

The Journal Register

SERVING PALMER, MONSON, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND & WALES

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BRIMFIELD



Turley photo by Abigail McCoy

Joyce May and her granddaughter Zoey Zebrowski level a cake for decorating.

Wildflower cake decorating brings sweet creativity

By Abigail McCoy
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BRIMFIELD – Sweet artistry was on full display at Hitchcock Free Academy this last Wednesday, Oct. 1, as participants gathered for a Wildflower Cake Decorating class led by longtime instructor and sugar artist Sue Gaulin of Let’s Cake Decorate.

Gaulin, who has been teaching cake decorating for nearly a decade through her business, guided attendees step by step in learning the delicate piping techniques needed to create floral designs out of frosting.

“This class is all about having fun, learning new skills, and realizing that cake decorating really is an art

form,” Gaulin said. “We’re not working with real flowers. Instead, we’re piping buttercream wildflowers, which can be just as complex. It takes patience to get the technique right, especially when you’re decorating the side of a cake and working against gravity.”

Gaulin’s experience in

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MONSON

Public Safety Night Out showcases spirit, service

By Abigail McCoy
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MONSON – The spirit of community collaboration was alive and well at the fifth annual Monson Public Safety Night Out, held this past Saturday, October 4. The event brought together local first responders, town departments, and community organizations for a night of family fun, information, and gratitude toward those who keep the community safe.

Originating as an offshoot of the National Night Out program, traditionally held in August, Monson’s

version takes place in the fall to allow for broader participation and a more relaxed atmosphere. “We wanted to do something a little bit more spread out,” said Captain Paramedic Lisa Hamill of the Monson Fire Department. “We’ve expanded it to involve more of our community partners, so it’s not just public safety...it’s everything that Monson has to offer.”

A highlight of the night was the annual barbecue cook-off between the Monson Fire and Police Departments, a good-natured rivalry that’s become a signature

part of the evening. “When we first started this five years ago, both the fire chief and Lt. (Nick) Gasparini loved to barbecue,” Hamill said. “It’s just become a fun, friendly competition between the two departments.”

The Fire Department team served up pulled pork and wings along with a variety of sides, including a corn casserole, street corn pasta salad, and honey-ginger carrots. For dessert, guests enjoyed a “sweet treat trio” of s’mores, rocky road, and fluffernutter squares. In the tent beside them, the Police Department countered with brisket parfaits, hot dogs, and corn ribs.

Lieutenant Nick Gasparini, who’s rumored to rise to chief soon but no official proclamations from the dept at this time, laughed about the friendly rivalry. “Everything’s free, no cost to the public, and we always get a huge turnout,” he said. “Hopefully we leave with the trophy. I may have told my daughter and her friends that five votes come with every glitter tattoo.”

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Turley photo by Abigail McCoy

Paul Foster, Monson’s new superintendent, sits at the school table to greet attendees.

PALMER

Pathfinder unveils expansion plan to meet growing needs

By Abigail McCoy
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PALMER – Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School is preparing for what local leaders are calling the most significant expansion in the school’s history; one that could add up to 150 new seats, create multiple new programs, and help close the skills gap across Western Massachusetts.

During an announcement held at the school’s restaurant on Friday, Oct. 3, Superintendent Eric Duda and his administrative team outlined plans to acquire and repurpose the Cold Spring School in Belchertown, which is scheduled to close in 2026. The move would allow Pathfinder to increase capacity, launch new programs, and ensure that students from all nine member towns have access to career and technical education.

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Turley photo by Abigail McCoy

Superintendent Eric Duda holding a laminated copy of the pamphlet asking for help with Pathfinder’s original expansion decades ago.

PALMER

PCC leads community planting day

By Abigail McCoy
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PALMER – Residents, volunteers, and local officials gathered on a sunny weekend afternoon, October 4 at noon, for Palmer’s Community Planting Day, an effort to transform a key corner of town into a vibrant, native-plant garden that benefits both people and wildlife.

The initiative, led by the Palmer Conservation Commission with support from community partners, brought together more than 50 new trees and shrubs for planting at the Four Corners site, where the Palmer Town Hall is. The project focuses on creating pollinator-friendly habitat, improving the landscape with native plants, and encouraging residents to connect with conservation efforts.

Donald Blais Jr., Chair of the Conservation Commission, said the event was about more than planting.

“It’s a beautiful day to be out here giving back to the community,” Blais said as he worked alongside other volunteers. “This garden will

be something the whole town can enjoy.”

The design of the new garden was spearheaded by landscape architect Peter Wackernagel, who served as both planner and on-site supervisor during the planting day. Wackernagel, who holds a master’s degree in landscape architecture and works with the Hampden Hampshire Conservation District, has focused much of his career on projects that combine ecological value with com-

munity engagement.

“My work is really about community development and placemaking,” Wackernagel explained. “Projects like this are at their best when local residents are directly involved. Planting days not only get the garden started but also give people a sense of ownership and visibility. When folks drive by and see volunteers working here, it sparks interest and builds momentum.”

The design emphasized

resilience and ecological diversity. Nearly all of the plants selected are native to Massachusetts, chosen to withstand the site’s mixed conditions, from rocky sandy soils to swampy patches.

“About 90 percent of what we planted is native,” Wackernagel said. “The goal is to create over a thousand square feet of high-quality habitat that supports both people and wildlife.”

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Turley photo by Abigail McCoy

Pathfinder senior, Connor McGrath, covers plant bases with mulch.

MONSON

Appetite for Art group explores the kinetic beauty of mobiles and motion

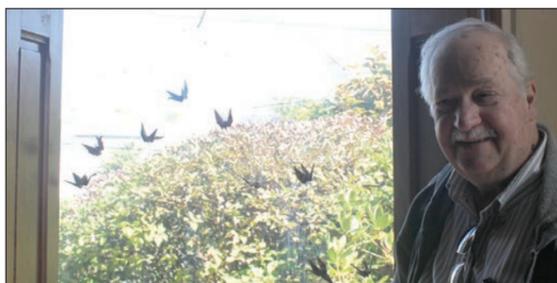
By Abigail McCoy
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MONSON – The gentle balance of color, motion, and imagination filled the DeSantis Community Room at the Monson Free Library on Oct. 1, as members of the Appetite for Art discussion group gathered to explore this month’s theme: mobiles, the delicate, moving sculptures that unite art and physics in graceful

motion.

Led by Library Director Hope Bodwell, Appetite for Art has been one of the library’s most enduring and beloved programs. “It’s one of the best things I’ve put together here,” Bodwell said. “I love it.”

The group has met monthly since around 2008, with each session devoted to a different artist, art movement, or medium. Over the



Turley photo by Abigail McCoy

A handcrafted mobile made by a participant in the group.

years, they’ve covered everything from Cubism and photography to the use of food in art. Originally, the meetings began as a casual “brown bag lunch” chat, the inspiration for the program’s name, before evolving into a more multimedia experience.

“Once we got our lovely television, we started doing PowerPoint presentations,” Bodwell explained. “People can include specialized re-

search and visuals, and it’s become a delightful way to share art and learn from one another.”

During the pandemic, Appetite for Art moved online, allowing members to

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Pinball Club continues to draw players

By Abigail McCoy
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PALMER – Tucked away at 4 Springfield St in Three Rivers, the Western Mass Pinball Club has grown into a vibrant hub for pinball enthusiasts, drawing players from across the region with its impressive collection of machines, weekly open hours, and tournaments.

Founded six years ago by a group of friends: Keith

Merrill, Andrew Stevens, Ed Jakes, and Dan Ragner. The club began as a practical solution to a shared problem: too many machines, and not enough space at home. What started as a private collection has become a community space for anyone with a love of the silver ball.

“There’s four of us, and it’s just all of our games,” explained Merrill, one of the club’s co-owners. “We just needed a place to put them. Nobody makes any money on it. It’s pretty much just here for the love of pinball.”

For Merrill, collecting started about a decade ago, sparked by Pintastic, a major pinball convention that used to be held in Sturbridge. Since then, the club’s collection has steadily grown, offering visitors the chance to play on machines spanning decades of pinball history.

The club opens its doors to the public twice a week: Thursdays from 6 to 9 p.m. for \$10, and Fridays from 6 p.m. until late for \$20. Both nights operate on a free-play model, meaning once the entry fee is paid, players can enjoy unlimited games.

The Western Mass Pinball Club isn’t just a place

to play, it’s also a venue for community events. The club has hosted tournaments for groups like the New England Pinball League, local non-profit organizations such as the Palmer Public Library and the Quaboag Valley Business Assistance Corporation (QVBAC), as well as family parties and fundraisers.

“It’s a great hobby to get into,” Merrill said. “There’s a lot of great people involved. Once you get into it, you start finding all these other places to go. The tournament scene especially is full of super friendly people.”

One group that has found a home at the WMPC is Northampton Belles and Chimes, the Western Massachusetts chapter of a national network designed to support women in the pinball community. Co-founder Brie Zulkiewicz said she and her friends Anna and Amy launched the local chapter about a year ago, and since then, they’ve been organizing inclusive, welcoming events throughout the region.

“We try to sponsor events all over Western Mass,” Zulkiewicz said. “We did a Galentine’s Day pinball event here in February, where we

focused on classics: machines that are more than 35 years old. It was a lot of fun, and we brought in folks from all over to play some great games.”

In addition to events at the Palmer club, Belles and Chimes has organized gatherings at Shortstop Bar & Grill in Westfield, Hometown Arcade in Northampton, and other arcades with pinball offerings. One of the group’s co-founders, Amy, is also in the process of opening a new arcade in Amherst called Tilted Orbit, which will give Western Mass another dedicated pinball venue.

At a recent Halloween-themed tournament at the Western Mass Pinball Club, players competed in hours of match play, with finalists battling it out on machines chosen at random. Organizers kept the atmosphere light and supportive, encouraging new players to ask questions and enjoy the experience.

Whether it’s a seasoned player chasing a high score on a modern machine, or a newcomer dropping a ball on a vintage classic for the first time, the Western Mass Pinball Club continues to thrive as a unique community space built on shared passion.



First, second, and third place trophies for the Northampton Bells and Chimes Tournament.



A variety of vintage arcade games featured on TV screens.



Competitors enjoy numerous classic arcade games during round one.



A service dog of a member of the tournament joins the fun, dressed as an adorable lion.

Test of Strength Wrestling performs at St. Thomas

By Abigail McCoy
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PALMER – The excitement was electric at St. Thomas Parish Hall on Saturday, Oct. 4, as Test of Strength Wrestling returned to Palmer for its second live event, Fight For Your Dreams 8. Fans packed the hall for a night of high-energy matches featuring ladder stunts, tag team clashes, and championship showdowns that brought the crowd to its feet. The main event saw top contenders battle in a ladder match for both the K1 Classic and TOS Championship titles, closing the night with daring climbs and hard-hitting drama that had fans roaring with every move.

The card was stacked from start to finish, featuring men’s and women’s championship bouts, tag team contests, and a mix of up-and-coming talent and seasoned performers. Each match showcased the intensity and athleticism that has made Test of Strength one of the region’s fastest-growing independent wrestling promotions. From the Women’s Championship match to multi-team mayhem in the tag division, the night offered nonstop entertainment that highlighted both

skill and showmanship.

Based out of East Hartford, Connecticut, Test of Strength Wrestling runs monthly events and trains aspiring wrestlers through its own academy. Company representative Steve Chaparro said the promotion is focused on giving young athletes a platform to perform while bringing family-friendly shows to new audiences. “This is our second time here in Palmer, and the fans always show us love... it’s a great crowd and we enjoy it out here,” he said, noting that the group plans to return in the near future.

Behind the scenes, a dedicated production crew helped bring the spectacle to life. Ring announcer Danielle Robichaud, referees Gina Monti and Carlos Gomez, and DJ Samantha Savage kept the energy high throughout the night, while videographers and commentators captured every moment for future broadcasts. The event was produced by Wagner Brown, whose vision for Test of Strength combines professional-quality presentation with the passion of local wrestling.

The show was hosted at St. Thomas Parish Hall, a longtime community gath-

ering space that continues to welcome a variety of events, from weekly bingo to family celebrations and now professional wrestling. Parishioners said they’re proud to open their doors to local entertainment that brings people together. With the cheers echoing through the hall and fans already asking when the wrestlers will return, Fight For Your Dreams 8 proved that Palmer is quickly becoming a favorite stop for New England’s independent wrestling scene.



A wrestler prepares to land feet first on an opponent using rope leverage.



Above, a knee strike while pulling back his opponent’s arms brings an expression of pain across the opponent’s face. Left, a high-flying jump knocks down an opponent. Below, two wrestlers perform synchronized flying drops to take down their foe.



Turley photos by Abigail McCoy

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TERROR RETURNS AS 13TH WORLD OPENS

By Abigail McCoy
amccoy@turley.com

PALMER – The gates of fear have swung open once again at 13th World, New England’s premier haunted attraction, where owners Zeke Fortier and Richard Vaillant, have reimagined the fright park for a chilling new season. Building on the success of their Halfway to Halloween event back in May, the team has introduced new attractions, upgraded fan favorites, and added even more ways for visitors to immerse themselves in the horror experience.

This year’s setup blends familiar haunts with fresh nightmares, giving returning guests a new reason to scream. One of the most notable additions is Slasher Theater, a cinematic horror photo experience featuring six themed scenes from iconic horror franchises such as Stranger Things, The Texas Chainsaw Massacre, The Exorcist, Hellraiser, and A Nightmare on Elm Street. Guests can step into the sets and pose for eerie snapshots assisted by on-site staff, making it a picture-perfect nightmare.

“We wanted to add something interactive that people could enjoy even when they’re not being scared,” said Vaillant. “Slasher Theater is about stepping into those classic horror moments everyone knows and loves.”

Returning visitors will notice major changes across the grounds, from an expanded food court to upgraded games and immersive attractions. The former merchandise area has been transformed into “Buried Alive,” a coffin-shaped ride simulator that gives guests the sensation of being interred underground. The attraction, part ride and part panic attack, allows up to two riders to be sealed inside as motion and sound effects make the experience terrifyingly real.

Nearby, the Casket Cafe serves up a full menu of horror-themed treats, including Nightmare Nachos, Hell Dogs, Fear Fries, and Monster Rings. Across the park, the Poison Pub and Brimstone Tavern offer specialty drinks, including cocktails served in blood bags, alongside beer and soft drinks for guests looking to calm their nerves.

Guests can also test their aim and courage with several midway-style horror games, including Horror Hatchet, Sh*tHead, Ball Buster, Dead Ringer, and Pinhead, a dart game inspired by the Hell-

raiser films. Each game is designed to offer moments of grim laughter between the screams.

The main event, Moonlight Mayhem, remains the centerpiece of 13th World’s Palmer location. This sprawling 30–40-minute walk-through takes guests through an entire haunted town hidden in the woods. Visitors start their journey at the Moonlight Motel, where they are greeted by the eerie Mayor John King, before descending into a series of sinister settings such as the Twisted Clown Art School, Sisters of Salem Convention, Precious Blood Church, Moonlight Mansion, and the Slaughterhouse Sawmill.

For those seeking a shorter but equally intense experience, three mini attractions (North Pole Nightmare, Hellfire House, and Prison of Torture) provide different flavors of fright. Each offers unique effects, characters, and sets designed to disorient, confuse, and terrify even seasoned haunt fans.

For adults 18 and older, the “Touch of Fear” add-on allows scare actors to physically interact with guests. Participants who sign the waiver and wear a glowing necklace can expect light shoves, grabs, and jump-scars from close quarters. Those who have had enough can simply remove

the necklace to end the experience.

Admission to 13th World ranges from \$25–\$35, with a \$5 discount for online purchases. New this year are tiered scare necklaces offering different intensity levels; blue for standard scares and red for maximum terror. The park also now features tokens, all-access passes, and expanded midway activities to make the experience more interactive and carnival-like.

Despite the blood-curdling chaos, 13th World remains a family-friendly event, though it’s not recommended for children under 12. Parking is free, and groups are kept together during the walk-through.

Unlike the Rhode Island location, which focuses solely on its outdoor haunted trail, Palmer’s 13th World has evolved into a full evening destination. With bars, games, rides, food, and a massive haunted town to explore, the site is designed to be a complete horror park experience.

“This isn’t just about scaring people anymore,” Vaillant said. “It’s about creating a world where Halloween fans can hang out, play games, eat, and get scared all in one place.”

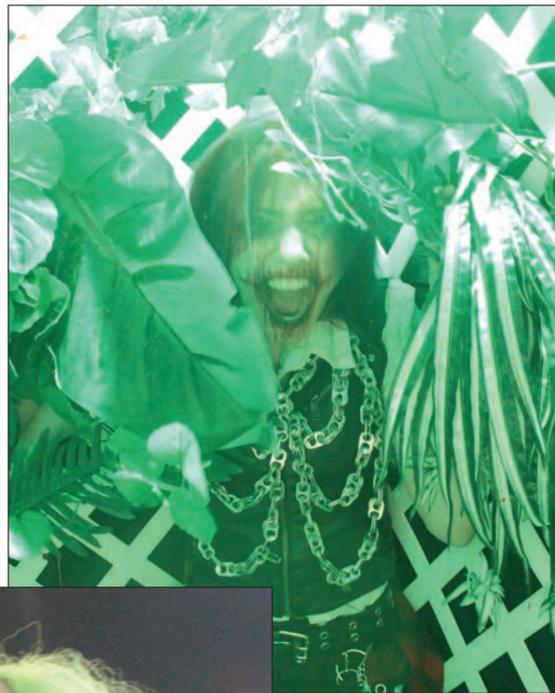
13th World is open on weekends through early November, with free parking and plenty of reasons to scream.



The exterior of 13th World Slasher Theater sets a spooky scene. Turley photos by Abigail McCoy



A chainsaw murderer roams the RV park area.



A scare actor lurks in the shadows, ready to startle visitors.



A clown menace brandishes a chainsaw.



A clown armed with a jack-in-the-box hunts for victims in the central area of the park.



A bloodied scare actor adds to the horror.

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Viewpoints

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Thankful for a very successful Cruise for Critters

To the Editor,

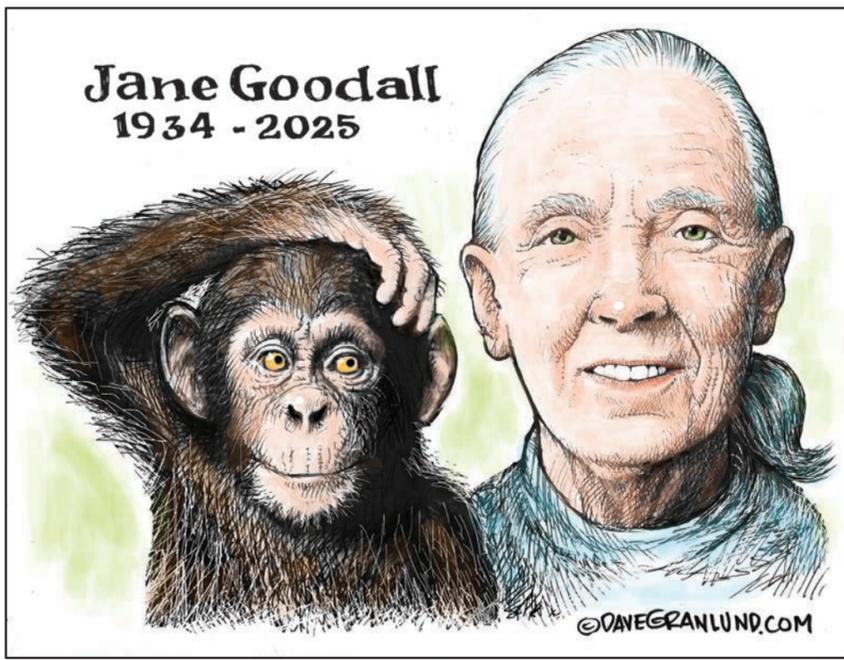
On behalf of all of us at Second Chance Animal Services, I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who made the 13th Annual Cruise for Critters such a tremendous success. It was a beautiful day, and thanks to the dedication of Al Widlan's Service Connection, who organizes this event each year, and the incredible support of our community, we celebrated a record-breaking turnout with 151 cars on display.

We are so thankful to Westview Farms Creamery for welcoming us back again this year, to the Barberic Band for keeping the crowd entertained all day, and to K-9 & Pets Dog Training for their amazing demo with the Amherst and

Leicester K-9s. A big thank you also goes out to the vendors and volunteers who gave their time to help make the day run so smoothly. Most of all, we're grateful to the car owners, families, and pet lovers who came out to be part of this special day. Because of you, every car entry, every purchase, and every donation will go right to helping pets in need get the care and second chances they deserve.

We would also like to recognize our generous sponsors, including Embie Industries, Ted and Barbara Hebert of Teddy Bear Pools & Spas, and TRM Knives. Your partnership helped make this year's Cruise for Critters our best yet.

With deepest gratitude,
Lindsay Doray
Chief Development Officer



Unique question on an unique plant

Sue, who gardens in Gilbertville called the Garden Lady with a question about Stinging Nettle. Apparently, she has it growing in numerous places on her four-acre property and wants to eradicate it.

"Roberta, are you familiar with this plant?" All I could say, was "Ah, yes," and then I began the story.

Not too long ago I was grabbing weeds by the handful, stuffing them into a bucket. Suddenly, out of the corner of my eye I saw the familiar saw-tooth shaped leaf and distinctive hairy stems within my clutches. As soon as my brain registered what I had just plucked, my hand started to sting...burn, really.

Yup, I was fooled again by stinging nettle. Ice helps a little, but usually the burn has to run its course.

Once you have identified stinging nettle, it won't be hard to miss. Urtica dioica and other members of the Urticaceae family have in common one particular trait: hairs on the undersides of their leaves as well as on their stems.

It is the hairs, that when brushed upon or grabbed, release formic acid into the skin causing a stinging, burning and a just plain



you are aware of some of its reported health benefits. Some herbalists even go as far as to plant it on purpose!

I'll admit I even bought some dried leaves once to use along with other herbs in a spring tonic rich in vitamins and minerals. Although it grows wild all over my property I was afraid to harvest it! Since then, I have learned that once cooked or dried, the sting disappears.

Nettles have been used to treat all kinds of ailments over the years. Urtication was a common, albeit curious, practice in ancient times. It involved slapping inflicted body parts with bunches of stinging nettles to impart a cure of a particular ailment.

Slapping below a man's navel was thought to improve his virility. If a paralyzed limb was slapped it was hoped feeling would be renewed.

There are other bizarre accounts of the application of this herb. I read one case of crushed leaves being packed into the nose to stop a nosebleed. Ouch! Or used in juice form to make hair grow. Grow? Maybe, but stand on end a definite!

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SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor

When will my disability become my regular Social Security?

Dear Rusty:

I hope you can answer this question.

I'm currently receiving Social Security Disability benefits, and I will be turning 65 in February 2026. I'm confused as to how Social Security Disability transitions to regular Social Security, and when. I assume it's age 65, but maybe it's my retirement date?

Also, does the amount remain the same or will it change? I'm not working. I've been on SSDI for about 15 years. Thank you.

Signed: Disabled Senior

Dear Disabled Senior:

If you are collecting Social Security Disability

Insurance benefits, those SSDI benefits will automatically convert to become your regular Social Security retirement benefit when you reach your SS Full Retirement Age, which, in your case, is age 67. For information, FRA today is somewhere between age 66 and 67, depending on your year of birth, and the full retirement age for everyone born in 1960 or later is age 67.

The change from SSDI to your regular Social Security benefit will be transparent to you because your monthly benefit amount will remain the same. SSDI benefits

SECURITY | page 5



Red-bellied woodpecker

On Sept. 30, I saw two red-bellied woodpeckers fly from one tree to another.

Since I do not feed the birds suet or seeds until winter due to bears, I had not noticed them before. The red-bellied woodpecker has a black and white barred back and a pale belly. Males have a red crown and nape and the females have just a red nape, but no crown.

These woodpeckers cling to tree bark and use their stiff tail feathers for support while they probe into the bark for insects. White is visible on their wings in flight. They are about nine inches long, the same size as the hairy woodpecker.

Like other woodpeckers, they have an undulating flight. They pick at the bark rather than drill into it like many other woodpeckers. They inhabit woodlands and forests from old stands of oak and hickory to young hardwoods and pines. They also appear at backyard feed-



By Ellenor Downer

ers especially for suet.

They nest in a cavity excavated in dead wood. Males may begin cavity excavation with the female selecting one of the holes and completing it. The female lays two to six eggs. There most common call is a shrill rolling "kwirr" or "churr" given by both sexes. They also make a "cha cha cha" sound.

Helping birds

Another way to help birds is to plant native trees, shrubs and plants in ones yard. Many provide a food source and others become a nesting site or shelter. Leaving a section of yard not mowed and letting it "run wild" also attracts birds, but provides food, nesting sites and shelter. Putting out bird feeders and water sources also bring birds to one's yard, but they also attract black bears and other unwanted visitors.



Blue jays

I heard blue jays squawking away on Sept. 30. I looked toward the noise and saw four blue jays flitting about among the trees. They were near a winter feeding spot. In winter, I put out shelled peanuts, which is a favorite of blue jays and tufted titmice to name a few. The first year I fed peanuts, I put out unshelled peanuts. They make a mess with the peanut husks, but I enjoyed watching them fly off with a whole peanut and opening it to get the peanuts inside.

Brimfield birds

A Brimfield birder, who emails regularly said, "In the yard most summer visitors have headed south but catbirds are still around and a couple of male towhees were seen last week. Also a male and female common yellowthroat visited the bird bath."



Catbird

He said, "I filled the hummingbird feeders last week but haven't seen a hummingbird in several days and the feeders haven't been used much because they are still almost full."

He reported he had to take down my feeders because bear were visiting during the day. He had planted a couple dozen sunflowers in the yard and last week he cut the seed heads off and hung them in the garage to dry. He attached a few of the seed heads to the poles where he hangs his bird feeders. A pair of cardinals, at least three titmice

and a black capped chickadee came for the seeds.

Norwottuck Rail Trail

The Brimfield resident in his email of Sept. 30 said, "Last Saturday a friend and I spent a couple of hours walking on the Norwottuck Rail Trail, Station Road in Amherst. It was a beautiful day to be out and about. We didn't see song birds but a few ducks, a couple of great blue herons, three green herons (good looks at one quite close) and one horned grebe. A pair of beaver were out enjoying the nice day and we got good looks at them. A few people walking the trail had never seen beavers before and were quite excited and asked lots of questions. Do they eat fish?"

Warren ponds

The Brimfield resident frequently visits ponds in Warren. He saw a bald eagle one day and yesterday (Sept. 29) in addition to three great blue herons I saw a northern harrier and two male turkeys.

Trail camera

The Brimfield resident said in his email, "The trail camera near the bird bath captured a visit by a bear one night. Three days later a bear visited again and

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The Journal Register

TEAM

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

Please send opinions to:

The Journal Register

Letter to the Editor

24 Water St., Palmer MA 01069,

or by e-mail to:

journalregister@turley.com

The submission deadline for consideration is Monday at noon.

Election letters to the editor welcome

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

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

Campaign news

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

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

Viewpoints

SECURITY | from page 4

were originally awarded to you based upon your full retirement age entitlement when you applied for SSDI, even though you hadn't yet reached your FRA when you went on SSDI. Thus, the monthly benefit amount will not change because it is based on your lifetime earnings record, from before you became disabled.

FYI, although age 65 was once Social Security's "retirement age," full retirement age for Social Security today is based on the year you were born. So, your SSDI benefit will automatically switch to become your regular Social Security retirement benefit as soon as you reach age 67. Essentially, the only thing that will

change is the Social Security Trust Fund from which your benefits will be paid.

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.

A different kind of concierge medicine



your health



By Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, RN
Guest Column

The rise of concierge medicine shows no signs of slowing down. Frustrated with long wait times for appointments, waiting room delays and only brief conversations with their doctor, those who can afford it are shelling out hundreds of dollars each month for faster care and attention, 24-hour access and personalized health programs.

It's understandable that, in our fractured health-care system, people would start looking for alternatives. There are some drawbacks to concierge care, however.

Many don't accept insurance, in order to keep their own costs low. You will still need to pay for insurance in case a serious illness or injury requires hospitalization or a specialist. And not all concierge docs have hospital privileges, which may complicate care coordination — especially important for someone with multiple chronic illnesses.

It's that coordination, or "wraparound care," that sets private patient advocates apart

from concierge doctors. Both offer concierge-style service, but a patient advocate goes above and beyond. When you pay for a patient advocate, you can expect them to be there when you need them, anticipate your needs, cut through red tape and run interference with hospitals and insurance companies.

Here are some scenarios where I think the concierge services of a nurse patient advocate may exceed those of concierge doctors.

When an aging loved one is on their own: Very often, patient advocates are hired by family members trying to care for an elder who lives far away and may not have family close by. We are their boots on the ground, their eyes and ears, and their go-between with the medical professions caring for their loved one.

When you feel the hospital medical staff isn't hearing you: It's not uncommon for patients and patients' families to feel like their concerns are being overlooked or, worse, dismissed. A med-

ically trained patient advocate speaks the language and can build bridges, mediate conflict and dial back the drama.

When your insurance claim is denied: Insurance documents can be wildly confusing. It helps to have someone on your side who can read through the mumbo-jumbo and explain whether an appeal may be successful. A patient advocate can also help prepare an appeal.

When a "simple" medical procedure turns into a nightmare: One of my clients was a 75-year-old gentleman who developed complications after a procedure. Unfortunately, the hospital and his physicians didn't meet the standard of care, leading him to have a stroke, internal bleeding, dehydration and a host of problems. He became delusional after days in the hospital and was given anti-psychotic drugs. I was able to intervene with the care team, and his condition improved.

When a patient isn't ready for discharge: Hospitals very often want to get chronically ill patients out of their beds and into a nursing facility. Sometimes this is the right thing to do, but sometimes it isn't. A nurse patient advocate can evaluate a patient and work with the care team to make sure it's the proper course, and then help with the transition.

When a college student with a medical condition is away from home: It's unlikely that the typical 18- or 19-year-old has the maturity to advocate for themselves in a medical crisis. Parents

may not be there to give their student the personal attention they may need to understand their treatment, speak with medical staff and schedule tests and appointments. A patient advocate in the student's location can help.

When there's no one to go with you to a doctor appointment: Doctor appointments these days can feel rushed, and often patients are confused about what they're supposed to do next, what medications are changing and what prescriptions need to be filled. Anyone can accompany you to an appointment to take notes, but if you're on your own, a patient advocate can explain the details.

The most important aspect of a patient advocate's "concierge service" is that they work for the patient, their client — not the hospital, not the insurance company. If you need help, find a board-certified patient advocate in your area by visiting Greater National Advocates (gnanow.org) or the National Association of Healthcare Advocacy (nahac.com).

Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, is a registered nurse and board-certified patient advocate and founder of www.NurseAdvocateEntrepreneur.com, which trains medical professionals to become successful private patient advocates. Teri offers a free phone consultation to Turley Newspaper readers as well as to nurses interested in becoming advocates. Reach her at Teri@NurseAdvocateEntrepreneur.com



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GARDEN | from page 4

All kidding aside, there are other benefits of nettles that go beyond folklore. Studies are being conducted for its use in treating prostate problems, asthma, allergies and arthritis.

Whether or not nettles are part of your apothecary chest, be sure to handle them with kid gloves! Although the stinging and burning sen-

sation may last for only a few minutes, it very well could last for hours!

That brings me back to Sue's question. There are multiple ways to try and eradicate the plant. You can suit up and hand pull or get the mower out and mow the area as you would the lawn. Repeated mowings during active growth will eventually kill it.

You can also take a soil

necessary recommendations to improve the soil to a point that the grasses in your field will thrive and choke out the stinging nettle. Small areas can be covered in black plastic —again, you would do this when the plant is in active growth. Usually a month or more is necessary for this route to be successful.

Spot spraying with weed killers in another option but one that I only use as a very

last resort. Good luck!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 33 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

BIRDS | from page 4

chewed open a pumpkin and ate the seeds and then went to one of the poles with sunflower seed heads and knocked the pole down. It didn't bother another pole with seed heads."

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

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

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

UPCOMING

WING MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUXILIARY SHOP
40 Wright St., Palmer

OCTOBER VENDORS

- Oct. 14: Wicked Good Treats
- Oct. 15: Hobbit Hollow Herbs
- Oct. 16: Jewelry by Diane
- Oct. 23: Crystal Clear Emotions
- Oct. 27: Generations of Cookies
- Oct. 28: Geriations and Sew on

OCTOBER 11 & 25

The Palmer Domestic Violence Task Force will once again be holding their annual Scarecrow Contest. Those wishing to participate in the contest may create their own display, or attend a Build-a-Scarecrow event at the Palmer Public Library on Saturday, October 11 or 25 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. All materials provided at the Build-a-Scarecrow events will be free of charge. There is no fee to enter the contest or attend the Build-a-Scarecrow events.

ONGOING

2025-2026 Drama & Dance Program running through

May on Thursdays at PHCC. Does your child love dancing and acting? Have they always been interested but never tried? All levels and ages 5 plus welcome. (Drama students must be able to read.) Also offering Adult Hip Hop & Lyrical Dance Classes. Students must be available for show date in May. Date TBD. Adult class students can dance in show or choose not to as long as requested ahead of time. Contact: trulytorie2000@gmail.com for more info and to register.

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

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

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

KEEP HOMESTEAD MUSEUM: Located at 35 Ely Rd., Monson, nature trails are open daily until dusk for hiking, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. Trail maps can be found in the parking lot. For more information call 413-267-4137, email khm@keephomesteadmuseum.org or visit keephomesteadmuseum.org.

QUABOAG VALLEY QUILTERS GUILD: Members meet at 1 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays of the month

in the Amvets post at 2150 Main St., Three Rivers. The Guild is a no-pressure group with varying degrees of accomplishments, from novice to Big E "Best In Show" winners. Dues are \$55 a year. For more information, contact Barbara Beau-lieu at 267-4044 or Merry Mombourquette at 283-7577. Follow them on Facebook for more.

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

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

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

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

Brimfield Auto Show on Oct. 11

BRIMFIELD – Now in its 17th year, the annual Brimfield Auto Show is a benefit for Hitchcock and the Brimfield Firefighters Association. The 2025 show will take place at the Brimfield Winery on Saturday, Oct. 11 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The rain date for the event is Oct. 12.

Along with over 800 cars if we top last year's turn-out, the day will fea-

ture raffles, merchandise, and music.

The show isn't limited to antique cars – it includes muscle cars, street rods, custom cruisers, classic imports, antique fire apparatus, trucks, even utility vehicles.

Awards will be presented in 26 categories along with Best in Show, People's Choice, and a selection by the Brimfield

Firefighters Association. 81 trophies will be handed out.

Our thanks to the Brimfield Firefighters Association for partnering with us, to the Brimfield Winery for hosting, and to all of the businesses who supported us with the purchase of an ad in our program book - see below - we hope you will support them in turn.

Grant applications sought

PALMER – The Palmer Cultural Council is seeking grant applications from organizations, schools and individuals for community-oriented projects in the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences.

These grant opportunities are funded by the Mass Cultural Council focusing on programs/events that can support students, senior citizens, families, green spaces and

teenagers. They can be in the form of lectures, workshops, performances, field trips, exhibits and festivals.

Applications must be completed on line at massculturalcouncil.org beginning Sept. 2 through the Oct. 16, 2025 deadline.

The Palmer Cultural Council is also seeking new members. For more information contact palmerculturalcouncil@gmail.com

Proposals being sought

MONSON – The Monson Cultural Council is seeking grant proposals from organizations, schools, and individuals for community-orientated projects in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences. These grants can support a variety of projects including lectures, workshops, performances in schools, exhibits, and festivals and must take place between Jan. 1, 2026 and Dec. 31, 2026. Monson priorities can be found online at www.MassCultural-Council.org along with the link to the online application. The application will be available starting Sept. 2, 2025, and the deadline is October 16, 2025.

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mashed potatoes, peas and apple crisp for dessert.

Friday Movie Matinee
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Oct. 3

Water for Elephants—Epic tale of forbidden love based on Sara Gruen's acclaimed best seller. Against all odds, a veterinary student and a beautiful circus performer from a bygone era meet and fall in love through their shared compassion for a special elephant. But their secret romance incurs the wrath of her dangerously volatile

husband.

Oct. 10

The Adventures of Milo and Otis—A cat and a dog find perils and mates after straying from their farm in Japan.

Oct. 17

Click—A harried workaholic, Michael Newman doesn't have time for his wife and children, not if he's to impress his ungrateful boss and ear a well-deserved promotion. So when he meets Morty a loopy sales clerk, he gets the answer to his prayers:

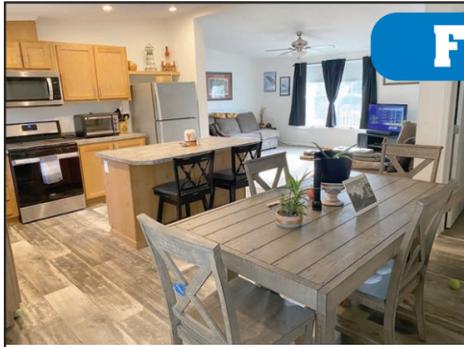
a magical remote that allows him to bypass life's little distractions with increasingly hysterical results. But as Michael gleefully mutes, skips and scans past his family and his friends, the remote gradually takes over his life and begins to program him, in this fast, funny and out-of-control comedy adventure.

Oct. 24

About Schmidt—Comedy with Warren Schmidt, an embittered man who has just retired after 32 years as an insurance company actuary.

Build-a-Scarecrow on Oct. 11, 25

PALMER – The Palmer Domestic Violence Task Force will once again be holding their annual Scarecrow Contest. Those wishing to participate in the contest may create their own display, or attend a Build-a-Scarecrow event at the Palmer Public Library on Saturday, Oct. 11 or 25 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. All materials provided at the Build-a-Scarecrow events will be free of charge.



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Palmer Fire & Water District #1 Notice of Special District Meeting October 22, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

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PLAN | from page 1

“This is personal,” said Duda, a Pathfinder graduate who has served as teacher, principal, and now superintendent in his 19 years at the school. “I believe in the power of career technical education. The demand is through the roof, and we need more capacity. This expansion will allow us to deliver that without raising local taxes.”

Pathfinder has already secured over \$2 million in competitive Skills Capital Grant funding in recent years, used to rebuild the electrical program, upgrade horticulture equipment, renovate HVAC labs, and establish a plumbing program. Caitlin Phelps, part of the expansion planning team, credited the state legislature for its strong commitment to funding career and technical education.

“These initiatives have already had a huge impact on our regional workforce,” Phelps said. “But this expansion could be the most significant opportunity in our school’s history.”

The Belchertown School Committee recently voted to close Cold Spring School by June 2026 due to shifting enrollment needs. Rather than see the building sit vacant, Pathfinder has proposed taking ownership on July 1, 2026, and opening its doors

to students just two months later.

At roughly 30,000 square feet, the facility would initially house five existing technical programs moved from the Palmer campus, freeing space there for additional classrooms and expanded offerings. Pathfinder currently operates 15 programs; with the new facility, that number could grow to 20.

New programs under consideration include medical assisting, veterinary and animal science, engineering, public safety, and expanded early childhood education; fields that reflect urgent workforce needs in the region.

“This expansion will allow us to eliminate waiting lists and ensure that every student in our nine member towns has a seat,” Duda said. “It also opens the door to non-resident students who want to train for high-demand jobs.”

The plan has garnered strong support from state legislators, municipal leaders, and workforce development agencies. Pathfinder is seeking \$5 million, the maximum available, through the state’s Career Technical Education Capacity Expansion grant, part of a \$100 million funding package through the Healy-Driscoll administration. Applications are due Oct. 30, with awards expected in early 2026.



Caitlin Phelps, Co-Op Coordinator and Grant Writer for Pathfinder Tech, delivers the opening speech before introducing Superintendent Duda.

Senator Jake Oliveira, who represents both Palmer and Belchertown, called the project “a win-win.”

“Anytime you take a school offline, there are tough questions about what happens next,” Oliveira said. “Repurposing Cold Spring for career and technical education is a tremendous opportunity. It not only preserves a taxpayer investment but also creates pathways in fields like early childhood education, where our communities face real shortages.”

Representative Todd Smola echoed the importance of the expansion by saying, “Pathfinder has been a staple in the region for so many years. Expanding capacity,



Some of the original posters and photos of the school have been framed for historical sake and were on display in the restaurant.

Turley photos by Abigail McCoy



Local leaders, media, and influential local figures from a variety of the nine towns that Pathfinder serves mingled in the restaurant before the announcement.

especially in rural areas, is huge. We need to get behind this grant application and make sure it gets across the finish line.”

If funding is secured, Pathfinder expects to open the

Cold Spring campus on August 26, 2026 with an initial 150 new seats. Over time, that number could rise to nearly 200, according to Duda.

“This is truly a win-win,” Duda said. “We’re not asking

for more from local taxpayers. We’re using grant funding and non-resident tuition to build something that will benefit our students, our towns, and our regional workforce for decades to come.”



Conservation Commission Member Nicholas Zeo wheels mulch to newly planted areas.



Peter Wackernagel spreads mulch across the planting site.



Volunteer Michele Kaczmarczyk protects plant roots with cardboard and mulch.



Another volunteer, Daniel Sabatinelli, uses a pickaxe to remove rocks from the soil.



Volunteers at Palmer Town Hall work together on planting day, Oct. 4.

Turley photos by Abigail McCoy

PLANTING | from page 1

Looking ahead, the design includes future additions such as pathways, benches, and interpretive signage to share the garden’s story and encourage learning.

Behind the scenes, Jessica Ladin, Palmer’s Conservation Agent, worked to recruit and organize volunteers. Ladin noted that getting students from Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School and Palmer High School involved has been especially valuable, though balancing schedules can be a challenge.

“The town has always had a good relationship with Pathfinder and the high school,” Ladin said. “We’ve had a couple of students who are very responsive and always want to participate, which is great. Going forward, I’d like to frame these events as opportunities for community service hours. That way students can build their transcripts while contributing to projects that ben-

efit Palmer.”

Ladin added that the Conservation Commission also runs a trail club open to students and residents, offering additional ways to get involved in outdoor stewardship.

This year’s planting introduced a mix of oaks, shrubs, and other native species specifically chosen to enhance pollinator habitat. Ladin said she hopes the garden will inspire residents to adopt similar practices at home.

“By seeing what we’re planting here, people can get ideas for their own yards,” she explained. “It’s all about creating better pollinator habitats across the community.”

The Community Planting Day highlights the Conservation Commission’s efforts not just to improve town land, but to strengthen the connection between residents and the environment. Both Blais and Wackernagel emphasized that gardens like this thrive when the community continues to care for them.

As Wackernagel put it, “The most important thing is bringing people together. When volunteers are part of building a space, they’re more likely to take care of it, enjoy it, and make sure it lasts.”

With strong roots now in the ground, and in the community, the Palmer Community Garden planting project marks another step forward for conservation and civic engagement in Palmer.

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SAFETY | from page 1

Beyond the barbecue, local agencies shared important resources and programs. The Monson Fire Department showcased its fire prevention materials and safety initiatives, including the Sand for Seniors program, (delivering buckets of sand to older residents to prevent winter falls), and free home safety inspections. They also partner with the American Red Cross and Hampden County Sheriff's Department to provide smoke and CO detector installations and distribute "Life Files" medical information kits.

Nearby, WestComm Regional Dispatch introduced residents to the people who answer Monson's 911 calls. "We handle police, fire, and EMS dispatch not only for Monson but also for Chicopee, Longmeadow, East Longmeadow, Ware, and the Hampden County Sheriff's Office," explained Stephanie O'Connor, joined by dispatchers Grace Ward and Jared Boudreau. "Our team has extensive access to databases that allow us to assist field responders more efficiently."

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation's District 11 Forest Fire Control unit, based at Chicopee State Park, provided a dramatic look into wildfire response across the region and beyond. Ranger Vince Marino recounted his deployment to Alaska to fight massive wildfires this past summer. "We spent two weeks on the Bear Creek and Nenah Ridge fires, both over 30,000 acres," he said. "It's hard work...camping out, no luxuries...but it's rewarding." Marino reminded residents to remain cautious during the fall "transition" season, when leaf litter creates "a tinderbox on the ground."

Also representing public safety preparedness were members of Crew 164, a co-ed Venturing unit from Palmer that focuses on emergency preparedness and disaster response. "Our adventurers get specialized training and make up the core of what's called the CERT—Community Emergency Response Team," said Bill Mullen, a longtime leader with the crew.

Several health and community service organizations shared valuable information, including the Monson Board of Health, represented by



Attendees meet life flight helicopter pilots and crew.



Crew 164 Venturing Crew of Palmer participates in activities.



Bob Ainsworth represents the People's Truck of Munson.



Kids enjoy a large bounce house.



Monson Police Department sets up a food table for visitors.



A local officer models a playful plastic fireman's hat.



A blow-up police figure directs attendees at the event.

Administrative Assistant Denise Kennedy Buck. Buck explained how the town is putting its state opioid settlement funds to use. "We've launched a mini-grant program, offering up to \$2,000 for organizations to bring programs to town," she said. "We're also offering a funeral reimbursement program to help families affected by addiction-related loss."

Elizabeth Manley of the Medical Reserve Corps spoke about volunteer opportunities for both medical and non-medical residents. "We've been around since 2007," she said. "We help in emergencies alongside the Board of Health and Fire Department."

Christian Morales, operations manager for Public Services' waste division, shared how his team keeps Monson clean and green. "We love the community," he said.

"We've been servicing Monson for quite some time now and are always here to help and support."

The event featured participation from dozens of local groups and vendors, including Bryson's Maple Syrup, now celebrating its 15th season. "We tap about 2,500 trees here in town," said owner Bryson Busiere. "We make syrup, maple candy, and cotton candy...all local."

The People's Food Truck, a nonprofit organization, provided refreshments and raised funds for its ongoing mission to serve communities in need. "This is our third year supporting Public Safety Night," said Bob Ainsworth. "We're working to raise \$30,000 for a new truck, and we're already over \$12,000."

Representatives from Special Olympics Massachusetts, BHN Domestic Violence Services, and the

Norcross Wildlife Foundation also greeted attendees. Amanda Ulbert, engagement coordinator for Special Olympics, highlighted inclusive sports programming. "We provide year-round training for individuals with intellectual disabilities...from age 2 to 92," she said.

Meanwhile, Caro Muñoz of Norcross Wildlife spoke about the foundation's upcoming educational programs, including winter wildlife tracking and pollinator workshops.

Community spirit was on full display through groups like the Monson Lions Club, which has served the town for nearly eight decades through events like the Halloween parade and Duck Derby. "Every penny goes back into the community," said a representative proudly. "If there's a need, we're there."

Monson Together, repre-

sented by members promoting the group's fall decorating contest and December Wreaths Across America event, brought a touch of holiday spirit to the evening.

Even Memorial Hall Renovation Committee volunteers were on site, raising funds by selling engraved bricks to preserve one of Monson's most beloved historic landmarks. "These bricks will help maintain our beautiful, iconic structure," said committee member Reed Coles. "People love having their names connected to something meaningful in town."

Newly appointed Monson Schools Superintendent Paul Foster also attended, speaking with families about new educational initiatives. "We've started two new pathways in medical assisting and advanced engineering and manufacturing," Foster said.

"We're also developing early college programs, so students can graduate high school with up to a year of college credit."

As the sun set over Veteran's Field, the smell of barbecue filled the air, children played in bounce houses, and neighbors caught up with old friends. For Hamill, who has been part of Public Safety Night since its inception, that community connection is what it's all about.

"I just want to thank all of our community partners, from Monson and surrounding towns, who help make this a great, free event for everyone," she said. "We'll definitely be back next October."



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VETERANS DAY SALUTE
The Journal Register ~ November 6, 2025

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

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

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

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

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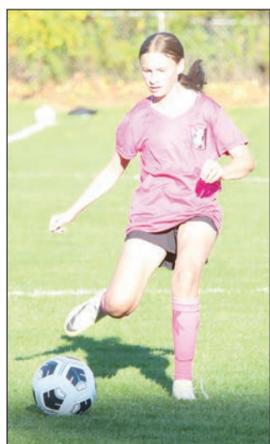
Mustangs grab much-needed win

MONSON – Last Wednesday afternoon, Monson High School girls soccer finally saw its offense get going as Hannah Murphy scored five goals to lead the Mustangs to a 7-1 win over Hopkins Academy. Chelsea Hull and Lylia Ellis had single goals. Emma Maziarz also contributed three assists.

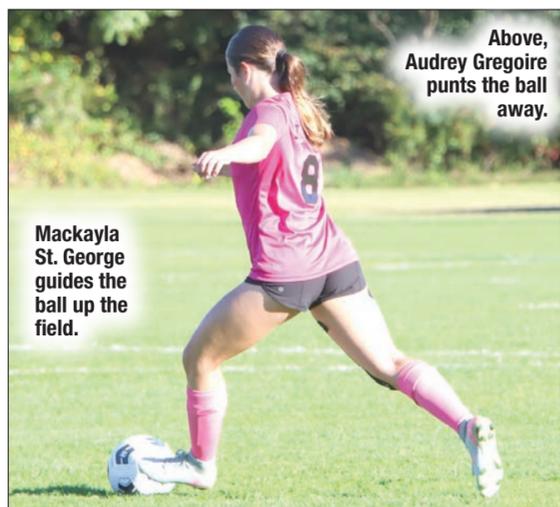
The Mustangs improved to 3-6 on the year. Despite the tougher record this season, Monson's strength of schedule is so good the Mustangs are currently ranked No. 3 in Division 5 in the latest Power Rankings that came out. Monson has a big matchup with Granby on the road Thursday, Oct. 9 at 4 p.m.



Above, Audrey Gregoire punts the ball away.



Lucy Maziarz tries to keep the ball from going out of bounds.



Mackayla St. George guides the ball up the field.



Hannah Murphy hits her stride.



Chelsea Hull takes in a pass.

SOCCER

Panthers edged by Pacers

PALMER – After a tougher matchup on the road, Palmer High School girls soccer played Chicopee much closer, falling by a 3-2 decision last Wednesday evening at Legion Field. Addyson Petraszewicz and Evelyn Ladue had the goals for the Panthers while Amelia Perry made eight saves. Palmer is now 2-7-1 on the season.



Lainey Haley tries to dribble through opposition.



Addyson Petraszewicz clears the ball.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli Harper Brouillette kicks the ball away.



Anabelle Ladue plays the ball off her knee.



Aria Nompleggi is pressured for possession.

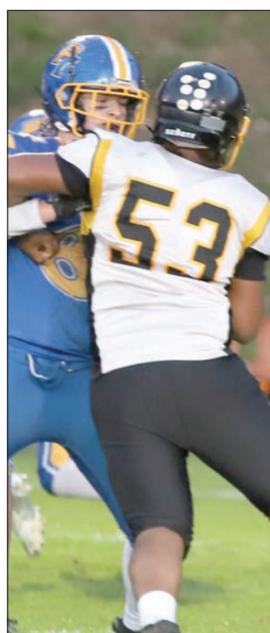
Early touchdown does not hurt, Pioneers get first win of 2025

PALMER – After a disappointing 0-4 start, Pathfinder football returned home to face Smith Vocational in a Tri-County matchup.

The Vikings grabbed an early touchdown, but Pathfinder scored 28 unanswered points for a 28-8 victory. The Pioneers improved 1-4 and

actually have a bye this coming week.

They will be back in action on Friday, Oct. 17 at McCann Tech at 7 p.m.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli Cassian Kowalik makes a good block for Pathfinder.



The offensive line attempts to hold off Smith Vocational.



Grayson Griswold passes up the middle of the field.



Terynce Senquiz holds the line for the Pioneers.



Caleb Crum looks to keep his run going for the Pioneers.



Jarrett Skowyra starts a return for Pathfinder.

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Turleysports

Athlete of the Week

Hannah Murphy
Monson High School

Murphy had a huge game for Monson girls soccer with five goals scored to lead the Mustangs to a win over Hopkins Academy.

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



Single goal downs Panthers

PALMER – Last Monday afternoon, Mahar Regional High School notched just one goal that the Panthers could not answer. The 1-0 defeat dropped Palmer to 1-7-2 on the season. Makayla Beachemin had the goal for the Senators while Scarlett LaRose made five saves in the defeat.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Hannah Roy makes an insert pass on a penalty corner.



Neila Lachance sends a pass forward.

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Camden Kimball goes for the loose ball.



Brooke Swistak holds the ball with a pair of defenders looking to make a move.

Pioneers have no answer for Holyoke offense

HOLYOKE – Last Tuesday afternoon, Pathfinder boys soccer, which co-ops with Palmer High School, suffered a 5-0 loss at Holyoke High School. Holyoke, which improved to 8-5-1 and

is headed for the tournament, got two goals each from Xavier Davila and Ryan Kennedy. All of Holyoke's scoring came in the second half. Pathfinder fell to 3-6-1 on the season.



William Wright chases down a loose ball on defense.



Cayden Bousquet shuffles a pass to his left.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Owen Pear advances the ball up the field.



Abees Castillo-Clotter looks to get around a Holyoke defender.



Brody Welnicka focuses on keeping possession.



Christian Riberio sends a pass up the field.

Monson Police Log

The Monson Police Department reported 96 incidents and arrests on its logs from Sunday, Aug. 31 through Saturday, Sept. 6.

Sunday, Aug. 31

8:14 a.m. – An officer responded to an in-progress traffic violation/hazard.
 11:38 a.m. – An officer responded to a report of a medical emergency.
 11:43 a.m. – An officer responded to a report of harassment/stalking incident.
 1:41 p.m. – An officer responded for EMS mutual aid.
 2:17 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of a medical emergency.
 4:23 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of a medical emergency.
 4:34 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of a past weapons/firearms violation.

5:01 p.m. – An officer responded to a medical emergency.
 8:05 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of a past weapons/firearms violation.
 8:15 p.m. – An officer responded for EMS mutual aid.

Monday, Sept. 1

9:17 a.m. – An officer responded to a report of a medical emergency.
 10:38 a.m. – An officer responded to a report of a burglary/breaking and entering incident in progress.
 12:42 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of a medical emergency.
 1:15 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of a suspicious/wanted person.
 2:34 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of a domestic disturbance.
 7:35 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of a suspicious/wanted person.
 7:38 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of a suspicious/wanted person.
 7:39 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of a ve-

hicle fire.
 8:23 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of a medical emergency.

Tuesday, Sept. 2

7:20 a.m. – An officer responded to a medical emergency.
 12:04 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of a past traffic violation/hazard.
 1:20 p.m. – An officer responded to a past incident of harassment/stalking/threat.
 2:39 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of a past traffic violation/hazard.
 2:45 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of a medical emergency.
 6:57 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of a medical emergency.
 7:19 p.m. – An officer responded for EMS mutual aid.

Wednesday, Sept. 3

12:57 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of a medical emergency.
 3:09 p.m. – An officer responded to a past incident of harassment/stalking/threat.
 3:59 p.m. – An officer responded for EMS mutual aid.

Thursday, Sept. 4

2:50 a.m. – An officer responded to a report of a medical emergency.
 9:31 a.m. – An officer conducted a motor vehicle stop. As a result, Shawn LaFleche, 25, 142 Southworth Street, West Springfield, was arrested on charges of number plate violation, operating a motor vehicle with a suspended registration and an uninsured motor vehicle.
 9:34 a.m. – An officer responded to a report of a past traffic violation/hazard.
 10:21 a.m. – An officer responded to a motor vehicle stop. As a result, Milton Oliveira, 44, of 52 Dwight Street Chicopee, was arrested on charges of an uninsured motor vehicle, a number

plate violation to conceal ID, and miscellaneous motor vehicle equipment violations.
 12 p.m. – An officer responded to a disturbance/nuisance in progress.
 2:36 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of a past assault.
 3:55 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of a medical emergency.
 6:33 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of a medical emergency.
 9:20 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of a medical emergency.

Friday, Sept. 5

3:20 a.m. – An officer responded to a report of a medical emergency.
 9:43 a.m. – An officer responded for EMS mutual aid.
 11:54 a.m. – An officer responded to a past incident of harassment/stalking/threat.
 12:08 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of a medical emergency.
 3:27 p.m. – An officer responded for EMS mutual aid.
 5:29 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of a past traffic violation/hazard.
 6:25 p.m. – An officer responded to a disturbance/nuisance in progress.
 10:05 p.m. – An officer responded to a disturbance/nuisance in progress.

Saturday, Sept. 6

6:10 a.m. – An officer responded to a report of a medical emergency.
 6:48 a.m. – An officer responded to a report of a medical emergency.
 10:23 a.m. – An officer responded to a report of a dangerous animal.
 1:07 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of a medical emergency.
 3:58 p.m. – An officer responded for EMS mutual aid.
 6:16 p.m. – An officer responded to an animal complaint

Palmer Police Log

The Palmer Police Department reported 129 incidents on its logs from Sunday, Sept. 21 through Saturday, Sept. 27.

Sunday, Sept. 21

7:34 a.m. – An officer conducted a motor vehicle stop on Main Street and Pleasant Street. As a result, Matthew Burke, 47, of 115 River Street, Thorndike, was arrested on charges of a motor vehicle violation and a criminal subsequent offense of operating a vehicle with a suspended license.
 1:02 p.m. – An officer responded to North Street for a report of an accident with property damage.
 1:48 p.m. – An officer responded to a Thorndike Street business for a report of property damage.
 2:25 p.m. – An officer responded to Boston Road for an arrest warrant.
 5:09 p.m. – An officer responded to State Street for a report of a threat.
 8:10 p.m. – An officer responded to Pathfinder Regional Technical High School for a report of a suspicious person.

Monday, Sept. 22

10:19 a.m. – An officer responded to Lariviere Street for a report of a fire.
 1:02 p.m. – An officer responded to Flynt Street for a report of hazardous condition.
 1:18 p.m. – An officer responded to Three Rivers Road for a report of larceny.
 3:30 p.m. – An officer responded to Church Street for an accident with property damage.
 3:33 p.m. – An officer responded to Boston Road for a report of fraud.
 6:11 p.m. – An officer responded to a Three Rivers Road for a report of larceny.
 8:20 p.m. – An officer responded to Beacon Road for a report of an animal complaint.

Tuesday, Sept. 23

2:10 a.m. – An officer responded to Central Street and Main Street for a report of a hit and run accident.
 2:14 a.m. – An officer responded to Thorndike Street for a motor vehicle stop. As a result, Dylan Brattlof, 28, of 78 Notredam Street, Westfield, on charges of op-

erating a motor vehicle with a suspended registration, unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, uninsured motor vehicle, carrying a firearm without a license, large capacity firearm in a vehicle and a warrant.
 7:45 a.m. – An officer responded to Springfield Street for a report of an animal complaint.
 9:37 p.m. – An officer responded to Old Warren Road for a report of an animal complaint.

10:28 a.m. – An officer responded to Chudy Street and Baker Street for a report of hazardous conditions.
 12:05 p.m. – An officer responded to Thorndike Street for a report of a suspicious person.
 12:11 p.m. – An officer responded to Wilbraham Street for a report of a disturbance.
 12:53 p.m. – An officer responded to Wilbraham Street for a report of hazardous conditions.

3:34 p.m. – An officer responded to Foster Street for a report of a motor vehicle violation. As a result, Gerald Marlow, 63, of 2 Moriarty Road, Ware, was arrested on charges of operating under the influence of liquor and negligent operation of a motor vehicle.
 4:33 p.m. – An officer responded to St John Street for a report of suspicious person.
 6:19 p.m. – An officer responded to Park Street for a report of hazardous conditions.
 9:38 p.m. – An officer responded to Randall Street for a report of an unwanted person.

Wednesday, Sept. 24

1:30 a.m. – An officer responded to the Mass Turnpike for a report of an accident with property damage.
 7:20 a.m. – An officer responded to Old Warren Road for a report of an accident with property damage.
 8 a.m. – An officer responded to Thorndike Street for a report of suspicious vehicles.
 10:46 a.m. – An officer responded to Main Street for a report of a trespass complaint.
 1:24 p.m. – An officer responded to Mount Dumplin Road for a report of hazardous conditions.

5:21 p.m. – An officer responded to Three Rivers Road for an investigation.
 9:25 p.m. – An officer responded to Main Street for a report of a threat.

Thursday, Sept. 25

7:29 a.m. – An officer responded to Boston Road for a report of a weapons violation.
 8:30 a.m. – An officer responded to North Main Street and Wright Street for a report of an accident with personal injuries.
 11:13 a.m. – An officer responded to Main Street for a report of a drug/narcotics violation.
 1:18 p.m. – An officer responded to Park Street for a report of a threat.
 3:07 p.m. – An officer responded to Knox Street for a report of a suspicious person.

Friday, Sept. 26

10:31 a.m. – An officer responded to North Main Street for a report of illegal dumping.
 1:20 p.m. – An officer responded to Main Street for a report of drug/narcotics violation.
 2:29 p.m. – An officer responded to Main Street for a report of a drugs/narcotics violation.
 2:43 p.m. – An officer responded to Thorndike Street for a report of an accident with property damage.
 3:21 p.m. – An officer responded to Thorndike Street for a report of an accident with property damage.
 5:17 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of larceny.
 7:41 p.m. – An officer responded to Main Street for a report of fraud.
 8:33 p.m. – An officer responded to Emery Street for a report of a disturbance.

Saturday, Sept. 27

2:37 p.m. – An officer responded to Jim Ash Street for a report of suspicious vehicle.
 2 p.m. – An officer responded to Ware Street and High Street for a report of an accident with property damage.
 2:30 p.m. – An officer responded to Rondeau Road for a report of a suspicious person.
 11:32 p.m. – An officer responded to Boston Road for a report of an accident with property damage.

MHS Hall of Fame to be held Oct. 18

MONSON – Monson High School Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will be held Oct. 18 at the Country Club of Wilbraham located at 859 Stony Hill Road, Wilbraham.
 The Social gathering will be at 5 p.m. with dinner at 6 p.m. and the Inductions begin at 7p.m. Tickets

are \$45 per person, \$75 per couple, children under 12 - \$20. Contact James Duggan for tickets 413.374.7347 or email jamesduggan@comcast.net.
Athletes: 1938 Nisio "Muzzy" Uliana (posthumously); Soccer, Basketball, Baseball & contributor; 1956 Edward Robinson;

Soccer, Basketball, Baseball; 1960 James "Jim" Schetzel: Soccer, Basketball, Baseball; 2019 Chris Sisco: 1,000 point scorer Basketball; 2020 Logan Gerry: 1,000 point scorer Basketball. **Teams:** 2016-17 Boys Swim Team; 2017 Boys Track & Field Team. **Other:** Eric Degnan - Coach

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DINNER WITH SPIRIT

Sunday, October 26, 2025, 6pm at



91 Main Street, Ware, Ma.

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\$65, limited seating available. Tickets to the dinner & mediumship gallery can be purchased at Hanna's on Main. For more information contact @ 413-277-0009.





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Public notices

PALMER PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 40A, Sections 9 & 11 M.G.L., the Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **Monday, October 27th, 2025, at 7:00 PM** in the Town Administration Building, 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA.

The applicant, Anthony Gleason, is seeking a Special Permit and Site Plan Approval as allowed under sections 171.28, 171.29, & 171.92 to construct 10 self-service storage buildings with a paved drive on the property located at 0 Chamber Road, Palmer. This parcel is also known as Assessor's Map 18, Lot 49.

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

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

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

Norman Czech, Chairman
10/09, 10/16/2025

PALMER FIRE DISTRICT NUMBER ONE AND PALMER WATER DISTRICT NUMBER ONE SPECIAL DISTRICT MEETING WARRANT

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Hampden, ss. Town of Palmer

TO: William K. Cole, Clerk of Palmer Fire District Number One and Palmer Water District Number One.

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn all the qualified voters of Palmer Fire District Number One and Palmer Water District Number One to meet in the Palmer Public Library, in the Depot Village of said Palmer, on **Wednesday, the day of October 22, 2025 at 6:30 o'clock in the evening**, to act on the following Articles:

Article 1. To choose a moderator to preside at the meeting.

Article 2. To see if the District will vote to transfer any sums of money from Free Cash to offset the spending deficit resulting from full time ambulance service for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025 or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 3. To see if the District will vote to cancel any previously approved warrant articles and transfer the unspent funds to offset the spending deficit resulting from full time ambulance service for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025 or take any action relative thereto.

And you are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies thereof and publishing an attested copy thereof in one issue of The Journal Register, a newspaper published in said Palmer, the publication to be not less than seven days before the holding of said meeting, said postings to be fourteen (14) days at least before the time of holding said meeting, at the offices of Palmer Fire District Number One and Palmer Water District Number One, Walnut Street, and at the Palmer Town Administration Building, all in said Palmer.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant, with your doing thereon, before the holding of said meeting.

Given under our hands this 6th day of October, 2025.

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE OF PALMER:
FIRE DISTRICT NUMBER ONE AND
PALMER WATER DISTRICT NUMBER ONE
Daniel Belanger, Chairman
James L. St. Amand
Anthony E. Arventos

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ATTEST:
William K. Cole
District Clerk
10/09/2025

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Springfield, MA 01103
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Docket No. HD25P2006EA
Estate of:

Dylan Thomas Allen
Date of Death: 06/18/2025
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by **Todd C. Allen of West Brookfield, MA** and **Tina I. Allen of West Brookfield 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 10/31/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.**

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons inter-

ested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: September 30, 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
10/09/2025

TOWN OF BRIMFIELD CEMETERY COMMISSION Invitation for Bid

FY26 Cemetery Wall Repairs
Sealed bids, appropriately marked, for repairs to the masonry cap of the cemetery wall located at 35 Wales Road will be received by **Thursday, October 16, 2025 at 10:00AM**. Sealed bids will be publicly opened and read on Thursday, October 16, 2025 at 10:05AM. in the Brimfield Town Annex, Select Board Office, 23 Main Street, Brimfield, MA. The following items for Fiscal Year 2026 will be awarded by the Select Board on Monday, November 3, 2025 at their duly posted meeting.

A pre-bid meeting will be held at 9:00AM on Wednesday, October 8, 2025 at 35 Wales Road to review the section of wall to be bid on. All prospective bidders are strongly encouraged to attend.

Bid specifications will be available for pickup beginning September 29, 2025 at the Brimfield Highway Department, 34B Wales Road, Brimfield, MA from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday - Thursday or by emailing the Chief Procurement Officer at selectboard@brimfieldma.org. All questions must be submitted in writing to the Chief Procurement Officer. All questions/answers and addendums will be distributed to all bid package holders.

Envelopes must be clearly marked **IFB2025CMTRY01 FY26 Cemetery Wall Repairs and include the bid opening date.** All bids must be submitted on the Town of Brimfield Bid form (included in the bid packet). No bids will be accepted after the time and date specified. Executed Certificates of Corporate Author-

ity, Non-Collusion, Tax Compliance, Labor Harmony and OSHA Training must be included in all bid submissions. A bid deposit of 5% of the total estimated bid amount must be submitted.

Prevailing Wage Rates have been established by the Department of Labor and Industries under the provisions of provisions of Chapter 149, M.G.L., section 26-27D. Bids submitted for masonry are subject to the provisions of the Prevailing Wage law where applicable.

The contract will be awarded based on the price per square foot to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. The Select Board reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids, accept that bid deemed to be in the best interest of the Town of Brimfield, and/or waive any minor informality on bids received.

Steve Phifer
Cemetery Commission Chair
Brimfield, MA 01010
cemetery@brimfieldma.org
10/02, 10/09/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
Docket No. HD25P1521EA
Estate of:

Normand A. Charpentier
Date of Death: 04/21/2025
INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Jane M. Lewis of Monson, MA**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Jane M. Lewis 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.
10/09/2025

(SEAL)
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
25 SM 002934
ORDER OF NOTICE

TO:
Tyler Joyal
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act: 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (*et seq.*)
10/09/2025

Freedom Mortgage Corporation

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Brimfield, numbered 258 Little Alum Road, given by Tyler Joyal to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Norwich Commercial Group, Inc. D/B/A Norcom Mortgage, dated October 9, 2019, and recorded at Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 22894, Page 86, 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 **November 10, 2025** or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the grounds of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, **GORDON H. PIPER**, Chief Justice of said Court on **September 29, 2025**.

Attest:

Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder

10/09/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
Docket No. HD25P0514EA
Estate of:

Stanley J. Lisiewicz
Also Known As:

Stanley Joseph Lisiewicz
Date of Death: 12/05/2024
INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **John Lisiewicz of Westport, MA**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

John Lisiewicz of Westport, 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.
10/09/2025

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

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

This group will be held in zoom, is educational, confidential, and free.

Please contact **Pat James 413-726-8661**.

The Journal Register OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

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



**SALUTE
VETERANS DAY
November 6, 2025**

**HONOR THOSE
WHO HAVE SERVED
THANK ONE AND ALL**

If your business has a veteran they want salute/honor photos may be submitted with the ad.

2 column ads	
3.476" x 3"	\$45
3.476" x 4"	\$60
3.476" x 5"	\$75
3 column ads	
5.25" x 3"	\$50
5.25" x 4"	\$79
5.25" x 5"	\$99

Larger Sizes Available!
Price is per ad per newspaper.
*FULL COLOR INCLUDED IN ALL ADS

DEADLINE OCTOBER 28TH

**Contact Dan Flynn
413-297-5886
dflynn@turley.com**

Obituary

Jeannette O. (Martin) Brault

MONSON – Jeannette O. (Martin) Brault, 84, passed away Oct. 3, 2025 at her home with the love of her family surrounding her. She was born Jan. 28, 1941 in Richford, VT, she was the daughter of John and Simone (Prive) Martin. For 44 years, Jeannette worked at Sanderson MacLeod in quality control. In her leisure time, she enjoyed fishing, crocheting blankets, playing cribbage along with dancing and a nice cold margarita while playing keno. As a lifetime Harley Davidson H.O.G. member and road captain, time riding motorcycles was also treasured. Jeannette



enjoyed hosting friends and family gatherings and enjoyed cooking all her famous foods, deviled eggs, potato salad and a finger roll platter was dearest to her heart. Casino trips and beach trips were some of her favorite places to visit with family and friends. In 2004, Jeannette was predeceased by her husband, Richard. Her love and memory will remain with her son, Philip Brault and his wife, Jennifer Gohra of Monson along with her sister, Evelyn Beyor of Oklahoma. Meme, as she was lovingly called, will be missed greatly by her grandchildren, Jill Randall

& husband (Evan Randall), Madison Brault longtime companion (Jason Chichakly), Philip Brault longtime companion (Emma Hebert) and Emily Supernant longtime companion (Jonathon Bish) as well as great grandchildren, Adeline Randall, Blake Brault, Olivia Bish, Lainey Bish and her beloved Dachshund, Cocoa. Besides her parents, she was predeceased by her siblings, Leonard Martin, Donald Martin, Tony Martin and Mary Jane Gauthier. A visitation time will be held Thursday, Oct. 16 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Beers & Story Palmer Funeral Home with a service on Friday, Oct. 17 at 11 a.m. also in the funeral home. Burial will take place at St. Thomas Cemetery.

Ruth E. (Desotell) Horton

1940-2025

PALMER – Ruth E. Horton, “Ruthy” Love by many also known as “MaMa Legs” to many kids in the 80’s and nicknamed “Princess,” by her brothers. Nicknamed “Dragonlady” by her daughters. Born on Oct. 20, 1940, in Palmer, she peacefully passed away on Sept. 16, 2025, at the age of 84.



shined. Ruth was a friendly vibrant soul heard by many on the CB, who loved animals, enjoyed dancing, and had a passion for Harleys and her hot rod Lincoln. She cherished her role as a Girl Scout co-leader and little girls softball league score keeper. Ruth was truly loved making a lasting impression in the hearts of all those around her.

and a great great-grandmother of nine. Her fur babies, Bridgett and Princess, will forever remember the kindness and love she brought into their lives.

Ruth is preceded in death by her brother Arthur Desotell and her parents, Anna E. (Chaffee) Desotell and Arthur W. Desotell. She will be deeply missed by her family and friends, Palmer 8 Ballers CB Club. Of whom will all remember her for her honest, no sugar-coated advice with warmth and kindness, as she had an unwavering spirit to be reckoned with.

Ruth graduated from Palmer High School and later continued her education at St John’s School of Business. Proficient in shorthand, all while working nights at Kmart.

Ruth worked as a switchboard operator, and also drove a taxi. After raising a family, Ruth then dedicated her career as a secretary at the USGA, where her strong and independent spirit truly

She is survived by her loving partner, John Eastman Jr., of Palmer; her daughters, Renee E. Santos of North Brookfield, and Roxann Calkins-Renfro of Wiscasset, Maine; her brother, George Desotell of Thorndike; Niece, Angela Desotell. Ruth was also a proud grandmother/MeMe to Jasmine GaNun, and Jade Wood, Nicholas, Garret, and Patrick Santos,

A session of visitation will be held at Lombard Funeral Home, 3 Bridge Street Monson, on Saturday, Oct. 18, 2025 from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions can be made to Here Today Adopted Tomorrow P.O. Box 557 Brimfield, MA 01010.

Dorothy Ann Holcomb

PALMER – Dorothy Ann Holcomb, 82, passed away after a brief illness on Sept. 23, 2025, at Baystate Wing Hospital with her son and daughter in law by her side. She was born on April 17, 1943 in Palmer to the late Henry T. and Mary C. (Pisarski) Wawro.



Tank, Roxy and Prince, and leaving behind her beloved Daisy.

Besides her parents, Dorothy was preceded in death by her siblings, Helen Wawro Sekula, Robert Wawro, and a brother. She will be dearly missed by her son, Paul Holcomb and his partner Diane McMahon, as well as several nieces and nephews.

Dorothy worked in the food service industry for many years beginning her career in the Bondsville Grammar School System. She went on to work at the Monson Developmental Center for 18 years, and later at Baystate UMass Wing from which she retired in 2007. Dorothy loved the outdoors and listening to polish music every Sunday. She enjoyed spending time at home with her beloved dogs over the years; preceded in death by

The family would like to thank the staff of Baystate Wing, Dr. Ford and Dr. LaLiberte, for the compassionate care they showed to Dorothy in her final days.

Visitation was held on Thursday, Oct. 2, 2025 from 8:30-9:30 a.m. at the Beers & Story Palmer Funeral Home. A Funeral Mass was held at Divine Mercy Parish. Burial followed at Sts. Peter & Paul Cemetery.

DEATH NOTICES

Jeannette O. (Martin) Brault
Died Oct. 3, 2025
Services Oct. 17, 2025
Beers & Story Funeral Home

Dorothy Ann Holcomb
Died Sept. 23, 2025
Beers & Story Funeral Home

Ruth E. (Desotell) Horton
Died Sept. 16, 2025
Services Oct. 18, 2025
Lombard Funeral Home

David Lawrence Jones
Died Oct. 5, 2025
Services Oct. 10, 2025
Beers & Story Funeral Home

Visit us at
www.turley.com

David Lawrence Jones



With heavy hearts, we announce the passing of David Lawrence Jones, a devoted husband, loving father and grandfather, and a man known for his quiet strength and boundless generosity. David passed away peacefully on Oct. 5, 2025 surrounded by his family who loved and admired him deeply.



discipline, and service to others.

Following his military service, David spent many years working at Zero Corporation, where he eventually became Facility Manager, respected for his dedication, knowledge, and steady leadership. Later, he continued his career at MHA, working in facility maintenance to support individuals living with mental illness—a role that spoke to his deeply rooted compassion and desire to make a difference.

Born on Dec. 30, 1956, David lived a life defined by hard work, compassion and a steadfast commitment to others. He was the kind of man who would do anything for anyone at any time—without needing to be asked. His loyalty, humility, and willingness to help made him a pillar of strength for all who knew him.

David proudly served his country in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War, a time that shaped his lifelong sense of duty,

Outside of work, David found joy in the simple things. He was an avid fisherman, a proud gardener, and above all, a man who treasured time with his family. He was proud of his children and grandchildren and celebrated their accomplishments with a full heart and quiet pride.

David is survived by his beloved wife, Kathleen

Jones, whom he married on July 17, 1976—a lifetime partnership built on love, respect, and shared devotion to family. He is also survived by his sons Jason Jones (wife Heather) and Eric Jones (wife Camila); and his cherished grandchildren, Pete and Jacob.

He is preceded in death by his son, Matthew Jones, who passed away in 2004.

David’s legacy will live on in the lives of his family, the friendships he forged, and the countless people he helped along the way. His strength, kindness, and steady presence will be missed more than words can express.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, Oct. 9, 2025 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Beers & Story Palmer Funeral Home. A funeral service will be held Oct. 10, 2025 at 10 a.m. at the funeral home. Family and friends are welcome to gather at 9:30 a.m. Burial will immediately follow.

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Send Us Your Community Dazzler Events

Turley Publications will print your holiday calendar events **FREE OF CHARGE** in our **Dazzler Supplement** which will be published **November 19, 2025**. Total circulation of **85,000** which reaches over **200,000** readers in the Pioneer Valley. **Event Should Be Non-Profit & Open to the Public**

FREE Calendar Listings Reaching over 200,000 Readers in the Pioneer Valley

Event Name _____
Date/Time _____
Location _____
Description _____
Cost _____
Contact name & phone number for more information _____

Deadline for Calendar submissions is October 20.
MAIL YOUR LISTING INFORMATION TO: Turley Publications, Attn: Jamie Joslyn, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069 or email* them to: jamie@turley.com *Be sure to indicate "Dazzler" in the subject line of your email.

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| CLUES ACROSS | 38. Belonging to a thing | CLUES DOWN | 27. A major division of geological time |
| 1. Comedic actor Rogen | 41. Segmented worm | 1. Engine additive | 28. Angry |
| 5. Bits per inch | 43. Concerns | 2. Amounts of time | 29. St. Francis of |
| 8. Tire pressure measurement | 45. Audacious | 3. Fragrant brown balsam used in perfume | 34. Romanian monetary unit |
| 11. Angels great Mike | 47. Wings | 4. Color properties | 35. Stale |
| 13. Own (Scottish) | 49. Type of drug | 5. One who hands over | 36. Go quickly |
| 14. Notable FI racing team | 50. Wind chill formula scientist Charles | 6. Thieves of the sea | 37. Commercials |
| 15. Upper bract of grass | 55. Island close to the U.S. | 7. Put in | 39. Canadian city |
| 16. Tax collector | 56. "To the ___ degree" | 8. Nocturnal rodents | 40. One who slices |
| 17. Electronic counter-countermeasures | 57. Daniel __, French composer | 9. Pouches | 41. Perform perfectly |
| 18. Informal loan clubs | 59. A way to march | 10. Systems, doctrines, theories | 42. Nest of pheasants |
| 20. Skeletal muscle | 60. Where golfers begin | 12. Greek alphabet letter | 44. Tactile sensations |
| 21. Popular fish type | 61. Spiritual leader | 14. Greek goddess of youth | 45. Sword |
| 22. Salts of acetic acid | 62. Of she | 19. Satisfy | 46. Climactic |
| 25. Arriving early | 63. Mental disorder concerning body odor (abbr.) | 23. Partly digested food | 47. Adrenocorticotrophin |
| 30. Worded | 64. Tall, slender-leaved plant | 24. Dictator | 48. Fisherman's tool |
| 31. Single Lens Reflex | | 25. Parts per thousand (abbr.) | 51. Swiss river |
| 32. Amphibians | | 26. The 17th letter of the Greek alphabet | 52. Plant that makes gum |
| 33. Warm greeting | | | 53. A French abbot |
| | | | 54. One point east of northeast |
| | | | 58. Get free of |

ART | from page 1

continue sharing their passion for art virtually. Now back in person, the program continues to grow, attracting both longtime members and newcomers eager to join the discussion.

This month's topic, mobiles, was inspired by a group decision, exploring the works of artists like Alexander Calder, who is widely credited with pioneering the form. Calder's "mobiles", kinetic sculptures that move with air currents, revolutionized the idea of sculpture as a static object.

Group member Ray Burk and others discussed Calder's techniques and innovations, including his famous Cirque Calder, an intricate wire sculpture made entirely from single, continuous loops of wire. "He could take a length of wire from his pocket, bend it on the spot, and create an animal," one member recounted. "That's how he did all of them."

The presentation traced Calder's evolution from small wire figures to monumental, room-sized installations, some stretching up to seventy feet, noting how his work bridged art and engineering through balance and movement.

The discussion also branched into related artists

and interpretations of the mobile form. Joyce Erle presented on Alberto Giacometti, known for his surrealist sculptures and suspended works such as Suspended Ball, which she described as "like a mobile in a way... it's hanging, it's about space." Erle noted Giacometti's fascination with Cubism, surrealism, and the tension between solid and void, sharing how he constantly reworked his pieces to capture "unlimited space."

"It's (Appetite for Art) one of the best things I've put together here, I love it."

— Hope Bodwell
Library Director

Another presenter, Jack, shared the work of contemporary artist George Reynolds, a mathematician-turned-sculptor whose mobiles combine geometry, motion, and philosophy. Reynolds' pieces, often made of marbled paper and fabric, aim to "defy gravity for just a moment," Jack read from Reynolds' own words. His works are designed to bring calm and reflection, whether suspended above a desk or swaying gently in a garden breeze.

Reynolds' philosophy struck a chord with attendees. "Watching a mobile can inspire you to find equilibrium in your own life," Jack said, quoting from the artist's writings. Reynolds' work, he added, seeks to capture "the balance of forces in nature... the same harmony we strive for within ourselves."

Members also admired a handmade mobile on display in the room, a delicate arrangement of paper birds crafted by a Japanese artist, which one attendee had hung in his home. "The different colors, the light, the quiet movement... it's beautiful," he said, as the group gathered to view it by the window.

As the meeting wrapped up, conversation turned to next month's project: collages. The group plans to explore this colorful, hands-on medium in November, continuing their creative journey through the ever-changing landscape of art.

For Bodwell, the ongoing success of Appetite for Art lies in its blend of learning, creativity, and community. "Anyone with an interest in art is welcome," she said. "It's all about coming together, sharing ideas, and finding inspiration."

The Appetite for Art discussion group meets monthly at the Monson Free Library.



The opening slide of a PowerPoint presentation on George Reynolds spin on Mobile's.

Turley photos by Abigail McCoy



A collaborative group project now on display at the Monson Free Library.



The final cake design of what it should look like after instruction from Sue Gaulin.



Gaulin demonstrates creating leaf designs on a cake.

Turley photos by Abigail McCoy



Class members gather to observe Gaulin's delicate decorating process.

Job Connection

HELPING YOU FIND HELP

Town of West Brookfield – Snow Removal Contractor Wanted

Seeking contractors or individuals with a 6-wheel truck, 9' plow, and 2–3 CY spreader for snow & ice removal for the 2025–2026 season

Details and application available at:
wbrookfield.com/highway-department

Questions? Call (508) 867-1417 or email Anne agarwood-hampp@wbrookfield.com or Jim jdaley@wbrookfield.com

CAKE | from page 1

the field stretches back to her teenage years, but her professional path began when she trained and became certified through Wilton, once one of the most well-known names in cake decorating. She has now been teaching at Hitchcock Free Academy for nearly nine years, offering seasonal workshops on different themes.

This was not Gaulin's first wildflower-themed session. "I first created this design for a private baby shower class," she explained. "They wanted flowers, and I even added little candy baby bottles to tie it all together."

Her next workshop at Hitchcock will take place on November 13, featuring a cupcake-decorating theme with cows, dogs, and daisies. Registration is already open.

"I think of it as sugar art," Gaulin said. "It's creative, it's edible, and it brings people together."

Hitchcock Free Academy Director Cindy Skowrya said the Wildflower Cake Decorating class is just one example

of the diverse offerings the center brings to the Brimfield area.

"We have everything from mosaics and stained-glass workshops to music lessons and exercise programs," Skowrya said. "This fall, we're adding a new music instructor who can teach piano, guitar, and bass. There's been a big surge of interest in piano, so the timing is perfect."

Hitchcock also collaborates with community partners to host major events. On Oct. 11, the Academy will take part in the Brimfield Auto Show at Brimfield Winery in partnership with the Brimfield Fire Department. Organizers expect nearly 700 cars on display.

Other upcoming workshops include a kombucha-making class that weekend on Oct. 4 and a canning workshop on Oct. 25, where the exact recipes will depend on seasonal produce available at the time.

Skowrya noted that exercise and martial arts programs have also become a staple at the center, with adult and

children's judo, fencing, yoga, and even a 5 a.m. exercise barre class drawing strong attendance. "You'd be surprised how many people come to a workout that early," she said with a laugh.

Meanwhile, the Hitchcock Farmers Market continues through October on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., offering fresh produce and local goods.

Looking ahead, the center is already planning its annual Christmas at Hitchcock celebration on Dec. 13, featuring Santa Claus and holiday festivities.

As a nonprofit community hub with deep historical roots, Hitchcock Free Academy remains committed to serving residents of all ages. "We're always looking for volunteers, whether it's for events or behind the scenes," Skowrya emphasized. "People sometimes still think of Hitchcock as a school, but today it's a true community center."

For more information about upcoming programs and classes, visit hitchcockacademy.org.



Glenda's

Saturday, October 11th 7pm-11pm
A.S.B.

EVERY SUNDAY 5:30pm
LUCK OF THE DRAW **Darts** All Welcome

Friday Nights ~ 8pm-11pm
Karaoke Saturday Nights also if no band

Upcoming Events

Saturday, October 25th
7pm-11pm
Caboodle

Friday, October 31st 7pm-11pm
**- HALLOWEEN PARTY -
Uncle Country**

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DEADLINE

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

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Classifieds

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FOR SALE

ALASKA COAL STOVE 2020, CHANNING III, Model 140, paddle feed. Very good condition. Excellent source to heat up to 85000 BTUs. 48" hearth pad included. Reasonable offer. **413-238-5986**.

BLAZE KING "PRINCESS" WOOD-STOVE, \$1800. Craftman table saw, jointer, planer, Porter cable router with table, Jet band saw, Nova wood lathe. Call/text **413-544-1355** for more details.

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Has tools and supplies for sale.
Call **413-658-8535**.

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Seasoned cut & split \$325.00
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*Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap).
Quality & volumes **guaranteed!!**
New England Forest Products
(413)477-0083

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SEASONED OAK CORD WOOD. Cut and split. \$250 per cord or \$150 for 1/2 cord plus delivery fee. COD. Russell **413-426-4123**.

TAG SALE

164 METACOMET ST., BELCHERTOWN. OCT. 11 & Oct. 12, 9am-4pm. Miscellaneous household items, books, toys, game, Barbies.

18 FOX RUN LANE, HAMPDEN - Furniture, tools, household appliances. **Sun., Oct. 12 10am-5pm.**

LARGE TAG SALE. OCT. 11, 12, 13 - 8AM-4PM
103 MOUNTAIN VIEW ST., SOUTH HADLEY.
Rain or Shine.

Something for everyone including antique platters and glassware and much, much more for personal use and home, some new or gently used.

WANTED

WANTED TO BUY

ALL ANTIQUES AND OLD STUFF WANTED.

BUYING Bottles, Crocks, Jugs, Pottery, Costume Jewelry, Toys, Games, coins, sterling, Glassware, Silver-plated items, watches, Musical instruments, typewriters, sewing machines, tools, radios, clocks, lanterns, lamps, kitchenware, cookware, knives, military, automotive, fire department, masonic, license plates, beer cans, barware, books, oil cans, advertising tins, hunting, fishing, signs, and more.

Donald Roy **(860) 874-8396**

ALWAYS BUYING ALL ANTIQUES:

Musical instruments, guitars, horns, keyboards, vintage electronics, jewelry, coins, watches, military cameras, sports memorabilia, art, sterling, signs, automotive, hunting, advertising, radios, ham radio equipment, audio equipment, toys, one item or entire estate.

Call Paul **413-206-8688**.

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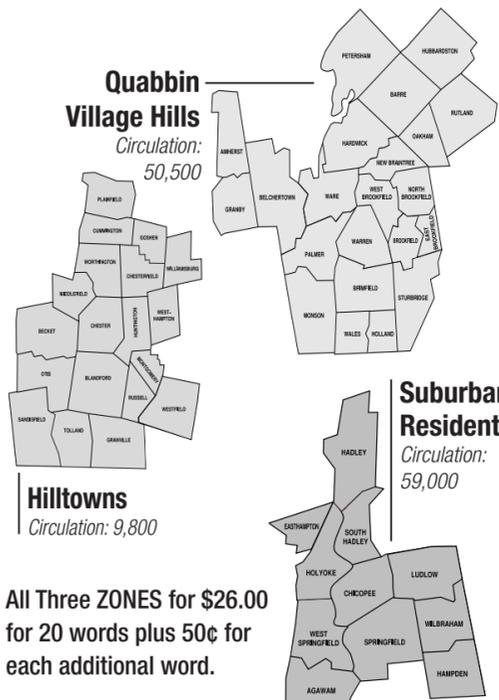


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