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SERVING PALMER, MONSON, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND & WALES

# The Journal Register

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**FINANCE**

## Capital requests for Fiscal Year 2025 presented

By Marcelo Gusmão  
 Staff Writer  
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MONSON – At their April 22 meeting, the Finance Committee went over capital requests for fiscal year 2025.

Finance Director and Town Accountant Jamie Farnum read each of the requests to the committee, with comments made afterwards.

**Mini-Splits**

Town Facilities put in a request to replace the Town Hall mini-splits.

“It’s important to address the mini-split repairs to avoid catastrophic failure due to their end of useful life,” Farnum said. “Not addressing this concern would leave the town open for emergency repairs resulting in issues regulating temperature in our server room, which is for our police servers, and the air quality in the temperature controls in the Town Clerk’s vault, which stores the vital records.”

The committee also noted that these repairs were likely to exceed the requested \$100,000.

“We’re waiting to hear back from a company for a final quote, so the \$100,000 is a placeholder,” Farnum said. “That way we have funds appropriated, because it is something that will need to be addressed prior to our next scheduled town meeting in the fall.”

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Photos by Marcelo Gusmão

The former firefighters from Three Rivers Fire Department described their relationship as a brotherhood, and see this dinner as a family reunion.

## Annual Brotherhood of the Three Rivers Fire Department Dinner at Villa Rose

By Marcelo Gusmão  
 Staff Writer  
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THREE RIVERS – Last Saturday was the second annual Brotherhood of the Three Rivers Fire Department dinner, where former and retired firefighters got together to eat, share stories, and socialize with their long-time friends and colleagues.

The dinner was held April 27 at 6 p.m. at Villa Rose Restaurant, where a delicious meal of fish, chicken, and beef was served to the gathered room. Conversation was lively as past firefighters reminisced about old times, about accidents and mishaps in the work-

place and at get-togethers, and of the many faces that have come through the department over the years.

“We’re a family, we get together, we talk about old times, remember the good and remember the bad,” said coordinator Mike Matthews. “It’s just a get-together, like a family reunion.”

Matthews started the tradition last year, when he sent out over 50 letters to past firefighters. He emphasized that the dinner is about promoting brotherhood among the firefighters, and that it is limited to people who have served at the Three Rivers station.

“A couple of guys said we should be getting together again,”

Matthews said. “Three of us, myself, Matt Lemieux, and Ben Dube, got together and decided we’ll start it.”

The dinner is paid for entirely out of pocket by the attendees, and Matthews said there are no plans to seek alternative funding, in order to preserve the more intimate setting, which he described many times as a “family reunion.”

“We used to have family picnics,” Matthews said. “When I first started, the three chiefs got together and put together a picnic for all the guys. As our families got bigger, we opened it up to the families.”

Matthews talked about how the families of firefighters are of-

ten affected by their work, too. He told of the common occurrence of a firefighter loading up the car for a family trip, only for their pager to go off and have to leave their family on the curb in order to help out at a fire.

During the dinner, firefighters stood up and shared stories to the room at large. This was at the suggestion of John Sasur, and Matthews said it was a great improvement over keeping conversation to the tables, as they did last year.

“They told you all the stories about us playing hard, but we work hard,” Matthews said. “We

FIRE DEPT. | page 7

**MONSON**

## New assessor introduced to town

By Harrison Giza  
 Staff Writer  
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MONSON - Drew Pehoviak was introduced as the town’s Assessor’s Clerk at last Tuesday evening Select Board meeting. Pehoviak, who started the position just last week, has years of experience in the assessing field. He has dealt with evaluations for an outside vendor as well as worked alongside other communities in the area.

The Board was quick to mention the amount of letters of recommendations his prior employers had sent in regarding Pehoviak’s work ethic.

Pehoviak addressed the board after he was introduced, saying he was looking forward to the opportunity to work in Monson.

“I am super excited to be working for the town of Monson,” Pehoviak said. “I graduated college 10 or so years ago and I was down in Rhode Island for six or seven years after that and moved back to Monson three years ago where I’ve been working for an Assessing Support Company. It has been six days since I started working here and it is going to be a big learning curve, the administrative side of the assessing role for myself, but everyone’s been absolutely great to me this first week and I’m really excited to be working in Monson.”

He said making his way back to Monson was part of his plan.

“It has always been my plan to move back here and I’m pumped to be working for this town,” he said. “I’m really excited.”

In other news from the meet-  
 ASSESSOR | page 5

**RECREATION**

## Grand slam opening day for baseball and softball



Turley photos by Harrison Giza

Coach K was hit with a Pig Pile on the sidelines of the inter-league match.

By Harrison Giza  
 Staff Writer  
 hgiza@turley.com

HOLLAND - The weather was perfect at Hitchcock Field over the weekend as the Holland Wales Baseball & Softball League kicked off their Opening Day celebration.

The Holland Wales Baseball & Softball League (HWBSL) provides coaching and guidance through the baseball and softball programs consisting of T-Ball, Coach Pitch, Minors and Majors. Their program serves youth ages 4 to 12 in the Holland and Wales

Communities.

Michael Breor, President of The Holland Wales Baseball & Softball League, was all smiles once the sun came out, sipping a cold soda with other members of the HWBSL.

“It has been great pretty much all day,” said Breor. “We start in the morning by doing pictures by team, t-ball plays out at 9 a.m. with four different teams, then our three Coach Pitch Baseball teams play, and then our two AU Softball teams

A couple of interleague scrimmages between older baseball and softball teams were also a part of the event.

The crowd appeared to be very enthusiastic as they watched

HOLLAND | page 8

**COMMUNITY**



Turley Photos by Harrison Giza

Doug Kelley with his wife Suzanne, smiling alongside their trash pickup route.

## Townwide clean-up persists through shaky weather in Monson

By Harrison Giza  
 Staff Writer  
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MONSON - The Monson Town Wide Clean-up event was held last Saturday morning, April 27, starting at The Gazebo at Dave Grieve Park.

Sponsored by the Board of Health, the clean-up took place for five hours. Bags, gloves, and safety vests were provided for all volunteers, as well as some free hand sanitizer in case anyone got a little too dirty.

Alongside town official, Kathy Nothe, Board of Health member Joan Simmons was a

huge part of making the clean up the success that it was.

“The weather earlier this morning was a little rough,” said Simmons. “We were hoping for more people but I think we ended up with a great team of support from our volunteers.”

Simmons worked the main tent, organizing volunteers to their respective areas for clean-up.

When not helping to make Monson a better place to live, Simmons is a Professor of Occupational Therapy & Professor Emeritus at Springfield college. She specializes in work involving

MONSON | page 8

**EDUCATION**

## TWIST Program teaches kids to make steampunk art



Photos by Marcelo Gusmão

Bruce Rosenbaum (left) opened his workshop to Pathfinder students (from left) Evelyn Shilosky, Tyler Rondeau, Riley Olden, and Zander Offrey.

*Pathfinder, Sanderson MacLeod, and ModVic partner to teach students essential skills to succeed in the fields of art and engineering.*

By Marcelo Gusmão  
 Staff Writer  
 mgusmao@turley.com

PALMER – Pathfinder Technical Vocational School and Sanderson MacLeod, Inc. have partnered with local artist Bruce Rosenbaum to create a program to teach students essential skills in order to further their careers.

Caitlin Phelps, Co-Op Coordinator and Grants Writer at Pathfinder, stopped by ModVic, where Rosenbaum displays and creates a series of steampunk sculptures, to drop off the group of students who are participating in the program.

“The TWIST program is a collaboration between Sanderson MacLeod and Pathfinder Tech, spearheaded by the forward-thinking CEO of Sanderson MacLeod, Mark Borsari,” Phelps said. “It is a unique program tailored to nurture bright, young minds in our community and empower them to become the innovative leaders of tomorrow.”

Rosenbaum was described by Borsari as one of the premier artists in the steampunk movement. Rosenbaum described “steampunk”

TWIST | page 15



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**TALLULAH**

This is Jeanette Taylor's dog Tallulah. Over the years she has been making videos of her and posting them on Facebook under Tallulah The Talking Dog. It started just for her friends as a silly joke but it has become more than that. She has become more and more famous across America and even overseas. She makes talking videos of silly stories and more from life around our crazy little farm bringing humor to people's home. She's become a favorite of children and elderly. Jeanette and her daughter Autumn would love to be a part of our town newspaper!

We feature your pets here. Is your fur friend a dog, cat, chicken, lizard, horse, bird, mouse...you get the point. Is there a pet you're fostering and trying to re-home? All pets are welcome! Email a high-resolution jpg of your pet with a little information to mharrison@turley.com.

# Night Out event raises funds for Special Olympics



Aurora Maiorano, Taryn Dickson and Sophia Mercieri enjoying a plate of fries alongside one of the scheduled athletes this Friday, Matteo Teixeira.

By Harrison Giza  
Staff Writer  
hgiza@turley.com

MONSON - With the Special Olympics event happening this Friday, May 3, there is a quite lot for Monson students to be excited about. This past Thursday, a small fundraiser for the events took place at Main St Tavern, Maria's Pizza and Beth's Family Dining.

"Eat in or take out to support our athletes and local businesses!" stated one flyer.

Colette A. Bidus, the Director of

Olympics as town.

Monson Public Schools currently has six Districts and Collaborative Programs attending, with 275 students total set to participate in their Special Olympics spectacular. Huge thanks to Main St Tavern who has always welcomed us to do a fundraiser and it has such a great response from all of our staff and our community, that we wanted to expand it a little bit wider to other restaurants and so Maria's Pizza and Beth's Family Dining have agreed to come on as well."

Monson Night Out was put together



What a crew: Jack, Lucy, and Renee Wnuk smiling for the camera.



Colleen Williams, Alina Lillis, and Colette Bidus posing for Monson Night Out.

Special Education for Monson Public Schools, is a giant helping hand for the program and anticipates their best year yet.

"We are looking for the whole community to come together," Bidus said. "We want to get everybody involved and really supporting the Special well as our event here in

er through a partnership of three different local restaurants in town, all whom agreed to share a portion of their proceeds from Night Out sales in support of our Special Olympics event. There was also a raffle drawing for those that ordered food during the event.

"We kind of figured that this would give everyone a chance to go to different types of venues," Bidus said. "If they wanted take out for or an early dinner and just be able to give people new types of experiences. We are really excited about it."

Bidus said there was a good range of raffle prizes thanks to some great donations

"We had a nice wide range of raffle prizes," Bidus said. "From the Springfield Thunderbirds to Best Fitness as well as some of our local communities and restaurants without certificates - it is great to be able to do this at the same time."

Bidus said funds raised help with the event as well as the Special Olym-

pics. She said the community looks forward to the event each year.

"It is a fantastic event for our whole school community and has something that everyone can look forward to each year" Bidus said. "It is a great day of inclusion for students and we really partner with Special Olympics throughout the year to offer more school engagements and youth leadership inclusion, so this is just a terrific event that celebrates all of our students in the district and many things that people can share together and feel that we can succeed as a group."

Bidus has been a supporter of the Special Olympics for a number of years now.

"We have an initiative that includes kids from the preschool level to up to 22," she said. "And we are really fostering that inclusion through working together and just being able to celebrate everyone and their own differences. We want to let people know that we can all learn from each other."

## Amvets honors Memorial Day with field of flags

The field of Flags is a magnificent way to honor and remember those that loved our country.

Veterans, Non-Veterans, resident of Palmer and non-resident of Palmer.

Flags are 12 inches by 18 inches in size on a pole. The cost of one flag is \$5. Flags purchased in memory of a Veteran will be adorned with a satin black ribbon with the word "Veteran". Flags will be displayed on the front lawn of the Amvets Post 74 Main St., Three Rivers, Mass. from May 25-31.

The list of those who are remembered and honored in this field of flags will be read by Amvets members on Sunday, May 26, 2024 starting at 12 p.m.

The flags will be available for pick up from May 31 - June 2, 2024 at the Amvets Post 74.

If the flag is not picked up prior to June 2, then it will be reused for the following year.

Always remember, never forget.

For more information reach out to Amvets at 413-283-4518.

## Queen Elizabeth comes to Monson

MONSON— The Keep Homestead Museum, located at 35 Ely Road, is excited to welcome back talented actress Sheryl Faye as she portrays Queen Elizabeth II, on Sunday, May 5, at 1:30 p.m. during the open house.

This immersive one-woman performance will be engaging, educational, and entertaining as Queen Elizabeth comes to life. Using numerous costume changes and high-tech multi-media, Faye tells Elizabeth's story as British monarch for over 70 years starting February 6, 1952. In a world of constant change, she was a steady presence and a source of pride.

Faye, who has a Bachelor of Fine Arts in acting from Emerson College in Boston, presents live historical performances that help audiences understand the positive impact women have made in history. She portrays women whom she admires because of their courage, determination, strength, and caring.

This event is funded by a grant from the Monson Cultural Council, a local agency of the Mass. Cultural Council. There is no admission fee; donations are always welcome. The museum will be open from 1 to 3:30 p.m. with light refreshments. For more information about the museum visit [www.KeepHomesteadMuseum.org](http://www.KeepHomesteadMuseum.org).

## MAC Spring Art exhibition

MONSON— The Monson Arts Council 30th Annual Juried Spring Art Exhibition and sale will open at the House of Art, 200 Main St., and in Monson's Memorial Hall at 198 Main St., on three weekends from April 20 through May 5, from Noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. The exhibition will be open to the public at no charge. A sales shop featuring work by the artists will be open in House of Art at all times during the show.

Awards will be announced on April 20, at 2 p.m. The Quaboag Valley Chamber of Commerce will hold a reception on Thursday, April 25, at 5 p.m.

The Monson Arts Council will award \$4500 in Prizes in 4 Categories including a \$1000 Best of Show plus a \$500 1st Prize & \$100 2nd Prize in each category of art submitted: paintings in all media, sculpture, photography, and the graphic arts.. Three jurors selected the 139 pieces by 77 area artists from more than 270 works of art submitted. A reception will be held on Saturday, April 20 from 1 to 4 p.m. in both buildings. Prizes will be announced at 2 p.m.

Prize money for the exhibition is supported by donations from a broad selection of business sponsors in the region, including: Monson Savings Bank, Turley Publications, WARE Radio, Steer Rite Tire & Alignment, Dazed Cannabis, Squier Lumber & Hardware, Re/Max, Richard R. Green Insurance Agency, Inc., Monson Family Dental, Architectural Insights and more.

Jurors for the show are Kara Bigda, a freelance painter working in watercolor.

Cathy Liontas of Milford, CT, who has an SCSU, Masters Degree in Art Education. For more information, check the MAC website: [www.monsonartscouncil.org](http://www.monsonartscouncil.org).

## Palmer Town election on June 11

PALMER— Palmer Annual Town Election Tuesday, June 11. Term to start on July 1.

Nomination papers available at the Clerk's office for the available seats:

- Councilor At Large, 1 seat, 3 year term
- Councilor At Large, 1 seat, 2 year term
- District Council Prct. #2, 1 seat, 3 year term
- District Council Prct. #3, 1 seat, 3 year term
- Planning Board, 1 seat, 3 year term
- School Committee, 1 seat, 3 year term

All nomination papers must be returned to the Clerk by April 23, or further information please contact the Town Clerk at 413-283-2608.

## Monson Town Elections on June 11

Nomination papers are now available in the Monson Town Clerk's office for the Annual Town Election to be held on June 11 for following slate of offices:

- Select Board -3 years
- Board of Assessors-3 years
- School Committee-3 years (2 seats available)
- Highway Surveyor- 3 years.
- Water/Sewer Commission-3 years
- Cemetery Commission-3 years
- Parks and Recreation Commission-3 years
- Housing Authority- 1 year

The deadline to pick up papers is April 19. For inquiries contact the Monson Town Clerk's office 413-267-4115 or email us: [townclerk@monson-ma.gov](mailto:townclerk@monson-ma.gov).



Door Prize & Raffles

The Geezer Band

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Event to Benfit

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(Cameron Proseri)

# May 4, 2024

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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, email Editor at mharrison@turley.com or call the office at 413-283-8393 by noon on Mondays. We appreciate the cooperation of our readers.

## Cam Strong benefit at Pulaski Park May 11

PALMER – An event will be held at Pulaski Park to benefit Officer Cameron Proserpi on May 11, with live music, food trucks, and activities for all ages.

On Jan. 20, Cameron Proserpi, a police officer from the Wilbraham Police Department, was shot and critically injured in the line of duty. Proserpi is a lifelong resident of Three Rivers.

The benefit event is scheduled for May 11 from 2 - 9 p.m. at Pulaski Park, rain or shine.

Live music will be provided by GeezerBand, The Allen Brothers and special guests.

Food trucks from Tony Valley Pizza, Glenn's Kettle Corn, Sally's Catering, and others will provide food for the event.

There will be crafts and activities for all ages, including The Happy Face Painter, a Bounce House by Party Patrol, raffles, a cash bar, and an ATM on-site.

Tickets are \$20 per person, except for children 12 and under, who can enter for free.

Tickets are available for purchase in advance at the Guardian Uniform at 1801 Page Blvd in Springfield, the St. Stanislaus Polish Club at 2114 Main St. in Three Rivers, and at Pulaski Park on the day of the event.

Please provide your ticket at the gate for entry.

## Monson Garden Club Plant sale

MONSON—Monson Garden Club will hold its annual plant sale on Saturday, May 11, at Dave Grieve Park Gazebo on Main St. in Monson starting at 9 a.m. A wide selection of perennials in addition to wildflowers, vegetables, shrubs, house plants, bulbs and herbs will be available. Prices range from \$3 and up. There will also be an assortment of special gift planters for Mother's Day gifts.

The plants come from members' gardens, and members will be available to answer questions about the plants they enjoy.

Proceeds from the sale are used for local community projects such as the downtown plantings, holiday greens, and scholarships.

**NOTICE**

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

**Corrections**

The Journal Register will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 2 or 3. To request a correction, send information to Editor at journalregister@turley.com, or call 283-8393, extension 236. Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Journal Register, Attn: Editor 24 Water St., Palmer, MA, 01069.

**Monson consumer confidence report**

The Monson Water & Sewer Department enclosed the 2023 consumer confidence report in the mailing of the April 22, 2024 bills. Anyone who did not receive a copy can access it on the town's website at [www.monson-ma.gov](http://www.monson-ma.gov), or pick one up at the Water & Sewer Department 198 Main Street, the Town Office Building, 110 Main Street or the Monson Free Library, 2 High Street.

# Monson Board of Health to host Wellness Fair

By Harrison Giza  
Staff Writer  
[hgiza@turley.com](mailto:hgiza@turley.com)

MONSON – The Board of Health will host a Wellness Fair on Saturday, May 18, an event that has been growing in recent years.

While past events have been delayed or even canceled due to the pandemic, this year is looking like the biggest Wellness Fair on record, with support from both the Fire Department (showing up to educate residents on proper fire protocol) and the Police Department, who are currently scheduled to showcase the ways for drivers and fellow passengers to do a "car seat safety check" with ex-

act efficiency.

The checks do not stop there for the Monson community, as the Wellness Fair will have many medical tests and attentive wellbeing devices on-hand for residents and Western Mass locals to get their heart rate, blood pressure, oxygen and vital signs checked free of charge.

"We will be at this year's Monson Wellness Fair," said Rachel McRobbie, the Drug Free Communities Project Coordinator at Monson Public Schools. "We will be collecting wellness related items for our free store at Monson High School."

"We have high hopes for the Wellness Fair this year,"

McRobbie said. "Our central expectation is to create a vibrant community gathering that promotes health and wellness and strengthens the bonds within our community. By providing valuable health screenings, educational workshops, and fitness demonstrations, we aim to empower our residents with knowledge and resources to lead healthier lives. We're also looking forward to the various local organizations participating, as they play a critical role in supporting our community's health and well-being. The Wellness Fair results from community collaboration and a shared commitment to enhancing public health in Monson."

McRobbie said local health

professional and community leaders worked together to make the event a reality.

From AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) to the Parks and Recreation Department, those helping out at the event encourage attendees to be open and honest about their emotional, physical and overall mental health.

Other groups and services that will have a presence at the fair include: the Monson Substance Use Community Partnership, the Medical Reserve Corp, Monson Community Garden, Monson Free Library, general Pool Safety education, Blood Pressure Screening, Grip & Pinch Strength tests, Fall Risk Balance Tests and Fall Risk

Education, a Disc golf demonstration (weather permitting), crafts for kids, and adaptive equipment for those with CVA or arthritis.

As of right now, the Board of Health is still actively looking for volunteers for the event who have skills in reiki, chair massage, meditation, music, art, animal assisted therapy and of course, face painting.

The event is set to kick off on Saturday, May 18, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Memorial Hall at 198 Main St in Monson. For further information on the Wellness Fair, contact [jsimmons@springfieldcollege.edu](mailto:jsimmons@springfieldcollege.edu) or [MFarrin@gmail.com](mailto:MFarrin@gmail.com).



## Palmer Senior Center

The Palmer Senior Center, 1029 Central St., has many activities for seniors Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information or to reserve a meal please call 413-283-2670.

May events always on Mondays-Zumba at 8:30 a.m., Chair Yoga at 10 a.m., Lunch 11:30 and Pool table at 12:15 p.m. Always on Tuesdays- Knit/crochet group at 9 a.m., walking group at 9 a.m., Breakfast at 9:30 a.m. Arthritis/ROM at 10 a.m. and painting group at 1 p.m. Always on Wednesdays- Strength training at 10 a.m., Reiki by appt. is canceled and 11:30 a.m. Lunch. Always on Thursdays- Walking group at 9 a.m., breakfast at 9:30 a.m., Tai Chi at 10 a.m., pool table at 12:15 p.m. and Big Y at 1 p.m. Always on Fridays - Gentle stretch at 10 a.m., Dancing mind body and soul at 10 a.m. and Lunch at 11:30 a.m.

**Special events for May:**

- Thursday, May 2-** 10 a.m. Massage by appointment.
- Friday, May 3-** 9 a.m. Yoga rescheduled, 1 p.m. showing movie "Boys in the Boat"
- Monday, May 6-** Betty Boop therapy dog from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., 1 p.m. take and bake PB bars for two.
- Thursday, May 9 -** Sunshine Craft at 1 p.m.
- Friday, May 10-** 1-3 p.m. Brown bag pick up.
- Monday, May 13-** 1 p.m. Mother's Day tea and pastries.
- Tuesday, May 14-** 1 p.m. Trip to McKinstry Market Garden, they accept snap benefits.
- Wednesday, May 15-** GSSSI options councilor.
- Thursday, May 16 -** 10 a.m. Massage by appointment, Memory Café from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Entertainment Kevin Driscoll.
- Friday, May 17-** 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Footcare by appt.
- Monday, May 20-** 10 a.m. Marathon Bingo.
- Wednesday, May 22-** Wii bowling at 1 p.m.
- Thursday, May 23-** Sunshine Village Paint at 1 p.m.
- Monday, May 27-** Closed for Memorial Day.
- Thursday, May 30-** 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Massage by appointment.
- Friday, May 31-** 1 p.m. showing the movie "My All American".

Breakfast is served every Tuesday and Thursday at 9:15 a.m. and is \$3. Lunch is served every Monday, Wednes-

day and Thursday from 11 a.m. to noon and a suggested donation is \$2. Please call before 10 a.m. the day before to reserve a meal at 413-283-2670. Individuals must sign up for breakfast, otherwise a meal will not be ordered for them.

**MENU**

- Thursday, May 2-** Ham and cheese roll.
- Friday, May 3-** Braised pork, California blend veggies, yellow rice and beans, multigrain bread and chilled applesauce.
- Monday, May 6-** Cheese lasagna with meat sauce, Italian blend veggies, oaknut bread and chilled pineapples.
- Tuesday, May 7-** Assorted pastries.
- Wednesday, May 8-** Indian style butter chicken, steamed spinach, white rice, buttermilk biscuit, and mandarin oranges.
- Thursday, May 9-** Blueberry French Toast.
- Friday, May 10-** Pot roast with gravy, tossed salad with Italian, garlic mashed potatoes, ww bread and brownie.
- Monday, May 13-** Chicken pot pie, California blend veggies, biscuit topping and pear crisp.
- Tuesday, May 14-** Cinnamon buns.
- Wednesday, May 15-** Turkey taco plate, tossed salad with ranch, yellow rice, sour cream, tortilla chips, and chilled pineapple.
- Thursday, May 16-** Ham and cheese roll.
- Friday, May 17-** Chicken Marsala, steamed broccoli, parslid penne, ww roll and raisins.
- Monday, May 20-** Lazy stuffed cabbage, peas and onions, ww bread and Jello with topping.
- Tuesday, May 21-** Waffle and sausage.
- Wednesday, May 22-** Chef salad with Italian, ham and turkey, celery salad, ww bun and chilled peaches.
- Thursday, May 23-** Egg, bacon, cheese croissant.
- Friday, May 24-** Lemon chicken, parslid carrots, roasted red bliss potatoes, ww bread and cookie.
- Monday, May 27-** Closed for Memorial Day.
- Tuesday, May 28-** French toast and sausage.
- Wednesday, May 29-** Hamburger with cheese, coleslaw, onions and mushrooms, wheat burger bun and cookies.
- Thursday, May 30-** Ham, egg and cheese croissant.
- Friday, May 31-** Turkey with gravy, parslid carrots, mashed potatoes, ww bread and cupcake.

## Registration open for 36th Annual Boston Marathon® Jimmy Fund Walk

BOSTON – Registration is now open for the 2024 Boston Marathon® Jimmy Fund Walk presented by Hyundai.

Scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 6, funds raised from the Jimmy Fund Walk support all forms of adult and pediatric patient care and cancer research at the nation's premier cancer center, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Due to ongoing construction in Copley Square, the Jimmy Fund Walk Finish Line location has been moved to the Boston Common for 2024.

The Jimmy Fund Walk is the only organized walk permitted on the famed Boston Marathon® course, and participants have the flexibility to choose from four distance options:

- 5K Walk (from Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's Longwood Medical Campus)
- 10K Walk (from Newton)
- Half Marathon Walk (from Wellesley)
- Marathon Walk (from Hopkinton)

Whatever route walkers choose, participants will be treated to refueling stations with refreshments throughout the course. Poster-sized photographs of patients – Jimmy Fund Walk Heroes – are displayed along the course as inspiration.

Walkers can participate virtually, as well.

All routes will conclude at the Jimmy Fund Walk Finish Line Powered by Schneider Electric at Boston Common, by the corner of Charles and Beacon Street. The finish line will include a celebration with food, entertainment, and more.

Public transportation is encour-

aged.

The Jimmy Fund Walk has raised more than \$176 million for Dana-Farber in its 35-year history, raising a record-breaking \$9.4 million in 2023. Funds raised from the Jimmy Fund Walk support all forms of adult and pediatric patient care and cancer research at the nation's premier cancer center, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

The Boston Athletic Association has supported the Jimmy Fund Walk since 1989, and Hyundai has been the presenting sponsor for more than 20 years.

Register as an individual walker, team member, or start a team. Take advantage of this unique opportunity and lead a group of your family, friends, or colleagues to the finish line.

The Jimmy Fund can help you start a team, grow your fundraising, and defy cancer, together.

Volunteers are needed to cheer on participants, serve snacks, distribute T-shirts, and more, at the four start locations, along the course, and at the 2024 Jimmy Fund Walk Finish Line Powered by Schneider Electric, located in the Boston Common. The Jimmy Fund Walk would not be possible without the hundreds of dedicated volunteers who donate their time, talent, and energy.

Register to volunteer today.

To register for the Walk (#JimmyFundWalk) or to support a walker, visit [www.JimmyFundWalk.org](http://www.JimmyFundWalk.org) or call 866-531-9255. Registrants can enter the promo code NEWS for \$5 off the registration fee.

All registered walkers will receive a bib, medal, and a Jimmy Fund Walk T-shirt.

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CAPITOL | from page 1

Farnum said that the actual cost could be more or less than, but would likely be higher, dependent on various factors such as access to the lines that run through Town Hall.

Quarry Hill gym floor

Submitted by Parks and Recreation was a request for the Quarry Hill Gym floor to be refinished at \$22,750.

This would involve sanding and refinishing the gym floor at Quarry Hill with a four coat system of water-based sports floor finish, including game lines and the logo. The floors are reportedly from 1991.

During discussion of the Quarry Hill Gym, the committee asked about the track. Superintendent Dr. Cheryl Clarke was present for the meeting, and said that the job would cost \$2 million, with a member of the audience adding that lighting would likely cost another \$700,000.

Storage Shed

The Parks and Recreation Department put in a request for a 10 by 20 square foot storage shed at Flynt Park in the total amount of \$15,000.

The storage shed would store the tractor and other equipment that is used frequently at the park, presenting a more efficient location and preserving the machinery's longevity.

"We keep trailing it up every morning, it's just used there all the time, so it would be much better if we could just house it there, and that would give us more room in our garage that we have to almost unload to get our stuff out to get it in."

Cemetery tractor

The Cemetery Department put in a request for a tractor at \$36,600. The tractor will be used for maintenance and burials, and would replace the 1986 tractor, which was recently sold for about \$7,500.

Cell towers

The town's facilities made a request for the cell towers' heating and cooling system to the tune of \$10,000. The heating and cooling units are said to have reached their end of useful life and are need replacement, as wear and tear reduce their efficiency and effectiveness over time.

Town Hall server

For town technology, we're scheduled to - we replaced the police server in fiscal year 24 and so the next scheduled replacement is the town hall server, which is 10 years old and due for the replacement. The old server will be refurbished and reserved as a backup server.

Council on Aging van

Council on Aging submitted a request for van replacement. This request is 20% of the cost of the van replacement, as 80% is paid through a state grant.

School computers

The school desktop computer replacement for the school technology side; this request is a quote for a replacement of 100 desktop computers and 200 monitors, and that total is \$97,000.

Granite Valley boiler

The last item was the school's request to repair boilers at Granite Valley.

"This capital request repairs one of the 30-year-old boilers that is currently leaking in need of repair," Farnum read. "If the boilers continue to leak without repair, they will be damaged beyond further repair."

Of the three boilers at Granite Valley, the other two boilers were repaired through Fiscal Year '23 and '24 capital requests.

ASSESSOR | from page 1

ing, the Board heard from Bob Scalbite, the chair of the Agricultural Commission, to speak about the one-time Farmer's Market scheduled for later this year.

"We'd like your input on that and the planning process for that," Scalbite said. "Maybe you are thinking about being a vendor or might want to look to volunteer. We invite you to attend."

The meeting was held earlier this week.

The Board also agreed to donate funds for the annual fireworks display.

Valerie Bogacz-Beaudoin, clerk of Summerfest, made the request to the board.

"We are asking for our annual request for gifts to the town for both the use for the fireworks and for the Fourth of July. What has happened in the past is the gifts to the town have gone to defray the cost of the Police for the two events that we have."

Select Board member John R. Morrell asked how much money the town had in its gift fund.

"What is the balance in the gifts the town will give?" Morrell asked.

Morrell was then informed that the balance is set at \$35,000.

"This is an easy one," Select Board Chair Patric Oney proposed giving \$4,000 toward this year's event.

All members voted unanimously to approve Bogacz-Beaudoin's request.

YOUR HEALTH | from page 4

Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, RN, is a board-certified patient advocate and Monson resident. A critical care nurse for 30+ years, she is founder of NShore Patient Advocates, (www.NorthshoreRN.com). Her book, "How to Be a Healthcare Advocate for Yourself & Your Loved Ones" is available on Amazon. She is offering a free phone consultation to Turley Newspaper readers. Contact her at Teri@northshorern.com to set up.



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Route 20 billboard unveiling honors Wilbraham, Longmeadow residents



A photo of the billboard unveiled along Route 20 in Wilbraham featuring Jackson Connors and Sadie Slattery to promote the Aug. 9 Golf Tournament supporting Shriners Children's of New England.

By Kristin Rivers krivers@turley.com

WILBRAHAM - Family and friends gathered along Route 20 on April 19 for the unveiling of a billboard honoring two residents from Wilbraham and Longmeadow.

The residents, Jackson Connors of Wilbraham and Sadie Slattery of Longmeadow, are also patients at Shriners Children's of New England and will be recognized as honorees at the 2nd Annual Golf Tournament supporting the organization on Aug. 9.

The event, taking place at Franconia Golf Course, is still looking for foursome teams to join, with tee off at 10 a.m. followed by dinner, raffles and performances by Project 267 at the Elks on Tiffany Street in Springfield.

The dinner event is open to the public and for anyone who wants to check out the band and not do dinner, it's \$10 at the gate.

To sign up, visit ma-cthomes.com and click the 'Golf Event' tab.

As the billboard was unveiled, the children reacted with shock and excitement to see their faces on the billboard for everyone driving along Route 20 to see.

"It was really cool. It's an honor," Connors said.

"I think it's pretty cool because everybody can see it and then, hopefully, we can get more people to raise awareness," Slattery said.

Connors and Slattery were happy to have the community support at the unveiling.

"It means a lot because family and friends are important," Connors said.

"Mainly because everyone can see it and I think it's good," Slattery said.

Connors and Slattery hope the billboard helps raise awareness for Shriners and for the upcoming golf tournament, stressing the importance of their work with children.

"Shriners is important because I had a clubbed foot and I couldn't play with my friends, then Shriners helped me a lot and helped me play with my friends and just have fun," Connors said.

"I think it's important because I also go to Shriners and the whole Shriners

made me feel a lot more confident and made me feel better about the whole situation, so I'm very thankful for it and I'm glad to be doing this," Slattery said.

Brenda Cuoco, broker/owner at Brenda Cuoco & Associates Real Estate Brokerage, was ecstatic about the unveiling, wanting to give back to the kids and raise awareness for the organization and the upcoming event.

Cuoco said she loves teaming up with Shriners and supporting them, adding giving back to the community brings her great joy.

"I absolutely love it. There's nothing better than being able to support someone like Shriners. Any of the businesses around that we can support locally. Like I said, we just love giving back," Cuoco said.

The community support also means a lot to Cuoco.

"We just want to keep changing people's lives and make a difference and leaving a legacy most of all is what we love to do," Cuoco said.

Keri Tichy, associate director of philanthropy at Shriners Children's of New England, explained last year's golf tournament raised \$27,000 for Shriners Children's of New England and she is looking forward to this year's event.

Tichy expressed gratitude to Cuoco and her team for their support, adding how Shriners Children's of New England treats everyone regardless of ability to pay and 85 cents to every dollar goes towards patient care.

"Their efforts help to transform the lives of so many children across New England and upstate New York. We can't do it without them and our community and strengthening strong partnerships," Tichy said. "To be able to see our amazing patient ambassadors on a billboard this year out in the community just strengthens that even further."

Connors and Slattery encourage the community to support Shriners and give back to the community.

"Sign up for an event for a great cause," Connors said.

"Help donate to Shriners," Slattery said.

To learn more about the organization, visit shrinerschildrensnewengland.org.



A group photo with Jackson Connors, Alyssa Stout, office & finance administrator at Brenda Cuoco Real Estate Brokerage, Madison Degnan, marketing & listing coordinator at Brenda Cuoco Real Estate Brokerage, Sadie Slattery and Brenda Cuoco, broker/owner at Brenda Cuoco & Associates Real Estate Brokerage, after the billboard unveiling on Route 20 in Wilbraham on April 19.



A family photo of Sadie Slattery of Longmeadow with her parents Stella and Derek after the billboard unveiling honoring Slattery and Jackson Connors of Wilbraham.



A family photo of Jackson Connors of Wilbraham with his parents Jill and Nick after the billboard unveiling honoring Connors and Sadie Slattery of Longmeadow.

Turley photos by Kristin Rivers

Celebrate Mother's Day with pancake breakfast

MONSON—Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, May 12, 2024 at Monson-Glendale United Methodist Church. 6:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Reservations are preferred, deadline for ordering is May 10th. Walk-ins are welcome Call 413-267-5207 to place your order. Meal includes fluffy & delicious pancakes, sausage, orange juice, coffee, tea. Our specialty pancakes include: blueberry and chocolate chip. Toppings include whipped cream, butter, and we are featuring Monson's own: Bryson's 100% Pure Maple Syrup.

Price is \$9 for adults and \$5 for children.

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Pubsy Diego (left), pictured with Pete and Deb Chabot at Villa Rose restaurant.



The firefighters' dinner was not only for former firefighters, but also their wives, such as (from left) Allison LaChance, Heather Sasur, and Holly Daigle.



Members of the Women's Auxiliary Fire Department of Three Rivers, (from left) Tracey Bergeron, Sharon Lemieux, and Emily Skoczylas.



Former firefighters of Three Rivers, (from left) Mike Matthews, Pat O'Connor, and Phil Delessio, took the opportunity to reminisce about the department.



Some of the speakers at Saturday's dinner (from left) John Sasur, Tracey and Jody Santos, Ben Dube, and Theresa Beynor.



Long-time friends Carol Delessio and Patricia Matthieu said that they "go way back."



Mike Matthews signs the cards for firefighters who were unable to make it to the dinner.



Matt Lemieux stood up to tell stories about the fire department to the whole room.



John Sasur animatedly shared stories from the history of the Three Rivers Fire Department.



Jody Santos shared personal anecdotes about the department from his table.



Firefighters laughed at former Chief Pat's stories.

**FIRE DEPT.** | from page 1

worked hard for every fire we went to, and when we came home that's what we did; we took it easy, talked about it at the station, and then everything was left at the station when we went home."

Matthews emphasized that these social gatherings among the firefighters helped to instill a close bond among them and their families, and talked about the many ways that they would get together and enjoy each other's company while they were still working for the fire department, such as regular softball games and picnics.

"I'm going to keep doing this as long as I can," Matthews said. "We used to do memorial breakfast, we would go to station on a Sunday morning, we'd have steak and eggs for breakfast, go to every cemetery that we had one of our past members in, say a prayer, play Taps, got a bagpipe they'd play amazing grace instead, and then we'd go back to the station and do the same thing, talk about old times, sit there and sometimes play cards. "That stuff all ended," Matthews lamented. "One of the reasons I started doing this is one of my buddies, just before I got off the department, said, 'Once you're gone, all this is going to stop.' And he was right; I understand that they tried doing it last year,

but they had no idea what to do."

Though not everyone that Matthews reached out to was able to attend, he is committed to continuing this tradition. He said that if anyone knows a former Three Rivers firefighter who he forgot to invite, to let him know and he'll be sure to send them an invitation next year.

"The fact is, we're a brotherhood," Matthews said. "It's our family reunion. We worked hard, and we played hard."

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The Kelleys were looking cozy in their sweatshirts while posing for the camera in front of their trash-ladder truck.

**MONSON** | from page 1

older adults, as well as oversees the undergraduate occupational therapy major program, teaching courses in theoretical foundations, adult physical function and gerontology.

"We have about 75% of what we expected," Simmons said. "I think we are still making a terrific impact and I'm proud of what have been able to accomplish I also want to thank Kathy Nothe for being so unbelievably helpful."

A pair of volunteers, Suzanne and Doug Kelley took part in the

event. They said they were happy they could assist in the clean-up throughout the community.

"It is nice to see events and things like this in our town," Kelley said. "I'm glad my husband and I could be a part of it."

While the Monson Town Wide Clean-Up was once a staple for the town almost a decade ago, a recent flyer made for the event said that it was "the first time in several years" the Clean-up was able to get going again.



Board of Health member, Joan Simmons, showing the Kelleys where to go for clean-up. Red lines were drawn on the map to detail where volunteers were sent.



Simmons was dedicated throughout the morning and afternoon, making sure no piece of trash was left behind.



The Gazebo at Dave Grieve Park just as the weather started to clear.

Turley Photos by Harrison Giza



Though there were many volunteers, few of them had a 1978 Ford F100 filled to the brim with trash bags like this proud volunteer did.



The swagged out "Brush 1" courtesy of the Wales Fire Department.

**HOLLAND** | from page 1

the action in the games.

Another highlight happened off the field, with one of the Board Members pulling a practical joke "pig pile" on player-favorite Coach K. Her team of young athletes charged at her like a steroid-free rhino stampede, smiling and

laughing all the while.

Sponsorship for the event ranged from Bertera Chevrolet, Angry Panda, Jake the lion alongside the entire Worcester Bravehearts Organization, and local Police departments. The Holland Fire Department was also in atten-



Benny "The Jet" Rodriguez sipping soda alongside League President Mike Breor.

Turley photos by Harrison Giza



A league player mid-swing.



The Snack Shack was open and filled with the kind faces seen here. Some were more excited to get their picture taken than others.



Wales Softball members getting ready to swing their hearts out, despite already being up 5 - 0.



The players were happy to be back on the field with the other coaches and players.



The field was tense as coaches offered base-stealing advice to players.

dance, making sure the event was safe for all... and to show off their newly-polished vehicle near the left field foul line.

What makes the program truly unique is that it is 100% supported by parents. Various sports fans and valued members of the community, who give their all volunteering their time to make sure that each player has fun during the start of the season. Following the event, Breor

thanked those who made the event a success.

"We appreciate the support everyone displayed yesterday by attending our Opening Day Festivities," said Breor. "The event was a true success thanks to the collaboration and teamwork of our community... I said it yesterday and I will say it again today, Holland Wales Baseball Softball League is stronger than ever. We are building the best program we can to serve our current players, but also our future players who have yet to step onto a ball field. We are just getting started."

Breor also thanked Adam Hussey, who volunteered to photograph the event. The HWBSL mission as a league is to provide opportunities for children to learn about the game they love, understand the value of being part of a team while working together to establish and create childhood memories that will last them a lifetime.

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## SOFTBALL

### Panthers fall at Ware in extra innings



Nevaeh Solis makes solid contact with this pitch.

Turley photos by Jack Cascio NEAP.smugmug.com

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

WARE—With the sun setting in the west and a full moon rising in the east, Ware sophomore second baseman Olivia DiRienzo promptly ended the rivalry softball game versus Palmer with one swing of the bat.

DiRienzo hit a bloop single into shallow left field with two outs in the bottom of the eighth inning scoring sophomore catcher Madison Slattery from third base. It gave the Lady Indians a wild 13-12 walk-off victory, which took more than three hours to complete, last Monday (April 22).

"I haven't been hitting the ball very well so far this season," said DiRienzo, who also beat out an infield hit during the fourth inning. "I was just hoping to get a base hit in that at-bat. Getting the game winning base hit really means a lot to me."

While Olivia DiRienzo will be playing several more softball games against the Lady Panthers before she graduates in 2026, her older sister, Mia, faced the Lady Panthers for the final time at home during the regular season.

"I'm very happy that my younger sister had the game winning hit in today's game" said Mia DiRienzo, who had a bases clearing

PALMER | page 11

## BASEBALL



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Zander Auffrey heads for second.

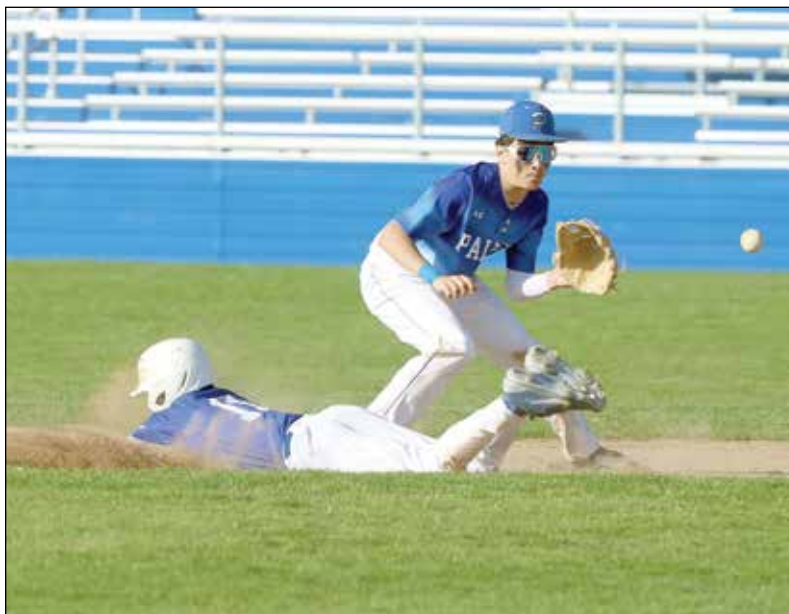
### Pioneers walk off in wild matchup

PALMER – It took almost three weeks for Commerce and Pathfinder to finally matchup last Saturday afternoon at St. Joe's Field. Pathfinder scored a run in the bottom of the eighth for a 17-16 win. In the win, Brayden

Mega had three hits and three runs scored. Hunter Griswold and Miguel Velasquez had two hits and three RBI each. The Pioneers are now 5-1 on the season despite limited action due to several rainouts this month.

## Mustangs escape Palmer with win

PALMER – Last Tuesday afternoon, Palmer and Monson were locked in a 6-6 heat late in the game and the Mustangs were able to pull away with three runs to pick up the win. The Mustangs are 3-5 this season. Palmer fell to 1-6 on the season.



Colin Beaupre slides into second.



Austin Meacham slides safely into third.



Jake Beaupre rounds third and heads home after hitting a home run.



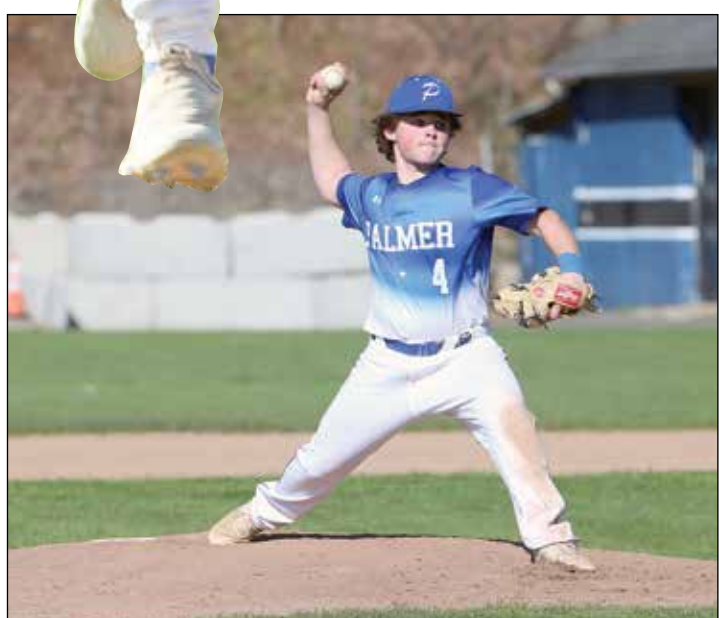
Alex Young sends a throw back to the infield.



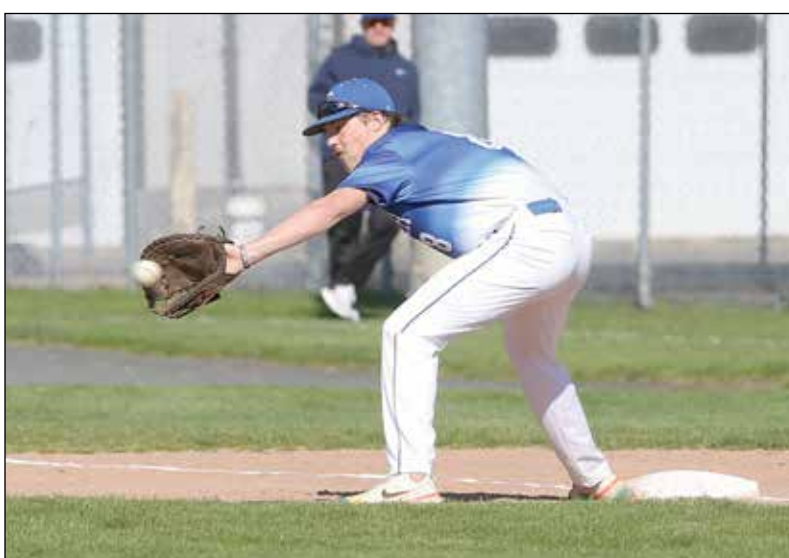
Brendan Hess is safe as he slides in ahead of a tag.



Sebastian Mayberry tries to avoid a tag at third base.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com  
Sebastian Mayberry pitches for the Panthers.



Dylan Holbrook catches an out at first.



Nikolas Matthieu tries to make a tag out on Palmer's Theo Haley.

# Mustangs fall at Minnechaug



Turley photos by Sofia DiGrande  
Carlee Meacham rounds second and heads for third base.



Molly Szado delivers a pitch for the Mustangs.



Emma Bannon makes a tough catch on a pop-up.

WILBRAHAM – Last Friday afternoon, Monson softball had a rare regular season matchup with Minnechaug Regional. The Mustangs worked hard to stay in the game, but fell by a score of 10-4. Chelsea Hull had two hits for the Mustangs and Molly Szado pitched a complete game, allowing 10 runs, 12 hits, and five walks, while striking out six. The Mustangs are just 2-6 so far in 2024.

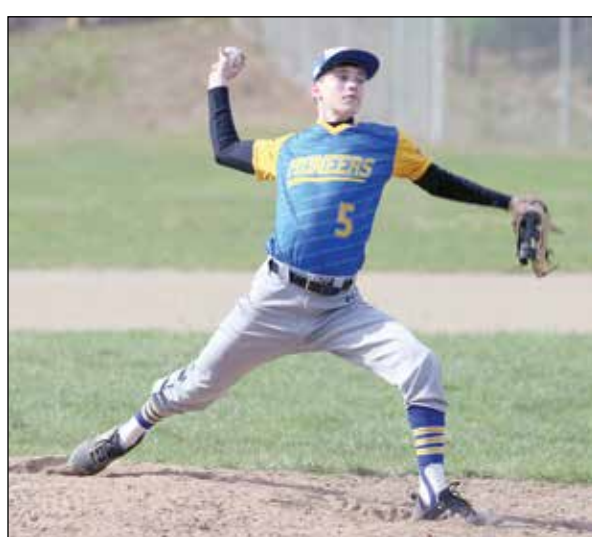


Cali Zielinski tries to avoid a tag.



Madelynn Caron gets ready to swing.

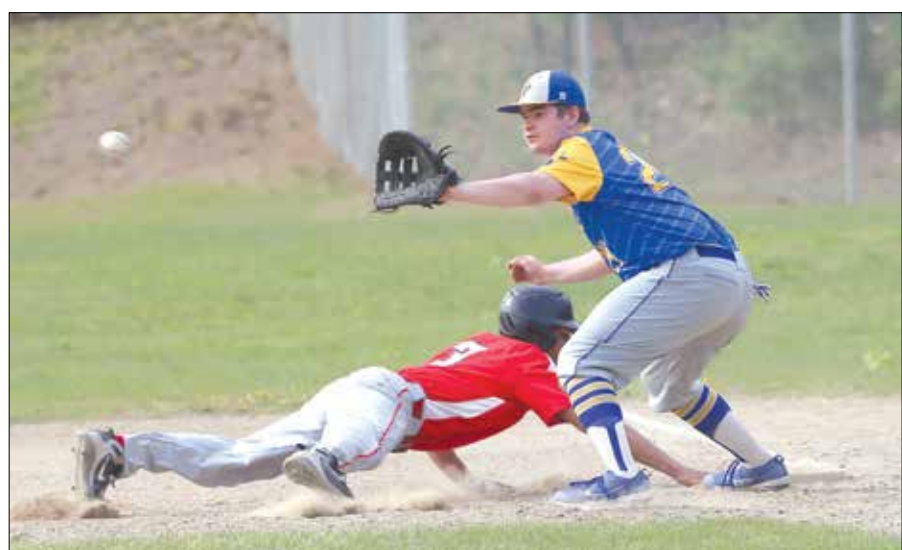
## Pioneers walk off in wild matchup



Andrew Sullivan delivers a pitch for the Pioneers.



Branden Hnitecki slides into an opposing player.



Camron MacDonald catches a pickoff throw to first.



Hunter Griswold gets dirty as he slides safely into second.

## Turleysports

### Athlete of the Week

**Miguel Velasquez**  
Pathfinder Regional

Velasquez had two hits and three RBI in a wild game for Pathfinder against Commerce last Saturday.

To nominate someone for Athlete of the Week, contact Managing Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at 413-283-8393 ext. 258 or send an e-mail to gscibelli@turley.com.

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## Panthers enjoying perfect season so far



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com  
Adriana Roberts goes high for the return hit.

PALMER – Last Monday afternoon, Palmer girls tennis kept its momentum going with a 5-0 win over visiting Chicopee. The Panthers scored wins in all of their matches, including the doubles tandems of Adriana Roberts and Sophia Braskie and Marila Kompaniets and Arianna Messier. The Panthers are now a perfect 6-0 on the season.

Sophia Braskie covers the back part of the court in doubles action.



Gianna Perry squares up a hit.



Hannah Hoang gets the backhand.



## Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

### Tuesday Night Commercial Elks League

PALMER – The Commercial Elks made it to their final regular week of league candlepin bowling.

These series of matches will conclude the final round and will determine the third qualifier for the playoffs.

As of April 16, The Champs R Here are in first place at 27-9. In the running Acres is in second place at 25-11. Team BK is in third place at 24-12. The remaining teams are mathematically eliminated from playoff contention.

Compression and Life is Good have already qualified for the playoffs.

One match took place between #1 seed Champs R Here against #2 seed Acres. In game one, Acres defeated Champs R Here by a score of 398-382. Matt Bertelli and Paul Tereso of Acres each broke 100 in the opening game (Tereso 101, Bertelli 106). Stephen Manolakis of Champs R Here began with a 114.

In game two, Champs R Here defeated Acres 375-362. Manolakis led the team with a 113.

In game three, Champs R Here defeated Acres 385-367 to win a total of three points and secure the last playoff spot. Manolakis finished with a 109 and a series of 336.

The final score is Champs R Here at 1142 and Acres at 1127.

#3 seed Team BK bowled against Last in Line. Team BK won the first game 353-345. In game two, Last in Line won 367-354. Vinny Navarro bowled a 112 to lead Last in Line to a victory. Mark Fitzpatrick of Team BK bowled 118.

In game three, Team BK won the last game by a score of 378-361. The final score was Team BK at 1085 and Last in Line at 1073.

The two playoff teams, Compression and Life is Good, bowled each other in the last week of round three. In game one, Compression took the first game from one of their playoff opponents 361-345.

In game two, Compression won again by a score of 352-341. Jason Dominick of Compression led the team in the second game with a 104.

In game three, Compression won for a three-game sweep over Life is Good. The score in game three was Compression at 364 and Life is Good at 357. The final score was Compression at 1077 and Life is Good at 1043.

As a result of winning three points against Acres, Champs R Here are the winners of round three and will be in the playoffs. Compression, Life is Good and Champs R Here will compete against each other in the final week of the season for the league championship.

The remaining four teams who didn't receive a playoff berth will compete in a consolation roll off.

### Monday Night League Playoffs

The final two teams who made it to the final week of the season are Tag Team and the Four Stooges. After three competitive games, Tag Team prevails and are the 2023-2024 candlepin league season champions for Monday nights.

Tag Team consists of John Havens Sr, John Eckart, John "JT" Terault and Nick Mason. The runner ups of the season, The Four Stooges, consist of Dave Chambers, Rich Chambers, Joe Grant and Marc Pelissier.



## DEATH NOTICES

**Arabella M. Olander, 77**  
Died April 23, 2024  
Services were April 29, 2024  
Lombard Funeral Home

### 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 \$225, 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](mailto:obits@turley.com).

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

## O B I T U A R I E S

### Arabella M. Olander, 1946-2024

MONSON—Arabella M. Olander, 77, passed away peacefully at home on April 23, 2024, after a year-long battle with lung cancer. 50 years ago, upon unpacking in her new home, she declared "I want to die in this house" and so it was.

Born in Dorchester, she attended local public schools, graduating from Hyde Park High school where she wrote her class song. She majored in zoology and obtained a Bachelor's degree from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. She then studied education and obtained a Master's degree from Suffolk University. Her first career was that of a mother. When asked what she did for work, she would reply "I'm a mother. That's work." Upon her youngest child entering school, she started her second career as a para educator in the Monson Public

Schools. She supported students in math and reading for over 20 years and delighted in the connections she made with them. Upon retirement, she dove into volunteering at the Warren SDA School and her family wondered if she had actually retired.

She leaves behind her devoted husband of 53 years, Raymond Olander of Monson, her children, William of Monson, Mary and her husband Richard Schilk of Fullerton, California, Timothy and his wife Jamie of Sturbridge, and Joseph and his wife Maria of Jacksonville, North Carolina as well as 5 grandchildren. She is survived by her brothers and sister-in-law, Donald and his wife Mai Severy and Robert Bayard Severy as



well as many beloved nieces and nephews.

The family received visitors on Monday, April 29, 2024 at Lombard Funeral Home. Funeral Services were held Tuesday, April 30, 2024 at the First Church of Monson, 5

High St., Monson MA. Burial will immediately follow at Hillcrest Cemetery, 32 Wilbraham Road in Monson. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Warren Seventh-Day Adventist Elementary School ([www.warrensda.school.com](http://www.warrensda.school.com)) or the Monson Fire Department, Ambulance Fund (PO Box 335, Monson, MA 01057). For online condolences/directions please visit [lombardfuneralhome.com](http://lombardfuneralhome.com).

## Olympics lead to change in HoopHall induction this summer

SPRINGFIELD – The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame has announced it will move its Enshrinement Ceremonies from Aug. 16-17 to Oct. 12-13 to accommodate requests of the vast global basketball community amid an extensive and expanding summer schedule, highlighted by the 2024 Summer Olympics. The date change will continue to position the Hall of Fame event as a successful, well-produced stand-alone event not compromised by potential production conflicts.

"The Hall of Fame appreciates the input from friends across the basketball community and the recommendations of our production partners regarding a schedule adjustment for our Enshrinement Ceremonies," said John L. Doleva,

President & CEO of the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame. "We understand the importance of the burgeoning Olympic basketball events to our broader constituencies and regret any inconvenience caused by the change. This one-time move to October assures that we are best positioned to once again create a great experience for our guests and deliver viewers a first-class presentation to celebrate our esteemed Class."

Enshrinement Weekend will begin at Mohegan Sun on Saturday, Oct. 12, with the Tip-Off Celebration and Awards Gala. The Class of 2024 and returning Hall of Famers will then assemble in Springfield, for the annual events taking place at the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame and Springfield's Symphony

Hall on Sunday, Oct. 13. The updated schedule of events for Enshrinement 2024: Saturday, Oct. 12, at Mohegan Sun (Uncasville, Conn.) Enshrinement 2024 Autograph Session Enshrinement 2024 Press Conference Enshrinement Tip-Off Celebration and Awards Gala Sunday, Oct. 13, in Springfield Enshrinement Ceremony VIP Reception at Springfield Marriott Enshrinement Ceremony Red Carpet Show at Symphony Hall Enshrinement Ceremony at Symphony Hall

## League wants to fill remaining roster spots

Rosters spots are dwindling, but there are still some spots available as the Quabbin Valley Over-28 Baseball has begun its season. There are still several open spots to get filled despite the season being underway.

Registration for the 2024 season is now open and any interested players can go to [www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org](http://www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org) to get registered, or to seek more information or make inquiries about the league.

The league plays most Sunday

from late April through late August with playoffs following that. The league plays a 15-game schedule and typically fields six teams each year. Games are usually played at 10 a.m. with fields in Easthampton and South Hadley used as well some expansion to the surrounding area this season. The league does not play on Mother's Day or Memorial Day weekends.

The Quabbin Valley league is an all-abilities league and all are welcome to join. Eligibility is play-

ers who are age 28 and over. You must be 30 to be eligible to pitch in the league. Your age for eligibility is whatever age you will turn in 2024. The league is also able to entertaining taking in an entire group as a team to add to the league. Please email the league board for to inquire about entering a team. The league can also pro-rate registration at this point. Simply contact a league board member. Contact information is located at the registration link.

## Blood drive scheduled for May 14

NORTHAMPTON – Adults interested in donating blood will have an opportunity to do so at a community blood drive at Cooley Dickinson Hospital on Tuesday, May 14.

Cooley Dickinson is partnering with the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Brigham & Women's Hospital, and the Kraft Family Blood Donor Center to bring their blood mobile to Northampton. The blood mobile will be set up in the parking lot in front of the hospital's North Building from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

"Blood donation is a vital act of generosity that saves lives," said Catherine Reed, administrative director for clinical Services at Cooley Dickinson in a press release. "We deeply appreciate the ongoing support of our community in ensuring that our patients have access to the vital blood supply they need."

All blood donors will receive a \$10 gift card for Panera Bread. A photo ID is required for blood donation.

Donors are also advised to

drink extra water and eat before donating blood. All donor types are welcome.

To make an appointment, please visit the online donor portal at: [tinyurl.com/CooleyM2024](http://tinyurl.com/CooleyM2024). For donation eligibility questions, email [BloodDonor@partners.org](mailto:BloodDonor@partners.org) or call 617-632-3206.

Blood products collected during this drive will be used to care for patients in the Pioneer Valley and within the Mass General Brigham system.

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# The benefits of local newspapers

Local newspapers play vital roles in communities across the globe. The Information Age has changed the way many people get their news, but local newspapers continue to serve as valuable resources for readers interested in learning more about and becoming more involved in their communities.

While local publishers continue to adapt to the changes brought about by technology, the following are a handful of benefits unique to local newspapers.

- **Local newspapers keep readers up-to-date on their own communities.** Globalization may be here to stay, but that does not mean local communities are no longer home to newsworthy events. National and international newspapers and 24-hour cable news channels can keep men and women up-to-date on national and world news, but in many instances, local newspapers are the only means people have to learn about what's going on in their own communities. Local politics impact residents' lives every day, and local newspapers cover local politics extensively.

- **Local newspapers benefit nearby businesses.** Small business owners often connect with community members via local newspapers. A strong, locally based small business community can improve economies in myriad ways, creating jobs in the community and contributing tax dollars that can be used to strengthen local schools and infrastructure. And local newspapers do their part by providing affordable and effective advertising space to local business owners looking to connect with their communities.

- **Local newspapers can strengthen communities.** Local newspapers are great resources for residents who want to become more active in their communities and learn more about community events. Local newspapers often showcase community events like carnivals, local theater productions and projects like park cleanups. These are great ways for readers to become more active in their communities and build stronger communities as a result.

- **Local newspapers can benefit children.** National newspapers may have



little age-appropriate content to offer young children, but local newspapers tend to include more soft news items than national periodicals, and such stories typically are appropriate for young readers. According to Newspapers in Education, students who participated in an NIE group in Florida performed significantly better in spelling and vocabulary

than nonreaders. Additional studies have indicated that students who use newspapers in the classroom perform better on standardized reading tests than those who do not use newspapers in class.

Many local newspapers have played vital roles in their communities for decades, providing a go-to resource for local readers and business owners.

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# Education with a TWIST



**TWIST** | from page 1

as being about reappropriating old technology, and imagining it to do new and exciting things.

“What I do is I find objects, like architectural salvage, period antiques, machinery, and then transform it to tell the story of past, present, and future,” Rosenbaum said.

Rosenbaum said that by repurposing old materials, the students will be able to stretch their creativity and problem-solving skills, helping to make them more innovative in their respective fields.

The program has developed over time, starting with a pilot program that ran at the end of last school year. Phelps has worked to coordinate student participation, gather and share student feedback, and act as the liaison between Sanderson MacLeod and the students.

“Though each student will be taking part in a paid Cooperative Education experience, this isn’t just another educational program,” Phelps said. “It’s a once-in-a-lifetime chance to dive into a realm of business and leadership education, hands-on technical learning, and unmatched mentorship.”

Borsari described Sanderson McLeod as a twisted wire brush manufacturer that works specifically with large Original Equipment Manufacturers clients, including cosmetics, firearms, industrial equipment, and specialty products. The company doesn’t sell its products in stores, but instead serves as the supply arm of most brushes sold domestically or internationally.

“This whole thing started with us about four or five years ago,” Borsari said. “The idea came along where businesses used to make a real concerted effort to make sure the next generation was given an opportunity to get into a new career. There are so many programs out there that do that, so we thought to put local business leaders and educators and artists together and pick three or four kids a year who showed tremendous talent, and run them through a program that we wished we had when we had in high school.”

Phelps said that participants get to engage in a real-world engineering design challenge that encompasses multiple facets of the engineering process.

“Collaborating as a team, students will work with mentors and experts to develop their critical thinking, problem-solving, and teamwork skills,” Phelps said. “The program also provides the students with leadership training, learning sessions with CEOs, and additional opportunities which expand the experience.”

Borsari said that the connection with the community is tantamount to the TWIST program.

“We’re doing this because we feel that, for American manufacturers, it’s easy to get caught up in things that are working against us,” Borsari said. “The fundamentals of doing something within the community and teaching young generation the importance of being able to make things; the goal isn’t to expand this and do it with a lot of places, but more act as a model and prove to ourselves what we may be able to do.”



Riley Olden and Zander Offrey admired Rosenbaum’s artwork, and speculated as to the meanings of the symbols on the old elevator dial.

Photos by Marcelo Gusmão  
Bruce Rosenbaum demonstrated some of his steampunk creations, which are made from things like architectural salvage, antiques, and old machinery.



Full-size mannequins hang out in Rosenbaum’s workshop.



Rosenbaum’s creations include lights and models to create a model ship out of repurposed materials.



Strung up on the wall of ModVic was machinery and bits of metal in the shape of a person.



A pigeon serves as the navigator for Rosenbaum’s experimental aircraft.



Using the front of an old car, Rosenbaum created an elephant with light-up eyes and working sound effects.



Students pointed to the big globe as one of the more striking creations in Rosenbaum’s shop.



Rosenbaum’s tribute to H.G. Wells’s Time Machine is housed on the upper floor of his workshop.



Most of the pieces on ModVic’s upper floor are too difficult to move, with the exception of this Isaac Singer figure.



Rosenbaum’s tribute to H.G. Wells features lights and display screens, and a working propeller at the top.



Rosenbaum described this piece as a tribute to film, complete with old film reels and a Titanic pose reference.



Rosenbaum’s creations include many imaginative uses of machinery to create various designs for vehicles and other crafts, complete with little pilots.

# Car shows, climbs and cruisin'



Submitted Photos

The Wilbraham Hill Climb, the oldest hill climb in America dating back to 1908, will be held on Saturday, May 11 from 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m.



Pre-1959 vehicles get ready to face a 700 foot elevation gain as they vie for the best time up Monson Road in Wilbraham.



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette

Palmer Motorsports Park's Club Director Al Sandy (left) is shown with Bruce Marshall of The Valley's Classic Hits 97.7 FM/102.5 AM and Jeff DeMarey, president of Stonewall Insurance Group and founder of the Springfield to Boston Education Foundation.

## Palmer Motorsports Park announces new sponsor

By Paula Ouimette  
pouimette@turley.com

PALMER – Get ready to start your engines, as car show season prepares to shift into high gear, bringing with it a new collaboration between Palmer Motorsports Park and Stonewall Insurance Group.

Palmer Motorsports Park is revving up for its ninth season since the track opened and has recently teamed up with Jeff DeMarey, president of Stonewall Insurance Group in Wilbraham to put on three benefit car shows. "The track is going to be a great partner," DeMarey said.

Helping to bring them together was the Pioneer Valley's "King of Cruise" himself, Bruce Marshall of The Valley's Classic Hits 97.7 FM/1250 AM.

Marshall will be live broadcasting from all three benefit car shows, in addition to over 20 other shows and regular weekly cruise nights across the region.

On Wednesday, May 22, the first of this year's All Wheels Car Show returns to Palmer Motorsports Park to benefit the Palmer Food Share and the Jubilee Cupboard Food Pantry, as well as DeMarey's nonprofit organization, Springfield to Boston Education Foundation. Gates open at 3 p.m. and the show runs from 4 p.m. until dusk.

Palmer Motorsports Park Club Director Al Sandy, said the All Wheels Car Show (which will also be held on Wednesdays, July 10 and Aug. 21) is not only a way to support local charities, but also allow the public to experience the thrill of Whiskey Hill.

Admission to the All Wheels Car Show is \$10 per car, or three non-perishable food items. The track is located at 58 West Ware Road.

ed at 58 West Ware Road.

DeMarey, like Sandy and Marshall, has always had a love for classic and vintage cars which he has used to shape his career in the insurance agency under Stonewall Insurance Group, which he founded in 2008.

Stonewall is an independent insurance agency that provides coverage for home, auto, boat and business, and specializes in classic and collector car insurance.

DeMarey enjoys sharing his love of cars with his customers and those around him, which inspired him to start the Springfield to Boston Education Foundation five years ago. The foundation strives to educate students on all levels about antique transportation, including maintenance and repairs.

"It just keeps growing and growing," he said.

DeMarey and his foundation are also the driving force behind the Wilbraham Hill Climb, the oldest hill

climb in America that is steeper than Pike's Peak. The climb ascends Monson Road, with a 23% grade and a 700 foot elevation gain.

First started in 1908, the hill climb was a way for auto manufacturers to test and show off their cars. The cars were timed over a measured mile, with the Knox Automobile clocking the best time in the inaugural event with 1 minute and 8 seconds, with an average speed of 52.9 mph and Stevens-Duryea winning the most events with seven victories.

"They all used it as a test track," DeMarey said. "It was also bragging rights."

By the 1950s, the hill climb had stopped up until 2013 when Wilbraham resident George Holman brought it back for the town's 250th anniversary celebration, keeping it going bi-annually up until the pandemic.

In 2022, Holman asked DeMarey to take over as chair of the event, and together they decided to make it a big-

ger, community event by partnering with the local high school, vendors, museums, food trucks, as well as offering a plant and craft sale.

"The event is just a lot of great fun and gets the community involved," he said.

This year, the Wilbraham Hill Climb will be held on Saturday, May 11 from 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m., rain or shine.

The hill climb itself will take place from 8 a.m.-1 p.m., starting at 26 Monson Road and ending at 252 Monson Road in Wilbraham, with the winners announced at 2 p.m. The plant and craft sale will be held from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. on the lawn of Wilbraham United Church.

A car show featuring over 350 show cars of all makes, models and eras, including unique and rare cars, will be held along Main Street and at Wilbraham Monson Academy from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Seven auto museums from across the northeast are also planning to attend the event.

Food trucks will be parked between 467-480 Main Street from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and spectator parking is available at Minnechaug Regional High School.

Sandy said Palmer Motorsports Park will be doing a demo run of the hill climb with some of its drivers and racecars at this year's event, including Sandy himself and a number of champion drivers.

"This is going to get bigger and bigger every year," Sandy said of the hill climb.

DeMarey said there are over 20 plus vintage cars registered to compete in this year's hill climb, which is only open to vehicles made before 1959.

DeMarey thanked the event's sponsors, including LUSO

Federal Credit Union, along with town departments and the community for helping make the event a continued success.

In addition to the All Wheels Car Show, Stonewall Insurance Group is also a sponsor for Palmer Motorsports Park's annual Military Appreciation Day with Race Cars for a Cause on Saturday, May 18 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Veterans, active military, law enforcement and immediate family members are invited to ride along with Club drivers along the 2.3 mile racetrack. Military, law enforcement and all proper identification is required.

### About the sponsors

For more information about Stonewall Insurance Group, visit [stonewallinsurancegroup.com](http://stonewallinsurancegroup.com) or find them on social media. For more information about the Springfield to Boston Education Foundation or the Wilbraham Hill Climb, visit [www.springfieldtoboston.com](http://www.springfieldtoboston.com) and [www.wilbrahamhillclimb.com](http://www.wilbrahamhillclimb.com).

Find Marshall at area car shows and cruise nights including the Minnechaug Car Show in Wilbraham on May 25, Heritage Woods in Agawam on June 8, the North Brookfield Sportsmen's Club in North Brookfield on June 22, Cedarbrook Village in Ware on July 13, Oakholm Brewery in Brookfield on July 20, Hardwick Vineyard & Winery in Hardwick on Aug. 10, the Blandford Fair in Blandford on Sept. 2, Christopher Heights Cars and Coffee in Belchertown on Sept. 8, St. Francis of Assisi Cars and Coffee in Belchertown on Sept. 14, All Makes and Models at Moose Center in Chicopee on Oct. 5 and the Brimfield Winery Car Show in Brimfield on Oct. 12.

Cruise nights are held on Fridays at Brimfield Winery now through Sept. 27.

Find him on Facebook under "Cruisin' with Bruce Marshall" or online at [classichits977.com](http://classichits977.com) for a complete schedule.

### About Palmer Motorsports Park

Palmer Motorsports Park has been rated "One of the top 10 road courses in North America" by Road & Track Magazine. Its unique setting and challenging road course draw club members and visitors from New England and beyond for racing, research, recreational, and business-related activities.

For more information, visit [palmermotorsportspark.com](http://palmermotorsportspark.com) or find them on Facebook.



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### SCAM | from page 14

of clicking on the link in the text message, go to your web browser, find the toll service's actual website, and log in to your account to verify if you have any outstanding toll payments.

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Do not call the phone number that texted you or any phone numbers included in the text message. Instead, find the toll service's legitimate phone number on their website.

Know the warning signs of a fake text. If you receive an unusual text message, there are several things to look for to help you identify if it's fake.

Read BBB's tips on spotting the red flags of fake text messages.

Don't click on links or download files that are unexpectedly texted to you. It may be hard to identify if a link sent in a text message is safe. Scammers can disguise a URL to appear legitimate when it isn't.

Block the number and delete the message. Do not engage with the scammer if you think you received a fake text message. Instead, block the phone number and delete the text message.

Refusing to engage and blocking the phone number can help prevent scammers from contacting you again.

If you receive a text message impersonating a road toll collection service, report it. You can file a report with BBB Scam Tracker at [www.bbb.org](http://www.bbb.org) to help warn others about this new scam.

In addition, file a report with the FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) at [ic3.gov](http://ic3.gov).