

QUABOAG CURRENT

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Quaboag Current
Newspaper

REGION PMP names new sponsor p5	STURBRIDGE Fire Dept. open house p3	WARREN Cougars win game p9	Editorial/Opinion 4 Sports 9	Classifieds 14 Police Logs 15
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Volume 17, Number 24

Friday, May 10, 2024

'Rough Seas, Safe Harbor'

Wings of Song presents spring show May 11, 18 and 19

STURBRIDGE – Wings of Song, a community chorus that draws its 50+ members from many communities in south-central Massachusetts and northeastern Connecticut, will perform its spring show, "Rough Seas, Safe Harbor".

The first performance will be held on Saturday, May 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Church, 16 East Main St., Webster; followed by Saturday, May 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the First Church of Monson, Congregational, 5 High St., Monson; and on Sunday, May 19 at 2:30 p.m. at St. Anne-St. Patrick Parish, 16 Church St., Fiskdale (Sturbridge).

Admission to all three concerts is free, with a freewill offering collected at intermission. "Rough Seas, Safe Harbor"

See **WINGS** | PAGE 8



Brooks Milgate accompanies the chorus on the piano. TURLEY PHOTO BY PAULA QUIMETTE

Asparagus chowder tradition celebrates 26 years

Staff Report

WEST BROOKFIELD – The First Congregational Church of West Brookfield, UCC, 36 North Main St., has been making and serving asparagus chowder on the common since the beginning of the Asparagus & Flower Heritage Festival.

This year's festival will be held on Saturday, May 18 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Chowder crew member Terry Hall said when the festival started 25 years ago, it actually started in this church.

A parishioner, David Cameron, had researched local cemeteries and then approached

See **ASPARAGUS** | PAGE 2

Friends of library host annual spring event



Hazel Gaines, age 7, is all smiles as she makes giant bubbles with her sister Brooke, age 8. TURLEY PHOTO BY PAULA QUIMETTE

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The Friends of the Haston Free Public Library held another successful May Festival, giving the community a chance

to shop local for Mother's Day from a variety of crafters and vendors.

The North Brookfield Cul-

See **SPRING** | PAGE 12

Musical lights the stage in North Brookfield

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The beloved musical "Mamma Mia" has enjoyed box office success in its first weekend on the stage of North Brookfield Elementary School.

Presented by the Theatre Guild of North Brookfield, this beloved musical can make the crowd dance, laugh and cry. The cast and crew have been working hard since February to bring the show to life.

"Mamma Mia" will also be performed Friday, May 10 and Saturday, May 11 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, May 12 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15 adults and \$12 seniors and children age 12 and under.

For the first time in their history the Theatre Guild of North



Amber King as Sophie alongside the three fathers portrayed by Jay Valencourt, Mark Smith and Derek Ingalls.

Brookfield has performed a production of "Mamma Mia". The show features over 30 cast members consisting of Theatre Guild regulars and first-time performers making their debut on stage.

The Theatre Guild of North Brookfield is a non-profit organization that has been creating and presenting local community theatre for over 40 years. Bring-

See **MUSICAL** | PAGE 6



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BBB Event Thursday, May 23

Join us at the Farm from 4:30 - 8:00 PM for great music, local beer, and mouthwatering food.

*Offer for dine-in only. Coupons not accepted with this offer

- community -

An 18th century study of the mind itself

By Emily-Rose Pappas
Staff Writer
epappas@turley.com

STURBRIDGE – Old Sturbridge Village hosted a variety of events over the weekend, and one such event dealt with the study of the mind according to a scientist from the 18th century.

Tom Kelleher portrayed a scientist known as Nelson Sizer, who came forward to give a presentation on the study of phrenology, which was introduced by Franz Joseph Gall.

Gall theorized that the shape of the head – the skull and its many ridges and bumps – can determine someone’s behaviors, personality and intellect.

This is done by using Fowler’s model of the brain shows 37 independent “organs” within the brain that are each responsible for a specific function, emotion, or behavior.

“The shape of our skulls, and therefore brains, are unique to each of us,” Kelleher explained. “Phrenology can put each person where they are supposed to be.”

Theses “organs,” for example, include one on top of the head that can represent how theological one may consider themselves (the larger, the more religious the person).

“The mind is ethereal,” Kelleher explained. “But the brain has mass and can be learned about. By studying the brain, we can learn about the mind.”

Fowler, in the creation of this brain model, emphasized the first ever idea of self-help, following the idea from Greek philosophers to “know thyself”.

Today, we have practices such as psychology and psychiatry because of this building block of phrenology, and we can all learn more about ourselves, and each other.



Jillian Zamorski’s has her skull examined by Tom Kelleher portraying scientist Nelson Sizer. TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS



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Try a free Tai Chi Class at the Senior Center

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Join the North Brookfield Senior Center for Tai Chi classes on Tuesday afternoons at 1 p.m. for strength, balance, relaxation and fun

The cost is only \$5 per 45-minute class led by certified Tai Chi instructor Jen Tetreault. Tetreault will take you through some easy warm up exercises, then move on to gentle relaxing movement patterns that will increase your strength, ease stress and improve cardiovascular health.

You do not need to be a North Brookfield resident to take advantage of this weekly class, and your first session is free.

The classes are open to anyone between the ages of 50 and 99. Tetreault will help you modify the movements, if necessary, by using a chair for seated moves or to have on hand for balance.

Who knew caring for yourself and improving mental health and well-being could be so much fun? It’s all here at the North Brookfield Senior Center, 29 Forest St.

Call the senior center at 508-867-0220 if you have questions about the Tai Chi class or want information on other center programs.

ASPARAGUS | FROM PAGE 1

the church members about using the asparagus theme as a new fundraiser for the church, to have a festival to celebrate asparagus. After a few years, the townspeople stepped up to continue the festival.

Last year, the church decided to move their booth from the common and serve and sell it on the church lawn.

“We have many followers who wait for and look forward to chowder,” said Hall.

Also, as a new offering, the church sold cold quarts of the chowder to go in addition to offering cups of hot chowder to enjoy at the festival.

“This year we will offer both cold chowder on both lawn and common, though hot chowder will only be offered on the church lawn,” said Hall.

“The chowder is a long held secret recipe. Our beloved church member who has since passed, Sandy Plumb created this recipe 26 years ago and we have honored her by continuing the recipe” said Hall.

Proceeds from the chowder sale have been a significant assistance to the ministry of the church.

The volunteers starts cutting vegetables on the Wednesday prior to vegetable. The volunteer team is made of 30 people which includes set up and break down teams in addition to kitchen staff.

On Thursday, the kitchen crew begins the cooking process which runs through Saturday. The crew makes 55 pots, with each pot containing 11 quarts to a pot.

“Rain or shine we do this chowder,” said Karen Murphy. “Several years ago, there was a worry about the heat and humidity. Last year we had rain.”

In addition to the hot and cold chowder, an assortment of cookies, coffee and soft drinks are available at the church.

“The church is continually grateful to the Asparagus & Flower Heritage Festival committee for their efforts to provide a well-respected event that everyone near and far look forward to attending” said Hall.



WARE PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAM 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

School Choice openings for the 2024-2025 school year:

Grade 1.....	5
Grade 2.....	9
Grade 3.....	5
Grade 4.....	4
Grade 7.....	19
Grade 8.....	21
Grade 9.....	16
Grade 10.....	15
Grade 11.....	12
Grade 12.....	15

The School Choice application can be downloaded at www.wareps.org or picked up at Central Office 239 West Street, Ware, MA 01082

Deadline to submit applications is **May 31, 2024**

The selection of non-resident students for admission will be in the form of a random drawing, when the number of requests exceed the number of available spaces. The drawing, if needed, will take place on **June 3, 2024**.

The Ware Public School District strives to work with parents and the wider community to educate all students in an environment that supports high academic achievement, instills respect and fosters civic responsibility. We believe that the ultimate goal of education is to support students as successful lifelong learners.

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MAKERSPACE

Our Makerspace features innovative rooms that provide students with a hands-on experience. Whether working on our Milling Machine or working with a variety of hand equipment/technology, each student will have the opportunity to put together a number of finished products in one of our seven innovative workstations. Through teamwork, research and development, students will develop problem solving and critical thinking skills, which will help prepare them for the real world.

CERTIFIED NURSE ASSISTANT

This advanced course for direct healthcare workers consists of academic and interactive, hands-on coursework. Foundational competency skills will be taught along with Healthcare Professionalism, Common Chronic Diseases, Patient-Caretaker Skills in a simulated home-care setting, Emergency Communication Procedures and two courses that lead to national certification: CPR/AED and Supportive Aide for Alzheimer’s and Dementia. After taking this course, students can apply for their license to be eligible to work as a CNA.

To learn more about the programs offered at WJSHS, visit: https://whs.wareps.org/for_parents/guidance/course_catalog

WORK-BASED LEARNING

This opportunity allows juniors and seniors to enter an unpaid, educational work experience with an individual, company, or community organization. The purpose of the Work Based Learning Experience is to gain meaningful work skills and practices as related to the student’s future career interests.

DUAL ENROLLMENT

The Dual Enrollment Program allows juniors and seniors the opportunity to earn academic credit at both the college and high school level simultaneously. Dual Enrollment students enjoy the connection to their high school as well as the challenging and independent setting of the college.

VIRTUAL HIGH SCHOOL

Virtual High School offers a catalog of full semester courses in the Arts, Foreign Language, Language Arts, Life Skills, Math, Science, Social Studies, Technology and AP1 Study to students in VHS member schools.

It is the policy of the Ware Public Schools not to discriminate on the basis of age, sex, race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, homelessness, military service, union activity or genetics in its educational programs, activities or employment policies as required by Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments, Chapter 622 of the Massachusetts General Laws, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Equal Educational Opportunities Act of 1974, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, M.G.L. c. 71A and c. 76, s. 5.

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- community -

Fire department opens their station to community

By Emily-Rose Pappas
Staff Writer
epappas@turley.com

STURBRIDGE – The Fire Department hosted an open house this past weekend on “May the 4th,” complete with Star Wars theme songs playing and plenty of character costumes.

Michael Gelinas, a firefighter and EMT on the department, said of the open house, “A lot of people don’t get to see them [the trucks], so it shows the community what we do.”

“My favorite part is the interaction with the community,” Lt. Matthew Roderick, a firefighter for 27 years, said. “It not only allows us to give back, but also show where the tax dollars are going.”

The department has been hosting these open houses off and on for about 20 years, taking a break because of COVID-19.

“We try to cover it all,” Steve Joyce, the head of the S.A.F.E. Program, said. This includes demonstrations, tours of vehicles and the station, and more.

The department is working to bring

awareness about opioids. The S.O.S. initiative, or Sturbridge Opioid Support, operates with a grant that allows community access to free Narcan.

“This is really important to me because if this was more accessible, more people could have been alive today,” Lt. Jennifer Ashe said.

The open house also had EMTs Luke Quattrocelli and Jonathan Becker showing people the technology and equipment that is kept on an ambulance.

The LUCAS machine that pumps a person’s chest to keep a heart beating, a defibrillator, and in-bags that contain medical supplies from bandages to medicines, and more.

The paramedics and firefighters also gave a demonstration on how the ladder truck could be used to rescue someone who fell unconscious on a high platform.

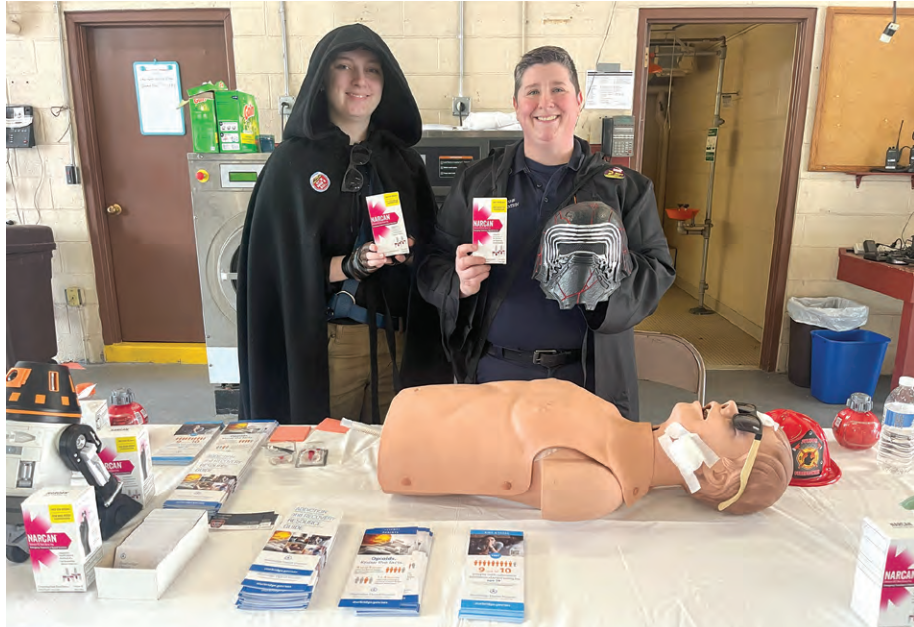
The open house was a great success, and all who came got to meet the firefighters and paramedics face-to-face, and the firefighters got the chance to show the community how much they are there for them.



Officer Danna with K9 Raya after doing a fun search exercise. TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS



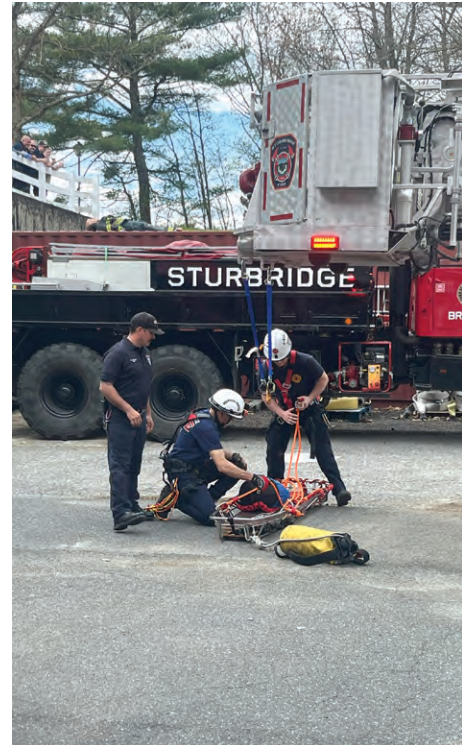
Steve Joyce with the S.A.F.E. table, loaded with hats and fun prizes for kids learning about fire safety.



Lt. Jennifer Ashe (right) and her daughter Sam Loy (left) taught people how to administer life-saving Narcan.



EMT Luke Quattrocelli and Jonathan Becker with the ambulance teaching attendees how the equipment, in-bags, and defibrillator are used to save a life.



Paramedics demonstrated how the ladder truck can be used to lift a stretcher to rescue someone on a high spot.

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in the Garden

by Roberta McQuaid

Pointers for happy plants

I read somewhere that the new frost free date for our area is May 8.

In discussing this finding with a fellow gardener, she said, "I still wait until Memorial Day. It just seems way too early to put peppers or tomatoes into the garden." I wait too.

It is more than just the frost free date, it's also about how sufficiently the soil has warmed up. With temps hovering in the mid 40's today, I can't imagine our tropical loving plants would be very happy dealing with that.

Besides choosing an appropriate planting date, there are a few other pointers at this stage of the game will help to get your garden off to a good start.

Whether you purchase plants at a local garden center or grow your own on windowsills or under lights, it is important that they be hardened off before being set into the ground.

Some nurseries take care of this for you by removing them from the greenhouse and placing them on benches outdoors where they get accustomed to wind, rain, fluctuating temperatures, and hot sun. If the plants you purchased came from inside the greenhouse hardening them off at home is relatively easy.

Introduce seedlings to the outdoors gradually, by placing them in a protected location, safe from whipping winds and scalding sun, for a small amount of time each day. Water frequently but withhold any fertilizer.

Over the course of a week to 10 days the amount of time spent outdoors should increase until plants have spent a full day outside. Once they have, they can be considered "tough enough" to be planted in the ground.

Transplanting is best done on a cloudy, drizzly day. Early evening is another option should nice days persist.

Under these circumstances roots will be allowed some recovery time before having sustain the plant in the sun and wind. Seedlings should be watered well prior to transplanting.

On occasion I have even kept a bucket of water with me in the garden in which I submerge six packs of plants for a few seconds to moisten them thoroughly before planting in dry soil.

The planting hole should be dug slightly larger than the container in which the plant was growing. Depending on the type of plant, compost and fertilizers can be added to the hole and mixed with the surrounding soil to insure adequate fertility.

Plant the seedlings at the same depth they were growing in their containers, no deeper. One exception to this rule is tomatoes, whose stems sprout roots!

For less leggy tomatoes, plant them deeply, even in trenches with only a few sets of leaves above ground.

Examine the root ball of seedlings carefully. If the roots are tightly woven together, they may need to be "butterflied," or gently pulled apart to encourage future rooting in new soil.

After planting, firm soil around roots, and water well. If water drains away from the seedling make a basin of soil a few inches from the plant's stem to keep water where it is needed.

If sunny days and warm temperatures are expected soon after transplanting it is a good

- opinion -



Letter-to-the-editor

Correctional Professional Appreciation Week starts May 5

To the Editor,

The week of May 5 is recognized as Correctional Professionals Appreciation Week.

Here at the Hampshire County Sheriff's Office, we like to call it Staff Appreciation Week because we are more than correctional professionals. Those who are members of this department are hard-working educators, nurses, chefs, maintenance and administrative professionals, deputy sheriffs and correctional officers who contribute to the health and safety of their fellow residents of the Hampshire County community, 365 days a year.

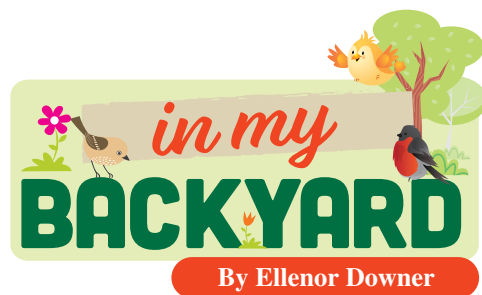
I am proud of my many years of appointed and elected service to my community. I am also proud of the work that the

members of the Sheriff's Office do every day of the week.

These staff members provide community services through our Civil Process Office, our Community Justice Support Center, our Bridge to the Future House, the Rocky Hill Re-Entry Collaborative, our regional police lock-up, our Triad Department for senior services, as well as the rehabilitative programming taking place at the jail and house of correction.

If you happen to recognize a member of the Hampshire Sheriff's Department, all I ask is that you give a nod of thanks for what they do to keep us safe.

Patrick J. Cahillane
Sheriff, Hampshire County



The great blue heron returned to its nest last week.

Last week, I finally saw a great blue heron on a nest located in a dead tree on the beaver pond, which abuts my hayfield. It built the nest two years ago and this year will be its third season on the well built stick nest.

At first, I saw it perched on a branch near the nest. For the last few days, it has been in the nest.

The great blue heron is 50 inches tall and is the largest and most widespread heron. The body is grayish-blue, has a white head and a black stripe over the eye.

The immature heron is similar to the adult except its head has a solid black cap, which turns to white after two years. There is also a rare white morph of this heron, but it is limited to Southern Florida. Its legs and bill are orange yellow rather than dark like the more common dark morph.

Fortunately, I can see the bird in the nest from the road so I do not disturb it when I watch it. I hope it is successful in rearing its young. It takes 28 days to incubate the eggs and 55 days for them to fledge. The female lays three to seven eggs in a large, platform nest of sticks lined with finer twigs and vegetation. The nest is placed in a tree 30 to 70 feet above ground. Herons raise their young in either small colonies in isolated areas or



Great blue heron on nest

singly like this pair.

Great blue herons feed in shallow water by standing or walking slowly, then grabbing mall fish, frogs, birds and aquatic insect with its bill. They can feed in deeper water by plunging or swimming. They also hunt on land for small animals.

They inhabit marshes, swamps, river and lake edges, tidal flats, mangroves and other water areas. They make a guttural "frahnk" or short "rok, rok" given during aggression. Both sexes do bill clacking.

Mass. Audubon sightings

Berkshire County sightings included a sandhill crane in New Marlborough, nine long-tailed ducks at Lake Pontoosuc in Pittsfield and 11 at Stockbridge Bowl in Stockbridge, a northern goshawk at Bridges Pond in Williamstown and 20 American pipits at Ashley Falls.

Franklin County hosted small flocks of red crossbills including 24 at the Montague Sandplains Wildlife Management Area in Montague, nine at gate 29 at Quabbin Reservoir in New Salem and eight at Satan's Kingdom WMA in Northfield.

Hampshire County had a Say's phoebe at the Quabbin Reservoir Visitor's Center in Belchertown, four common goldeneyes at the Windsor Dam in Belchertown, 22 glossy ibises on Old Ferry Road in Northampton, an American bittern on Moody Bridge Road in Hadley, 21 red crossbills at the Podick and Cole Conservation Area in Amherst, a Lapland longspur in the Northampton East Meadows and an American coot at Great Pond in Hatfield.

Hampden County spotting were five upland sandpipers at Westover Air Base in Ludlow, nine red-necked Grebes at the Con-

OPINION PAGE/ LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length, and guest columns between 500 and 800 words. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require that the person submitting the opinion also include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, or defamation of character.

Send opinions to:

Letters to the Editor, 80 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082 OR e-mail to pouimette@turley.com. Deadline for submission is Monday at noon for the following week's edition.

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Quaboag Current Newspaper

Palmer Motorsports Park announces new sponsor

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

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

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

“The track is going to be a great partner,” DeMarey said.

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

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

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

p.m. until dusk.

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

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

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

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

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

“It just keeps growing and growing,” he said.

DeMarey and his foundation are also the driving force behind the Wilbraham Hill Climb, the oldest hill climb in America that is steeper than Pike’s Peak. The climb ascends Monson Road, with a 23% grade and a



Palmer Motorsports Park’s Club Director Al Sandy (left) is shown with Bruce Marshall of The Valley’s Classic Hits 97.7 FM/1025 AM and Jeff DeMarey, president of Stonewall Insurance Group and founder of the Springfield to Boston Education Foundation. TURLEY PHOTO BY PAULA OUI-METTE

700 foot elevation gain.

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

See MOTORSPORTS | PAGE 13

GARDEN | FROM PAGE 4

idea to shade plants for a few days with overturned pots, tree branches, or other devices. Again, less transplant shock means less time spent on recovery, and more time spent on making fruits and flowers!

Continue to water well and deeply for the first week or two. Deep watering will encourage deep rooting, and deep roots will best withstand summer droughts.

Taking good care of your plants in

the early stages will certainly insure a summer of productivity.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 31 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.

BACKYARD | FROM PAGE 4

gamond Lakes in Southwick, 15 chimney swifts at the Stebbins Wildlife Refuge in Longmeadow and a green heron in Holyoke.

Worcester County included a black-headed gull, two glossy ibises, a solitary sandpiper and 20 red crossbills at the Bolton Flats WMA in Bolton, two sandhill cranes at the Winimusset Meadows WMA in New Braintree, two black vultures at Adams Farm in Athol and an orchard oriole at Crane Swamp Conservation Area in Northboro.

The most unusual sighting on Friday, April 19 was a black-capped petrel in Cape Cod Bay spotted from a whale research vessel. This species is everywhere quite rare and in relatively inshore waters it is even more unusual.

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.

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CLUES ACROSS

1. It wakes you up

6. A place to sleep

9. Czech village

13. Appetizer

14. African country

15. Dark brown or black

16. Parent-teacher groups

17. Saturates

18. ESPN personality

19. Songs to a lover

21. Cavalry-sword

22. Begat

23. Patriotic women

24. Famed Princess

25. One who does not conform

28. Neither

29. Nigerian monetary unit

31. Body parts

33. Hit Dave Matthews Band song

36. Depicts with pencil

38. Make into leather without tannin

39. Plants grow from them

41. Alias

44. Fingers do it

45. More dried-up

46. Clod

48. Senior officer

49. A way to listen to music

51. The bill in a restaurant

52. Historic center of Artois region

54. Cyprinid fishes

56. Poisonous perennial plant

60. Scottish Loch

61. Heads

62. Extra seed-covering

63. Wings

64. Britpop band

65. Forearm bones

66. Small immature herring

67. Female sibling

68. Hymn

CLUES DOWN

1. Vipers

2. Not on time

3. Resembling a wing or wings

4. Tears down

5. Professional designation

6. Noise a sheep made

7. Type of lodge

8. Speak poorly of

9. Ties the knot again

10. Apron

11. Studied intensively

12. City in Finland

14. One who monitors

17. 18-year astronomical period

20. Trent Reznor’s band

21. Takes to the sea

23. Split pulses

25. Valentine’s Day color

26. Wyatt ___

27. Type of rail

29. One from the Big Apple

30. Asteroids

32. Made more sugary

34. Change in skin pigment

35. Mild yellow Dutch cheese

37. Koran chapters

40. A place to relax

42. Young woman ready for society life

43. Female horses

47. Half of Milli Vanilli

49. Icelandic poems

50. Indiana town

52. Golden peas

53. Closes tightly

55. It’s mined in mountains

56. Cliff (Hawaii)

57. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid

58. Monetary unit

59. Primordial matter

61. TV station

65. Rise



The entire cast and crew of "Mamma Mia", who performed at North Brookfield Elementary School. The production was presented by the Theatre Guild of North Brookfield. TURLEY PHOTOS BY RYAN DRAGO

MUSICAL | FROM PAGE 1

ing opportunity and community through a variety of shows, events and programs.

Directing the production of "Mamma Mia" is Theatre Guild of North Brookfield Vice President Jay Valencourt, who has been performing and directing with the Theatre Guild for over 30 years.

Plays, musicals, dinner theatre, improv events, parades and Halloween haunted trails are part of his theatrical journey which he hopes will continue and flourish with The Guild. He is dedicated to introducing the performing arts to anyone who wants to get involved.

"We have a lot of fun", Valencourt said. "I still have the theatre bug".

Joining Valencourt on crew staff is Director of Choreography Erin Smith. She is thrilled to be back working with the Theatre Guild of North Brookfield and the talented group of performers and incredible creative staff.

"Thank you to the cast for their dedication and commitment and I want to remind everyone that there's nothing better than being a Dancing Queen," Smith said.

Music Director is Valencourt's son Joey Valencourt, who is beyond excited and honored to be part of the "Mamma Mia" family. This is Joey's first production ever music directing and "with its big challenges...comes big reward."

The Dance Captain for the "Mamma Mia" cast is Kristen Depasse. Having a background in ballet and tap dance from her childhood, Depasse uses these skills to bring to the "Mamma Mia" show.

This is Depasse's first time assisting in choreography and acting as a dance captain.

Joe Chenevert is the producer of "Mamma Mia" and is one of the original founders of the Theatre Guild almost 40 years ago. He has served as president

most of those years along with producing, directing and acting in numerous shows.

The crew also consists of Chief Scenic Designer Gordon King. Set construction: Chris Blood, Dave Laprade, Leah Birri, Greg Afton, Aaron Estivill and Raymond Girard. Box office manager is Deirdre Baldwin and the box office staff includes Judy Chenevert, Nancy Nykiel and Shiela O'Toole LeBlanc.

Ushering the shows are Ducati Sedlier, Dawn Sedlier and Matt Sedlier. Operating the spotlight for the show is Richard "Tabby" LeBlanc. Stagehand is Mara Ingalls and maintenance is George Nollette.

The cast features Sarah Priestley as Donna Sheridan, who was making her debut with the Theatre Guild of North Brookfield. Amber King portrays Donna's daughter Sophie and has been part of the guild's theatre community since 2022.

Stephanie Murin and Olivia Giangrande portray Sophie's friends Ali and Lisa. Rachel Estivill and Missy McDonald portray Donna's singing friends Tonya and Rosie. The trio did an amazing job singing the play's musical hits, including "Dancing Queen".

Tristan Colonese played Sky, Jack Gaudette as Pepper, Aidan Joyce as Eddie, Derek Ingalls as Harry Bright, Mark Smith as Bill Austin, Jay Valencourt as Sam Carmichael and Greg Afton as Father Alexandrios.

The ensemble features Joe Chenevert, Tina Bemis, Paula Hinerth, Aimee King, Alexis Caouette, Amanda Lambert, Ash Manley, Hannah Ingalls, Kristen Depasse, Liz Lambert, Rebecca Batchelor, Ruth Honthumb, Shelley Ingalls, Taylor Harris, Dante Giangrande and Nicholas King.



The cast really brought that 1970s energy to the stage as they performed popular songs such as "Dancing Queen" and "Waterloo".



The role of Donna Sheridan was played by Sarah Priestley as she performs one of the popular songs with the play's ensemble.



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Lily Smith inducted into Sigma Theta Tau

MILTON — Curry College's School of Nursing welcomes the 2024 inductees into Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing's Theta-at-Large Chapter.

Lily Smith of North Brookfield was an inductee. Members must be in the upper 35% of their class and have completed at least half of the nursing curriculum.

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Pre-Registration



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- community -

WINGS | FROM PAGE 1

will take audiences on a huge sea voyage, much of it aboard a whaling ship that might have left New Bedford, in, say, the 1850s, and sailed practically around the world, separating crew members from their families for as long as two years.

Nym Cooke, who served as Music Director for a similar program presented by the Revels organization based in Cambridge, (the “Sea Revels”), has combined 29 stirring, eloquent songs of the sea into a seven-part odyssey. The individual sections of the program are titled “Home Port”, “Setting Sail”, “At Sea”, “Shipwreck!”, “Foreign Ports”, “Wives and Mothers at Home” and “Return and Reunion”.

The individual songs vary tremendously in their points of origin, but collectively they weave a moving tapestry of life at sea – and also of life at the home port, for those left behind. There are recently composed choral works such as Allister MacGillivray’s “Away from the Roll of the Sea” and Leon Dubinsky’s “We Rise Again”.

There are many short, anonymously composed sea songs, including chanteys (work songs) with titles like “Blow, Ye Winds, in the Morning”, “Away Rio!” and “Cape Cod Girls” (all of these capstan, or pumping chanteys).

There’s a dockside street cry, “New Oysters!” and the part-song “To Portsmouth”; both are sung as rounds, and hail from 17th century England. There are classics of the sea-faring repertory, songs such as “What Shall We Do With the Drunken Sailor?” and “Blow the Wind Southerly”.

There’s an 18th century New England fuging tune, “Ocean” by Supply Belcher of Farmington, Maine, and the U. S. Navy’s signature hymn tune, “Eternal Father, Strong to Save”.

There’s “The Last Hymn,” the gripping narrative of the aftermath of a shipwreck, that will surely leave no eye dry. There are passionate songs of parting (“Fare You Well, Mary Ann,” “Adieu, Sweet Lovely Nancy”) and of

homecoming (“The Jamestown Homeward Bound,” “Rolling Home to Old New England”).

There are choral arrangements by Cooke (“Sailing Away”, “Where Am I to Go?”); there’s a song about a young lady committed to an insane asylum by her cruel parents while her lover is at sea (“I Love My Love”); there are unforgettable, moving anthems of the ocean like “The Mingulay Boat Song”, “Leave Her, Johnny” and “The Seamen’s Hymn”.

As always at Wings of Song concerts, there are audience sing-alongs, seven of them this time, including “Somos el Barco” (“We Are the Boat”), “Deep Blue Sea” and some of the songs already mentioned.

Wings of Song will sing a cappella; with piano accompaniment by Brooks Milgate or Nancy Ducharme; and with a “fo’c’s’le band” comprised of guitar and pennywhistle (Tim Loftus), concertina (Chris Maden), fiddle (Hunter Foote), stand-up bass (Ellen Bradley), banjo and harmonica (Leslie Sweetnam), and percussion (Sarah Jo Burke).

This is sure to be an unforgettable adventure – both musically and narratively – and the concert venues are sure to be crowded, so be sure to arrive early for a good seat.

All venues are handicap accessible. Audience members are invited to join the chorus for tasty (and free) refreshments after each concert.

These concerts are sponsored in part by the Monson and Sturbridge Cultural Councils, local agencies supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. Wings of Song is grateful for this support – and for the continued support of their many faithful audience regulars, supplemented by first timers whom they are always glad to see.

Anyone needing more information is encouraged to email Cooke at nym-cooke@gmail.com or Wings of Song President Carol Curtin at carolcurtin77@gmail.com.



Soloists perform during a recent Wings of Song rehearsal, preparing for the upcoming “Rough Seas, Safe Harbor” concerts. TURLEY PHOTOS BY PAULA QUIMETTE



Music Director Nym Cooke directs the Wings of Song chorus.



Wings of Song has over 50 members from across the commonwealth and Connecticut.



Wings of Song chorus members enjoy their time rehearsing.



Chorus members join their voices together.



Leslie Sweetnam plays the harmonica.



Tim Loftus and Chris Maden rehearse with Wings of Song.



Hunter Foote plays the fiddle during a song.



SPORTS

Cougars score win over Pathfinder

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

THORNDIKE—Even though the Quaboag varsity baseball team is a member of the SWCL-C Division, they still play all the larger schools in the

SWCL A and B Divisions once during the regular season.

If the decision was up to Brian Guimond, who's the Cougars varsity baseball coach, his team would play in a league that has similar size high schools

like Pathfinder Tech, Palmer, Ware, and Monson.

The Cougars snapped a five game losing streak with a 12-1 non-league victory over Pathfinder Tech at St. Joe's Park in Thornndike, last Thursday night.

The first ever meeting between the two squads on the baseball diamond ended after six innings due to the 10-run mercy rule.

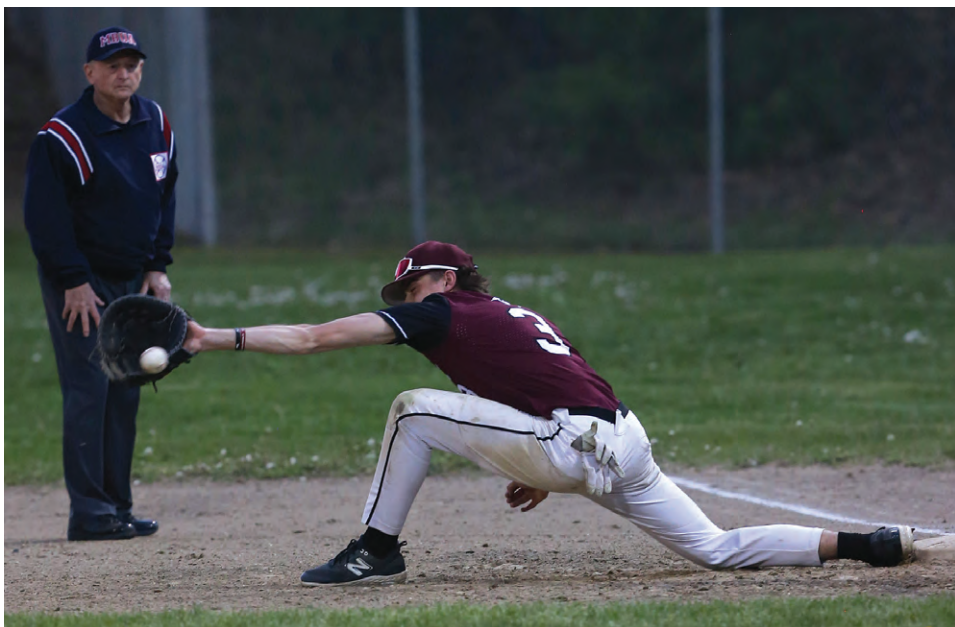
"The majority of the SWCL teams that we play against are bigger schools and we try our best against them," Guimond said. "If we could be in a league with schools that were our size, it would probably be a lot better for us."

The Cougars, who had a 5-6 overall record following the road win against Pioneers, lost a pair of close games to Leicester (12-9) and Douglas (4-2).

"Before the start of the season, I circled the games on our schedule that I thought we could win," Guimond added. "We've won five of them, including tonight's game. Even though we lost to Leicester and Douglas, I'm still hoping to qualify for the



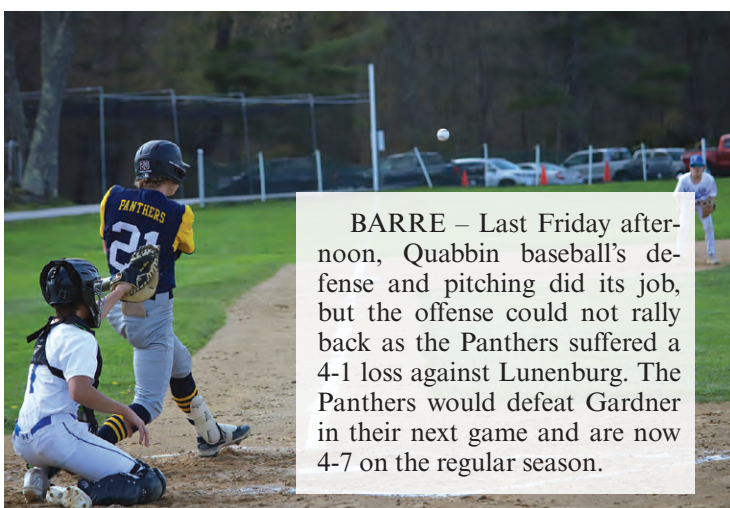
Zander Auffrey sends a throw in from left field.



Ryan Fernandez stretches out at first. TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHTOS.COM

See **COUGARS** | PAGE 11

Offense can't get going in loss for Quabbin baseball



BARRE – Last Friday afternoon, Quabbin baseball's defense and pitching did its job, but the offense could not rally back as the Panthers suffered a 4-1 loss against Lunenburg. The Panthers would defeat Gardner in their next game and are now 4-7 on the regular season.

The Panthers catcher connects on a solid base hit to left.



Martin Stoddard makes the catch at first. TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Tantasqua suffers first losses of the season

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

FISKDALE—The Tantasqua varsity baseball team had a perfect 7-0 record after the first seven games of the regular season. The Warriors hit a bump in the road during their final two games of April.

Following a 10-0 non-league loss to Saint Paul Diocesan at Tivnan Field in Worcester on April 26, Tantasqua faced SWCL A rival Northbridge at William R. Emrich Field, last Monday afternoon.

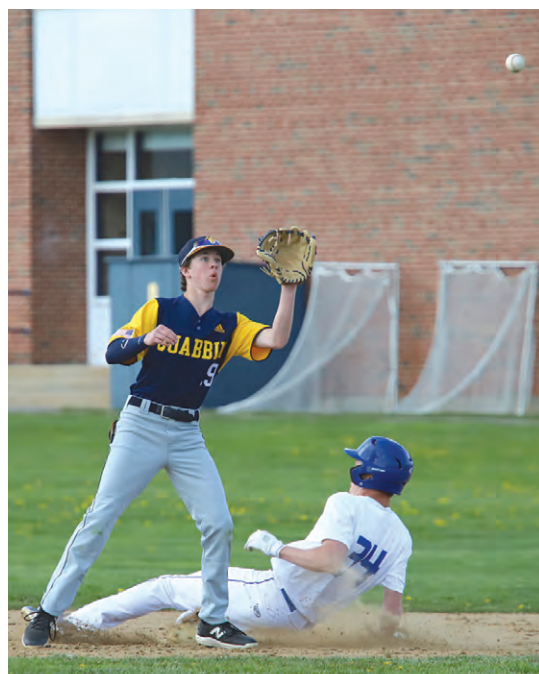
The Rams scored five runs in the fourth inning with a little bit of help from the Warriors defense enroute to an 8-4 road victory.

"Since I've been coaching here, not very many teams have been able to outslug us," said Tantasqua varsity baseball coach Jon Leroux following his team's first home loss of the season. "We just made too many errors and our pitchers also walked too many batters in today's game. High school baseball, if you don't give away free bases, you win a

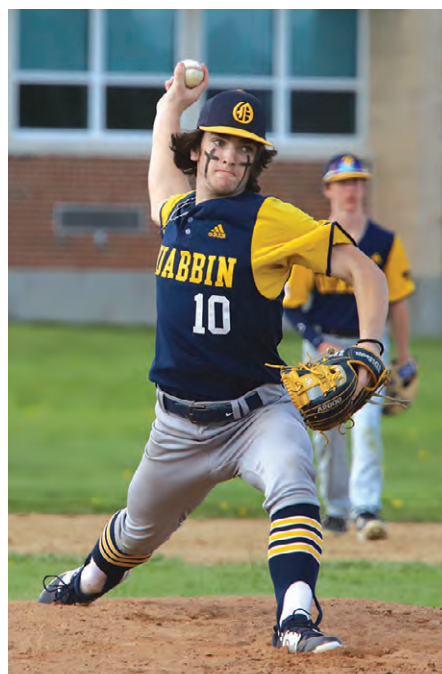
See **TANTASQUA** | PAGE 10



The Panthers go for an out at second base.



Quabbin attempts to catch a runner stealing.



Adam Adams pitches for the Panthers.

- sports -

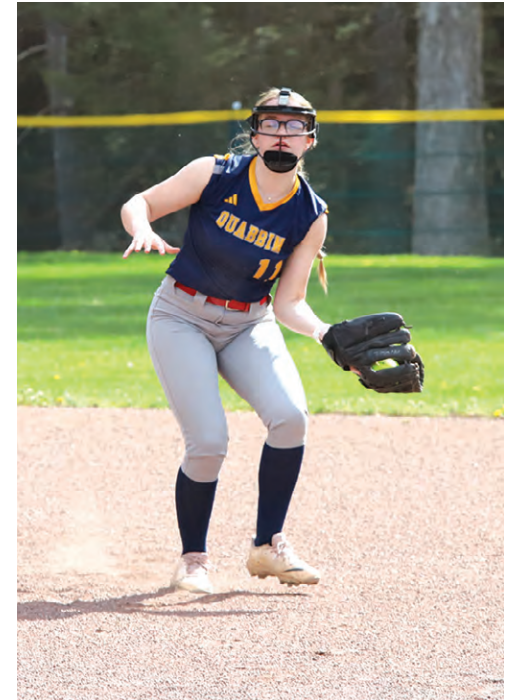
Panthers lose close one with Lunenburg



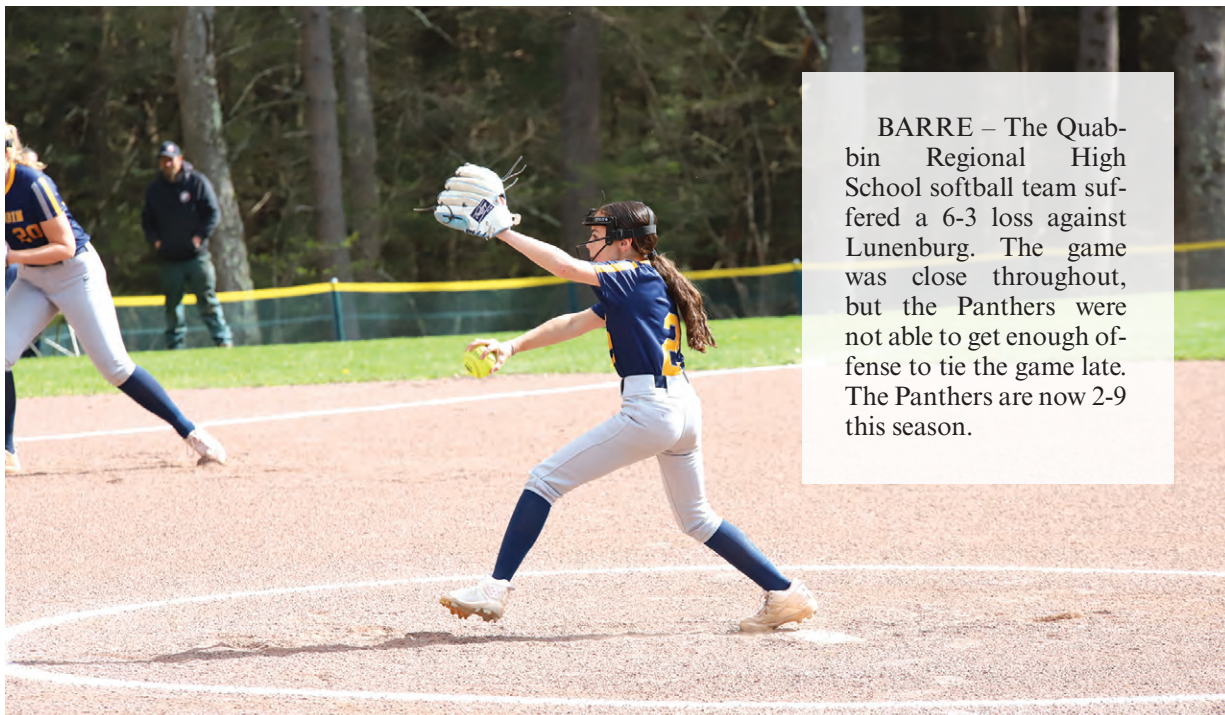
Mady Breault makes a throw to first base. TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



The Panthers get an out at first base.



Jordan Blanchard catches a pop out.



BARRE – The Quabbin Regional High School softball team suffered a 6-3 loss against Lunenburg. The game was close throughout, but the Panthers were not able to get enough offense to tie the game late. The Panthers are now 2-9 this season.

The Panthers take on Lunenburg last week.



Kai Shuster makes a catch in center.

TANTASQUA | FROM PAGE 9

lot of games. When you give away free bases, you lose games.”

Tantasqua (7-2,4-1) lost back-to-back games for the first time since the 2022 regular season.

Junior lefthander Miles Blake, who has committed to playing college baseball at Northeastern University, allowed just one base hit during the three innings in his start against Northbridge. He did struggle with his control. He issued four walks and hit three batters. He also had five wild pitches.

“Miles just didn’t have his A stuff today,” Leroux said. “Hopefully, we’ll be able to figure out what he was doing wrong out there. He’s still a very good pitcher.”

In Blake’s first three starts of the regular season, he had only allowed one run on eight hits while striking out 29 in 18 innings.

The three Warriors relief pitchers that pitched against Northbridge combined to walk four batters. They also gave up seven hits.

The visitors from the Blackstone Valley headed home with a 9-1 overall record and a 6-0 league mark.

The Rams took a 1-0 in the second inning against Blake without the benefit of a base hit.

Junior first baseman Avery Sabourin drew a walk on a full count pitch. He then advanced to second and third on wild pitches before crossing the plate on another wild pitch that sailed over the catcher’s head to the backstop.

The Warriors, who only had three hits in the game, scored the tying run with two-outs in the bottom half of the frame.

Senior leftfielder Cole Nussey hit a ground ball that was bobbled by the shortstop for the Rams for an error. He then advanced to second base on the same play following a throwing error. Senior centerfielder

Ryan Wright drove home Nussey by lining a single into rightfield, which was the first base hit allowed by senior righty Joey McKeown, who worked the first five innings.

The Rams retook the lead two innings later. After loading the bases with a walk, which was sandwiched between two hit batters, another wild pitch brought home the go-ahead run.

At that point, Blake was replaced on the mound by senior righty Hunter Normandin.

Two more runs crossed the plate following a throwing error, which gave the Rams a 4-1 advantage.

Northbridge put two more runs on the scoreboard following a double to center by senior second baseman Brady Hubert and an RBI single from McKeown.

The Warriors got one of those runs back in the bottom of the fifth.

With one-out, junior pinch-hitter Brandon Phillips was hit-by-a-pitch. He was replaced at first base by courtesy runner Giulio Papandrea, who’s also a junior. After advancing to second base on a groundout, Papandrea went to third on a wild pitch. He then scored on another wild pitch.

Northbridge scored their final two runs in the sixth inning.

Tantasqua battled back with two runs in their final at-bats.

Senior pinch-hitter C.J. Harrell drove home the first run of the game by hitting a double down the rightfield line. After the next batter hit a foul pop-up caught by the Northbridge third baseman, senior third baseman Colm McGrath delivered an RBI single into center-field making the score 6-2.

Sabourin, who had replaced McKeown on the mound, retired the next batter on another pop-up, which ended the only meeting of the regular season between the two squads.

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- sports -

COUGARS | FROM PAGE 9

Division 5 state tournament.”

The Cougars were ranked 18th in the latest MIAA Division 5 power rankings. The top 32 teams in each of the five Divisions automatically qualify for the state tournament.

The Pioneers, who played their eighth game in a span of ten days, had a 6-4 overall record. They were ranked 52nd in the Division 5 Power Rankings.

The only freshman listed on the Cougars varsity baseball roster is righthander Liam McGrath, who was the starting pitcher against Pathfinder Tech. He allowed one run on only one hit in 4 1/3 innings. He also recorded six strikeouts and walked four.

“At the beginning of the season, Liam was our third starter, and he pitched a lot in relief,” Guimond said. “He then threw six shutout innings in a start against Douglas. He also pitched well in tonight’s game.”

Sophomore righty Andrew Sullivan made his first varsity start for the home team.

Following a twenty minute sun delay, Sullivan retired the Cougars first two batters quickly on a groundout and a strikeout before getting himself into a little bit of trouble.

Quaboag senior tri-captain Ryan Fernandez, who started the game at first base, lined a single to left before stealing second and third. Then Fernandez crossed the plate on a wild pitch. Junior third baseman Brasen Sauriol, who walked, also scored following a fielding error by the Pioneers third baseman.

Sullivan was replaced on the mound by senior righty Hunter Griswold at the start of the second inning.

“We’ve played eight games during the past ten days, so we didn’t have very many eligible pitchers remaining, so we decided to start a j.v. pitcher,” said Pathfinder head coach Paul Bouthiller. “Hunter, who pitched in last Saturday’s game, was also going to pitch at some point in tonight’s game. I thought he battled out there and did a fantastic job. We just didn’t make a couple of plays behind him.”

The Cougars scored another unearned run in the second, which gave them a 3-0 advantage.

Fernandez, who led the way offensively with three hits, belted a home run into the netting above the left field fence leading off the top of the third.

“I’ve been trying to hit a home run for four years

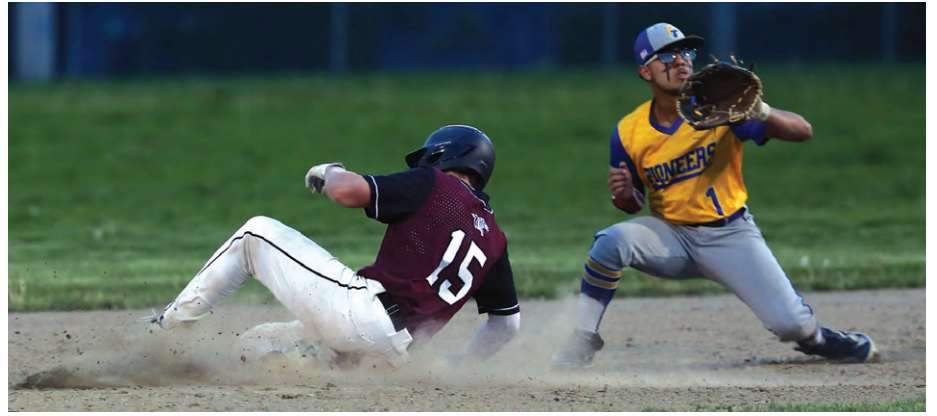
now and it just feels amazing,” Fernandez said. “The pitcher threw me a curveball before throwing a high fastball. I just smacked it to left field. At first, I thought the ball just hit off the fence, but the umpire said it hit the netting. We’ve never played a game here before and it’s a big win for us.”

Not only was it Fernandez’s first home run during his varsity career, but it was also the Cougars first HR of the regular season. McGrath also blasted a triple to center field in that inning before scoring on a passed ball.

A groundout by senior centerfielder Tyler Withers scored the Cougars third run of the frame.

With one-out in the bottom of the third, Pathfinder Tech third baseman Brayden Mega walked before stealing two bases. A groundball out by Griswold scored the Pioneers first run of the ballgame.

The Cougars got that run back with one-out in the top of the fourth with the help of their other two senior tri-captains.



Jack Morgan slides safely into second base.

An infield single by Thomas Robidoux, who started the game in right field, plated shortstop Matt Tiberii, who grounded a single up the middle into centerfield.

Quaboag added two more runs in the top of the fifth, which gave them a 9-1 lead.

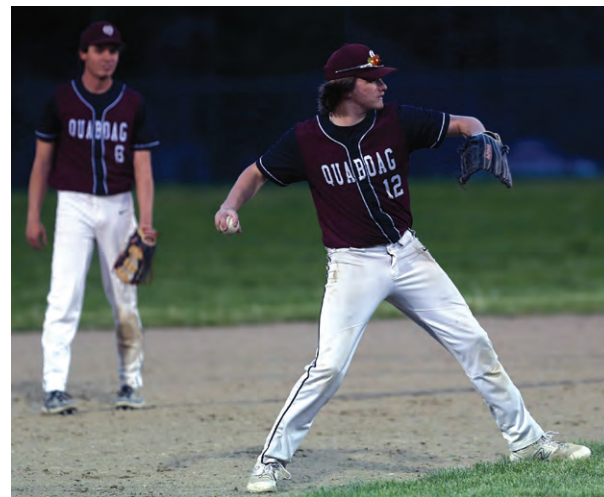
A ground ball single off the pitcher by junior left fielder Zander Auffrey was the Pioneers first base hit of the game. Sophomore catcher Jacob Kokoski and Mega also drew walks, which loaded the bases with one-out. At that point, McGrath was relieved by Fernandez, who’s a righty.

Fernandez struck out the first batter that he faced before getting out of the jam with a ground out to second.

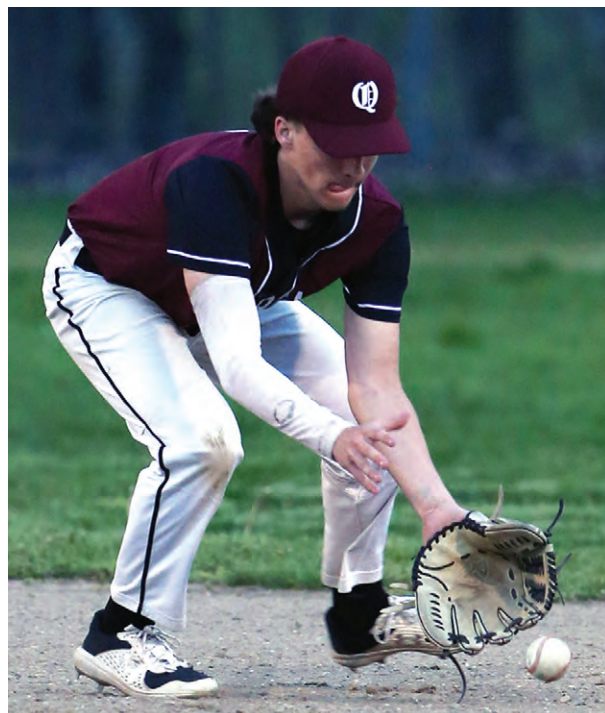
“Getting out of the bases loaded situation was huge for us,” Guimond said. “Ryan throws a slider, which is very difficult to hit. He’s also a very good three-sport athlete.”

The Cougars scored three more runs in their final at-bats.

Fernandez, who hasn’t made a college decision yet, walked two batters in the bottom of the sixth before ending the game with a strikeout.



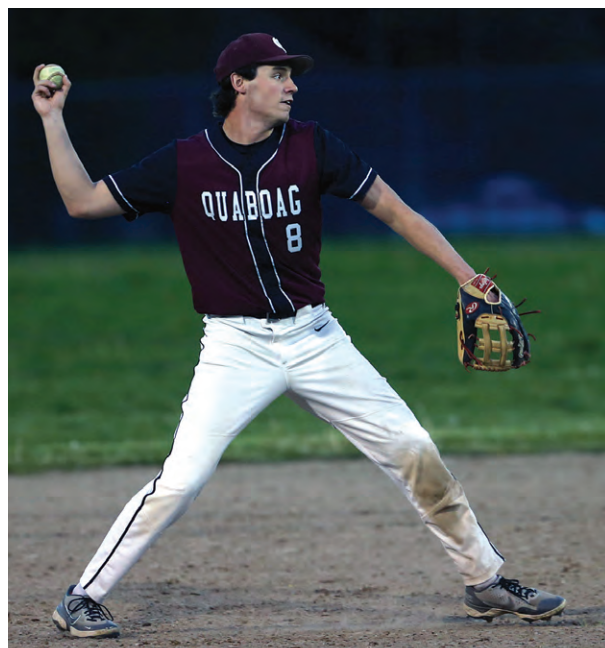
Brasen Sauriol looks to get an out at first base.



Reilly Comptois fields a ground ball.



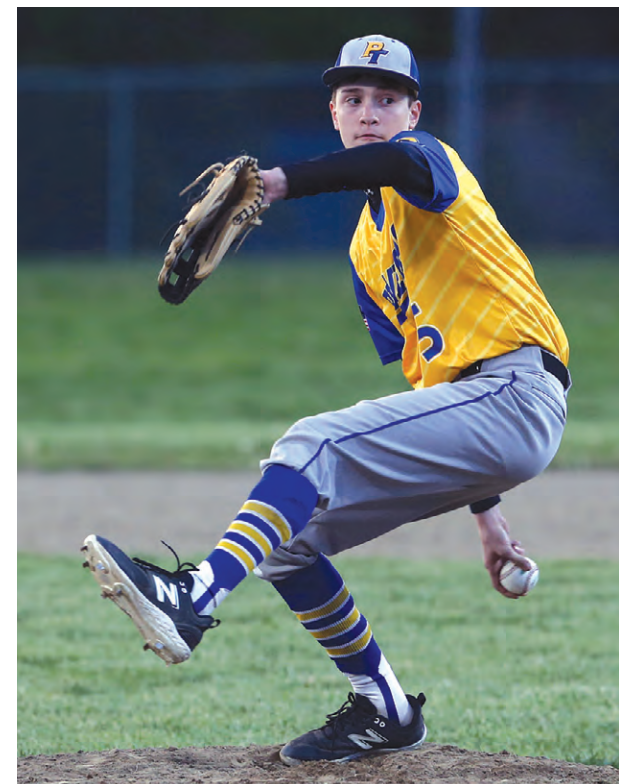
Tim Russell is focused at the plate.



Matt Tiberii slings a throw across the diamond.



Hunter Griswold tosses in relief for the Pioneers.



Andrew Sullivan gets the start for Pathfinder.

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Deanna Sloat
24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069
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SPRING | FROM PAGE 1

tural Council also held its plant swap, and the Friends of the North Brookfield Town House gave guided tours through the downtown landmark. The Fire Department had an open house, with mascot Sparky joining Deputy Chief Keith Marshall for a stroll around the vendor market.

The cast of the Theatre Guild of North Brookfield's "Mamma Mia" gave festivalgoers a preview of the show that will finish off its second weekend at North Brookfield Elementary School, Friday, May 10 and Saturday, May 11 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, May 12 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15 adults and \$12 seniors and children age 12 and under.

Local businesses and organizations also took part in the event, offering activities and crafts for children to enjoy.



Deputy Chief Keith Marshall helps Sparky visit with community members during the May Festival. The Fire Department held an open house during the event.



Jayde Gaines, age 7, makes a bubble that is bigger than she is. TURLEY PHOTOS BY PAULA QUIMETTE



North Brookfield Savings Bank employees Marilyn Surita and Ann Brady had games and giveaways.



Bri Lamb of Night Owl by Bri sold her one-of-a-kind wool felted items and whimsical (and often literacy inspired) jewelry.



East Quabbin Land Trust Executive Director Cynthia Henshaw and volunteers Andy Wiewel and Cat Standfield just finished installing a story walk at the land trust's Wendenuth Meadow preserve on Bates Street.



Joseph Chauvin of Gilbertville displays his artwork at the May Festival. This was Chauvin's first show and many of his pieces repurpose and reuse discarded wood or stone.

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Pathfinder Tech's annual plant sale this week

PALMER –The annual Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School's Horticulture Program/FFA plant sale will be held Thursday, May 9 and Friday, May 10 from 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and Saturday, May 11 and Sunday, May 12 from 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

There will be hanging baskets, annuals, perennials, herbs, planters, strawberry plants and jars, tomatoes, peppers, squash, cold crops and other veggies. There will be two checkout lines outside this year to help expedite the process.

- community -

MOTORSPORTS | FROM PAGE 5

most events with seven victories. “They all used it as a test track,” DeMarey said. “It was also bragging rights.”

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

In 2022, Holman asked DeMarey to take over as chair of the event, and together they decided to make it a bigger, community event by partnering with the local high school, vendors, museums, food trucks, as well as offering a plant and craft sale.

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

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

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

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

Food trucks will be parked between 467-480 Main Street from 10 a.m.-2

p.m. and spectator parking is available at Minnechaug Regional High School.

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

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

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

DeMarey thanked the event’s sponsors, including LUSO Federal Credit Union, along with town departments and the community for helping make the event a continued success.

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

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

About the sponsors

For more information about Stonewall Insurance Group, visit stonewall-insurancegroup.com or find them on social media. For more information about the Springfield to Boston Education Foundation or the Wilbraham Hill Climb, visit www.springfieldtoboston.com and www.wilbrahamhillclimb.com. Find Marshall at area car shows and



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

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

Cruise nights are held on Fridays at

Brimfield Winery now through Sept. 27.

Find him on Facebook under “Cruisin’ with Bruce Marshall” or online at classichits977.com for a complete schedule.

About Palmer Motorsports Park

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

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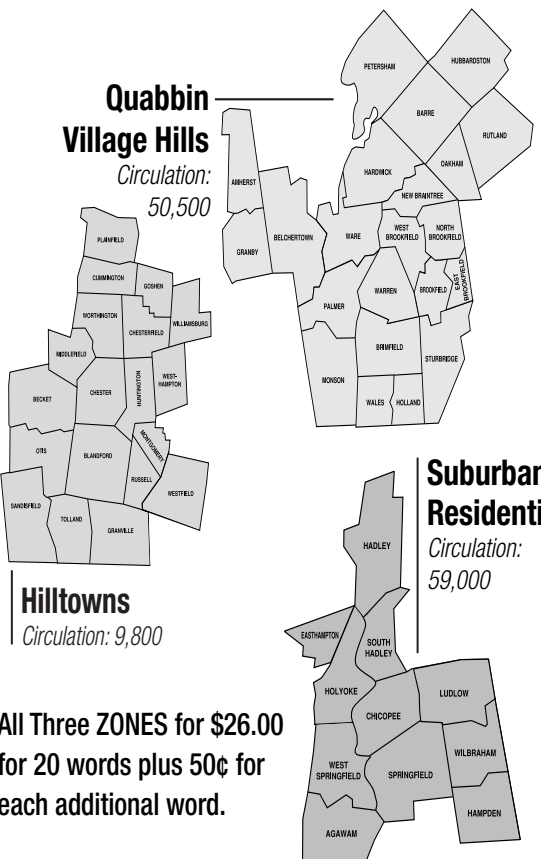

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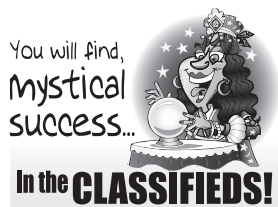
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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



Post your job openings in our classifieds. **WE GET RESULTS!** Call **1-413-283-8393**

New Braintree Police Log

During the week of April 29-May 6, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 12 building/property checks, 33 directed/area patrols, one traffic control, five radar assignments, three emergency 911 calls, two citizen assists, one assist other agency, two complaints, one investigation, one fire/illegal burn, six animal calls and two motor vehicle stops in the town of New Braintree.

Thursday, May 2

- 3:35 p.m. Fire/Illegal Burn, Hardwick Road, Extinguished
- 6:41 p.m. 911 Animal Call, Worcester Road, Gone on Arrival
- 7:27 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Scott Road, Written Warning
- 7:40 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Scott Road, Written Warning

Friday, May 3

- 9:21 a.m. Investigation, Oakham Road, Investigated
- 4:38 p.m. 911 Neighbor Dispute, Padre Road, Spoken To

Saturday, May 4

- 11:07 a.m. Complaint, Padre Road, Spoken To

Sunday, May 5

- 12 a.m. 911 Animal Call, Hardwick Road, Negative Contact
- 11:20 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

Monday, April 29

- 2:15 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Units Road, Removed Hazard

Tuesday, April 30

- 7:20 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Oakham Road, Officer Handled

Wednesday, May 1

- 10:39 a.m. Assist Citizen, Unknown, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
- 4:01 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

Concert and dinner at First Church of Monson

MONSON – Wings of Song under the direction of Nym Cooke will present their spring concert "Rough Seas, Safe Harbor" at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 18.

The concert is free and open to the public.

A pre-concert dinner will be served by the Music Committee at 5:30 p.m. The menu is baked haddock, baked potato, coleslaw, Italian bread and apricot squares.

Tickets for \$20 are available by calling Gail at 413-267-4818.

Job Connection

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WARE HOUSING AUTHORITY

Description: The Ware Housing Authority (WHA) is seeking a qualified and experienced housing administrator for the position of Executive Director. The Authority's portfolio includes 86 units of Ch. 667 Elderly/Handicapped, 23 units of Ch.705 Family and 61 Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers. The candidate should be familiar with both the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) program requirements.

Minimum Requirements: A minimum of 2 years' experience in public or private housing management, community development, public administration, non-profit administration, or a related field that demonstrates strong management and organization skills. Knowledge of the principles, practices of state and federal public housing management programs, capital improvement planning, technology systems, maintenance, and finances desired. Strong organizational and personnel management skills desired. One year of experience overseeing at least three staff persons or as a significant project team leader or program administrator strongly preferred.

Possess excellent written and verbal skills for an ability to communicate effectively with local officials, boards, residents, service providers and funding agencies. Experience working with the public, as well as individuals of various socio-economic backgrounds. Must be bondable. Certification as a Massachusetts Public Housing Administrator (MPHA) desired or obtained within one year.

Must be proficient in Word, Excel and Outlook. Familiarity with centralized public housing wait lists (CHAMP), housing software, HUD and EOHLC databases and reporting systems desired. Other preferred credentials include graduation from an accredited two to four-year college or university and a passion for the mission of affordable housing.

The maximum salary is \$94,975 and is dependent upon experience, education, and certifications in accordance with EOHLC Executive Director Salary Schedule. The required work hours are 37 ½ hours per week and the position includes excellent benefits. The candidate will be subject to qualification verification prior to employment.

To apply in confidence please submit a cover letter and resume to **Kenneth R. Martin, Consultant, at kenmartin1208@gmail.com** with "Ware ED position" in the subject line.

The deadline is no later than the close of business on May 24, 2024. Late applications shall not be considered. More detailed information will be required of applicants that advance to the next level of consideration.

Diverse applicants are encouraged to apply. *The Ware Housing Authority is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

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QUABOAG CURRENT

REGION PMP names new sponsor p5	STURBRIDGE Fire Dept. open house p3	WARREN Cougars win game p9	Editorial/Opinion Sports Classifieds Police Logs	4 9 14 15
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Volume 17, Number 24

Friday, May 10, 2024

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