Business

Country Bank named Excellence Winner for workplace culture



Submitted Photo

Country Bank was named a 2026 Top Workplaces Culture Excellence Winner for Woman-Led Leadership by Energage in partnership with Innovation Women.

WARE – Country Bank is proud to announce that it has been named a 2026 Top Workplaces Culture Excellence winner in the Woman-Led category.

Presented by Energage in partnership with Innovation Women, this recognition celebrates organizations led by exceptional women executives who have cultivated outstanding workplace cultures.

The Woman-Led award recognizes organizations whose most senior leader is a woman and whose leadership has helped foster a positive, people-first workplace culture. For Country Bank, this recognition reflects the vision and leadership of President & CEO Mary McGovern, along with the contributions of the bank's many women leaders who help shape an inclusive, supportive environment where employees feel valued, empowered and encouraged to succeed.

With women leading only 7.5% of banks in the U.S., this recognition is particularly meaningful. It reflects Country Bank's commitment to strong, inclusive leadership and the collective efforts of its employees to create a workplace where people can grow, contribute and make a difference.

"At Country Bank, we believe a strong workplace culture starts with listening to our people, supporting one another, and creating opportunities for everyone to succeed," said Mary McGovern, President & CEO of Country Bank. "I'm incredibly proud of the culture we've built together and grateful to our employees, whose feedback made this recognition possible. While this award highlights women-led leadership, it truly belongs to our entire team."

The Top Workplaces Culture Excellence awards are based on feedback from a research-backed employee engagement survey, making the recognition especially meaningful because it comes directly from employees. The Top Workplaces program, led by Energage, has a 19-year history of recognizing people-first organizations across the country and in more than 60 regional markets.

This latest honor adds to Country Bank's continued recognition as an employer committed to its team and communities. Guided by its mission, "Made to Make a Difference," the bank believes that investing in its team members and fostering a strong workplace culture ultimately makes a difference for its customers and the communities it serves.

To learn more about Country Bank and its commitment to its employees and communities, visit www.countrybank.com.

Schools

Local student named to advisory council

HOLLAND – Lydia Julian, of Holland, is one of fourteen students appointed by Nichols College President Bill Pieczynski to the 2026-27 Nichols Senior Advisory Council (NSAC).

The students selected are accomplished seniors who bring a range of experiences, perspectives, and contributions to the Nichols community. They will meet monthly with the president and members of the President's Council, serving as an advisory group as the college plans for the future.

"The Nichols Senior Advisory Council is one of the opportunities I look forward to most each year. What makes NSAC particularly valuable is that it gives students a seat at the table while challenging them to think about Nichols beyond their individual experiences," said Pieczynski. "Their perspectives help inform our decisions and strengthen the college. At the same time, we're giving these students a firsthand look at leadership and decision-making. It's a two-way learning experience, and I'm excited to work with this year's cohort."

Upcoming NSAC meetings will include discussions on the college's new initiatives, as well as broader trends and issues in higher education.

In addition to helping Nichols enhance the overall experience for all members of its community, the meetings are also intended as an opportunity for students to further strengthen their communication and presentation skills, which are critical to career advancement.

Each year, one NSAC member also has the opportunity to be selected to serve a two-year term on the Nichols College Board of Trustees following graduation, providing an important continuation of student leadership at the college's highest level of governance.

Public notices

Town of Wales
Conservation Commission

In accordance with the Wetland Protection Act, Chapter 131, Section 40, a Public Hearing will be held by the Wales Conservation Commission on **November 19th, 2026, at the Wales Senior Center (85 Main St. Wales, MA) at 6:00 PM**, for a Notice of Intent filed by Barbara Mocko. The project site is located at 12 Cordially Colony Rd. in Wales, MA 01081. This NOI is to replace and reconstruct existing retaining wall and extend the existing patio area within buffer zone of BVW. Please check the town website to view the agenda for this hearing. conservation@townofwales.net.
11/12/2026

Town of Wales
Conservation Commission

In accordance with the Wetland Protection Act, Chapter 131, Section 40, a Public Hearing will be held by the Wales Conservation Commission on **November 19th, 2026, at the Wales Senior Center (85 Main St. Wales, MA) at 6:00 PM**, for a Notice of Intent filed by Jason Dubois from DC Engineering on behalf of John Griggs. The project site is located at 121 Monson Rd. in Wales, MA 01081. This NOI is for the construction of a single-family home, driveway and site work within 100 feet of buffer zone of BVW. Please check the town website to view the agenda for this hearing. conservation@townofwales.net.
11/12/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD22P0608GD
In the interests of:
Hazel Mays
Of: Palmer, MA
RESPONDENT
Incapacitated Person/ Protected Person
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION TO EXPAND THE POWERS OF A GUARDIAN

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Palmer Healthcare Center of Palmer, MA** in the above captioned matter requesting that the court:

Expand the powers of a Guardian of the Respondent.

The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the Guardian and/or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court..

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of **12/04/2026**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

WITNESS, Hon. **Claudine T. Stoudemire**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 30, 2026
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
11/12/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD25P1749EA
Estate of:
Laurie A Oyler
Date of Death: 06/26/2025
CITATION ON PETITION FOR SALE OF REAL ESTATE BY A PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Sale of Real Estate has been filed by: **Candy E Oyler of Southwick, MA** requesting that the court authorize the Personal Representative to sell the decedent's real estate at a private sale.

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 12/09/2026.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections

within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

Witness, **Claudine T. Stoudemire,** First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 04, 2026
Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
11/12/2026

Town of Monson
Legal Notice
Public Hearing
Tax Classification FY2027

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH M.G.L CHAPTER 30A SECTIONS 18-25, THAT THE MONSON SELECT BOARD will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, November 16, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the Monson Town Offices building, Public Meeting Room, 110 Main Steet, Monson MA 01057.

The purpose of this Public Hearing will be on the issue of determining the percentages of tax levy to be borne by each class of real and personal property for Fiscal Year 2027.

All interested Monson taxpayers are welcome to attend this hearing to present oral or written comments on the matter. In the event a taxpayer is unable to attend the hearing, written comments may be submitted, in advance, to the Office of the Select Board, Monson Town Offices, 110 Main Street, Monson, MA 01057.

Patricia A. Oney,
Chair Select Board
11/05, 11/12/2026

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RENTALS AVAILABLE

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.**

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USDA INSP. SMOKED SHOULDER PICNIC $2.22 lb
USDA INSP. HATFIELD HARDWOOD SKINLESS & SHANKLESS WHOLE HAM $2.97 lb
USDA INSP. FRESH LEG LAMB AMERICAN $7.79 lb
USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF RIBEYE CUT FREE $10.95 WHOLE OR HALF
USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TOP SIRLOIN SPOON ROAST $6.99 lb
USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN BEEF CHUCK ROAST or STEAK $6.69 lb
USDA INSP. GROUND FRESH DAILY DIET LEAN GROUND BEEF 5 LB BAG $5.28 lb
USDA INSP. FROZEN BONELESS CHICKEN TENDERLOINS TRAY PAK. $1.29 lb
USDA INSP. FROZEN CODINO'S STUFFED SHELLS w/RICOTTA 4 OZ. $5.99 ea
USDA INSP. FROZEN 12" APPLE PIE w/LATTICE CRUST 5 LBS $6.99 ea
USDA INSP. SMOKED POLSKA KIELBASA FAMILY PAK 3 LBS $2.99 lb
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