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SERVING PALMER, MONSON, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND & WALES

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COMMUNITY

Turley photo by Marcelo Gusmão

Keep Massachusetts Beautiful presentation will be on Aug. 6, at the Palmer Public Library.

Read, Reuse, Recycle with the Palmer Library

By Tessa Quinn
Correspondent

PALMER – If you're ever confused about what can actually be recycled and what can't be, you're not alone. That's why the Palmer Public Library is bringing in Keep Massachusetts Beautiful to put on a new event in hopes of making a difference one piece of trash at a time.

On Tuesday, Aug. 6, a speaker will be inside the library's Community Room for a trash and recycling presentation. The representative from Keep Massachusetts Beautiful will be discussing what kind of products can be recycled and what needs to be thrown out.

Keep Massachusetts Beautiful is a nonprofit group working to keep trash out of the bay state's landscapes. The group focuses on

litter prevention and cleanup, waste reduction, recycling, and community education.

They work to limit reliance on single use plastics and other unsustainable products while helping repair recycling and reuse programs. By improving these kinds of programs, Keep Massachusetts Beautiful hopes to limit the amount of trash that ends up as litter.

According to Amy Golenski, the library's Adult Services Librarian, the event will also go into the costs and complexities of managing trash disposal and recycling. She says the organization will go into Palmer's recycling and garbage systems but also "what happens to trash here in Massachusetts."

Complexities include plastic

RECYCLE | page 5

COMMUNITY

ZBA continues discussion on Boston Road

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

MONSON – Last week, the Zoning Board of Appeals had a brief meeting where they continued the discussion of the property on Boston Road.

Board Member Ron Fussell started the July 25 meeting with a reading of the board's power and purpose for the sake of the public record.

"The power and purpose of the Zoning Board of Appeals is to hold public hearings on dimensional and density variances, Special permits as required by the Monson zoning bylaws, and to hear appeals of the decisions of the building commissioner, zoning enforcement officer, or any other administrative officer," Fussell said.

The meeting then turned to the continued discussion over the property on Boston Road, which had been continued from the previ-

ous meeting and several meetings before. The property owner had been issued violations by the Conservation Commission, and had reported improvements to the board at the previous meeting.

"Last month we had a beleaguered discussion about the ongoing, slow process of meeting Conservation's comments," Fussell said.

Penny Gustafson from Zoning Enforcement said that she received an email from Conservation

Agent Justin Enright that said there was no new information about the property, and their hearing was continued to the Conservation Commission's August 7 meeting.

"Since Conservation is continuing, there's nothing further for us to add to the very long discussion we had last time about nothing progressing to the pace that was necessary to close this matter," Fussell said.

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Brimfield Olde Home Day



Submitted photos

Kailis Spence, Pearle Besset and Camille Sheldon enjoyed ice cream and checking out the vendor, "The Bear Cove." Please see more photos on page 15.**COMMUNITY**

Agriculture Commission to hold Farmer's Market



Stock Photo

Farmer's Market will be held on Sept. 14 at Memorial Hall in Monson.By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

MONSON – The Agriculture Commission approached the Select Board to ask about holding a Farmer's Market at Memorial Hall in the fall.

Commission Chair Robert Skalbite, and members Ben Murphy and Ray Beaudoin opened their meeting at the July 23 Select Board meeting to announce a Farmer's Market event to be held on Sept. 14 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The commission had approached the board to request that the fee to use Memorial Hall be waived, as it had no budget to put on the event.

"Once we get the application we can let it go through, waiving the fee," said Select Board Member Pat Oney.

Murphy said that this will be

the first farmer's market put on by the commission.

"I was actually on the original AgCom, like 13 years ago," Murphy said. "What I'm thinking is to teach people what this is all about with farming. Like, if you have two chickens are you classified as a farmer? Not necessarily; so, how do we get together as a committee where we can answer questions for them?"

Skalbite said that the event is being planned primarily indoors at Memorial Hall, though there will be some options for vendors that need to be outdoors to set up on the property. Select Board Chair John Morrell urged the commission to make sure that the attendees don't interfere with the Soldiers' Monument.

"That's why we're putting most everything inside," Skalbite said. "We talked about it in our meeting, to make sure everyone's far away from that."

Skalbite said that the commission is still looking for vendors to participate in the market, and that

MARKET | page 5

MONSON

Select Board declares Patty Emerson Day in honor of retiring dispatcher

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

MONSON – At the July 23 Select Board meeting, the town recognized a retiring dispatcher for her contributions, as well as approving a liquor license transfer.

Prior to opening the floor for Public Comments, Select Board

Chair John Morrell brought up a text he received from Town Administrator Jennifer Wolowicz about a question regarding changing the comment session at the last meeting.

"Mystery solved," the text read, "at our April 23 meeting, the topic 'code of conduct, boards and committees' policy was on the agenda. I misunderstood and

thought the Select Board wanted to have the Public Comment section mirror the MIIA language."

Wolowicz said that this was the reason for the change in the agenda, and apologized. Morrell then brought up a comment at the previous meeting by Roxanne Gunther about opening up a door to the hallway to increase the capacity of the meeting room.

"That had been looked at a couple of weeks before," Morrell said. "The full board looked at that and investigated, and that's not an option, we found."

Morrell then opened the floor for public comments, which included comments from Patricia Emerson, who recently retired after 44 years of service to the town.

DAY | page 5

SUMMER SIZZLER

WB&CA and Beyond hosts backyard cookout for summer event

THREE RIVERS – The Ware Business & Civic Association and Beyond held its annual summer event at AMVETS Post 74 last Wednesday evening.

The Summer Sizzler featured a backyard cookout complete with hamburgers, salads and lawn games of horseshoes and cornhole.

The Ware Business & Civic Association and Beyond membership consists of businesses and organizations from Ware, Palmer, Belchertown, Hardwick, Warren and West Brookfield. Its monthly meetings are open to any business or organization



Turley Photos by Paula Quimette

Gabe DeRosa of the Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation threw a horseshoe during the Ware Business & Civic Association and Beyond's Summer Sizzler event held at AMVETS Post 74 in Three Rivers last Wednesday.

WB&CA | page 16



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Pet of the Week



PARIS

This is Paris, who lives with Maryann Carter-Laventure in Palmer. 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 journalregister@turley.com.



Submitted Photo

Student Ambassador-Mini Medical School candidates from the left to right Back row: Jack Lucarelle (Minnechaug HS), Aidan Dzierwinski (Minnechaug HS), Lucia Hellyar (Belchertown HS), Ena Amoakohene (Ludlow HS), George Wheeler (Belchertown HS) Left to right, front row: Michele LaPrade, Volunteer Coordinator, Jamie Bellerose (East Longmeadow HS), Kami Wlodyka (Belchertown HS), Chloe DaCosta (Belchertown HS), Abigail Deren (Belchertown HS).

Students participate in ambassador program at Baystate Wing Hospital

PALMER— In an effort to provide local high school students the opportunity to explore healthcare fields to help them determine a career path, Baystate Wing Hospital launched its first-ever student ambassador, mini medical school program. The program is an intensive two-week mini-medical school where students learn just some of the many different roles. Nine local students spent two weeks in July at BWH rotating through six different departments, attending educational sessions that were both hands-on and observation, and receiving some training like CPR, How to Stop the Bleed, and hand hygiene. Each day they experienced something new.

"I heard about the Student Ambassador Mini Medical School program during morning announcements at school and decided to put in an application to attend," said George Wheeler from Belchertown High School. "I'm interested in a career in healthcare and thought this would allow me to explore different fields of medicine. Every day was a great experience. During the two weeks at Baystate Wing, I rounded in so many different departments and enjoyed learning from everyone. I found it interesting to learn about all aspects of healthcare, from clinical to non-clinical members of the team, especially liked hearing from the finance department and

the quality team; together everyone cared that all patients had a good experience. What I gained from attending Mini Medical School is that I have an interest in clinical rehab, particularly occupational health, and hope to pursue that in college after I graduate next year."

At the end of the two weeks, a graduation ceremony was held where each student had to give a 3-4 minute slide presentation about their experience and journey through the program to their family and BWH team members. As they shared the highlights of their hospital experience and journey, they also shared if they were about to determine or reaffirm a career path decision or if they wanted to delve into a particular area further. The students also receive a Certificate of Completion for doing the program.

"The Student Ambassador Program has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my career. Not having had this kind of opportunity when I was in school brings me immense joy to be able to provide the first step in these students' career path," said Michele LaPrade, volunteer coordinator for the hospital.

The program, also offered at other Baystate Health Hospitals, is designed to offer selected high school students, 16 and older, who have a keen interest in pursuing careers in healthcare, the unique

opportunity to explore some of the many different healthcare roles and experience in the hospital setting.

"Our goal is to help them either make a decision as to what medical career they wish to pursue or guide them in taking a deeper look into a particular field before they make the decision on what college to attend that fits their healthcare career choice," note LaPrade.

"The launch of the Student Ambassador Program, Mini Medical School at Baystate Wing Hospital marks a significant step towards nurturing the healthcare leaders of tomorrow," said Karli Barrett, chief nursing officer/chief administrative officer for Baystate Wing Hospital. "As the program progresses, it promises to not only enrich the educational journey of each student but also strengthen the bond between our hospital and the communities we serve."

Baystate Wing Hospital plans to continue offering the Student Ambassador Program annually for two weeks each summer. The hospital will reach out to local schools in the coming year with details and applications for interested students. For more information about the Student Ambassador Program - Mini Medical School program or volunteer opportunities at Baystate Wing Hospital contact Michele LaPrade at 413-370-5295 or michele.laprade@baystatehealth.org.

Sales Tax holiday approved

BOSTON— The Massachusetts Legislature approved Aug. 10 and Aug. 11 as a sales tax holiday weekend for Massachusetts. On those days, the Massachusetts sales tax of 6.25% will be suspended for most items that retail for less than \$2,500.

The holiday welcomes Massachusetts residents to visit retailers and small businesses around the state. A spike in consumer activity routinely boosts indirect tax revenues. According to the Department of Revenue, during the 2023 sales tax holiday, indirect tax revenues due to increased economic activity were approximately \$3.54 million.

"I am glad to see the sales tax holiday be approved in the legislature today, giving our residents a great chance to get outside and embrace their local businesses and community at a little bit of a discount," said Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield). "This annual holiday gives a boost to our small business owners and consumers, and I am proud to support this measure annually."

Mobile Blood Donation Team is coming to Palmer

PALMER— The community is invited to join the Baystate Health blood drive held on Wednesday, Aug. 7, at Baystate Wing Hospital, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Additionally, Blood Drives will be held every other month on Wednesdays at Baystate Wing on Oct. 9, and Dec. 11.

When people donate blood this summer at Baystate Health, they'll not only help save lives but will also receive a free ticket to the Big E, while supplies last.

"The need for blood donations never takes a break. When you donate blood to Baystate Health, your precious gift remains in our local communities," said Nicole VanZandt, MLT III, supervisor, BRL Blood Donor Services. "Please help us to ensure a safe and adequate blood supply is available by donating blood with the Baystate Health Blood Donor Program."

"There is no substitute for human blood," said VanZandt. "Every donation is critical, and you can make a lifesaving difference. Blood donations take approximately one hour to complete, including the interview, donation, and refreshments. To donate blood, you must be at least 17 years old; weigh at least 110 pounds have a photo ID; be in good health (no colds, or sore throat); and have not donated blood within the past eight weeks."

Blood drives will be held at Baystate Wing Hospital, 40 Wright Street, in Snow Conference Room C. In appreciation, all eligible donors can choose from a \$10 Gift card or a ticket to the Big E. For more information or to book an appointment to donate blood please call the Blood Donor Center at 413-794-4600. Please be sure to note the Baystate Health hospital location where people would like to make their donation when you make your appointment.

Ice Cream Social at the Keep Homestead Museum

Plan to visit to the Keep Homestead Museum on August 4 from 1 – 3:30 p.m. for the Ice Cream Social. Come and enjoy making a sundae with Rondeau's ice cream and various toppings.

While enjoying your sundae creation, enjoy the musical entertainment featuring FROZENRED – Rose Higgins, Fred Higgins, Finlay Higgins (guitar) and Camille Collins Lovell (fiddle). They will be playing traditional folk music.

The public is welcome to tour the museum to view new exhibits, this is a free event though donations are welcome.

Fair program books now available

WARE— The Ware Grange Fair program books are here. Individuals can plan an exhibit by checking out the categories of exhibits in the fair program book. Books are available online at waregrange.org or to receive a book by mail call 413-284-1135 or email waregrange@comcast.net. Exhibitors may enter in a variety of categories including vegetables, fruits, eggs, cut flowers, baked goods, fancywork, arts and crafts, and photography. Plan your exhibits now for the fair which takes place in late August. See the Ware Grange website for schedule and details.

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Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.
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Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

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.

Fair program books now available

WARE—The Ware Grange Fair program books are here. Individuals can plan an exhibit by checking out the categories of exhibits in the fair program book. Books are available online at waregrange.org or to receive a book by mail call 413-284-1135 or email waregrange@comcast.net. Exhibitors may enter in a variety of categories including vegetables, fruits, eggs, cut flowers, baked goods, fancywork, arts and crafts, and photography. Plan your exhibits now for the fair which takes place in late August. See the Ware Grange website for schedule and details.

ZBA | from page 1

Fussell said that, without the petitioner present and while the ZBA waits for Conservation's next meeting, the discussion between the petitioner and ZBA would be automatically continued.

"I don't believe there's any problem with that being the case," Fussell said. "We would like to see this happen, so we're just going to wait for it to happen."

Fussell said that he spoke with Conservation and said that they had not received new information or had any representative on the issue attend their meeting.

The board then went over minutes from the previous meeting. Fussell made a correction, noting that Robert D'Aquila was logged as present when he was absent, and also flagged a motion that was made and not seconded.

"You made a motion on the continuance," Fussell said. "It wasn't seconded. Jesse was wondering about granting the change of use contingent on Conservation and it wasn't seconded. We went ahead and just requested a continuance, and then voted and granted that."

The minutes were amended, and the board voted to accept them. There was a discussion about a bylaw change that the board was waiting to hear from the Attorney General about.

"That would be regarding the bylaw change that would allow someone to be on the Zoning Board," Fussell said. "Mr. Wiggins just resigned because according to the bylaws as they read prior to the Town Meeting changing it, you couldn't be on the Zoning Board and be an elected official."

Fussell said that the town has voted to change this bylaw, and the Attorney General has 90 days to approve the change.

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.

Quaboag Hills Chamber announces 2024 golf fundraiser

PALMER — The Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce, the nonprofit organization that promotes business and development within surrounding communities of Hampden, Hampshire, and Worcester counties, has announced the return of its annual Golf Outing.

This year the event will take place at the renovated Hardwick Crossing Country Club in the village of Gilbertville on Thursday, Oct. 3 and is presented by J. Stolar Insurance Agency and Monson Savings.

"The annual golf event was a highlight of our calendar pre-COVID and a significant fundraiser for the Chamber", stated James Przypek, Chief Executive Officer for the Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce, in a press release. "This year will mark the return of the golf outing for the first time since 2019. We have tailored the event, so it is a fun and welcoming day for participants at every level, between a nine hole/half day scramble format, and a catered Awards Lunch at the region's most outstanding and distinguished golf and event venues."

Beginning in 2022, Hardwick Crossing Country Club has experienced a significant renaissance following the purchase of the former Dunroamin Country Club by Kenneth Uraciuc, who

owns and operates Stone & Lime Inc, a prominent historic restoration company. Renovations and additions to the property include an overhaul of the former clubhouse, improvements to the course layout and greens, and the construction of a full-service restaurant and modern banquet room.

Proceeds from the golf fundraiser will benefit the Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce and its on-going mission to assist its more than two-hundred member businesses succeed and grow with programs and initiatives throughout the year.

Interested participants and sponsors can visit QHMA.com for full details.

About the Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce

Established in 1978 and headquartered in Palmer, the Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce's purpose is to advance economic growth, interests and tourism for our members through policies, programs and development in the Quaboag Hills region, including the 15 towns of Belchertown, Brimfield, Brookfield, East Brookfield, Hardwick, Holland, Monson, New Braintree, North Brookfield, Palmer, Spencer, Wales, Ware, Warren and West Brookfield.

WestMass ElderCare holds online auction to celebrate 50 years

HOLYOKE— WestMass ElderCare is thrilled to announce its fabulous 50th online auction, an event commemorating five decades of dedicated service to older adults and individuals with disabilities. This milestone celebration not only highlights WMEC's unwavering commitment to enhancing the quality of life for those in need but also showcases the generous support of the communities we proudly serve.

Since its inception in 1974, West-Mass ElderCare has been a pillar of strength and support for the older adults and individuals with disabilities across Western MA. Our comprehensive services, which include in-home care, nutrition programs, caregiver support, and more, have touched countless lives, fostering independence and dignity for our consumers.

"The impact of WestMass ElderCare over the past 50 years has been profound," said Roseann Martoccia, executive director of WMEC. "Our programs have provided vital assistance to individuals, allowing them to maintain their independence and live with dignity. This auction is a testament to the strong bonds we've formed within our community and the unwavering support we've received."

The fabulous 50th online auction promises to be a remarkable event, featuring an array of exciting items and ex-

periences generously donated by local businesses and supporters. From dining gift cards and gift baskets to Thunderbirds, Red Sox and Bruins tickets, there will be something for everyone to bid on and enjoy. The auction will run from Aug. 8 to Aug. 30, and all proceeds will directly benefit WMEC's programs and services.

The success of this event is made possible through the extraordinary generosity of the community partners and sponsors. Their continued support enables WMEC to expand its reach and impact, ensuring that we can meet the growing needs of our clients.

"We are deeply grateful for the incredible support we receive from our community," added Martoccia. "It is this collective effort that allows us to continue our mission and celebrate this milestone. We invite everyone to join us in this exciting auction and help us make a difference in the lives of those we serve."

For more information about the fabulous 50th online auction and to preview the items up for bid, please visit the website at www.wmeldercare.org/online-auction.



Cruise for Critters is returning to Westview Farms Creamery

Annual Car Show Returns with a Heartfelt Mission and Exciting Fall Festivities

MONSON— The engines are revving, the excitement is palpable, and the countdown has begun for the much-anticipated Cruise for Critters to Westview Farms Creamery on Saturday, Sept. 21. Now in its 12th year, this beloved car show, proudly presented by Al Widlan, owner of Service Connection, is set to once again make a meaningful impact on the lives of pets in need at Second Chance Animal Services.

Widlan has championed this remarkable event for over a decade, rallying car enthusiasts and compassionate hearts alike to come together for a worthy cause. As the wheels of time turn, Cruise for Critters continues to shine a light of hope for furry companions across Massachusetts.

This year's Cruise for Critters promises an array of fall-themed activities for attendees of all ages. A captivating vendor fair will offer unique items of all kinds, and the much-loved Halloween Barktacular kids' games will be back, thanks to dedicated Second Chance volunteers who are gearing up to provide an unforgettable experience for children and families alike.

Lindsay Doray, Chief Development Officer of Second Chance, extends her heartfelt gratitude to Al Widlan and Westview Farms Creamery for

their unwavering commitment to the welfare of pets. 2024 has been a challenging year for Second Chance, and funds raised through this event directly contribute to vital programs that make a real difference for pets in the community.

The festivities are set to kick off at 10 a.m. and continue until 3 p.m., featuring great food and ice cream and an assortment of fall attractions that Westview Farms Creamery is renowned for. From pumpkin picking to navigating through a corn maze, a delightful autumn adventure awaits. Live music by the Barberic Band will provide the perfect soundtrack for the day, which will also include raffle and more.

The event is sponsored in part by Ted & Barbara Hebert of Teddy Bear Pools & Spas and by Joe Campisi, a longtime friend of Second Chance. Organizers extend a warm invitation to local businesses and vendors, calling upon them to unite in support of pets in need. Information on sponsorship opportunities, item donations, and becoming a vendor can be found at secondchanceanimals.org/events/cruise.

The event will welcome spectators free of charge. Car enthusiasts are encouraged to take part in the show by contributing a \$20 entry fee per vehicle, with every dollar earmarked for the betterment of pets' lives. A rain date has been set for Saturday, Sept. 28, 2024. Mark your calendars and join us for a day of fun and support for a great cause.

Dakin celebrates with lower adoption fees for cats

SPRINGFIELD— In 2019, the Honorable Domenic J. Sarno, Mayor of Springfield, proclaimed Aug. 1 "Dakin Day" in Springfield to honor the organization's 50 years of work in

the animal welfare industry, as well as the community. The event also coincided with the 10th anniversary of Dakin opening its Union Street location.

DAKIN | page 15

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JOB FAIR – August 7th Join the Green Gold Team!

Green Gold Group will be hosting a Job Fair on Tuesday, August 7th from 5:00-8:00pm at St. Stanislaus Polish Club, 2114 Main St, Three Rivers, MA 01080

Cannabis Dispensary, Green Gold Group is coming to Palmer! We are looking for hardworking, dedicated team members to staff our new retail store. Available positions are General Manager, Sales Floor Manager, Inventory Manager, Check-in/Security, and Sales Team members. Full-time and part-time work available. All positions require availability for day, night, weekend and holiday shifts. All positions subject to background/CORI check. Must be 21 years of age to apply.

Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to enter the cannabis industry by joining the Green Gold team!

Palmer Police National Night Out

August 6th, 2024 6pm-8pm
at Palmer Police's parking lot
4419 Main St., Palmer, MA

What to expect:

- Free Food (Hot Dogs, Pop Corn, Candy, etc.)
- Palmer Fire Department
- Three Rivers Fire Department
- Bondsville Fire Department
- Palmer Ambulance Service
- Public Safety Officials and Display
- Community Programs and Partners
- Family fun for all!



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Tee Off for women and girls

BELCHERTOWN— Join in for the 30th Annual Zonta Golf Tournament and help create a brighter future for women and girls in the community.

On Saturday, Sept. 7, at Cold Spring Country Club, tee off will be at 8:30 a.m. for a day of fun, friendly competition, and making

a difference.

Whether a seasoned golfer or just looking for a fun day out, everyone is welcome. For \$120, individuals will enjoy a round of golf, a delicious box lunch, and the chance to win amazing prizes.

Support directly funds scholarships and grants that empow-

er women and girls to overcome challenges and achieve their full potential.

Sign up today at zontaqv.org/golf or contact Mary Knight at 413-323-4806. We also welcome sponsorships from local businesses. Be a champion for women and girls. Join in on the green.

DAY | from page 1

“We worked together a long time,” Morrell said to Emerson, “you never choked or anything. You did everything just right; in emergencies, when we were talking with each other, you would let me know things, you didn’t freeze up or anything. You were an excellent dispatcher at the police department, and we really appreciate your service.”

Select Board Clerk Pat Oney read a proclamation from the town, which expressed appreciation for Emerson’s time from starting as an EMT firefighter and ending in the dispatch center. The proclamation recognized Emerson for living her entire life in town and going through the school system with her sisters, Deborah and Rebecca.

“You began your career in town in 1980, assisting our residents and those in neighboring towns by putting it all on the line to deliver urgent life-saving care in times of great need and becoming the light of hope in someone’s toughest moments to let them know it’s going to be okay,” Oney read. “You never failed to answer the call to help others, and so many people are still here today because of you. Your dedication is immensely appreciated.”

The proclamation named July 23, 2024, as Patty Emerson Day and the board congratulated Emerson on her retirement.

“Since I decided that I was going to retire, it’s been a roller coaster of a ride,” Emerson said. “The culmination was July 4 when I drove the Fire Chief’s car in the SummerFest Parade, and I had the most fun ever. I can honestly say that I’ve driven every single Fire Chief’s car since 1980.”

Emerson said she received citations from the Senate and the House of Representatives, and thanked her family for having her back.

“My mom and dad taught us to just do the job,” Emerson said. “Just do what you have to do and that’s it.”

Emerson thanked the Fire Chiefs, the Police Chiefs, and the town. Cemetery Commission Member David Beaudoin stepped forward to inform the board that the work on the arch at the cemetery is complete.

“Now we’re going to start

on the crypt,” Beaudoin said, and Morrell thanked him for following through on the repairs.

Beaudoin was followed by Valerie Bogaz-Beaudoin, who spoke on behalf of Monson SummerFest.

“I want to start off by thanking the board for allowing us to go back up on Main Street,” Bogaz-Beaudoin said. “I’d like to take a quick thank you to the public for showing up, because you made it a success.”

Bogaz-Beaudoin described the help of numerous town departments, community members, and businesses to put on two events for the Fourth of July and the fireworks, but said that she wanted to highlight two town employees that “really stepped up to the plate.”

Bogaz-Beaudoin said she called several times to verify that a roll-off dumpster would be provided by Republic Services, only for the company to inform her at 3:30 p.m. that it would not arrive until July 5 due to a manpower shortage.

“Both Justin (Larivee) and Ben (Murphy) stepped up big time,” Bogaz-Beaudoin said. “They allowed us to use the trash dumpsters for the town.”

Morrell added that this was “nothing new for those two,” and thanked them and the SummerFest Committee for its work.

Elias and April Acuna approached the board to introduce themselves and their business, CZP’s, on Main Street across from the Tavern.

“We just recently opened up a shop in Monson,” Acuna said, “we’re doing frozen treats, we make everything in the shop. We have fruit-based popsicles and we also make ice cream-based treats.”

Acuna said he and his wife were excited to be in town, and Wolowicz noted that the shop has been selling out its stock, according to Facebook posts.

“We have shop hours now and we also do events,” Acuna said, “and we do delivery in town with minimum orders on certain days.”

Roxanne Gunther spoke up to criticize the public comment policy printed on the agenda, and added that the town of Southborough has public comments twice during their meetings.

“I figure if they’re not afraid to have people speak, we really shouldn’t be afraid of it either,” Gunther said.

Gunther was followed by Town Clerk Mary Watson, to issue a public reminder that when appointed by the Select Board, new appointees need to come to the Town Clerk’s office to be sworn into their duties prior to taking action at meetings.

Liquor License
The first order of business during the meeting was a liquor license transfer from Monson Markets, Inc., doing business as Adams Discount Liquors, to Daniel DeSantis as the manager of Dan Man, LLC. Tyler Hensler, an attorney with Upton Connell & Devlin in Boston, represented DeSantis.

“Nothing at the store will change as a result of this transfer,” Hensler said. “This is an upper-tier ownership change only. Someone who buys beer there tonight versus three months after this transfer takes place will notice no difference.”

Hensler added that all employees will be invited to stay on, and that DeSantis was granted a similar transfer at a location in Adams last week.

“Dan Man, LLC is signing what’s known as – a common thing in the industry – a beverage operations lease,” Hensler explained, “to just rent the space, almost like a sublease, from the Monson Markets, Inc. entity.”

DeSantis assured the board that there are no plans to change the location beyond the owning company.

“It’s still a part of the supermarket, nothing is changing. The shelving is even staying in place,” DeSantis said. “It’s just a management change.”

DeSantis said that though he hasn’t previously held any liquor licenses, he has a lot of experience in the grocery industry.

“I’ve been in retail my whole entire life, since 1981,” DeSantis said. “I sold all my other businesses and to kind of slow down and be in a nicer, quiet area. I’ve been running all over the world with my other businesses and it’s time to stay at home and settle down.”

The board unanimously voted to grant the transfer, and Oney said she appreciated DeSantis working to keep the employees on.

Ware Grange upcoming workshops

WARE— The Ware Grange has upcoming workshops.

Kids’ Corner workshop: The next Kids’ Corner at Ware Grange will be Fun at the Fair, and will take place on Saturday, Aug. 10 at 9:30 a.m. at the Grange Hall at 297 Belchertown Road. Kids’ Corner workshops are led by local preschool teacher, Jen McNally. The Grange Fair is coming up soon.

At this fun and educational workshop children can participate in a variety of activities to help them prepare entries for the Fair. Families will learn about the upcoming fair and how they can participate. Visit us on Facebook or at waregrange.org for more information. Workshop
Ware Grange’s next gardening workshop, Houseplants, will be held on

Aug. 9 at 7 p.m. at the Grange Hall. The presenter will be Allison Rosendale. Learn about ways to grow healthy houseplants that will thrive throughout the year. There will also be a houseplant swap. Bring a plant to share and take home a new plant. Visit us on Facebook or at waregrange.org for more information.

MARKET | from page 1

it will be reviewing and finalizing the applicants in early August. He said there is an application available online.

“If anyone in town is or knows a musician, we’re looking to potentially have live music at the event,” Skalbite added.

Murphy said that they hoped to get lots of people selling honey, flowers, seasonal items like pumpkins, and even things like meat.

“And we invite people from other towns to this,” Murphy added.

The commission also said that information is available at the Monson Free Library.

The board agreed to waive the fee for the use of Memorial Hall for the Farmer’s Market, and said that the commission would not need to appear before them and could just submit the application.

“Thank you very much,” Oney

said, “we appreciate what you’re doing.”

“Hopefully it’s a success,” Murphy said.

The Farmer’s Market is scheduled to be held at Memorial Hall on Saturday, Sept. 14, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

RECYCLE | from page 1

bags not being recyclable, cardboard boxes need to be flattened, and food containers need to be emptied before they can be put in bins.

The speaker will go over all the do’s and don’ts at the event next month.

Golenski says the speaker will “encourage items that can be recycled to be, to help alleviate the trash’s impact, help people improve recycling habits, and help Massachusetts meet its solid waste reduction goals.”

According to the state’s website, in 2018 Massachusetts had 5.7 million tons of disposal. The goal is to reduce that number statewide to four million tons by 2030, and cut it by 90% to 570,000 tons by 2050.

A large part of achieving that goal is encouraging residents to reduce, reuse, and recycle correctly, which is where the library’s pro-

gram is hoping to make a difference.

During the presentation, members of Keep Massachusetts Beautiful will be available to answer any questions attendees have about recycling or garbage disposal.

The speaker will walk residents through what kind of products can go into recycling bins in hopes to limit one of the major challenges facing recycling programs, contamination.

Contamination occurs when non-recyclable items are put into recycling bins. Next month’s talk hopes to clear up any confusion to make a sustainable lifestyle achievable.

Attendees can also learn about ways to reduce the amount of trash they generate on a day-to-day basis, while staying up-to-date on the latest changes to recycling procedures.

Organizers say many people believe recycling is not worth it as all the items end up in the trash anyway. This event hopes to change their minds.

The event sticks with the library’s summer reading theme “Read, Renew, Repeat,” which Golenski says is geared towards environmental preservation.

She says the theme inspired the upcoming talk as she herself has struggled with deciphering what waste products are eligible to be recycled.

“A lot of people are really interested in learning more,” Golenski said.

The Talking Trash and Recycling event is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, Aug. 6, starting at 6:30 p.m. in the library’s Community Room. The program is free and no registration is required to attend.

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Business

Palmer Smiles welcomes accomplished new dentist into the community

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

PALMER – With the retirement of longtime dentist Dr. Vigneaux, Palmer Smiles has been taken over by an accomplished young dentist who is eager to help the community take care of their dental hygiene.

Dr. Divya Mudumba is an accomplished General Dentist, with an expertise in pediatric dentistry. She got her Doctorate in Dental Medicine from the Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine in Boston University in September of 2020, and had previously gotten her Masters in Dental Surgery from the Army College of Dental Sciences in Secunderabad, India.

“I completed my residency in pediatric dentistry, and I practiced in India for about two years as a pediatric dentist,” Mudumba said.

As an international dentist, Mudumba was required to study at an American dental school for at least two years to get a license to practice general dentistry, which she completed at GSDM. After that, she became an Associate Dentist in Springfield and Chicopee with the New England Family Dentistry.

“I did that for about two years,” Mudumba said. “During the same time, I started looking for a practice to take over.”

Before becoming the owner of Palmer Smiles, Mudumba has been the practice owner and dentist at SmileWorks Family Dentistry in Pittsfield since 2022.

“The need of having a good dentist in the area is huge,” Mudumba said. “Seeing the response from my patients and everybody in the Berkshires, I wanted to expand.”

Mudumba was introduced to Dr. William Vigneaux through a mutual friend. Vigneaux expressed a desire to retire, but Mudumba said he was having a hard time finding somebody to take over.

“His patients have been with him for a very long time and are really happy with what he does,” Mudumba said. “He was looking for someone who could take over to fill in his big shoes.”

Mudumba took over Vigneaux’s practice on Main Street about two months ago.

“Patients have been very receptive to the change, so that’s been good,” Mudumba said. “Considering this is not the first time I took over a practice, I was better prepared to blend in and not make huge changes with the practice.”

While her specialty is pediatric dentistry, said that she is “not ready to give up on general dentistry,” and that she has specialized training in invisalign, cosmetic dentistry, and sleep apnea.

“In the Berkshires, there were so many patients of ours that have been diagnosed with sleep apnea that were using CPAP, but were not compliant with it,” Mudumba said. “Sometimes it doesn’t fit into their



Dr. Divya Mudumba has taken over Palmer Smiles on Main Street after Dr. Vigneaux’s retirement.

schedule or their life. It’s difficult to travel with that; if you travel a lot, it’s a huge thing to bring around.

Mudumba talked about how important it is to have a dentist check for things like sleep apnea, because there are many signs in the mouth, teeth, and gums that could lead to a diagnosis that a general physician would not check for without the patient bringing it up.

“I’m just trying to find my niche, and trying to help people out,” Mudumba said.

Outside her career in dentistry, Mudumba is on the Board of the YWCA of Western Massachusetts, as well as the Board of the Massachusetts Dental Society and the board of the Academy of General Dentistry. She is involved in Smiles for Success, where she helps rehabilitate the dental health of women who have suffered domestic violence and sexual abuse.

“I am very passionate about helping people,” Mudumba said, “and I’m extremely passionate about educating people.”

Mudumba said that the general public’s comparative lack of knowledge on the subject of medicine and dentistry often sows distrust between patients and their doctors. She said that she would like her brand to be an environment of transparency.

“I would like to break that barrier and be there to

provide ethical, competent, compassionate dentistry,” Mudumba said.

Having practiced dentistry in both the United States and India, Mudumba was able to compare the slight differences between the two nations’ approach to the practice.

“Because of my background in India, I’ve had much more clinical exposure,” Mudumba said. “So many more opportunities to hone my skills, but at the same time, spending two years at BU has really been amazing for me to understand how dentistry is practiced over here. BU gave me an insight into practicing digital dentistry, which is amazing.”

This has allowed Mudumba to implement intraoral scanning for all her patients, in order to better educate them.

“The other difference between practicing in India versus here is dental insurance,” Mudumba said. “In India, there is no such thing. So along with practicing clinical dentistry, you also have to navigate that territory.”

Mudumba said that she makes sure to be upfront with her patients about any issues with insurance coverage.

“Sometimes you have to make hard decisions, because you would like to provide quality care,” Mudumba said, “but if the dental insurance isn’t going to cover it for some reason, you have to be open about it.”

Mudumba said that she and her husband feel strongly about empowering women, and that she hopes to give the opportunity for professional women to be a part owner of her practice. To help balance the responsibilities between her two locations, she partnered with her best friend from dentistry school, Dr. Ritika Bahri, as a full-time associate.

“I am very fortunate to have an amazing husband who supports all of my initiatives,” Mudumba said.

If you’d like to schedule an appointment with Dr. Mudumba at Palmer Smiles, you can visit her office at 2025 Main Street, or send an email to PalmerSmilesPC@gmail.com.



Divya Mudumba was recognized by 40 Under 50 for her accomplishments in her career.

Applications being accepted for St. Aloysius Catholic School

HARDWICK – St. Aloysius Catholic School in Gilbertville is presently accepting applications school-wide for the 2024/2025 school year.

There are just a few seats left in this very popular preschool/pre-kindergarten program. Jennifer McNally has been the preschool/pre-kindergarten teacher at St. Aloysius since the school opened in 2016 and has been an early childhood educator for over 20 years.

“My favorite part of teaching young learners is to see those ‘Ah Ha’ moments, where they get a concept that they might have been struggling with prior. They are also full of life all the time; to see things through a child’s eyes is heartwarming and awakening to the soul. Working at a Catholic school is wonderful, in that our faith is woven into our day. From morning prayer, grace before meals, to learning about the wonderful world God made and how we are best to love one another, it’s great to be able to reinforce what children are learning at home in regards to their faith!” McNally said. “I love being able to prepare my students for success in kindergarten and beyond. We learn primarily through play, with a focus on age appropriate early literacy and math skills.”

The school offers two-day, three-day and five-day per week options.

There are also select openings in kindergarten through grade eight classrooms.

“We have had an upsurge in inquiries for older students this year. I think some parents are looking for a different approach to their child’s education and if faith is important to them they want their children to be in that type of environment during the school day. We are a big family at St. Aloysius. We support each other and rally for one another. It’s a great environment to be part of and the education is top notch. Our graduates remain successful in their high schools and beyond,” said Enrollment Coordinator, Roberta McQuaid, in a press release.

Tuition at St. Aloysius is affordable, and all students, even our preschoolers, are eligible for a scholarship discount. Additional tuition assistance is often provided by the attendees parish and also from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Worcester.

Reach out to McQuaid by email to rmcquaid@staloyusiuscatholicsschool.com to schedule a tour before the new school year begins. All of the necessary enrollment paperwork is available online at www.staloyusius.com, under the “Join our Family” tab.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

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

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BRIMFIELD WINERY EVENTS: Aug. 3 - Changes in Latitude Concert-Countries top Jimmy Buffet tribute band. Gates open 12 Show start 2 p.m. Food Trucks on-site.

Aug.10- Cajun boil and N’orleans Entertainment. Cajun Dinner only \$35. Performance by the Catnip Junkies. Event starts at 2 p.m.

PATHFINDER 40TH CLASS REUNION The event will be at Pulaske Park, on Saturday, Sept. 28, from noon to 5 p.m.

60th REUNION PALMER HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1964 The event will be held at The Brimfield Winery on Saturday, Sept 14, from 1 to 5 p.m. Contact Carol at 413-283-9495 for more details.

ONGOING

FARMER’S MARKETS: The Brimfield Farmers Market at Hitchcock Academy is a fun place to find cool, unique products, plants and seasonal produce every Saturday while you meet your neighbors and support Hitchcock and local businesses. The market starts on April 13, and runs from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

WALES FARMER’S MARKET - Baked goods, honey, antiques, plants, tag sale and craft items, every Saturday at 9 a.m. -

til noon from May 25, 2024, until Labor Day weekend at the Wales Baptist Church pavilion on Route 19. There will be fresh vegetables when in season. Vendor spots are available.

INTERESTS

PIONEER VALLEY QUILTERS GUILD meets at the Elks Lodge #61 at 440 Tiffany St., Springfield. Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. and all are welcome. The mission of the guild is two-fold: to share the joy of quilting with others and to work for the betterment of the community. Monies raised (as in the biannual quilt show) support various workshops and speakers for the meetings, as well as allow the guild to buy materials that are then used to create donated items. The guild has donated quilts, baby bibs, cardiac pillows, and Christmas stockings for veterans to a variety of community agencies, including but not limited to the Springfield Rescue Mission and the Gray House.

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

KEEP HOMESTEAD MUSEUM: Located at 35 Ely Rd., Monson, nature trails are open daily until dusk for hiking, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. Trail maps can be found in the parking lot. The Phillips Sculpture Garden is open year-round (handouts in box on one of the signposts). For more information call 413-267-4137, email khm@keephomesteadmuseum.org or visit keephomesteadmuseum.org.

QUABOAG VALLEY QUILTERS GUILD: Members meet at 1 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays of the month in the Amvets post at 2150 Main St., Three Rivers. The Guild is a no-pressure group with varying degrees of accomplishments, from novice to Big E “Best In Show” winners. Dues are \$55 a year. For more information, contact Barbara Beaulieu at 267-4044 or Merry Mombourquette at 283-7577. Follow them on Facebook for more.

BINGO AT AMVETS POST 74 will be suspended for the summer starting Memorial Day weekend. Bingo is scheduled to resume the Monday following Labor Day. For more info contact the Post at 413-283-4518.

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

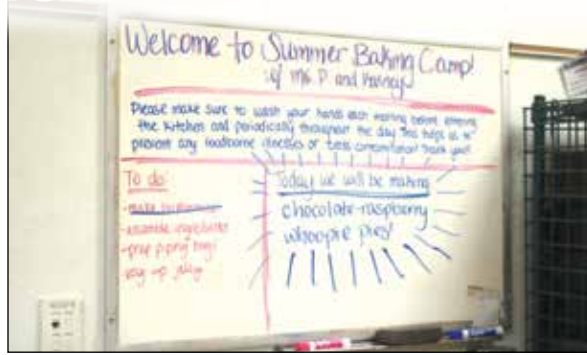
GAME NIGHT: 6-7:45 p.m. the second Tuesday of every month at Top Floor Learning (third floor of the Palmer Library at 1455 N. Main St.). Free and open to the public. Play available board and card games or bring your own. Must be 16 or older unless accompanied by an adult. No Registration Required – just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

QI GONG: 6 p.m., every Tuesday night at the library from 5:45 to 7 p.m. FREE, all levels welcome!

Another successful Pathfinder summer camp



A local student gives the thumbs-up sign as he and his colleagues build robots in Pathfinder's Robotics Department.



A sign for Pathfinder's Baking class announces that the participants will be making chocolate-raspberry whoopie pies.



After class, kids hung out in the Perso Restaurant, where they could play computer games and hang out with new friends.



Students jump to take a shot in the middle of a basketball game against the other participants.



Basketball games got competitive as the kids played against each other at the Pathfinder gym.



A Pathfinder instructor demonstrates the proper use of a welding tool for the summer enrichment program.



Kids fought over the pigskin on the field at Pathfinder Technical Vocational School.



Young thespians took a bow after putting on their Friday performance for their fellow participants.



A student adds a screw to the metal device he was working on, at a table with other students.



Pathfinder's Baking Department had an entire class dedicated to decorating cookies.



Enrichment Program participants took a break from kneading dough to smile at the camera.



Every week, students took to the stage in Pathfinder's cafeteria to perform for their fellow participants.



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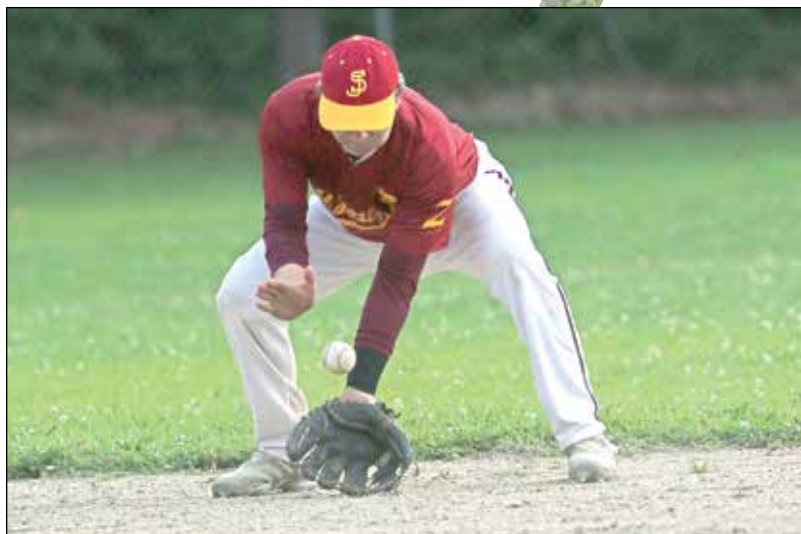
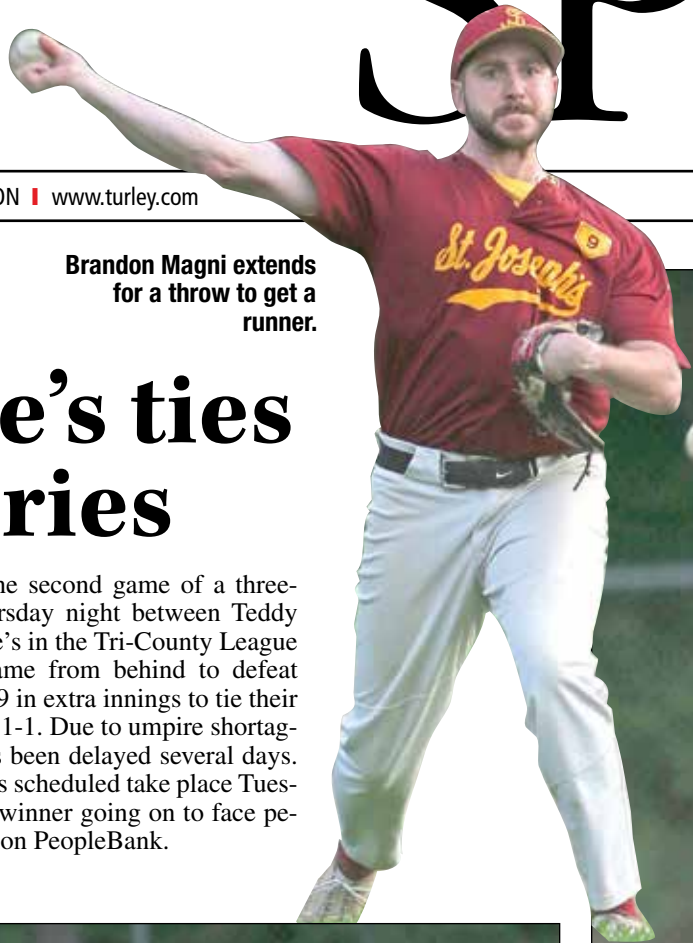
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BASEBALL

Brandon Magni extends for a throw to get a runner.

St. Joe's ties up series

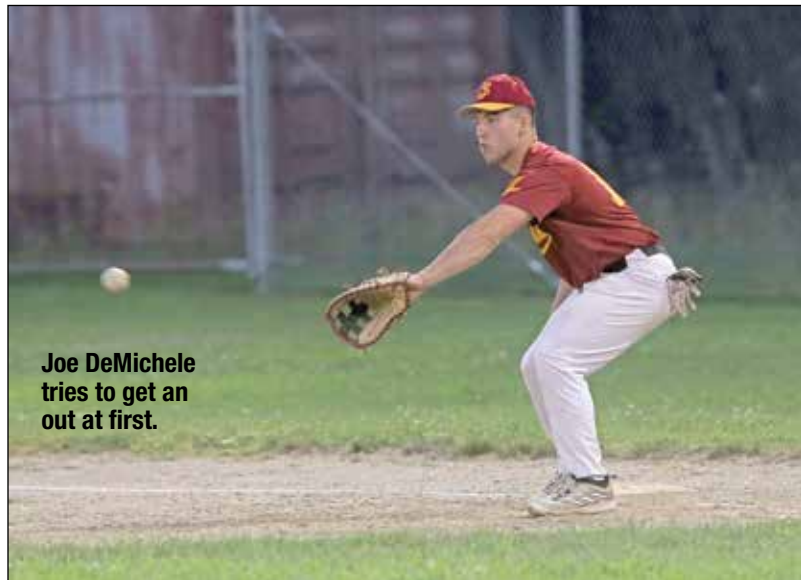
PALMER – In the second game of a three-game series last Thursday night between Teddy Bear Pools and St. Joe's in the Tri-County League playoffs, St. Joe's came from behind to defeat Teddy Bear Pools 10-9 in extra innings to tie their best-of-three series at 1-1. Due to umpire shortages, the third game has been delayed several days. The third matchup was scheduled take place Tuesday, July 30 with the winner going on to face perennial league champion PeopleBank.



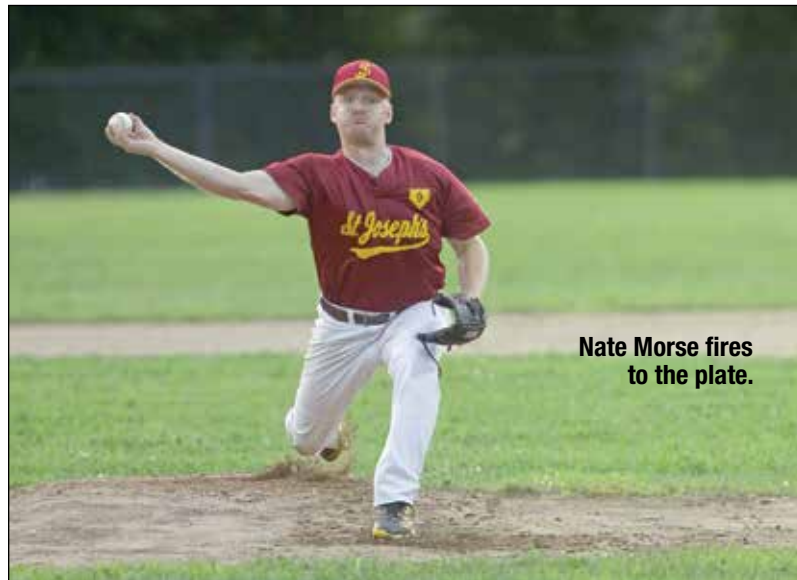
Greg Vouros gets down to field a grounder.



Devin Slattery, of Ware, slings a throw to first.



Joe DeMichele tries to get an out at first.



Nate Morse fires to the plate.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

SOCCER

Kwame Adu-Gyamfi tries to keep the ball from going over the sideline.

Pioneers defeated in second round of playoffs

LUDLOW – After a phenomenal season, the Western Mass. Pioneers were defeated for just the third time this season. The Pioneers lost 2-1 against Lionsbridge FC on the road. The Pioneers opened up the playoffs with a 3-1 win against FC Motown. The Pioneers season ends at 13-3-1.

Leonel Vergara makes a throw-in.



Lawrence Goddard sends a shot on goal.



Aiden Kelly goes for a long pass.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

SOCCER



Gianna Perry gets play turned around for the Panthers.



Loretta Petraszewicz heads up the field.

Palmer girls head for summer playoffs

WILBRAHAM – Last Wednesday night, Palmer girls summer soccer finished off the regular season with a 2-0 win over Wilbraham B. Palmer would finish the summer campaign with a 5-3-3 record and made the B Division playoffs with the No. 5 seed. Palmer was scheduled to face Ludlow B on Tuesday night.



Evelynn Ladue watches a pass head for the middle.



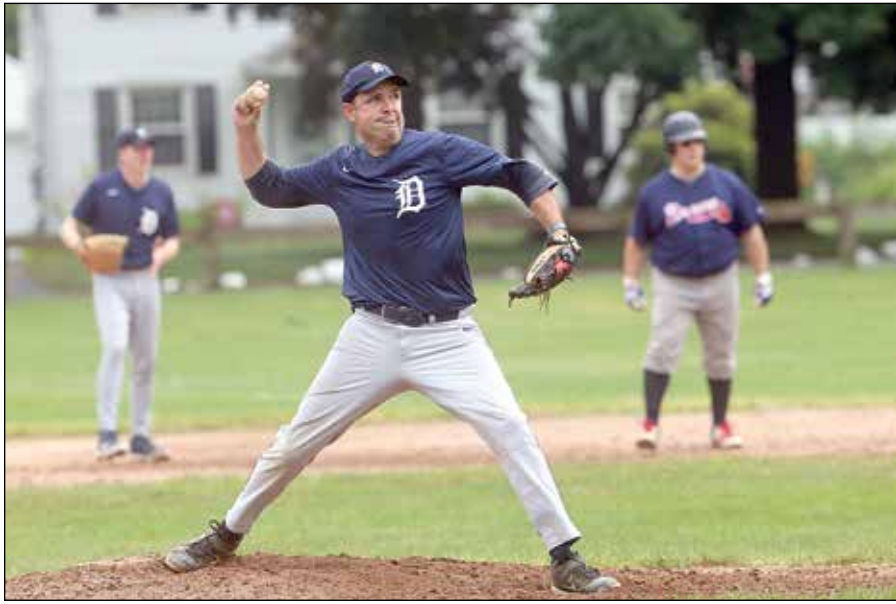
Anna King tries to settle a pass.



Adelynn Allard looks to clear the ball.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

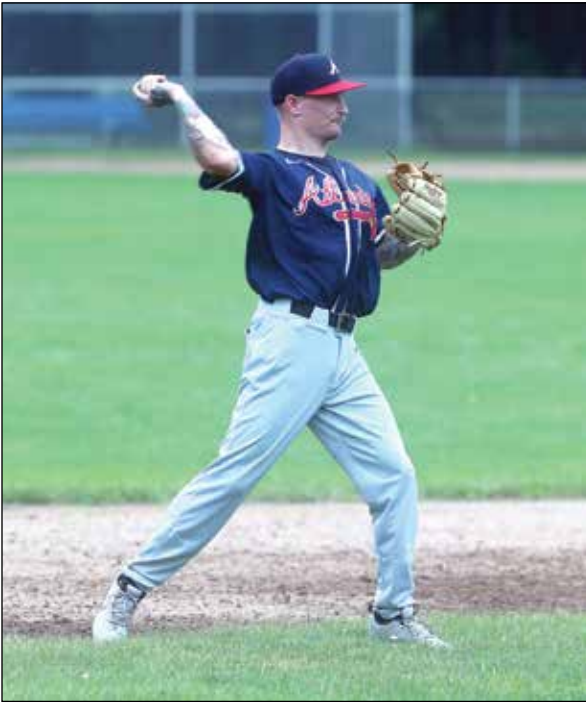
Quabbin regular season nearing end



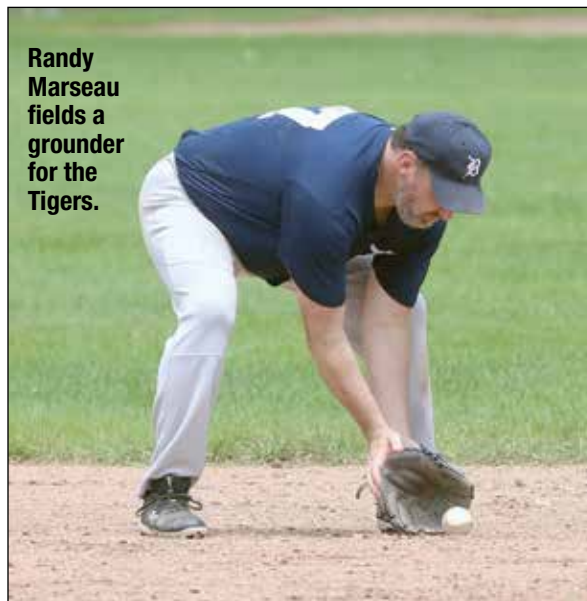
The Tigers' Brad Bullough delivers a pitch.



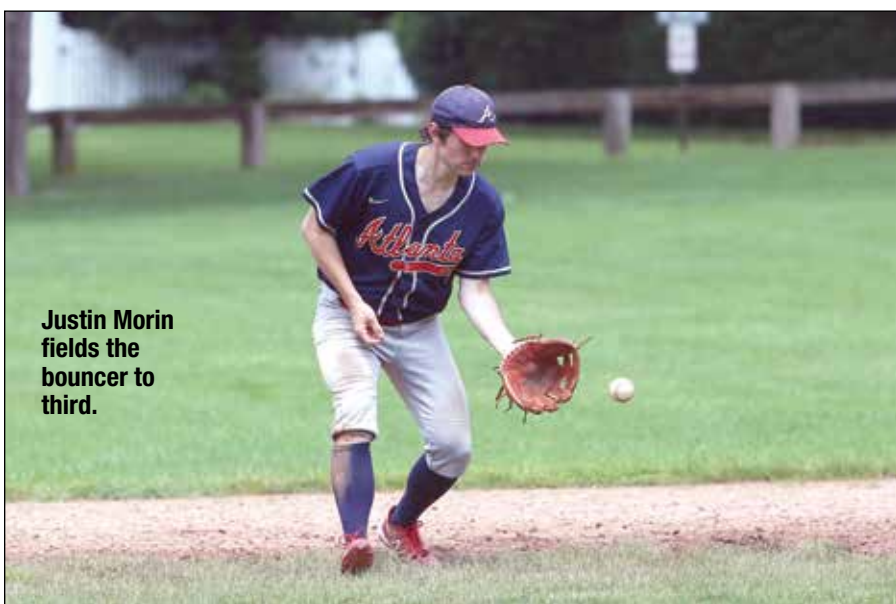
Adam Kinney, of Wilbraham, delivers a pitch for the Braves.



The Braves Jamie Ryan throws to first.



Randy Marseau fields a grounder for the Tigers.



Justin Morin fields the bouncer to third.



Colin Fecteau makes a throw across the diamond.

WEST SPRINGFIELD – The Quabbin Valley Over-28 Baseball League continues Sunday morning action into August with just three more games remaining in its regular season. So far, the Orioles are at the top of the league followed by the Tigers in second place. The Quabbin League playoffs will follow, and this year, the league will be hosting a fall league for players 28 and over.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Hopkins takes win in Calef 125

WALPOLE, N.H. – A busy stretch of four races in four weeks for the Granite State Pro Stock Series wraps up this Friday night at one of the series' staple venues.

Lee USA Speedway, only a short drive from the New Hampshire seacoast, welcomes the GSPSS back for their first of two visits this year with this Friday's Clash on Calef 125.

Unique among the tracks on this year's GSPSS itinerary, Lee hosts its own regular Pro Stock division, welcoming the class back to its weekly program a few years ago. Lee's own big-ticket Pro Stock shows earlier this year boasted plenty of names familiar to GSPSS fans and followers. But Friday night's showdown, named for the state highway on which Lee has been situated since the 1960s, is the first opportunity for those Pro Stock wheelmen to score points toward the series crown.

That contest took an intriguing turn Saturday evening at Speedway 95, with hometown hero Mike Hopkins the fifth different driver to wave the GSPSS checkered flag this season. The two strongest title threats in attendance, Casey Call and Evan Beaulieu, each faced their own pitfalls in the race. But where Call exited early with chassis damage, Beaulieu recovered from a mid-race spin to finish fifth,

chipping away at Call's healthy advantage.

Call's calamity ended a season-opening streak of finishing no worse than fourth, while Beaulieu has back-to-back top-fives after a slow start. Both drivers have a lot of work ahead to be ready for Friday, and with the season's deepest entry list in hand, winning promises to be a tall order.

A trio of Maine rookies have run the majority of the races this year, with Jamie Wright, Morgan Call and Miller Buzzell all set to carry on their season-long efforts at Lee. Joining them from the Pine Tree State is veteran Gary Smith and multi-track titlist Dave Farrington, Jr., who won his GSPSS debut back in 2016.

Wiscasset Speedway veteran and 2023 Speedway 95 winner Josh St. Clair is on the entry list, as well as Nick Jenkins and Matt Dow. Cole Robie, who hails from Maine, but has Granite State ties through his father Jarod and grandfather Carleton, plans to make his series debut as he graduates from Legends and Bandoleros into full-size fendered cars this season.

Local racers Bobby Baillargeon, Bobby Frappier and Frankie Eldredge plan to put their Lee expertise to the test. Dan Winter has stepped up his GSPSS appearances this year and wants to replicate his

top-five run at Star Speedway in May's season opener. Andy Shaw missed the season opener, but he and the Dale Drew Racing team have been at every event since.

Massachusetts teammates Alex Quarterley and Jeremy Sorel are back for more GSPSS action, with Sorel still smiling after his second-place finish at Claremont Motorsports Park earlier this month.

Cory Casagrande is back after a week off, with the Connecticut star anxious to avenge a hard crash at Lee a month ago. Fellow Nutmeg Stater Anthony Bello is back with the series as well, racing for Maine car owner Shawn Knight.

With big-league racing on a summer recess, Maine native and NASCAR spotter Derek Kneeland is dusting off his race car for his first GSPSS start since 2022. Kneeland accompanied his driver, Kyle Busch, to June's Keen Parts 150 at Lee, where he and Busch both outlasted the carnage to post top-five finishes.

But the early favorites are sure to be those who have a record of past success at Lee. Ryan Green's redemption arc remains in play after a grinding crash at June sidelined his own race car. Green borrowed a car from friend Joey Doiron to race at Claremont this month, reintroduced his repaired

mount at Hudson two weeks ago, and will be a threat in whichever car he brings to the track this week.

Brandon Barker, the first Pro Stock champion at Lee after the division's revival a couple years back, won the Keen Parts 150 in June and took home a \$10,000 prize. Barker has a pair of GSPSS wins at Lee in 2018 and 2019 and would love to add to the trophy case.

Reigning Lee track champion Wayne Helliwell, Jr. last won a GSPSS feature in 2014, a dry spell the New Hampshire all-star would love to erase. Helliwell's longtime rival, Joey Polewarczyk, won a GSPSS feature at Lee that season, one of two touring wins at the track. "Joey Pole" was victorious at Hudson Speedway two weeks ago, his eighth series victory.

And Corey Bubar won the GSPSS' last outing at Lee, taking home \$8,500 in last fall's Bosowski Properties 150. The Beech Ridge Motor Speedway veteran is one of several racers who came to Lee after Beech Ridge was shuttered, and one of many to find success at his new home track.

In a showdown between the proven veterans and the optimistic hopefuls, the sure winners are the fans in the stands who can take in Friday night's on-track fireworks.

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Athlete of the Week

NAME: Gianna Perry
SCHOOL: Palmer
Perry is sharpening her skills heading into the fall season. She is one of several Palmer players headed for the PVSSL playoffs this week.



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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Big inning leads Blue Sox to win

HOLYOKE— After the Blue Sox took both games of Saturday's double-header, they were hungry for more against the Westerners on Sunday afternoon.

Valley capitalized on an eight-run seventh inning to win Sunday's game 13-5. The Blue Sox continue to cushion their lead of the eighth seed in the NECBL playoff picture.

Danbury starter Alex Mach struggled early and gave up four runs in the bottom of the second inning. Blue Sox designated hitter Jay Bant hit his third home run of the season. Two of those runs were scored as unearned as Danbury made two errors (one on catcher Roman DiGiacomo and second baseman Carl Schmidt). After two innings, it was 4-0 Valley.

Danbury chipped its way back into the game, scoring one run in the third, fourth and fifth innings. In the top of

the sixth inning, Danbury left fielder Jaden Sheffield, son of Major League Baseball superstar Gary Sheffield, struck out looking and was ejected by home plate umpire David Speranza.

Going into the top of the seventh inning, Valley had the 4-3 lead. KJ Lavoie surrendered singles to Kobe Mentzer and Lorenzo Rios. Danbury took a 5-4 lead going to the bottom of the inning.

Mach entered the bottom of the inning and was taken out after immediately loading the bases on an E4, walk and single. Max Foster entered the game and got two quick groundouts.

Jonathan Hogart and Bant singled in runners. Anthony Scarabino walked and Zev Moore also singled in runners. Kyle Henington capitalized the eight-run seventh inning to make it 12-5. Valley tacked one more in the bottom of the eighth and won 13-5

Quabbin League seeking to start fall league

The Quabbin Valley Over-28 Baseball League is looking to start an eight-game fall program for the over-28 population. The league, which plays a spring/summer regular season with six teams for 15 games followed by playoffs, is hoping to continue the fun into the fall with a short eight-game schedule for interested players.

Preliminary details are still being worked on, but the league is looking to have four teams with six "regular season" games followed by a semifinal in the seventh week, and a final/consolation game in the eighth week.

The league will be a bit more informal than the regular spring/summer league with the goal being for players to have fun playing more baseball, work on field and batting skills through more innings in the field and extra at-bats, or potentially working on or try-

ing out pitching. As has been traditional in other fall leagues, the Quabbin League will likely be wood-bat only for the fall.

There is an interest form and survey interested players can fill out at www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org. The league is open to all current Quabbin league players as well as players from other leagues who are age 28 and over during the calendar year of 2024.

The league will look to keep the cost very low for the league with preliminary indications having the league in the \$40-50 range to play eight games.

Games will likely be held in the West Springfield, Agawam, Southwick area and are likely to be held on Sunday mornings, though a few games may be held at alternate times. Games are scheduled to begin in September after Labor Day.

Registration now open for Owl tournament

WESTFIELD – Registration is now open for the 18th annual Owl Club Golf Tournament, which will be played on Monday, Aug. 5 at Crestview Country Club in Agawam, Mass.

The tournament is a primary fundraising event to support Owls athletics.

Registration is open at www.westfieldalumni.org/OwlGolf

New Owls' head football coach

Lou Conte, Jr. will be the guest of honor for the tournament. Meet coach Conte and learn about his plans for the future of the Owls program, while enjoying a great day of golf.

"It's a great chance for us to introduce Lou to some of our most loyal alumni, and the folks that support Westfield State athletics," said Westfield State director of athletics Richard Lenfest, Jr. "It's great that

Lou has ties here in the local area, and I think that everyone will look forward to hearing his approach to Westfield State football."

Conte joins the Owls after a year as head coach at American International College in Springfield, and a seven-year stint as an assistant and offensive coordinator at The Citadel, a NCAA Division I program in the Southern Conference.

The Owl Club Golf Tourna-

ment includes 18 holes with cart in a scramble format, a cookout style lunch before the round, and a buffet dinner following. Raffles, on course contests, and a player's oasis on the course helps to ensure an enjoyable round for golfers of all levels. For more information on the tournament, CLICK HERE.

The event has been popular with alumni, parents, friends and fans, and has sold out for the last 15

events. Westfield Bank will serve as the lead sponsor for the event.

Register early to ensure your team's participation. Foursomes are preferred, but we will pair individuals or smaller groups.

"It's always a great day to see a lot of old friends and classmates, and some of the sponsors that really help to support the accomplishments of our talented student-athletes," added Lenfest. "The golf is

fun, but the proceeds help to put our Smith Cup-winning programs in position to be as competitive as possible on the field and in the classroom."

Westfield Bank serves as the title sponsor of the event. Additional sponsor packages are still available; contact Associate Athletic Director Dave Caspole at 413-572-5433 or dcaspole@westfield.ma.edu.

DEATH NOTICES

Michael A. Simpkins
Died on July 25, 2024
Services August 4, 2024
Beers & Story Funeral Home

Robert G. Simpkins, Sr.
Died on July 25, 2024
Services August 4, 2024
Beers & Story Funeral Home

Rose Tyburski
Services Aug. 4 & 5, 2024
Motyka 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.

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

Robert G. Simpkins, Sr.

Robert G. Simpkins, Sr., also known as "Senior" and back in the day, "Bobby G.," aged 81, peacefully passed away on July 25, 2024, in Coral Springs, Florida. Born on August 27, 1942 in Wilmington, Delaware, Robert led a remarkable and fulfilling life, leaving behind a legacy of love, dedication, and hard work.

Robert's life was marked by a range of careers, all of which demonstrated his incredible versatility and commitment. In his youth, he served as a milkman and paperboy, setting the stage for a future of industrious endeavors. His role as a volunteer firefighter in Claymont, Delaware, epitomized his selfless nature and desire to serve his community. Subsequently, Robert's work with Chicago Bridge and Iron, alongside his brother Jimmy, showcased his strong work ethic, building bridges and contributing to the factory's operations.

In addition to these early efforts, Robert played a pivotal role in various other enterprises. He worked with Palmer Home Maintenance and Fontaine Enterprises, contributing his skills and dedication. Notably, he assisted his son in growing RGS

Communications, a testament to his unwavering support for his family. However, Robert was best known for his work in car hauling for Subaru of New England and Diversified Automotive, a career that highlighted his reliability and expertise.

Robert cherished life's simple pleasures and had a knack for making every moment count. He loved drinking wine, dancing, and playing poker, activities that brought joy to his days and to those around him. Known for his sage advice and his unwavering willingness to help others, he truly made a positive impact on everyone he met.

He is predeceased by his beloved wife and best friend, Marie (Guarisco) Simpkins in 2001, two brothers, Raymond and Jimmy Simpkins, a grandson, and his son, Michael Simpkins, on July 25, 2024. He leaves behind a loving family who will forever cherish his memory: sons Robert G. Simpkins Jr (Sharon), Ricky Simpkins (Melissa), Joe Simpkins (Kelly); daughter Maria Forest (Michael); his brother



Kenneth Simpkins; 11 grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren.

Family and friends are invited to honor Robert's life at the Beers & Story Palmer Funeral Home. Visitation will be held on Sunday, August 4, from 2-5 p.m. On Monday, August 5, those wishing to attend the graveside service at Oak Knoll Cemetery are invited to gather at the funeral home between 9-9:30 a.m. to proceed to the cemetery for the 10 a.m. service.

In memory of Robert, the family kindly requests that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition (www.ovarian.org) to honor his late wife Marie, or the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation (<https://secure.qgiv.com/for/pulfibfou/>).

Robert G. Simpkins Sr.'s life was one of dedication to family, friends, community, and hard work. His presence will be deeply missed, but his legacy will continue to inspire all who knew him.

O B I T U A R I E S

Rose Tyburski

PALMER—Rose Tyburski, 1928-2024, died peacefully in her home under Hospice Care, surrounded by family and loved ones.

A resident of Palmer all her life, she is the last of 10 children born to Piotr & Rozalia Mozden. A graduate of the Palmer School System, she received her nursing education from Mercy Hospital School of Nursing and her Gerontological Degree from Boston University. She retired from Quaboag Valley Nursing Association (VNA) and Palmer Board of Health.

Rose was always interested in community health. She served on Palmer's first drug committee, Western MA Health Planning Council, was a member of the advisory board to Pathfinder Regional Technical School, was a board of director for Palmer Council on Aging & Home Health Care of Springfield and was instrumental in bringing the Meals on Wheels program to Palmer.

She was also a member of the library building committee and was the first woman elected to the Palmer Board of Health

and served for 21 years. She was honored at the State House by the MA Department of Health for a career of distinguished service.

Rose also served her church community of SS Peter & Paul Church (now Divine Mercy Parish) and was secretary of its parish council over 20 years, a member of its Rosary Society and the Polish Women's Alliance. She also served on a Republican Committee.

Rose found great comfort in aging due to the continual love and support she received: frequent communication with grandchildren on her I-Pad, Facetime and personal visits from family/relatives and Happy Time with her nephew, Michael and other community friends (too numerous to mention, but they know who they are) who often stopped by to check on her. She was immensely grateful for everyone in her life.

Rose was predeceased by husband Fred in 2004 and sisters Bertha Walukiewicz, Jennie



Lopata, Irene Mozden and brothers Stanley Mozden, Dr. Walter and Dr. Peter Mozden, Stephen, John and Joseph.

She also leaves 3 sons and their (spouses): Fred (Charlotte) of Newport, VT, George (Roberta) of Charlton, MA and Mark (Terri) of Hingham, MA. Plus, 9 Grandchildren: Jason (Shannon), Karin (Gil), Michael, Kyle, Amy (Zach), Matthew (Emily), Alexandra (Joe), Eugene and Kevin. As well as 5 Great Grandchildren: Colin, Jack, Gabriel, Raphael and Bailey.

Guests are welcome to remember, Rose at the Motyka Funeral Home in Three Rivers, MA on Sunday, August 4 from 4:30 to 7 p.m. or Monday, Aug. 5 at 8-9 a.m. A funeral Mass of Christian Burial will follow at 10 a.m. at SS Peter & Paul Church and St. Anne's Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to SS Peter & Paul Church or, to a local VNA of your choice.

Police/Fire

Fire Logs

Three Rivers Fire Dept

For the period of July 21 - July 27 Three Rivers Fire responded to 3 incidents.

Sunday, July 25 - Chudy St., Three Rivers, Smoke detector activation due to malfunction

Sunday, July 25 - Main St., Three Rivers, MA 01080 Alarm system sounded due to malfunction
Monday, July 26 - Burlingame Rd., Three Rivers, EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury

Go Fund Me for Horse Barn

BELCHERTOWN—The New England Small Farm Institute has started fundraising for the Horse Barn located on Jackson Street. Built in 1893, this post and beam barn features a unique oak block center aisle floor. For many years, it was home to the first Therapeutic Riding Center in Belchertown. The barn has had minor repairs over the years, but is now in need of more serious repair. This entails shoring up support beams and replacing the roof. Individuals can access the donation site by typing in "Gofundme save historic Belchertown barn". Please consider a donation to help preserve this Belchertown treasure.

The New England Small Farm Institute is a land-based, non-profit organization. It was founded in 1978, after the closing of the Belchertown State School Farm, by a local citizen's group-Women in Agriculture, Food Policy and Land Use Reform to encourage sustainable regional agriculture. It currently leases land to several farmers and is home to the Belchertown Community Garden and the 4-H Giving Garden.

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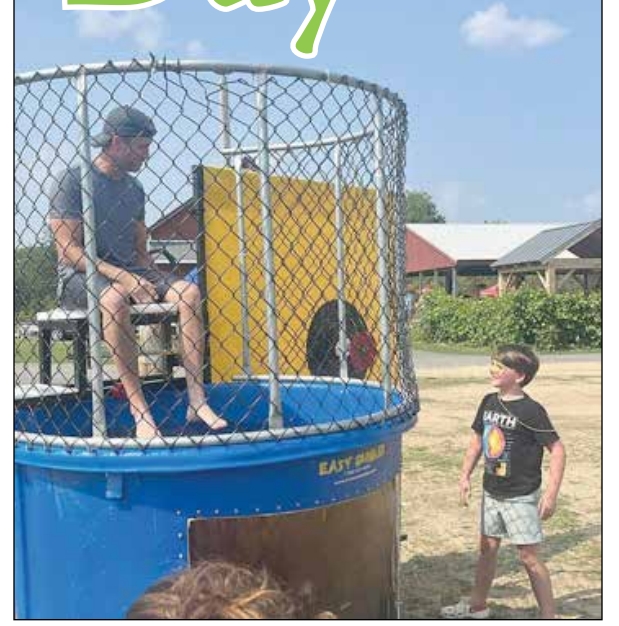
Brimfield Olde Home Day



Submitted photos
Fireworks went off over the Brimfield Winery on Saturday night for Olde Home Day.



Many non-profits ran events for the attendees, including the Hitchcock Free Academy's Field Games, where kids played kickball with the Fire Department.



The Brimfield Recreation Department helped raise funds for fireworks for 2025 by volunteering to be dunk tank victims.



Crowds enjoyed the firework display from the grounds with their families.



The event attracted Brimfield residents (from left) Billie Jean Petrie, Liz Simonetti, and Jess Powers.



A crowd of local residents sits in the field to watch the fireworks display.



A table at the Old Homes Day offered "Old Brimfield Coats Giving Advice."



The self-proclaimed "old coots" sat together at their table for the event.

DAKIN | from page 3

This Aug. 1, Dakin will celebrate 55 years of improving the lives of animals in need and the people who care about them by keeping them where they belong, together. During that anniversary week, from Tuesday, July 30 through Saturday, Aug. 3, Dakin will lower adoption fees for cats six months and older to \$55, and also discount adoption fees for kittens by \$55. The adoption center will be open from 12:30 to 3 p.m. on each day of the promotion. All cats and kittens available for adoption will have undergone spay/neuter surgery, microchipping, and received age-appropriate vaccinations before they leave the building.

According to Dakin's Executive Director Meg Talbert, the organization

will also celebrate Dakin Day by sharing stories and celebrating the animals helped within our community, and those who make our work possible. "Summer always means lots of animals who need rehoming," she said "Cats and kittens, especially, arrive in large numbers at Dakin, and we're hoping that by reducing adoption fees we can help them find homes that much faster."

People interested in adopting a pet at Dakin can see a listing of currently-available pets online at <https://www.dakinhumane.org/adopt-a-pet>. The web page continually updates; removing pets that have left the building, and adding pets who become available for adoption, within minutes.

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Backyard cookout summer event



Pennington Painting's team competed in games of cornhole.



A Pennington Painting team member sends a beanbag flying. Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette



Ware Business & Civic Association and Beyond President Dan Flynn prepared hamburgers on the grill for the Summer Sizzler.

WB&CA | from page 1

within those towns interested in joining the association. For information about joining the Ware Business & Civic Association and Beyond, visit warebca.com, email warebca@gmail.com or call Dan Flynn, president, at 413-297-5886.



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NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selection and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for The Journal Register, please email journalregister@turley.com.

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