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Grieve Memorial Park rededicated

By Kevin Flanders
Staff Writer
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MONSON – Following a major improvement project, community members attended a rededication ceremony last week at Dave

Grieve Memorial Park and Gazebo.

The Aug. 21 program was attended by residents, town officials, and several of Grieve’s family members and friends.

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Turley photo by Kevin Flanders
A memorial stone celebrates the original dedication.

PALMER



Kids pour creativity into Lemonade Day

By Kevin Flanders
Staff Writer
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PALMER – No matter where residents traveled across town this past Saturday, they were never far from a refreshing glass of lemon-

ade thanks to the dedication of young entrepreneurs.

The third annual Lemonade Day, held on Aug. 22, saw dozens of youngsters set up stands with their friends and families. Each stand featured its own unique theme, including railroad conductors

and lemonade crews.

Many kids also sold crafts at their setups.

“The event was amazing from start to finish,” said organizer Julia Taylor. “We had many people step up to volunteer, and the community support was awesome.”

Not only is the event a fun family tradition, but it also allows kids to learn about the world of business in a creative way. This year, prior to the big day, youngsters attended special classes held at

Turley photo by Kevin Flanders
The Conductors Lemonade business is on track in Palmer, thanks to the hard work of local youngsters Anastasia and Isabella.

PALMER

Local author excited for next chapter

Book launch set for Sept. 1

By Kevin Flanders
Staff Writer
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PALMER – Local author Suzanne Strempek Shea is looking forward to launching her latest book at Palmer Public Library, which has played a big role in her writing journey.

The book launch will take place on Sept. 1 from 6-8 p.m. at the library, located at 1455 North Main St.

Titled “Compositions: A Memoir in 42 Essays by 1 Kid on Her 8 Years of Catholic School, Handed in 60 years Late”, the book revisits Strempek Shea’s early years in a close-knit 1960s and

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MONSON

School Committee updates ahead of students return

By Marcelo Gusmão
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MONSON – The School Committee meeting on Aug. 19 began with acknowledgements by Superintendent Paul

Foster, during which he announced that the schools will open on Monday, Aug. 31.

“We’re going to welcome our first to 12th graders back on Aug. 31,” Foster said. “Pre-K and kindergarten students come back on Sept. 3,

which is a Thursday.”

Foster said that there will be social media posts to remind people of the date as it approaches. He then turned attention to the fall sports program, which will already be underway by the first week

of school.

“Fall Athletic Night is happening tonight,” Foster said.

Foster thanked the coaches, Christopher Fontaine, the Principal at the High School, and Athletic Di-

rector and Assistant Principal Mary Zurawka, as well as the students and the families that support them and drive them to athletic events.

“Everyone should have

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PALMER



It’s The Great Pumpkin, Bob Dupuis

By Layne Holcomb
Guest Contributor

PALMER – On May 2, 1976, lifetime Palmer resident Bob Dupuis came over the bridge onto South Main Street to thunderous cheers and applause.

He and his group, The Order of the Pumpkin, didn’t quite fit in with the meticulously uniformed marching bands, or carefully crafted floats depicting moments in history that filled out the majority of the parade lineup.

Dressed as Linus from the “Peanuts” comic strip, and led by Snoopy atop his dog house, Dupuis took the parade by storm aboard his giant pumpkin float.

Born in the old Wing Memorial Hospital (where Country Bank stands today) in August of 1941, Dupuis has lived in Palmer his whole life.

After graduating high school in 1959, and marrying his wife a year later, he worked in a number of tool and die shops, taking night classes and working his way

up the ranks. He even had the opportunity to travel the country, teaching engineering to college students.

“I was also teaching engineering through all of our engineering schools out here in New England. Worcester Polytech, Rensselaer, Brown University,” Dupuis said.

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Boys take silver in 2026 Bay State Games

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

FITCHBURG – A year ago, Chicopee’s Griffen Wrisley and Minnechaug’s Tyler Supczak were starters for the West soccer team which captured the Gold medal at the annual Bay State Summer games.

The duo were the only returning starters on this year’s West squad.

The West team took home the Silver medal at the Bay State Summer Games following a 2-1 loss to Central in this year’s Gold medal match, which took place at the Game On Sports and Performance Center in Fitchburg on July 11.

“I was lucky enough

to be a member of the Gold medal team last year,” Wrisley said. “We have a bunch of new players on this year’s team and were hoping to win the Gold Medal again. It’s a lot of fun being a leader of this team.”

The other members of the West team, who live in the Turley Publications coverage area, are John Carra (Agawam), Zacharia Yarovoy (Chicopee), Antonio Maurico (Chicopee), Aidan Monaghan (Agawam), Kayson Gauthier (South Hadley), Spencer Parsons (South Hadley), and Braeden Fitzgerald (Agawam).

The West team finished pool play with a perfect 4-0 record.

They posted a pair

of one sided matches against Northeast 6-2, and Southeast, 8-0. They also pulled out two matches by 2-1 results against Central and Metro.

“Central was the best team we played in pool play,” Wrisley said. “I scored a goal and had an assist in that game.”

The West team was coached by Josh Wiete-

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Aidan Monaghan, of Agawam, tries to play the ball off his chest.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Above, Lucas Cruz hustles past mid-field. Right, Spencer Parsons, of South Hadley, eyes an open teammate.



Linus Dandurand attempts to make a stop.



Tyler Supczak, of Wilbraham, makes the easy trap.



Andrew Dziadroz makes a play on the ball.



Kayson Gauthier, of South Hadley, looks to make a free kick.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Kaileena Smith, of Granby, advances up the field.



Margaret Healey, of Granby, looks to get around an opponent.



Above, Taylor Bartosz, of Wilbraham, looks to clear the ball on defense. Left, Kelsey Morrisette, of Chicopee, starts her way up the field.



Above, Kalli White, of Granby, is pressured as she heads through the middle of the field. Left, Aaliyah Hall, of South Hadley, chases after a loose ball.



Girls represented by two squads at Bay State Games

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

FITCHBURG – While the other sections of the state only had one girls’ soccer team competing in this year’s Bay State Summer Games, Western Mass. was represented by two teams for the first time.

The West Red team was coached by Matt Mosher, while Eric Woods guided the West Yellow team.

The two squads faced each other in the final pool game on July 11 at the Game On Sports and Performance Center in Fitchburg.

After building a 3-0 lead, the Red team withstood a late comeback by the Yellow team for a 3-2 victory.

“We had more than 40 girls’ try out for the two soccer teams, which shows how popular the sport is in Western Mass.,” said Mosher. “Eric and I have a very good relationship. We try our best to make the teams equal. It’s has been a lot of fun coaching this team.”

It was the sixth consecutive year that Mosher coached a Western Mass. girls’ soccer team at the Bay State Summers Games. His previous teams won two Silver Medals and three Bronze Medals.

Mosher was assisted by Laura Wray-Ramos, who’s the longtime girls’ varsity soccer coach at Agawam High School.

The members of the Red team, who live in the region, are Filomena Stellato (Agawam), Hannah Hae-saert (South Hadley), Kyra

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