2025, and received by September 10th, 2025. Limit one mail-in entry per person.

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SPORTS

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BASKETBALL

Palmer advances in playoffs

WILBRAHAM – In last week’s Spec Pond Summer Basketball league playoffs, Palmer Blue Devils, a 7-8 boys team, narrowly defeated Ludlow 29-27 to advance in the playoffs. They were scheduled to face Hampshire in the next round. Palmer Blue Devils went 8-2 in the regular season this year.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Mason Cowher shoots a free throw.



Dominick Venneri drives to the hoop.



Hunter Laviolette heads into the paint.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Mason Cowher shoots a free throw.



Luke Haley heads down the court.



Josiel Ortiz drives toward the hoop from the sideline.

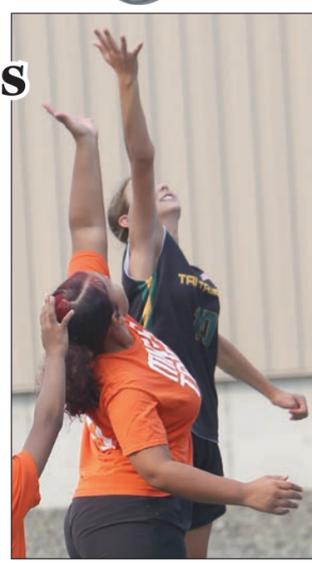
BASKETBALL

Summer Warriors head for finals

WILBRAHAM – Tantasqua’s region has often entered teams in the Spec Pond Summer Basketball League, this year being no different. The 5-6 Girls Summer Warriors scored a victory over the Lady Mig’s A and B teams to reach the finals of the summer playoffs. Tantasqua went 7-3 in the regular season and was scheduled to face Play MKJ in the finals. Highlights from that matchup will be in next week’s edition.



Maya Bellofatto shoots from the free throw line.



Olivia Sugden reaches out for the jump ball.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Courtney Canane looks to shoot.



Brianna Nason heads down the court.



Kathryn Daaboul passes away from the paint.



Annabelle Creelman shoots on the run.

BASEBALL

Post 241 season ends for in state playoffs



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Matt Santos makes a jumping catch.

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

WORCESTER – Less than 24 hours after defeating Wilbraham in an elimination game, the Monson Post 241 run in the Legion state playoffs came to an end against Lowell Post 87.

Monson, who was the visiting team, had a golden opportunity to take an early lead, but they left the bases loaded in the first inning.

Lowell responded by scoring three runs in the bottom half of the opening frame. They added two more runs in the second inning enroute to an 8-0 shutout victory at Fitton Field located on the College of the Holy Cross campus on July 21.

“I thought we had turned the corner following our win against Wilbraham yesterday,” said Monson manager Steve Tripp. “We loaded the

SOCCER

West Side wins PVSSL Championship

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW – Back in the middle of July, Olivia Crespo and her New England Mutiny teammates lost in the United Women’s Soccer League finals for the second year in a row.

On Friday, Aug. 2, Crespo guided the third-seeded Westside Sport Shop to a 5-0 shutout victory over top-seeded Here for Beer in the women’s finals of the Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League at Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow.

“It was a little bit frus-

trating coming up a little bit short in the National Finals once again this year,” said Crespo, who graduated from Ludlow High School. “I had a lot of confidence coming into tonight’s championship match and I knew that we would be able to do it.”

Crespo, who scored

four goals and had an assist against Here for Beer, was selected as the M.V.P. following the match.

“My teammates deserve a lot of credit,” Crespo said. “They helped set up my goals. I wouldn’t have been able to do it without them.”

Last fall, Crespo was a member of the women’s soccer team at Franklin Pierce University, which captured the NE 10 conference championship title. Her college soccer team played in the NCAA Division 2 Final Four.

“It was a really special season,” she said. “We’re looking forward to having another successful season this fall.

Westside Sport Shop (9-2-1) won the championship title for the third time since Crespo has been a member of the team. They beat sixth-seeded Heat, 2-1 in overtime in the quarterfinals before squeaking out a 3-2 win over the second seed-



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
West Side Sports Shop won the Women’s Title this year in the Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League.

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Athlete of the Week

Gwen Duggan
Palmer High School

Duggan was a member of the Here for Beer women's summer soccer team, which reached this year's PVSSL Championship game.

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

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Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

Summer Edition

EAST BROOKFIELD – The 2025 Wednesday Summer League at Bogy Lanes has officially ended as bowlers reached week 14.

The final standings show Sophia's Raiders as the #1 seed, with a record of 78-34, and the winners of this year's summer league on Wednesday nights. Congratulations to Sophia Hearnlaye, Trever Kenneson and Phil Clough on the victory.

Finishing in second place was Kristen's Squad with a record of 60-52. Finishing in third place was the Gutter Dolls with a record of 59-53. The Rolling Stones and Gutter Fingers tied for fourth place with each team having a record 57-55. Gutter Snipes finished in sixth place with a record of 56-56. No Shows finished in seventh place with a record of 50-62, Straight Shooters finished in eighth place with a record of 49-63, and Clock Barn finished ninth with a record of 36-76.

During the last week, the Straight Shooters bowled against Rolling Stones. In game one, Rolling Stones defeated the Straight Shooters by a score of 470-418.

In game two, Rolling Stones won again by a score of 456-453. Brett Green of Rolling Stones bowled a 117 in game two.

In game three, Rolling Stones won by a score of 450-447 to sweep the Straight Shooters during the final week of the summer league. Alan Nason of Straight Shooters finished strong with a 108. The final score was 1376-1318 in favor of Rolling Stones.

No Shows bowled against Gutter Fingers during the last night of league. In game one, No Shows defeated Gutter Fingers by a score of 477-455. Steve Swistak of No Shows had a strong start to the match with a 121.

In game two, Gutter Fingers won by a score of 427-416. Jean Pouliot of Gutter Fingers made a clutch spare in the tenth frame to secure the win and finished with a 101.

In game three, Gutter Fingers won the last game by a score of 442-427. The final

score was 1324-1320 in favor of Gutter Fingers.

Kristen's Squad finished in second place in the summer league and ended the season by winning two points in the final week. Bob Button had scores of 89, 105, and 122 for a series of 316.

Clock Barn bowled against Sophia's Raiders in the final week. In game one, Sophia's Raiders won by a score of 443-430. In game two, Clock Barn won by a score of 442-440. In game three, Clock Barn won the last game by a score of 443-411. The final score was 1315-1294 in favor of Clock Barn.

Gutter Snipes bowled against the Gutter Dolls in the final week. In game one, Gutter Snipes won by a score of 468-424. In game two, Gutter Dolls won by a score of 441-436. In game three, Gutter Snipes won the last game by a score of 454-440. The final score was 1358-1305 in favor of Gutter Snipes.

The league will have a fun night and a banquet the following Wednesday and prizes for individuals and teams will be awarded. The fall leagues will be starting soon at Bogy Lanes, starting in September.

Turley photos by David Henry
www.sweetdogphotos.com

Right, Kenzie Pastreck of Wilbraham minds the goal for Here for Beer.

Below, Gwen Duggan, of Palmer, looks to pass.



WINS | from page 9

ed Monson Mustangs in the semifinals.

Here For Beer, who defeated Westside Sport Shop in last year's finals, won the regular season match-up between the two squads. They entered the 2025 playoffs with an 11-1-0 record and earned a quarterfinal bye. They advanced into the finals after defeating the fourth-seeded Lusitano Women, 2-1, in the semifinals.

"Westside is a very good team this year," said Here for Beer player/coach Cassie Ashwell "If we were going to lose to anyone, I'm okay losing to them."

Longtime Minnechaug Regional girls' varsity soccer coach Nundi Goncalves attended the championship match. Several of his former players were playing on both sides.

The former Lady Falcons players wearing Westside uniforms were Emily Howard, Rhiann Ryan, Claire Poindexter, Gaby Williams,

Lylah Jeannotte, and Chapin Jeannotte.

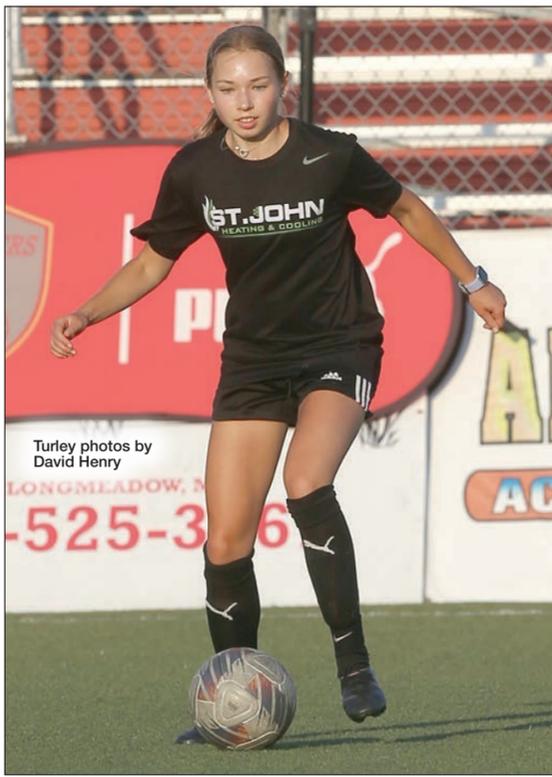
The Jeannotte sisters weren't teammates when they were in high school.

"We missed playing on the same soccer team at Minnechaug by only one year, but we've been playing together on this team for the past couple of years, which has been a lot of fun," said Lylah Jeannotte, who was a starting defender. "It feels awesome winning a championship together."

Here For Beer goalie Kenzie Pastreck also played soccer at Minnechaug Regional.

The other players listed on the Westside roster from the Turley Publications coverage area are Reese Carey (South Hadley), Gabriella Fiahlo, Sydney Mercier (South Hadley), and Maya Tellier (Belchertown).

Here For Beer also had several players from the Turley Publications coverage area. They are Macie Bolton (Belchertown), Taryn Car-



Turley photos by David Henry

POST | from page 9

bases in the first inning, but we just couldn't score. We've struggled offensively all season. We also made a couple of costly mistakes defensively."

Monson finished the regular season in sixth place in the zone 3 standings with a 7-6 record. They went 1-2 in the state playoffs.

"In the old format, every team in zone 3 qualified for the playoffs," Tripp said. "The format was a little bit different this year. We were lucky enough to be one of the seven teams from our zone

to make the state playoffs. It was a very good accomplishment."

Each team who qualified for the state playoffs was put into a pod with three other teams.

The other teams in Monson's pod were Wilbraham, Lowell Post 87, and Shrewsbury Post 297, who hosted the pod held at Holy Cross.

"Playing a game at a college field is an experience that these players will never forget," Tripp said. "I really enjoyed coaching this year's team. They're a bunch of great kids. I'm looking forward to coaching this team

again next year."

The four Monson players who'll be ineligible to play for the Post 241 squad next year are Nate Kaczuwka (Ware High School), Jason Mumper (Ware High School), Hunter Griswold (Pathfinder Tech), and Miguel Velasquez (Pathfinder Tech).

Grayson Griswold, who also attends Pathfinder Tech, was Monson's starting pitcher against Lowell.

While Griswold allowed five runs on only two hits in 1 1/3 innings.

"Grayson is going to be a sophomore at Pathfinder and he's going to be an outstand-

ing baseball player during the next couple of years," Tripp said. "He just needs to keep improving his skills."

Lowell righthander Liam Conley got off to a shaky start.

Monson third baseman Brayden Mega, who graduated from Pathfinder Tech in June, began the game by hitting a ground ball double down the left field line. Then catcher Kyle Kaczuwka and Designated hitter Nate Kaczuwka were both hit with pitches, which loaded the bases with two outs. Conley, who only allowed three hits during the first six innings, escaped the jam with a strikeout.

Lowell took a 3-0 lead with the benefit of only one hit in the bottom of the first.

Righty Austin Meacham, who attends Monson High School, replaced Griswold on the mound with two outs in the second inning. Meacham, who hadn't pitched in a couple of weeks, allowed two inherited runs to score before settling down. He gave up a run in the fourth and two more in the fifth.

Monson, who only had two men on base between the second and fifth innings, loaded the bases again with one-out in the sixth.

Velasquez, who started at second base, reached first

base after getting hit with a pitch. Then Nate Kaczuwka beat out an infield hit, and Mumper, who started in centerfield, drew a walk.

Just like he did in the opening frame, Conley got out of the jam with a pair of strikeouts.

Monson went down in order in the seventh inning ending their season.



Brayden Mega sends a throw to first.



Miguel Velazquez puts a good swing on.



Nathan Kaczuwka connects on a base hit for Monson Legion Post 241.



Emerson Boronski makes the catch in center field.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Business

ERC5 Networking Event: Celebrating Art and Community at Temple Beth El

SPRINGFIELD – Join us Tuesday, August 19, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. for an exciting networking event at Temple Beth El located at 979 Dickinson Street in Springfield, where ERC5 is delighted to integrate art into our community engagement efforts.

This unique gathering will showcase the incredible talent of local artists and highlight the important role places of worship, like Temple Beth El, play in fostering community connections.

As you network with the ERC5 Chamber of Commerce, you will have the opportunity to connect with

community members and business leaders who are passionate about supporting one another. Together, we can Learn, grow, and collaborate to elevate our community.

Our event aims to demonstrate how Temple Beth El can serve as a vibrant space for artistic expression, hosting everything from visual art exhibitions to musical performances. By engaging both the members of the Temple and the broader community, we hope to inspire collaborations that support and uplift our local artisans.

The arts are a powerful medium for connection and inspiration, and we invite everyone to explore the opportunities available for showcasing their creativity within our community. If you are interested in attending this exciting event, please register at erc5.com. If you'd like to display your artwork or contribute to the evening, please reach out to us at gbarone@erc5.com.

Coming together to celebrate art, support our local talent, and strengthen the bonds of our community!

Country Bank welcomes Christopher Stevens as First Vice President, Compliance & CRA Officer

WARE – Country Bank, a leading full-service financial institution serving Central and Western Massachusetts, is pleased to announce the appointment of Christopher Stevens as its new First Vice President, Compliance & CRA Officer. Christopher's extensive background in regulatory compliance and community reinvestment will strengthen the Bank's commitment to integrity, customer trust, and community impact.



Our commitment to responsible banking. With decades of experience and a proven ability to navigate complex regulatory landscapes, Christopher's leadership aligns seamlessly with our dedication to the communities we serve and our core values of Integrity, Service, Teamwork, Excellence, and Prosperity."

Christopher brings over 25 years of experience in the financial services industry, including his most recent role as Senior Associate at KPMG in Boston. There, he assisted large financial institutions with their highest-priority consumer compliance initiatives, helping clients strengthen internal audits, monitoring and testing programs, lending reviews, and regulatory remediation.

His extensive professional background includes serving as a retail branch manager, a bank compliance examiner at both state and federal agencies, and a subject matter expert in compliance. He has led numerous compliance reviews covering the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA), Community Reinvestment Act (CRA), Truth in Lending (TIL), the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act (RESPA), Flood Protection Act, Fair Lending (ECOA), and Unfair Deceptive Acts and Practices (UDAAP), among others.

"I am honored to join Country Bank and contribute to its longstanding commitment to its customers and communities," said Christopher Stevens. "I look forward to working with the talented team here to ensure we maintain the highest standards of regulatory compliance and community reinvestment."

Bassie Baron celebrates 10 years of giving back to Rachel's Table

SPRINGFIELD – Most teens celebrate birthdays with gifts, but for the past decade, Bassie Baron has been giving back instead. As she turns 15 this August, Bassie marks a remarkable 10-year tradition: requesting donations of food to Rachel's Table of Western Massachusetts in lieu of birthday presents.

Since the age of 6, Bassie has pledged her birthday to the fight against food insecurity. Each year, she asks friends and family to fill several boxes matching her age—this year, 15 boxes. Once collected, Bassie, alongside Rachel's Table volunteers, helps deliver the donations to one or more of the organization's

65+ partner agencies across Western Massachusetts. "Bassie has made a meaningful dent in local food insecurity for more than two-thirds of her life," said Jodi Falk, Director of Rachel's Table. "Her generosity and leadership are an inspiration to others—especially young people—looking to make an impact."

In addition to her birthday initiative, Bassie organizes food drives at her school and serves as the Vice President of Programming on Rachel's Table's Teen Board. The Teen Board's mission is to alleviate childhood hunger, educate young people about food insecurity, and advocate for food justice

through projects and community engagement. Rachel's Table proudly congratulates Bassie on this 10-year milestone and encourages others to follow in her footsteps. Food drives are simple to coordinate and can be tailored to meet the specific needs of RTWM's partner agencies. To learn how you or your organization can get involved, or know a young person interested in the Teen Board, please contact Rachel's Table at info@feedwma.org or visit www.feedwma.org. Nonperishable items are also accepted at the Springfield Jewish Community Center from August 10-15 in honor of Bassie.

Vendor Craft Fair on Aug. 16

LUDLOW – First Church in Ludlow is excited to be hosting their first Vendor Craft Fair Saturday, August 16 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The rain date will be August 17. There will be a wide variety of vendors with very unique products to offer. Browse through the tents and tables to see wood crafts, jewelry, local

published authors for both children and adults, mouth-watering treats, natural and organic products, art work, Handmade articles for all ages, paper creations, the Dollar Tent, food trucks and much more.

Added bonuses include a Chinese raffle with some fantastic prizes and a special door prize. The Hum-

mingbird Fabric Shop and First Church Bookshop will be open for your browsing pleasure.

The Fair will be set up behind the church at 859 Center Street, Ludlow, MA. Ample parking, including handicap parking is available across the street with police guidance to the fair spots.

Crafters wanted for Nov. 8

LUDLOW – Crafters Wanted for the Rosary Sodality's Saint Nicholas Craft Fair and Raffle on Saturday, November 8, at Christ the King Church, 41 Warsaw Avenue, Ludlow, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The cost is a non-refundable \$40.00 fee for an 8-ft table which will be provided by the church. To reserve a table/s or for more information contact Debbie Martell at 413-547-8739 or Lorraine Bernier at 413-519-7658. Light refreshments will be available.

The Journal Register OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

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- 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
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- Hand Sanitizer
- Expo Markers
- Paper Towels

Drop Off Locations:

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 - Monson Savings Bank
 - Moulton Insurance
 - Hakim Medical Center
 - Dhillon Family Dentistry
 - Ware Town Hall
 - Ware River News
- PALMER**
- J Stolar Insurance Agency
 - AMVETS Post 74
 - Just a Little Craft Store
 - Palmer Restaurant
 - Phish Phriends
 - Life's Memories & More
 - Rocky's
 - Palmer Town Hall
- MONSON**
- The Better Bean
 - Monson Savings Bank
 - TJ's Tavern



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT
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Feline Fun Day

unites community in support of Brimfield Shelter



Ariel Mehler holds a kitten on her shoulder.



Sunny, the kitten, gives an adorably grumpy look.



Lillie Shepherd holds a little kitten in her arms.



A relaxed cat lounges in the lap of someone who paid for five minutes of kitten cuddling time.



Bryzee Candle Co. with owner Bryannah Burchard, shows off one of her best-selling candles.



The raffle basket area attracts a steady stream of visitors checking out the donated prizes.



Sovereign Grace Chapel's information booth where they are selling cookbooks filled with recipes from various church members to fundraise for a new building.



"Here Today, Adopted Tomorrow" shelter sign on display in front of the raffle area.



Jace Carrigan with his booth "Jace's Craft Corner."

Turley Photos by Abigail McCoy

By Abigail McCoy
amccoy@turley.com

MONSON – The spirit of community and compassion filled the air at this year's Feline Fun Day, an eagerly awaited annual event dedicated to supporting Here Today, Adopted Tomorrow and the

Brimfield Cat Shelter. Held in partnership with Westview Creamery, this fourth annual gathering drew a large crowd of local residents, cat lovers, artisans, and families to celebrate and raise funds for the shelter's mission of rescuing and caring for cats in need. Cassandra Estey, vol-

unteer coordinator for Here Today, Adopted Tomorrow, warmly welcomed attendees. "Today's event is really about raising awareness and financial support for the Brimfield shelter," Estey explained. "We have about 60 vendors here, all local businesses and organizations, coming together to

support this great cause."

The day was packed with a variety of activities designed to engage visitors of all ages. Among the crowd favorites was the "Kitten Selfie Station," where for just \$5, guests could enjoy a five-minute cuddle session with some of the shelter's adorable kittens. This unique experience allowed people to connect intimately with the animals while raising funds to support their care. Groups of friends or families could share a cuddle time for \$10, making it an ideal group activity.

Although no adoptions were conducted at the event, due to the kittens' young age and ongoing vaccinations, visitors were encouraged to visit the shelter to meet a wider variety of cats, including older kittens and special needs animals.

Founded in December 2012 by Rachel Max and her mother, Here Today, Adopted Tomorrow has grown steadily in its mission to provide a cage-free, compassionate environment for cats. The shelter is situated on a 29-acre campus, offering plenty of space for animals to roam and recover in a stress-free setting.

Rachel Max, who serves as executive director, spoke passionately about the shelter's commitment to cats with special needs. "We're especially known for our 'Spirit Cats,'" Max said, referring to shy and fearful cats who often struggle in traditional shelter environments. "We also have the Positive Court Program, which helps adopters with medical costs to encourage adoption of special needs cats. These cats need extra love and care, and the community's support is crucial."

This year, Feline Fun Day partnered with Westview Creamery, a beloved local ice cream shop. \$2 from every sale of the event's signature "Calico Cat Sundae" was donated to Here Today, Adopted Tomorrow. The partnership has proven to be a delightful and effective fundraising tool.

"The Creamery has been fantastic to work with," Estey noted. "We've hosted the event there the past few years, and their support has helped us reach so many more people."

The event showcased an impressive array of local vendors, each bringing their own unique products and talents to support the cause.

Amanda Cardenas of Petals and Loops Shop dazzled with her tie-dye and acid bleach-wash T-shirts, blending fashion with spiritual wellness through her offerings of Reiki sessions and crystal healing candles. "Everything I create is made with love and intention," Cardenas shared. Ollie Bourassa, a newcomer vendor, revealed a broad spectrum of crafts, from beadwork made with Perler beads to whimsical resin art and miniature fake cakes. "It's an outlet for me to express myself," Bourassa said. "I love trying new things."

Kelsea Filleul of Crafted Curiosities brought delicate hand embroidery to the event, specializing in animal motifs and meaningful phrases. She highlighted tarot cards as a personal favorite theme.

Other notable vendors included Cliff's Cactus from Holland, offering an assortment of succulents; Lillie Shepherd, a custom clothing designer and wedding dress maker with a background in costume design; and Chainsaw Carvings by Brett, a chainsaw artist with over a decade of experience crafting intricate wood carvings.

Kaitlin of Zencat Creations captivated visitors with her beadwork jewelry collection featuring rings, anklets, earrings, and bracelets; all meticulously crafted to delight cat lovers and fashion enthusiasts alike.

Additionally, a local church group sold cookbooks filled with community-submitted recipes, raising funds to renovate a former manufacturing building into a church space.

Visitors had plenty of chances to support the shelter through raffle ticket sales. The 50-50 raffle tickets were \$10 each, with sheets of raffle tickets available for \$10 or three for \$25. The raffle prizes, generously donated by businesses and volunteers, ranged from gift baskets to handmade crafts.

The event also featured a merchandise booth selling Here Today, Adopted Tomorrow branded apparel and accessories, alongside a local bakery whose proceeds directly supported the shelter.

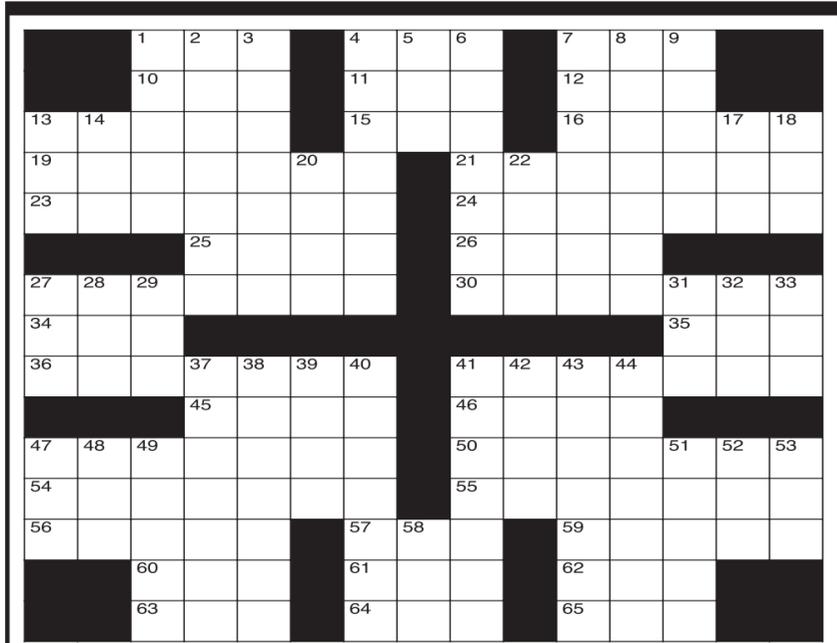
Throughout the event, volunteers and visitors shared stories about their feline companions and the deep bonds that connect humans and animals. Cassandra Estey spoke fondly of her three cats, two of which were adopted from Here Today. "They fight like sisters but are definitely bonded...through a little bit of hate and a lot of love," she joked.

Other attendees described rescuing cats from difficult situations and giving them new lives, emphasizing the importance of community support in ensuring every cat's safety and well-being.

The Palmer Public Library's Top Floor Learning program was also present, providing educational materials and activities related to animal care and local wildlife. "It's wonderful to see so many community organizations coming together for such a worthy cause," said Alex Kimball, a member of the Top Floor Learning Program. "Events like this raise awareness and strengthen community ties."

With Feline Fun Day's continued success, Here Today, Adopted Tomorrow hopes to expand its programs and find forever homes for even more cats in need. Visitors interested in adopting or volunteering are encouraged to visit the shelter's website or stop by in person.

For more information, visit heretodaysanctuary.org.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Auto manufacturer
- 4. The 23rd letter of the Greek alphabet
- 7. Two-year-old sheep
- 10. Member of indigenous people in Asia
- 11. Airborne (abbr.)
- 12. Actress de Armas
- 13. Not moving
- 15. Cool!
- 16. Plants of the arum family
- 19. Perceptible by touch
- 21. Rorschach test
- 23. Monetary units
- 24. Art
- 25. Cardinal number
- 26. Dueling sword
- 27. Hates
- 30. Fixed in one place
- 34. Pie ___ mode

- 35. Moved on foot
- 36. Passenger's spot on a motorcycle
- 41. A way through
- 45. "Rule, Britannia" composer
- 46. Leader
- 47. Flowing
- 50. Common greetings in Arabic countries
- 54. Solution for all difficulties
- 55. Soft clothing fabric
- 56. Building material
- 57. Sea bream
- 59. A way to cause to be swollen
- 60. One and only
- 61. Skin color
- 62. Wreath
- 63. Nevertheless
- 64. They ___
- 65. Sea eagle

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Policemen (French)
- 2. Toy dog
- 3. Inflamed colon disease
- 4. Muscular weaknesses
- 5. Helps little firms
- 6. References
- 7. Takes down
- 8. Facilitates
- 9. One-time empress of the Roman Empire
- 13. Engine additive
- 14. Chemistry solution
- 17. Written account
- 18. Consumed
- 20. Coming after all others
- 22. No (slang)
- 27. Government lawyers
- 28. Super Bowl winner Manning

- 29. Small amount
- 31. A way to save for your future
- 32. A way to travel behind
- 33. Midway between northeast and east
- 37. Head pain
- 38. Loud lawn insect
- 39. Actress Hathaway
- 40. Boat race
- 41. About fish
- 42. Nursemaid in India
- 43. Marketable
- 44. Tinier
- 47. Parts per billion (abbr.)
- 48. Paddle
- 49. Oneness
- 51. Bitter compound
- 52. Not around
- 53. Very fast airplane
- 58. Swiss river

Public notices

Town of Brimfield Public Hearing Notice

In accordance with MGL Ch. 87, Public Shade Tree Law, Sec. 3 (cutting of Public Shade Trees; Hearing Damages) and MGL Ch. 40, Powers and Duties of Cities and Towns, Sec. 15C (scenic roads designation; improvements; fines) the Town of Brimfield Tree Warden and the Planning Board will hold a public hearing regarding an application from the Town of Brimfield to remove public shade trees on Haynes Hill Road. The hearing will be held at **7:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 2, 2025, at the Hitchcock Free Academy 2 Brookfield Rd., Brimfield, MA 01010**. Any person interested in or wishing to be heard on this matter should appear at the time and place designated or may submit a letter to Tree Warden before the hearing so that it may be read into the hearing record. Correspondence should be sent to Tree Warden at 34B Wales Road, Brimfield, MA 01010. The effected trees will be marked at least 7 days prior to this hearing.

The list of 41 Public Shade Trees petitioned for removal are located on Haynes Hill Rd; starting at 42.09314N, 72.21239W (National Grid Pole 67) north to 42.09605N, 72.21199W (National Grid Pole 61). Trees range in diameter from 5.4" to 25.3". The trees designated for removal are marked with a pink ribbon.

Sixteen (16) Oak trees
Twenty-five (25) Maple trees

For more information, please contact

Zach Lemieux
Tree Warden
08/14/2025

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 27, 2025 at 7:00 PM** in the Large Meeting Room, Town Office Building, 110 Main St. Under consideration is a Notice of Intent for a septic system repair within the Buffer Zone of Bordering Vegetative Wetlands for the property located at 4 Thayer Road, identified as Assessor's Map 008, Parcel 021. The owner of the property is the Estate of Lawrence DeBarge.

Submitted by:
Monson Conservation
Commission
08/14/2025

PALMER PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 40A, Section 11, M.G.L. the Palmer Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **Monday, August 25th, 2025, at 7:00 PM** in the Town Administration Building, 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA.

The applicant, Palmer Paving Corporation, also known as Ware St. Sand and Gravel Pit, is seeking a Special Permit as required by section 171.73 of the Palmer Zoning Ordinance to remove earth materials from the property located at 863 Ware Street. This parcel is also known as Assessor's Map 31 Lot 28.

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

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

This notice is also posted on the Massachusetts Newspaper Publishers Association's (MNPA) website (<http://mass-publicnotices.org>).

Norman Czech, Chairman
08/07, 08/14/2025

PALMER PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 40A, Section 11, M.G.L. the Palmer Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **Monday, August 25th, 2025, at 7:10 PM** in the Town Administration Building, 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA.

The applicant, Palmer Paving Corporation, also known as JJC Materials Sand and Gravel Pit, is seeking a Special Permit as required by section 171.73 of the Palmer Zoning Ordinance to

remove earth materials from the property located at 1312 Park Street, Palmer MA, also known as Assessor's Map 7, Lot 13 & Map 56, Lots 78, 79, 80, 83.

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

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

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

Norman Czech, Chairman
08/07, 08/14/2025

PALMER PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 40A, Section 11 M.G.L., the Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **Monday, August 25th, 2025, at 7:20 PM** in the Town Administration Building, 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA.

The applicant, Ruport Realty, Inc., is seeking a Site Plan Approval as allowed under section 171.29 to construct a commercial building with multiple rental spaces available for vehicle and equipment service, maintenance and repair, and retail or office space on the property located at 1524 Park Street, Palmer. These parcels are also known as Assessor's Map 2, Lots 60 & 60-5.

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

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

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

Norman Czech, Chairman
08/07, 08/14/2025

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS HAMPDEN SUPERIOR COURT

Docket No. 2579CV00303

FRANCES BENOIT, et al.

v.

BEECHSTONE CAPITAL

MANAGEMENT,

Q2022, LLC,

ELIEZER SINGER

A/K/A ELLIOT SINGER,

CHARLES SHEMANO

A/K/A CHAIM SHEMANO,

AKIVA FEINSOD and

RAYMON SHEPPARD

v.

QUINEBAUG COVE

CAMPGROUND

COOPERATIVE, INC.

TO: RAYMON SHEPPARD

(now or formerly of Brimfield, Massachusetts, East Hampton, New York, Glens Falls, New York, Saratoga, New York or North Carolina) and all other persons interested;

You are being sued. The Plaintiff(s) named above has started a lawsuit against you. The Plaintiff's Complaint filed against you has been filed in the HAMPDEN SUPERIOR COURT.

A copy of the Complaint may be obtained from the Court's public records at <https://www.masscourts.org/eservices/home.page.6> or from Plaintiff's Attorney at the address below.

YOU MUST ACT PROMPTLY TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS

1. You must respond to this lawsuit in writing. If you do not respond, the Court may decide the case against you and award the Plaintiff everything asked for in the Complaint. You will also lose the opportunity to tell your side of the story. You must respond to this lawsuit even if you expect to resolve this matter with the Plaintiff. If you need more time to respond, you may request an extension from the Court.

2. How to Respond. To respond to this lawsuit, you or your attorney must file a written response with the Court **and** mail a copy to the Plaintiff's Attorney. You can do this by:

a) Filing your signed original response with the Clerk's Office for Civil Business, Hamp-

den Superior Court, PO Box 559, Springfield, MA 01102, by mail, in person, or electronically through the web portal www.eFilema.com **AND**

b) Delivering or mailing a copy of your response to the Plaintiff's Attorney at the following address: Christopher M. Hennessey, Cohen Kinne Valicenti & Cook LLP, 66 West Street, Suite 201, Pittsfield, MA 01201, chenhennessey@cohenkinne.com before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the **1st day of October, 2025.**

3. What to Include in Your Response: An "Answer" is one type of response to a Complaint. Your Answer must state whether you agree or disagree with the fact(s) alleged in each paragraph of the Complaint. Some defenses, called affirmative defenses, must be stated in your Answer or you may lose your right to use them in Court. If you have any claims against the Plaintiff (referred to as "counterclaims") that are based on the same facts or transaction described in the Complaint, then you must include those claims in your Answer. Otherwise, you may lose your right to sue the Plaintiff about anything related to this lawsuit. If you want to have your case heard by a jury, you must **specifically** request a jury trial in your Court no more than 10 days after sending your Answer.

Another way to respond to a Complaint is by filing a "Motion to Dismiss," if you believe that the Complaint is legally invalid or legally insufficient. A Motion to Dismiss must be based on one of the legal deficiencies or reasons listed under **Rule 12 of the Massachusetts Rules of Civil Procedure**. If you are filing a Motion to Dismiss, you must follow the filing rules for "Civil Motions in Superior Court," available at:

www.mass.gov/law-library/massachusetts-superior-court-rules

4. Legal Assistance. You may wish to get legal help from a lawyer. If you cannot get legal help, some basic information for people who represent themselves is available at www.mass.gov/courts/selfhelp.

5. Required Information on All Filings. The "Civil Docket No." appearing at the top of this notice is the case number assigned to this case and must appear on the front of your Answer or Motion to Dismiss. You should refer to yourself as the "Defendant."

WITNESS, Hon. Michael D. Ricciuti, Chief Justice, on 7/23/2025

Laura S. Gentile,
Clerk of Courts
Attorney for Plaintiffs:

Christopher M. Hennessey
COHEN KINNE VALICENTI
& COOK LLP

66 West Street, Suite 201
Pittsfield, MA 01201
413-443-9399

07/31, 08/07, 08/14/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

Hampden Probate

and Family Court

50 State Street

Springfield, MA 01103

(413)748-7758

Docket No.

HD25P1650EA

Estate of:

Ronald A Bigda

Date of Death: 06/20/2025

CITATION ON PETITION

FOR FORMAL

ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Terri Ann Moreau Bigda of Three Rivers, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Terri Ann Moreau Bigda of Three Rivers, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/05/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but

a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED
ADMINISTRATION
UNDER THE
MASSACHUSETTS
UNIFORM PROBATE
CODE (MUPC)**

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: August 08, 2025

Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate

08/14/2025

(SEAL)

**THE COMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT**

**DEPARTMENT OF
THE TRIAL COURT**

Docket Number:

25 SM 002413

ORDER OF NOTICE

To: **Ann Blackburn**

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

U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Credit Suisse First Boston Mortgage Securities Corp., Home Equity Asset Trust 2006-7, Home Equity Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-7

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Monson, numbered 218 Cedar Swamp Road, given by Ann Blackburn to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Accredited Home Lenders, Inc., dated July 10, 2006, and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 16040, Page 201, as modified by a certain modification agreement recorded on December 18, 2017, and recorded with said Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 21993, Page 19 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 **September 22, 2025**, or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, **Gordon H. Piper**, Chief Justice of this Court on August 11, 2025.

Attest:

Deborah J. Patterson

Recorder

28092

08/14/2025

LEGAL NOTICE Town of Holland Public Hearing

Tuesday, August 19, 2025

6:00 PM in the

Holland Town Hall

27 Sturbridge Road,

Holland, MA 01521

FY22/23

Community Development

Block Grant Performance

Union Road Infrastructure

Improvement Project

The Holland Select Board will conduct a public hearing on **Tuesday, August 19, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the Holland Town Hall located at 27 Sturbridge Road, Holland, MA 01521** regarding its FY22/23 CDBG grant performance to include the Union Road Infrastructure Improvement Project. During the hearing, an overview of the project 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.
08/07, 08/14/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Division

Docket No.

HD25P1524EA

Estate of:

Cynthia Lee Maurer

Also Known As:

Cynthia Maurer

Date of Death: May 21, 2025

INFORMAL PROBATE

PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Colin Hanley of Enfield, CT**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Colin Hanley of Enfield, CT 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.
08/14/2025

TOWN OF PALMER TOWN COUNCIL

NOTICE OF PASSAGE

On August 11, 2025, the Palmer Town Council passed Ordinance 2025-03 Z, That the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Palmer, Chapter 171 Zoning, be amended to change the zoning of Map 29 Lot 1 and Map 24 Lot 4 off Palmer Street from Rural Residential (RR) District to Neighborhood Business (NB) District.

Palmer Town Council
08/14/2025

TOWN OF PALMER TOWN COUNCIL

NOTICE OF PASSAGE

On August 11, 2025, the Palmer Town Council passed Ordinance 2025-04 Z, That the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Palmer, Chapter 171 Zoning, be amended to change the zoning of Map 55 Lots 143 and 145 off Park Street from Town Residential (TR) District to Highway Business (HB) District.

Palmer Town Council
08/14/2025

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

LAND COURT

DEPARTMENT OF

THE TRIAL COURT

DOCKET NO. 25 SM 002292

ORDER OF NOTICE

TO: Jason E. Reome

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

Greenway Mortgage Funding Corporation

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Palmer, numbered 1109 Thordike Street, given by Jason E. Reome to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Academy Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns, dated September 11, 2015, and recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 20868, Page 431, as affected by a Loan Modification Agreement dated

July 15, 2020, and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 23724, Page 365, 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 **9/15/2025** 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 7/30/2025.

Attest:

Deborah J. Patterson,

Recorder

08/14/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

Hampden Probate

and Family Court

50 State Street

Springfield, MA 01103

(413)748-7758

Docket No.

HD25P1588EA

Estate of:

Michael J Tilden

Also known as:

Michael Tilden

Date of Death: 02/23/2025

CITATION ON PETITION

FOR FORMAL

ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of**

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MISCELLANEOUS

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TAG SALE

MULTI-FAMILY TAG SALE. Aug. 15-16-17, 8:30am-5pm. 25 Shore Drive, Wales. Households, appliances, collectibles & more.

TAG SALE: AUG. 16TH, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. 162 Breckenridge St., Palmer.

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NEIGHBORLY CLEANING & CARE is looking for mature, responsible adults with own transportation, experience and references for a housekeeping position. Hours 7:30- 2:30. Call Nancy today (413)267-4297 or (413) 544-0864.

SERVERS WANTED
Inquire at **Girly's Grill, 1315 Park St., Palmer, MA 01069** or call 413-284-0005.

The Town of North Brookfield is looking for a **PART-TIME OUTREACH COORDINATOR** for the Senior Center. Please submit a resume with a letter of interest to the **Selectmen's Office, 215 Main St., North Brookfield, MA 01535**; or by email to selectmen@northbrookfield.net.

Town of Blandford
Town of Blandford is hiring a **PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT** to the Assessors. Duties include administrative support for daily operations of the Assessors' office. Pay: \$18-\$20/hr, based on experience. Communication, customer service, organizational, and tech skills required. Send cover letter and resume to: dhopson@townofblandford.com.

HELP WANTED

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WILBRAHAM HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Wilbraham Housing Authority seeks highly qualified applicants for the position of Executive Director. Responsibilities include the administration of 69 Chapter 667 Elderly housing units and 9 Chapter 705 Family housing units. The Executive Director reports to a five-member Board of Commissioners. Work schedule shall be a minimum of 22 hours per week during normal business hours, flexible as needed. The estimated salary range \$46,177.00 To \$54,326.00 is based on the Executive Office of Housing & Livable Communities' Executive Director Salary Schedule. The ideal candidate must have two years' experience in a housing, community development, public administration or a closely related field. Knowledge of the principles and practices of housing management, finances and maintenance systems in public or private housing. Excellent written and verbal communication skills required. Willingness to work with people of various socio-economic backgrounds. Must be bondable. Certification as a Public Housing Manager from an approved organization desired, and may be substituted as a property manager or similar classification by a nationally recognized housing or real estate organization such as an EOHLC-approved Massachusetts Public Housing Administrator Certification Program or HUD. Two-year full time post-secondary education in a related field may substitute for up to one year of experience. Applications will be accepted until 12pm, August 29, 2025. Please submit cover letter, resume and contact information for 3 references to: **Mr. Peter Manolakis, Chairman Executive Director Search Committee, Wilbraham Housing Authority, 88 Stony Hill Road, Wilbraham, MA 01095. Contact: Peter Manolakis (413) 519-8195**
Wilbraham Housing Authority is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Town of Blandford is seeking a fulltime **ASSISTANT TREASURER/COLLECTOR**. Pay range \$29.50-\$37.50/hour. Please visit our website for full job description. Submit resume to **Administrator@townofblandford.com**

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29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
37 Base Price \$34.50	38 Base Price \$35.00	39 Base Price \$35.50	40 Base Price \$36.00

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Attendees line up inside the Holland Public Library waiting for their turn at the design table.



Local Holland Resident, Liza, shows off the henna design crawling up her arm.



Visitors browse and pick out their designs while chatting about the henna process in line.

Henna Art draws crowd



Mandy Roberge from Wicked Good Henna puts a planet and stars on a woman's arm.



The inside of Roberge's case, showing where she keeps her materials and designs when they aren't spread out.



A full selection of designs for participants to choose from.

Turley photos by Abigail McCoy

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HOLLAND – The Holland Public Library was buzzing with activity on Wednesday afternoon, Aug. 6, as more than 60 people gathered for a special henna program, part of the library's popular summer event series. From 4 to 6 p.m., attendees lined up or milled around the library, waiting their turn to have intricate designs painted on their skin by professional henna artist Mandy Roberge of Wicked Good Henna.

The program, funded by the Holland Cultural Council, has become a favorite among residents. According to Library Director Beth Crosby, this is the third consecutive year the library has hosted Roberge for henna art, and the demand has only grown. "It is one of our most popular programs," Crosby said. "We keep bringing Mandy back because people

absolutely love it."

Roberge, who is based in Leicester, has been working professionally as a henna artist for 19 years. In addition to her artistic skill, she has developed a deep knowledge of the history, cultural significance, and preparation of henna. She uses certified henna paste and has traveled widely, learning from the

traditions of different cultures where henna has been practiced for centuries.

"I've been fascinated with the art form from the beginning," Roberge said. "It's a beautiful way to connect with people and share something meaningful."

The event saw steady traffic from families, teens, and adults alike, each ea-

ger to choose a design from Roberge's collection or request a custom piece. The library made sure attendees felt welcome and comfortable, with seating arranged for both those getting henna and those watching. Photography was permitted with permission, and many participants posed proudly to show off their finished

designs.

The henna program is part of the library's expanded summer schedule, which this year includes an extended Summer Reading Program running through August 16. Participants in the reading challenge can continue logging books for another week to earn small prizes.

While Wednesday's

henna session was the last major program for the summer, Crosby said the library is already looking ahead to planning fall events. But for many attendees, the henna day is already penciled in for next year.

"This is everybody's favorite," Crosby said. "We try to do it every year...it's become a tradition."

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