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MONSON

Board honors Grieve

Park re-dedicated

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

MONSON – Last week, the Select Board voted to honor Dave Grieve for his service to the town to coincide with the upcoming park rededication.

On Aug. 21, at 6 p.m., the town will rededicate Dave Grieve Park in honor of its namesake. The event is being organized by Dottie Jenkins, who has been in contact with Grieve's family and the Select Board.

"The Select Board is honoring Dave W. Grieve on his outstanding achievements," read Select Board Clerk R. Keith Valley, who went on to describe Grieve's work as a teacher, administrator, coach, mentor and friend.

"His teaching career began at Monson High School, where he also coached basketball and served as Director of Recreation for many years," Valley said. "Dave served in the U.S. Navy from 1944 to 1946."

Valley also mentioned Grieve's academic career in Springfield College and the University of Connecticut,

PARK | page 16

MONSON



Submitted Photos
Monson artist Alan Morin showcases his work digitally at an event in June. "Taking It All In" will also be displayed at the Louvre Museum.

From Monson to the Louvre

Local artist to display pieces at world-famous museum

By Kevin Flanders
Staff Writer
kflanders@turley.com

MONSON – After Alan Morin finished one of his early acrylic paintings in 2023, he assumed it was

meant only for disposal following the development of cracks during the drying process.

Three years later, "Earthquake in Death Valley" will be displayed – cracks and all – along with

another of Morin's paintings at the world-renowned Louvre Museum in Paris, France.

"I thought it was ruined by the cracks," Morin, a re-

ARTIST | page 22

A message from the Turleys

Dear Reader,

Every week a team of reporters, editors and people who assemble the paper work hard to bring readers information they need to know about their community. It's hard work and we love it.

Our goal is to provide a clear reflection of the community, and share stories about issues and events in your town as well as those about your neighbors, family and friends; in essence, a clear reflection of the community. We provide news that is difficult to find anywhere else.

Turley Publications has been doing so for over 60 years now, and enjoys being an integral part of the community.

Every year we invite residents to join those who already subscribe to the *The Journal Register*, so they too can be informed and join their neighbors in keeping up-to-date on so many aspects of the community. We do that by mailing an issue of *The Journal Register* to everyone in Palmer, Monson, Brimfield, Holland and Wales, on us, so you can see for yourself what types of information we provide.

If you want to know when and why your taxes go up, who is running for election, what successes and challenges are in your school system, what others are doing to make your community a better place, and so much more, we hope you will consider subscribing.

We also value your opinions and ideas. Please let us know what's important to you by picking up the phone and calling us. Let us know if we're meeting your expectations.

You can also call us to let us know about an important event in your family's life. That's why we're here.

We love being a part of this community and maybe even, in a small way, a part of your family.

We hope to be arriving each week at your home holding up that mirror, *The Journal Register*.

Patrick Turley, CEO
Turley Publications, Inc.

MONSON

Select Board approves gifts to town departments

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

MONSON – At last week's Select Board meeting, the town received three requests for Gifts to the Town, from the Police Department, the Council on Aging and the Arts Council.

During the Aug. 11 meeting, Town Administrator Jennifer Wolowicz informed the Select Board that the balance of the gifts account was approximately \$43,000.

Police/Fire barbecue

The first Gifts to the Town request was for \$4,000 to fund Public Safety Night Out. Police Chief Nicholas Gasperini made the request for this year's Police versus Fire Barbecue competition.

"For anybody that doesn't know, the loser has to come and ask for the Gifts to the Town," Gasperini said. "The police department has lost for the last four years."

The barbecue is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 17. The time is set for 3-6 p.m.,

but Gasperini said that it will run from 3-7 p.m. if the police department wins, "because we're going to do a victory lap around town with the trophy."

"It's a great event," Gasprini said.

Gasperini estimated that between the two departments, they serve approximately 300 meals annually. He said that the Gifts to the Town request would pay for bounce houses and the food.

"It's a really nice event, and it doesn't cost the people anything," said Select Board Chair Pat Oney.

The board voted unanimously to approve the request.

Gasperini said the two departments will also host a Late Breakfast on Sept. 14 at the Senior Center. He also recommended the memory care events that the departments arrange with the library and senior center on the first Monday of every month.

BOARD | page 22

THREE RIVERS



Turley Photo by Kevin Flanders
Market guest Brandon, of North Brookfield, is all smiles with Maggie the Clown.

A day at the market

Chamber hosts second event

By Kevin Flanders
Staff Writer
kflanders@turley.com

PALMER – Last week, the Three Rivers Chamber of Commerce held its second installment of Food Trucks, Farmers, and Artisans Markets.

Despite the threat of rain, the Aug. 14 event drew a big crowd to Hryniewicz Park. Dozens of vendors were in attendance, and the event also featured live music, family activities and appearances from community groups.

Earlier this summer, on July 10, the first program of the two-part series was held.

"It's a great event. All of the money we take in for crafting fees goes right back out into the community," said Vicki Baldyga, the treasurer for Three Rivers Chamber of Commerce.

The event also included a school bus provided by J.P. McCarthy Bus Company for the collection of school supplies.

In recent weeks, several local stores have set up collections boxes. All donated supplies will benefit K-12 students at Palmer Public Schools.

"We love to see the community pull together to help the kids have a success-

MARKET | page 19

PALMER

Palmer Town Planner explains Code of Ordinances reorganization

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

PALMER – Last week, Town Council discussed the reorganization of the town's Code of Ordinances.

At the Town Council meeting on Aug. 10, the town held a public hearing for a zoning amendment ordinance.

"This is an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances of the town," read Council President Barbara

Barry. "The purpose of this amendment is to include previously undefined and new uses within the definition section of the ordinance, and to amend and reconfigure six articles of chapter 171, article 7-12, so as to compile all use regulations for the residential, commercial, industrial, and village center zoning districts into a single unified table."

Barry went on to say that the amendment will clarify certain existing uses to ensure that the town's land use con-

trols continue to meet their intended purpose. The amendment will not alter any district boundaries or dimensional requirements.

To further explain the amendments of the ordinance, Town Manager Brad Brothers introduced the council to the interim Town Planner, Maxwell Ballou, who is taking over for Heidi Mannarino, who recently accepted a position with a different town. Ballou has been with the department for over two years, and is

working on a Master's Degree in planning.

"I'm excited to have him," Brothers said. "We felt, for the continuity of the department, and because he has a good background in what's going on, to keep him on an interim basis."

Ballou explained to the council about the department's work with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission on the Code of Ordinances to combine the uses into a single chart that would be easier

to read for both residents and town employees.

"We're not really changing all that much, it's more so just making it more user-friendly for us reading it as staff, and also residents coming in," Ballou said. "There were some uses that were called out, but were never defined, and now we're defining them as well."

Councillor Karl Williams asked who this project would help and who it would hurt. Ballou said that he didn't ex-

pect the changes to hurt anyone, as the primary purpose is to make the Code of Ordinances clearer.

"It really is just reorganizing it into one chart, so it's not in separate different spots in the ordinance; now it will all be in one place," Ballou said.

PLANNER | page 16



Business

Serving up a ‘better’ blend

By Kevin Flanders
Staff Writer
kflanders@turley.com

MONSON – Just a few short years ago, Amanda Roy never would have imagined becoming an established downtown business owner.

Now, three years after opening The Better Bean at 186 Main St., she couldn’t picture being anywhere else.

“Everything just kind of aligned perfectly for this to happen,” said Roy, who grew up in Monson before moving to Plymouth and running a coffee shop for years.

Following a serious ankle injury, Roy returned to her hometown to recover. She opened The Better Bean during this transitional phase in 2023, originally planning to sell her business after she was fully healed.

But then another unexpected turn saw her reconnect with old friend Bill Lemon, who she began dating while running the business.

Before long, her plans to sell the shop were replaced by visions of making The Better Bean a longtime storefront staple.

“It’s so fun to see who walks through the door each day. We often get people who I haven’t seen in years,” Roy said.

The business offers coffee, tea, specialty lattes, cappuccinos, hot chocolate, espresso shots, matcha and a variety of other beverages.

Additionally, breakfast sandwiches, bagels and muffins are always popular selections.

On the lunch menu, build-your-own sandwiches are convenient options for guests on the go. Choose your own bread, meat, cheese, vegetables and condiments.

“We love the relationships we’ve built with our customers. Many of the people working here – we met them because they were



A unique array of offerings.



Amanda Roy, right, is shown with her longest-tenured employee, Trish Kustra.

customers,” said Roy, whose business is now fully staffed. “We all enjoy coming to work every day and building community rapport.”

Last year, just before the holiday season, Roy expanded her business by opening a boutique gift shop in an adjacent space. Aptly known as The Better Bean Boutique, the shop has fit perfectly with her breakfast and lunch operations, allowing customers to browse creative items produced by local crafters while waiting

for their orders.

“I love being able to support local businesses. Monson didn’t have another gift shop, so this was the perfect opportunity,” Roy said.

In total, Roy’s boutique has supported approximately 100 area creators focusing on a range of specialties.

“Our customers have been very excited about what they’ve found here. It’s a great offshoot,” she said.

In addition to the continued momentum her business has seen, Roy is also excited



Amanda Roy, right, took a photo with her mom, Debbie Roy, who works at the shop as a volunteer.

about several recent downtown enhancement projects that bring new customers to Monson. These include a major grant-funded improvement project at Dave Grieve Memorial Park and Gazebo, located across the street from The Better Bean.

Customers can now enjoy their meals and drinks while relaxing in a fully ADA-accessible park.

“I’ve heard nothing but excitement from our customers. They’re thrilled to have a beautiful place to sit, en-



Turley Photos by Kevin Flanders
Owner Amanda Roy showcased The Better Bean Boutique.



A strong lineup of tasty treats.

Skyline Electrical Systems celebrates grand opening in Palmer

PALMER – Skyline Electrical Systems, a new business that specializes in building automation controls, HVAC electrical service, security and life safety system installations and service throughout Massachusetts and Connecticut, in conjunction with the Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce has announced the grand opening of Skyline’s office location at 1420 Main St.

A special ribbon cutting event with area business and civic leaders will be held on Thursday, Aug. 27 at 4 p.m.

Skyline Electrical Systems co-founders, Dan Gomes and Jim Parenteau, have over 50 years of combined experience in both the electrical and building automation industry.

Both Parenteau and Gomes graduated from regional vocational high schools for electrical wiring in 1998.

Gomes pursued degrees at Springfield Technical Community College and American International College in energy systems technology and business with his career in the building automation industry spanning more than 25 years. While Parenteau acquired electrical licenses throughout New England and has led many complex projects within the industry over his 25 plus-year career.

“We are excited to bring our cutting-edge automation systems to the area for smarter, and more efficient buildings and operations,”



Submitted Photo
Skyline Electrical Systems co-founders, Dan Gomes (left) and Jim Parenteau (right) are shown inside their new Palmer office.

stated Gomes and Parenteau in a joint statement. “No job or project is too complex or modest, and we look forward

to meeting and working with local businesses, as well as homeowners to perform electrical work in both the

commercial and residential markets.”

“The Quaboag Hills Chamber is thrilled to welcome Skyline Electrical Systems to the region,” said James Przypek, Chief Executive Officer of the Chamber. “We are especially appreciative to co-owners Dan Gomes and Jim Parenteau for bringing their expertise, vision and dedication to the Quaboag Hills communities, and for selecting Palmer to be their home base of operations.”

The ribbon cutting event will feature presentations from local and elected officials, plus Quaboag Hills Chamber representatives.

Skyline Electrical Systems can be found online at skylineelectricalsystems.com, and contacted via email

at info@skylineelectricalsystems.com, or by phone at 413-316-4466.

About QHMA

Established in 1978 and headquartered in Palmer, the Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce’s purpose is to advance economic growth, interests and tourism for its members through policies, programs and development in the Quaboag Hills region, including the 15 towns of Belchertown, Brimfield, Brookfield, East Brookfield, Hardwick, Holland, Monson, New Braintree, North Brookfield, Palmer, Spencer, Wales, Ware, Warren and West Brookfield.

For more information, visit www.qhma.org, or follow the chamber on Facebook, Instagram or LinkedIn.



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Proceeds To Benefit the Palmer Public Library

Monson Planning Board goes over ADU permit

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

MONSON — At this week's Planning Board meeting, the board went over the requirements for an accessory dwelling unit as part of a hearing for a site plan approval.

On Aug. 18, the Planning Board held a public hearing on Randy Dimitropolis's application for a site plan approval for an ADU in the existing basement of property on Wales Road.

"I'd like to build a 467-square foot basement ADU, possibly for my elderly mother; if not, it will be for rental, if she doesn't take it,"

Dimitropolis said. "I'm going to add a full kitchen and a full bathroom. It's already a walk-out basement. I would add a basement egress window."

Dimitropolis submitted paperwork, and described the planned egress window's dimensions as being 48 by 32 inches, which he said was "well over the 540 square-inch ruling."

"The house itself is 2,388 square feet, so I'm well below that, too," Dimitropolis said. "There's separate parking there as well."

Planning Board Chair Kevin Haley thanked Dimitropolis for the information he provided, and stated that ADUs are allowed by right in residential and recreational

vehicles zoning. His primary suggestion was that the property have an adequate septic system.

"We're currently contracting with Excavation Plus," Dimitropolis said. "I have a 1,500 gallon holding tank right now, but my leach field is only sized for three bedrooms, which is what I have. They're going to add additional lines in the D-Box for a fourth bedroom."

The Fire Department had no comment on the application. Without a design or direction from the Board of Health about the new system, Haley asked Building Commissioner Justin Larivee how to handle this case.

"In the past, typically,

those septic designs would have been provided to the board should they have been already reviewed by the Board of Health," Larivee said. "For the past three permits, the Planning Board has typically followed what the Board of Health might have provided as guidelines."

Larivee recommended the board discuss whether the design meets the general nature and intent of the ADU bylaw. Larivee said that Dimitropolis will still need to get a permit from the Board of Health, but that the Planning Board can include language that other permits need to be satisfied prior to usage of the unit.

"Those types of permits

can happen after the fact," Larivee said, adding that it's a matter of following up with the Board of Health and understanding that the septic permit has been reviewed.

Board Member Craig Sweitzer noted a requirement for contents for a site plan review, reading that "a registered architect, landscape architect, or professional engineer shall prepare all site plans, unless the requirement is waived by the Planning Board."

Sweitzer asked Dimitropolis if he was seeking a waiver, and Dimitropolis said he would pursue it if necessary. Haley asked that Dimitropolis submit a request for the waiver in writing, and

then the board would vote on it.

"It's pretty simple what you want to do," Sweitzer said. "The building is existing, and I think the board would certainly take that under consideration. And we would probably consider a waiver, but we don't have all the information to make a decision on."

Because the application was submitted without a site plan, a septic plan, or a parking plan, the board voted to deny the waiver based on the documents submitted, and Dimitropolis was encouraged to request a continuance at the next Planning Board meeting, on Sept. 15 at 7 p.m. at Granite Valley Middle School.

Monson lists early voting dates

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

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

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

The State Primary election will take place on Tuesday, Sept. 1. Polling hours are 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

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

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

Outdoor pop-up market to be held Saturday

Supporting small businesses

By Kevin Flanders
Staff Writer
kflanders@turley.com

PALMER — Area small business leaders are teaming up with artisans and vendors to support shopping local.

Linea Lamothe, of Antique Junction in town, organized an outdoor Vintage Pop-Up Market that will take place on Saturday, Aug. 22.

Set for 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Antique Junction, 1294 South Main St., the event will feature dozens of vintage vendors, artisans, makers and small businesses.

Their goal is to use the market to support and promote the entire Palmer business community.

"As a small business ourselves, we know how important it is to support one another," Lamothe said. "This event isn't just about bringing people to one location — it's about introducing visitors to everything Palmer has to offer and encouraging them to explore our antique shops, restaurants and local businesses."

In addition to the market itself, Antique Junction's sister company, Bygone Excursions, will bring guests on a vintage shopping trolley tour throughout the day.

The tour will stop at the market, as well as several local antique shops. The owners of these neighboring stores are encouraged to display event flyers and hand out their business cards at the event.

"When we work together and celebrate each other's

successes, we create a stronger community for everyone," Lamothe added. "Palmer has a unique story to tell. Our community has a rich railroad heritage and has also become an antique hub in western Massachusetts, with numerous antique shops, vintage stores and locally owned small businesses. We want to showcase everything that makes Palmer a destination worth visiting."

Community members have shown strong enthusiasm for the event, with more than 600 social media users already expressing interest.

"We're excited about the opportunity to showcase Palmer as a destination for antiques, shopping, dining, history and supporting local entrepreneurs," Lamothe said. "Our hope is that visitors spend the entire day discover-

ing Palmer, shopping locally, dining at our restaurants, and experiencing the charm of our historic railroad town."

Residents and business owners alike are looking forward to the event, which will also encourage tourism and celebrate local history.

Additionally, the Vintage Pop-Up Market will take place on the same day as Palmer's annual Lemonade Day event. The combination of the two programs is expected to draw even more guests to town.

At Antique Junction, Lamothe and her team are looking forward to a special fusion of the events.

"We'll have two young entrepreneurs participating by selling fresh, ice-cold lemonade," Lamothe said. "I think it's a wonderful addition to the event and a great way to

encourage and support the next generation of small business owners."

Added Lamothe, "We'll also have Cookies by Ray from Monson, serving their award-winning homemade cookies. And One Eye Wanda Coffee Company from Wilbraham will be on site, serving fresh coffee and offering their locally roasted coffee for purchase."

Lamothe's sister, Scarlet Lamothe, will operate Bygone Excursions on the day of the market. The antique trolley tour will begin at the Vintage Pop-Up Market at Antique Junction before taking guests on a guided journey to several local antique shops.

To learn more about the tour, or to secure tickets, visit the Bygone Excursions website: www.bygoneexcursions.com.



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Viewpoints

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Reader supports candidate Fenton for Governor's Council

Dear Editor,

As a resident of Chicopee and a lawyer, I am proud to support Attorney Michael A. Fenton for Governor's Council.

The Governor's Council plays an important role in Massachusetts by reviewing judicial nominations and helping ensure that the people chosen to serve on our courts have the qualifications, judgment and temperament necessary for these important positions.

These decisions affect our communities for generations, and Western Massachusetts and Chicopee needs someone with the experience and understanding to take on that responsibility.

Mike understands our legal system and the importance of having fair, qualified judges who understand the communities they serve.

He also understands that Western Massachusetts deserves a strong voice in state government. That is particularly important to Chicopee, where we have a District Court.

I support Mike because I believe he will bring thoughtful judgment, independence, and a commitment to public service to the Governor's Council. He will work to ensure that our cities like Springfield, and Chicopee, are heard and that the people appointed to our courts reflect the values of our community.

community.

Mike has demonstrated throughout his career that he cares about the people and communities he serves. He understands the challenges facing cities throughout Hampden County. He will bring that perspective with him to the Governor's Council.

This election is an important opportunity to choose someone with the experience, character, and commitment necessary to represent Western Massachusetts. I hope you will join me in voting for Attorney Michael A. Fenton for Governor's Council in the Democratic primary.

Michael Pise
Chicopee

POETRY CORNER

Needing No Address

*I can't get you out of my ears, or want to -
The trees are filled with fortissimo,
Where you dwell unseen in the night dew .*

*From you it sounds like all night play -
Up in those leafy boughs, 'til the break of day:
The nod-and-wait roundelay.*

*Its pitch and pace set to the heat,
As if you my summer would regulate;
And colder shapes a just-barely-going beat.*

*These mist-shrouded hours that I see as best,
Far from the world, to life loves test,
Is never to see what is thought of without rest.*

*But little self you must know most clearly,
When all it was, that was our joy,
Was Time that takes all our toys away;*

*And turn to watching the way winds blow,
When its you and the summer we must let go,
Leaving lonely echoes, - and then, snow.*

– Charles Barnes

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor

I worked for my ex-husband but wasn't paid and now have little Social Security – What are my options?

Author note: This is article number 500 in the AMAC Foundation's "Ask Rusty" series of Social Security articles, which have been published nationwide every week since February 2017. "Ask Rusty" is provided free of charge as an integral part of the AMAC Foundation's mission to "support and educate America's seniors." If you would like to help the AMAC Foundation fulfill its mission, charitable donations are graciously accepted at <https://amacfoundation.org/donate/>.

Dear Rusty:

Sadly, I was in business with my ex-husband.

I'm a nurse and he was a chiropractor. He refused to pay me "on the books" and now, at age 73, after divorcing him due to his financial irresponsibility. (I don't want to burden you with the thefts that he perpetrated), I am stuck with a small \$773 Social Security payment each month.

At age 73 I am now faced with having to go back into the workforce. Is there anything I can do to prove that I worked 40 years for my husband, but wasn't paid?

Signed:
Distressed Divorcee

Dear Distressed:

We are so sorry to hear of your unfortunate circumstances. Assuming your ex-husband is now collecting Social Security retirement benefits or is at least eligible to if you are divorced at least two years, you should be able to collect an ex-spouse benefit as his former wife.

In that case, you would be entitled to receive 50% of the Social Security benefit he was entitled to at his own Full Retirement Age because he and you were married for over 10 years.

The way that will work is that you would continue to receive your personally-earned \$773 monthly Social Security retirement amount earned from other employment, but you would also be entitled to a supplemental "spousal boost" to bring your payment up to half of the SS payment amount your ex-husband is entitled to at his SS Full Retirement Age.

In other words, because you were married to your ex for more than 10 years, you are entitled to the same Social Security benefits as

though you were still married. That is true, even if he has remarried and his new wife is also getting a spouse benefit from his record.

You will still be entitled to an ex-spouse benefit from your ex-husband as his former wife. And if he dies before you, as a surviving ex-spouse you will get the same Social Security benefit he was receiving at his death, instead of the smaller amount your will get while you are both living.

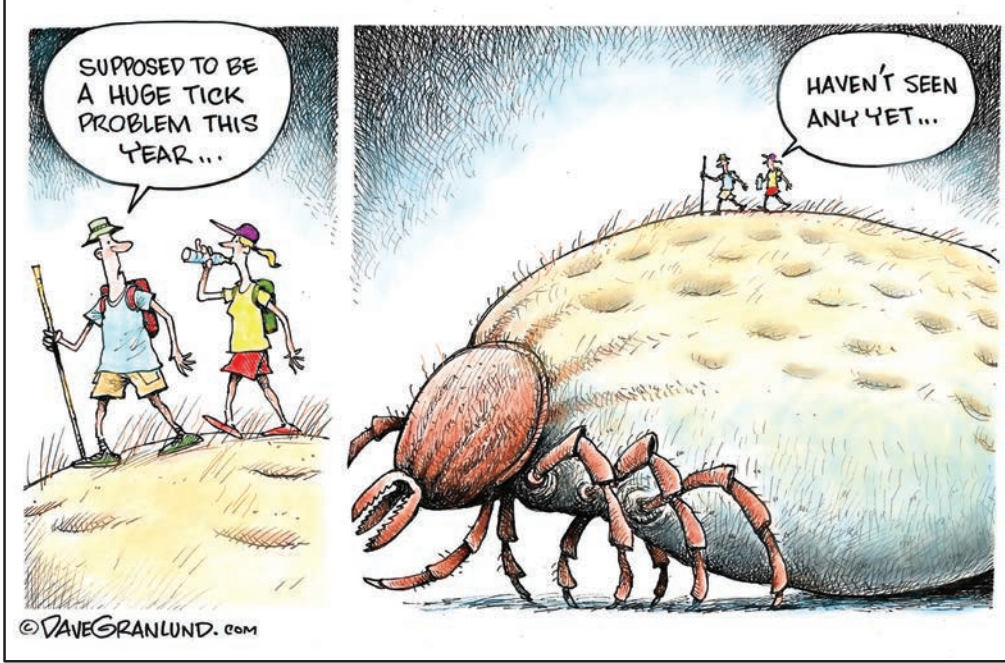
Regarding rejoining the workforce, while you can certainly go back to work at age 73 without it negatively affecting your Social Security benefits, if you are struggling financially, I suggest you visit this website sponsored by the National Council on Aging: www.benefitscheckup.org.

At this website, you can enter your zip code and find much information about other supplemental assistance you may be entitled to where you live, including health-care and medication assistance, housing, nutritional assistance, etc.

Regarding your question: "Is there anything I can do to prove that I worked 40 years and wasn't paid?" Social Security determines benefits based solely on your personal earnings as reported to the Internal Revenue Service, which is, in turn, dependent on how your joint income taxes were filed over the years you worked in your husband's business.

Social Security is unable to assist you with IRS matters. I'm afraid yours is more of a legal matter you would need to pursue by discussing your situation directly with the IRS or engaging an attorney for assistance.

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



The Garden Lady talks weeds and seeds

I came back from vacation and was shocked as to how much the garden had grown.

Crops were ready to be harvested and weeds that were merely inches tall had grown by leaps and bounds! Of course, we did have nearly a half foot of rain that week, and this probably played a part in such exuberant growth.

Read on to learn how indiscriminate watering by Mother Nature can mean weeds, weeds and more weeds. Why such a growth spurt? Because just like other seeds, those of our least favorite weedy plants need both sunlight and water in order to germinate and grow well.

When we water on purpose, we can direct the rain where we'd like – usually at the base of the plant. Unfortunately, rainfall that lands on a brick path, the garden aisle, and also in between plants within the row can cause a lot of weeds to sprout.

Hand weeding and hoeing are both great exercise, and the best option for otherwise bare areas of young weeds.

Many gardeners make the mistake, however, of hoeing too deeply and exposing more weed seeds to sunlight. Try to just scrape the surface of the soil.

Stirrup hoes are particularly effective, skimming across the soil and severing the stems of weeds at the root line as they go. Very tall weeds can be cut down by



use of garden shears, scissors or a week whacker, depending on the size of the area.

Once cut back, you can cover the whole area with a tarp, or black plastic to fry what was underneath, killing weed seed.

In the future you can use mulch to reduce the amount a weeding you have to do – it will also help to conserve soil moisture in years that rainfall isn't so plentiful. Mulch doesn't have to be expensive – it can be as simple as a "biscuit" of spent hay, a few sheets of newspaper secured with stones, pine needles or grass clippings – as long as these materials are applied thick enough to exclude light, weed seeds should not sprout.

Sometimes I will put a layer of corrugated cardboard down first, wet it then add the mulch on top. It really seems to make a difference having that preliminary layer to keep light out.

This may be an unlikely pairing for this column, but there are plants that we desire to grow this time of year, and they are cover crops. Cover crops add lots of organic matter to the soil when incorporated in during the spring or summer months.

While winter rye is the standard, you can grow oats,

too. If sown right now, oats will germinate but die back as soon as frost hits.

Leave the plants in place, though, and they will prevent erosion by holding onto the soil with their roots. Plant parts can be incorporated come spring time.

In preparation for sowing cover crop seed, the soil surface should be scuffed up so that the seeds will make good contact with earth. Once prep is complete I rake the soil smooth and broadcast the grain, first throwing the seed in one direction and then the other.

It's a good idea to divide the seed in half and try to cover all the area you have once, then go back and fill in the light spots with the rest. After the seed has been sown I'll drag the flat end of a steel rake over the soil surface to bury it ever so slightly.

My goal is to have the seed sprout now, so that its roots will hold the soil and its nutrients in place over the off season.

Winter rye will put on an amazing amount of top growth by spring – weed whack or mow it first to make incorporating easier.

I am also contemplating "tarping" it to solarize the soil at the same time, then working in the dead plants by hand.

Either way, if you do this for a few years in a row you'll watch the organic matter content of your soil soar, reportedly at a rate of three to four thousand pounds per acre!

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

The Journal Register

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Dan Flynn
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SPORTS EDITOR

Greg Scibelli
sports@turley.com

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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:

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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.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

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

UPCOMING

VENDORS FOR THE BAYSTATE WING HOSPITAL GIFT SHOPPE

September Vendors

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

ONGOING

WALES CHURCH FARMER'S MARKET: Located in the church pavilion across from the post office on the cor-

ner of Route 19 and Monson Road. The farmers market is open every Saturday morning from 9 a.m.-noon beginning on Memorial Day weekend and running until Labor Day weekend. Offerings include homemade baked goods, local honey, crafts, flea market items, antiques and fruits and vegetables when in season. Vendors are welcome and there is no charge to set up a table.

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

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

KEEP HOMESTEAD MUSEUM: Located at 35 Ely Road, Monson, nature trails are open daily until dusk for hiking, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. Trail maps can be found in the parking lot. For more information call 413-267-4137, email 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 AMETS Post at 2150 Main St., Three Rivers. The Guild is a no-pressure group with varying degrees of accomplishments, from novice to Big E "Best In Show" winners. Dues are \$55 a year. Follow them on Facebook for more information.

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

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

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

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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Professor presents ‘Understanding Drought and Water Supplies’

BELCHERTOWN – As drought conditions become an increasingly familiar part of life in Massachusetts, residents will have an opportunity to learn more about how drought develops, how it affects local water supplies, and what the future may hold.

A free public presentation will be held on Thursday, Aug. 20, at 6:30 p.m. in the Belchertown Town Hall Auditorium hosted by the Belchertown Conservation Department.

The program, “Understanding Drought and Water Supplies” will be presented by Professor Konstantinos (Kostas) Andreadis of the University of Massachusetts Amherst, whose research focuses on hydrology, water resources, drought and climate impacts.

Designed for homeowners, residents and anyone interested in understanding where their water comes from, the presentation will explain the science behind drought in clear, practical terms. Topics will include how Massachusetts defines the different stages of drought, why droughts have become more frequent in recent years, and what scientists expect as the climate continues to change.

Andreadis will also discuss the differences between surface water and ground-

water systems, why each responds differently to drought, and how water managers evaluate long-term and short-term impacts on water supplies.

Additional topics will include aquifers, seasonal groundwater recharge from rainfall and snowmelt, well fields, deep and shallow wells, artesian wells and how public water supply systems collect, store and distribute drinking water.

“With all the changes in weather we have been having, we felt that this would be a great presentation to help everyone understand how these changes affect their water supply, whether it is wells or reservoirs,” said Belchertown Conservation Administrator Julie Meyer. “Regular droughts are just now a fact of life, and we need to plan and prepare for their impacts.”

Whether residents rely on a private well or a municipal water system, the program will provide valuable insight into the factors that influence water availability and help explain the science behind the drought conditions affecting communities across the Commonwealth.

The presentation is free and open to the public. Questions from attendees will be welcomed following the presentation.



The Quabbin Reservoir is shown at full capacity.

Submitted Photos



The Quabbin Reservoir is currently over 10 feet below full capacity.

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Keep Homestead Museum offering Sept. 13 program

MONSON – A program focused on maintaining healthy ecosystems will be held at the Keep Homestead Museum, 35 Ely Road, next month.

Slated for Sunday, Sept. 13, the open house will feature Carolina Munoz-Agudelo, Director of Public Programs and Research at Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary.

Munoz-Agudelo will present her program “Ecosystems in Action: Restoring Nature, One Watershed at a Time.”

The PowerPoint presentation will highlight the importance of biodiversity; the roles of native plants and animals; and how watershed restoration

benefits both wildlife and local communities.

The program will focus on how healthy ecosystems function, as well as the effects that occur when they are disrupted. Guests will also learn about practical ways to support conservation in our community.

The free program will start at 1:30 p.m. The session is open to the public.

Visitors are also welcome to tour the museum from 1-3:30 p.m. Guests will be able to view new button displays and enjoy refreshments.

For more information about the museum, visit www.keephomesteadmuseum.org.

Sound therapy sessions available

BRIMFIELD – Hitchcock Academy will host a series of sound therapy sessions on Saturday evenings.

The sessions will take place from 6-7:30 p.m. on select evenings. Each session is offered at a cost of \$20 per person.

Dates for the sessions include Aug. 22 (stability and balance); Sept. 19 (stress management); Oct. 17 (immune defense); and Nov. 14 (dealing with life challenges, loss and grief).

Sound therapy aims to utilize aspects of music, tones and notes to improve physical, emotional and mental health.

“Throughout history, music has been used in many ways – to boost morale, promote productivity, and support healing. The healing powers of sound are vast and mostly untapped in today’s society,” read a statement released by Hitchcock Academy.

“Recent research has linked sound and music to a number of health benefits, including boosting immune function, lowering stress levels, and improving the health of premature babies.”

During the stability and balance session on Aug. 22, specially formatted vibrational sounds will support the systems of the body and their relationships.

The Sept. 19 session will focus on stress management.

“All living things experience stress. The goal is not to eliminate stress but to mitigate its effects on our physical and mental wellness,” said session facilitator Alora Heffernan. “Without proper management, stress can lead to imbalances and produces opportunities where diseases can develop.”

Well-timed for flu season, the Oct. 17 session will focus on immune defense.

“The immune system is a complex network of organs, cells, and proteins that defend the body while protecting the body’s own cells,” read a statement released by event facilitators Pat and Ken Wheelock.

“This system defends us from invading microbes and supports overall disease resistance from more chronic illnesses such as cancer. Stressors, such as lifestyle, medications, and environment can destabilize the system, causing imbalances and reducing its ability to protect the body.”

On Nov. 14, a session focused on life challenges, loss, and grief will be held.

“This therapy uses specific vibrational patterns and tones to soothe and nourish both the organs and nervous system in the processing of our emotions, thus providing support through high impact stress experiences,” read the statement released by Hitchcock Academy.

Pat and Ken Wheelock are bodywork practitioners based in Three Rivers. Their practice spans acupuncture, Reiki, herbal studies, sound therapy, color therapy, and aromatherapy.

Certified practitioners since 2008, the Wheelocks have spent over 15 years studying, practicing, and teaching the healing arts.

Alora Heffernan is a certified Reiki master and certified meditation teacher. Her work focuses on such non-invasive modalities as guided meditation, Reiki, and sound therapy.

Event participants are encouraged to bring a yoga mat or folding camp chair.

To learn more about the sessions, visit www.hitchcockacademy.org.

Hitchcock Academy is a community center located at 2 Brookfield Road.



Palmer Senior Center

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

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

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

Movie Matinee

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

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

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

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

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

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

Aug. 31 - Fall craft with Kim.

Activities

Aug. 25 – Volunteer Luncheon. This event is by invitation. If you have not received an invitation and feel you

should have, please contact Marlene on extension 1.

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

Upcoming Events

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

Palmer Town Clerk announces early voting information

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

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

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

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

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Bondsville author has book launch at Palmer library

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

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

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

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

Fine societal distinctions are made: Polish Catholics and French-Canadian Catholics, the two majorities in her village, each



Suzanne Strempek Shea

have their own churches and their own schools, even their own funeral homes.

At Strempek Shea’s school – known in the village as “Polish school” – the most important grade was for conduct.

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



present.

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

Library hosts ‘After-Hours’ lock-in for young readers

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

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

In order to receive an invitation to the party, area kids

were challenged earlier this summer to read 40 or more hours through the Palmer Public Library’s Summer Reading Program.

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

Activities will take place throughout the library. Registered participants are en-

couraged to bring their own blankets, pillows, pajamas and toiletries.

Registration for this event opens on Saturday, Aug. 15, at 12:15 a.m. Youngsters ages 10 and 11 can party at the library until 11 p.m. Participants ages 12-17 are welcome to sleep over at the library. A parent/guardian permission slip and registration are required for attendance. The library is located at 1455 North Main St. To learn more about upcoming activities at the library, visit www.palmerlibrary.org.

Monson Together to host golf tournament

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

Set for Saturday, Aug. 22 at Quaboag Country Club, the event will benefit Roots of Remembrance,

toy drives, senior gift bags and the Monson Community Cupboard.

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

Two tee times will be offered (8 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

A total of 15 teams will take part in each tee time.

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

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

Ware Grange Fair returns on Aug. 28-29

WARE – The Ware Grange Fair will be held on Friday, Aug. 28 and Saturday, Aug. 29 at the Grange Hall on Route 9, 297 Belchertown Road.

This year’s fair will feature a fun dog show, Kids’ Corner workshop, children’s field events, games, raffles, bake sale, live music, a barbecue dinner and an auction. Exhibits may be entered on Thursday, Aug. 27 from 5-7 p.m. or Friday, Aug. 28 from 9-11 a.m.

The exhibit hall opens to the public Friday evening from 5-7 p.m., and there

will be a bake sale, raffles and penny sale. The fair continues on Saturday with exhibit hours from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., and various events throughout the day.

An auction of fruits, vegetables, baked items, etc., will begin at 6 p.m. Raffle and penny sale winners will be drawn after

A barbecue dinner will be held from 4-5:30 p.m.

For more information, details on exhibiting, or to make reservations for the barbecue, call 413-284-1135 or visit waregrange.org.

Zonta Club hosts golf tournament Sept. 12

BELCHERTOWN – The 32nd annual Zonta Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, Sept. 12 at Cold Spring Country Club, 330 Chauncey Walker St., to help create a brighter future for women and girls in the community.

Whether you’re a seasoned golfer or just looking for a fun day out, everyone is welcome. Your support directly funds scholarships and grants that empower women and girls to overcome challenges and achieve their full potential.

Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley is working to end child

marriage, domestic violence, and human trafficking, while also supporting climate justice, education equality and women in decision-making positions.

Tee off will be at 8:30 a.m. for a day of fun, friendly competition and making a difference. The registration fee of \$120 includes a round of golf, a box lunch and the chance to win prizes.

Sign up today at zontaqv.org/golf or contact Mary Knight at 413-323-4806. Zonta Club also welcomes sponsorships from local businesses.

‘Burial Grounds of Palmer’ presentation planned for fall

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

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

In addition to this presentation, Comeau will host

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

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

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

This program is free, but registration is requested.

MPS

MONSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Monson Public Schools Offers Meals at No Cost for Students

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Summer, Sounds, & Sparks at Old Sturbridge Village

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

STURBRIDGE – Continuing to celebrate America 250, Old Sturbridge Village hosted Summer, Sounds, & Sparks this past Saturday.

The event featured food, drinks, games and crafts for families to enjoy as they traveled to the countryside of the village for the main festivities.

For the first time in over 10 years, Old Sturbridge Village reintroduced fireworks as 2026 marked a special year for not only the village, but the entire U.S.

The event began with a performance of the National Anthem by the Old Sturbridge Village Singers with Thomas Hopkins conducting.

The next performance was by Songs of Liberty. The Minuteman for the Songs of Liberty, James Perlas, came up to talk about how many revolutionary songs carried through the area during the time of the American Revolution.

The group began by performing “The Liberty Song”, originally written in 1768 by John Dickinson, who set out to reflect on the political strife caused by the Townshend Acts of 1767. Dickinson later joined the Pennsylvania Militia during the Revolutionary War.

The Songs of Liberty highlighted the saying, “United we stand, by dividing we fall”.

Perlas talked about the history behind these patriotic songs and the freedom movement of the 1770s.

In 1772, the notable song “Amazing Grace” was written by John Newton, which was inspired after experiencing a violent storm at sea.

Other songs include a cover of “Our Town” and “Yankee Doodle”.

Perlas said this song was originally intended to mock the American Colonies, but “ends up inspiring them.” The performance of “Yankee Doodle” included some audience participation.

The music didn’t stop with Songs of Liberty; next to perform was the Sturbridge Martial Band. This traditional drum and fife corps perform regularly at Old Sturbridge Village and played some patriotic tunes for the audience relaxing in the countryside.

To bring sparks to the event, the Old Sturbridge



Turley photos by Ryan Drago
The Old Sturbridge Village Singers performed during Summer, Sounds, & Sparks.

Village Militia were set up in the field beyond the countryside for a cannon and musket demonstration. The Militia alternated with a series of musket fires, followed by cannon fire.

The Old Sturbridge Village Singers returned to the stage for another performance to honor those who served.

During one of the performances, veteran Darrel Hopkins came up to sound off all the U.S. military branches while the Singers and band performed military themed music. Hopkins has also been a volunteer at Old Sturbridge Village for over 25 years.

Thomas Hopkins sang in honor of the late Tom Kelleher, a beloved member of the Old Sturbridge Village community. Kelleher served the village in countless roles for over 40 years.

The Old Sturbridge Village Singers performed a song they have been playing at the village for 23 years, “America”.

The event reached its finale with a display of fireworks to cap off a wonderful evening of celebrating the nation and its 250th anniversary year.

More programs at Old Sturbridge Village can be found at www.osv.org.



Summer, Sounds, & Sparks ended with a fireworks.



Thomas Hopkins of the Old Sturbridge Village Singers performed a song as a dedication to the late Tom Kelleher, a beloved member of the Old Sturbridge Village Community.



The Old Sturbridge Militia conducted a cannon and musket demonstration.



The Sturbridge Martial Band is shown during its fife and drum performance.



The Sturbridge Martial Band marched its way through the village as Summer, Sounds, & Sparks was about to begin.



Songs of Liberty performed revolutionary songs as Old Sturbridge Village continued to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the U.S.



The Old Sturbridge Village Singers performed the National Anthem.



Veteran Darrel Hopkins sounded off the branches of military during the Old Sturbridge Village Singer's performance.



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Learning by Traveling

By Sam O'Connor
A senior at Quabbin
Regional High School

In April of 2026, I had the incredible opportunity to go to Europe for just over a week, visiting Poland and Germany.

While there, my main mode of transport was by bus, from which I got to see countless windmills towering overhead, and off in the distance, plots of solar fields, both providing energy for the lights shining in each town we passed.

Renewable energy sources like wind and solar are much better for both the environment and the atmosphere, as they replace the use of fossil fuels and are not in limited supply.

The burning of fossil fuels emits massive amounts of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. Greenhouse gases trap the sun's warmth inside our atmosphere, slowly increasing the average temperature of the planet, which in turn causes issues like irregular and extreme weather.

By turning instead to renewables, which create far fewer emissions, Germany is mitigating its impact on the



environment.

Over the past few decades, Germany has taken many steps to reduce its emissions. As of 2025, the country came closer to a huge milestone in its journey away from non-renewables than ever before – nearly half of all energy produced was done via renewable means.

With a grand total of 42% of energy being generated by either wind, solar, biomass, or other forms of renewable energy, Germany's "Energiewende" (meaning "energy transition" in English) has been a great success thus far.

This, compared to the United States' 9% of energy being generated by renewable means, is very impressive, and certainly something worth taking notes from.

Solar and wind are al-

ready being used in many parts of the U.S., but not to their full capabilities.

While Massachusetts has provided incentives to its residents to switch to renewable sources like solar, our biggest renewable source, few other states have done the same. And even with these incentives, only 17.3% of Massachusetts energy is derived from renewable sources.

Our state's percentage of renewable energy is nearly twice that of the U.S. average, but this is not nearly enough to stop climate change.

Countries like Germany, which have much higher percentages of renewable energy than the U.S., should be looked to as a model for how we should work toward reducing our impacts on the planet.



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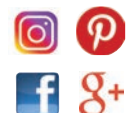


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Photography highlighted *'through the lens'*

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – The ArtWorks Gallery, located at 69 Main St., hosted the opening reception of the new photography exhibit, “Through the Lens: Presence and Absence.”

Serving as the juror of the exhibit was fine art photographer, educator and archivist, James Gehrt. His work in photography focuses on ordinary subjects and is mostly in black and white.

Gehrt teaches photographic archives in the graduate program at Simmons University and serves as Corporate Archivist at MassMutual.

Gehrt entered some of his photographs into the “Through the Lens” exhibit. One of them is an owl photograph he calls “Harvard Owls” from his long-term project, Seat of the Muses.

His project began with photographs he made in museums back in the 1990s. He would photograph museum

objects, specimens, architecture, reflections, display cases, shadows and much more.

He recently began reinterpreting some of his photographs through wet-plate collodion, which creates large ambrotypes on glass by projecting an image through the process lens onto a sensitized glass plate.

These wet-plate collodion ambrotypes could be seen at the “Through the Lens” exhibit. This style of photography is a collaboration of technology, 19th century chemistry, museum history, and Gehrt’s own archive.

The Best in Show photograph was “The Second Story of Hope” by Stephen Johnas. The photograph was taken by Johnas in the location of Guánica, Puerto Rico.

The Best Black and White photo went to Joanne Holtje for her entry “Ferry”. Though her work in photography was recognized at the “Through the Lens” exhibit, Holtje admitted that her most common art medium is paint.

“I don’t consider myself a photographer,” Holtje said.

Her skills with photography



AT LEFT: Joanne Holtje is shown alongside her work, including “Ferry”, which was selected as Best Black and White photograph in the “Through the Lens: Presence and Absence” exhibit.

Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

INSET, BELOW: Best Color went to Vern Mcclish who entered the archival inkjet print of “Abandoned Machine Shop”.



were picked up when she would regularly take photographs during walks. Her black and white photograph, “Ferry”, was taken during a ferry trip to Martha’s Vineyard.

Holtje’s second photograph displayed below the award-winning photograph was also in black and white and is a shot of a street in Co-

hasset. Holtje’s art studio is based out of Holyoke and she has exhibited her work in art galleries throughout western and central Massachusetts.

Rose Grant of Ware had a couple of her photographs entered into the “Through the Lens” exhibit. Grant has been a photographer for 10 years and said she has been taking a lot more pictures after being “gifted with a really nice camera.”

One of her photographs was originally a colored photograph but was done in black and white. Her photo is a winter landscape picture of a street in Hardwick and is called “Hardwick Morning”.

Her other entry was a colored photo called “Foggy Westport”, an image of a highway in Westport where the fog suddenly be-

gan to build up. Grant’s most common subject in her photographs is birds.

The “Through the Lens: Presence and Absence” exhibit can be viewed on Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4 p.m. now through Sept. 13. More information can be found at workshop13.org.



The juror of the exhibit James Gehrt entered a couple photos for the exhibit. This is his wet-plate collodion ambrotype called “Harvard Owls (from Seat of the Muses)”.



Best in Show was “The Second Story of Hope” by Stephen Johnas, a photograph he took in Guánica, Puerto Rico.



Rose Grant’s photograph titled “Foggy Westport” which she captured on the highway in Westport.



“Hardwick Morning” by Rose Grant.

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FOOTBALL

Leonatti hopes to lead team back to varsity status

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

PALMER – If Joseph Leonatti had not met his girlfriend, Chelsea Flamand, while they were students at the University of New England, he probably wouldn't be the first-year head coach of the Palmer High School junior varsity football team.

Leonatti, who was born in Las Vegas, spent most of his life living in Coral Springs, Florida. He played high school football at Coral Springs Charter School before moving 1,000 miles north to Biddeford, Maine.

"I met Chelsea at the University of New England, and her family has lived in Ware for many years. She has told me all about the rivalry between Ware and Palmer High School," Leonatti said. "We also lived in Missouri for two years after graduating from college before moving to Ware."

While living in Missouri, Leonatti worked in the Kansas City Royals sales department.

"I sold single game tickets and season tickets," Leonatti said. "I met a lot of great people there. It was an awesome experience for me."

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Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Aaron Gasque gets a layup under pressure.



Dominic Venneri goes for the layup.



Mason Cowher takes a free throw.

BASKETBALL

Youth basketball wraps up

BELCHERTOWN – The Spec Pond Summer Basketball League held playoff held the first week of August, utilizing a few sites in addition to the courts at Spec Pond. Palmer, a 7-8 team, were involved in a matchup held in Belchertown at Chestnut Hill Community School.



Dominic Venneri makes his way down the court.

BASEBALL

Forge Baseball Clinic returns to Western Mass.

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

WILBRAHAM – One of the last sports camps of the summer of 2026 was held at Spec Pond in Wilbraham from August 10-13.

A total of 57 baseball and softball players between the ages of 6-16 from Wilbraham and the surrounding communities attended the four day clinic.

"This is our fourth year conducting the baseball clinics, and this is probably the best one yet," said camp director Dustin Brisson. "We

have almost 60 kids, including a couple of softball players for the first time, this week. It's the most campers we've ever had at this clinic and I'm very pleased."

Brisson, who is the owner of Forge Athletics, was born in Florida and played college baseball at the University of Central Florida from 1997-2000. The first baseman was drafted by the Boston Red Sox in the 15th round of the 2000 MLB draft.

Brisson, who played 345 minor league games, advanced to Double A Portland. His baseball career came to

an end due to an injury.

"I was blessed to have the opportunity to play professional baseball," Brisson said. "I'm doing what I can to give back to these kids."

Some of the camp instructors were Lindsay Beer, David Wendt, Ace Adams Chade Shade, who's the head coach of the Springfield College baseball team, Pat Strange, who's the pitching coach at Westfield State University, Dan Gomez, who's the head baseball coach at Western New England University, and Terry Doyle, who's the the baseball coach

at New England College.

"It's an honor to have these coaches working at our clinic this year," Brisson said. "They want to help these kids. This is a high level skills clinic. I just want the older kids to have the opportunity to work with the college coaches."

A couple of the guest speakers at the clinic were Brandon Seymour, who's the general manager of the Valley Blue Sox, Nancy Street, who's a board member of the Miracle League of Western Massachusetts, and Duke Castiglione Jr who's a sportscaster at a television station in Boston.

Ray Fagnant, who grew up in Chicopee and is the Boston Red Sox Northeast Regional Scouting Supervisor, also spent a day at the clinic.

A few of the different stations were hitting, fielding, and throwing.

"My main goal is to teach the players the basic fundamentals of the game," Brisson said. "I also want to keep the kids active at this clinic. I really don't want them standing around doing nothing."

Brisson was aided at the clinic by his wife, Kasey.

"My wife is the backbone of the organization," Brisson said. "She keeps everything in order. I appreciate all the support from many different people that I've received running this camp."

Brisson and his staff is already looking forward to holding the baseball clinic at Spec Pond again next summer.

BASEBALL

Tri-County finals forced to decide game 3

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY – Third-seeded Teddy Bear Pools & Spas had a golden opportunity to sweep the top-seeded St. Joseph's Saints in the Tri-County League championship series.

Teddy Bear held a 1-0 lead entering the top of the third inning in game two.

St. Joe's rallied for three runs in the third and fourth innings and they evened the best-of-three series at 1-1 following a 6-3 victory at South Hadley High School Friday, Aug. 7.

The game came to an end after five innings due to darkness, which didn't please the Teddy Bear players and their supporters.

"It's a very frustrating situation," said Teddy Bear player/manager Ryan Magini. "I think we should've been able to finish the final two innings of tonight's game at St. Joe's Park before playing the deciding game tomorrow night."

The baseball field at South Hadley High School doesn't have any lights and the first pitch of game two was thrown by Teddy Bear righthander Sean Rosemond at 5:55p.m. The three um-



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Top photo, Greg Vourros fires a throw to first base. Above, Ray Toth makes a throw on the run.

pires made the decision to end the game at 7:45 p.m.

"The pace of tonight's game was very slow," said St. Joe's manager Paul Marcinek. "We were very lucky to finish five innings which made it an official game."

Had the game ended before the bottom of the fifth inning, it would've resumed at South Hadley High School the following day. If the score would've

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Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Campers receive some instructions from one of the coaches in the Forge Baseball Clinic.

Sports

LEONATTI | from page 13

Chelsea is very close to her family, and we decided to move to Ware.”

Chelsea Flamand, who graduated from Ware High School in 2020, was a member of the Lady Indians soccer team.

Leonatti, who was both a punter and field goal kicker in high school, was a field goal kicker at the University of New England.

“I was a field goal kicker at the University of New England for two seasons,” Leonatti said. “Then I worked in the football operations department as an intern for two years. I love football and I always wanted to get into coaching. I saw that Palmer High School was looking for a JV football coach and I thought it would be a perfect fit for me.”

After finishing last season with fewer than 20 players, Palmer Athletic Director Matt Marciniac, who was also the Panthers varsity football coach, made the difficult decision to only have a junior varsity squad this fall. The plan is to move back up to the varsity ranks during the next couple of years.

“I’m hoping we have enough numbers to quickly move up to the varsity level

again,” Leonatti said. “I’m really looking forward to the start of the football season.”

Leonatti has met with Marciniac a couple of times since he was hired as the JV football coach. He’ll be conducting his first official practice of the season on August 24.

“I didn’t know Mr. Marciniac before I interviewed for the coaching position, but he has been extremely helpful to me,” Leonatti said. “We’ve already talked about a lot of different things. If I ever have any questions, I can always ask him.”

Leonatti is hoping to have a balanced attack on offense and a solid defense.

Marciniac is still in the process of making the JV football schedule. The majority of the JV games take place on Monday’s.

“We’re still working on the schedule,” Leonatti said. “Mr. Marciniac is talking with the other athletic directors in the area to finalize everything.”

The Panthers graduated eight key players from this year’s squad, which finished with a 6-5 overall record.

The Panthers defeated the Indians, 21-6, for the first time since 2015.

While the 100th meeting on the gridiron between the two neighboring high schools

won’t be taking place this year, Leonatti is hoping to be a part of the rivalry game in the future.

“I have a lot to learn about the history of the rivalry,” he said. “A rivalry in sports is a very exciting thing.”

Another thing that Leonatti has never experienced is playing a football game on Thanksgiving morning.

“I always watch the NFL games on Thanksgiving, but I never got to play in a game on that day,” said Leonatti, who’s also going to be a first-year paraprofessional at Palmer High School. “I think it would be an awesome experience, especially if your team wins the game.”

The Panthers players enjoyed their turkey dinners after defeating Ludlow, 20-6, at historic Legion Field last Thanksgiving.

While the Panthers won’t be competing at the varsity level this fall, Leonatti is hoping his players have fun playing the game of football.

“While we do want to win every game, a successful season for me is seeing the guys playing the game that I love,” he said. “I also want to see them improve their skills during the season.”

Marciniac is still in the process of hiring assistant coaches for the junior varsity football team.

FINALS | from page 13

been tied, game two would’ve been replayed from the beginning, which has been a TCL rule for many years.

Teddy Bear won game one of the championship series, which was an old fashion pitcher’s duel, 3-1, at St. Joe’s Park, last Thursday night.

Righthander Matt Drobiak, who graduated from South Hadley High School in 2024, went the distance for Teddy Bear. He allowed a run on six hits and three strikeouts without issuing a walk.

Drobiak outduelled St. Joe’s righty Trey Yesu, who graduated from Monson High School in 2022.

Yesu also went seven innings allowing three runs (two earned) on six hits with six strikeouts and two walks.

Teddy Bear took a 1-0 lead in game against lefthander Jackson Hayes with two outs in the bottom of the first inning following a run scoring double by second baseman Ramon Jimenez.

St. Joe’s took the lead against Rosemond in the top of the third inning.

Catcher Nate Carillon

and second baseman Greg Vourros began the St. Joe’s rally with back-to-back singles. After Drobiak retired the next batter on a pop-up, before Carillon scored the tying run following a wild pitch. Then right fielder Brian Hayes drew a walk before centerfielder Pat Fitzgibbons hit a two run single into right field giving St. Joe’s a 3-1 lead.

With one-out in the bottom of the third inning, Drobiak, who started at first base, launched a solo home run over the left field fence.

Holding a slim 3-2 lead,

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Athlete of the Week

Greg Vourros

St. Joe's

The Saints member helped start a rally for the Saints in the second game of the championship series for Tri-County.

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

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In the classroom

PHS Class of 1966 plans gathering

PALMER — The Palmer High School Class of 1966 is planning a get-together on Saturday, Sept. 19, at 2 p.m. at Teresa's Restaurant, 325 Palmer Road in Ware.

The cost of the meal is \$34.

To register, please contact dgouvin@yahoo.com or Gail Clark at 413-262-9568, by Aug. 31.

School supply drive benefits local schools

PALMER — The Three Rivers Chamber of Commerce and the Ware Business & Civic and Beyond organizations are hosting a school supply collection drive to benefit local schools.

This year's school supply drive marks the second year of the collection drive program. Participating locations will serve as a drop off destination for local citizens to do-

nate school supplies to benefit students from the Ware, Palmer and Monson schools districts.

The school supply collection drive runs through Friday, Aug. 21.

Participating drop off locations are found at Cedarbrook Village, Cluett's Appliance Center, Dhillon Dentistry, Hakim Medical Center, Hanna's on Main, Monson

Savings Bank, Moulton Insurance Agency, Ware Town Hall and Westfield Savings Bank in Ware, Monson Savings Bank, The Better Bean and TJ's Tavern in Monson, and Palmer Town Hall, Palmer Senior Center, Palmer Library, J. Stolar Insurance Agency, Phriends Coffee, Mustang Seats, Just a Little Craft Store and Nick's Sporting Goods in Palmer.

Classes of 1976 plan 50th reunion on Oct. 17

PALMER — The Palmer High School Reunion Committee invites the 1976 graduates of Palmer High School and Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School to a 50th Anniversary Reunion Party on Saturday,

Oct. 17 from 5-10 p.m.

Graduates, faculty and guests are invited to eat, drink and be reunited in the outdoor venue at Vanished Valley Brewing Co., 782 Center St., Ludlow. The cost is \$35 per person, includes

entertainment by Kingdom of Jones Band and a BBQ style buffet.

Please RSVP by contacting Sue Warner Prosperi at suewpro@gmail.com. Registration and payment are due no later than Sept. 30.

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PALMER HIGH SCHOOL

Bus stop times and locations may change

Route 1 – 6:43 a.m. – Start on North Main St. for pick-ups @ Capital Cleaners, Les' Auto, O'Reilly Auto Part, & Dunkin Donuts - Express to King St. for pick-up @ King St., Squire St., and Central St. - Express to South Main St. for pick-ups @ Dublin St., Chestnut St., - Left onto & pick-up @ Stone St. BEFORE Overpass - Express to Boston Rd. (Rt. 67 E) for even # addresses pick-ups along Boston Rd. Turning around onto Boston Rd. (Rt. 67 W) for odd # addresses pick-up - Express to Park St. stops @ Mason St. & East Palmer Park Dr. - Express to PHS (7:15 a.m.)

Route 2 – 6:35 a.m. – Start on Ware St. (Rt. 32 North) for pick-ups to Rondeau Rd. - Right onto Rondeau Rd. - Right onto & pick-up on Olney Rd., continuing onto Hickory Ln. to Loop around - Right returning out onto Ware St. (Rt. 32 North) - Turning around @ Walmart back to Ware St. (Rt. 32 South) - Right onto River St. for pick-ups along River St. and @ Country-side Dr., Lauren, and Gay St. - Express to PHS (7:15 a.m.)

Route 3 – 6:50 a.m. – Start pick-ups on Baptist Hill Rd. continuing onto Burlingame Rd for pick-ups - Express to Springfield St. for address pick-ups between # 344 & # 556 - Express to Laurel/Juniper Street, pick-up - Return to Three Rivers Rd. for pick-up - Continue onto Springfield St. for pick-up at Anderson St. & Hryniewicz Park - Express to PHS (7:15 a.m.)

Route 4 – 6:52 a.m. – Start on Mt. Dumplin Rd. for pick-ups along Mt. Dumplin Rd. - Right on Desimone Dr. for pick-up - Left onto Memory Ln. for pick-up - Express to Bourne St. for pick-ups - Left on Main St. for pick-up @ Belanger - Express to Ford St. for pick-up at Central St. - Express to Palmer Rd. for pick-up at Pineview - Express to PHS (7:15 a.m.)

Route 5 – 6:51 a.m. – Start on Breckenridge St. (Thorndike St. Side) - Left on Berkshire St. for a stop at Geraldine St. - Express to Brainers St. for pick-up - Right onto Park St. for pick-up at Winthrop St. - Right onto Breckenridge St for pick-up at Cabot St. - Left onto Pinney for stops - Right onto Park for stops along Park St. including @ School St. & Walnut St. - Express to PHS (7:15 a.m.)

Route 6 – 6:35 a.m. – Start on Peterson Rd. for pick-ups - Right onto Country Ln. - Cross to Flynt St. - Right onto Ware St. - Right onto Old Warren Rd. for odd # addresses pick-ups - Express to West Ware Rd. @ Rondeau Rd. for pick-up - Express back to Old Warren Rd. to St. John St. for odd # addresses pick-ups turning around for even # addresses pick ups - Right onto Old Warren Rd. for even # addresses pick-ups - Right onto Gates St. for pick-ups @ Forest Lake Rd. and odd # addresses - Express to PHS (7:15 a.m.)

Route 7 – 6:39 a.m. – Start pick-ups on/ along Flynt St. - Left onto Smith St. to pick-up on Beech St. - Continue to Flynt St. for pick-ups @ addresses, & Carter St. - Left on Cedar Hill St. for pick-ups along Cedar Hill St. - Left on Homestead St. for pick-ups - Express to Mason St. for pick-up @ Carriage Dr. - Express to Fieldstone Dr for pick-up @ Old Farm Rd. - Left on Old Farm Rd for pick-ups - Left onto Thompson St. for pick-ups along Thompson St. - Left on Flynt St. for pick-up between Beech St. & Smith St. including James St. - Express to PHS (7:15 a.m.)

Route 8 – 6:57 a.m. – Start pick-ups on Calkins Rd. - Continuing onto Palmer Rd. for pick-ups - Express to & pick-up along North Rd. - Express to & pick-up along Chudy St. including @ Barker St. & @ Linda St. - Express to Main St. for pick-up @ Pleasant St. - Express to Palmer HS (7:15 a.m.)

Route 9 – 6:48 a.m. – Start pick-ups along and on Pleasant St. including @ Summer St. & @ Elizabeth St. - Continuing onto Thorndike St. for pick-up - Staying Right onto Palmer Rd. for pick-up @ Prospect St. - Bearing Right for pick-ups along South High St. - Express to Main St. for pick-ups @ Center St. & Spring St. along Main St. and South Main St. - Bearing Right onto Pine St. for pick-ups - Express to PHS (7:15 a.m.)

Route 10 – 6:57 a.m. – Starting on Thorndike St. for pick-ups stop @ Pine St. & Woodland Heights - Left on Lawrence St. pick-up @ Lawrence Apt - Left on Shearer for pick-ups @ Beacon Dr., Longview St. Prospect St., & Randall St. - Right onto North Main St. for pick-ups @ Orchard St & Temple St. - Express to PHS (7:15 a.m.)

Route 11 – 6:47 a.m. – Starting pick-ups on Stimson St. - Express up Emery St. for pick-ups returning down Emery St. - Right for pick-ups along State St. including @ Pleasant St. - Right onto High St. for pick-up @ Griffin St. - Right onto Griffin St. for pick-up at Steward St. - Right for pick-ups on Jim Ash Rd. - Right onto State St. & pick-up just before Main St./South Main St. - Express to PHS (7:15 a.m.)

OLD MILL POND

Bus stop times and locations may change

Route 1 – 1st Stop Time – 7:48 a.m. – Starting on North Main St. (Rt. 181 S) for pick-ups @ Crosswalk @ Capitol Cleaners, Randall St., Shaw St., & Holbrook St. - Express to & pick-up Highland St. @ Cute Kids Daycare & @ Knox St. - Express to South Main St. for pick-up along and @ Dublin St., @ Chester St., & @ Strong St. - Left onto & pick-up @ Stone St. BEFORE Overpass - Right & pick-up along Park St. - Express to Mason St. for pick-up just before Park St. - Left onto Park St. bearing right picking up along Boston Rd. (Rt. 67 E) - Express to OMP for Drop off at 8:30 a.m. arrival.

Route 2 – 1st Stop Time – 7:55 a.m. – Start pick-ups along Ware St. - Right onto Rondeau Rd. - Right onto & pick-up on Olney Rd., continuing onto Hickory Ln. to Loop around - Right returning out onto Ware St. (Rt. 32 North) - Turning around @ Walmart back to Ware St. (Rt. 32 South) - Right onto River St. for pick-ups along River St. and @ Gay St. - Right on Church St for pick-up @ Hill St. & Post Office - Left on Main St. for pick-up - Drop off at OMP at 8:30 a.m. arrival.

Route 3 – 1st Stop Time – 7:58 a.m. – Start pick-ups along Main St. (Three Rivers District) even # addresses and @ Lariviere St. - Left onto Park Ave for pick-up Front St. @ Bridge St. - Continue to Palmer Rd. for pick-up @ South St. and along Palmer Rd. - Bearing right for pick-ups on Calkins Rd. and @ Overlook Dr. - Express to Baptist Hill Rd. for pick-ups along Baptist Hill Rd. & Burlingame Rd. - Express and Left onto Springfield St. to pick-up addresses between # 344 & #556 - Express to & pick-up Laurel Dr. @ Juniper Dr. - Express back out to pick-up along Three Rivers Rd. - Continuing to Springfield St. pick-up along and @ New Hampshire St., Anderson St., & Maple St. - Right & pick-up Maple St. @ High St. - Express & pick-up along Main St. (Three Rivers District) for odd # addresses - Express to OMP for drop off at 8:30 a.m. arrival.

Route 4 – 1st Stop Time – 8:05 a.m. – Start pick-up right onto Mt. Dumplin Rd. (Thorndike St. Side) - Left onto & pick-up along Desimone Dr. and looping out with pickups along Memory Ln. - Left onto and pickup along lower Mt. Dumplin Rd. - Express and left for pick-ups along Bourne St. - Left onto Main St. pick-up @ Belanger St. - Express to Ford St. & pick-up @ Central St. - Continue to Palmer Rd. & pick-up @ Pineview St. - Express to OMP for 8:30 a.m. arrival.

Route 5 – 1st Stop Time – 7:53 a.m. – Start on Breckenridge St. (Thorndike St. Side) - Left on Berkshire St. for a stop at Geraldine St. - Left onto Cabot St. @ pick-up @ Winthrop St. - Express up Breckenridge St. for pick-ups - Left & pickup long Pinney St. - Right onto Park St. for stops along Park St. and @ Pearl St., School St., & Maple St. - Right onto & pick-up on Central St. - Express to School St. & pick-up @ Pleasant St. - Right onto Pleasant st. & pick-up @ Walnut St. - Express to OMP for 8:30 a.m. arrival.

Route 6 – 1st Stop Time – 7:52 a.m. – Start & pick-up along Old Warren Rd. - Right & pick-up along Peterson Rd. & Country Ln. - Express to Ware St. to Old Warren Rd. - Express to & pick-up West Warren Rd. @ Rondeau Rd. - Express back to and pick-up along Old Warren Rd. - Right onto St. Johns for pick-up turning around back out to Old Warren Rd. for additional pick-ups - Right onto Gates St. for Pick-ups towards the River St. end - Express to OMP for 8:30 a.m. arrival.

Route 7 – 1st Stop Time – 7:38 a.m. – Start pick-ups on Flynt St. - Express to Thompson St. for Pick-up - Express to Old Farm Rd. for pick-ups - Right onto Fieldstone Dr. for pick-ups - Pick-up on Carriage Dr. - Right into Mason St. & pick-up @ Fairfield Dr. - Express for pick-ups along Homestead St. and @ Pioneer Dr. - Right onto Cedar for pick-up @ Colonial St. - Right and pick-up along Flynt St. - Express and pick-up along High St. (Thorndike District) - Express to OMP for 8:30 a.m. arrival.

Route 8 – 1st Stop Time – 7:48 a.m. – Start pick-up Main St. @ Coache St. - Right onto Ruggles St. & pick-up @ Wilson St. - Right onto Oak St. & pick-up @ Pleasant St. - Right on Charles St. & pick-up @ Pine St. - Express to and pick-up along North St. and @ Norbell St. - Left onto Norbell St. & pick-up @ Belchettown St. - Express to & pick-up along Chudy St. - Left onto & pick up along Glenn St. - Left onto Baker St. & pick-up @ Sibley St. - Express & pick-up on Sylvia St. - Right onto & pick-up on Edgewood St. - Right onto and pick-up along Chudy St. - Express to and pick-up @ 6 Springfield St. (Learning Factory) - Express to OMP for 8:30 a.m. arrival.

Route 9 – 1st Stop Time – 7:54 a.m. – Start pick-up on Pleasant St. @ Summer St. - Continue onto & pick-up along Palmer Rd. - Bear Right onto & pick-up along South High St. - Express to & pick-up along Main St. (Bonds-ville District) and @ Post Office & Spring St. - Pick-up on High St. - Back to pick-up along Main St. - Crossing to South Main St. pick-up @ Bond St. - Right onto & pick-up along Pine St. - Express to & pick-up on Ains Manor Rd. - Right onto & pick-up on Fuller Rd. @ Sykes St. - Express to OMP for 8:30 a.m. arrival.

Route 10 – 1st Stop Time – 7:56 a.m. – Start pick-up on North Main St. @ Temple St. & @ Orchard St. - Express to and pick-up on Pine St. @ King St. & Squire St. - Cross to Converse St. and pick-up @ Walnut St. - Loop out to & pick-up along Thorndike St. (Rt. 32 North) - Left on Lawrence St. @ Palmer Town House Apartments - Left on & pick-up along Shearer St. including @ Beacon Dr. & Prospect St. - Express to & pick-up on Searle St. - Right onto & pick-up on North Main St. @ Fletcher St. - Express to OMP for 8:30 a.m. arrival.

Route 11 – 1st Stop Time – 7:52 a.m. – Start pick-up along Commercial St. - Express to and pick-up along Stimpson St. - Express to and pick-up on Emery St. @ Kelly Rd. and Foster St. - Back to and pick-up along State St. - Express to and pick-up on Griffin St. @ High St. and @ Stewart St. - Right onto and pick-up along Jim Ash Rd. - Right & continue pick-up along State St. - Express to & pick-up along Hillside Dr. - Right onto Forest St. & pick-up @ Oak St. - Express to & pick-up along Prospect St. - Express to OMP for 8:30 a.m. arrival.

Digital Access for All Expo event to be held Aug. 22

SPRINGFIELD – The Digital Access for All Expo, a community event featuring laptop giveaways to Hampden County residents, will be held on Saturday, Aug. 22 in the UMass Henry M. Thomas III Center at Tower Square.

“Many in our community still struggle to access the Internet,” said Rachelle Lee, a Springfield resident and member of the Digital Access for All Coalition. “We created this event to help our neighbors gain the skills they need to get online and do the important things many of us take for granted – searching for a job, making medical ap-

pointments, accessing banking, or just staying in touch with family and friends.”

“Thanks to donations from Way Finders, Tech Foundry and Springfield community, we are giving over 50 laptops to community members – and teaching them how to use them,” said Beatrice Dewberry, Community Building and Engagement Director at Way Finders. “But the Expo is a great opportunity for all in the community to attend and get technical assistance with their phones or laptops; meet community organizations and resources; or just to learn about getting af-

fordable internet and more.”

The event, created by the Digital Access for All Coalition, is supported by Way Finders, Tech Foundry, the Alliance for Digital Equity, Springfield.community and NeighborWorks America. For more information about the Digital Access for All Expo, or to register for a chance at a free laptop, visit <https://www.wayfinders.org/digitalexpo>.

Online laptop giveaway entries are due by Aug. 19. Some laptops will be reserved for giveaway at the event for those who could not register in advance.

VETERANS DAY SALUTE

The Journal Register ~ November 5, 2026

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 St., Palmer, MA 01069**

All photos will be returned.

Please submit your photo no later than Monday, October 20, 2026.

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.

PARK | from page 1

and his marriage to Yolanda Grieve, with whom he raised three children, Nancy, Cynthia and Peter.

“Dave acted as a pillar of the community, a trusted role model, and inspiration to generations of families in town,” Valley said. “It is the desire of the Select Board to permanently recognize and honor these lasting contributions so Dave’s legacy endures for future generations.”

The Select Board will re-dedicate the newly-renovated, handicapped accessible Dave Grieve Park for the residents and visitors to enjoy, “just like Dave envisioned” when he enjoyed walking with a group of retirees in downtown Monson for exercise and socialization, expressing the thought that Monson should have a few more benches in the downtown area, and seeing it become a successful realization of those early thoughts.

Fall festival

Robert Skalbite of the Agricultural Commission announced the town’s third annual FallFest to be held on Saturday, Sept. 19 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., with Sunday, Sept. 20 as a rain date.

“It’s something that we want to continue to do and slowly expand and make more of an event,” Skalbite said.

The fall festival was previously referred to as a Farmer’s Market, but Skalbite said the name was changed to differentiate it from the weekly Farmer’s Market held on Wednesdays at the Senior Center.

“The first year it was in Memorial Hall. The second year, last year, we did it on the lawn of Memorial Hall and the lawn of Dave Grieve Park” Skalbite said. “We’re looking to have it again on the lawn of Memorial Hall.”

The commission requested the Select Board’s approval for the use of the park, and to waive Board of Health fees for the vendors’ permits.

“There are a few vendors that will have temporary food permits, but it’s only a three hour market; the cost of a permit is going to cut into any money they might make,” Skalbite said. “Because it benefits the town, we ask that that gets waived.”

The Select Board unanimously approved the use of Dave Grieve Park, but could not waive the Board of Health fees, and directed Skalbite to make the request to that board at its next meeting.

Town Administrator’s report

Town Administrator Jennifer Wolowicz started her report by announcing a grant that the town will receive through the Department of Environmental Protection for \$87,806.42 to purchase electric vehicle charging stations as part of the commonwealth’s Electrical Vehicle Incentive Program.

“Justin was the person who applied for this grant, so I thank him for doing that,” Wolowicz said.

The grant will fund the installation of eight electric vehicle charging stations, with two ports on State

Street, two on Park Road and four on Main Street.

“These are all through the grant, there is no cost to the town,” Wolowicz said. “These devices are able to have a charging function, so the people that use them have to pay to use them, so that will be something they will set up through the debit card.”

Wolowicz said there is a website for people who have EV cars to find charging stations while traveling. As of Aug. 18, sites like ChargeFinder.com, PlugShare.com, and ChargingAtlas.com indicate that with eight charging ports, the town would be the largest provider of electric vehicle charging compared to the surrounding towns.

“We just finished all the contract paperwork, and that’s going to get started over the next couple months,” Wolowicz said.

Wolowicz then announced the upcoming opening of the warrant for the Special Town Meeting, which has been scheduled for Monday, Oct. 26.

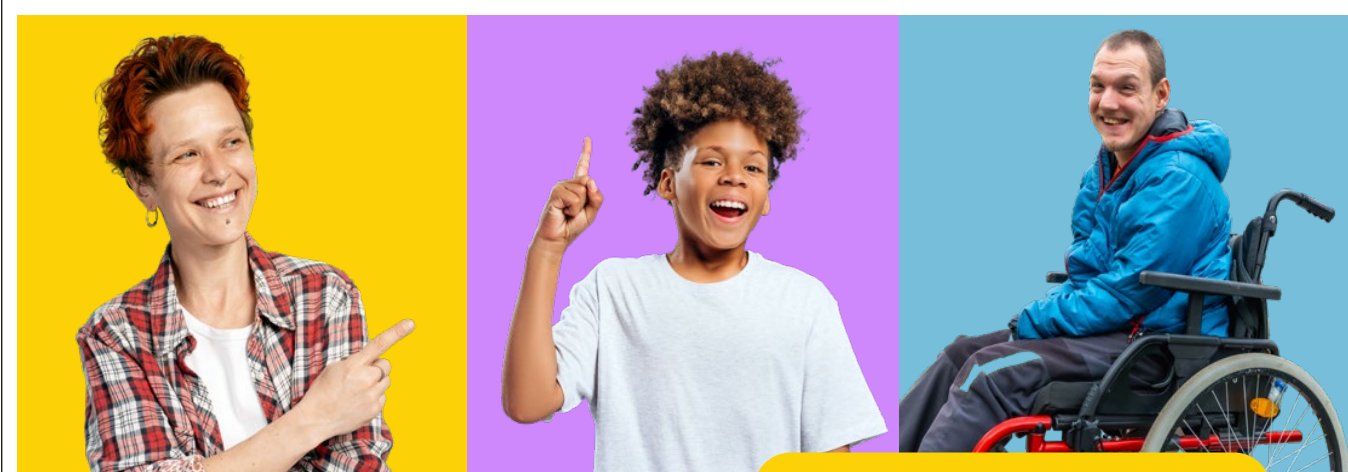
“That was something that the Finance Department spoke with myself and (Town Clerk) Mary Watson to make sure we weren’t interfering with her election cycle,” Wolowicz said.

Wolowicz included a mention of the Lions Club’s Motorcycle Ride for Sight on Sunday, Sept. 13.

“All money raised is going to the Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund,” said Lions member Curt Jameson.



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This survey is part of the Community Health Equity Initiative of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health

CH601-EN

PLANNER | from page 1

Barry added that the definition will define the intent of the ordinances to offer further clarity. Ballou said that some uses that were called out previously did not include definitions and were left up to interpretation, so the new version will make these definitions more clear.

Councillor Ryan Gauthier asked Ballou for an example of changes that were made.

“Dog kennels were one that weren’t called out before, so now we have a definition for that and where it’s allowed,” Ballou said. “Micro-breweries, that’s another one that was not defined and we now have a definition for that. That way, when people look at it, they can see what is allowed.”

Another use that was mentioned were vehicle servicing and vehicle repair, which Ballou said have definitions in the new Code of Ordinances.

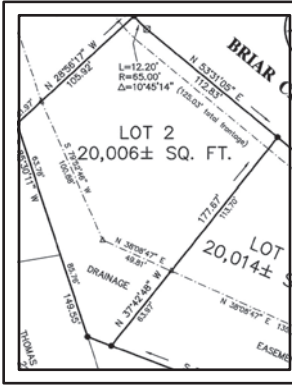
With no other discussion, the council voted to accept the amended Code of Ordinances.

The council then held another hearing regarding an amendment to the town’s Code of Ordinances, this time regarding signs.

“The purpose of this amendment is to establish regulations for blade signs within the village center,” read Barry. “Blade signs are defined as small, two-sided signs that project perpendicular to a building, and are intended to enhance business visibility for pedestrians.”

The amendment sets standards governing the number, size, location, height, projection, and illumination of blade signs, while clarifying that these standards cannot be modified through the Special Permit process.

With no concerns, the council passed the amendment unanimously.



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UMass microbiology professor gives lecture on ticks

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis
Staff Writer
zachf@turley.com

BARRE – The Tewksbury Public Library hosted Dr. Stephen Rich, a professor of microbiology at the University of Massachusetts Amherst to give a presentation about ticks and tick borne diseases.

The presentation was held on Zoom, and offered to many libraries in the state, including the Woods Memorial Library.

Lyme disease
The presentation started with Rich talking about Lyme disease, one of the diseases associated with ticks.

Rich said it was discovered in 1975, because young people were experiencing juvenile arthritis. He said doctors looked into it, and found that the arthritis was being caused by a bacterium that is spread through ticks.

According to Rich, Lyme disease became a reportable disease to the Centers for Disease Control in 1991, and cases in North America have increased since then.

Rich said that as of 2026, Lyme disease is the most common vector borne disease in the continent. He said New England is a common place to find them because of our large population of white-tailed deer, which he said can have thousands of ticks at a time on them.

Rich said historically, Lyme disease was not thought of as something that could affect humans, but more of an agricultural problem. He said people often thought of it as just infecting cows and chickens.

He said a lot of the thought around vector diseases has been around mosquitoes, since they carry malar-

ia, yellow fever and Dengue fever.

He said there are differences in the biology of tick borne and mosquito borne diseases, as tick borne diseases are infections of wildlife that spill over into humans, and cannot be prevented by a vaccine.

Tick life cycle
Rich said the life cycle of a black-legged tick is two years, and it has different stages including egg, larval, nymphal and adult. He said in each stage of the tick's life other than the egg, they only take one blood meal.

He said if people can prevent ticks from getting onto them, they can help prevent the life cycle of that one tick from completing.

He said a female tick can lay up to 5,000 eggs at a time. Rich said Lyme disease spread is most common in the nymphal stage because it feeds for a long time, and gives more time for anything in the tick to enter into the blood.

Tick behavior
Rich said ticks do not jump, fly or fall from the air, rather they quest. He said questing is crawling to the edge of a surface such as a branch or leaf, and if something comes close enough to it, crawling on it.

He said there are various ticks that live their whole life on one animal.

Lyme vaccine
Rich said there is not currently a vaccine for Lyme disease available to the public, although one is being worked on. He said even if we did have a successful Lyme vaccine, it would just target that one bacterium that causes it, and not target the many other diseases ticks can cause.

He said people should not go backwards in protecting

themselves if there is a vaccine for Lyme.

Other diseases from ticks
He said other than Lyme disease, there are diseases called ehrlichiosis and anaplasmosis. He said about 10%+ of black-legged ticks test positive for anaplasmosis, and it is widely known by doctors in the northeast, but not many other places.

Babesiosis is another disease that is spread by ticks, which Rich said is a parasite that infects red blood cells, and does not respond to antibiotics like other tick borne diseases. He said the treatment for this is anti-malarials.

Powassan is a virus spread by ticks, Rich said, which is similar to West Nile virus spread by mosquitoes, and can cause encephalitis. He said most cases of it are in the northeast, and the majority of people who get it do not end up in the severe circumstance of encephalitis.

He said alpha-gal syndrome is another disease that can be spread by ticks, and is most commonly known for people infected developing an allergy to red meat. He said it is spread by the lone-star tick, and was discovered in the mid 2000s.

He said there is no test to determine presence in the body, but it is a clinical diagnosis. He said about 450,000 Americans may be affected, but only a small percent of them have the full effects of the disease.

Prevention of disease
Rich said there is not much that can be done to eradicate ticks on a grand scale, and the efforts are individual and localized. He said to prevent disease, it's best to understand the risks of ticks and practice mitigation strategies.

Rich said any tick borne

disease starts with a tick bite, and not every tick is affected by a disease. He said the risk of disease increases with feeding time.

Rich said ticks are most active in the spring months and around Halloween, with some peaks in activity in the summer. He said they are not very active in January or February.

He said right now, we are getting close to the time of year where there is a decrease in adult ticks and an increase

in nymphal ticks.

Some mitigation strategies Rich presented include wearing light colored clothing, tucking pants into socks, and checking for ticks after being outdoors. He said there are some repellants that have DEET and picaridin, which are safe to use and effective.

He said for topical use of these, they have to be replaced every few hours.

Rich said people can also treat their clothes with acaricide or permethrin, which

are toxic to ticks but have low toxicity for humans. He said there are yard barriers, but they have to be replaced and can unintentionally harm pollinators. Rich said natural products may not be safe or effective.

About Dr. Rich
Other than being a professor at UMass, Rich owns a company called MedZu Inc., which provides services to tickreport.com, which is a website that gives risk assessments about ticks.

Don't Miss Out!

1 WEEK LEFT!



The August 27 issues of *The Journal Register* will be **DIRECT MAILED** to all residents! This is a great opportunity to reach many potential customers.

CONTACT DAN AT 413-297-5886
DFLYNN@TURLEY.COM



NOTE DEADLINE:
➤ August 27 issue deadline is **Tuesday, August 25.**



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DEADLINE

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

CORRECTIONS

The *Journal Register* will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 2 or 3.

To request a correction, send an email to: journalregister@turley.com, or call (413) 283-8393.

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

Public safety

Palmer Police Logs

During the week of Aug. 2-8, the Palmer Police Department responded to 63 building checks, 45 motor vehicle stops, 18 motor vehicle violations, 102 informational calls, 23 medical emergencies, 10 animal complaints, 35 calls for officers wanted, 25 alarms, 14 silent, accidental, abandoned or hung up 911 calls, five fire calls, nine theft or fraud calls, nine investigations, 10 motor vehicle accidents, 14 motor vehicle releases, nine general services, 11 out of jurisdiction reports, 13 assists to other agencies and 12 transports.

Sunday, Aug. 2
12:07 a.m. Investigation, Wilbraham Street
8:57 a.m. Alarm Fire/Smoke/CO, Main Street
10:14 a.m. Alarm Burglar/Hold-Up/Panic, Main Street
10:55 a.m. Investigation, Main Street
11:39 a.m. Investigation, Main Street
12:10 p.m. Alarm Burglar/Hold-Up/Panic, Main Street
12:22 p.m. Hazard-Wire/Pole/Tree, Park Street
1:28 p.m. Medical Emergency, Wright Street
2:03 p.m. Investigation, Palmer Road
3:19 p.m. Hazard-Wire/Pole/Tree, Breckenridge Street
4:21 p.m. Alarm Fire/Smoke/CO, Shearer Street
5:02 p.m. Medical Alarm, Gates Street
6:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violations, Boston Road
Arrest: Oscar V. Alvarez, 31, Springfield
OUI Liquor or .08%; Marked Lanes Violation; Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle; Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle; Unregistered Motor Vehicle
6:18 p.m. Medical Emergency, Lawrence Street
7:13 p.m. Alarm Fire/Smoke/CO, Mt. Dumplin Road and North Main Street
8:57 p.m. Alarm Burglar/Hold-Up/Panic, Main Street
11:25 p.m. Medical Emergency, Wright Street

Monday, Aug. 3
3:21 a.m. Medical Emergency, Thorndike Street
3:47 a.m. Alarm Burglar/Hold-Up/Panic, Church Street
5:39 a.m. Fire- Gas Leak/Odor, Wright Street
5:45 a.m. Animal Complaint, Barker Street
6:02 a.m. Hazard- Wire/Pole/Tree, Robinson Street
6:09 a.m. Water Leak/Hazard, Wilbraham Street
6:45 a.m. Water Leak/Hazard, Thorndike Street
6:46 a.m. Hazard-Wire/Pole/Tree, State Street and River Street
7:34 a.m. Hazard- Wire/Pole/Tree, Gates Street and Ware Street
7:50 a.m. Motor Vehicle Disabled, Park Street and Mason Street
8:49 a.m. Hazard, Ware Street and High Street
9:05 a.m. Disturbance, Wright Street
9:12 a.m. Medical Emergency, Sykes Street
9:49 a.m. Missing/Run-away, Danielle Drive
9:56 a.m. Hazard- Wire/Pole/Tree, Overlook Drive
9:57 a.m. Medical Mutual Aid, Palmer Road
10:03 a.m. Warrant Service, Wright Street
Arrest: Michelle D. Hale, 53, Holyoke
Warrants
10:10 a.m. Medical Mutual Aid, Greenwich Plains Road
10:28 a.m. Motor Vehicle Disabled, Bourne Street and Sykes Street
10:59 a.m. Hazard-Wire/Pole/Tree, Gates Street
2:00 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, North Main Street
3:30 p.m. Property Return, Main Street
4:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Abandoned, Meadowbrook Lane
4:38 p.m. Medical Emergency, High Street
5:26 p.m. Check Well Being, Park Street
9:14 p.m. Medical Mutual Aid, North Street
9:28 p.m. Missing/Run-away, Wright Street
10:41 p.m. Theft, Emery Street

10:53 p.m. Alarm Fire/Smoke/CO, Bennett Street\
Tuesday, Aug. 4
7:27 a.m. Motor Vehicle Park Violation, Kelley Street and High Street
7:51 a.m. Medical Emergency, South Street
8:07 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Boston Road
10:45 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Beacon Drive
11:42 a.m. Medical Emergency, Thorndike Street
12:00 p.m. Hazard, Shearer Street
1:06 p.m. Investigation, Main Street
1:11 p.m. Vandalism, Emery Street
1:21 p.m. Suspicious Vehicle, Belchertown Street
1:38 p.m. Hazard, Cedar Hill Street and Flynt Street
1:39 p.m. Check Well Being, Palmer Road
Arrest: Justin J. Coyer, 48, Three Rivers
Disorderly Conduct; Resist Arrest; Railroad Track Walk/Ride On; Vandalize Property; Witness/Juror/Police/Court Official, Intimidate
3:54 p.m. Investigation, River Street
5:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Repossession, Old Farm Road
5:09 p.m. Hazard-Wire/Pole/Tree, River Street
5:13 p.m. Fraud, Main Street
7:18 p.m. Public Service, Main Street
8:14 p.m. Disturbance, North Main Street
9:31 p.m. Alarm Burglar/Hold-Up/Panic, Third Street
9:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Disabled, Pleasant Street and Main Street

Wednesday, Aug. 5
2:37 a.m. Suspicious Vehicle, North Main Street
5:34 a.m. Theft, Belanger Street
6:18 a.m. Medical Emergency, Oak Street
8:56 a.m. Medical Emergency, Ware Street
9:46 a.m. Check Well Being, Main Street
11:06 a.m. Alarm Fire/Smoke/CO, Quaboag Valley Co Op

11:41 a.m. Animal Complaint, Sykes Street
1:32 p.m. Property Return, Main Street
1:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Park Violation, Thorndike Street
1:41 p.m. Property Return, Main Street
2:23 p.m. Medical Emergency, Sykes Street
4:54 p.m. Investigation, Main Street
5:33 p.m. Medical Emergency, South Main Street
6:03 p.m. Medical Emergency, Park Street
8:42 p.m. Medical Emergency, Wright Street
10:10 p.m. Animal Complaint, Spring Street
11:21 p.m. 911 Silent, Thorndike Street
Arrest: Tyler C. White, 33, Wilbraham
Warrant
11:56 p.m. Medical Emergency, Beacon Drive

Thursday, Aug. 6
1:56 a.m. Disturbance, Thorndike Street
4:46 a.m. Alarm Fire/Smoke/CO, Pleasant Street
8:44 a.m. Hazard-Wire/Pole/Tree, Walnut Street and Pleasant Street
9:38 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Palmer Street and Fuller Street
10:09 a.m. Medical Lift Assist, Main Street
10:12 a.m. Investigation, North Main Street
10:40 a.m. Animal Complaint, Main Street
11:57 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Beacon Drive
12:30 p.m. Hazard-Wire/Pole/Tree, State Street
12:41 p.m. Check Well Being, Park Street and Breckenridge Street
1:02 p.m. Property Return, Main Street
1:09 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Mass Turnpike
1:43 p.m. Check Well Being, Foster Street
2:19 p.m. Theft, North Main Street
2:31 p.m. Medical Emergency, Sykes Street
3:34 p.m. Found Property, North Main Street
4:11 p.m. Unwanted Person, Wright Street

4:49 p.m. Alarm Fire/Smoke/CO, Mt. Dumplin Road
5:37 p.m. Alarm Fire/Smoke/CO, High Street
5:48 p.m. Medical Mutual Aid, Boston Road
6:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Disabled, Wilbraham Street
6:32 p.m. Motor Vehicle Repossession, Off Lariviere Street
6:40 p.m. Animal Complaint, Quaboag Valley Co Op
6:49 p.m. Medical Emergency, Shearer Street
8:14 p.m. Fraud, Squier Street
8:55 p.m. Investigation, Cote Road
9:13 p.m. Unwanted Person, North Main Street
11:11 p.m. Fire-Mutual Aid, Glendale Circle
11:37 p.m. Assault, High Street
Arrest: Jasmine Lazarick, 31, Bondsville
Assault and Battery; Assaykt and Battery with Dangerous Weapon; Assault and Battery on Police Officer; Resist Arrest; Disorderly Conduct; Vandalize Property; Vandalize Property

Friday, Aug. 7
7:18 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Main Street and Central Street
8:06 a.m. Medical Emergency, North Main Street
8:53 a.m. Medical Emergency, Beacon Drive
10:16 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Park Street
1:56 p.m. Theft, Wilbraham Street
2:23 p.m. Animal Complaint, Commercial Street
2:51 p.m. Animal Complaint, Flynt Street
3:25 p.m. Lost Property, Thorndike Street
3:42 p.m. Trespass Complaint, Chapel Street
3:56 p.m. Animal Complaint, South Hadley
4:58 p.m. Theft, Davis Auto, Wilbraham Street
5:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Abandoned, Wilbraham Street
5:50 p.m. Fraud, Ford Street

7:30 p.m. Medical Emergency, Meadowbrook Lane
9:41 p.m. Electrical Fire, South Main Street
9:48 p.m. Alarm Burglar/Hold-Up/Panic, Sykes Street
9:53 p.m. Hazard, River Street
10:26 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, South Main Street

Saturday, Aug. 8
1:02 a.m. Medical Emergency, Wright Street
7:26 a.m. Water Leak/Hazard, Beech Street
8:20 a.m. Disturbance, Wright Street
9:03 a.m. Alarm Fire/Smoke/CO, Fairview Street
9:14 a.m. Alarm Burglar/Hold-Up/Panic, Fairview Street
9:18 a.m. Hazard- Wire/Pole/Tree, Olney Road
9:59 a.m. Medical Mutual Aid, Hardwick Road
10:30 a.m. Medical Mutual Aid, Pine Drive
12:34 p.m. Lost Property, Boston West Road
4:10 p.m. Animal Complaint, Thorndike Street
5:20 p.m. Medical Emergency, Emery Street
5:43 p.m. Medical Mutual Aid, Warren Police Department
6:03 p.m. Fire-Smoke, Lauren Drive
6:03 p.m. Alarm Burglar/Hold-Up/Panic, Wilbraham Street
6:19 p.m. Hazard-Wire/Pole/Tree, Pleasant Street
7:15 p.m. Animal Complaint, Lauren Drive and River Street
7:47 p.m. Check Well Being, River Street
8:03 p.m. Alarm Fire/Smoke/CO, Bennett Street
8:27 p.m. Suspicious Vehicle, North Main Street
9:15 p.m. Medical Emergency, Shearer Street
9:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Depot Street
9:29 p.m. Check Well Being, Emery Street
10:17 p.m. Alarm Fire/Smoke/CO, Bennett Street
11:28 p.m. Alarm Fire/Smoke/CO, Shearer Street

Monson Police Logs

During the week of Aug. 10-16, the Monson Police Department responded to six miscellaneous calls, 34 administrative calls, seven property checks, 24 traffic assignments, three traffic violations, one motor vehicle accident, two safety hazards, 14 investigations, one assist other agencies, 40 police vehicle checks, 22 motor vehicle stops, eight directed patrols, 33 details/overtimes, nine phone calls and three calls for general info.

Monday, Aug. 10
12:57 a.m. Suspicious/Wanted
2:19 a.m. Animal Complaint
2:23 p.m. Investigation/Follow Up
6:38 p.m. Safety Hazard
8:54 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call
9:08 p.m. Investigation/Follow Up
10:10 p.m. Alarm
Tuesday, Aug. 11
6:42 a.m. Investigation/Follow Up
9:58 a.m. Traffic Violation
10:05 a.m. Investigation/

Follow Up
1:29 p.m. Investigation/Follow Up
9:09 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted

Wednesday, Aug. 12
9:22 a.m. Animal Complaint
3:02 p.m. Investigation/Follow Up
3:29 p.m. Traffic Violation
6:25 p.m. Trespass/Unwanted
Thursday, Aug. 13
2:16 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call
10:43 a.m. Suspicious/Wanted
6:10 p.m. Safety Hazard

Friday, Aug. 14
1:59 a.m. Animal/Injured/Hunted
7:37 a.m. Alarm
8:48 a.m. Service of a Summons
10:30 a.m. Investigation/Follow Up
11:43 a.m. Investigation/Follow Up
12:10 p.m. Investigation/Follow Up
12:20 p.m. Traffic Violation

1:53 p.m. Odor (Strange/Unknown)
3:03 p.m. Investigation/Follow Up

Saturday, Aug. 15
10:39 a.m. Investigation/Follow Up
11:29 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call
1:21 p.m. Investigation/Follow Up
6:15 p.m. Community Policing
6:36 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call
8:06 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call
9:02 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted
10:43 p.m. Transport Service
11:02 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted

Sunday, Aug. 16
10:14 a.m. Investigation/Follow Up
11:13 a.m. Alarm
1:55 p.m. Animal In Progress/Dangerous
2:05 p.m. Motor Vehicle Crash No Injuries
3:31 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted
5:01 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat

Monson Fire Logs

MONSON – The Monson Fire Department responded to 16 EMS calls and three fire calls for the week of Aug. 10-16.
On **Wednesday, Aug. 12** at 9:28 a.m., the department responded to Blanchard Road

Extension for a fuel spill. The department returned to service at 9:52 a.m.
On **Thursday, Aug. 13** at 4:48 p.m., the department responded in the area Macomber Road for a smoke investigation. The department

returned to service at 5:02 p.m.
On **Friday, Aug. 14** at 1:56 p.m., the department responded to 110 Main St. for an odor investigation. The department returned to service at 2:08 p.m.



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01069**

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- GED/HiSET Preparation
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Starting April 8, tutors will be available from 1:30 to 6:30 pm on Wednesdays

Contact Us For More Information

NEW PHONE NUMBER 413-544-6600

email: director@topfloorlearning.org

https://topfloorlearning.org/

To learn more about upcoming events presented by the Chamber, visit www.threeriversmachamber.com.



Turley Photos by Kevin Flanders



Abbie Meulemans, of Chicopee, shared her love of reading with guests.



Bus driver Brian Toelken collected school supplies with Diane Vadnais.



Springfield's Holly Berardi showed off handmade charm bracelets.



Musical entertainment was provided throughout the evening.

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Palmer, MA 01069

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INFLATION

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USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS CENTER CUT PORK LOIN CUT-FREE... \$1⁹⁹ lb USDA INSP. FROZEN BONE-IN CENTER CUT PORK LOIN CHOPS \$2⁴⁹ lb USDA INSP. FRESH PORK SPARE RIBS TWIN PAK ... \$2⁵⁹ lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TENDERLOIN CUT FREE \$12⁹⁹ lb USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TOP SIRLOIN STEAKHOUSE TIPS \$10⁹⁹ lb USDA INSP. GROUND FRESH DAIRY DIET LEAN GROUND BEEF 5 LB BAG \$5²⁹ lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS & SKINLESS CHICKEN BREAST 10 LB. BAG..... \$17⁹⁹ lb USDA INSP. FROZEN CHICKEN THIGHS TRAY PAK 99¢ lb USDA INSP. CHEF PIERRE RICOTTA & CHOCOLATE CHIP PIE 28 OZ \$4⁹⁹ ea USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN RAW SHRIMP 13/15 COUNT SHELL ON 2 LB BAG..... \$18⁸⁸ ea USDA INSP. NATURE'S BEST WHOLE COOKED CRAWFISH 2 LB \$9⁹⁹ ea
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USDA INSP. TURKEY BREAST \$4⁹⁹ lb USDA INSP. SWISS CHEESE \$4⁴⁴ lb	USDA INSP. STOREMADE ITALIAN MARINATED 1/2 CHICKENS \$2⁹⁹ lb USDA INSP. SKINLESS KAYEM HOT DOGS 2 LB. BOX \$7⁷⁷ ea	SALE DATES: 8/20/26-8/26/26
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Public notices

Town of Wales
Zoning Board of Appeals

In accordance with the provisions of MGL Ch 40A §10 & §11, the Wales Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on **August 27th, 2026, at the Wales Senior Center at 5:30 p.m.** on the application submitted by Bethany Sivula of 17 Orchard Rd. in Wales. The application is being reviewed by the ZBA due to the access to the site being on a private road, therefore safe vehicle and emergency access must be ensured prior to building permit approval. Any person interested and wishing to be heard of this application should refer to August 27th, 2026, agenda on the Zoning Board of Appeals page on the town website (www.townofwales.net). If you have any questions or concerns, please email planning@townofwales.net 08/13, 08/20/2026

Town of Wales
Conservation Commission

In accordance with the Wetland Protection Act, Chapter 131, Section 40, a Public Hearing will be held by the Wales Conservation Commission on **August 27th, 2026, at the Wales Senior Center (Old Stafford Rd. Wales, MA) at 6:00 PM**, for a Notice of Intent filed by Norcross Wildlife Foundation for the property located at 30 Peck Rd. Wales, MA 01081. Specifically, road construction consists of grading, widening and placing crushed gravel on the road for an upcoming ecological restoration project. Please refer to the Town of Wales website or contact conservation@townofwales.net for the agenda. 08/20/2026

Town of Wales
Conservation Commission

In accordance with the Wetland Protection Act, Chapter 131, Section 40, a Public Hearing will be held by the Wales Conservation Commission on **August 27th, 2026, at the Wales Senior Center (Old Stafford Rd. Wales, MA) at 6:00 PM**, for a Request of Determination Applicability filed by Joeph Trollo for the property located at 35 Shore Dr., Wales, MA 01081, installation of a dry well for an iron removal filter system. For more information regarding this application contact conservation@townofwales.net and visit our website for any updates. 08/20/2026

Town of Wales
Conservation Commission

In accordance with the Wetland Protection Act, Chapter 131, Section 40, a Public Hearing will be held by the Wales Conservation Commission on **August 27th, 2026, at the Wales Senior Center (Old Stafford Rd. Wales, MA) at 6:00 PM**, for a Notice of Intent filed by Norcross Wildlife Foundation for the property located at 46 McBride Rd. Wales, MA 01081. Specifically, Norcross proposes to remove invasive common reed (Phragmites australis) at Collins Parcel (46 McBride Rd.). Please refer to the Town of Wales website or contact conservation@townofwales.net for the agenda. 8/20/2026

Town of Palmer
Licensing Commission
Notice of Public Hearing

The Palmer Licensing Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, September 2, 2026 at 3:00 PM** at the Palmer Town Building, 4417 Main Street, Palmer on the application for a transfer of license from Panther Dev Palmer LLC. located at 1519 North Main Street Palmer to BL Partners, Inc. Any persons interested in being heard should appear at the time and place above stated.

Town of Palmer
Licensing Commission
08/20/2026

Town of Palmer
Licensing Commission
Notice of Public Hearing

The Palmer Licensing Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, September 2, 2026 at 3:10 PM** at the Palmer Town Building, 4417 Main Street, Palmer on the application for a transfer of license from Ramadons Package Store Inc. located at 2020 Main Street Three Rivers to MANGAL, INC. DBA Three Rivers Package. Any persons interested in being heard should appear at the time and place above stated.

Town of Palmer
Licensing Commission
08/20/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
County of Hampden
The Superior Court
CIVIL DOCKET
#2679CV0515

RE: Monson Savings Bank v. Anthony C. Carpenter
ORDER OF NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: **Anthony C. Carpenter**, has an address of 27 Crest Road, Monson, Massachusetts; **in the County of Hampden; all in said Commonwealth;**

AND TO ALL PERSONS ENTITLED TO THE BENEFIT OF THE SERVICE MEMBERS' CIVIL RELIEF ACT OF 1940 AS AMENDED 2003 as amended:

Monson Savings Bank, a banking institution with its principal office located at 146 Main Street, Monson, Massachusetts claiming to be the holder of mortgage covering property known as 27 Crest Road, Monson, Hampden County, Massachusetts

given by Anthony C. Carpenter to Monson Savings Bank dated July 2, 2015

recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds Book 20780, Page 335 has filed with said court a Complaint for authority to foreclose said mortgage in the manner following: by entry on and possession of the premises therein described and by exercise of the power of sale contained in said mortgage.

If you are entitled to the benefits of the Service Members' Civil Relief Act of 1940 as amended, and you object to such foreclosure you or your attorney should file a written appearance and answer in said court at **Springfield** in said County on or before **September 15, 2026** or you may be forever barred from claiming that

such foreclosure is invalid under said Act.

WITNESS, Michael D. Ricciuti, Esquire, Chief Justice of the Superior Court, at Springfield, Massachusetts, this 4th day of August, 2026.

Laura S. Gentile,
Clerk of the Courts
By: Stephanie Roscoe
Assistant Clerk
08/20/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD26P1721GD
In the matter of: Donald Warren
Of: Palmer, MA
RESPONDENT
(Person to be Protected/ Minor)
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304 & §5-405

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Baystate Wing Hospital** of Palmer, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that **Donald Warren** is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that **Richard Warren of Belchertown, MA**

Mark Warren of Cohoes, NY (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of **09/09/2026**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

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

one may be appointed at State expense.

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

Date: August 12, 2026
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
08/20/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD26P1712GD
In the matter of: Donald Warren
Of: Palmer, MA
RESPONDENT
Alleged Incapacitated Person
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Baystate Wing Hospital of Palmer, MA** in the above captioned matter alleging that **Donald Warren** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Richard Warren of Belchertown, MA**

Mark Warren of Cohoes, NY (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of **09/22/2026**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

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

WITNESS, Hon. **Claudine T. Stoudemire**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: August 11, 2026

Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
08/20/2026

Trial Court of Massachusetts
The Superior Court
Worcester County
Superior Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
Dennis P. McManus,
Clerk of Courts
Docket Number 2685CV00616 B
ORDER OF NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
M&T Bank
VS.

Siarhei Chumasau
WHEREAS a civil action has been begun against you in our Superior Court by **M&T Bank** Wherein it is seeking; Breach of contract of the Defendants regarding a loan from M&T Bank

We **COMMAND YOU** if you intend to make any defense, that on **09/23/26** or within such further time as the law allows you do cause your written pleading to be filed in the office of the Clerk of Court named above, in said Commonwealth, and further that you defend against said suit according to law if you intend any defense, and that you do and receive what the Court shall order and adjudge therein.

Hereof fail not, at your peril, or as otherwise said suit may be adjudged and orders entered in your absence.

It appearing to this Court that no personal service of the Complaint has been made on the defendant a deputy sheriff having made a return on the summons that after diligent search he can find no one upon whom he can lawfully make service, a copy of which is hereto attached and made part of this notice, it is ORDERED that notice of this suit be given to them by publishing, once a week for three successive weeks, the last publication to be at least 20-days before said return day in the:

Newspaper: Journal Register
City/Town: Holland, MA
Date Issued: 08/12/2026

Eric Thuotte
Assistant Clerk of Courts
08/20, 08/27, 09/03/2026

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

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

All persons with questions or comments regarding the performance review will have an opportunity to be heard. Persons who

require special accommodations for the hearing should contact the town several days prior to the hearing date at (413)-245-7108 ext. 101. Those unable to attend can send written comments to the Holland Town Administrator, 27 Sturbridge Road, Holland, Ma 01521, Attn: Stacy Stout.

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

(SEAL)
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
26 SM 002578
ORDER OF NOTICE
TO:

Kurt M. Meacham; Rachel A. Meacham

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

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Palmer, numbered 1248 South Main Street, given by Rachel A. Meacham and Kurt M. Meacham to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Flagstar Bank, FSB, dated September 17, 2019, and recorded at Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 22858, Page 160, 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 28, 2026** or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the grounds of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, **GORDON H. PIPER**, Chief Justice of said Court on August 11, 2026.

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
08/20/2026

Town of Wales
Conservation Commission

In accordance with the Wetland Protection Act, Chapter 131, Section 40, a Public Hearing will be held by the Wales Conservation Commission on **August 27th, 2026, at the Wales Senior Center (Old Stafford Rd. Wales, MA) at 6:00 PM**, for a Notice of Intent filed by Norcross Wildlife Foundation for the property located at 30 Peck Rd. Wales, MA 01081. Specifically, treatment of invasive plant species. Please refer to the Town of Wales website or contact conservation@townofwales.net for the agenda. 08/20/2026

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Obituaries

Vera E. (Brotan) Borowik, 105

Vera E. (Brotan) Borowik, 105, passed peacefully with her family by her side at her daughter's home in the Avery Heights Retirement Community in Hartford, CT. Her 105 years were filled with faith, love, and family. Vera's strong faith, devotion to her Church and daily Masses sustained her strength throughout her lifetime.

Her love of her family throughout her entire life was expressed in so many ways. You could count on her to be wherever she saw a need for caring and support. This could include her time, loyalty, homemade Polish meals, cards, visits, attending events, gifts and just being a "good sport".

She received recognition and letters from organizations to which she made hundreds of crocheted shawls, lap and baby blankets for patients, veterans, various Churches and those without homes. These organizations included Divine Mercy Church, St. John Bosco Church, Yale New Haven Hospital, The March of Dimes, and The Connecticut Hospice, Inc. in Branford. Her many gifts of warmth also extended to family members and friends.

Vera kept active her entire life with her walks, golfing with her husband, and at home pedaling until the very end. She was an avid fan of UCONN basketball, Rory McIlroy and the Boston Red Sox, through 105 yrs. of their ups and downs. She remained feisty her entire life and managed to live her latter years doing it "her way".

Vera was born in Bondsville, MA on June 24, 1921. She was the ninth of twelve children born of the late Adam and Mary (Kos) Brotan, who had emigrated from Poland in the late 1800s and made their home in Bondsville on a thirteen acre farm. After completing school, she then lived in Springfield with a sister, working to help support her remaining family in Bondsville. During most of her working years she was a skilled solderer.

She then married the love of her life, Theodore J. Borowik from Springfield on October 12, 1941 at St. Adalbert's Church in Belchertown and continued to live in Springfield. When her father passed in 1942, Vera and Teddy moved back to Bondsville and lived on the farm with her sister Stephanie Graveline (Joseph) to support their mother. The United States was now involved in World War II, her husband was now in the



Coast Guard and their daughter Susan was born in 1945. Thirteen years later Vera and her husband built a house next door to the farmhouse. She and Teddy enjoyed playing golf together, their many friends, and traveling to Florida, Hawaii, Bermuda and Poland several times to maintain ties with the Kos and Borowik families. Even after her husband died in 1996, Vera stayed in their house until she was 90 years old. She then moved to Branford, CT to live closer to her family for the next ten years. In 2021, Vera moved to live with her daughter and son-in-law in a cottage in the Avery Heights Retirement Community in Hartford, CT.

Along with her parents, she is predeceased by her husband Theodore J. Borowik, Susan's husband Thomas Clougherty, her brothers, Adam, John and Ed Brotan, sisters, Pauline, Irene and Carolyn Brotan, Sophie Lepianka, Anne Baker, Edna Howard, Stephanie "Kitty" Graveline and Bertha Sablak.

She is survived by her devoted daughter Susan Harrison, her three loving and very much loved grandchildren: Mark Zabawa (Linda DeCrescenzo), Krystyn Eggleton (David), and Beth Small (Dennis). She also leaves her adored great-grandchildren: Michael, Kelsey, Allyson, and Sydnee Eggleton, Katherine and Lauren Small, and Theodore Zabawa.

Vera was fortunate to have nieces and nephews who always remembered her and loved her as she loved them. They included: Sylvia Cummings, Patricia Korzec, Alice Petruzzi, Teresa Aubin, and Ed Sablak, Judy Graveline, Susan Graveline, Rosemarie Ricco, Marilyn Haryasz, William Borowik, John Borowik, Richard Smith, Joseph Lepianka and Frances Haley.

Vera's life was made richer by her entire family and the friends she enjoyed so much.

A funeral Mass to celebrate Vera's life will be at Divine Mercy Parish on Friday, Aug. 21 at 10 a.m. with burial to follow in Sts. Peter & Paul Cemetery. Please meet directly at the church.

The family wishes to extend a heartfelt thanks to Maria Harrison as well as the staff at Avery Heights and at accent-Care Hospice for their loving support. In lieu of floral offerings, donations can be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Phone: 800-822-6344 or stjude.org/donate or Shriners Hospitals for Children, https://donate.shrinerschildrens.org

A LIFE OF LOVE, CARING AND GIVING

A remarkable and giving soul is deserving of an extraordinary story. Patricia, affectionately known as "Tricia", lived a life of making everyone she encountered feel special, welcomed, and loved. Her life was defined by caring for others-her parents, her spouses, her friends, and ultimately, countless people who were fortunate enough to cross her path.

Tricia was a child of a very small family and an only child, with few relatives. She was the beloved daughter of Alvin and Dorothy Peterson Mederian of Monson. As both a child and an adult, she adored her father. She would ride on the back of his motorcycle, clinging to him, and clearly remained Daddy's little girl regardless of her age.

Tricia graduated from American International College with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1964 and continued her education at the St. Francis Hospital School of Medical Technology in Hartford, Connecticut, graduating in 1965.

After completing her internship, Tricia headed to Chicago to begin a career in a big city. She joined a medical equipment company and eventually was promoted to oversee the marketing for the entire Midwestern United States. She spent 11 years living and working in Chicago, building a successful career and an independent life.

But career and adventure never outweighed family for Tricia. She left her career and returned to Monson to care for her father when he became ill. The duties of an only child can be heavy, but Tricia was quick to care for the father she adored.

Afterward, she returned to the West Coast, where she had been promoted to oversee the Western states for the same medical equipment company. She lived in Hollywood and Los Angeles, where she developed a love for fish tacos and the unusual hobby of noncompetitive body building. She was very good at it.

Once again, fate called her home when her elderly mother, Dorothy became very ill. Tricia loved her mother dearly, Dorothy had sewn Tricia's riding outfits for horse competitions as well as many of her dresses, and she had taught her daughter to love cooking and enjoying rare

Patricia "Tricia" Fay (Pelletier)

dishes.

Tricia left her career for the second time to care for her mother. After Dorothy's passing, she decided to remain in Monson and settle into the family home.

Tricia joined Mercy Hospital in the Development Department, where she met wonderful people and staff. She very much appreciated her work and her coworkers at Mercy Hospital.

She later became friends with Robert "Bob" Fay, an older gentleman who was active in church and community activities in the town of Monson. Their friendship blossomed into marriage. They enjoyed church functions, and small-town community life and dreamed of selling their individual homes in Monson and building their "Dream Home", a place designed to host and entertain their many friends and acquaintances.

Fate intervened once again when Bob became very ill during the construction of their new home. Tricia assumed the role of full-time caregiver and cared for him 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for more than six and half years. Caring for those she loved was simply part of who Tricia was.

Then, well into her sixties, another unexpected turn in life brought Richard Pelletier, J.D., into her world. While caring full-time for her elderly husband and needing assistance, Tricia arrived at Springfield Senior Services where they referred her to Richard who handled her case personally and efficiently, helping her organize and prepare for her future.

When his professional engagement was complete, he invited Tricia to dinner for what was intended to be a purely social engagement.

That dinner became an invitation into his life-and into their shared life, forever.

Their relationship was a remarkable love story discovered late in life. Tricia had spent so many years caring for others that she finally found herself being cared for and spoiled at every opportunity by someone who cherished and adored her. They both knew and celebrated the enormous gift of the love affair they had discovered in the late Fall of their lives.

For the next 15 years, they bought and remodeled multiple homes in Massachusetts and Florida. They traveled together to Rome,

Florence, Venice and Milan several times, as well as Switzerland, Croatia, Madrid, Barcelona, Nice and the South of France, Athens, Hawaii and many others. They created a life filled with travel, adventure, beautiful homes, good food, family, friends, and most importantly, each other.

Richard enjoyed spoiling this woman.

Tricia, who had grown up in a very small family, suddenly found herself embraced by a much larger one. Through Richard, she became part of a family that included his children, four sisters, brothers-in-law, nieces and nephews, seven grandchildren, a great grandchild, many friends and close clients. They welcomed her immediately and could see how very happy she made Richard and how deeply he adored her.

But what everyone who knew Tricia best understood was that she had a rare gift. She made people feel loved.

Tricia always wore a smile as warm and welcoming as a summer sun on your face. She could enter a restaurant, approach a complete stranger or a couple and say, "What a beautiful sweater you have", or, "What a gorgeous necklace you have there!" She had a remarkable ability to make people feel seen.

She lit up a room when she entered - not only because of her extraordinary beauty on the outside, but because of the extraordinary beauty that came from within.

At home, she loved hosting a couple or a small group, sometimes even people she barely knew, and making them feel, in the blink of an eye, not merely welcome but as though they had been dear friends for decades. Her joy was loving everyone.

Then, in one terrible afternoon, Fate delivered its most devastating blow.

While out running errands, including an oil change for her metallic blue Mustang convertible, Tricia walked across a concrete floor, tripped, and hit her head HARD. The course of life changed in a single moment.

The Emergency Room, ICU, and Hospice were traversed in one horrifying afternoon. The life that had been full of caring, travel, laughter, family, friendship, and love was suddenly and irrevocably changed.

How Fate can reverse fortune in a second- or in just a day.

The care Tricia received from the Baystate staff in Springfield was extraordinary, especially the Hospice

staff who cared for her nine days and nights. Her old and new families surrounded her with love, as did her cousins and nieces, Richard's sisters, friends, and many of Richard's clients. Everyone who came to know her recognized that a very caring and loving human being had entered their lives-and that they were now facing the unbearable reality that she would never return.

Fate, can give, and Fate can take. Man plans...the gods laugh, so goes the old saying.

Yet Tricia's life cannot be defined by the way it ended. It must be remembered for the way she lived.

She gave herself to the people she loved. She cared for parents. She cared for spouses. She welcomed strangers. She built friendships. She embraced a new family. She found adventure. She traveled. She laughed. She loved deeply and late in life, she was given the extraordinary gift of being loved just as deeply in return.

Tricia is survived by her cousins Jan Peterson of Hadley, Bob Peterson of Beacon Falls, CT, and John Peterson of Wilbraham. Her husband Bob Fay of Monson predeceased her many years ago.

She also leaves behind her devastated longtime partner and lover, Richard Pelletier, J.D., of Palmer, Massachusetts and North Port, Florida; Richard's son David Pelletier, and his wife Monica of Westfield and Richard's daughter, Nicole Fyntrilakis and her husband Nicholas; Richard's sisters and their spouses, Mary and Jim Wilson of Sturbridge, Maurita and Bill Eaton of Easthampton, Camie Lamica of Wilbraham, and Ann and Dave Allen of Venice, Florida and Wilbraham, Massachusetts as well as the many nieces, nephews, grandchildren, great-grandchild, friends, and others whose lives she touched.

Like the warm whisper of a wind from a sunny forest, she appeared .then left us with a warm place in our hearts to remember her.

Now that she is gone, that space may feel a little cooler, a little less full. But for those who were fortunate enough to know and love Tricia, it will never be empty.

Please join together in celebrating Tricia's life on Sunday, August 30 at the Beers & Story Palmer Funeral Home with visitation from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. followed by words of remembrance at 2 p.m. For more information, please visit www.beersand-story.com.

Cynthia I. Nordin

1942-2026

MONSON – Cynthia I. (North) Nordin, 83, passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by the love of her family, on August 12, 2026. Cynthia was born in Palmer, MA, on October 30, 1942, to the late Ernest G. and Bernice H. (Henry) North. She was a graduate of Monson High School and Fitchburg State University.

Cynthia began her teaching career in the Wilbraham School District before retiring from the Monson Public Schools in 2004. She was an elementary and middle school teacher, specializing in reading, a subject that was a personal passion of hers.

Cynthia was a member of the First Church of Monson, Congregational, and the Monson Garden Club. She was a past member and president of the Monson Athletic Boosters and

served on the Board of Managers for the Monson Home for Aged People, where she was secretary for many years.

Cynthia was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and friend. She enjoyed spending time with loved ones, taking morning walks with her friends, tending to her flower gardens, swimming in her pool, and watching the Boston Red Sox. She loved vacationing on the coast of Maine, as well as cruising in the Caribbean, visiting Europe, and traveling throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Cynthia leaves her husband of 62 years, Glen N. Nordin; her daughters, Jill Walulak and her husband, Michael, Amy Nordin, and Kristin Nordin, all of Monson; her grandchildren, Kurt Meshlovitz and Nicole Mesh-



lovitz; and her sister-in-law, Janet Juneau. She was predeceased by her parents and her brothers, Robert and George North.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Lombard Funeral Home of Monson. Visiting hours will be held Monday, Aug. 24,

2026, from 4 to 6 p.m. at the funeral home. A Funeral Service will be held Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2026, at 10 a.m. at the funeral home. Burial will follow at Hillcrest Cemetery all located in Monson.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Cynthia's name to the Monson Garden Club, P.O. Box 307, Monson, MA 01057, or the Monson Home for Aged People, 106 Main Street, Monson, MA 01057.

The Journal Register OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice (with a word limit of up to 500 words) and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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BOARD | from page 1

Arts Council
A request for \$300 was made by the town’s Arts Council for an art installation at the town offices.
Wolowicz spoke on the Gifts to the Town Request from the Arts Council for an art installation.
“The Select Board and Town Administrator are thrilled to announce a collaborative effort with the Monson Arts Council to celebrate and support the arts in our community,” Wolowicz said. “Starting in the fall, we will feature rotating visual art exhibitions on the walls of the town offices at 110 Main St. These exhibitions will showcase the work of local and regional artists through quarterly displays.
“As part of our ongoing commitment to the creative spirit that makes Monson

so unique, these exhibitions will provide artists with a welcoming platform to share their work with the community. By doing so, we aim to infuse even more creativity and inspiration into Monson. As part of our continued commitment to the creative spirit that makes Monson so special, these exhibitions will provide artists with a welcoming space to share their work while bringing even more creativity and inspiration into our lives.”
Wolowicz said that this was conceived as a way for the Arts Council to display some of its inventory of art pieces that they aren’t able to display, and to create a platform for local artists.
“The Arts Council has a collection, and we display it intermittently in the House of Art,” said Council President Alan Morin, “but we can’t necessarily get as much of the

public in as we’d like to.”
Morin said that the installation will provide minimal damage to the walls,
“We just want to be able to present more art to the town and present it in a way where people will see it more often, and thereby stimulate them to maybe come and see the various shows that we do have at the Arts Council,” Morin said.
Oney asked if the art pieces were insured, and Morin confirmed that the art was insured by Richard Green Insurance Agency.
“When we have our first one ready to go, we’re going to host a small reception for the artists that are going to be represented in that quarterly show, and people can come in and view them,” Wolowicz added.
The board voted unanimously to approve the release of the funds for the art installation at the Town Offices.

Senior Center stove
The board received a request for \$2,617.17 to repair the stove in the Senior Center. Wolowicz provided details on the request.
“A couple weeks ago, they actually had a suspected gas leak,” Wolowicz said. “The Fire Department had to be called, we closed the Senior Center for lunches. We made sure the center was not open until that was taken care of.”
Wolowicz said that a previous repair cost \$615.50, and the necessary repairs to the left side of the stove will cost \$2,001.67.
“This is a commercial stove that cooks all the meals for the Council on Aging,” Wolowicz said. “Without the left-side oven, certain meals that are favorites cannot be cooked.”
Wolowicz said that part of the cost was being provided

ed by the Friends of Monson Senior Citizens, a group that raises funds for the Senior Council, but these repairs would deplete the funds set aside for other activities, such as the summer picnic and a planned trip to the Quabbin Reservoir.
“To provide meals on an everyday basis, five days a week, which also covers Meals on Wheels, I think this is a very good use of funds from the town account,” Wolowicz said.
The board voted unanimously to approve the use of the funds to repair the oven.
“I can’t think of anything better to use the Gifts to the Town money for than feeding some of our senior citizens who need the help,” Oney said.
Memorial Classic
The last request was for \$4,000 for the town’s Memorial Classic half marathon and 5K road race, which was

submitted by Lee Williams and Tara Slozak to be able to donate to Griffin’s Friends for families going through tough times with their children and honor two of the town’s residents.
“They are going to be using the Unitarian Universalist Church,” Wolowicz said. “They had a meeting with them a couple of weeks ago and they were approved to use that.”
The funds will cover expenses, including food, music, police detail, medals, T-shirts, and race timers. Wolowicz noted that the race has been held regularly since before she was with the town.
“It’s something you’ve done every year,” Wolowicz said. “It’s a really great race, and they have a lot of fun, and it’s for a great, great cause.”
The board voted unanimously to release the funds for the event.

ARTIST | from page 1

tired Monson High School history teacher and librarian, said of his 24-inch by 24-inch acrylic on plywood.
But just when Morin was getting ready to say goodbye to the piece, his wife, Leslie Duthie, happened to pass by and offer a vastly different reaction.
Before long, at the encouragement of his family and friends, Morin submitted the piece to a local juried show, then regional events. Each time, he fully expected his artwork to fall below the selection threshold for exhibition.
And each time, “Earthquake in Death Valley” delivered shockwaves of success.
“Earthquake in Death Valley” was inspired during a journey to the desert of the American Southwest,” Morin stated. “The ominous pervasiveness of nature is intensified in remote locations far from civilization. This intensity is enhanced when one’s focus is aimed at nature’s power of change and movement.”
Earlier this week, it was

announced that “Earthquake in Death Valley” was selected for display at the Louvre, along with Morin’s “Taking It All In,” a 16 inch by 20-inch acrylic on canvas.
“Taking It All In” is a hallucinogenic image of the act of trying to take on the demands of a complex and sometimes complicated world,” Morin described. “Society keeps on giving us more – more sensory input, more sensory overload. Our interactions with it all change our perceptions, our understandings, and who we are. What we take in is up to us to define.”
From Oct. 23-25, the two pieces will be physically displayed at Carrousel du Louvre, a massive gallery located at the museum’s sub-level. Works from several other international artists will also be exhibited.
“It’s mind-blowing,” Morin said of learning that his works would be displayed at the world’s largest and most visited art museum. “It’s a huge honor to have this opportunity.”
The two acrylic pieces, as well as Morin’s “Yellow

Dragon,” were digitally displayed on a large video monitor this past June at One Art Space in New York City.
Those same three works will again be digitally displayed at the European Museum of Modern Art in Barcelona, Spain, from Oct. 16-18.
For Morin, who entered his retirement in 2022 with no prior experience in fluid acrylics, the journey has shown that anything is possible when inspiration meets hard work and creativity.
“I’m always mixing the paints, trying new things, and using different color combinations,” Morin told The Journal Register.
Ironically, Morin has since viewed plenty of online videos aimed at helping painters prevent their pieces



Submitted Photos
“Earthquake in Death Valley,” completed by Alan Morin in 2023, will be showcased at the Louvre Museum.

artists. He easily could have kept his artwork at home, despite receiving initial praise from family and friends, but he took the leap and submitted his pieces to juried shows.
And, as it turned out, members of local juries, selection committees for larger venues, and even the Louvre’s staff agreed with his family and friends.
“Always be willing to experiment, put yourself out there, and never give up,” said Morin, who grew up in Brimfield. “I wasn’t expecting this to go anywhere, but you never know where art can take you.”
To learn more about the artist, Morin’s Instagram account is: @alanj.morin.
Morin is also working on launching a website: www.alanmorin.net. It is still under construction, but guests will eventually be able to visit and learn more about his works.
Morin thanks members of the Monson Arts Council for their constant support. He was involved in the council before his retirement, and he always enjoys working with fellow volunteers to promote local art and creativity.

“It’s mind-blowing.
It’s a huge honor
to have this opportunity.”
– Alan Morin

from cracking. But without those unexpected cracks that spread through “Earthquake in Death Valley,” the piece might not be on the verge of appearing inside the pre-eminent museum of the art world.
Looking ahead, Morin hopes his story will serve as an inspiration to younger

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Dustin Pennington

Dustin Pennington, Owner, Micah Hinckley, Co-Owner in front of their latest painting project at Workshop 13 in Ware.

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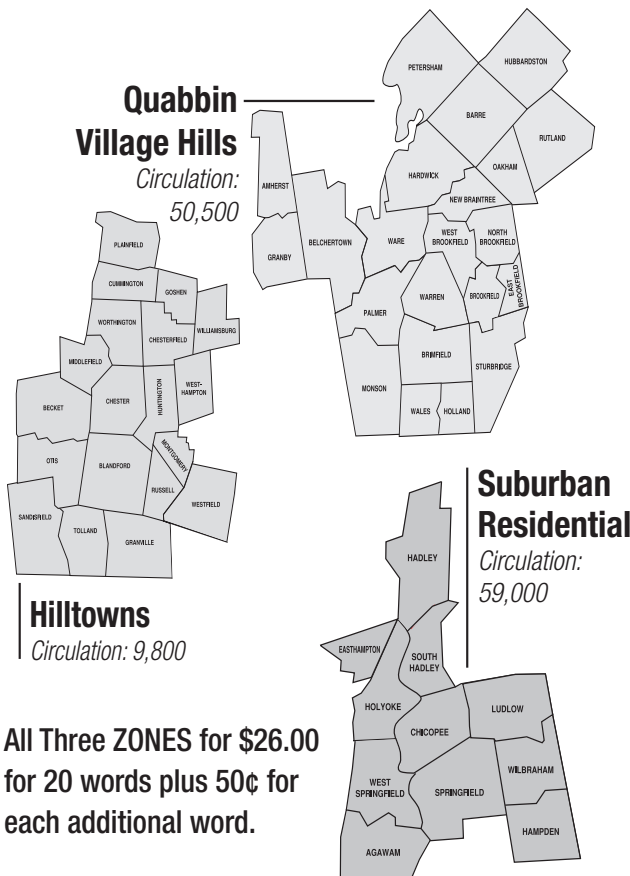
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MONSON

Local organizer
awarded Citizen
of the Year

By Marcello Guzmán
mguzman@turley.com

MONSON - Last Friday, June 19, the town's Citizen of the Year was celebrated with a banquet at the Legion Pavilion. The Citizen of the Year Award is presented annually to an individual or couple that has lived in town for a minimum of five years. It's decided on by the Citizen of the Year Committee, made up of past recipients, to recognize service and dedication that has made a significant contribution to the community. The Chair of the Citizen of the Year Committee, Barbara Barry, read several letters of commendation to the award recipients. The award was presented to Steven Slizak, a resident of Monson, who has lived in town for 25 years. Slizak was recognized for his "dedicated service to our community."



Citizen of the Year Committee Chair, Barbara Barry, presents the award to Steven Slizak.

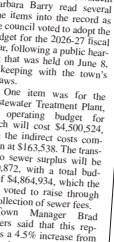
CITIZEN | page 12

PALMER

Council approves
budget items

By Marcello Guzmán
mguzman@turley.com

PALMER - At last week's Town Council meeting, several decisions were made regarding the town's budget for the next fiscal year. At the Thursday, June 18 meeting, Council President Barbara Barry read several letters of commendation to the award recipients. The award was presented to Steven Slizak, a resident of Monson, who has lived in town for 25 years. Slizak was recognized for his "dedicated service to our community."



Town Council members at a meeting.

BUDGET | page 13

MONSON

Residents enjoy annual
SummerFest

By Marcello Guzmán
mguzman@turley.com

MONSON - This week, the town enjoyed one of the most anticipated events of the summer, the annual SummerFest held at Quarry Hill Community School. On Saturday, June 20, at 5 p.m., residents gathered at Quarry Hill to parade in the annual fireworks show ahead of this year's celebration of the town's 250th anniversary. It's a good time, a family-friendly environment," said Kim Adamson-Bashaw, SummerFest for five years. "We come back every year." "It's our first year being the kids," said Ash Converse, who added that it was convenient to bring the kids as she lived across the street. In addition to the fireworks show, there were a number of local businesses and organizations with tables and food trucks set up to support the event. The First Church of Monson had a table giving out popcorn. Hill Country School provided face-painting and temporary tattoos, and the Lions Club made snow cones. CPAs, Foster Treats had sweet and treats for those who wanted to cool their heads. Cookies by Ray made cookies, and Bach flavors of scented ice cream to serve in cones and bowls. Sweet Monson had donuts with a variety of different flavors, including "a little bit of everything," maple, bacon, creamed apple cream, blueberry lemon, strawberry cream, peanut butter cup, and apple cider. The Nantux Concessions First trailer provided hot dogs and hamburgers, and Dev's Mac and Cheese had macaroni dishes with an assortment of toppings, ranging from pulled pork, beef, and chicken, and Madi Eatery had homemade meatballs with marinara sauce, as well as their own burgers and dogs. More hot dogs were available at Hot Rod Dogs, and Rustic Fusion sold novelty egg rolls. Cakes and coffee were served by the Best Garden served beer, cider, seltzers, and water to people with cash and a valid ID. Ames Netherburn said that SummerFest was "like a mini" for his family, depending on vacations. "We love it," Netherburn said. "It's always a good time to connect with people with cash and a valid ID."



Rachel Mengel and her husband, "Mr. Cookie" Gaston, had a truck selling cookies from Cookies by Ray.

SUMMERFEST | page 6

BRIMFIELD

Cemetery tour unites family of Revolutionary soldier

By Marcello Guzmán
mguzman@turley.com

BRIMFIELD - Last week, the town enjoyed its first ever Cemetery Tour, where residents were invited to learn about history through an engaging performance by historians and actors. The Saturday, June 13 cemetery tour came together thanks to the volunteers of Spirit of Brimfield, who came up with the tour as a way to celebrate the 250th anniversary of our nation's founding. Historical Commission said that the event went very well, with a huge turn-out and great weather. "I've always had an interest in history, and using history to bring history," De Bruin said. "Something is a great way for people to learn about a time and place in history, by hearing someone's experience as it is."



Over 100 people from various parts of the country attended the Cemetery Tour over two hours.

CEMETERY | page 16

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