



Tom turkey

BIRDS FROM PAGE 4

stored in the refrigerator for about one week if making larger amounts.

Tom turkeys

In my travels, I spotted in three different locations Tom turkeys displaying their tail feathers for one or more hen turkeys. I noticed one Tom with two hens strutting about as the females kept on eating near him.

Bird fact

Annually, over 50 million Americans pur-

chased more than one billion pounds of bird seed and suet.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005. The Palmer office has a new phone system and I will be getting an extension where messages may be left. I will publish the number as soon as it is set up.

PERMIT FROM PAGE 1

ration, but could make some baked goods, soups, and sandwiches on site, along with selling pre-made items from wholesale vendors.

Hill said the hours of operation are not completely set yet, but is thinking of 6 a.m. until 3 or 4 p.m. She said the shop would be open from Wednesday to Saturday. On the interior, she said there would be six-eight seats.

Hill and the engineer working on the project said they are planning on installing a grease trap, and that the sewer system has passed title V inspections. The engineer said that the whole property is 934 square feet but half of that is support systems like restrooms or preparation areas.

The engineer said their septic tank holds 1,500 square feet of water, and has a capacity of 511 gallons per day. He said restaurant requirements require a capacity of over a thousand gallons per day, and will be requesting a variance on that requirement.

Board of Health member Maureen Lepak said they need to go through the

Leicester Regional Public Health Coalition to start that process. She said they need to submit a design, notify abutters, get a food establishment permit, and finally the board will hold public hearings.

Post Road Trading

Bonnie Toomey, the owner of Post Road Trading came to the board with concerns regarding coffee sales. She said she wants to serve coffee at the establishment, but was told she needs a ServSafe certificate and a three-basin sink.

She said modern coffee machines do not require these sinks. She said the LHRPC said she is not allowed to serve coffee until those requirements are met.

"Has law not caught up with technology?" she said.

Lepak said the standards enforced by the town are the federal code of minimum standards, and the board cannot relax the rules.

Wildberry

Lea Moreau, owner of Wildberry Acres Farm said since the last time they met with the board, they situated their septic permit, and have

applied for a food truck permit, as they are partnering with Smashing Patties.

She said there have been some "points of conflict" regarding the food truck permit.

Moreau said the farm has a permitted kitchen, and it should be able to be used as a base of operations for Smashing Patties, but the health agents said it is not allowed. She said they had provided documentation for grease and drainwater disposal, along with the permit to the LHRPC.

She said they originally got approved for the operations, but later received a letter of non-compliance from the coalition. The owner of Smashing Patties said he is permitted in other towns in the region, like Southbridge and Brimfield.

The board said they would reach out to the Leicester coalition for an explanation.

Reimbursement request

The board accepted a reimbursement request from Kermit Eaton, who applied for PERC tests but no action has been done and he no longer wants to go

through with it.

Spending controls

The board acknowledged the Select Board's decision to temporarily freeze spending on non-essential purchases, as requested by the Town Accountant Laurie Bartkus.

Transfer station

The board discussed that bags at the transfer station are running out, and an order may need to be put in soon. They said it would cost \$1,028 for 26 cases of bags from the transfer expense or grant funds.

Lepak said this falls under necessary purchases, and does not apply to the temporary freeze. Lepak said they are usually ordered in June, and said she would go to the station and see if there is an uptick in usage, but said it should be fine to order them now.

Beach testing contract

Lepak said she reached out and got a quote for beach testing services. She said they test for E. Coli when the town beach is open, and it will open to the public on June 1. She said tests have to come back clear before a permit is given. The board signed the contract.

- public notices -

PUBLIC NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS LAKE MANAGEMENT SERVICES

The Town of West Brookfield, MA in accordance with M.G.L. c 30B, which governs the procurement of supplies and services, hereby invites sealed proposals from qualified firms for "LAKE MANAGEMENT SERVICES" The requested managed services are for weed, algae management and related services commencing July 1, 2026 and terminating December 31, 2026.

Qualification and bid proposal forms are available beginning April 30, 2026 and may be obtained during regular business hours at:

Town Administrator's Office

West Brookfield Town Hall
2 East Main Street,
Floor Level B

West Brookfield, MA 01585
Or, by request via email to
tcofske@wbrookfield.com.

Sealed proposals, clearly marked "LAKE MANAGEMENT SERVICES" must be received at the Town Administrator's Office, West Brookfield Town Hall, 2 East Main Street, West Brookfield, MA 01585 by **May 18, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.** All bids submitted must be in conformity with all pertinent statutes and regulations of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

A review panel for the services will make a recommendation to the Town Administrator for award of the contract.

The Town reserves the right

to reject any and all proposals, to waive any defects, informalities, and minor irregularities; and to award contracts or cancel this RFP.

Theresa A. Cofske
Town Administrator
05/01, 05/08/2026

PUBLIC NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS MANAGED IT SERVICES

The Town of West Brookfield, MA in accordance with M.G.L. c 30B, which governs the procurement of supplies and services, hereby invites sealed proposals from qualified firms for "MANAGED IT SERVICES" The requested managed IT services are for multiple Town Departments commencing July 1, 2026 and

terminating June 30, 2029.

Qualification and bid proposal forms are available beginning April 30, 2026, and may be obtained during regular business hours at:

Town Administrator's Office
West Brookfield Town Hall
2 East Main Street,
Floor Level B

West Brookfield, MA 01585
Monday -Thursday 8:00AM-4:00PM:

Or, by request via email to
tcofske@wbrookfield.com.

Sealed proposals, clearly marked "MANAGED IT SERVICES" must be received at the Town Administrator's Office, West Brookfield Town Hall, 2 East Main Street, West Brookfield, MA 01585 by **May 18, 2026, at 11:00 AM.** All bids

submitted must be in conformity with all pertinent statutes and regulations of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

A review panel for the services will make a recommendation to the Town Administrator for award of the contract.

The Town reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, to waive any defects, informalities, and minor irregularities; and to award contracts or cancel this RFP

Theresa A. Cofske
Town Administrator
05/01, 05/08/2026

Projectdog 52 (revised 3-10-26)

ADVERTISEMENT

The West Brookfield Housing Authority, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from Contractors for the **Olde Village Place Elderly 667-01** Development for the West Brookfield Housing Authority in West Brookfield Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by **Hill Engineers, Architects, Planners, Inc.**

The Project consists of: **Replacing select concrete sidewalk sections, and hot mix asphalt driveways**

The work is estimated to cost **\$68,422.00**

Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.30 §39M & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §26 to 27H inclusive.

General Bids will be received until **2:00 p.m., Friday May 22, 2026** and publicly opened, forthwith.

This project is being Elec-

tronically Bid (E-Bid). All bids shall be prepared and submitted online at **Projectdog.com** and received no later than the date & time specified above. Hard copy bids will not be accepted by the Awarding Authority. For assistance, contact Projectdog, Inc. at 978.499.9014.

General bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than five (5%) of the greatest possible bid amount (considering all alternates) and made payable to the **West Brookfield Housing Authority.**

Bid Forms and Contract Documents will be available in electronic form and without cost or charge at **Projectdog.com**, project code **873973**, beginning **April 22, 2026.** Persons desiring hard copies of the documents shall be solely responsible for all printing costs.

The Contractor and all subcontractors (collectively referred to as "the Contractor") agree to strive to achieve minority and women workforce participation. The Workforce Participation benchmark is set at 6.9% for women and 15.3% for minorities. The Workforce benchmark percentages are a statutory requirement under MGL c. 149 §44A(2)(G).

The job site and/or existing building will be available for inspection between **1:00 P.M. and 2:00 P.M. on Wednesday, May 13, 2026.**

For an appointment call **Matthew Blanchard at 978-394-9009.**

05/08/2026

EARLY DEADLINES
In observance of Memorial Day, there will be an **EARLY AD DEADLINE** To advertise, place your ad no later than **NOON Thursday, May 21**
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Multiple sclerosis is a devastating disease of the central nervous system where the body's immune system attacks the insulation surrounding the nerves. It strikes adults in the prime of life - and changes lives forever.

To help make the dream of ending MS come true, call 1-800-FIGHT MS or visit us online at nationalmssociety.org.

MS
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