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The Journal Register

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Grieve Memorial Park rededicated

By Kevin Flanders
Staff Writer
kflanders@turley.com

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.

GRIEVE | page 16



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

PALMER



Kids pour creativity into Lemonade Day

By Kevin Flanders
Staff Writer
kflanders@turley.com

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

KIDS | page 9

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
kflanders@turley.com

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

AUTHOR | page 14

MONSON

School Committee updates ahead of students return

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

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

SCHOOL | page 10

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.

DUPUIS | page 8



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School Committee restructures board, appoints subcommittees

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

PALMER – Last week, the School Committee met to reorganize and appoint members to subcommittees ahead of the new school year. On Aug. 19, the committee unanimously voted to re-appoint Bonny Rathbone to the position of committee chair. Sandra Noonan was then unanimously voted into the position of vice-chair. The committee then turned its attention to the three subcommittees, policy, budget/finance, and wellness. For the policy subcommittee, Rathbone solicited two volunteers, and was answered by Noonan and

committee member Anthony Braden. Both Noonan and Braden were unanimously appointed to the subcommittee. When Rathbone solicited volunteers for the budget/finance subcommittee, committee members Matthew Lovell and Joseph Nompoggi said they could return to the subcommittee as well. The committee unanimously appointed them both. Finally, the committee turned its attention to the wellness subcommittee. “Last year, we revived the Wellness Policy,” said Superintendent Matthew Francis. “In that policy, we have a wellness committee that consists of one representative from the School Committee.”

Braden volunteered to participate in the subcommittee last year and Rathbone asked if he was interested in joining the subcommittee again this year. She offered to take the position if he didn’t want it, “since everybody else is on other committees.” Braden said he was happy with the position, and was appointed to the subcommittee by unanimous vote. “Based off of policy, we have to meet quarterly throughout the year,” Francis said. “Once school starts and all the committee members are appointed or told about, then we will schedule our meetings for the year.” **New business** As the committee moved on to new business, Francis announced that he would

forego the finance budget report, saying that it would be “counter-productive” this early in the new fiscal year. The report refers to the month prior, and so the first month’s meeting report only presents the encumbrances going into the new year. “Our salaries are only the 260 employees, the year-round employees,” Francis said. “Other than encumbrances, I don’t think it’s a true picture of any spending trends that are going on.” Francis said that in the September meeting, the committee would get a truer sense of the start of the year, as monies and salaries hit the budget. “In addition, you’ll probably see the end of fiscal year 2026, how that finished

up as well,” Francis said. “So, we’ll break it up into two presentations during the month of September.” The committee then discussed communications it had received from the public. Noonan said she received some negative comments about the first day of school being earlier this year. “I informed them it was one day earlier than last year,” Noonan said. Rathbone said she had a similar conversation with a member of the community, which led her to ask the superintendent about it, and he also reminded her it was a difference of one day. The schools re-opened for the year on Aug. 25. Nompoggi then brought up an issue that he said might

fall more under the town’s jurisdiction than the school’s. “The poles that are put in place around Legion Field are these metal poles,” Nompoggi said. He said a person was concerned about children hurting themselves on the poles when running around the field during games. Nompoggi said the poles are part of temporary fencing put up to hold the metal wire, and described the poles as having “nothing on top,” which was the cause for concern. Braden said he received a comment regarding visitors to the school campus and families of soccer players who requested signage to point out where the soccer field is on the track.

Picnic to support residents in need

By Kevin Flanders
Staff Writer
kflanders@turley.com

MONSON – Area families, business owners and community leaders can’t wait for the return of the annual Monson Cultural Picnic early next month. The celebration will take place on Saturday, Sept. 5, at Veterans Field. An array of programs and activities for the whole family will be held from 1-5 p.m. Proceeds will benefit community assistance efforts led by Afri(K)que Limited, a nonprofit organization that helps women and their families facing homelessness, food insecurity, or displacement from fires. “If we get contacted about a need for something, we work to make it happen. We have provided everything from toys around the holidays to backpacks with school sup-

plies,” said Karina Dise, the organization’s founder and executive director. The Monson Cultural Picnic festivities will include a free cookout; multicultural performances; activities for kids of all ages; appearances from local organizations and businesses; and several vendors and crafters. Additionally, members of the Monson Police Department and the Hampden County Sheriff’s Office are slated to attend the event. “The Monson Police Department is always excited to be invited to the Monson Cultural Picnic. It is a great community event that brings residents of all ages and backgrounds together to hang out, eat some food, listen to some music, and watch some amazing performers,” said Police Chief Nicholas Gasperini. “Attending the Monson Cultural Picnic gives us an opportunity to connect with res-

idents one on one, support the community, and celebrate our town. Always a good time.” The event is also expected to include an appearance from members of Xi Wang Dance School. “It’s all about bringing people together and celebrating our community through the arts, creativity, and entertainment,” Dise added. Organization officials thank all business leaders for their support over the years, including longtime supporter Monson Savings Bank. “Our event sponsors are Mass Cultural Council, Springfield Cultural Council, Ohana School of Performing Arts, Shannon Mumblo Consulting, and COSTCO,” read a statement issued by the organization. To learn more about how Afri(K)que Limited is making a difference for local families in need, visit www.afrique.com.



Submitted Photo
Shown from left, Dr. Caro Munoz Agudelo, Director of Public Programs and Research at Norcross; Wales Senior Center Lead Cook Darleen Gilley; Senior Center Director Cheri Fisher; and Wales Selectman Michael Valanzola.

Norcross supports Wales Senior Center

WALES – The Wales Senior Center, 85 Main St., is about to receive major kitchen upgrades thanks to a donation from the Norcross Wildlife Foundation. Each week, the Senior Center provides a range of programs and services for residents. These include lunches served every Tues-

day and Thursday, prepared in the Center’s commercial kitchen. “After years of use, this space needs some upgrades, including new flooring. At the recommendation of Selectman Michael Valanzola, the Norcross Wildlife Foundation is providing part of its annual gift to the Town with

a \$5,000 donation to help with these improvements,” read a statement released by the Foundation. For more information about the Senior Center, please contact Cheri Fisher at 413-245-9683. To learn more about programs at Norcross, visit <https://norcrosswildlife.org/>.

‘Burial Grounds of Palmer’ presentation Oct. 6

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. This program is free, but registration is requested.



Palmer Senior Center

2670, extension 3. For more information about senior center happenings, follow “Palmer Senior Center” on Facebook or visit www.townofpalmer.com. **Movie Matinee** Fridays at 12:30 p.m. Drinks and popcorn are available.

Aug. 28 – “Small Things Like These” is set in 1985 when coal merchant Bill Furlong 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. 31 - Fall craft with Kim. **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.

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Regional meeting discusses rural health/economic needs

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – A meeting was recently held at E2E to discuss healthcare needs of the region, and use of Rural Health Transformation program funding.

At the Aug. 12 meeting, Cindy Allen Bourcier of Mary Lane Health, said she is an advocate for the protection of Mary Lane Hospital's assets and renovation of the historic building.

She said Mary Lane Health seeks to get healthcare services back in town, but primarily "we're advocating to get something going over on the Mary Lane site."

Also attending the meeting was Emily Kirby, Director of Prevention and Community Health for the town of Ware. In addition to her work for the town of Ware, Kirby oversees Healthy Quaboag and the Quaboag Hills Substance Use Alliance.

Kirby said these two grant-funded organizations serve 18 towns in the Quaboag region.

Gail Gramarossa, a public health practitioner, is working as a consultant with support of the New England Rural Health Association. She is co-facilitating a process with Kirby to speak to various stakeholders about healthcare needs.

Bourcier gave some background about healthcare

services efforts that have occurred over the years. She talked about medical staff being laid off before and after the merger between Baystate Health's Wing and Mary Lane hospitals.

"We knew that services were being shut down...it wasn't a decrease in demand for healthcare, it was a decrease in the services," she said.

Bourcier said a lot of people in the community were active in trying to keep healthcare services in town, but by 2024, Mary Lane Hospital was closed.

Since then, buildings have been demolished at the hospital site on South Street with the original Wetherby Building remaining.

Bourcier said there have been many surveys and community assessments completed which identify the need for healthcare services. She shared a photo of people raising their hands in support of restoring healthcare to the former hospital site.

"93% want healthcare back on Mary Lane," she said. "That is why I keep advocating for that."

Bourcier spoke about the region's aging population, noting that many senior citizens live alone and about 30% have a type of disability. She said falls at home are a risk for senior citizens, which also put a strain on emergency services.

A regional coalition is in

the process of being formed to represent area towns in order to receive Rural Health Transformation funds.

Bourcier said the town needs to form a committee in addition to the coalition to represent the town of Ware. She said the town of Hardwick has its own committee.

Gramarossa explained the state's definition of a rural region, and why certain towns are grouped together.

"It's a very complex area with lots of unmet needs both health-wise and social service-wise," she said.

Gramarossa said she has been meeting with stakeholders in the Quaboag Valley to determine how the Rural Health Transformation funds would be utilized to meet healthcare needs.

She said she does not know what the state will fund, as the request for proposals had not been released at the time of the meeting. She said it will be a quick turnaround time when the RFP is released and the 60-page application is due.

"The state is calling this a new era for rural health in Massachusetts," Gramarossa said.

Chris Lyon, State Director for Southern New England of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development program said it is important for everyone to work together.

"If we all work together we can do great things,"

Lyon said.

Lyon spoke about a previous meeting he attended, where the focus of the group's mission was divided into two parts: healthcare and economic development.

He said economic development will help to bring healthcare providers back into Ware. It will also increase the number of potential patients.

"It's a better business situation for the healthcare providers," Lyon said. "It's essential to the viability of the healthcare section."

He said economic development will also benefit the town, in addition to bringing in healthcare providers.

Lyon said the staff at the USDA's Rural Development program are "very committed" to making this happen.

The group discussed if the new zoning for the Mary Lane Hospital site would allow for certain economic development including housing for senior citizens. A zoning amendment may be required to move forward with this type of project.

The Mary Lane Hospital property is privately owned by Baystate Health.

Mike Dambrosio, Transportation Operations Supervisor for Ware, who oversees the Quaboag Connector, the Senior Center van and a Baystate Urgent Care van, spoke about the needs of the people in recovery and those who are homeless.

He said the Mary Lane

Hospital site could be developed to provide treatment and housing.

Bourcier said she would like to see more senior housing in the community, and suggested looking for grant money to conduct a study to determine senior housing needs, or hire a consultant.

Sawyer Blake, Project Coordinator for Community Health for the town of Ware and Healthy Quaboag said there are two different things being talked about – the Rural Health Transformation program and the redevelopment of the Mary Lane Hospital site.

"We are trying to get a coalition of people to put together a Rural Health Transformation application," Blake said.

Blake added that Baystate Health is a healthcare partner involved in the Rural Health Transformation conversation.

"We've got lot of 'next steps,'" Bourcier said, when talking about what needs to happen to move forward.

Lyon said the healthcare needs should not be tied to just one parcel of land, and it shouldn't be limited to Ware.

"There's many towns, it's a big area, and it may look a little bit different in every community," he said.

Gramarossa said once interviews with stakeholders are completed, they will compile information and identify priority needs for the region.

She said people can sign up for the Rural Health Transformation email contact list at mass.gov to be notified of any updates in the RFP process.

Community stakeholders at the meeting included Melissa Fales, Executive Director of the Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation; Holly Stevens, Ascentria Care Alliance in Worcester; Laureen Borgatti, COO of Wayfinders in Springfield; Kim Mongeau, representing state Sen. Peter Durant's office; Valerie Granger, Ware Selectboard member; Harry Brogna, West Brookfield Select Board chair; Becky Basch, Principal Planner for Pioneer Valley Planning Commission; Amie Shei, President and CEO of the Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts; Ronnie Rom, Rural Hospital Program Coordinator; Elizabeth Hancock, Ware Planning Board member; Stuart Beckley, Ware Town Manager; Henry Eskett, Ware resident; Ann Bigda, Ware resident and board member of Mary Lane Health; Ken Willette, Ware Selectboard vice-chair; Courtney Pelley, Director of Strategic Initiatives at the Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts; Michelle Ewing, Director of Finance and Administration at the Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts; and David McDonough, former President/CFO of Navigator Homes in Martha's Vineyard.

Saturday 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 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.

Pat and Ken Wheelock are bodywork practitioners based in Three Rivers. Their practice spans acupressure, 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.

Town Clerk lists early voting information

PALMER – Early voting for the Sept. 1 State Primary will be held on Thursday, Aug. 27 from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at the Palmer Town Clerk's Office, 4417 Main St.

Town Clerk announces new polling location

MONSON – Officials have announced a polling location change.

Future elections in town will take place at Quarry Hill School, 43 Margaret St. Please use the pool entrance when entering the school.

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

Keep ecosystem 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. 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.

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Viewpoints

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Educator says Jeromie Whalen is voice of the future

As an educator in Springfield, I've often felt that the voices of teachers, staff, and students are overlooked by those elected to represent us.

The everyday challenges facing our public schools – from food programs and curriculum to extracurricular opportunities, career readiness, and the resources our educators need – too often go unheard.

Real leadership begins with listening. That is exactly what I found in Jeromie Whalen.

I first met Jeromie at a Sixteen Acres Civic Association meeting while attending to hear local candidates for City Council and School Committee. I also spoke during public comment, asking for clothing donations for the Career Closet I maintain at Springfield High

School of Science & Technology and inviting community members to participate in our weekly Speaker Series, where professionals share their career journeys with students.

While others focused on speeches, Jeromie focused on people. He listened intently, engaged with residents, and stayed after the meeting, helping stack chairs and continuing conversations long after many had left.

When he introduced himself, he didn't just shake my hand, he immediately asked how he could help. He volunteered to speak with my students and even offered to donate professional clothing for our Career Closet.

He followed through.

The very next week, Jeromie visited our school to meet with civics students, tour

our campus and deliver several high-quality suits for students preparing for interviews and internships. He didn't make a one-time appearance – he made a commitment.

From the moment he walked through our doors, his energy was contagious. He greeted students and staff with genuine enthusiasm, took time to listen to their questions, and encouraged young people to recognize the power of civic engagement and voting.

His authenticity made an immediate impression.

When he returned as the featured speaker for our larger faculty and student event, attendance exceeded that of previous speakers because people wanted to experience firsthand what they had been hearing about. Jeromie spoke openly about his background in ed-

ucation, his journey into public service, and his belief that elected officials should remain connected to the communities they serve.

He welcomed every question with honesty, humility, and humor, creating meaningful dialogue instead of delivering political talking points.

What stands out most about Jeromie is not a single speech or one memorable visit – it's his consistency. He keeps showing up.

He has returned to Sci-Tech on multiple occasions because he believes our students deserve champions who are present, engaged and invested in their success. He understands that supporting education isn't about campaign season; it's about building relationships and earning trust through action.

Jeromie Whalen is relentless in his pursuit of representing the educators, families, and students of Ward 01. He doesn't simply talk about advocating for public education – he listens, he participates, and he follows through. He recognizes that the future of our community begins in our classrooms, and he is committed to ensuring that every educator feels heard and every student has the opportunity to succeed.

For those of us who have spent our careers serving Springfield's young people, that kind of leadership represents more than a campaign – it represents a new beginning.

Tara Roberts, M. Ed.
Internship & Pathways Facilitator
Springfield High School of Science & Technology
Springfield

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The submission deadline for consideration is Monday at noon.

Election letters to the editor welcome

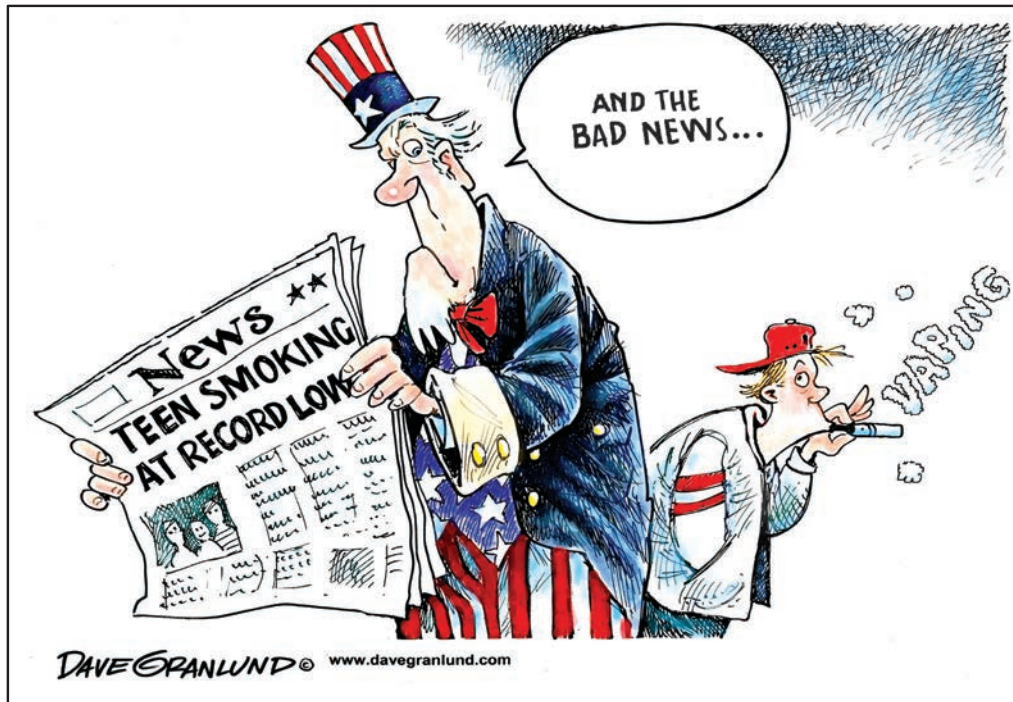
The *Journal Register* welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to The Journal Register,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

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

Campaign news

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

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



Preservation questions are popular this time of year

Dawn, who gardens in Tolland, asked a few questions of the Garden Lady this past week.

You see, this is the first year in three years that Dawn has a had a productive garden. Her former garden was too far from the house to be tended. It was tricky to irrigate and animals often found their way through or under the fence.

Dawn's hard work ended up being a hearty meal for woodchucks and more. Now, with raised beds close to her house, she is grateful for a bountiful harvest.

First, she wanted to be reminded how to roast tomatoes.

I enjoy roasting my cherry tomatoes; it's a great way to use them up when they produce like gangbusters.

Depending on the size, I either cut them in half or quarters and put them no more than two rows deep in a roasting pan. I sprinkle a teaspoon or two of extra virgin olive oil over the tomatoes and then I add half an onion and two-three cloves of garlic.

After mixing all the ingredients together, I bake at 400 degrees for about an

hour, stirring midway. You know when it is done when the skins pucker and there is very little liquid left. Now you can either eat it this way, say over pasta or rice, or you can zip it up with a few basil leaves and you have made your own sauce.

No need to de-seed or remove the skins. Just think, all that added fiber and goodness, with less work to boot!

You can tailor your roasting to suite your own taste buds as well. Some folks add chopped peppers or eggplant.

Certainly you can use any type of tomato, too and add additional herbs or spices.

Speaking of peppers, Dawn also wanted to know how to roast peppers. It's a little different from tomatoes.

Peppers roast best when they are fully ripe – i.e., when they have changed color. I have mentioned it before, but my favorite roasting pepper is "Carmen," a

long bell pepper with thick walls.

Simply wash the fruits and position them whole in a single layer under the broiler, turning frequently until they bubble up and char slightly.

This can also be accomplished on a gas grill or as my husband will attest, over the flame of your kitchen gas stove.

Once charred, place them in a paper bag or covered container. The steam will soften the skin to the point it can be rubbed off, revealing yummy, thick flesh.

Pull off the stem and remove the seeds and voila! Roasted red peppers are yours to freeze.

I just blot mine dry and put them in single servings in plastic freezer bags. The fruit is easily thawed by placing the bag into a shallow basin of water; likewise, you can pop the pepper popsicle on to a plate and let it thaw in the fridge.

Roasted peppers are fantastic on homemade pizza or blended into hummus.

I shared with Dawn that I was making pickles. She went on to say that hers never turn out well, so I texted

GARDEN ■ page 8

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor

We were bitten by Medicare's IRMAA this year; What should I so?

Dear Rusty:

My wife and I file our taxes jointly.

In 2024, I took an IRA Required Minimum Distribution, which was significantly more than I was required to take.

My Medicare premiums were not affected in 2025 and our Social Security payments were not reduced. Then, our joint filing in 2025 kept us below the IRS' "Modified Adjusted Gross Income level. Yet in 2026 our Medicare payments increased and our Social Security payments were reduced.

If my MAGI is below the maximum for 2025, will my regular SS payments/Medicare reductions be restored in 2027? Is there any action I need to take to ensure this will happen or will our Medicare payments and reduced SS payments be our new norm?

Signed: Worried Retiree

Dear Worried Retiree:

FYI, your Medicare premiums in 2026 were affected by the large RMD you took in 2024, which caused a Medicare provision known as the "Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount" to apply for 2026.

When determining the Medicare Part B premium for next year (each fall), Medicare uses the income you reported to the IRS two years prior to calculate your Medicare Part B (and Part D) premium for upcoming year.

If you exceed the base "IRMAA" income threshold two years ago, then your Medicare premiums for the next year will include a supplemental amount on top of the "standard" Medicare premium for that year.

The amount of the

supplement depends on how much you exceed the base IRMAA threshold by (FYI, the base IRMAA threshold for 2026 for a married couple filing jointly was \$218,000). If your 2024 income exceeded that initial IRMAA threshold, you paid a higher Medicare premium, which also reduced your SS monthly payment because Medicare is deducted from your SS benefit. IRMAA uses a sliding scale to determine how much more than the standard Medicare premium you will pay.

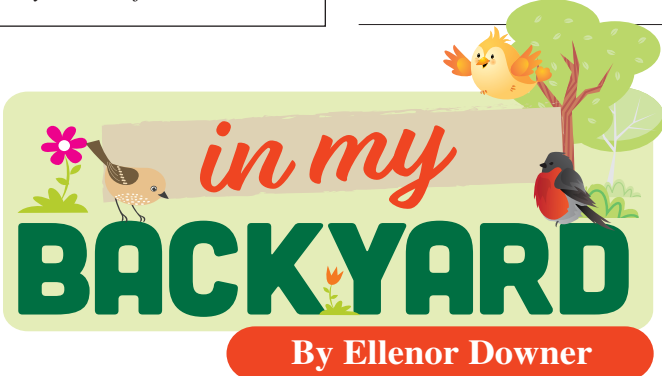
However, that will all automatically correct itself going forward. In other words, when determining your premiums for 2027, Medicare will look at your 2025 income. If your 2025 MAGI is less than the base IRMAA threshold, you and your wife will both automatically revert to paying the standard 2027 Medicare Part B and Part D premiums.

You don't need to take any action for that to happen; it will all be automatic.

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.



Photos by Elizabeth Frederick
This adult male Eastern bluebird is seen at the entrance of a bluebird house checking on his brood.



I received an email from a Hampden resident, who sent two photos of Eastern bluebirds – one adult male and a fledgling.

She states, "I live in Hampden, for the past sev-

eral years we have been blessed to have a pair of bluebird's nest in our yard. They have had three broods of babies each year including this year."

The fledgling in the



The fledgling male Eastern bluebird blends in with the ground cover. Blue feathers are visible.

above photo is a male. The photo was taken shortly after fledging. Wing feathers, wing coverts and tail feathers are essential in determining the sex of young bluebirds.

By day ten to eleven days after hatching, feather colors are noticeable. The blue tail in males and gray in females become apparent. In the male, the short tail at fledging is bright blue. Times may vary but by day 13 the tail color is apparent.

Both sexes have a gray spotted back and chest. They also have a white eye ring.

By the time a bluebird is 19 to 24 days old, the male has blue wing coverts and the female gray ones.

At five weeks old the

BIRDS ■ page 8

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.



By Julie Midura
Guest Columnist

We recently brought our 1-year-old grandson, Dustin, to a local woodland area. After carrying him for miles, we lifted him out of the child carrier so that he could stretch his legs. Not yet walking independently, he grasped each of my index fingers, then carefully moved along the trail on unsteady feet.

A white birch tree just off trail caught his eye, and he steered me towards it. Once we reached it, he let go of my fingers and leaned his hands against the tree. His tiny fingers fell upon a loose piece of dry bark.

His eyes widened and a look of surprise came upon his face when the bark slipped from the tree into his hand.

Dustin looked at it, examining it with curiosity. Then, with all the seriousness a 1-year-old can muster, he reached up and pressed the fragment back against the gnarled tree.

He held his hand over the bark for a moment, like

Nature through the eyes of a child

someone gluing one object to another. Once he seemed certain he had mended the trunk, he pulled his hand away.

Unsurprisingly, the piece of bark fluttered to the ground.

Dustin bent down, picked up the wayward piece of tree, and once again pressed it back against the trunk.

This time, he patted it carefully. But when he withdrew his hand, down went the scrap of wood once again.

Undeterred, Dustin repeated the process over and over and over again, certain that if he just kept trying, he could reattach the broken scrap of tree skin back onto the birch tree. But in spite of his tenderness and quiet determination, gravity won every time.

I stood beside him and watched. Half amused and half contemplative.

There was a lesson here, I was certain. Not for Dustin, but for me.

Dustin displayed no frustration. He was not aggravated or impatient. He just kept trying. With an open heart and a beautiful spirit. And a determination that somehow, he could fix the world around him.

I don't know how long Dustin would have spent trying to reattach the bark to that birch tree. I finally scooped him up and settled him on the dirt path.

He immediately reached for a nearby stick. He picked it up. Turned it. Stretched out his arm to show it to me – looking up at me with wonder in his wide eyes. Smiling as though he had discovered the greatest treasure on earth.

He poked a dry leaf. Drew lines in the dirt. Stirred the pine needles.

Absent of batteries, on-



Dustin explored nature with his grandparents.

off switches, flashing lights and instructions – he held the stick as though it was a prized possession.

I felt an urgency to continue moving. There were trails waiting to be explored. Miles waiting to be walked. A time frame to be adhered to.

Instead, I lowered myself cross-legged and settled on the pine needle path next to Dustin. And there we remained, lingering in a place where time has forgotten what it means to rush.

Years from now, my grandson won't remember this day. He won't remember the rough texture of the twig he held. The beautiful white birch tree he attempted to mend.

He won't recall the day sunlight streamed through the trees above him, as the grandparents who love him



Dustin, age 1, held a piece of birch bark in his hand.

sat beside him while he discovered the natural world around him.

Regardless, perhaps he would leave the forest carrying something with him that would remain. Perhaps the forest was filling something inside of him that would not come from actual recollection, but was being planted nonetheless, before he could even form a sentence.

The twig came home with Dustin – a treasure he refused to let go of when I placed him back in the child carrier. The wayward scrap of bark, however, remained on the forest floor, where it would eventually return to the earth.

But long after the bark has dried, the unspoken lessons will remain.



Submitted Photos

The author's grandson picked up sticks off the forest floor.

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Friends of the Poor Walk to be held Oct. 18

STURBRIDGE – The St. Vincent de Paul Society in Fiskdale will host its third annual Friends of the Poor Walk, on Sunday, Oct. 18, at noon at the Sturbridge common during the harvest fest.

Proceeds from the fundraiser will go toward supporting local individuals and families in need across Brimfield, Brookfield, Holland, Sturbridge, Wales and other nearby towns.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society in Fiskdale provides practical assistance throughout the year, including emergency housing, rental and utility help, food, clothing and other essential needs – serving people of all backgrounds and faiths.

The Fiskdale conference raises funds through parish poor boxes, public donations and events such as this one.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul operates in 153 countries, with more than 4,000 local conferences, and is run entirely by volunteer members committed to tackling poverty in all its forms.

Residents are encouraged to come to the harvest fest and join the St. Vincent de Paul Society in the walk for their neighbors in need.

For more information contact svdpfiskdalepr@gmail.com. To make a donation, visit svdpfiskdale.org and click on the “Donate” button.

Annual water quality report available

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

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

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

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

Ceremony to honor 9/11 victims

PALMER – The American Legion, Palmer Post 130, invites residents to its annual 9/11 Remembrance/Dedication program.

The event will take place on Friday, Sept. 11, at 6 p.m. at 1010 Thorndike St., the new location of Crimmins-Graveline Insurance.

“At this time, we will continue to honor all the police, firefighters, EMTs, veterans, and civilians who lost their lives that fateful day,” read a statement released by the American Legion.

“We will also honor our fallen from Western MA since 9/11 and dedicate any pavers received since our last ceremony.”

Monson-Glendale United Methodist Church hosts chicken BBQ Aug. 29

MONSON – A chicken barbecue will take place on Saturday, Aug. 29, at Monson-Glendale United Methodist Church, 162 Main St.

The event will run from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Dine-in or takeout orders are available. Quantities are limited, so reservations are

Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

PALMER – To wrap up the summer, Diamond Junction Bowling Lanes hosted its monthly King of the Hill Tournament for the month of August.

This month’s tournament featured eight entries with the top six qualifiers advancing to the stepladder. After three games of qualifying, finishing in first place was Sean Comerford with a total score of 385.

In game two of the qualifier, Comerford scored 136 to pull himself back into contention. Mike Forgue finished in second place with a qualifying score of 376. Kristen Havens of Diamond Junction Bowling Lanes finished in third place with 376.

Forgue won the tiebreaker to earn the second seed.

Finishing in fourth place was John Havens with 370. John Eckert received the fifth stepladder spot with a 368, and Nick Maslon got the sixth and final seed with a 367. Maslon finished strong with



107 to get into the ladder.

Each match was a one-game match until the finals, which will be a two-game match. The first stepladder match was between #6 seed Nick Maslon and #5 seed John Eckert. Maslon advanced after defeating Eckert, 109-91.

Maslon bowled against John Havens. Maslon advanced again after defeating Havens, 97-76.

Match three was between Maslon and K. Havens. The final score was 94-88 in favor of Kristen Havens.

The semi-final match was between K. Havens and Mike Forgue. The match came down to the tenth and final frame as Forgue sur-

passed Havens by one pin, 91-90. Forgue advanced to the two-game final against #1 seed Sean Comerford.

In game one, Comerford bowled a strike in the last frame to score 110. Forgue began the final match with 101.

In game two, Comerford scored 99 for a two-game total of 209 to win the August King of the Hill. Forgue finished in second place and combined for 182 during the final.

Comerford will return in September to defend his crown at Diamond Junction Bowling Lanes. In addition to the return of the King of the Hill, the fall league season also returns in September.

Monson Lions Club hosts Family Fest set for Sept. 5

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

The event will take place on Saturday, Sept. 5, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Westview Farms Creamery, 109 East Hill Road.

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

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

Monson 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 take place on 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.-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.

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Business

Local restaurant reaches major anniversary

It's all in the family

By Kevin Flanders
Staff Writer
kflanders@turley.com

PALMER – For a quarter of a century, the team at Apollo 1 Restaurant has welcomed patrons as members of the family.

Celebrating the restaurant's 25th anniversary under its current ownership group, Vincenzo Montefusco, Anthony Guimaraes, and the rest of their leadership team have always enjoyed strong community support.

And whenever longtime customers walk through the doors, they immediately feel like they're right at home.

"The community has always provided for us. We receive great support year after year," said Guimaraes, who grew up locally and saw the impacts the restaurant has had on Palmer and surrounding towns. "Everyone who comes

here, we consider them to be family."

For the Apollo staff, serving the community is both a profession and a passion. The majority of the staff has worked at the restaurant for a decade or longer.

"It's a family, for sure. Everyone's been here for a long time," said Brett Doucette, who began working at Apollo when he was 14.

Doucette's uncle also works at the restaurant, which employs a dedicated mix of full-time and part-time staff members from several area communities.

Specializing in Italian, Greek, and American cuisine, Apollo offers dine-in and takeout options. During the challenging pandemic years, when many local businesses were forced to close down, Apollo customers showed strong support for the restaurant with steady stacks of takeout orders.

"We were very busy for takeouts during COVID. It means a lot to have such great

support from the community," Guimaraes said.

As the years have rolled by, the Apollo team has been thrilled to welcome the next generation of hungry customers. Many patrons who were children or teenagers when they first stepped into the restaurant are now bringing their own kids to Apollo.

Moreover, countless birthday meals, anniversary dinners, and other family celebrations have taken place at the restaurant over the years.

For many local families, Apollo is a popular destination to catch up over dinner after work and school.

"We get very busy after school starts in the fall, and we always love meeting new families," Montefusco said.

The restaurant's hours of operation are Sunday through Thursday (11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.), as well as Friday and Saturday (11 a.m. to 9 p.m.).

Apollo also recently unveiled a new drink menu. Patrons now have plenty of expanded options to enjoy.



Turley photo by Kevin Flanders
Vincenzo Montefusco, a longtime member of the Apollo 1 Restaurant ownership team, gets ready to serve up slices of deliciousness.

"We have a lot more martinis and mixed drinks," Guimaraes added. "We have around 18-20 cocktails now." New weekly specials are also available.

Additionally, the restaurant offers catering services for events and parties. Many families have been choosing Apollo for years as their restaurant for celebrations.

To learn more about menu options and services, visit www.apollorestaurant1.com.

The restaurant is located at 1581 North Main Street.

In the classroom

Classes of 1976 plan 50th reunion on Oct. 17

PALMER – The Palmer High School Reunion Committee invites the 1976 graduates of Palmer High School and Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School to a 50th Anniversary Reunion Party on Saturday, Oct. 17 from 5-10 p.m.

Faculty is also welcome

to attend the reunion party.

Graduates and guests are invited to eat, drink and be reunited in the outdoor venue at Vanished Valley Brewing Co., 782 Center St., Ludlow. The cost is \$35 per person, includes entertainment by Kingdom of Jones Band and a BBQ style

buffet with cornbread, salad, BBQ ribs, BBQ chicken, pulled pork, mac n' cheese, rice and beans and coleslaw.

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

PHS Class of 1966 plans reunion

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.

CAMPUS NOTES

Simmons University students make Dean's List

REGION – Two local residents were named to the Dean's List for the 2026 spring semester at Simmons University in Boston.

Palmer's Giada Brooks joins Isys Patterson, of Wales, as Dean's List qualifiers.

To earn Dean's List status, undergraduate students must obtain a GPA of 3.5 or higher, based on 12 or more credit hours of work in classes using the letter grade system.



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JOIN THE DANCE FAMILY!

DUPUIS | from page 1

Over the years Dupuis and his wife, Diane, would join a close knit group of friends made up of other young families. Amongst the members of the group, they would compete to see who could grow the biggest pumpkin.

“We decided we were going to have a contest every year, on who could grow the largest pumpkin, by weight. Not by size, but by weight,” he said.

These competitions often resulted in many shenanigans, including breaking into each other’s gardens in the dark of night, or alarming their pumpkin patches in order to defend against these pumpkin burglaries.

Then, one year, as Palmer began its preparations for the 1976 Bicentennial Parade, inspiration struck.

“I don’t know who had the idea, but we thought we should get a big float to be in the parade,” Dupuis said.

The 1976 Palmer Bicentennial Parade was a sight to behold. With nearly two hundred groups, floats, and bands registered to march in the parade, and an estimated 60,000 people descending on the town to see it, it was easily one of the biggest parades in Palmer history.

Those who were able to view the Parade in person in ‘76, or who were able to attend either of the two showings hosted by the Palmer Public Library this summer as a part of their Semiquincentennial Shindig may remember a



Bob Dupuis dressed as Linus from “Peanuts”.

certain giant orange float that stood apart from the rest.

Starting four months before the parade, Dupuis and his friends began building a wooden frame that resembled the ribs of a pumpkin, and covering it in chicken wire. Every weekend, the families would gather, cutting thousands of feet of orange plastic and stapling them into bundles to be attached to the chicken wire.

“I believe someone made a count of 17,000 of those inserts in the pumpkin,” said Dupuis.

They worked diligently, or even “frantically” as Dupuis recalled, come rain or come shine, to get the float together in time.

“Some weekends were frigid cold, some were rainy,

some were hot, and we were there every weekend,” he said.

It was decided that Dupuis would ride aboard the float, dressed as Linus Van Pelt from the ever popular “Peanuts” comic strip. To complete this “Linus in the pumpkin patch” scene, the group decorated a lawn mower as Snoopy’s iconic red dog house to ride along in front, with the beagle himself perched on top.

“It was a little precarious,” Dupuis remembered. “Because every time it hit a little bump, it’d sway a little bit, and I never knew if I was going to get thrown off the pumpkin or not.”

Bumps in the road aside, The Order of the Pumpkin’s appearance near the tail end of the parade made a huge im-

pression on the crowd.

“It was really quite a thing...I mean, we got a lot of cheers because it was just so different. There was, you know, all the people, the Shriners were there and all the marching bands and all that, but we were the different people, and I believe we got some kind of original award,” Dupuis said.

Dupuis described the roaring of the crowd as something that made all the hard work of building the pumpkin worthwhile.

“It was just thrilling, really unbelievable. You just have that kind of recognition and the work we did and – and just the joy of having, you know, that – that unified feeling,” he said.

As the pumpkin made its way down Main Street, people



Snoopy was also featured on the parade float, sitting atop his iconic red doghouse.

called out to him, adults recognizing Dupuis from around town, as kids recognized his costume from their favorite comics. The cheers followed the float along the parade route as he waved and tossed candy into the crowd.

“It’s hard to explain how – how fulfilling that was, for all that work we have done, and just the – the sheer thrill of being up on the top of that pumpkin,” he said.

Being able to travel only at low speeds, and having to take off the stem of the pumpkin in order to fit beneath highway overpasses was not enough to deter the group’s participation in other events. The Order of the Pumpkin would bring their giant pumpkin to three more parades that summer, in Belchertown, Wilbraham and Ludlow.

Getting the chance to see the parade again but from a new perspective at the Palmer Library’s viewing party 50 years later was a truly overwhelming experience for Dupuis. Getting to see his younger self, riding along above a thundering crowd brought back many indescribable feelings.

“It hit your heart, hit your soul, and was a day you could never forget, ever,” Dupuis said.

If you are interested in seeing Dupuis and the giant pumpkin, along with the rest of the bicentennial parade for yourself, an hour long video of the parade has been made available by the Palmer Public Library. The video can be found at palmerlibrary.org/palmervoices

BIRDS | from page 4

young male has blue wing feathers and a bright blue tail. The female’s primary wing feathers are blue, but concealed. The base of her tail is blue and the rest bluish gray. Spots are still present on back and breast.

Young bluebirds continue to depend on their parents for food until six weeks old. Siblings tend to forage nearby until they join flocks of young

birds. Some first brood birds even help raise their parents next brood if their parents have a double brood season.

Between July and October young birds begin to replace their juvenile plumage. Blue and brick red feathers begin to appear. By mid to late October all juveniles finish molting into their first adult plumage.

Leucistic crow

I met a New Braintree resident at the Oakham Post

Office this week. He said he saw a crow with one white wing. Leucistic birds are birds that have abnormal plumage coloration due to a genetic mutation that causes a partial loss of pigmentation.

They may have washed out feathers or blotches of white feathers. While rare, they are found in many bird species around the world.

Whippoorwills

A Brimfield resident emailed, “I thought you’d be

interested to learn that I still have several whippoorwills calling at dusk in the lower Haynes Hill/Paige Hill area of Brimfield.”

She stated, “I’ve only lived here four years, but they are here every year!. They start calling about 8:30 p.m.”

She stated, “My grandparents owned a house that bordered Reedy Meadow in Lynnfield. We heard Whippoorwills there. So cool to have them calling from my

front and back yards at the same time.”

While on vacation as a child on Lake Winnisquam, my dad, brother and I would hear them calling while fishing for horn pout at night. I used to hear them in Oakham, but I not heard one in years.

Owls hooting

I do hear barred owls hooting back and forth at night. Sometimes they are quite loud and can be heard even with the windows

closed.

Juvenile red-tailed hawk I received an email from a reader who saw a juvenile red-tailed hawk in her front yard. She stated, “It was quite beautiful. It had a small rodent for its dinner. It was really close to my front door, I’ve never seen a hawk so close to me.”

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

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GARDEN | from page 4

her a copy of a recipe given to me by a dear coworker over 20 years ago. I am still making them.

I’m not sure who originally gave Ron the recipe, but here it is for anyone wanting to use up an abundance of cucumbers. I’ve made it with full size cukes as well as picklers.

I would recommend that you fill your canning jars, be it quart or half gallon, with the cucumbers first. They can be packed tightly.

Then, add plain water to the jar all the way to the rim. Dump the water out into a large measuring cup to see just how much liquid you need.

Then you can adjust the other ingredients to the ratio in the recipe. I learned this trick the hard way after wasting ingredients because I didn’t need quite a double recipe.

Ron’s Pickle Recipe

Ingredients:

- 14-16 cucumbers
 - 8 teaspoons pickling spice
 - 6 dill tops
 - 6 cloves garlic
 - 2 teaspoons sugar
 - 4 tablespoons Kosher salt
 - 1 cup vinegar
 - 5 cups water
- Instructions:

Combine all ingredients into canning jars. Shake and leave on counter for 36 hours. Refrigerate for two days before eating. Will keep in the fridge for a few months although the flavor will intensify with storage.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the UMass. For 34 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with “Gardening Question” in the subject line.

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KIDS | from page 1

the library to introduce them to basic business practices.

“This is a great opportunity for kids to learn how to be entrepreneurs,” said Jemma Thompson, of Palmer, whose 11-year-old son Lawrence took part in two classes before setting up a stand with his friends.

In addition to lemonade, Lawrence’s stand focused on 3D-printed toys as its crafting theme. Several vehicles passed the Thorndike Street setup with honks of support, and the kids were thrilled to meet community members.

For Taylor, it’s always rewarding to see new families getting involved in the tradition. After assisting with a similar event when she lived in Nome, Alaska, Taylor brought its inspiration with her to western Massachusetts.

And the program was an instant success among local kids and families.

“What they learn here will help them in the future. It’s been amazing to see the growth of this event,” said Taylor, who now resides in Palmer.

Once again this year, area residents showed strong support for the budding entrepreneurs. The event also included lemonade stands set up by kids in surrounding communities like Ludlow, Springfield, and Ware.

For town officials, it’s exciting to see a fun program that teaches kids about the importance of organization and financial literacy.

“Lemonade Day is a tremendous opportunity for our young people to learn the fundamentals of financial litera-



Luca Pinstein, 9, pours a fresh glass of lemonade.



Local kids get ready for more customers on Thorndike Street.

Turley photos by Kevin Flanders



cy, entrepreneurship, and responsibility in a fun, hands-on way,” said Town Manager Brad Brothers. “Financial literacy is one of the most important foundational skills we can teach our youth, and this program brings those lessons to life.”

Looking ahead, Taylor is eager to see the tradition continue its spread to neighboring communities.

“We are excited to help people who want to bring it to their own towns. We have the blueprint in place, and we hope to see it keep growing,” Taylor said.

Town officials thank Taylor for her hard work in supporting the next generation of entrepreneurs.

“We are proud to be celebrating the third year of Lemonade Day in Palmer, made possible through the dedication of our volunteers and community partners, especially Julia Taylor, whose leadership has helped the program grow,” Brothers added.

Taylor and her team of volunteers appreciate the strong support each year from residents, town officials, and business owners.

“I thank everyone for their continued support as we grow the Lemonade Day program,” Taylor said.

To learn more about the tradition, please send an email to: lemonadedaypalmer@yahoo.com.

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 Quabog 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.

Grange hosts BBQ on Aug. 29

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

The menu includes pulled pork, chicken, brisket, baked beans, coleslaw, cornbread, drink and dessert for \$25. Eat outside under the tent or take your meal to go.

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

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.

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CH601-EN

SCHOOL | from page 1

received an email about try-outs,” said Committee Chair Alison Morgan. “If anyone was still interested in signing up and you missed it, you can still sign up. Just reach out to Assistant Principal Zurawaka.”

Grant awards

The topic then turned to the amount of money in grants that the district has been awarded over the summer.

“It’s been a good summer,” Foster said. “We’re over \$400,000 in grants we’ve been awarded so far this summer.”

At the committee’s July 22 meeting, Foster had announced that the school had

been awarded a \$70,000 grant to support engineering pathways, which is being used to purchase a Computer Numerical Control machine for cutting and carving materials. In Wednesday’s meeting, Foster announced that the town had recently been informed that it was awarded another \$75,000 grant to support innovation pathways.

“That is going to support the engineering, medical assisting, and our workplace learning,” Foster said. “And it’s also going to support our early college pathways, so we’re excited for that.”

Foster said that he would make a detailed presentation on the grant at the committee’s next meeting, in Sep-

tember. The meeting would then involve a presentation on grants that amounted to about \$260,000 to support the implementation of the new literacy curriculum.

ESY program

Foster then went on to describe the Extended School Year Program, which provides services to students with disabilities who benefit from additional learning time in the summer.

He said 51 students attended this summer, with 34 of them attending Monday through Thursday, 10 who attended for periodic tutoring, and seven who received speech services.

Foster thanked Director of Special Education Colette

Bidus and the special education team.

“I visited the program a couple times this summer,” Foster said. “In some ways it’s a smaller setting in the summer, so there’s a chance for some of our kids to be in smaller ratio settings with their teachers and move their learning forward.”

Extended

school day program

The last of Foster’s updates was relating to the district’s Extended Program, which offers before- and after-school services to students. Foster described enrollment for the program as “robust.”

“I do want to say thank you to Teresa Galarno, who runs that program for us, and

she just does a phenomenal job, so I want to acknowledge her,” Foster said.

Foster announced that enrollment for both morning and afternoon services has been closed, as they had filled up.

“We do have the option, over time, if there are enough kids on the waitlist, to add staffing to that program,” Foster said.

The superintendent added that because the fees for the program cover the costs, the program has remained cost-neutral and does not cost the district any operating funds.

“So we would need to have enough of a waitlist to be able to cover another staff,” Morgan added.

Summer Eats program

Foster also praised Summer Eats for serving 3,537 meals over a period of 25 days.

“I want to say thank you to Director Blanchard and the whole foods service staff,” Foster said. “That’s an awesome service provided to our community.”

Subcommittees

Committee member Jamie Murphy also reported on the work of the policy subcommittee. Murphy said that she, Committee member Karen Nothe-Valley and Foster reviewed several policies, which will be discussed at the committee’s next meeting in September.



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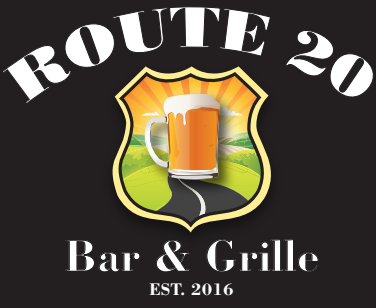


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Boys take silver in 2026 Bay State Games

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-

BOYS | page 12

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

GIRLS | page 12

GRIRLS | from page 11

Lippmann (Holyoke), Gabriella Ramos (Agawam), Riley Platt (South Hadley), Audrey Afonso (Ludlow), Olivia Izzo (Agawam), Bridget Benoit (Belchertown), and Bri-Anne Kraus (Granby).

"All of the players on my soccer team have been playing with and against each other for years," Moshier said. "They know each other very well."

After finishing pool play at 2-1-1, the Red team surged to a 3-0 win over Northeast in the Gold medal game. It marked the first time that a West girls soccer team won the Gold medal at the Bay State Games since 2016.

"It's very exciting being a member of this soccer team," Haesaert said. "There are a lot talented soccer players in the west."

The Red team began pool play with a 2-1 loss to Northeast. The following

day, they tied Central, 1-1, before celebrating a 3-0 shutout win against South-east/Coastal.

During the past couple of years, Woods, who coaches the girls' soccer team at the MacDuffie School in Granby, coached the Central/West team at the Bay State Games. His team won the Gold medal in 2024.

"The Central team had a mixture of players from Central and Western Mass. during the past couple of years," Woods said. "It's nice to coach a team with only players from the West. Soccer is a very popular sport in Western Mass."

The Yellow team lost to Central, 5-0, in the Bronze medal game.

The members of the Yellow team, who attend a high school in the region, are Taylor Bartosz (Minnechaug Reg.), Kelsey Morrisette (Chicopee Comp), Grace Sherman (South Hadley), Sofia Marsh (Granby),

Cecelia Litz (Agawam), Kalli White (Granby), Margaret Healey (Granby), Grace Curto (Agawam), Mackenzie Lynch (Agawam), Sydney Germain (Chicopee), Cayla Ribeiro (Chicopee), Eleanor Szlosek (Granby), and Jordyn Szado (Monson).

The Yellow team (0-3-1) began pool play with a pair of 4-1 losses to both Central and Northeast. They managed to tie Southeast/Coastal, 1-1 the following afternoon.

In the West vs. West match-up, Healey scored a penalty kick goal and added a corner kick goal.

"It was really a lot fun playing in the Bay State games for the first time," said Healey, who's a rising sophomore. "I enjoyed competing against the other players from the West."

It was an enjoyable three days in Northern Worcester County for the two girls' soccer teams from Western Massachusetts.

WILBRAHAM – On Saturday, Aug. 15 at Spec Pond in Wilbraham, the Orioles defeated the Angels 15-8 in the championship game. The Orioles were propelled by nine runs in the first two innings. While the Angels would manage some offense later in the game, it was not enough to come all the way back in the matchup. The Angels were this year's pennant winners, taking first place with an 11-4 record. The Orioles won the championship for the second year in the row. They defeated the Twins in last year's championship game.



Andy Roland fires a pitch for the Angels.



Pete Paroli makes a swing.



Sam Maxwell makes a backhand play.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

The Orioles are the 2026 Valley Wheel Over-28 Baseball League champions.

cha, who's the boys' varsity soccer coach at Hampshire Regional. He graduated from Chicopee Comp in 2021 and helped the West team win the Gold medal at the 2019 Bay State Games.

Wietecha enjoyed coaching Wrisley at this year's Bay State Games.

"Griffen is one of the best soccer players that I've coached," Wietecha said. "He's an outstanding forward and takes control of every game."

This fall, Wrisley will be one of the few returning play-

ers on the Chicopee Pacers varsity team.

"We graduated twelve players from last year's varsity team," Wrisley said. "We only have a couple of varsity players returning."

Wrisley never thought about transferring to a different high school.

"Chicopee High School is a very special place for me and my family," Wrisley added. "We won the Western Mass. title for the first time in 43 years last year. It was very special."

Wrisley is the All-Time leading goal scorer for the Pacers boys' soccer team. He needs only three more goals

to reach the 100 goal milestone. He currently has 116 career points.

Hugo Destapado, who coached the West team at the Bay State Summer games last year, is returning as the Pacers varsity boys' soccer coach.

"I would n't be a successful soccer player without the help of my coaches," Wrisley said. "I'm looking to playing soccer for one final season at Chicopee High School.

The Pacers are scheduled to host Northampton in the season opener on Labor Day. They're also scheduled to play another match against Frontier Regional at historic Szot Park two nights later.

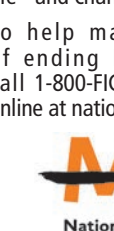


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Teddy Bear Pools takes playoff title in Tri-County

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

THORNDIKE – For the first time since 2012, the Tri-County League championship title belongs to a baseball team other than PeoplesBank.

The third-seeded Teddy Bear Pools & Spas ended the secondseeded PeoplesBank twelve year dynasty after sweeping the best of three semifinal series. Teddy Bear then captured the championship trophy for the first time since the 1980's with an 8-4 victory over the top-seeded St. Joseph's Saints in last Sunday's night decisive game three held at St. Joe's Park in Thorndike.

"Before the start of the regular season, I thought we had the most talented team in this league," said Teddy Bear player/manager Ryan Magni. "We have a couple of outstanding college baseball players on our roster, which made the biggest difference. It does feel great to win the championship title, but I do have a lot of respect for St. Joe's."

Ryan Magni played for St. Joe's for eight years before switching sides a couple of years ago. His younger brother, Brandon, was the St. Joe's starting first baseman in game three.

Ryan Magni started the game in centerfield before replacing righthander Brendan Fournier on the mound in the bottom of the seventh inning.

St. Joe's scored two runs against the righthander in their final at-bats. The game came to an end when Brandon Magni hit a ground ball to the second baseman against his older brother.

"I've faced my brother many times over the years," Ryan Magni said. "I didn't have my best stuff tonight, but I didn't make it very easy for him."

St. Joe's, who lost to Peoplesbank in last year's championship series, was looking to win the TCL title for the first time since 2006.

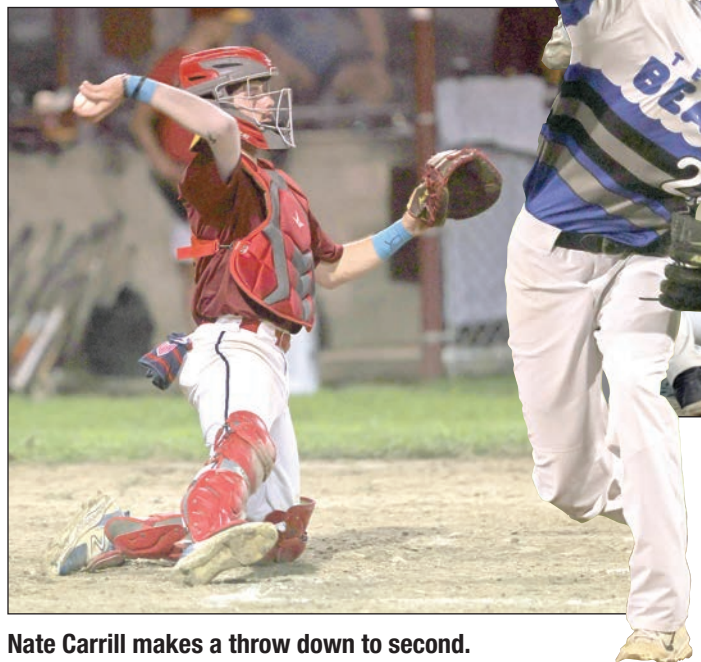
"They just capitalized on our mistakes in tonight's game," said St. Joe's manager Paul Marcinek. "It would've been nice if we could've scored a few more runs. We did win the regular season championship with a 16-4 record, and we have nothing to be disappointed about."

Marcinek was assisted by Brian Hayes this season.

With one-out in the top



Alex Gochinski takes a swing.



Nate Carrill makes a throw down to second.

of the first inning, Teddy Bear had runners on first and third when right fielder Willie Landman hit a ground ball up the middle. St. Joe's short-stop Jacob Hayes made an outstanding diving stop before tagging second base and throwing a strike to Magni completing the inning ending double play.

Jacob Hayes, who's a member of the UMass Dartmouth baseball team along with his brother Jackson, belted a double to right center leading off the bottom half of the opening frame. Brandon Magni followed with a groundball single into left field putting runners at the corners. St. Joe's took a 1-0 lead when centerfielder Pat Fitzgibbons hit a blooper just out of the second baseman's reach which scored Hayes. Magni also crossed the plate following a throwing error by the catcher.

Fournier, who graduated from Chicopee High School in 2017, retired 17 of the final 18 St. Joe's batters that he faced. St. Joe's only base runner during that stretch was Fitzgibbons, who hit a triple to right field with one-out in the sixth inning.

"I struggled in the first inning, but I started throwing more off speed pitches that kept them off balance. My teammates also made the plays behind me," said Fournier, who was the winning pitcher. "I've been playing in this league for almost ten years, and it feels great to finally win a championship."

Teddy Bear cut the deficit in half against righty Jack Feltovic in the third inning.

With one-out, catcher Mike Toth, who graduated from Granby High School, was hit-by-a-pitch. Second baseman Ramon Jimenez singled to right field putting run-



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Above, Teddy Bear Pools becomes the first new playoff champions in more than a decade. Top left, Joey DeMichele makes a play for St. Joe's. Left, Brendan Fournier fires a pitch home.



Matt Drobiak slides safely back to first.

ners at first and third. Then Landman hit a sacrifice fly to right.

Jimenez graduated from Chicopee High School before playing Division 1 college baseball at Boston College and Central Connecticut. He was intentionally walked in his other three plate appearances.

The visiting team took the lead for the first time two

innings later.

Ryan Magni and Jimenez reached base via walks, which was sandwiched between a Mike Toth flyball single, which loaded the bases with one out. Left fielder Josh Frometa (2-for-3) blasted a triple to center giving his team a 4-2 lead.

"The bases were loaded and I was looking for a pitch to drive," said Frometa, who played baseball at Chicopee High and A.I.C. "It was a huge hit at that point of the game, and it feels great to win the championship title."

After scoring an unearned run in the sixth, Teddy Bear scored three more runs in the top of the seventh against lefthander relief pitcher Jackson Hayes. The key hit during that frame was a bases loaded double by first baseman Will Kennedy, who played for St. Joe's several years ago.

Teddy Bear entered the bottom of the seventh inning holding an 8-2 advantage.

St. Joe's DH Adam Zebian drew a walk against Ryan Magni leading off the final frame. Zebian was replaced at first base by pinch runner Adam Przybycien. Left fielder Ryan O'Leary followed with a triple to center scoring Przybycien. O'Leary scored on an infield hit by catcher Nate Carrillon, who graduated from South Hadley High School.

Ryan Magni settled down and got out of the jam by retiring the next three batters, including his younger brother.

Teddy Bear Pools & Spas will be looking to defend their championship title in the summer of 2027, but challengers like St. Joe's and People'sBank will be looking to knock them off the top of the mountain.



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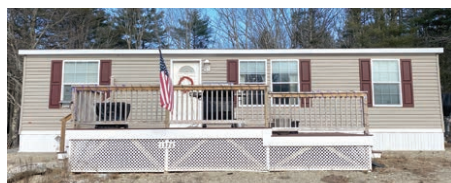


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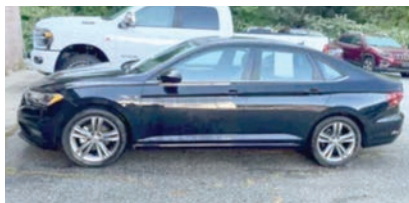
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Kids’ Corner offers workshop exploring nature on Aug. 29

WARE – The next Kids’ Corner workshop at Ware Grange will be the “Enchanted Forest Nature Party” and will take place during the Grange Fair on Saturday, Aug. 29 at 10 a.m. at the Grange Hall at 297 Belchertown Road.

Kids’ Corner workshops are led by preschool teacher, Jen McNally, and teach children about nature and the environment through stories, songs and fun activities. This workshop will explore the great outdoors in conjunction with the Ware

Grange Fair. Children will take a guided nature walk to learn about the outdoor world and look for natural items to use in making crafts. Visit Ware Grange on Facebook or at waregrange.org for more information.

Ware Grange Fair program books available

WARE – The Ware Grange Fair program books are now available online at waregrange.org. Program books are also available by mail by calling 413-284-1135 or emailing

waregrange164@gmail.com. Plan your exhibits by checking out the categories of exhibits in the fair program book. Exhibitors may enter in a variety of categories including vegetables, fruits, eggs,

cut flowers, baked goods, fancywork, arts and crafts and photography. The Ware Grange Fair will be held Aug. 28 -29. See the Ware Grange website for schedule and details.

AUTHOR | from page 1

‘70s Polish-American grade school.

The author of several fiction and nonfiction books, Strempek Shea was inspired to write her memoir by a visit with an old friend. Their conversation about memories from childhood helped start her down the path that would eventually culminate with the publication of “Compositions.”

“On a Sunday five years ago, I visited Robbie DuComb, of Monson, with whom I’ve been friends since first grade,” the author said. “As I was leaving for home, I suddenly asked her if she remembered the little expanding cups we used to keep in our pockets as kids. I went home and wrote about the red plastic one I had in the first grade.”

Added Strempek Shea, “Over time, what I wrote that day became the first chapter of the book, a scene from first grade when I’m standing in line for the bubbler – which was the nuns’ word for the water fountain – and I kept writing about all the other new words I learned in that first year, and then I just kept writing.”

As Strempek Shea delved deeper into her early educational years, she was able to rediscover several additional memories.

“Our minds can be amazing, and once I started tapping into those years, so much came back,” she told The Journal Register. “I could see my classmates and myself in line for recess, or jumping to our feet when Father Pastor entered the classroom, or processing into a dark church on freezing Christmas Eves for Midnight Mass. I have a pretty good memory, and it was fun to give myself an assignment to think about our uniforms – or how in third



Suzanne Strempek Shea

grade we did little else but study for First Holy Communion – and see how much I could recall.”

Written in the author’s point of view from her first eight years of school, the humorous and poignant essays in “Compositions” bring readers along for a fascinating journey back into the classrooms and halls of her youth.

Along the way, readers will enjoy plenty of interesting glimpses of the school’s staff and daily rituals. These include nuns who sang folk songs beneath a tree, danced the hula, and occasionally hurled textbooks.

The memoir was published by PAHA Books, an imprint of the Polish American Historical Association. PAHA has supported Strempek Shea’s writing since her first book, “Selling the Lite of Heaven”, back in 1994.

This fall, the author will take part in several book signings and discussions. But none will likely be as memorable as her Sept. 1 book launch.

“I’m excited to launch this book in the town where it’s set – and it’s set there because I am set here,” said Strempek Shea, who grew up in Three Rivers. ““Compositions” includes a section about how my mom once drove the Palmer Public Library’s bookmobile, another reason for the library to be the perfect place to get this book out to readers for the first time.”

During the launch event, Strempek Shea will give a short talk, offer a reading, and



take questions from guests.

The program will also include a special opportunity for attendees to help give back to their community.

“At each event I do, I’ll be collecting non-perishable items for a local food pantry,” said Strempek Shea. “As the grandchild of immigrants, I want to help a local agency that helps others who might need a leg up, including immigrants, and any folks having a tough time right now. The items collected on Sept. 1 will go half to Food Share of Palmer and half to the Palmer Public Library’s grocery shelf.”

Additional books written by Strempek Shea include fiction titles like “Selling the Lite of Heaven”, “Hoopi Shoopi Donna”, “Lily of the Valley”, “Around Again”, “Becoming Finola” and “Make a Wish But Not for Money”.

The author has also published several nonfiction works and an anthology.

For her current project, working closely with Holyoke author Anne Pinkerton, Strempek Shea is editing a book featuring contributions from dozens of other authors. She is also finishing a book of essays on dementia.

To learn more about the author and her books, visit www.suzannestrempekshea.org.



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Obituary

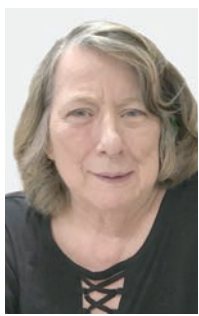
1943 - 2026

MONSON – Mary Margaret (Peg) Harrison, 83, died peacefully surrounded by her loving family on Aug. 22, 2026. Born in Buffalo, New York to Margaret M. (Roach) and Orrin J. Haettich, Peg was the oldest of four daughters. She graduated from Bishop Quigley High School and Springfield Technical Community College, earning degrees in Respiratory Therapy and Nursing. She married Edward Harrison and moved to Monson, MA, where she raised her family and became actively involved in the community.

Peg was first and foremost a mother and grandmother. She deeply loved and cherished her family, a family defined not only by blood and mar-

riage, but also the many people she welcomed into her heart. Her boundless generosity and instinct to care for others flowed into every part of her life. She gave freely and selflessly to so many, often putting others' needs before her own.

Peg served on the Parks and Recreation Committee and the Board of Health, delivered Meals on Wheels, and belonged to the Democratic Town Committee. She spent many years as a Registered Nurse at Monson Developmental Center, bringing kindness and compassion to those in her care, and forging enduring friendships. Later in life,



she found another meaningful way to serve her community through her work at the Monson Senior Center.

Peg was an avid reader and armchair bird watcher who took great pleasure in sipping a glass of Black Box Merlot while scratching a lottery ticket or picking a pony in a race at Saratoga. She was a convert to online shopping as yet another means to spoil her grandchildren and others.

Peg's Catholic faith was an integral part of her identity and woven through the fabric of her daily life. It brought her comfort, guidance, and a sense of belonging to her spiritual community.

After residing in Holland for a short time, Peg returned to Monson. Living independently in her beloved adopted hometown brought her great joy. She renewed connections with old friends and welcomed new ones. Peg was a homebody at heart, but her love for Buffalo and the family she grew up with never faded, and this summer, once again, she traveled to Buffalo for her family reunion. She also joined her children at their annual vacation on Cape Cod. Peg's home was always with the family she loved so much.

Peg will be lovingly remembered and profoundly missed by her daughters, Cheryl, Heather, Holly, Melissa, and Rebecca; her sons-in-law, Bill, Jon, Rob, Patrick, and Alan; her grandchildren, Pat-

rick and Kerry, Benji and Joe, Jeremy, Charlotte, Britt, Hunter, Michele, Reece, Connor, Garrett, Alessandra, and Juliana; her great grandchildren, Lyla, Brooks, and Brooke; her sister, Michele; her sister-in-law, Susan; her brothers-in-law, Bill and Bill; her nieces and nephews; her extended family, especially the Buffalo Cousins; and so many friends.

It brings her family peace to know Peg is reunited with her sisters Pam and Pat, and her beloved daughter, Elizabeth.

A funeral Mass will be held on Sept. 3, 2026, at 10 a.m. at Saint Christopher Parish in Brimfield. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Monson Senior Center or to Saint Christopher Parish.

DEATH NOTICE

Margaret Harrison
Died Aug. 22, 2026
Services Sept. 3 at 10 a.m.
Saint Christopher Parish,
Brimfield

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.

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

Third Annual International Overdose Awareness Day is Aug. 31

Candlelight Vigil hosted by Recovery Center of HOPE

WARE – The Recovery Center of HOPE's third annual Overdose Awareness Can-

dlelight Vigil will be held on Monday, Aug. 31 at Veterans Park at 6:30 p.m.

The vigil will remember those lost to overdose, honor those impacted by overdose and stand together in hope and community.

The Recovery Center of HOPE will provide candles

for the vigil, as well as purple candles to bring home and place in your window as a visible sign of overdose awareness. All are welcome.

There will be gathering beforehand at the Recovery Center of HOPE, 52 Main St., from 5:30-6:30 p.m. for food, soft drinks and fellowship.

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.

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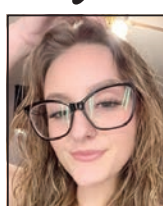
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GRIEVE | from page 1

“They did a beautiful job. It was a real community effort, and Monson should be very proud of the result,” said Holland’s Nancy Peloquin, the eldest of Grieve’s three children.

Also in attendance were Peloquin’s siblings, Cynthia Grieve and Peter Grieve. They were joined by several community members who were positively impacted by their father’s decades of service and volunteerism.

“May this park and gazebo continue to reflect the spirit he so generously offered,” said Father Jack Brennan, a former Monson Rotarian who delivered the event’s invocation.

Additional speakers included Dr. Michael Fitzpatrick, Selectman John Morrell, Beverly Sangermano, and Peter Matrow.

The town received a Municipal ADA Improvement Grant to address longstanding accessibility challenges at the park. The completed project transforms one of the community’s most active public spaces into a fully inclusive site for individuals of all abilities.

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

“The Dave Grieve Park project is a great example of what can be accomplished when communities actively seek out and pursue grant opportunities,” Town Administrator Jennifer Wolowicz told The Journal Register in a previous interview. “Local budgets alone often cannot fund projects of this scale, which is why researching and applying for available grants is so important.”

At the rededication program, residents who hadn’t seen the finished project were thrilled with the results. Several downtown business leaders also stopped by to honor Grieve’s enduring legacy.

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

Prior to the grant-funded project, the park lacked adequate accessibility features for community members with mobility impairments.

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

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

Dave Grieve Park was dedicated in honor of David “Dave” Grieve, a longtime Monson resident whose commitment to community service, civic engagement, and support of local initiatives left a lasting impact on the town.

“He was a close friend of my father, so I knew Mr. Grieve very well,” Morrell told guests at the ceremony. “I want to thank everyone who had any part in building this park.”

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

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

A life of service

David W. Grieve (June 3, 1926 – July 25, 1987) was born and raised in Springfield. He graduated from the former Technical High School in 1943, then served in the U.S. Navy from 1944-46.

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

In 1951, Grieve married Yolanda “Yolie” Grieve. They lived in Monson and raised their three children in town.

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

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

“We will never forget the many memories he gave us in our youth,” said Sangermano, who participated in several camps led by Grieve.



The memorial gazebo awaits the ceremony.

Turley photo by Kevin Flanders

Sangermano eventually got her first job – a counselor-in-training position – after Grieve created a spot for her on the camp staff. At the time, she was too young to work as a regular counselor, but the training position allowed her to be ready for an eventual expanded role.

Several other guests shared similar stories of how Grieve always put in the extra effort to ensure youngsters had opportunities to work, play, and have fun in town.

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

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

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

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

A lasting legacy

The recent project en-



Father Jack Brennan, a former Monson Rotarian, delivers the invocation.



Michael Fitzpatrick serves as Master of Ceremony.



Ceremony guests included residents, officials, business owners, and Dave Grieve’s family and friends.

ures that Dave Grieve’s mission of community betterment continues in his memory.

“When you have someone like Dave Grieve, it’s worth doing it more than once,” Fitzpatrick said of the rededication.

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

“As the owner of a coffee shop across the street, I’ve heard nothing but excitement from our customers. They’re thrilled to have a beautiful place to sit, enjoy their coffee, and eat their breakfast or lunch while taking in the space,” said Amanda Roy, owner of The Better Bean.

Officials are excited that the park can now be used by

all guests, thanks to the accessibility improvements.

“We are proud of the work that was accomplished through this grant, and grateful for the partnership with the Massachusetts Office of Disability. This project demonstrates what can be achieved when dedicated staff, community support, and grant funding come together to remove barriers and create equal opportunities for all residents and visitors,” said Facilities Director Justin Larivee in a previously issued statement.

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

“This project would not



Beverly Sangermano shares stories of Grieve’s passion for his community.



Selectman John Morrell greets attendees.



Musical entertainment is offered prior to the ceremony.

have been possible without the dedication and leadership of Justin Larivee, who guided the effort from the initial grant application through project management and completion,” Wolowicz added. “We are incredibly grateful for his hard work and commitment to improving our community. The rededication of this park is a testament to what can be achieved through persistence, collaboration, and strategic investment in our public spaces.”

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

Additional thanks goes to Bob Ainsworth, Jeanne Bailey, Mat Wawrzyk, and Nancy Bryant.

The park is located at 179 Main Street.



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Public notices

Town of Palmer Request for Proposals

The Town of Palmer is seeking respondents to an RFP for the sale of property at 24 Converse Street, Palmer, MA. The parcel is approx. 2.66 acres and includes a school building of approx. 84,749 sq ft. The Town Council has declared the building available through surplus. The RFP requires a minimum bid of \$750k and is now available by emailing bbrothers@townofpalmer.com or for pickup in the Town Managers office. The Town Manager shall select the most advantageous Proposal from a responsive and responsible proposer, taking into consideration the price and all other evaluation criteria set forth in the RFP. **Bids are due on October 1st, 2026 at 3:00PM and will be opened immediately after.**

08/27, 09/03/2026

TOWN OF PALMER NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Palmer Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on **Monday, September 14, 2026, at 6:40 PM** at the Palmer Town Building, 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA on the application from Wellman Realty LLC for a license to keep, use or store Liquid Propane in 3 above ground tanks in the aggregate of 3000 gallons located at 250 Shearer St., Palmer MA.

Anyone interested in being heard should appear at the time and place so designated.

Palmer Town Council
08/27/2026

TOWN OF PALMER NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Town of Palmer & Titan Energy will hold a public hearing on its proposed Community Choice Power Supply Program (Aggregation Plan) on **Monday, September 14, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.** at the Palmer Town Build-

ing, 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA. The hearing will provide residents and other interested parties with an opportunity to learn about the program and comment on the proposed Aggregation Plan before it is submitted to the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities.

Anyone interested in being heard should appear at the time and place so designated.

Town of Palmer
08/27/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD26P1773EA

Estate of:
John Francis Ferris
Date of Death: 03/02/2026
**CITATION ON PETITION
FOR FORMAL
ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Joshua R Ferris of Palmer, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that **Joshua R Ferris of Palmer, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a **written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/17/2026.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

WITNESS, Hon. Claudine T. Stoudemire, First Justice of this Court.

Date: August 19, 2026
Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
08/27/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Division Docket No. Estate of: HD26P1762EA

James Stanley Haynes
Date of Death: June 10, 2026
**INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Ellen A Haynes of Monson, MA**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Ellen A Haynes of Monson, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve

without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

08/27/2026

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT Docket No. 26 SM 002585 ORDER OF NOTICE

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

NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in **Monson, numbered 84-86 Main Street**, given by **Jacqueline M. Ladew to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.,** as mortgagee, as nominee for **Guaranteed Rate, Inc.,** its successors and assigns, dated **December 5, 2016**, and recorded in **Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 21482, Page 353**, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before **9/28/2026** or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of non-compliance with the Act.

Witness, **GORDON H. PIPER** Chief Justice of this Court on 8/12/2026.

Attest:

Deborah J. Patterson,
Recorder

08/27/2026

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

Palmer Conservation Commission Public Hearing Notice

In accordance with the Wetland Protection Act, MGL c.131 s.40, and the Town of Palmer Wetlands Bylaws, the Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing at **6:35 PM, Tuesday, September 15, 2026** at the Town Administration Building, 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA to consider a **Request for Determination** application related to irrigation activities used to support safe operations for employees. Work is proposed to occur within the Riverfront Area. The location is the Swift River behind 24 3rd Street in Bondsville (Map 28 Lot 34). The applicant making the request is Sherwood Lumber.

Elizabeth O'Connor, Chair
Palmer Conservation
Commission

Any interested person wishing to be heard on the application should appear at the time and place designated.

08/27/2026



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Michael H. Hakim, MD



Front row: Janet Stadnicki, FNP, Michael Hakim, MD and Angela Nurek, DNP. Second row: Kirsten Apraham, Cheri Couture, Caitlyn Garceau, RMA, Practice Manager, Kalise Salzarulo, Trista Labier, MA Back row: Charlene Gryszowka, Phlebotomy, Lisa Hresko and Susan Piche. Missing from the photo: Crystal Best, RMA.

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JP McCarthy & Sons is now hiring great van drivers to help transport the students of the Quabbin Regional School District.

Beginning July 1, 2026, McCarthy will be adding van service to serve the District. All current drivers are encouraged to apply.

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Public safety

Local fire departments earn high emergency response reporting rate

STOW – The Department of Fire Services announced that Massachusetts fire departments have achieved the fourth-highest reporting rate in the country for the National Emergency Response Information System.

Ninety percent of Massachusetts fire departments have reported more than 1.3 million apparatus responses to more than 788,000 incidents.

This achievement reflects the state’s commitment to leading the nation in

public safety data collection and will help local and state officials make informed decisions about operations, policies, fire prevention messaging, grant applications and budget proposals and updates to fire and life safety codes.

A project of the U.S. Fire Administration and UL’s Fire Safety Research Institute, NERIS provides unprecedented public access to incident response data through its newly launched public website. Unlike its 50-year-old predecessor, which required a lengthy data valida-

tion process, NERIS allows users to view near-real-time incident data from cities and towns across the country and conduct independent analysis using dozens of data fields.

“Adopting an entirely new data reporting system was a seismic shift for fire departments across the country,” said State Fire Marshal Jon M. Davine in a press release. “They have done a phenomenal job of adapting to NERIS and bringing Massachusetts to the nation’s forefront. I also want to recognize our staff for helping

to bring the state’s fire service onboard in a matter of months. The data that local fire departments are reporting will support funding requests, effective resource allocation, community risk reduction efforts, and much more.”

NERIS rolled out in geographic phases throughout 2025. Most Massachusetts fire departments began transitioning to the new system in October and several volunteered to serve as early adopters, including Belchertown, Beverly,

Bourne, Dudley, Gill, Greenfield, Huntington, Pittsfield, Sandisfield, Springfield and Walpole.

The new system replaces the National Fire Incident Reporting System and its Massachusetts-level system, the Massachusetts Fire Incident Reporting System. Under the former systems, it could take months to obtain reliable incident and response statistics.

NERIS will also help local, state, and regional agencies understand the impact of large-scale events and pre-

pare for increased emergency activity during major celebrations, disasters, and other incidents.

This summer, NERIS implemented a “special incident modifier” to collect information about emergency responses related to World Cup matches, watch parties and other gatherings.

During that event period, Massachusetts fire departments reported 65 related incidents across six cities and towns, including 31 medical calls, 25 service calls and two elevator rescues.

Palmer Police Logs

During the week of Aug. 9-15, the Palmer Police Department responded to 58 building checks, 48 motor vehicle stops, six motor vehicle violations, 90 informational calls, 26 medical emergencies, 12 animal complaints, 38 calls for officers wanted, 13 alarms, 20 silent, accidental, abandoned or hung up 911 calls, four fire calls, seven theft or fraud calls, eight investigations, 14 motor vehicle accidents, 13 motor vehicle releases, 13 general services, 12 out of jurisdiction reports, 10 assists to other agencies and eight transports.

Sunday, Aug. 9
12:12 a.m. Hazard-Wire/Pole/Tree, High Street and Commercial Street
6:01 a.m. Animal Complaint, Off Lariviere Street
12:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, State Street
12:57 p.m. Medical-Mutual Aid, Pease Street
1:48 p.m. Animal Complaint, Ware Street
2:21 p.m. Theft, Park Street
3:51 p.m. Alarm Burglar/Hold-Up/Panic, South Main Street
4:57 p.m. Check Well Being, Palmer Road
5:45 p.m. Medical Emergency, Central Street
6:30 p.m. Medical-Mutual Aid, Monson
8:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Palmer Road
9:06 p.m. Missing/Runaway, South Main Street
9:48 p.m. Medical Emergency, Beacon Drive
10:45 p.m. Suspicious Person, North Main Street
11:28 p.m. Alarm Fire/Smoke/CO, Shearer Street

Monday, Aug. 10
12:51 a.m. Alarm Fire/Smoke/CO, Shearer Street
4:51 a.m. Medical Emergency, Main Street
6:04 a.m. Medical Alarm, Converse Street
6:25 a.m. Check Well Being, Main Street
6:34 a.m. Alarm Fire/Smoke/CO, Bennett Street
9:14 a.m. Motor Vehicle

Park Violation, Second Street
10:37 a.m. Vandalism, Fuller Road
10:51 a.m. Alarm Burglar/Hold-Up/Panic, Diane Street
11:18 a.m. Motor Vehicle Disabled, Ware Street and Rondeau Road
11:43 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Central Street
11:54 a.m. Medical Emergency, Crane Hill Road
1:43 p.m. Theft, State Street
2:07 p.m. Warrant Service, Walnut Street
2:33 p.m. Property Return, Main Street
2:38 p.m. Investigation, Belanger Street
2:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street
Arrest: Scott J. Guerin, 44, Bondsville
Drug, Possess Class B; Warrant
2:47 p.m. Investigation, Sykes Street
3:08 p.m. Unwanted Person, Park Street
3:15 p.m. Medical Emergency, Maple Terrace
3:51 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Main Street
3:57 p.m. Medical Emergency, Commercial Street
4:11 p.m. Water Leak/Hazard, State Street
4:18 p.m. Paperwork Service/Summons, Walnut Street
Arrest: Jeremy T. Collins, 52, Palmer
Warrant
4:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Old Warren Road
6:37 p.m. Notification/Message Delivery, Wright Street
6:39 p.m. Investigation, State Street
6:51 p.m. Property Return, Main Street
7:35 p.m. Assault, River Street
8:10 p.m. Animal Complaint, Crest Street
8:14 p.m. Assault and Battery, Main Street
9:22 p.m. Check Well Being, River Street
10:01 p.m. Water Leak/Hazard, High Street
11:11 p.m. Civil Complaint, Thorndike Street

Tuesday, Aug. 11
12:05 a.m. Alarm Burglar/Hold-Up/Panic, High Street
12:24 a.m. Missing/Runaway, Palmer Road
2:29 a.m. Motor Vehicle StopWare Street
3:08 a.m. Suspicious Vehicle, River Street
8:05 a.m. Medical Alarm, Gates Street
8:36 a.m. Found Property, Palmer Road
9:17 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Boston Road
9:58 a.m. Animal Complaint, Coache Street
11:04 a.m. Check Well Being, North Main Street
11:25 a.m. Medical Mutual Aid, Old West Warren Road
12:13 p.m. Lost Property, Main Street
12:59 p.m. Property Return, Main Street
1:31 p.m. Medical Mutual Aid, Skyview Drive
1:43 p.m. Property Return, Main Street
2:55 p.m. Water Leak/Hazard, Mt. Dumplin Road and Thorndike Street
3:37 p.m. Medical Emergency, Ware Street
4:13 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Sykes Street and Palmer Road
5:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Park Street
5:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Disabled, Thorndike Street and High Street
5:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle Disabled, Thorndike Street
6:05 p.m. Animal Complaint, Brown Street
6:16 p.m. Water Leak/Hazard, Mt. Dumplin Road and Thorndike Street
6:56 p.m. Medical Mutual Aid, Wilbraham
7:54 p.m. Water Leak/Hazard, Mt. Dumplin Road and Thorndike Street
11:56 p.m. Water Leak/Hazard, High Street

Wednesday, Aug. 12
1:57 a.m. Suspicious Vehicle, Thorndike Street
3:35 a.m. Suspicious Person, Wilbraham Street
4:21 a.m. Suspicious Vehicle, Main Street
7:15 a.m. Medical Emer-

gency, High Street
7:58 a.m. Animal Complaint, Ware
9:08 a.m. Medical Emergency, Main Street
9:13 a.m. Animal Complaint, Maxwell Road and Hovey Road
9:29 a.m. Medical Emergency, Cross Street
9:38 a.m. Property Return, Belanger Street
9:54 a.m. Medical Emergency, South Street
10:07 a.m. Warrant Service, Second Street
Arrest: West T. Leblanc, 40, Three Rivers
Warrant
10:44 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Park Street
10:48 a.m. Animal Complaint, Off Lariviere Street
12:14 p.m. Investigation, Off Lariviere Street
12:14 p.m. Medical Emergency, Knox Street
12:40 p.m. Medical Mutual Aid, Ware
2:24 p.m. Property Return, Main Street
3:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Thorndike Street
4:40 p.m. Medical Emergency, Main Street
4:48 p.m. Animal Complaint, Summer Street
4:59 p.m. Motor Vehicle Disabled, Pleasant Street and Thorndike Street
5:03 p.m. Check Well Being, Gay Street
5:25 p.m. Alarm Burglar/Hold-Up/Panic, Calkins Road
6:58 p.m. Noise Complaint, West Ware Street
7:06 p.m. Theft, Wright Street
7:32 p.m. Theft, Allen Street
8:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Disabled, Old Warren Road
10:05 p.m. Motor Vehicle Disabled, Shearer Street and Lawrence Street
10:09 p.m. Alarm Burglar/Hold-Up/Panic, Third Street
10:26 p.m. Noise Complaint, Main Street
10:56 p.m. Medical Emergency, South Main Street

Thursday, Aug. 13
8:33 a.m. Animal Com-

plaint, Taft Street
8:34 a.m. Water Leak/Hazard, Randall Street
9:32 a.m. Fire Hazmat, Thorndike Street
10:41 a.m. Theft, South Main Street
11:14 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, North Main Street
12:28 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Mass Turnpike
2:00 p.m. Investigation, Central Street
2:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Theft, Thorndike Street
2:50 p.m. Alarm Fire/Smoke/CO, Norbell Street
4:11 p.m. Medical Emergency, Allen Street
6:16 p.m. Medical Emergency, Beacon Drive
6:32 p.m. Disturbance, North Main Street
7:03 p.m. Medical Emergency, Old Warren Road
7:41 p.m. Hazard, Tables Restaurant, Palmer Street
8:00 p.m. Investigation, South Main Street
8:04 p.m. Medical Emergency, Meadowlane Street
8:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Sykes Street
Arrest: Robert A. Greenwald, 52, Springfield
OUI Liquor or .08%; Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle; Yield at Intersection, Fail
9:10 p.m. Medical Lift Assist, Central Street
11:32 p.m. Disturbance, Belchertown Street

Friday, Aug. 14
1:47 a.m. Medical Emergency, Squier Street
2:38 a.m. Medical Emergency, Central Street
8:37 a.m. Medical Emergency, River Street
11:09 a.m. Investigation, South Main Street
11:22 a.m. Medical Mutual Aid, Brimfield Road
12:22 p.m. Investigation, Randall Road
12:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Church Street
1:38 p.m. Found Property, Brown Street
2:01 p.m. Hazard-Road Condition, Hobbs Street
2:10 p.m. Fraud, Church Street
3:52 p.m. Found Proper-

ty, Breckenridge Street
4:40 p.m. Public Service, Walnut Street
4:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Repossession, Lawrence Street
5:04 p.m. Water Leak/Hazard, Thorndike Street
5:15 p.m. Check Well Being, Wright Street
5:28 p.m. Property Return, Main Street
5:37 p.m. Animal Complaint, Juniper Drive
7:58 p.m. Medical Emergency, Bennett Street
8:40 p.m. Check Well Being, Ware Street
Arrest: Holly A. Lane, 51, Wheelwright
Disorderly Conduct
10:05 p.m. Medical Emergency, Church Street

Saturday, Aug. 15
1:06 a.m. Suspicious Person, Thorndike Street
5:24 a.m. Medical Emergency, Pleasant Street
5:40 a.m. Medical Emergency, Knox Street
6:40 a.m. Vandalism, Emery Street
9:15 a.m. Medical Emergency, South Street
10:37 a.m. Motor Vehicle Disabled, Boston Road
11:42 a.m. Alarm Burglar/Hold-Up/Panic, Katie Lane
12:08 p.m. Fire-Burn Complaint, Pine Street
1:16 p.m. Motor Vehicle Disabled, North Main Street
2:13 p.m. Noise Complaint, West Ware Street
4:12 p.m. Check Well Being, Fletcher Street
4:13 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Gates Street
5:56 p.m. Check Well Being, North Main Street
6:03 p.m. Hazard-Road Condition, Sykes Street
7:00 p.m. Noise Complaint, North Main Street
7:37 p.m. Animal Complaint, Jim Ash Street
8:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Main Street
8:02 p.m. Fire-Mutual Aid, Boston Road
8:52 p.m. Firework Complaint, Forest Lake Road
11:42 p.m. Suspicious Vehicle, Shearer Street and Lawrence Street

Monson Fire Logs

MONSON – The Monson Fire Department responded to 16 EMS calls and eight fire calls for the week of Aug. 17-23.

On **Monday, Aug. 17** at 4:17 p.m., the department responded to 110 Main St. for a fire alarm activation. The department returned to service at 5:30 p.m.

On **Tuesday, Aug. 18** at 10:59 a.m., the department responded to 60 Upper Palmer Road for an oil tank leak. The department returned to service at 1:16 p.m.

On **Wednesday, Aug. 19** at 8:33 a.m., the department responded to 105 Main St. for a fire alarm activation. The department returned to service at 8:50 a.m.

On **Thursday, Aug. 20** at 12:25 p.m., the department responded to 105 Main St. for a fire alarm activation. The department

returned to service at 12:33 p.m.

On the same day at 2:43 p.m., the department responded to 240 Cedar Swamp Road for alarms sounding. The department returned to service at 3:21 p.m.

On **Friday, Aug. 21** at 2:43 p.m., the department responded to 21 Washington St., Apartment #3, for a gas odor. The department returned to service at 3:24 p.m.

On **Saturday, Aug. 22** at 1:37 p.m., the department responded to 117 East Hill Road for a CO alarm sounding. The department returned to service at 3:23 p.m.

On **Sunday, Aug. 23** at 1:44 p.m., the department responded to 31 State St., Apartment #14A, for a lift assist. The department returned to service at 2:08 p.m.

Monson Police Logs

During the week of Aug. 17-23, the Monson Police Department responded to six miscellaneous calls, 34 administrative calls, 14 property checks, 26 traffic assignments, three traffic violations, one safety hazard, five investigations, three assist other agencies, 31 police vehicle checks, 24 motor vehicle stops, three directed patrols, 22 details/overtimes and 12 phone calls.

Monday, Aug. 17
12:17 a.m. Damage/Vandalism/Mischief
6:20 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat
8:45 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call
11:44 a.m. Traffic Violation
11:59 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat
5:39 p.m. Service 209A/Harassment Order
6:02 p.m. Abandoned

911 Call
6:21 p.m. Service of a Summons
10:01 p.m. EMS Mutual Aid
10:33 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call

Tuesday, Aug. 18
9:50 a.m. BOLO
10:57 a.m. Fuel Spill/Odor
5:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop
10:47 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call

Wednesday, Aug. 19
7:26 a.m. EMS Mutual Aid
7:41 a.m. Fraud/Deception
3:28 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted
4:37 p.m. Traffic Violation

Thursday, Aug. 20
12:56 a.m. Weapons/Firearms

6:14 a.m. Suspicious/Wanted
10:06 a.m. Alarm
10:06 a.m. Investigation/Follow Up
11:41 a.m. Disturbance/Nuisance
1:35 p.m. Investigation/Follow Up
1:56 p.m. Safety Hazard
4:26 p.m. Service of a Summons
Arrest: Migue A. Perez Gasiorek, 50, Monsoon
Ammunition Without FID Card, Possess; Firearm, Store Improper; Firearm Without FID Card, Possess; Feeding Device, Possess Large Capacity; Firearm, Possess Large Capacity; Firearm, Possess Large Capacity; Firearm Without FID Card, Possess
7:18 p.m. Transport Service

Friday, Aug. 21
8:44 a.m. Investigation/

Follow Up
8:59 a.m. Medical Emergency
12:20 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call
3:15 p.m. Public Service/Keep the Peace
9:02 p.m. Investigation/Follow Up

Saturday, Aug. 22
1:36 p.m. Fire Alarm
2:01 p.m. Traffic Violation
8:46 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted

Sunday, Aug. 23
2:48 a.m. Transport Service
8:59 a.m. Investigation/Follow Up
1:42 p.m. Medical Emergency
5:01 p.m. Animal Complaint
5:21 p.m. EMS Mutual Aid
10:07 p.m. Weapons/Firearms

3

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JR26TMC