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PALMER

Seniors celebrate milestone birthdays

By Kevin Flanders
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PALMER – Local officials joined the Senior Center staff in celebrating several milestone birthdays. Each year, the Senior Center spends a day celebrating all seniors turning 90 during the course of the year. Last week, on Sept. 25, town officials and legislators joined the birthday bash to congratulate se-

niors. “We are so grateful for these important members of our community and their contributions to Palmer,” said Ashley Place, the town’s Director of Administrative Services. Also in attendance at the party was State Representative Todd Smola, who handed out proclamations to seniors honoring their birthday celebrations.

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Submitted photo
G. David Bishop, of Palmer, celebrates his 90th birthday at the Senior Center.

MONSON

Pioneering a new path

MHS students enjoy entrepreneur program

By Kevin Flanders
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MONSON – A newly created pathway program at Monson High School is introducing students to the world of business and entrepreneurship.

Launched last month to open the 2026-27 school year, the Business and Finance Pathway provides students with foundational knowledge and practical skills in accounting, marketing, financial literacy, and business management.

“Through a combination of classroom instruction and real-world applications, students learn how businesses operate, how financial decisions are made, and how to develop entrepreneurial thinking,” read a statement released by Monson Public Schools Superintendent Paul Foster.

Throughout the pathway’s lineup of programming, students will have the opportunity to take several business and finance courses. These include Accounting, Marketing, Personal Finance, and AP Business (offered

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MONSON



Submitted Photo
Cemetery Commissioner Mat Wawrzyk (left) and Sarah McNamara, are shown in character during the 2025 Cemetery Walk.

Cemetery Commissioner announces annual Cemetery Walk

By Marcelo Gusmão
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MONSON – A growing tradition of celebrating local history will mark its fifth anniversary this month.

On Saturday, Oct. 10, the town will hold its fifth annual Cemetery Walk at Hillside Cemetery at 7 p.m., with tours of the Jacob Thompson House held before and after

the walk. The annual procession has become an enduring tradition to celebrate and immortalize past town residents that have contributed to the community’s history.

“When my Cemetery Commissioner originally received a handful of these scripts written by the Historical Council in the ‘90s, we only had six or seven of them, and only three or four were complete scripts

that were based at Hillside,” said Cemetery Commissioner Mat Wawrzyk. “Just this year, we ended up finding another handful of scripts, and we now have in our possession a total of 13 scripts, and a couple other incomplete things as well.”

Wawrzyk said that these scripts contain cover pages with writing credits that have helped the commission and

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PALMER

Serving those who served our nation

Palmer veterans invited to intro program

By Kevin Flanders
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PALMER – The newly created Ludlow-Palmer Veterans Services Department invites Palmer veterans to at-

tend a meet-and-greet event introducing staff members and services.

The program will take place on Tuesday, Oct. 13, from 4–7 p.m. at

Palmer Public Library (1455 North Main Street).

Palmer veterans and their families will have the opportunity to meet staff members and ask questions. Additionally, guests will learn about the many benefits, services, programs, and resources available to veterans and their families.

“We want Palmer veterans to know who we are, how to reach us, and that they have a team committed to serving them,” said Eric Segundo, the Director of Veterans Services for Ludlow and Palmer. “Building those relationships in person is a meaningful first step.”

Additional team members include Larry Brace (claim consultant) and Michael Moore (admin clerk). Department officials look forward to meeting Palmer veterans and informing them

about the programs and resources they earned through their service.

“Whether you need assistance with VA benefits, want to learn about state and local veterans programs, or simply want to meet the team serving Palmer – we’d love to see you,” read a statement released by the department.

After state approval was received over the summer, Ludlow and Palmer officially united to expand

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BRIMFIELD

Revving up for a good cause

By Kevin Flanders
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BRIMFIELD – The 18th annual Brimfield Auto Show will draw enthusiasts from across the area to support Hitchcock Academy and the Brimfield Firefighters Association.

The show will take place at Brimfield Winery on Saturday, Oct. 10, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Hundreds of vehicles will be registered in this year’s event, with owners vying for trophies awarded in 28 categories. Additional-

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FOOTBALL

Pioneers suffer first loss

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

PALMER – The Pathfinder Tech football team had a 2-0 record after outscoring their first two regular season opponents, 99-0. Franklin County Tech, who was the Pioneers week 3 opponent, also outscored their first two opponents, 80-0.

When the two vocational high schools battled each other on the gridiron in a non-league game last Friday night, they combined to score 68 points.

The Eagles, who have won the last four games in the series, remained undefeated following a 48-20 victory at Legion Field in Palmer.

“We’re a little bit banged up, and we had a lot of players going both ways tonight. We wore down in the second half,” said Pathfinder Tech head coach William Darling. “You have to give Franklin Tech a lot of credit. They played very well against us.”

Following a brilliant sunset, the Pioneers won the coin toss. Initially, the referee singled that the Pioneers would be receiving the opening kickoff, but it was a mistake. Instead, the Pioneers deferred until the start of the second half.

“We always defer when-

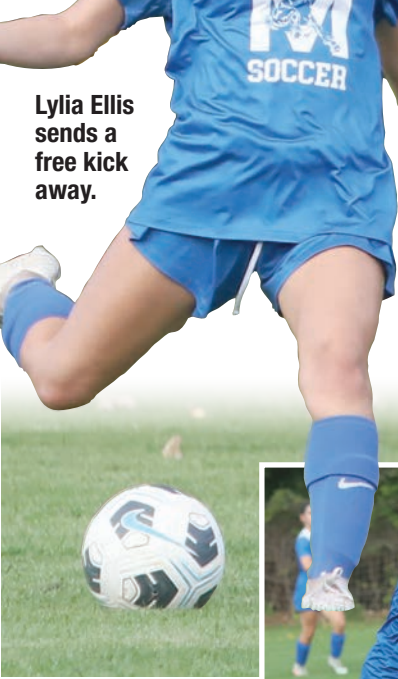
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SOCCER

Mustangs remain winless

MONSON – Last week, Monson High School girls soccer saw their struggles continue. It started with a 5-1 loss against Douglas High School. Southwick and Ludlow also defeated Monson during the past week and Monson is now 0-7 on the season. The Mustangs, who have played a historically tough schedule the past few years, look for their first win on Friday afternoon, Oct. 2, at 5 p.m. from Rogers Field.

Lylia Ellis sends a free kick away.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Above, Lucy Maziarz tries to protect the ball from an opponent.



Emma Maziarz looks to cross the ball.



Goalie Grace Berry punts the ball away.



Jordyn Szado traps the ball.



Elle Somers swipes a quick pass.



Avery Beaudoin is closely pursued by a Douglas player.



Ellyana Lavalley sends a shot away.



Josephine Boyko chases down a loose ball.



Aubrey Ortiz tries to steal the ball.



Megan Clark takes possession.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Madison Boulrice punts the ball away.



Gloria Gern fights for the ball.



Evelyn Wood looks to cut the ball off.

SOCCER

Pioneers split another pair

PALMER – The Pathfinder Regional High School girls soccer team remains at .500 after scoring a win and a loss during the past week.

Last Monday afternoon on the grass behind Pathfinder, the Pioneers edged Putnam 2-1.

Lee would defeat Pathfinder last Tuesday 4-0 for a 2-2 overall record.

The Pioneers will travel to Gateway for a Friday evening game on Oct. 3 at 6 p.m.

The Pioneers are back home to face Commerce at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 6.

SOCCER

Pathfinder takes down Ware boys

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

WARE – Three of the previous four meetings between the Pathfinder Tech and Ware boys' soccer teams ended in draws. Unlike their recent clashes, the first meeting of the 2026 campaign between the Bi-County East foes was far less suspenseful.

The Pathfinder Tech Pioneers held a 7-0 halftime lead and cruised to a 10-0 victory over the Ware Indians on a cool night at Veteran's Field in Ware, last Tuesday.

“We’re hoping to challenge for the league title this year, so this is a very big-league win for us,” said Pathfinder Tech head coach David Wilson. “Winning the league title is our first goal. We also want to qualify for both the Western Mass. and state tournaments.”

Pathfinder Tech entered this week's action with a 5-1-1 overall record and a 3-0-1 mark against league opponents. The last time they captured the league title was in 2022.

The first meeting of last season between the two squads ended in a 2-2 draw.

It was their first meeting on the soccer pitch since playing a pair of ties in 2022.

Pathfinder Tech, who posted a 4-0 home shut-out victory over Ware in the second meeting of last season, was scheduled to host Southwick at Legion Field on Monday night. The winner of that contest took over sole possession of first place in the Bi-County East standings.

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