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MONSON

School Comm. trudges through budget season

Abigail McCoy
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MONSON—The Monson School Committee convened for an essential meeting on April 2, addressing key issues, including surplus equipment from Monson High School’s defunct shop, the district’s FY 2026 budget and administrative restructuring. Several important decisions were made regarding the surplus items, potential cuts to school staff, and changes in the school schedule. The meeting also featured discussions on funding challenges and future planning.

Surplus Equipment: A Necessary Cleanout
The meeting continued with a discussion on the surplus equipment left behind in the Monson High School shop, which has been out of use for years. According to the committee, the equipment is no longer functional, with much of it being rusted and outdated.

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An Easter Bunny family photo with Lucy, Emilia, Addie, and Raeya with the Easter Bunny.
Turley photos by Amanda Munson

Three Rivers Easter Bunny Pancake Breakfast at the fire department was hopping

By Amanda Munson
Staff Writer
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PALMER - “It’s a fun morning out!” The Three Rivers Fire Department in collaboration with the Three Rivers Fire Department Association Ladies Auxiliary, held an Easter Bunny Breakfast event for the community, provid-

ing a pancake breakfast and Easter celebration. Held inside the station, the T.R.F.D. Association Ladies Auxiliary volunteers and members of the fire department were flipping pancakes, pouring coffee, and reconnecting with community members early in the morning of Apr. 6. Treasurer Joanne Turner Chiacchia of the T.R.F.D.

Association Ladies Auxiliary has been with the group for around 10 years, joining when her son Chief Scott Turner was working as the past fire chief and he instituted the ladies auxiliary. “Chief Stephen Nodurf, our current chief, definitely supports us and carries on

THREE RIVERS | page 16

EDUCATION

Policy and procedures discussed for Monson schools

Abigail McCoy
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MONSON—The Monson School Committee met on Tuesday evening for a productive session that touched on various key topics from important community events to significant policy updates. The meeting was led by Superintendent Roland Joyal.

Spring Sports and Community Initiatives
Joyal took the opportunity to update the public on a variety of upcoming events. He reminded attendees that the spring sports season is well underway, with games now in full swing. He encouraged everyone to check the school’s website for the latest athletic schedules. Joyal also highlighted the Special Olympics Night Out event scheduled for April 3. Local restaurants will donate a portion of their sales between 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. to support the Special Olympics of Monson. Also, he announced that the Monson High School Class of 2028 will host an

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COMMUNITY

First Church Easter Egg Hunt fun for local families



The egg dying table where children and their families dyed eggs.
Turley photos by Abigail McCoy

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MONSON—The First Church of Monson celebrated the spirit of Easter with their annual Easter Egg Hunt and Pancake Breakfast, a delightful event that brought the community together for a morning of fun, food, and festivities. The event, held in the Fellowship Hall of the church, kicked off bright and early with a hearty pancake breakfast. The menu featured pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, and an array of pastries, breads, and muffins. Volunteers in the kitchen worked tirelessly to ensure the breakfast ran smoothly, serving up plates of delicious food to all who attended. Additionally, a table was stocked

FIRST CHURCH | page 8

EDUCATION

M.A.S.S. Academic Excellence Awards presented at Pathfinder

By Amanda Munson
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PATHFINDER – The Pathfinder Tech District Towns Superintendents Awards Dinner honored recipients from the nine different towns, recognizing high school students who have distinguished themselves in the pursuit of excellence during their high school careers. Pathfinder Tech Superintendent Eric Duda was proud to be hosting this annual event at Pathfinder and honoring one of the school’s own students on Apr. 2. With an appetizer, main dish and dessert made by Pathfinder culinary and hospitality students inside the school’s in-house restaurant named Perso, the room was full of families, friends, and seniors who were able to



Turley photos by Amanda Munson
Left to right, Chloe LaRoche, Molly Szado, Jordan Wetherell, Alexis Lapite, Norah Schwenker, and Jenna Ghrear smile after the awards dinner for a recipient group photo.

be recognized for their hard work during their high school careers. From the awards pamphlet, “Having been duly qualified under the standard prescribed by the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents (M.A.S.S.) this Recognition of Academic Excellence is hereby awarded

EXCELLENCE | page 6

COMMUNITY

Library hosts craft swap and donation event

Abigail McCoy
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MONSON—The Monson Free Library held its Third Annual Epic Craft Swap Donation event on the morning of April 5, attract-

ing community members to exchange craft supplies and discover new projects. The event was first organized by Rebecca Sawyer, the Assistant Director of the Monson Free Library, three years ago. Leading up to the event, the library accepted craft supply donations throughout the week, giving residents a chance to contribute beads, fabric, yarn, art books, and various other materials. Even those who did not donate were welcome to attend and pick up supplies for their own craft projects. Sawyer emphasized that the event is designed to benefit the local community. “It’s a way to get people together to share craft supplies and possibly learn something new,” she said. “It’s about helping each other

and providing an opportunity for people to connect over shared interests.” The library’s main event space was filled with tables offering a wide range of craft

CRAFT SWAP | page 16

Turley photos by Abigail McCoy
Wood craft projects, scraps of wood as well as unpainted finished wood projects.



Egg-citing fun at Easter Pancake Breakfast

MONSON— The Monson High School Class of 2028 will be having an Easter Pancake Breakfast organized by the class officers. The event will be held on Saturday, April 12 from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Monson High School in the cafeteria at 55 Margaret Street. The cost is \$5 per adult and \$3 per child. There will be a basket raffle, kids activities and pictures with the Easter Bunny.

Jazz Bones to perform at first Church April 27

MONSON— The Jazz Bones under the direction of David Neill will perform at First Church Monson, 5 High Street, on Sunday, April 27, at 3 p.m. The concert is free and open to the public. A cookies and punch reception in Fellowship Hall will follow the performance. The Jazz Bones is the only jazz trombone ensemble in the area.

The ensemble delivers a dynamic sound for four tenor trombones, one bass trombone, guitar, bass and drums. This rhythmic presentation will appeal to persons of all ages. The concert is underwritten by the Monson Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Monson nomination papers deadline April 17

MONSON— The Monson Town Clerk’s Office announces that nomination papers are now available for any voter wishing to be on the ballot for the Annual Town Election on June 10, 2025. Nomination papers may be obtained in the Town Clerk’s office located at 110 Main St. Office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesdays closed to public but available by phone for pick up. Call our office at 413-267-4115. The deadline for obtaining nomination papers is Thursday April 17, 2025. The following slate of offices will appear on the ballot (1 SEAT): Select Board-3 Years Moderator-3 Years Board Of Assessors-3 Years Water/Sewer Commission-3 Years Cemetery Commission-3 Years Parks & Recreation Commission-3 Years School Committee-3 Years (2 Seats) Housing Authority-5 Years Questions may be directed to the Clerk’s office at 267-4115. All elections will take place at Memorial Hall located at 198 Main St. from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Town of Palmer nomination papers

PALMER— The Town Clerk of Palmer will have nomination papers ready for pickup the week of March 10th. The available seats on the June 10, 2025 town election are as follows. Councilor at Large 3 year term District #4 (Three Rivers Councilor 3 year term Planning Board 3 year term (2 seats) School Committee 3 year term. (2 seats) If you have any questions regarding filing requirements on above seats please reach out to the Palmer Town Clerk’s office.

United Methodist Church Holy Week schedule

MONSON—The United Methodist Church of Enfield, 41 Brainard Road, Enfield, in cooperation with area churches, is offering Holy Week services for everyone. **Holy Week Schedule** **April 13 Palm Sunday** 9:30 a.m. at UMC Enfield, 41 Brainard Road, Enfield, CT **Apr 17 Maundy Thursday** 7 p.m. at Monson-Glendale UMC, 162 Main Street, Monson, MA **Apr 18 Good Friday** 7 p.m. at UMC Enfield, 41 Brainard Road, Enfield, CT **Apr 20 Easter Sunrise** 6 a.m. at Monson-Glendale UMC, 162 Main Street, Monson, MA **Apr 20 Easter Service** 9:30 a.m. at UMC Enfield, 41 Brainard Road, Enfield, CT **Apr 20 Easter Service** 11 a.m. at Monson-Glendale UMC, 162 Main Street, Monson, MA For more information, call the church office at 860-745-6241 or visit the church’s website at umce.org Founded in 1791, The United Methodist Church of Enfield is a family of Christians striving to grow in faith, love, and service.

Have you experienced a housing need?

Share your story online or in person

We want to address housing needs in our region with storytelling! If you have a story to share about your current housing situation, challenges with finding housing, or being unhoused, we want to hear your story. Housing stories will be used to build awareness about the housing challenges in the region to bring further change. Stories will be collected through an online form or video interview. Photos or videos will be used with permission, or you may ask to remain anonymous.



Submit stories through an online form (scan QR code or go to: <https://tinyurl.com/HQHousingStory>) or a recorded interview. You have the option of being anonymous for either format.



\$50 compensation for those who share online or \$100 for recorded interviews

For any questions, please contact Nisha Humayun at nhumayun@townofware.com or (413) 207-7698





BELLA

This is Bella from Three Rivers. She was after a mole and was digging when suddenly it rained for a little. Rain had stopped and filled hole, so she was let back out and stuck her face in the hole looking for mole. She never got the mole, but her friend Scott Gouty got the pic. 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.

MONSON | from page 1

This surplus is now in the way of the space designated for a new engineering program for the coming year. "We've secured grant funding for new equipment, including CNC machines and 3D printers," said Mr. Fontaine. "But we need space for these new tools, and the surplus has to go."

The committee voted unanimously to designate the surplus items as excess, starting the process of either listing them on municipal platforms or offering them to other departments. Proceeds from the sale will go into the general fund, not back to the school.

Despite some hope that the school could retain some of the funds for program development, the consensus was that this was unlikely.

There were concerns raised about logistics, especially the cost and responsibility of moving the equipment.

"Whoever buys the equipment will be responsible for removal," one member confirmed.

Also, temporary storage space may be available, as the town has some room to store items until they are sold.

Budget Woes: The Challenge of Finding Savings

The discussion then shifted to the district's budget for FY26, which is facing a shortfall of approximately \$750,000. As part of the ongoing effort to balance the budget, cuts to various positions and services were discussed.

Among the cuts proposed were the elimination of certain positions, including the technology specialist and math interventionist, along with a reduction in teaching staff.

"There's no fat to trim. It's just getting realistic with expenditures," Colleen Flynn remarked, acknowledging the difficulty in finding additional cuts without significantly impacting services.

The committee also discussed a proposal to consolidate schools, combining cer-

tain grade levels and central office staff to save approximately \$317,000. However, necessary upgrades to facilities, including carpeting and classroom improvements, would cost about \$154,600.

This reduces the net savings from the consolidation to about \$160,000, which would provide ongoing savings after initial expenditures.

"The worst they can say is no. That's what I tell my kids. Always ask. We might say no," added Alison Morgan, highlighting the hopeful yet pragmatic approach taken throughout the budget discussions.

Unemployment Costs and Revenue Proposals

Unemployment costs also came up, with layoffs potentially pushing these costs higher than initially projected. Unemployment benefits can last up to 30 weeks, and the cost of these benefits could be substantial for high earners.

The committee hopes to keep these costs under control but acknowledged the uncertainty of how long individuals may need to rely on unemployment.

In a slightly more optimistic turn, the committee noted that preschool tuition could be increased from \$450 to \$600 per month, potentially bringing in an additional \$45,000.

However, this fee increase is not yet set in stone.

"We're trying to stop the bleeding right now. How do we make it better next year?" said Flynn, reflecting the urgency of balancing immediate financial concerns with future planning.

Addressing Facilities and Maintenance Needs

Another major topic of discussion was the ongoing condition of the school facilities. Granite Valley School, though often thought to have more space than Quarry Hill, actually lacks the infrastructure to accommodate all students.

"Quarry Hill is better equipped to house students," said one committee member. "It has more classrooms and better bathroom facilities."

However, Granite Valley's aging carpets and bathrooms are in need of significant upgrades, and a major concern was whether these renovations could be completed before the new school year. The necessary improvements, including replacing carpets and upgrading bathrooms to meet ADA compliance, could cost upwards of \$154,600, on top of the cost for school consolidation.

"Can we realistically complete this work by September?" one member questioned, pointing to the tight timeline and the difficulty of coordinating contractors and specialized services.

Changes to School Scheduling and Administrative Structure

In response to budget constraints and the need for better efficiency, the committee approved changes to the high school schedule. The new structure will return to the format that existed prior to changes made two years ago.

It includes longer periods for work-based learning and internships, as well as an introduction of advisory periods on Fridays for social-emotional learning activities.

"We really want to build that community," said a community member, emphasizing

the importance of fostering strong relationships between students and teachers. The revised schedule also includes team time for teachers to collaborate, enhancing support for students, especially those with special needs.

Also, the school district plans to restructure its administrative positions. At Monson High School, the current shared role of Dean of Students/Director of Counseling will be split into two separate positions, while Granite Valley will maintain a principal and assistant principal.

Looking Ahead: Public Budget Hearing and Future Adjustments

The public budget hearing for FY26 will be held on April 16, with an additional hearing potentially scheduled for April 23 or 30. The committee plans to finalize the budget by April 16 to allow for posting and public review before the hearing.

Despite the challenging budget situation, the committee expressed a commitment to maintaining essential services, including counseling and math intervention programs.

"I cannot in good faith say, here, welcome to Monson. Here's zero support," Colleen Flynn said, underlining the importance of providing adequate support for new leadership, especially as the district searches for a new superintendent.

As discussions continue, the committee remains focused on making difficult but necessary decisions to secure the future of Monson's schools, balancing immediate fiscal constraints with long-term educational goals.

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.

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

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The Journal Register
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

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

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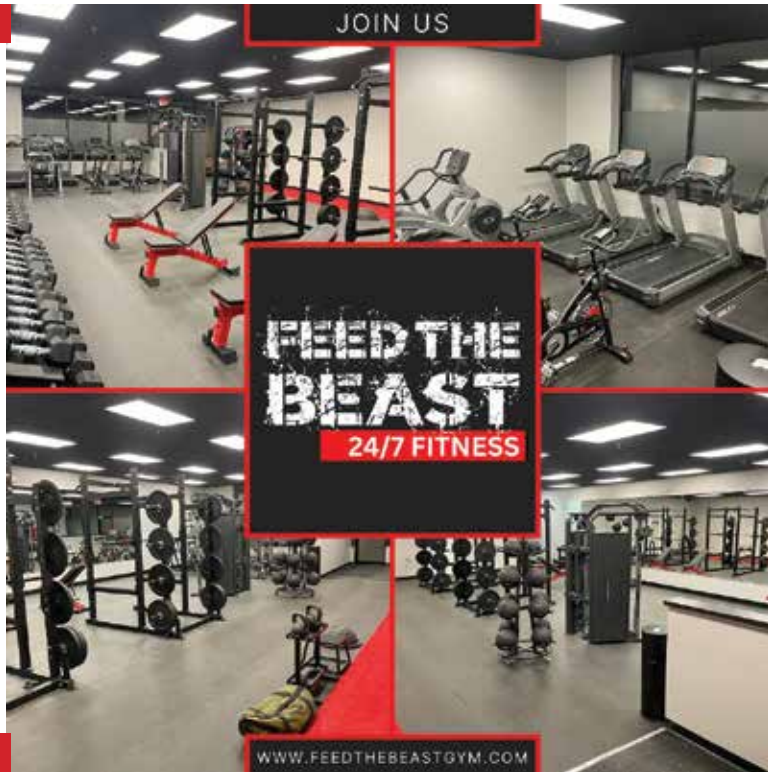
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Viewpoints

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor

When is the best time for me to claim Social Security?

Dear Rusty:
I will be 66 ½ in June and would like to discuss when would be the best time for me to start taking my social security benefits. I am still employed full time and don't want to be penalized because of that. Please let me know what I need to do to set up an appointment with you. I got your information from the AMAC website and I look forward to hearing from you.

Signed: Ready to Claim

Dear Ready:
You can certainly call us on 1-888-750-2622 during normal EST business hours for a personal conversation. But to facilitate that conversation, be aware that deciding when to claim your Social Security benefit normally depends on just a few factors, including your financial need, your health and expected longevity, and your marital status. A few things to be aware of: Born in 1958, your "Full Retirement Age" is age 66 years and 8 months. If you were born in October 1958, you will reach your FRA in June 2025, and that is the point you can get 100% of the SS benefit you've earned from a lifetime of working. Once you reach your FRA in June, Social Security's "annual earnings test" no longer applies. Thus, you can continue working after you start your SS benefits and your earnings will not negatively affect your monthly benefit amount. If you claim any earlier than your FRA, you will get a smaller benefit and also be subject to Social Security's annual earnings test (which for you this year - your FRA year - is \$62,160, or \$5,180/month after you start your SS benefits). If you decide to claim before your FRA, your benefit will be reduced by .556% for each month early (a permanent reduction). You can also wait beyond your FRA to claim and earn Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs) at the rate of .667% per month (8% per year of delay), in order to get an even higher benefit later. If financially feasible, you can delay up to the age of 70 when your monthly benefit will reach maximum - about 27% more than it will be in June of this year. 0-If you are single and will not be eligible for a spousal benefit, then you should make your claiming decision based only on your own needs. If, however, you are married and your spouse's FRA benefit is more than twice your FRA amount, you may be entitled to a "spousal boost" (a supplemental amount added to your own SS benefit). Your life expectancy should be considered when deciding when to claim your SS retirement benefits. If you expect to enjoy at least "average" longevity (about 87 for a woman your current age), then you might also consider delaying your claim (if financially feasible) and that is often a prudent choice. If you don't expect to achieve a long life, or if you need the money sooner, or if you are entitled to spousal benefits, then claiming at your FRA of 66 years and 8 months is likely your best option. In the end, only you can decide when you should claim your Social Security, but we're always here to answer any additional questions you may have. You can feel free to call us at any time (1-888-750-2622) during normal EST business hours to discuss your options directly with one of our certified Social Security advisors. Or you can also ask any additional questions via email, which we will be most happy to respond to promptly. The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. This article is intended for information purposes and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the Association Mature Citizens Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. To submit a question, visit amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory or email us at ssadvisior@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

Brimfield historical walking tour April 13

BRIMFIELD—The Brimfield Historical Commission will be conducting an historical walking tour of the Brimfield Center Village on Sunday, April 13 at noon. The tour will highlight the fascinating history behind the structures that have shaped our community, most of which are included on the National Register of Historic Places, as well as the people who built and lived in them. We will be starting on the sidewalk in front of St. Christopher's Church, heading west by the Windmill, to the Civil War Memorial and Hitchcock Academy and then down North Main Street to the First Congregational Church. It will take approximately 1 to 1 ½ hours.

A highlight of the walk will include a discussion of the old Brimfield Hotel which burnt down in 1941 and is now the location of Hitchcock Academy's parking lot. Although the Hotel no longer exists, it served for over 130 years as a focal point of Brimfield activity. Please wear comfortable shoes and bring something to drink. If you have any questions or are interested in joining us, we request that you contact the Historical Commission at historical@brimfieldma.org to let us know so that we can maintain an accurate list of participants. Additional tours are planned for later in the spring.



Eggplant parmesan anyone?

Just when you think you are done planning your garden you come across something else to grow. What did it for me was a trip to the Dollar Store where I found the seed packs priced at four for \$1.25. What a deal!

While I wouldn't spend \$3.99 for a package of eggplant seeds, I could shell out approximately 32 cents, and if I end up with a half dozen fruit it would be worth the investment. We grow eggplant at Old Sturbridge Village, but it is the ornamental type, the kind that looks seriously like pure white eggs hanging from a fuzzy gray-green plant! I plan to grow "Black Beauty," the variety that holds promise of parmesan grinders and saucy pasta dishes. It's been a few years since I have grown eggplant. I stopped growing it because I never seemed to pick it at the right time - either it was too early or too late. So, why don't we learn together how to grow eggplant successfully and harvest it correctly? Eggplant is a member of the Solanaceae family, making it cousins with tomatoes and peppers. Like its relatives, eggplant seeds need to be started indoors, eight to 10 weeks prior to the last frost. By sowing the seed yesterday, I just sneak in to the eight week mark. If the thought of growing eggplant excites you, don't let the calendar dissuade you. Any head start is still a head start! The seeds like a warmer germination temperature, with some experts calling for 80 degrees! When the seedlings show their first set of true leaves, transplant them out of the seed pack and into six packs. A grow on temperature of 72 degrees coupled with supplemental light will produce nice, stocky seedlings. Another trick to stocky seedlings is the brush method. A couple of times a day run the top of your hand gently over the seedlings. Depending on how quickly they grow, another transplanting maybe necessary, this time into a four-inch pot. Be careful not to disturb the roots too much; while tomatoes and peppers don't seem to mind transplanting, eggplant can be stunted a bit, so tackle this task tenderly. About mid-May preheat your garden space in preparation for planting out the seedling. I lay down black plastic for peppers and will also use it for my eggplant transplants.



After the plants have been hardened off for a week or so by gradual exposure to the elements, it's time to get them in the ground. I cut "Xs" in the plastic about 18" apart, and mix some compost into the soil under each X. The seedlings are then installed just slightly lower into the soil than where they were growing in the pot. If you can cover them with a floating row cover to help modulate the heat and keep flea beetles and Colorado potato beetles at bay, all the better. I read that northern gardeners can expect to get four to six fruit per plant. Folks with a longer growing season can sometimes gain 12 to 15! Once the fruit appear glossy, they can be picked, even before they reach their full size. If you wait until the skin is dull, the fruits are seedy and not at their prime any longer. I am excited to see if my 32 cent investment will be fruitful. Fingers crossed!

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



By Ellenor Downer

A Brimfield resident makes regular trips to ponds to look for waterfowl often in Warren. On March 19 he saw five Canada geese, six mallards (three pairs), three American black ducks, six green-winged teal (three pairs) and one male, hooded merganser at a pond on New Reed Street. The green-winged teal is the smallest dabbling duck in North America. The male has a cinnamon colored head and grayish body with a green crescent from the eye to the back of the head. The male has a vertical white strip that extends from the water line to its shoulder. The female is brown. Both sexes have green wing patches, which are visible in flight. They also have a yellowish stripe along the tail. They have a blocky body, large head and short bill. They are between 12 and 15 inches in length. There tail is high out of the water. Spring time is a great time



Green-winged teal

to look for green winged teal. They often land in shallow wetlands and are sometimes seen foraging in puddles of water on agricultural fields. They feed on shallow bodies of water on vegetation. They breed in dense vegetation along river deltas. The oldest know green-winged teal was at least 20 years and three months. A female, she was banded in Oklahoma in 1941 and recovered by a hunter in Missouri in 1960. **Great blue heron** The Brimfield resident said in an email dated March 19, "I visited two ponds in Warren yesterday and saw great blue

herons for the second time this spring. However this time, they were at the pond where great blue herons have had nest for a couple of years and an osprey was back. Both sightings were at the pond on South Street." Other birds seen at the pond included one ring-billed gull, three rock pigeon, one blue jay and six red-winged blackbirds. Last year, there were four heron nests, however one nest fell down during the winter. There were two birds standing in one of the nests for a time before one of the birds flew to a nearby tree. **Osprey** The Brimfield resident said an osprey nest has been at this location in Warren since 2020 and nine young have successfully fledged. here. An adult just arrived in the last day or so. The bird flew to the nest carrying a branch and then moved to the bottom of the nest, tilted forward and then began scratching at the bottom of the nest. He took a picture of this osprey scratching. He said, "In a picture I took, debris can be seen flying over the edge of the nest. A behavior I have never seen before - interesting." **Worm stealing blue jay** An Oakham resident through his kitchen window an American Robin extract a worm from the ground. He said, "At that moment, a blue jay landed scaring off the rob-

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24 Water St., Palmer MA 01069, or by e-mail to: journalregister@turley.com
The submission deadline for consideration is Monday at noon.

Election letters to the editor welcome

The *Journal Register* welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to The Journal Register, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to journalregister@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Thursday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election. For more information, call the editor at 413-283-8393.

Campaign news
As part of its election coverage, the newspaper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers. Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in The Journal Register.

POILICY | from page 1

Easter Pancake Breakfast on April 12, offering fun activities for the community. Looking further ahead, he shared information about Teacher Appreciation Week on May 5-9, during which the Monson PTSA will organize a special lunch for teachers and staff, seeking community donations to support the event.

Joyal also pointed out that the cafeteria is in need of workers, with hours ideal for parents of students.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The committee then turned its attention to the approval of previous meeting minutes, which included those from Feb. 4. The minutes were unanimously approved with no comments. A minor correction was noted for the minutes of the February 26 meeting, where Jessica Corwin's role on the MASC Rural Schools Committee was clarified as "co-chair," not just a member.

Policy Updates: Therapy Dogs, Dress Code and Online Fundraising

Several policies were up for discussion during the meeting. The first, Policy IMGB, which addresses the introduction of therapy comfort dogs in schools, was moved from the second to the third read. This policy, which will be implemented at the start of the new school year, is designed to integrate therapy dogs into the school environment.

The committee approved the necessary waivers of liability, and insurance recommendations have been reviewed to ensure protection in case of accidents.

The committee also moved forward with Policy JICA, the student dress code, which was shifted from its first to second and then third read. No significant changes were made to the policy, as it largely aligns with the existing school handbook.

Another key policy discussed was Policy IKF, which covers competency determination for graduation. This policy was revised to remove specific references to a set number of graduation requirements, streamlining the document into a more concise, three-sentence format.

Perhaps the most discussed policy involved online fundraising and crowdfunding, particularly the use of platforms like GoFundMe or DonorsChoose for classroom projects. A speaker made it clear that the policy aims to regulate crowdfunding for educational purposes that go beyond routine classroom supplies, such as tissues or markers.

The policy is intended to ensure that larger projects, like special educational initiatives, are properly vetted and approved.

"There's a difference between crowdfunding for a special project and just needing supplies,"

Jamie Murphy noted,

BACKYARD

| from page 4

in and stealing the worm." He watched the blue jay flit closer and closer in the shrubbery and swoop in when the next worm was extracted by a robin. He said, "I did a quick check of the literature - nothing like this observed before. Jays, crows, ravens and magpies (Corvidae family) are renowned for their instinctual 'intelligence' and thievery."

Sandhill cranes

I have not seen the sandhill cranes in my field lately. I did here then early in the morning last week when I put my trash bin out. My neighbor said she heard them in the morning as well.

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

explaining the distinction between the two.

While crowdfunding for everyday classroom supplies was not a concern, the committee expressed the need to ensure that larger projects, like field trips or special classroom upgrades, are carefully considered.

The discussion also led to concerns about Amazon wish lists, which many teachers use to gather supplies. Some members questioned whether wish lists for supplies over \$500 should require approval, emphasizing the need to differentiate between minor classroom needs and larger requests that could necessitate further scrutiny.

Ethical and Logistical Considerations

A central issue in the discussion of the new crowdfunding policy was the tracking of donations and the ethical implications of personal donations to teachers. One member brought up concerns about teachers receiving donations directly to their personal addresses, suggesting that all items should be delivered to the school to avoid conflicts with state ethics laws.

There was agreement on the need to track larger donations to ensure that the district remains compliant with policies and state regulations.

At the same time, there was recognition that the process should not become overly burdensome.

"I just want this policy to be clear enough to state it has nothing to do with the other thing," said Alison Morgan, stressing the importance of clarity in distinguishing between larger fundraising requests and more routine classroom needs.

Balancing Bureaucracy and Efficiency

A key concern raised during the meeting was the potential for bureaucracy to slow down the approval process for classroom supplies. Alison Morgan, who works closely with teachers, expressed frustration with the idea of requiring teachers to fill out approval forms for every small item they need, noting, "By the time they get to it, it has to get back to them."

And now we've wasted how many days...?"

Morgan emphasized that delays in approval could hinder teachers' ability to quickly address immediate classroom needs, especially for time-sensitive projects.

In response, the committee agreed to work on refining the current approval forms for smaller, regular requests. A proposal to simplify the form and streamline the process for minor items was discussed, with the understanding that larger requests, particularly those over \$500, would require more formal approval.

The committee also agreed to continue working on a comprehensive solution, with plans to explore how other districts handle similar issues.

Monson Garden Club scholarship

MONSON—The Monson Garden Club has announced that two \$500 scholarships are available to high school seniors who reside in Monson and plan to continue school at a 2 or 4 year college to study in any branch of the life, natural, or environmental sciences. Applications with instructions may be obtained through their school guidance office and are due by April 29, 2025.

Dine for a Cause May 7

LUDLOW—Dine for a cause on Wednesday, May 7 at Villa Rose Restaurant on 1428 Center St. in Ludlow. Dine all day and 20 percent of all food receipts will be donated to the Amvets Post 74 Scholarship Fund.



Building Bridges
FREE Veterans lunch April 11

THREE RIVERS—A free lunch for veterans and one guest will be available on Fridays April 11, May 9 and June 13 from noon to 1 p.m. The lunch will be

served at the Amvets Post 74 located at 2150 Main St. in Three Rivers. Reservations are needed, call 413-283-2610 and leave voicemail.

Sock Hop Dance April 25

THREE RIVERS—The Second Annual Sock Hop Dance featuring New Englands Premier Oldies Band "Decades" will be on Friday, April 25 from 6 to 10 p.m. at Amvets, 2150 Main Street in Three Rivers.

Tickets are \$5 (12 and

under are free). Tickets are available at Amvets or call 413-316-0597. There will be raffle prizes and a 50/50. Food and milkshakes available for purchase.

Money will benefit the local Veterans activity fund.

American Heritage
Museum trip April 30

PALMER—The Palmer Veterans Service Department is proud to announce a bus trip to the American Heritage Museum on April 30. Pick up will be at 8:30 a.m. and drop-off will be at 4:15 at the Amvets Post 74 at 2150 Main Street in

Three Rivers.

Veterans are free with an ID, guests are \$20 each this includes bus, admission and lunch.

Call 413-316-0597 to make reservations, seats are limited.



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To Join Our Group!

*You will always be able to stay completely anonymous at Palmer for Tomorrow, we will never ask or share your name or your story.

Annual Plant, Bake Sale, Craft & Tag Sale on the Hardwick Common

HARDWICK — The Tri-Parish Community Church is pleased to announce they will be holding their 19th Annual Plant, Bake Sale, Craft & Tag Sale on the Hardwick Common Saturday and Sunday, May 17th and 18th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. This popular East Quabbin area event will feature traditional, favorite, and connoisseur perennials, plus selected annuals, heirloom vegetable plants, and herbs in time for spring planting.

There is a wonderful variety in plants offered through several local vendors including Stillman’s Farm and Howe’s Farm and Garden of New Braintree, Inishowen Farms of North Brookfield, and “home-grown lovelies” from private gardens. A delicious assortment of home-baked desserts and breads will also be sold. The event is held rain or shine.

The Church is also seeking vendors for their annual Tag and Craft sale to coincide with the Plant and Bake Sale. Spaces on the Hardwick Common will be offered for \$35 each. Applications may be obtained by contacting Marguerite at: mcrevier1.mc@gmail.com or 413-477-6942

Please reserve your space early. All are welcome!



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Palmer High School student Jenna Ghrear poses with her family, Palmer High School Principal Sue North and Superintendent Matthew Francis, after receiving the M.A.S.S. Academic Excellence Award.



Award Recipient Jordan Wetherall and Superintendent of Pathfinder Eric Duda take a moment to pose for a photo.

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Recipients of the M.A.S.S. Academic Excellence Award, families, and friends stand proudly next to one another.

EXCELLENCE

from page 1

to Chloe LaRoche of Belcher-town with Superintendent Brian Cameron, Alexis Lapite of Granby with Interim Superintendent Mary Jane Rickson, Jordan Wetherall of Pathfinder Tech with Superintendent Eric Duda, Norah Schwenker of Quaboag Regional with Superintendent Stephen Duff, Shelby Hogan of Ware with Superintendent Michael Lovato, Jenna Ghrear of Palmer with Superintendent Matthew Francis and Molly Szado of Monson with Interim Superintendent Roland Joyal Jr.”

Beginning with an opening speech, Duda talked about the award, the tradition of the dinner event and recognizing the common goal of all the school administrators and superintendents.

“It’s a true honor to be here this evening with all of you in this room, not only because we are among some incredibly talented students from each of the towns, but also with families and we are together. This nine-town region, with the superintendents and administrators from



Pathfinder Tech Student Jordan Wetherall smiles with family and Superintendent Eric Duda.

each of the towns that belong to this district together in a room like this, it’s a special time,” said Duda.

The meal consisted of corn chowder, salad with cranberries and pecans, a choice of red wine braised beef or grilled garlic shrimp, with an option of house-made carrot cake or chocolate pot de creme for dessert. The event began after dinner, starting by honoring Belcher-town and finishing with Monson, each student was called and described for their hard work and dedication to their

education.

Duda said, “This is a tradition that’s been going on for decades, exactly how we are doing this tonight. The former Superintendent Dr. Gerald L. Paist came here right when this school opened in ‘73 to ‘74 and stayed with this school for nearly 50 years. When I came here as superintendent four years ago, one of the things I wanted to continue was this tradition, it was special to him. It was special to the towns and special to me, I remember sitting in this room when I was a student in the 90’s. We have friends and colleagues among us, I’m looking at the administrators and superintendents, I know each of you in this room. The big common cause is we are all about the students and I know that for a fact everybody in this room, the parents did a wonderful job and we are happy that you brought these wonderful young adults to us tonight.”

Academic Director of Pathfinder Tech Dan Whalley was pleased with the event.

“We’re very happy and proud to have all these remarkable students from our surrounding towns come here and we are happy to celebrate them,” Whalley said. “We are proud to host this every year and to celebrate what is truly important and that’s the success of the students.”

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Country Bank welcomes Liz Chrystal as the V.P. of Project Management

REGION—Country Bank, a leading full-service financial institution serving Central and Western Massachusetts, is pleased to announce the appointment of Liz Chrystal as the new Vice President of Project Management. Liz's appointment represents an important step in the Bank's continued focus on operational excellence and strategic growth.



Liz Chrystal

"We are thrilled to welcome Liz to the Country Bank team. Her extensive experience across financial services and healthcare, combined with her passion for project leadership and community impact, makes her an excellent fit for this role," said Miriam Siegel, Chief Culture & Development Officer. "Liz's strong commitment to innovation with focus on execution while providing superior customer engagement aligns with our Corporate Values of Integrity, Service, Teamwork, Excellence, and Prosperity. We are confident that her skills and leadership will enhance our project management function and capabilities driving our strategic initiatives forward."

Liz brings over 16 years of project management experience to her role, including the last two years in the financial services industry. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies with a concentration in Business Administration and Management and holds a Project Management Professional (PMP) certification from Bryant University.

Her career began in project management roles across a variety of sectors, including commercial healthcare and IT professional services for government agencies. She later served on the IT executive leadership team at Baystate Health, a five-site integrated health system headquartered in Springfield, MA. Most recently, Liz was part of the senior leadership team at a financial services company where she led the Enterprise Project Management Office (EPMO), Customer Success, and Business Solutions divisions.

Liz's dedication to quality and excellence has been recognized throughout her career, including receiving the SHINE Award from Boston Medical Center HealthNet Plan for her work in integrity and quality assurance.

"Joining Country Bank is an exciting opportunity to help shape the future of project management within an organization that values innovation and community," said Liz Chrystal. "I am eager to contribute to the bank's continued growth and to support the positive impact it makes throughout the region."

In addition to her professional contributions, Liz actively supports her local community through regular donations to the Springfield Rescue Mission and the Cupboard Pantry in West Springfield. She resides in Westfield, MA, and is deeply committed to making a difference in Western Massachusetts.

Girlie's Cakes opens up first storefront

Abigail McCoy
Staff Writer
amccoy@turley.com

PALMER—Alysse Davis, owner and baker at Girlie's Cakes, has taken a giant step toward sharing her passion for homemade desserts with the local community. In March of this year, the Tolland, CT, resident, originally from Monson, opened a storefront at 1605 N Main St, Palmer, located in the Depot Plaza. The move allows Davis to expand her growing business, offering her popular custom cakes and desserts to a broader audience.

Davis, who has been baking since the age of 10 and worked in bakeries for most of her life, decided to establish Girlie's Cakes a few years ago. She initially began selling her homemade goods at farmer's markets, building a loyal following before venturing into the physical location in Palmer.

"I wanted to spread my desserts to more people," Davis said, speaking about her decision to open a shop in such a prime location. "I thought it would be great to have a place on a main road where there's lots of foot traffic and actual traffic."

Girlie's Cakes offers a variety of baked goods, including custom cakes for special occasions and a wide selection of gluten-free and vegan options. Customers can place orders by contacting Davis directly at 413-537-7284 or by visiting the store's Facebook page, Girlie's Cakes-Alysse.

One of the most popular items on the menu are the Cinnamon Roll Blondie Bars, along with the Apple Pie Crumble Bars and Peanut Butter Cup Cupcakes. Excitingly, Davis is also planning to introduce macarons to her selection in the near future, further diversifying her offerings.

With several customers inquiring about sugar-free desserts for diabetic individuals, Davis has been exploring the possibility of adding sugar-free options to her menu.



Alysse Davis, owner of Girlie's Cakes, is waiting to serve you her sweet treats.



Peanut Butter Cup Cupcakes, one of the most bought items.

Her mother, who has been instrumental in supporting Davis throughout her journey, has been experimenting with sugar-free desserts that could potentially be added to Girlie's Cakes' offerings in the future.

Looking ahead, Davis has plans to expand the scope of her business by adding a "Love Your Locals" section to the shop. This would feature homemade goods from other small businesses in the community, fostering collaboration and supporting local entrepreneurs.

At the moment, Davis operates without an on-site kitchen in Palmer but holds an at-home commercial



Turley photos by Abigail McCoy
Girlie's Cakes confectionery shop located at 1605 N. Main Street in Palmer



The apple pie gluten free crumble bars, one of their more popular items.

food license. However, she is working on plans to install a commercial kitchen in the back of the store, which would allow her to bake fresh goods on-site. This addition would also enable her to extend store hours and streamline her operations.

To meet the growing demand, Davis is also on the lookout for part-time employees to help sell the baked goods in the store, so she can focus more on the baking itself. Anyone interested in joining the team can reach out to Davis or stop by the store during business hours for more information.

As for Davis's favorite dessert to bake, she said, "My

current favorite dessert I offer is the gluten-free double chocolate chip cookies." She also promises her customers, "There will always be new flavors every week and there is a dessert for everyone and every occasion to make things sweet."

Girlie's Cakes is quickly becoming a local favorite, with its commitment to quality, creativity, and community. Be sure to stop by the new location and discover what makes Alysse Davis's desserts so special.

For more information or to place an order, visit Girlie's Cakes-Alysse on Facebook or call 413-537-7284.

Northeast large scale train show

PALMER—The Northeast Large Scale Train Show will take place on May 3 & 4, 2025 at the Eastern State Exposition fairgrounds in West Springfield, Massachusetts.

The show includes operating large scale railroads, exhibits by the major manufacturers of large scale model railroad equipment - locomotives, track, rolling stock, and scenery - as well as clinics on all aspects of large scale railroad construction, maintenance, and operation.

The Amherst Railway Society also sponsors the Railroad Hobby Show each January at Eastern States Ex-

position. The Railroad Hobby Show is America's largest railroad-themed trade show.

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Children running through the pews in the main chapel finding eggs.



Kids running down the aisles to make sure they can get their eggs first.



Turley photos by Abigail McCoy
Pastor Holly reading Benjamin's Box by Melody Carlson to a group of attentive kids.



Fellowship Hall filled with friends and family who came out to enjoy community and the pancake breakfast.



A table full of coloring supplies and bracelet beads for kids to enjoy some crafts.



Mila and Remi Ford sitting on the Easter Bunny's throne for pictures.



The Easter Bunny as he goes around giving kids high fives.

FIRST CHURCH
I from page 1

with both decaffeinated and caffeinated coffee, orange juice, and water, making sure that everyone had a refreshing start to their day.

"We're just happy to offer this event as a way to bring the community together and celebrate the season," said Pastor Holly, who was in attendance with her family. "The cost of the breakfast was kept low to ensure that it's accessible to all, covering only the expenses of the event itself."

While the event wasn't a fundraiser, the church did encourage attendees to bring donations for the Springfield Rescue Mission, with requests for new socks, t-shirts, and underwear for men, women, and children. This gesture helped spread the message of kindness and generosity, as the church continues to support the mission's work with the homeless and families in need.

This year marked the fifth iteration of the event, and the hope is that it will continue for many years to come.

"It's really heartwarming to see this tradition grow year after year," said one volunteer. "It's such a great way to

celebrate Easter with the community."

After breakfast, the fun continued with arts and crafts activities, including egg coloring. The younger children especially enjoyed taking photos with the Easter Bunny, who was a hit among all ages. The day's festivities also featured a special story time, with Pastor Holly reading Benjamin's Box by Melody Carlson to the eager group of children.

As the story concluded, it was time for the highlight of the event, the Easter Egg Hunt. In the weeks leading up to the hunt, volunteers had filled over 1,500 plastic eggs with candy. The eggs were then hidden throughout the church grounds and inside the Fellowship Hall, ranging from obvious spots for the younger children to more challenging locations for the older kids.


The egg hunt was conducted in waves, ensuring that every child had an opportunity to gather a full basket of



eggs. In between the waves, volunteers re-hid eggs, making sure all the best spots were stocked with eggs for children to find.

A creative and thoughtful addition this year was the face painting station. Teenagers Marley Carrigan and Jolie Wallace, both 15 years old, volunteered their time to offer free face painting to kids of all ages. Their table quickly became a popular spot, with many children proudly sporting colorful designs by the end of the morning.


The event was a heartwarming success, offering fun for the entire family and bringing the community together to celebrate Easter. For those interested in attending future events at the First Church of Monson, the church encourages everyone to check out their event calendar at firstchurchmonson.org. Regular congregational services are held at 2 High St, Monson, and all are welcome to join.



THANKSGIVING REVIEW
"Hi Paul, she was great! Lots of plump meat and just enough fat to help prevent her from drying out. We will be having leftovers for a very long time."
— Beth from Belchertown

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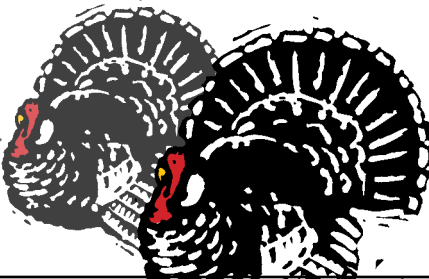


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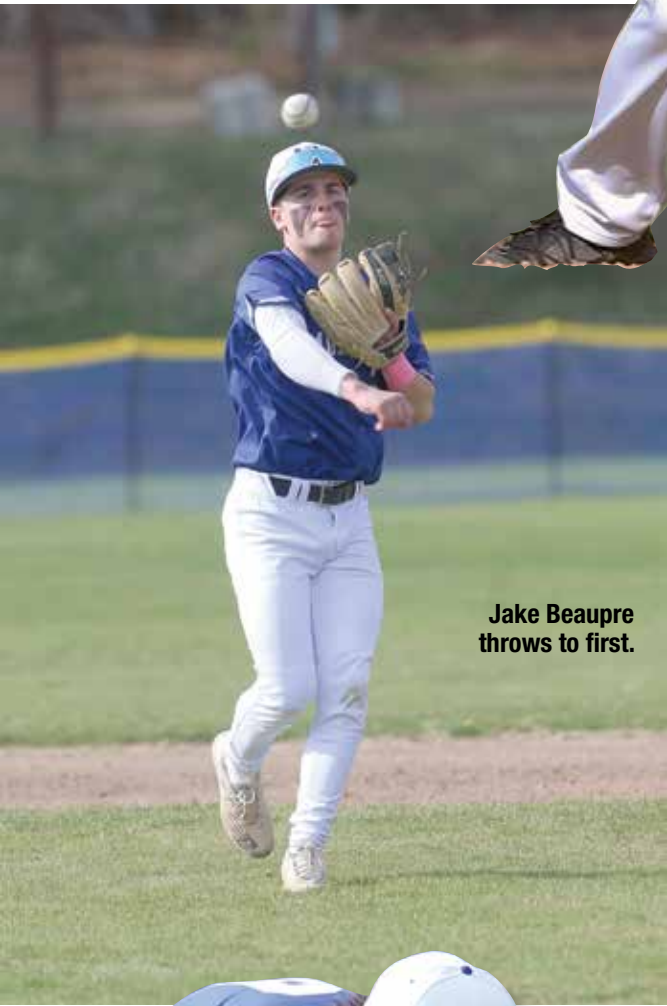
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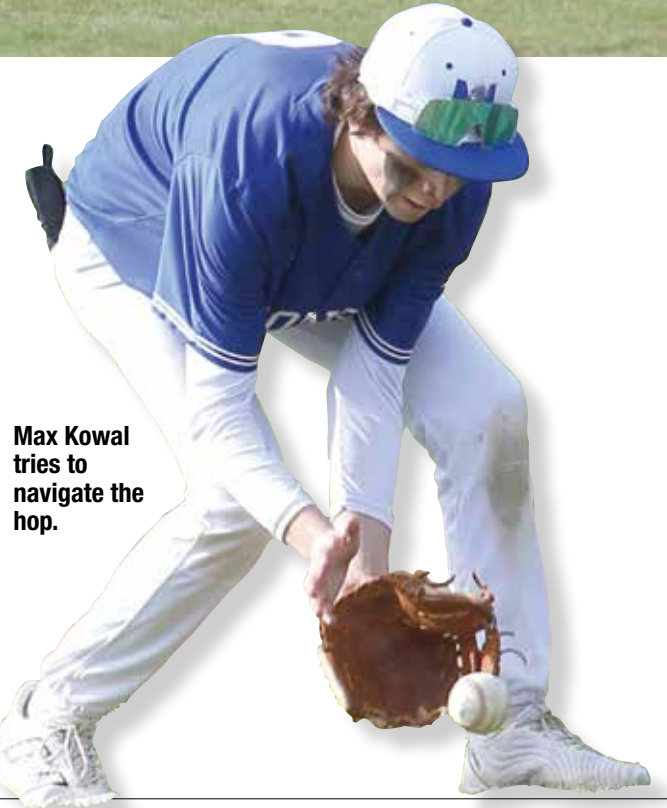
BASEBALL



Jake Beaupre looks to get the tag on Palmer's Dylan Holbrook.



Jake Beaupre throws to first.



Max Kowal tries to navigate the hop.

Matt Santos delivers to the plate for the Panthers.

Panthers edge Mustangs

PALMER – In the latest installment of the Monson-Palmer baseball rivalry, Palmer scored a 4-2 win over Monson last Friday afternoon. The Panthers scored their first win of the season in the victory.



Niko Matthieu fields a grounder.



Joster Ortiz awaits a throw down to second.



Tyler Labonte fires a pitch to the plate.



Brendan Hess slides safely into third.

SOFTBALL

Palmer softball wins over Granby



Jill Holbrook sends an offering to the plate.



Anna King makes a strong throw from short to first.



Avi Lee gets a glove on the ground ball.

GRANBY – Last Thursday afternoon, it was a marathon to the end, and despite an eight-run bottom of the seventh, the Rams came up short, with visiting Palmer prevailing 24-23 in softball action. For host Granby, Cassie Flaherty, Katie Grabherr, and Alexis Lapite had three hits each. Palmer got five hits from Hannah Roy, and Jaydo Pardo, Jill Holbrook, Scarlett LaRose, Anna King, and Jaclyn Swiatowski had three hits each. Granby is 1-2 to start the season while Palmer is now 1-1.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

The Ludlow Sports Complex also includes a new turf football field, which opened last fall. The baseball field was also redone as part of the project. The Lions junior

Junior centerfielder Alex Spurlock and sophomore catcher Nick Dion drew walks, but Meacham got out

Sophomore Christian Kochanek tossed a complete game one-hitter for Ludlow. He had 10 strikeouts.

The victory was the Railers' 34th of the season and brought them to 74 points. They will finish above .500 for the first time 2018-19, their second season in the ECHL. Worcester was 32-29-11 for 75 points that year.

The Bogey Doubles League has six more rounds to go until the season is complete.

as you do. Stay in shape and make new friends. Be part of something that happens once a year, and with luck, win a championship that might be once in a lifetime. Grab your glove and cleats and join a team for a great adventure. It's not too late, don't miss out; opening day is just around the corner. For more information, contact Jim Nason at 413-433-4308 or visit the website www.ValleyWheelBaseball.org

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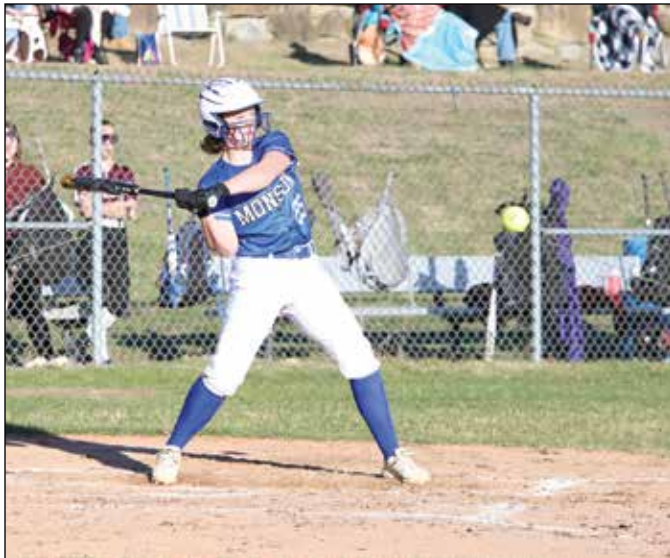
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Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com



Natalie Hull fires a throw to first.

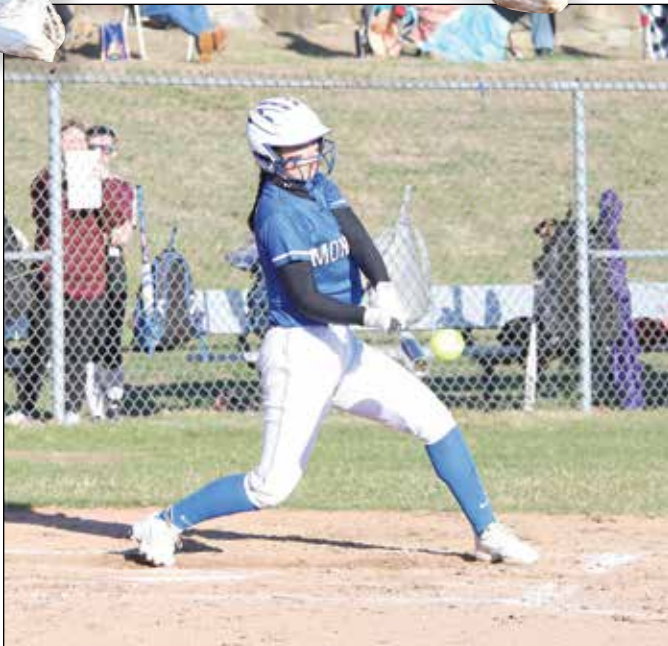


Maya Summers sizes up the ball.

Left-hander Chelsea Hull sends a delivery to the plate.



Molly Szado makes solid contact.



Mustangs come back, take down Lions

MONSON – Early in the season, Ludlow High School softball has been able to put some runs on the scoreboard, but they have had some trouble preventing runs from scoring. Last Tuesday, the Lions had a 5-2 lead after just an inning and a half, but Monson came back with a crooked number, scoring five runs in the bottom of the second leading to a 17-9 win for the Mustangs. Ludlow got three hits from Eris Learned and two hits each from Ava Peczka and Madelyn Goncalves-Korny. Chelsea Hull was 4-for-4 with two home runs and seven RBI. Molly Szado also had four hits in the game, three of them doubles. Monson is 4-0 while Ludlow is 0-3 to start the season.

Liv Harvey reaches up and makes a catch in the outfield.



Ella Corthell heads home on a passed ball.

OT goal lifts T-Birds over Lehigh Valley

ALLENTOWN, Pa. — The Springfield Thunderbirds (34-28-2-4) received a perfect night from their netminder and outlasted the Lehigh Valley Phantoms (33-27-6-2) in a 1-0 overtime win on Saturday night at the PPL Center. Coupled with Hartford's overtime loss in Hershey, the T-Birds' magic number to clinch a play-off berth has fallen to just 1.

After being pressured for 16 first-period shots on Friday in Utica, Springfield was far stingier defensively in the opening frame against their division foes, keeping Lehigh Valley to just seven shots in the first period and making things easy for Vadim Zherenko to keep the opponents off the board.

Parker Gahagen had a similarly strong start for the Phantoms, turning away the eight Springfield offerings that came his way in the first 20 minutes. Furthermore, neither team could connect on one power-play chance each in the opening stanza.

Springfield had its best chance to break the scoreless deadlock in a mad scramble near the net in the second, but Gahagen managed to turn away both Dalibor Dvorsky and Nikita Alexandrov despite being on his belly while trying to keep the puck out.

Lehigh Valley's closest call came off the stick of veteran Anthony Richard, who scooted to the right side of the slot to punch a quick attack on the net after the puck caromed in front off the end boards. Zherenko, though, had the answer, pushing his left leg across for the pad save, one of his 21 stops through 40 minutes. Gahagen took a 20-save shutout into the third for Lehigh Valley.

A tentative third period saw the teams protect the defensive zone. Lehigh Valley's door of opportunity opened when the Phantoms earned their second power play, but

Zherenko and the Springfield penalty kill stiffened. With the game just two seconds away from overtime, the Phantoms nearly won it in the final seconds, but Zherenko flashed out the left leg for a phenomenal in-tight save on Zayde Wisdom to force the game into overtime.

Overtime only further showcased Zherenko's storybook night, as Lehigh Valley relentlessly fired chances at the Springfield net, but none of their eight tries found their way past the Springfield goaltender.

With just a half-minute to play in the extra period, Dvorsky moved back into the Phantoms zone and awaited a trailer. Calen Addison flew in off the Springfield bench, took

a drop pass, and snapped a wrist shot through Gahagen to finally break the ice and give the T-Birds the overtime win on the veteran blueliner's first goal and point as a T-Bird.

Springfield gets a break from game action before taking the ice on Friday inside the Thunderdome at 7:05 p.m. against Belleville. The Hartford Wolf Pack and Hershey Bears square off again on Sunday, and any Hershey victory would punch the Thunderbirds' ticket to the Calder Cup Playoffs.

Fans can get their Thunderbirds tickets for the Calder Cup playoff push today by calling (413) 739-GOAL (4625) or by visiting www.SpringfieldThunderbirds.com.

Open practice rescheduled for new Quabbin Valley players

The Quabbin Valley Over-28 Baseball League is looking to infuse new talent into its league for the 2025 season.

The league is looking for at least six more players to sign up to play in the league this year.

The open practice scheduled for Sunday, April 6 was rained out. Players can still register for the season and the next open practice is scheduled for Sunday, April 13 at 10 a.m. at Beachgrounds Park in South Hadley. Following that practice, new players will be drafted to teams in the league as the

league works to fill its open roster spots.

Registration for the 2025 season is now open and any interested players can go to www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org to get registered, or to seek more information or make inquiries about the league. The league website will also be updated over the next month with information about the upcoming season.

There are many open roster spots available in the league for the 2025 season, which is tentatively scheduled to begin on Sunday, April 27. The league plays most Sunday from late April

through mid-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 normally used.

The Quabbin Valley league is an all-abilities league and all are welcome to join. Eligibility is players 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 2025.

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Police/Fire

FIRE LOGS

Monson Fire Department

Fire log for the Monson Fire Department for the week of March 31 to April 6. The department responded to 21 EMS calls and 4 Fire calls.

On Tuesday, April 1 at 8:13 a.m. the department responded to 102 Main Street

for the vehicle fire. The department returned to service at 8:30 a.m.

On Wednesday, April 2 at 12:35 p.m. the department responded to 54 Beebe Road for the outside fire. The department returned to service at 1:14 p.m.

On Friday, April 4 at 4:48 p.m. the department responded

ed to 100 Peck Brothers for the smoke investigation. The department returned to service at 5:07 p.m.

On Saturday, April 5 at 11:10 a.m. the department responded to 117 Stebbins Road for the smoke investigation. The department returned to service at 11:30 a.m.

Opacum Land Trust challenges you to get outside this April vacation

STURBRIDGE—Are you ready for the More Green, Less Screen Letterboxing Challenge? Leave your devices behind and get OUTSIDE this April vacation week! Explore the outdoors while hunting for hidden letterboxes on properties conserved by Opacum Land Trust from April 19 through April 27. It's fun, it's free, and you could win prizes!

What is letterboxing and how does it work? It's like a treasure hunt! Form a team with your family, your friends, your book club, or even your dog – EVERYONE is welcome to participate! There will be letterboxes for all abilities - clues will include an estimated distance and difficulty so you can choose challenges that are right for you.

You will receive a set of clues to 13 hidden letterboxes on conserved properties in Brimfield, Holland,

Monson, Southbridge, and Sturbridge. Once you locate a letterbox, open it up to find a unique rubber stamp, ink pad, and a logbook. Finders bring their own logbook (any notebook will work) and add the Opacum stamp to it to prove you found the letterbox. Optionally, you can bring your own stamp and add it to our logbook along with a note to future finders.

Find at least 3 boxes between April 19 nd April 27 to be entered in a drawing for prizes. Find more boxes? Get more entries! Find 5 or more boxes for 2 entries. Find 10 or more boxes for 5 entries. At the end of the week, submit a photo of all the stamps that you've collected to be entered into the drawing.

Grab your kids, your dog, or a hiking partner, bring your walking shoes, and discover the fun in your

own backyard. Perfect for all ages and abilities. For more information and to register for this free event visit www.OpacumLT.org/events/ or call our office at 508-347-9144.

About Opacum Land Trust:

Opacum Land Trust is a regional, non-profit land conservation organization that protects land, water, and wildlife for current and future generations. Founded in 2000, Opacum currently protects over 4,000 acres of land and is actively working to protect more land across south-central Massachusetts.

Reach out to us at Opacum Land Trust, PO Box 233, Sturbridge, MA 01566; info@opacumlt.org, (508) 347-9144 and check out our website for events, properties you can visit, and ways to get involved at www.OpacumLT.org



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The Town of Warren Highway Department is seeking a qualified candidate for the full-time position of Driver/Laborer/Machine Operator. The Town of Warren is committed to equal opportunity, encourages diversity and inclusion, and believes that a positive culture of inclusion in Town governance contributes to the Town's overall qualities as a great place to live and work. We welcome all to apply.

Salary: Starting at \$23.28 per hour with the potential of going to \$24.78 per hour on July 1st.

Hours: M-Thurs., 6:00am – 4:00pm, - April 1 – Nov. 30
M-F 6:00am – 2:00pm, - Dec. 1 – March 31

Overtime is required for: emergency calls and including during snow and ice storms.
Required Licensing/Certification: Possession of a valid 2B Hoisting License and MA Class B CDL.

Applicants: To be considered for this vacancy, please submit a cover letter and resume by no later than **4:00 pm on Thursday April 10th, 2025**. Resumes will be accepted via email to Jeremy Olson at olson@warren-ma.gov, or dropped off to: Town of Warren Highway Department 87 Brimfield Rd, Warren, MA 01083 or mailed to: Warren Highway Department P.O. Box 628, Warren, MA 01083.

For a complete job description please visit the Town's website www.warren-ma.gov.

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Obituaries

Catherine M. (Marhelewicz) Bousquet

Catherine M. (Marhelewicz) Bousquet, 71, passed away on April 4, 2025, with her husband and son by her side at Baystate Medical Center. She was the beloved wife of David Bousquet and loving mother to her son, Marc Bousquet both of Bondsville. She is also survived by her brother, Stephen Marhelewicz, and his wife Diane of Palmer and her sister-in-law, Christina Bousquet of Wakefield, RI and three nieces, and one nephew. She was predeceased by her parents, Chester and Alice (Stachurski) Marhelewicz.

Born on Nov. 21, 1953, in Palmer, MA, Catherine grew up in Three Rivers before moving to Bondsville in 1980, where she lived for the rest of her life. She had a distinguished career as an Information Architect at



MassMutual Insurance Company for 34 years, retiring in 2009. She was a graduate of Simmons College in Boston, class of 1975 and was valedictorian of her graduating high school class of 1971.

Catherine had a passion for reading and found great joy in diving into her favorite books. She also enjoyed watching British murder mysteries and spent many fulfilling hours working in her beloved flower garden.

All services will be private. The arrangements have been entrusted to Beers & Story Palmer Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to St. Jude's Hospital for Children or to the Dana Farber in her memory. For more information, please visit www.beersandstory.com

Catherine Marie "Cathy" (Carlson) Day

Catherine Marie "Cathy" (Carlson) Day, 56, passed away in her home on March 31, 2025, surrounded by family and friends after a brave 2 1/2 year battle with breast cancer. Cathy was born on April 9, 1968 in Springfield, MA. The daughter of Paul S. and Donna M. (McGarry) Carlson, she graduated from Chicopee High School in 1986.

Cathy's life changed forever in September 1988, when on a blind date, she met the love of her life, Jeffrey A. Day. Cathy and Jeff were married on July 21, 1990. Cathy continued her education at Bay Path University, earning her Associates and Bachelors Degrees in Business. Cathy was a dedicated employee at Mass Mutual in Springfield, for 26 years, working in Human Resources. Most recently, she worked for Legrand, North America before retiring.

Cathy loved reading and playing cards, and she played to win! She was an avid traveler, camper and shopper. Cathy loved her camp family at Village Green in Brimfield, where she and Jeff spent their entire summers. Her fine jewelry, which Jeff referred to as "trinkets and baubles", were a staple of her everyday fashion and most often worn with some shade of pink. On many occasions, you would find Cathy working on building Legos, especially her flower sets. No matter the time of year, when the TV was on you could rest assured that

it was a Hallmark Christmas movie... and the suspense as to how it would end was, well, nonexistent. Cathy had a great love for dogs, especially Jake, Molly and her sleeping buddy Scooby. Scooby stayed close by Cathy whenever she received chemotherapy treatments. One of Cathy's legacies will be the amazing family and friends Holiday gatherings. Her delectable sweet potato casserole was always a hit! Lest we not forget, her and Jeff's epic and awesome Halloween parties! The yard and home interior were transformed into fabulous, creepy and dreamlike Halloween fantasy lands. Family and friends spent months planning and preparing their glad rags in hope of taking home the top costume of the night. It was truly an honor to be voted into the top 3 by all the guests! Cathy touched many lives in so many ways, too many to mention. If you knew Cathy, consider yourself blessed.

Cathy was predeceased by her brother Jimmy, her niece Angela Santiago, and her mother-in-law Linda, with whom she is now dress shopping with in Heaven. She heard there was a BOGO sale going on! Cathy was so loved and will be deeply missed by her husband of over 34 years, Jeffrey A. Day, Sr.; their children, Rebecca and Jeffrey, Jr. and his partner Jessica Jorge; and her



granddaughter, Savannah Marie Day. She leaves behind her mother, Donna; her father, Paul; brother, Michael Jasmin, his wife Kellis, and their children Holly and Jon; brother, Joe Carlson, his wife Heather and their children Ricky, Lauren, Libby, Samantha, Paul and Christian; brother, Charlie, his wife Linda and their daughter Emily; and her sister, Amanda. Cathy also leaves her father-in-law, Forris B. Day Sr.; brother-in-law, Butch Day, his wife Renee and their children Aaron, Sam and Christine; brother-in-law, Scott C. Day, his wife Catherine and their children Meghan, Aidan, and Goddaughter Kathleen; brother-in-law, Eric and his wife Erica; sister-in-law Tammy, her children Devin and Josh, and her Goddaughter Shavonne Santiago.

Visitation will be held on April 11, 2025 from 3 to 7 p.m. at the Beers & Story Palmer Funeral Home. A celebration of Catherine's life will be scheduled for a future date. For those wishing, donations in Cathy's name can be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital by visiting stjude.org or to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute by visiting dana-farber.org. Please visit www.afterall.com/obituaries/d-20015653 to extend online condolences.

Lawrence (Larry) Ochs

Lawrence (Larry) Ochs, age 83, of Three Rivers, MA, passed away on April 2, 2025, with his loving family by his side. He was born on February 25, 1942, to William and Irene (Barter) Ochs, and proudly served his country in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam Era.

Larry began his professional journey working for Guaranty Loan, but his true passions led him to pursue a career in sales. He transitioned to freelancing as a painter before opening a woodstove and chimney business. However, it was his work at Zep Inc. that he truly loved. Larry dedicated 20 years to the company, retiring in 2015. After his retirement, he continued to share his expertise as a sales representative for Algonquin.

In addition to his professional achievements, Larry was a man of many passions. He was a devoted practitioner of Transcendental Meditation and enjoyed the peace it brought him. A lover of nature, he enjoyed hunting and fishing, as well as time spent on Cape Cod. He cherished



swimming in the Nantucket Sound and relished every opportunity to visit the beach.

Larry was the beloved husband of 63 years to Carol (Pelletier) Ochs of Three Rivers. He was a loving father to Larry Ochs Jr. and the late Shawshee of Ludlow, Angela Rice and David of Thorndike, and John Ochs and Chrissy of Thorndike. He was the proud grandfather of seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, with one more on the way. Larry is also survived by three siblings: Kathy Pare, Cynthia Johnson, and Suzanne Plescia.

He was predeceased by his parents, William and Irene (Barter) Ochs, and his siblings: Danny, Billy, Stephen, and Virginia Ochs.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Veterans Home in Holyoke, 110 Cherry St., Holyoke, MA 01040. All services are private and Beers & Story Palmer Funeral Home was entrusted with the arrangements. For more information visit beersandstory.com

Richard H. Stanton ~ 1924-2025



BRIMFIELD—Richard H. Stanton, 100, born on April 25, 1924, in Palmer, MA, passed away peacefully at home on April 1, 2025. He lived a full and vibrant life dedicated to his family and his passions.

Richard retired from Rathbone Corporation in Palmer, MA after many years. He also honorably served in the U.S. Army during World War II, a time he remembered with pride throughout his life.

One of Richard's proudest accomplishments was building his own home in Brimfield, where he lived since 1955. He cherished this place, filled with memories and moments of joy with family and friends.

He was known for his love of gardening, where he grew the most amazing veg-

etables that were admired by all. Alongside that, he enjoyed wood-working and spent countless hours making wooden toys. His love for the outdoors included turkey and deer hunting, activities that brought him peace and happiness.

Richard is survived by his two sons, Richard H. Stanton Jr and his wife Melanie, and Michael E. Stanton; his daughters Lorraine "Dolly" Goodreau and her husband Lawrence, Heidi A. Deschenes and her husband Andre, and Becky E. Stockman. He was a proud grandfather to sixteen grandchildren and had many great-grandchildren, all of whom he loved dearly.

He was preceded in death by his loving wife



Lorraine R (Blake) Stanton and his daughter Sally B. Smith. Richard will be remembered for his kind spirit, dedication to his family, and the wonderful legacy he leaves behind.

Services have been entrusted to Lombard Funeral Home of Monson. A graveside service with Military Honors was held Monday, April 7, 2025 at 11 a.m. at Brimfield Cemetery in Brimfield.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to: Baystate Hospice, 30 Capital Drive, West Springfield, MA 01089 or Here Today Adopted Tomorrow 180 Sturbridge Road, Brimfield, MA 01010.

For online condolences please visit www.lombardfuneralhome.com

Rural Farming forum to be held

REGION — The Brimfield Democratic Committee encourages all interested farmers to attend the "Rural Farming Forum" on Monday, April 14 from 5 to 7:30 pm.

Speak with agencies and organizations supporting local farmers including Quabog Valley Food Policy Council, The Carrot Project, East Quabbin Land Trust, Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, Hardwick Farmer's Coop, and more.

The keynote speaker is Anne Gobi, Massachusetts Director of Rural Affairs. The forum will be held at the Grand Room, second floor, West Brookfield Town Hall.

For more information, contact Eric von Bleicken, chair of the West Brookfield Board of Selectmen, at evonbleicken@wbrookfield.com.

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DEATH NOTICES

Catherine M. (Marhelewicz) Bousquet
Died April 4, 2025
Services are private
Beers & Story Funeral Home

Catherine Marie "Cathy" (Carlson) Day
Died March 31, 2025
Services April 11, 2025
Beers & Story Funeral Home

Lawrence (Larry) Ochs
Died April 2, 2025
Services are private
Beers & Story Funeral Home

Richard H. Stanton
Died April 1, 2025
Services April 7, 2025
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 \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

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.

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TOWN OF WILBRAHAM Library Director

The Town of Wilbraham is looking for a Library Director to join our team. For application and more info, visit **www.wilbraham-ma.gov**. Application deadline 4/25/2025

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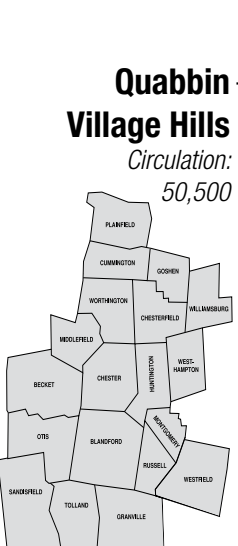
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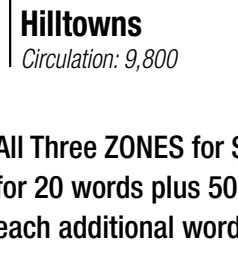
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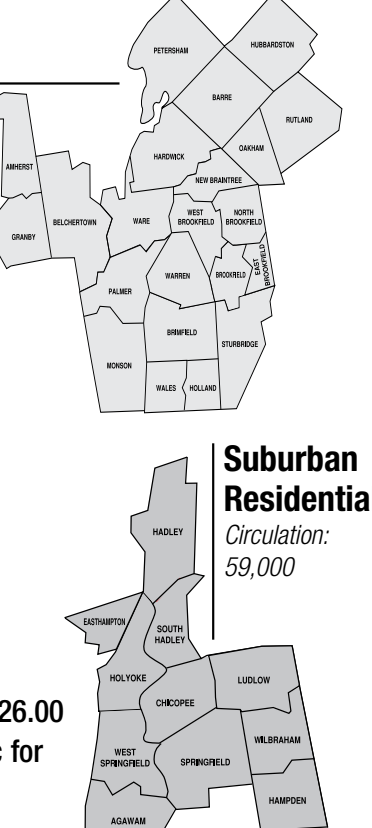
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Public Notices

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD25P0526EA
Estate of:
Frank Oscar Gerle
Also known as:
Frank O Gerle
Date of Death:01/02/2025
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for S/A - **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Ronald C Klisiewicz of Monson, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Ronald C Klisiewicz of Monson, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/17/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: March 20, 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
04/10/2025

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
Docket No. HD25P0526EA
Estate of:
Frank Oscar Gerle
Also Known As:
Frank O. Gerle
Date of Death:
January 2, 2025
INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Ronald C. Klisiewicz of Monson, MA**.

Ronald C. Klisiewicz of Monson, MA

has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal

procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
04/10/2025

**LEGAL NOTICE
Monson
Conservation Commission**
Under the requirements of M.G.L. Chapter 131 §40, the Monson Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, April 23, 2025 at 7:20 PM** in the Large Meeting Room, Town Office Building, 110 Main St., Monson, MA. Under consideration is a Request for Determination of Applicability to determine if the work associated with the replacement of an existing deck including new footings in the buffer zone for the property located at 3 Lakeside Drive, identified as Assessor's Map 075, Parcel 111, is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act. The Applicants are Ibrahim & Susan Azar.
Submitted by:
Monson Conservation Commission
04/10/2025

**Town of Wales
Conservation Commission
Notice of Public Hearing**
n accordance with the Wetland Protection Act, Chapter 131, Section 40, a Public Hearing will be held by the Wales Conservation Commission on **April 17th, 2025, at the Wales Senior Center (Old Stafford Rd. Wales, MA) at 6:00 PM**, for a Notice of Intent filed by John & Constance Tierinni, located at 21 Shore Dr. Wales, MA 01081. This application is for the proposed replacement of crumbling retaining wall and install drainage to improve water retention, please see the town website under Conservation Commission for updates or email conservation@townofwales.net with any questions or concerns. x
04/10/2025

**LEGAL NOTICE
Monson
Conservation Commission**
Under the requirements of M.G.L. Chapter 131 §40, the Monson Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, April 23, 2025 at 7:40 PM** in the Large Meeting Room, Town Office Building, 110 Main St., Monson, MA. Under consideration is a Notice of Intent for renovations to an existing warehouse building, installation of parking & storage yard facilities, utilities, stormwater management system, and landscaping within Riverfront Area for the property located at 132 Bethany Rd, identified as Assessor's Map 111, Parcel 073. The Applicant is National Grid.
Submitted by:
Monson Conservation Commission
04/10/2025

**Town of Monson
Zoning Board of Appeals
LEGAL NOTICE**
In accordance with Chapter 40A M.G. L. §.11, the Monson Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing **Thursday, April 24th, 2025 at 7:05 P.M.** in the Select Board meeting room at the Town Administration Building, 110 Main Street on the application of Ronald Florek 149 Stafford Road, Monson, MA for a special permit as provided by §6.6 Earth Removal of the Monson Zoning Bylaws to conduct an Earth Removal operation. The property is zoned Rural Residential and located at 149 Stafford Road, Map 80, Parcel 21 and Map 101 Parcel 2. A copy of the application is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk, Zoning Board of Appeals and is available for viewing during regular office hours.
Ronald Fussell, Chairman
Case No: ZBA2025-02
04/10, 04/17/2025

**LEGAL NOTICE
Monson
Conservation Commission**
Under the requirements of M.G.L. Chapter 131 §40, the Monson Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, April 23, 2025 at 7:30 PM** in the Large Meeting Room, Town Office Building, 110 Main St., Monson, MA. Under consideration is a Request for Determination of Applicability to determine if the work associated with test pits and soil borings in Bordering Land Subject to Flooding within the ROW for Bunyan Rd and for the property located at 70 Palmer Rd, identified as Assessor's Map 111, Parcel 067, is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act. The Applicant is Fuss & O'Neill. Property owner is Golf Two Enterprises, Inc.
Submitted by:
Monson Conservation Commission
04/10/2025

der consideration is a Request for Determination of Applicability to determine if the work associated with test pits and soil borings in Bordering Land Subject to Flooding within the ROW for Bunyan Rd and for the property located at 70 Palmer Rd, identified as Assessor's Map 111, Parcel 067, is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act. The Applicant is Fuss & O'Neill. Property owner is Golf Two Enterprises, Inc.
Submitted by:
Monson Conservation Commission
04/10/2025

**LEGAL NOTICE
Monson
Conservation Commission**
Under the requirements of M.G.L. Chapter 131 §40, the Monson Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, April 23, 2025 at 7:50 PM** in the Large Meeting Room, Town Office Building, 110 Main St., Monson, MA. Under consideration is a Request for Determination of Applicability to confirm the boundaries of wetland resource areas within the CSX railroad right-of-way from the Wilbraham town line near Route 20 to Palmer town line near Route 20, under the Wetlands Protection Act. The Applicant is CSX Transportation, Inc.
Submitted by:
Monson Conservation Commission
04/10/2025

**(SEAL)
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
Docket No. 25 SM 000872
ORDER OF NOTICE**
TO: **Joshua Labarre**
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (*et seq*).
NewRez LLC d/b/a Shell-point Mortgage Servicing
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Palmer, numbered 97 Laurel Road, given by **Joshua Labarre to "MERS", Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., a separate corporation that is acting solely as nominee for PFN Lending Group, Inc., "Lender"; and its successors and assigns**, dated December 20, 2022, and registered in the Hampden County Registry District of the Land Court as Document No. 232,650 and noted on Certificate of Title No. 40100, and now held by Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.
If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before **5/5/2025** or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of non-compliance with the Act.
Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on 3/24/2025
Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
04/10/2025

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD25P0701EA
Estate of:
Richard Raymond Padykula, Sr.
Date of Death: 10/31/2024
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**
To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has

been filed by **Richard R Padykula, Jr. of Deltona, FL** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Richard R Padykula, Jr. of Deltona, FL** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/02/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 04, 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
04/10/2025

**PALMER
PLANNING BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 40A, Section 5 M.G.L. the Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on **Monday, April 28th, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Town Hall Administration Building 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA to consider amending the Town of Palmer Zoning Map for a change of zoning districts from the Rural Residential District to the Neighborhood Business District. Two parcels are affected by this zoning amendment, specifically 3090-3092 Palmer Street (Map 29 Lot 1) and 3098 Palmer Street (Map 24 Lot 4).

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

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

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

Michael Marciniac, Chairman
04/10, 04/17/2025

**PALMER
PLANNING BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 40A, Section 5 M.G.L. the Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on **Monday, April 28th, 2025 at 7:15 p.m.** in the Town Hall Administration Building 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA to consider amending the Town of Palmer Zoning Map for a change of zoning districts from the Town Residential District to the Highway Business District. Two parcels on Park St. are affected by this zoning amendment, specifically Map 55 Lot 143 and Map 55 Lot 145.

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

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

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

Michael Marciniac, Chairman
04/10, 04/17/2025

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD25P0691EA
Estate of:
Thomas J Reed
Also known as:
Thomas John Reed
Date of Death: 01/22/2025
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Jeffrey J Reed of Wales, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Jeffrey J Reed of Wales, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/01/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 03, 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
04/10/2025

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD25C0091CA
In the matter of:
Annabelle June Rusk
CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME**
A **Petition to Change Name of Adult** has been filed by **Annabelle June Rusk of Monson, MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

**Thomas Wade Rusk
IMPORTANT NOTICE**
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/25/2025.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you

must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: March 28, 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
04/10/2025

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD25P0732PM
In the matter of:
Eileen Bruni
Of: Palmer, MA
RESPONDENT
(Person to be Protected/ Minor)
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304 & §5-405**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Alfred P Bruni** of Palmer, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that **Eileen Bruni** is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that **Alfred P Bruni** of Palmer, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of **05/06/2025**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

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

Witness, Hon. **Barbara M. Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 08, 2025
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
04/10/2025

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

