

# QUABOAG CURRENT

**WEST BROOKFIELD**  
*Solstice Concert*

Page 3

**NORTH BROOKFIELD**  
*Chicken BBQ*

Page 3

**NEW BRAINTREE**  
*Strawberry Festival*

Page 6

Volume 19, Number 27

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

Friday, June 5, 2026

## Voters OK articles at STM/ATM

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

NEW BRAINTREE – Voters took action on 13 articles at the special and annual town meetings held in Memorial Hall Monday evening.

All of the articles passed with unanimous votes, with the exception of article 12, which had one opposing vote.

### Out of district transportation

Article 12 asked voters to approve the transfer of \$70,000 from Stabilization to cover the cost of out of district transportation for two students to Smith Vocational and Agricultural School in Northampton. This amount will be offset by any transportation reimbursements from the state.

The Board of Selectmen said in the past, the town has paid just over \$60,000

for transportation to the school, and that covering the cost is a mandatory expense.

The Quabbin Regional School District is in the process of creating an agricultural program, which could help to keep students seeking this type of education within the school district in the future.

This program would be housed in the New Braintree Grade School.

### Regional agreement

Article 11 asked voters to approve the revised Quabbin Regional School District Regional Agreement, which was approved by the School Committee and submitted to each member town's select board.

The revised agreement will need to be approved by all five Quabbin Regional School District towns be-

See **NEW BRAINTREE**  
PAGE 6

## Yankee Ingenuity

Event highlights life in the 19<sup>th</sup> century

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

STURBRIDGE – Old Sturbridge Village hosted its Yankee Ingenuity programming over the course of several weekends in May.

The themes included “Eat, Move, Play, and Work” and these themes allowed visitors to explore how New England helped shape American innovation in the 1800s. This past weekend was “Work” weekend and talked about innovation and mechanization that helped reshape the workforce and the work life in the U.S.

In addition to Yankee Ingenuity, Old Sturbridge Village also featured some programming related to the 250<sup>th</sup> birthday of the U.S.

Yankee Ingenuity welcomed many guests to demonstrate the various fields of work that were demanding at the time of early



TURLEY PHOTO BY RYAN DRAGO

Tom Vaughn demonstrated wooden clockmaking during the Yankee Ingenuity program at Old Sturbridge Village.

19<sup>th</sup> century New England.

At the Bullard Tavern, there was a wooden clockmaking program presented by Tom Vaughn, who is likely the last wooden

clockmaker in the country. Vaughn offered a demonstration of wooden clockmaking by using historical tools like a gear cutting machine, treadle lathe and oth-

er unique hand tools.

Vaughn has been making wooden clocks for 17 years

See **YANKEE INGENUITY**  
PAGE 5

## Hersee presents ‘To Defend All That Is Dear’

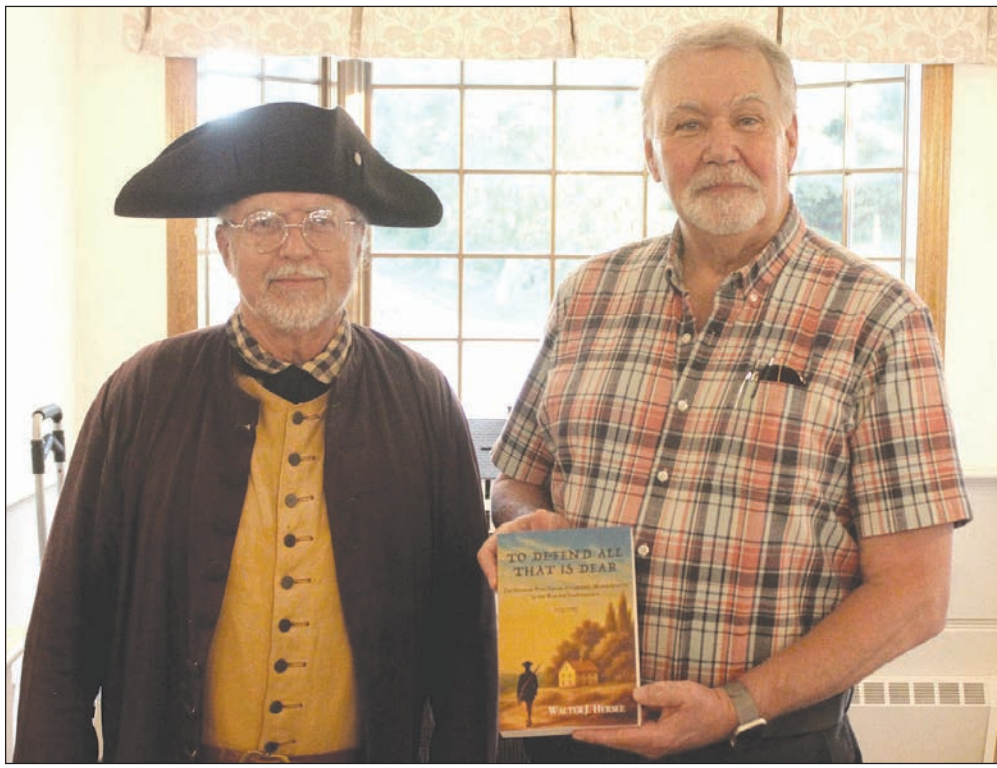
By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

STURBRIDGE – The Sturbridge Historical Society welcomed Walter “Wally” J. Hersee at the Publick House for another historical program.

Hersee of Sturbridge is a historian and author who gave a well-detailed presentation of his recently published book, “To Defend All That Is Dear: The Soldiers Who Served Sturbridge, Massachusetts in the War for Independence 1775-1783”.

Doug Quigley of the Sturbridge Historical Society thanked the Publick House for hosting their programs and introduced Hersee, who had copies of his book for sale during the

See **HERSEE** PAGE 6



TURLEY PHOTO BY RYAN DRAGO

On the left stands Doug Quigley as an American Revolutionary War Patriot alongside local author Wally Hersee who gave a presentation on his book “To Defend All That Is Dear”, a tale of discovering the soldiers who served Sturbridge in the American Revolution.

## Board of Selectmen deny tree removal

Residents voice concerns at hearing

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis  
Staff Writer  
zachf@turley.com

WEST BROOKFIELD – The Board of Selectmen held a shade tree hearing at their meeting last Tuesday regarding the request by National Grid to remove more than 80 trees on the public right-of-way in West Brookfield.

According to the hearing notice posted to the town's website (www.wbrookfield.com), the trees are located on Coy Hill Road, Ragged Hill Road, Beaman Road, West Main Street, Pierce Road and Lyon Road. The project is to install poles to run electricity to a solar substation.

According to Tree

Warden Jim Daley, the request includes 42 non-hazard trees and 40 hazard trees. He said some of the hazard trees have significantly worse health issues than others, and in meetings with National Grid, 18 trees were saved from removal.

Daley said there would also be extensive trimming as a part of this project, and there will be many trees taken down on private property, about four times the amount from the public right-of-way.

Several residents raised concerns about the scenic road bylaw, with some saying they received notices from the town after buying homes on scenic roads telling them they were not allowed to touch the stone

See **W BROOKFIELD**  
PAGE 11

## Select Board holds informational meeting on trash hauling

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis  
Staff Writer  
zachf@turley.com

EAST BROOKFIELD – The Board of Selectmen held a public hearing May 20 to discuss trash hauling for the town, as there is a one year difference between the regular trash hauling contract and the contract for the Wheelabrator waste to energy facility in Millbury.

The board used this meeting as a way to gather input as to whether the town would rather stay with Republic Services, switch to all private or enter into a one

year contract with Republic Services to hold the town over another year.

According to Finance Committee member Mark Carpentier, the town has been entering into five year contracts with the company now known as Republic Services, and the year over year increases have stayed steady at 4-5%. He said they have not gone out for competitive bidding for other companies.

Board of Selectmen member Amber Kowalczyk said she reached out to some private haulers who said they may service the town if enough residents come off

the town contract, including Burdett's, Dumpster Services and Durkin & Son's. Carpentier said approximately 900 residents are on the town contract right now.

Lynch said he was hesitant to enter into a solid waste contract, which typically last five years without knowing the energy facility's 20 year situation. He also said there is a possibility that the town could exit the trash business completely in the future, and go to all private haulers, as he said several towns in the region have

See **E BROOKFIELD**  
PAGE 11

## Board hears about road study

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis  
Staff Writer  
zachf@turley.com

BROOKFIELD – The Select Board heard about a Boston Post Road corridor study at their meeting last Wednesday from Mike Maughan-Brown, a comprehensive planning manager from the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission.

The project is meant to look at all of the towns along the old Boston Post Road, which is now Massachusetts Route 9 between Ware and Worcester.

At the May 27 meeting, Brown said the study will look at opportunities generated along the route, by

looking at natural systems, movement and economic development.

Brown said right now it is only a study looking at increasing housing, small businesses and activity close to the main route, to balance the rural character and economic development of the towns on the route.

He said this study is being funded by the rural development grant from the Community One Stop for Growth, and Spencer, Leicester and West Brookfield have already committed to it. He said it requires no funding from the town.

He said if it is committed to, they would prefer a steering committee from the town to oversee it.

The town could not sign onto the grant though, because they have another item on the Community One Stop for Growth grant, so instead of signing on, the board authorized executive assistant Karen Trainor to sign a letter of support for the project on the town's behalf.

The other item on the grant is for an emergency generator for the town's water supply, which the board signed the application for.

Volunteer policy  
Select Board member Beth Coughlin put to-

See **BROOKFIELD**  
PAGE 11

## - community -

# Selectmen honor late fire chief

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

**NORTH BROOKFIELD** – The Board of Selectmen held a moment of silence to recognize the passing of retired Fire Chief James Black.

Black dedicated 50 years of service to the department before retiring in 2010. He began with the department as a firefighter, making his way up the ranks to chief in 1984.

“Throughout his long and distinguished career, Chief Black earned the respect of his fellow firefighters, our community, which he faithfully served,” Selectmen Peter Orsi read from a statement at the May 19 meeting.

Orsi said 50 years is “unheard of” in the fire service.

“A lot of people had a lot of respect for him,” he said.

### Financial items

The board approved a transfer request in the amount of \$60,000 from the Highway Department from the Salaries line item to the Vehicle Supplies. This money will be used to bring all fleet vehicles up to mechanical safety and meet inspection codes.

Board of Selectmen Chair Jamie Gilman said there was additional money in the Salaries line item due to vacancies on the department.

The board also approved

the transfer of \$10,000 from the Salaries line item to the Road Materials line item to purchase processed gravel for work on Boynton, Downey and Murphy roads.

The board also approved a request from the Board of Health to transfer \$800 from Recycling Center Monitor Salaries to Electricity due to the rising cost of utilities. There was additional money in the salaries line item due to vacancies.

The board approved the Sewer Department’s request to transfer \$.25 from DSL Line to Debt to cover the difference of a miscalculation for new sewer debt.

The Finance Committee previously recommended the transfer requests.

### Reserve Fund requests

The board approved the following Reserve Fund requests: Zoning Board of Appeals, \$290.52 to cover additional costs of special permit hearings; and the Fire Department, \$8,564.04 for vehicle repairs.

The board also approved a request to rescind a previously approved Reserve Fund transfer to the Police Department for computer purchases in the amount of \$1,336.63.

### Spending requests

The board approved spending requests from the Council on Aging in the amount of \$375 from the

gift account for a workshop for seniors with Bemis Nursery on June 23; and the Highway Department, \$700 for batteries for two vehicles, \$1,600 for garage tools, \$3,000 for front-end repairs for a vehicle, \$3,500 for front-end repairs and alignment for a vehicle, \$700 for three air chambers/wire/box for the 2006 sander and \$650 for repairs to a flat tire on the loader.

### CodeRed contract

Gilman said the town has a contract with Code Red to alert residents of emergencies and other alerts.

He said the town was given short notice of emergency paving that was to occur on a section of North Main Street being completed by the Department of Transportation. Gilman said CodeRed was utilized, but only two residents received the call to notify them.

He expressed concerns about the effectiveness of the phone alert system.

The school’s alert system was able to successfully notify all parents of students.

### Bridge inspection

The Highway Department received a bridge inspection report for the West Brookfield Road bridge over Coys Brook.

“There are concerns regarding the bridge conditions,” Highway Superintendent Randy Morgan

stated in his report.

Morgan and staff will meet with the Department of Transportation to discuss the next steps.

### Resignations

The board announced the resignations of William O’Toole from the Highway Department; Anne Adams, Fire Department; Ralph Kay, Sewer Commission; and Brian Hayes, Peter Orsi, Joe Trentacosta and Tom Bessette, Fire/Highway Building Committee

### Committee dissolution

Gilman announced the Fire/Highway Building Committee will be dissolved with the completion of the project. The board voted to dissolve the committee.

The board also voted to dissolve the Downtown Development Committee.

### ATM/STM

The special and annual town meetings will be held on Friday, June 12 at North Brookfield Elementary School. The STM starts at 6:30 p.m. and the ATM starts at 7 p.m.

### Dog licenses

The Town Clerk announced that late fees will be imposed on all unlicensed dogs beginning on June 1. Licenses expire annually on March 31.

To date, 567 dog licenses have been issued. Reminder notices have been sent to 270 dog owners.

# BOS makes final cuts before town meeting

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis  
Staff Writer  
zachf@turley.com

**WEST BROOKFIELD** – The Board of Selectmen reviewed the proposed fiscal year 2027 budget one more time before town meeting on June 2, at their regular meeting on May 26.

At the meeting, Advisory Committee member MJ Haesche said at the committee’s last meeting, they accepted many of the board’s line item recommendations.

She brought up that one of the cuts in the budget could lead to the loss of administrative help for volunteer boards, and said there is a possibility of people quitting, or legal processes being done incorrectly if that position is cut. She said that could lead to litigation, especially in decisions made by the planning board or zoning board of appeals.

Town Administrator Theresa Cofske said coming into the May 26 meeting, the town was only \$9,600 below the levy limit, but a comfortable position would be between \$25,000-\$50,000 under.

To get further below the levy limit, the board cut \$22,000 from the vocational line, which will be enough to cover for 12 students. The board said next year, the projected number of students is 17.

With that change, the town now sits at just over \$31,000 below the levy limit.

### Fire Department boat

Fire Chief Thomas Bessette and Assistant Chief Ben Ash spoke about a

boat, which was purchased by the Fire Department Relief Association.

Bessette asked the board how they could utilize the boat in town since it is not on the town’s insurance. He said it could be a liability.

Cofske asked if they wanted to sign a lease agreement, but Ash, speaking on behalf of the association, said they were concerned about the legal fees that come from drafting the agreement, and requested the board draft the agreement. The topic will be revisited at a future meeting.

### IT management

The board said they received two requests for proposals for IT management services, and received quotes from Northeast IT Systems Inc. and Ayacht Technology Solutions. The board accepted the bid from Northeast IT Systems Inc. as they were the lowest bidder.

### Vote rescindment

The board voted to rescind a vote taken on May 12 which accepted a quote from Cabot Risk Strategies LLC for police and fire accident insurance, as they received a quote from another firm that provides the service for \$24,000 less.

### Retirement

The board accepted the retirement of Town Accountant Donna Allard effective June 30. She will continue as a consultant to the interim accountant until December, at a rate of \$110 per hour for four hours a week, for a total of \$15,600, according to the board.

## Amateur radio Field Day is June 27-28

**WEST BROOKFIELD** – The Quaboag Valley Amateur Radio Club will be participating in the 2026 A.R.R.L. Field Day on Saturday, June 27, and Sunday, June 28, operating from 2 p.m. Saturday through 2 p.m. Sunday on the West Brookfield Town Common. The public is warmly invited to visit between 2-6 p.m. on Saturday and between 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Sunday to explore the world of amateur radio firsthand.

Field Day is the largest on-air amateur radio exercise in the United States, bringing together tens of thousands of licensed operators to demonstrate the reliability, resilience, and public-service value of amateur radio. For QVARC, it’s also a chance to welcome neighbors, families, students, and anyone curious about radio, electronics, or STEM activities.

Visitors will be able to watch live radio contacts being made across the country and around the

world, explore the equipment and antennas used for emergency and off-grid communication, and even sit behind a radio to make a contact themselves. Club members will be on hand to explain how amateur radio supports communities during storms, power outages, and public-service events, and why these skills remain relevant in today’s interconnected world.

ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, recently reflected on the long tradition behind Field Day, noting that “Amateur radio has been part of the American story since the earliest days of wireless communication... For more than a century, the Amateur Radio Service has advanced the nation’s communications capabilities by fostering technical innovation, developing a pool of trained and skilled operators, strengthening emergency and public service communications, and promoting international goodwill.”

He emphasized that

these contributions show why amateur radio remains “a uniquely resilient and volunteer-driven national resource.”

QVARC is proud to carry that tradition forward here in the Quaboag Valley. Its members include hobbyists, engineers, emergency volunteers, and newcomers who simply enjoy learning something hands-on and practical.

The club meets on the last Tuesday of each month, except for July and August, and welcomes anyone interested in getting involved or learning more about the hobby.

Whether you’re interested in emergency preparedness, electronics, shortwave communication, or just want to see what amateur radio is all about, Field Day is the perfect time to stop by. Everyone is welcome, and no experience is required.

For more information about the Quaboag Valley Amateur Radio Club, please visit [www.qvarc.com](http://www.qvarc.com).

## PTO hosts summer 5K and family festival

**WEST BROOKFIELD** – The West Brookfield Elementary School PTO is hosting a summer 5K and family festival on Saturday, June 20.

The event will include a 5K, a fun run for kids, family games and activities, food trucks, vendors and more.

The PTO is looking for sponsors to help make this event memorable for everyone. In return, sponsor’s logos will be placed on runner’s T-shirts.

Sponsorship tiers include bronze \$100, silver \$200, gold \$300, diamond \$1,000. If you are interested in being a sponsor or a runner please email [wbroomfieldpto@gmail.com](mailto:wbrookfieldpto@gmail.com)

Proceeds of the 5k event go to the nonprofit WBES PTO to fund a variety of student events throughout the year.

[www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)

## Join the Sturbridge America250 Parade on June 27

**STURBRIDGE** – The Sturbridge America250 Committee is moving forward with plans for a parade and festival on Saturday, June 27 – rain or shine.

The parade will step off from the Old Sturbridge Village Museum Education parking lot at 10:30 a.m. It will proceed on the OSV access road to Route 20, then to Route 131 and end at the Town Common.

Bill Emrich will emcee the parade. The parade will include marching bands, entertainers, antique cars, floats made by local businesses, and area groups.

Bob Briere, recognized by many as the town’s historian, is the parade Grand Marshall. Virginia Jalbert, the town’s oldest resident at

101, is the guest of honor.

There is still time for businesses or groups to get involved – with a float, vintage car, or marchers. Children are invited to decorate their bikes or scooters and ride in the parade (helmets are required and a parent/guardian must walk alongside their child throughout).

Anyone wishing to participate can email [sturbridge250@gmail.com](mailto:sturbridge250@gmail.com).

Following the parade there will be a Festival on the Common. This festival will include historical reenactors, entertainers, patriotic music, a reading of the Declaration of Independence, a cherry-pie eating contest and other participatory activities and food trucks.

## NBES kindergarten registration now open

**NORTH BROOKFIELD** – North Brookfield Elementary School is excited to announce that kindergarten registration is now open for the 2026-2027

school year.

Please contact Katelin at North Brookfield Elementary School by calling 508-867-8326 or emailing [kgaines@nbschools.org](mailto:kgaines@nbschools.org).

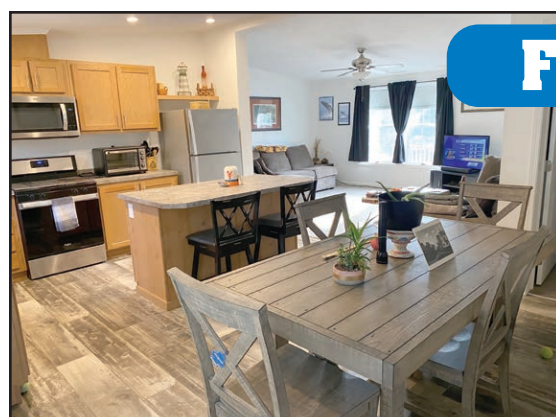


**Professional - Reliable - Fully Insured**

**Tree Trimming and Removal  
Emergency Tree Work • Stump Grinding  
Crane Service • Firewood Delivery**

*All Major Credit Cards Accepted  
100% Financing Available*

**162 Sturbridge Road, Brimfield, MA 01010  
508-641-5249 • office@robinsontreeservice.net  
www.robinsontreeservice.net**



## FIVE ISLANDS

Georgetown, Maine  
2 Bedrooms, 2 Bathroom  
Washer/Dryer, Fully Equipped  
• Walk to Five Islands Wharf and Ledgewood Preserve Beach  
• Close to Reid State Park

\$1200/week

**207-607-9333**



## - community -

# Presentations highlight school accomplishments

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis  
Staff Writer  
zachf@turley.com

**WARREN** – The Quaboag Regional School Committee heard updates from the Student Advisory Council, performing arts department and members of the school store at their last school committee meeting on May 18.

### Student council update

Student Evie Iwaniec gave an update from the Student Advisory Council. She said the school held a mock car crash demonstration to illustrate the dangers of drinking and driving.

Iwaniec said the biomedical innovation class attended an Applied 8 showcase in Boston. Iwaniec said AP

exams have been completed.

She said the seniors had a dinner dance at Salem Cross Inn. Iwaniec said graduation is going to be held on June 6, and the seniors will walk the elementary school on June 2, and have a scholarship night on June 3.

She said the Junior Class set up a nacho bar for teacher's appreciation week, and are planning for the senior barbecue on June 5. She said the prom would be May 23 at the University of Massachusetts.

Iwaniec said the tenth grade is finishing MCAS testing.

Iwaniec said the ninth graders are going to be hosting a fireworks show in June, and working at a snack shack for donations.

She said there was going to be a pop-up Italian restaur-

ant on May 20 operated by the 21st Century Cooking Club.

### Performing arts update

Music and Theater Director James Joinville gave an update on accomplishments in their department this year. He said the theater put on a production for "Legally Blonde", with 48 actors and 27 crew members in February. Joinville said the theater department also put on a production of the "Lion King Jr." in April with 26 actors, 11 producers and 10 crew members.

Joinville said the wind ensemble and Quaboag Singers participated in the Music in the Parks competition, and received "excellent" ratings. He said they also received the outstanding

conduct award.

He said the event was held at Holyoke High School and they went to Six Flags following the competition.

He said students participated in the Massachusetts Instrumental and Choral Conductors Association solo and ensemble festival. He said Natalia Veliz-Baldizon won a silver medal, Emily Lalashius won a silver medal and Amarie Martino won a silver medal.

Joinville said Madison Schreier won a gold medal, and was just two points shy of a perfect score.

### School store update

Two students from the business and entrepreneurship club, President Kasey Narov and Treasurer William Lopes gave a presentation on the student store.

They said the grand opening was June 5, 2025 and is fully student-run, and they design and produce merchandise like tote-bags, key-chains and clothing. They said they fully renovated the area before having the grand opening, which was attended by some state representatives, teachers and parents.

The students said they are starting to incorporate snacks into the store to get more profit. They said the store has a dedicated Instagram account (qrmhs\_schoolstore) where they promote the store, and they also promote it through emails, posters and surveys.

Lopes said the renovation cost between \$8,000-\$10,000, and last year they made \$1,653 in profit, mostly from hoodies and quarter-zips.

# Church hosts annual chicken BBQ June 20

**NORTH BROOKFIELD** – Christ Memorial Episcopal Church, 133 North Main St., will host its annual chicken BBQ on Saturday, June 20 from 12:30-1:30 p.m.

The meal includes a ½ chicken, baked potato, cole slaw, roll, drink and fresh strawberry shortcake. Take-out or eat in.

Tickets are \$20 per person and will be sold at the door or they can be reserved by calling Sandi at 508-867-3272 or Mary at 508-662-8174.

# Solstice concert to beheld on June 20

**WEST BROOKFIELD** – The First Congregational Church of West Brookfield, UCC, 36 North Main St., will host a concert on Saturday, June 20 at 7 p.m., preceded by a social hour from 6-7 p.m.

"Solstice Sing for Peace and Justice - Songs to Cultivate Community, Compassion, and Commitment" will feature local singing group, A Chorus for These Times, directed by Nym Cooke with instrumentalists and guest artist Leslie Sweetnam.

All are welcome and snacks will be served.

There is no admission charge but donations will be accepted to support Abby's House, Worcester's largest provider of affordable housing specifically designed to meet the needs of women and children.

For more information, call the church at 508-867-7078, or contact Karen Murphy (kmurphy718@charter.net) or Nym Cooke (nymcooke@gmail.com).

# Volunteers needed for water quality sampling

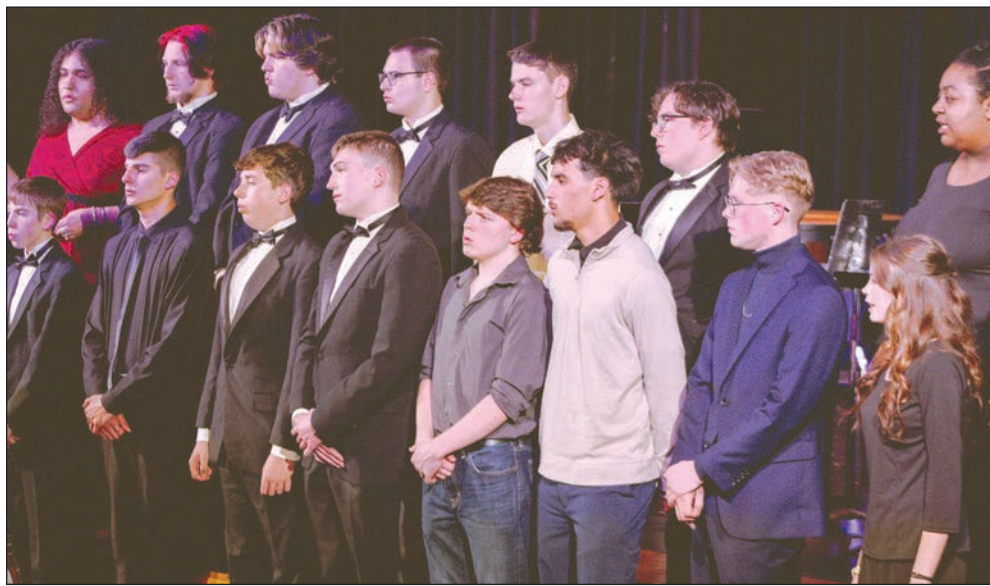
C4R is seeking volunteers to conduct water quality sampling at sites in Wilbraham and Palmer twice a month on Thursday mornings in June, July and August and once in September.

# Music program shines at high school concert

**BARRE** – Quabbin Regional High School held its Senior Night Concert on May 14, featuring performances by the String Orchestra, Quabbin Singers, Jazz Band and Symphonic Winds.

The String Orchestra and Jazz Band were directed by Sean Kelly, Quabbin Singers by Julia Tuttle, and Symphonic Winds by Toni Brown. Karla Peterson was the accompanist for the concert.

The String Orchestra performed themes from "American" and "A Hero's Journey"; the Quabbin Singers performed "No Time", "The Battle of Jericho" and "Bohemian Rhapsody"; the Jazz Band performed "It Don't Mean a Thing", "Chameleon", "All Blues" and "Work Song"; and the Symphonic Winds performed "Tritsch-Tratsch Polka", "Joy Revisited" and "Let Me Be Frank With You".



TURLEY PHOTOS BY CAMREN ROBERTSON

The Quabbin Singers from Quabbin Regional High School performed during the Senior Night Concert held on May 14.



The Quabbin Singers performed "Bohemian Rhapsody" accompanied by Sean Kelly on guitar.



The String Orchestra performed themes from "American" and "A Hero's Journey".



Quabbin Singers performed "No Time", "The Battle of Jericho" and "Bohemian Rhapsody" during the Senior Night Concert.

# Library celebrates America from the beginning

**EAST BROOKFIELD** – Come learn about how the National Parks played key roles in the Revolutionary War, enter for your chance to win a book and view a musket, and pick up the National Commemorative Stamp

and coin, that tells the history of the National Parks at the East Brookfield Public Library, 122 Connie Mack Drive.

This is a two-part program by Vincent Kordack: "Road to Independence" Monday, June 29 at 5:30

p.m. and "World Turned Upside Down" Monday, Aug. 10 at 5:30 p.m. Refreshments from the Revolutionary War will be served

All ages are welcomed; however, the program should hold the interest of

people from 12 and up.

Kordack is an East Brookfield resident with more than 38 years of experience as a National Park Ranger; He was assigned to 16 of the 18 National Parks that revolve around the Revolutionary War.

# Senior Center lists June events

**NORTH BROOKFIELD** – The North Brookfield Senior Center, located at 29 Forest St., will offer the following events and activities during the month of June.

Activities include: SHINE Counselor, June 9 by appointment; Lunch and

Movie, June 10 at noon; Music Bingo, June 15 at 10 a.m.; Art Class, June 18 at 11 a.m.; Drawing Class, June 25 at 11 a.m.; and Bingo and Pizza, June 26 from 6-8 p.m. Please call 508-867-0220 to sign up for Bingo and Pizza.

*Adventure tours of Warren*  
Share the Adventure with us!

**Provincetown by Fast Ferry \$220**

June 27....Lake George Cruise & Lunch .....\$185  
July 11 ....Provincetown by Fast Ferry..... \$220  
Sept. 26 ..Pickity Place Lunch .....\$130  
Nov. 7.....Great Gatsby at PPAC .....\$165  
Aug. 30.....7-Night Nova Scotia Cruise .....from \$1699

Share the Adventure with us soon!  
For further information call Randall at (413) 436-5357 or email [adventuretours@att.net](mailto:adventuretours@att.net) or go to [www.adventuretoursofwarren.com](http://www.adventuretoursofwarren.com)

**LOWER PRICES TO BOOST YOUR BUDGET!** **INFLATION** **PRICE BUSTERS** **PRICES IN RED ARE AT OR BELOW LAST YEAR'S PRICES!**

USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN ASSORTED PORK LOIN CHOPS.....	\$2.22 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TENDERLOIN CUT FREE	\$12.98 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS/SKINLESS CHICKEN BREAST 10 LB. BAG .....	\$2.22 lb
USDA INSP. FROZEN PORK SHOULDER PICNIC .....	\$1.39 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN BEEF BACK RIBS	\$2.79 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH CHICKEN DRUMSTICKS 10 LB. BAG ....	77¢ lb
USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS PORK SIRLOIN CUTLETS.....	\$2.39 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN BEEF 80% LEAN GROUND BEEF 7 LB BAG	\$4.29 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN PEPPERIDGE FARM CHOCOLATE FUDGE LAYER CAKE 19.6 OZ.....	\$3.99 ea
USDA INSP. SLICED FROM OUR DELI TURKEY BREAST .....	\$4.99 lb	USDA INSP. STOREMADE KABOBS WITH VEGGIES	\$8.99 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN POPEYE'S PIEROGIES CHEESE & POTATO POTATO & SOUR CREAM 13 OZ .....	\$2.49 ea
USDA INSP. SLICED IN OUR STORE PROVOLONE CHEESE.....	\$4.44 lb	USDA INSP. CUT IN STORE BONE-IN HAM STEAKS .....	\$3.99 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN AT SEA SNOW CRAB CLUSTERS .....	\$9.99 lb

**GREAT ON THE GRILL**

SALE DATES: 6/4/26-6/10/26

**90 Meat Outlet**  
90 Avocado St. Springfield  
413-737-1288  
[www.90meat.com](http://www.90meat.com)  
We reserve the right to limit quantities.

HOURS: Mon. - Wed. 8-4  
Thurs. 8-6 • Fri. 8-6 • Sat. 8-3

BUY DIRECT FOR SAVINGS • SELECTION • SERVICE

# - opinion -



**in my BACKYARD**  
By Ellenor Downer



PHOTO BY JOHN KUNHARDT

A green heron.

John Kunhardt of Belchertown took this photo of a green heron catching a fish at Lake Wallace.

The green heron is solitary at most seasons and often somewhat secretive, living around small bodies of water or densely vegetated areas.

When seen in the open, it often flicks its tail nervously and raises and lowers its crest.

The small heron is about 16 to 22 inches long. The green on this bird's back is an iridescent color and often looks dull bluish or simply dark.

They have orange yellow legs, chestnut neck, black crown feathers. Young birds are duller and brown with a striped neck.

Northern birds migrates as far as Panama and northern South American. Green herons in the most southern states do not migrate.

Green herons inhabit coasts and shorelines, forests and woodlands, freshwater wetlands, lakes, ponds, rivers and saltwater wetlands. Their call is a sharp "kyowk" or "sky-ow."

They nest in a wide variety of situations, including willow thickets, mangroves, dry woods and open marsh. The female lays three to five pale green or blue green eggs. Both the male and female incubate the eggs which takes 19 to 21 days.

The male chooses nesting territory and calls repeatedly from prominent perch in tree or shrub. Displays of male include stretching neck forward and down and snapping bill shut, pointing bill straight upward while swaying back and forth. Male and female may perform display flights around territory. Nest site is usually in shrub or tree 5-30 feet above ground, but sometimes on the ground.

It is often very close to water, but it can be quite distant away. The nest is a platform of sticks. The male begins construction, then female builds while male brings materials.

Both parents also feed their young by regurgitation. Young begin to climb about near nest by 16-17 days after hatching, usually make first flight at 21-23 days.

They are fed by parents for a few more weeks. Young are reportedly capable of swimming well. These herons have one to two broods per year.

These herons forage mostly by standing still

or stalking very slowly at edge of shallow water, waiting for prey to approach. Sometimes they uses bait" by dropping a feather or small twig on surface of water to lure fish within striking distance.

They eat mostly small fish, but will also eat crayfish and other crustaceans, aquatic insects, frogs and tadpoles. Other items include grasshoppers, snakes, earthworms, snails and small rodents.

### Black and white warbler

My daughter, Paula, saw a black and white warbler by the cross country trail at Quabbin Regional High School last week. As the name implies, the warbler has black and white feathers with black streaking on the breast and white wing bars, white eye line and white belly.

### Red shouldered hawk

A Montgomery resident had a red shouldered hawk in her yard. She sent a photo of it in flight.

### Whippoorwill

I received an email on May 15 from a Belchertown resident. She stated, "The whippoorwill is back in my yard again this year. The calls starts around dark and continue off and on till sunrise. She or he perches on the roof and calls all night. It can be very annoying as you are trying to sleep, but I still feel blessed or cursed."

### Common Ravens

A Brimfield couple had common ravens in their yard last month. They stated in an email, "We mostly hear them and sometimes see them flying over a local feature called West Mountain that is about 1000' elevation and runs north/south about a half a mile east of our house."

They stated, "On a Thursday a raven was in the driveway where I throw a seed mix daily for ground feeders. I saw the bird from inside the garage, my wife saw it with binoculars from inside the house."

They stated, "We both noticed the larger size, bigger than the American Crows that often feed in the same area. I noticed the wedged shaped tail when it flew away and my wife saw larger, heavier bill and the shaggy throat feathers." A few days later they saw three ravens.

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

## A question and an answer?

Carole, who faithfully reads the column in the Wilbraham-Hampden Times each week, wrote in with this question for the Garden Lady:

"I am hoping you can provide me with some advice as to how to rid my garden of an incredibly invasive plant. It is called Houottuynia cordata or chameleon plant. I bought a single variegated plant about 25 years ago and now I literally have hundreds of them in my gardens and lawn. The plant is no longer variegated but reverted to green with red around the edges. For at least three or four years, I have been trying to dig them out one by one which has been extremely difficult due to the long roots - some can be over a foot long - which become intertwined with other plants, choking them. I have not been very successful, despite spending hours at a time. And I painstakingly try to get every piece of root out. I am not sure if they are spreading solely through the roots or also from the flower pod seeds.

I notice they also spread under my brick walkway even though they get no sun there. It's been very frustrating. For that reason, I am considering using a herbicide, but am concerned that it might poison nearby plants or may not be effective due to the long roots. Yet, at this point, I am open to the idea. I look forward to any suggestions you may have.

Incidentally, I just learned from the internet that it is considered to be a medicinal herb, which I find quite shocking, given how much I have come to dislike them! Thank you very

much for your time and assistance."

Happy to help, Carole! It's funny you mention that this plant is a medicinal herb.

Some years back I was taking extract of Japanese Knotweed, another invasive plant, in my quest to cure late stage Lyme Disease. I guess most plants have some merit although some times it's hard to want to admit it, especially in the situation you are in.



the roots. Time consuming, but targeted.

I'll be curious to know how you make out trying to rid your landscape of this plant.

Diane, who gardens in West Chesterfield, had a possible solution for my hyacinths getting cut off at the soil line.

"We had a great disappointment this spring when something

chopped off most of our cultivated black berries. When I was trying to prune what

was left and save something I found the stalks laying on the ground but the tops were eaten. It looked like someone took a clean angle sweep with a hatchet to cut down the stalks. Then one evening at dusk we saw the culprit. It was about a 60 pound porcupine! He was chomping on our wild white rose bushes. He would bite the stalks off but since the rest of the bush wouldn't let the branch fall, he couldn't eat the top. What a mess.

When I read your article I was thinking this might be the answer to the mystery."

Hmm, I will have to keep on the look out for a porcupine; you never know.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 34 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.



While I have never grown Houottuynia cordata, I have dealt with similar invasive plants. Not always have I been successful, but here are a few tactics you can try.

If there is a way to smother, go for it. Try black plastic, a thick tarp or cardboard covered in mulch.

Eventually, if the plant can't photosynthesize, it will die.

You are smart to try and remove every little bit of root when hand digging it out; it's kind of amazing how a tiny piece will start a whole new plant. For that reason, never take the rototiller to a patch of any invasive plant, especially those that spread by rhizomes. The roots will be dispersed throughout the garden.

I also read about cutting the stems of the plants and then "painting" the open cuts with herbicide. To me that sounds like a smart plan to get the chemical right to

## Should I collect SS now or wait two years until age 70?

Dear Rusty:  
I am 67 and 9 months old, collecting a modest SS survivor benefit with plans to collect my own much larger benefit at age 70.

I was confident this plan was a good one, but recent turbulent events make me nervous that cuts could come to Social Security at any time without warning. Would it be prudent to file for my own Social Security as soon as possible so that my benefit might be "grandfathered" in before any sudden and drastic cuts occur? I do not generally panic, but these are unprecedented times. I would be quite comfortable with the benefit listed on my 2024 statement for my current age; I was just hoping to maximize the benefit by waiting.

When I go to the Social



Security website to view my 2025 annual statement to see the personalized monthly retirement benefit estimates for ages 68, 69 and 70 that section no longer shows. This omission makes me uncomfortable. Can I find out what my current benefit estimate would be for ages 68, 69 and 70? Or should I just rely on the 2024 statement?

Signed: Nervous in Portland

Security website to view my 2025 annual statement to see the personalized monthly retirement benefit estimates for ages 68, 69 and 70 that section no longer shows. This omission makes me uncomfortable. Can I find out what my current benefit estimate would be for ages 68, 69 and 70? Or should I just rely on the 2024 statement?

Signed: Nervous in Portland

Security website to view my 2025 annual statement to see the personalized monthly retirement benefit estimates for ages 68, 69 and 70 that section no longer shows. This omission makes me uncomfortable. Can I find out what my current benefit estimate would be for ages 68, 69 and 70? Or should I just rely on the 2024 statement?

Signed: Nervous in Portland

Security website to view my 2025 annual statement to see the personalized monthly retirement benefit estimates for ages 68, 69 and 70 that section no longer shows. This omission makes me uncomfortable. Can I find out what my current benefit estimate would be for ages 68, 69 and 70? Or should I just rely on the 2024 statement?

Signed: Nervous in Portland

Security website to view my 2025 annual statement to see the personalized monthly retirement benefit estimates for ages 68, 69 and 70 that section no longer shows. This omission makes me uncomfortable. Can I find out what my current benefit estimate would be for ages 68, 69 and 70? Or should I just rely on the 2024 statement?

Signed: Nervous in Portland

Security website to view my 2025 annual statement to see the personalized monthly retirement benefit estimates for ages 68, 69 and 70 that section no longer shows. This omission makes me uncomfortable. Can I find out what my current benefit estimate would be for ages 68, 69 and 70? Or should I just rely on the 2024 statement?

Signed: Nervous in Portland

Security website to view my 2025 annual statement to see the personalized monthly retirement benefit estimates for ages 68, 69 and 70 that section no longer shows. This omission makes me uncomfortable. Can I find out what my current benefit estimate would be for ages 68, 69 and 70? Or should I just rely on the 2024 statement?

Signed: Nervous in Portland

Security website to view my 2025 annual statement to see the personalized monthly retirement benefit estimates for ages 68, 69 and 70 that section no longer shows. This omission makes me uncomfortable. Can I find out what my current benefit estimate would be for ages 68, 69 and 70? Or should I just rely on the 2024 statement?

Signed: Nervous in Portland

Security website to view my 2025 annual statement to see the personalized monthly retirement benefit estimates for ages 68, 69 and 70 that section no longer shows. This omission makes me uncomfortable. Can I find out what my current benefit estimate would be for ages 68, 69 and 70? Or should I just rely on the 2024 statement?

Signed: Nervous in Portland

Security website to view my 2025 annual statement to see the personalized monthly retirement benefit estimates for ages 68, 69 and 70 that section no longer shows. This omission makes me uncomfortable. Can I find out what my current benefit estimate would be for ages 68, 69 and 70? Or should I just rely on the 2024 statement?

Signed: Nervous in Portland

Security website to view my 2025 annual statement to see the personalized monthly retirement benefit estimates for ages 68, 69 and 70 that section no longer shows. This omission makes me uncomfortable. Can I find out what my current benefit estimate would be for ages 68, 69 and 70? Or should I just rely on the 2024 statement?

Signed: Nervous in Portland

Security website to view my 2025 annual statement to see the personalized monthly retirement benefit estimates for ages 68, 69 and 70 that section no longer shows. This omission makes me uncomfortable. Can I find out what my current benefit estimate would be for ages 68, 69 and 70? Or should I just rely on the 2024 statement?

Signed: Nervous in Portland

Security website to view my 2025 annual statement to see the personalized monthly retirement benefit estimates for ages 68, 69 and 70 that section no longer shows. This omission makes me uncomfortable. Can I find out what my current benefit estimate would be for ages 68, 69 and 70? Or should I just rely on the 2024 statement?

Signed: Nervous in Portland

Security website to view my 2025 annual statement to see the personalized monthly retirement benefit estimates for ages 68, 69 and 70 that section no longer shows. This omission makes me uncomfortable. Can I find out what my current benefit estimate would be for ages 68, 69 and 70? Or should I just rely on the 2024 statement?

Signed: Nervous in Portland

Security website to view my 2025 annual statement to see the personalized monthly retirement benefit estimates for ages 68, 69 and 70 that section no longer shows. This omission makes me uncomfortable. Can I find out what my current benefit estimate would be for ages 68, 69 and 70? Or should I just rely on the 2024 statement?

Signed: Nervous in Portland

Security website to view my 2025 annual statement to see the personalized monthly retirement benefit estimates for ages 68, 69 and 70 that section no longer shows. This omission makes me uncomfortable. Can I find out what my current benefit estimate would be for ages 68, 69 and 70? Or should I just rely on the 2024 statement?

Signed: Nervous in Portland

Security website to view my 2025 annual statement to see the personalized monthly retirement benefit estimates for ages 68, 69 and 70 that section no longer shows. This omission makes me uncomfortable. Can I find out what my current benefit estimate would be for ages 68, 69 and 70? Or should I just rely on the 2024 statement?

Signed: Nervous in Portland

Security website to view my 2025 annual statement to see the personalized monthly retirement benefit estimates for ages 68, 69 and 70 that section no longer shows. This omission makes me uncomfortable. Can I find out what my current benefit estimate would be for ages 68, 69 and 70? Or should I just rely on the 2024 statement?

Signed: Nervous in Portland



## QUABOAG CURRENT

We Want to Hear From You

EDITOR  
Paula Ouimette  
pouimette@turley.com

ADVERTISING SALES  
Dan Flynn  
dfflynn@turley.com

SPORTS EDITOR  
Greg Scibelli  
sports@turley.com

THE QUABOAG CURRENT (USPS# 10860) is published every Friday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977. Periodical Postage Prices are Paid at Palmer, MA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069.

WEB  
quaboagcurrent.turley.com

PHONE  
(413) 283-8393

ADDRESS  
24 Water Street  
Palmer, MA 01069

Turley Publications, Inc.  
www.turley.com

Turley Publications, Inc. cannot assume liability for the loss of photographs or other materials submitted for publication. Materials will not be returned except upon specific request when submitted.

## 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.

## Quaboag Current 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 (with a word limit of up to 500 words) 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.

CHECK OUT ALL THE  
**Turley** Publications  
www.turley.com

# - community -



A musket salute was given during the Liberty Tree Dedication Ceremony.



Derek Heidemann is shown during a presentation of the history of changes to firearms technology and manufacturing.

## YANKEE INGENUITY FROM PAGE 1

and is keeping the tradition of wooden clockmaking going. Vaughn brought a lathe to the Village that is a copy he built based on the original lathe that is in a museum in Connecticut.

There was a table covered of original clockmaking tools and original wooden clock mechanisms. Vaughn had a mechanism from 1795 that comes from the town of Ashby. In his program, Vaughn talked about clockmaker Eli Terry (1772-1852), a Connecticut based clockmaker who introduced mass production to the art of clockmaking.

Starting even before the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Terry would make one wooden clock in two weeks. By 1820, he was producing about 10,000 clocks a year.

Vaughn learned a lot about Terry and was a fan of history and the work behind clocks. He thought wooden clocks and how they were made were incredible and soon volunteered at the clock museum in Bristol, Connecticut.

"Keeping the tradition going," Vaughn said.

The era of wooden clocks came to an end after the introduction of brass clocks and brass mechanisms that were introduced around 1839. Chauncey Jerome was a clockmaker and the manufacturer of brass clocks.

The wood used for wooden clocks vary, according to Vaughn. The gears were made of cherry wood, and pinions were made with mountain laurel.

At the Fitch House, visitors got to witness the work of the tin kitchen. New Englanders used tinware for roasting meat to prepare



Tractors and a 1922 Witte 6-horsepower engine were displayed on the Common of Old Sturbridge Village, provided by Central Mass Steam & Gas Machinery.

meals.

The tin reflector oven was placed in front of the fireplace with meat inside. The Tin Shop was making tinware by hand in the 18<sup>th</sup> century versus the assistance of machines in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

On the Common were displays presented by Central Mass Steam & Gas Machinery. This is a nonprofit organization based out of Orange, and focuses on educating the general public about the machinery and methods used by past generations.

The machinery displayed included farm tractors, engines, water pumps and other early machinery. There was a 1922 Witte six-horsepower engine, which can be used for various agricultural and industrial tasks and uses such as sawing, grinding and water pumping.

The Central Mass Steam & Gas Machinery collects and restores old machinery and puts them on display for various fairs and programs such as Yankee Ingenuity.

Old Sturbridge Village hosted a history of changes in firearms program by sharing a series of firearms

from the Village's collection.

Derek Heidemann talked about the development of interchangeable parts in firearms and how it was a long process to accomplish for many manufacturers. By the 1840s, these types of firearms were nationwide.

The Cabinet Shop at the Village discussed how the business of furniture making changed in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The cabinet maker completed a breakfast table featuring new finger joints.

This was a time when furniture making became adjustable in households, which got more popular in this time. For example, chairs featuring tops that can flip.

The best-known chair companies at the time included the Greenfield Chair Company and the Hitchcock Chair Company in Connecticut. As for other furniture pieces there were a lot of cabinet makers who operated privately or independently.

The Carding Mill was keeping busy by demonstrating how brushing wool was done by hand and by machine.

The carding machine is over 200 years old, built around 1815 and still runs thanks to water power. This was an invention that increased the speed of carding.

Visitors got to see the carding machine operate and how the wool was carded thanks to this early machinery. One the subject of wool, there was sheep shearing demonstration at the Fenno Barn.

Farmers would show how fleece was taken from the sheep by using traditional hand shears.

The wool would then be sorted, picked and scoured before the spinning process. A historian inside the Fenno House demonstrated wool spinning on a great wheel.

As part of the America



The carding machine from the early 1800s was running inside Old Sturbridge Village's Carding Mill.

250 celebration, Old Sturbridge Village hosted a Liberty Tree dedication ceremony on the Village Common. In partnership with the Connecticut Sons of the American Revolution, a newly planted Jefferson Elm

Tree was celebrated this past weekend.

The ceremony featured a musket salute conducted by a color guard.

History comes to life at Old Sturbridge Village. Visit [www.osv.org](http://www.osv.org) to learn more.



Tom Vaughn explained the clockmaker lathe inside Bullard Tavern.



## Nobody dreams of having multiple sclerosis

Some dreams are universal: hitting a ball over the Green Monster; winning the World Series with a grand slam in the bottom of the ninth inning. Finding out you have MS is not one of them.

Multiple sclerosis is a devastating disease of the central nervous system where the body's immune system attacks the insulation surrounding the nerves. It strikes adults in the prime of life - and changes lives forever.

To help make the dream of ending MS come true, call 1-800-FIGHT MS or visit us online at [nationalmssociety.org](http://nationalmssociety.org).

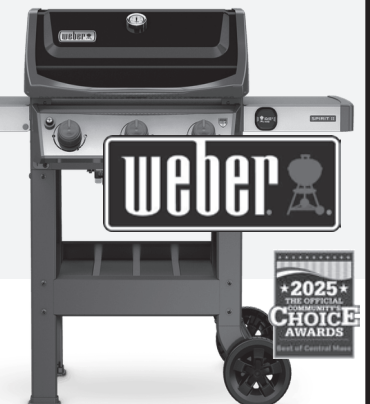


DON'T BUY 'TIL YOU SEE US!

GREAT SELECTION! TV SALE! at THE SPAGS OF SPENCER!

Great Selection! A/C's

GREAT SELECTION OF GAS GRILLS!



DEALS BETTER THAN the BIG BOX STORES!

MATTRESS SALE! TWIN: \$199 (REG. \$299) / FULL: \$269 (REG. \$499) / QUEEN: \$299 (REG. \$599)

- FRIGIDAIRE DISHWASHER REG. \$449.99 \$329.99
- G.E. 27 CU. FT. FRENCH DOOR REFRIGERATOR REG. \$1999.99 \$1499.99
- FAMOUS-MAKER OVER-THE-STOVE MICROWAVE REG. \$249.99 \$229.99

G.E. STOVE w/AIR FRY REG. \$699.99 \$699.99

SMOOTH-TOP STOVE REG. \$699.99 \$599.99

21 CU. FT. FREEZER REG. \$999.99 \$799.99

5 CU. FT. CHEST FREEZER REG. \$699.99 \$499.99

AMANA WASHER OR DRYER REG. \$599.99 \$489.99

ENERGY STAR 18 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR REG. \$699.99 \$599.99

LG WASHER OR DRYER Front Load - REG. \$1599.99 \$1,399.99

MAYTAG DELUXE WASHER OR DRYER REG. \$699.99 \$499.99

FRIGIDAIRE SIDE BY SIDE REG. \$1,499.99 \$1099.99

BIKE SALE!

1000's IN STOCK! WE REPAIR BIKES! SPRING BIKE TUNE-UP: \$49.99!



INSTANT FINANCING UP TO \$10,000!

WHITCO

140 MAIN STREET, SPENCER, MA 508.885.9343 SEE WHITCOSALES.COM



Store Hours: Mon. thru Fri: 10am-8:30pm • Sat: 9am-8pm • Sun: 12 Noon-7pm

FOR 100's OF DEALS!

# - community -

## Tri-Parish Community Church held 20th annual sale

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

**HARDWICK** – The Hardwick Common was busy the weekend of May 16-17 with the Tri-Parish Community Church's annual Plant, Bake, Craft & Tag Sale taking place.

This was the 20th year the Tri-Parish Community Church has held this annual sale which is all made possible by a volunteer effort. This event benefits the Tri-Parish Community Church's operating expenses.

Members of Tri-Parish Community Church were hosting a plant sale and a bake sale on the Hardwick Common, and the weather was perfect for the occasion. Jennifer Pollard, who grew up in Hardwick, had moved back to the area around 2018 was keeping busy with both the plant sale and bake sale taking place.

The plant sale featured pots of annual flowers, herbs, perennials and vegetables. The bake sale featured a variety of home baked cookies, pies and other pastries.

There were also three plant vendors who attended this year's plant sale. There was Inishowen Farms of



TURLEY PHOTOS BY RYAN DRAGO  
Doug Swanson of Dragonfly Wood Arts of Hardwick was one of the craft vendors during the 20th Annual Tri-Parish Community Church Plant, Bake, Craft and Tag Sale.

North Brookfield, Howe's Farm & Garden of New Braintree and Stillman's Farm of New Braintree.

What makes the annual sale possible are the volunteers who help put this event together.

"It is a team effort," Pollard said.

Members of the Tri-Parish Community Church were thankful to use the space on the Common to host a plant sale, bake sale,

craft vendors, games for kids, and local music. There were also flowerpots for kids.

There were a lot of unique crafters and artisans on the Common. For example, Got Eggs showcases pysanky art, which is egg design. Debbie Nichols is the founder of Got Eggs and has been decorating eggs for the last 15 years.

Nichols uses brown and white eggs to decorate,

which also features waxing and dyeing. Got Eggs had America 250th themed patriotic eggs for sale on the Hardwick Common.

Next to Got Eggs was Jean Bears and table full of stuffed teddy bears made from refurbished fur coats. Jean Nichols has been making these bears for 60 years and they come in all colors.

Also featured was Dragonfly Wood Arts, which is based out of Hardwick. Doug Swanson is the owner of Dragonfly Wood Arts and he has seen a lot of organic growth in his business.

Dragonfly Wood Arts has many unique items such as pens, cutting boards, personalized charcuterie boards, custom cutting boards and unique gifts. Swanson does custom engravings and can put special messages on these unique wood crafted items.

The quality of this craftsmanship looks great in person as Swanson continues to craft and treats his work with care.

"The boards are my kids," Swanson said.

It was a weekend of community fun as the Tri-Parish Community Church Plant, Bake Craft, and Tag Sale had something for everyone.

## Church hosts annual Strawberry Festival June 13

**NEW BRAINTREE** – The New Braintree Congregational Church is hosting its annual Strawberry Festival on Saturday, June 13 at 5:30 p.m. at the New Braintree Town Hall, Memorial Drive.

Come enjoy this family-style meal of baked ham, baked beans, potato salad,

coleslaw, rolls and beverages followed by strawberry shortcake for dessert.

Tickets are \$20 for adults; \$12 for children ages 5-10, children 4 and under are free. There will be one sitting. Make your reservations by calling 508-410-7424 or 413-477-6653.

### NEW BRAINTREE FROM PAGE 1

fore being submitted to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for final approval.

The revised agreement has updates to language, and adjustments to weighted votes based on town population.

Selectmen Joe Chenevert said the revised agreement includes that the town has the right to vote on the closing of a school.

The revised agreement also includes language required by DESE, which states if a member town seeks to withdraw from the school district's regional agreement, then the town must submit a "long range plan" and have clear timelines. The plan would also need to be approved by the Commissioner.

The current regional agreement from 2014 will remain in effect until the new agreement is voted on and final approval is received.

### FY 27 budget

Voters unanimously approved articles 4 and 5, accepting a fiscal year 2027 budget of \$3,367,614. This budget is just over \$240,000 less than the FY 26 approved budget.

### School assessments

The town's education as-

sessments were outlined in article 4.

The assessment for Quabbin Regional School District decreased by approximately 2.8%, which was partly driven by a reduction in enrollment by nine students. The total assessment for the town for FY 27 (including debt and interest and out of district tuition costs) is \$1,729,130.

The assessment for the Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School increased by 3.9% from \$181,735 in fiscal year 2026 to \$253,855 in FY 27 due to an increase in enrollment (three students) and the state's increased and required minimum contribution.

### Town Hall project

Article 10 asked voters to rescind \$241,000 of the \$532,000 previously approved at town meeting in 2022 for repairs to the Town Hall. The final expenses for the project were less than anticipated and the project is now complete.

### STM articles

Article 1 asked voters to transfer \$66,026.66 to meet overdrawn and unprovided for accounts in the current FY 26 budget. The three remaining articles on the special town meeting warrant were passed over.

### HERSEE FROM PAGE 1

program.

The book was put together thanks to about three years of research conducted by Hersee. The author discovered many names of soldiers that were missing and were listed as serving Sturbridge during the American Revolution.

In the beginning of his research, there were 124 known names of soldiers listed on the Honor Roll.

During his program, Hersee shared the historical sources he used to help identify the soldiers who were not listed on the honor roll.

One source was a historical book about Sturbridge by Joseph S. Clark written back in 1838. The book contained a list of 239 men who served in the American Revolution.

The list of names never made it into his books and there were about 115 names missing.

Back in the late 19th century, the General Court directed the Secretary of State to prepare and publish records, which would become the Massachusetts Soldiers & Sailors of the Revolutionary War. This 17-volume publication was published from 1896-1908.

Trying to identify the thousands of soldiers who served the Revolutionary War (1775-1783), consisted of over 600,000 individual index cards and snippets of

information of these soldiers. This was just one part of Hersee's research trail as he used sources such as Ancestry, FamilySearch, Fold3, Google, internet archives, and National Archives. The Daughters of the American Revolution were also a helpful source with reliable resources provided such as marriage records, death records, and others.

Hersee then moved on to the soldiers he discovered who were missing from history. Hersee included digital illustrations of the soldiers and scenery depicting the time of the Revolutionary War.

Hersee managed to find Weld's record through his brother's records. He found out that Weld was not originally acknowledged as dying during the war around 1782 in New York.

Jeremiah Lake was also from Sturbridge and fought in the Battle of Saratoga. He was sent home to recover and wanted to return to service, but he couldn't serve in active field duty.

Lake managed to join the Corps of Invalids from 1778-1779 and guarded stores, hospitals, and arsenals in Boston.

Hersee mentioned Joseph Cheney, who was born in 1709 and was one

of many older soldiers who returned to active duty in the American Revolution.

"A seasoned soldier answers again," Hersee said.

Timothy Parker was a founding Captain of the Sturbridge Militia and a Delegate to the Provincial Congress. Oliver Smith was one of many soldiers who extended their service. Smith was asked by General George Washington to stay another month.

The Plimpton name came up a lot in Hersee's research and is acknowledged in his book. Daniel Plimpton Sr. and Daniel Plimpton Jr. died in the same year, 1777, in service to Sturbridge.

Plimpton Sr. was a Lieutenant Colonel and is buried at the Old Burial Ground in Sturbridge, next door to the Publick House.

Many of these soldiers who were nearly forgotten have such amazing stories regarding their service and Hersee wanted to share those stories. Nathan Rice was a Revolutionary War soldier who was also involved in the Quasi-War, a conflict at sea with France.

Warwick Dick was an enslaved man who enlisted twice during the American Revolution. He was from Sturbridge and fought for the liberty of others.

After his first enlistment, he would run away from his owner and then re-enlisted which was credited to Weymouth.

Hersee talked about the burials of these Revolutionary War soldiers. The Old Burial Ground in Sturbridge has a total of 76 names listed, which Hersee shared in his presentation.

The stonewall surrounding the Old Burial Ground today was originally built by veterans of the Revolutionary War in 1794.

The North Cemetery in Sturbridge has some Revolutionary War soldier burials as well. Between Oak Ridge Cemetery and Morse Cemetery in Southbridge, they have a total of 36 burials.

Thanks to this research and Hersee's book, 186 additional names were found in addition to the 124 currently listed on the Town's Honor Roll. Overall, 310 men served in the War for Independence and are connected to Sturbridge.

"Honored at last," Hersee said.

With a lot of unknowns and history yet to be discovered, Hersee said any town, community, and family can conduct this type of research.

"Sturbridge is always good with remembering," he said.

With this in mind Hersee wanted to share a vision he had that will hopefully include a place in town that will remember all those soldiers who served Sturbridge.

## 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.

Are you having difficulty communicating with your partner, struggling with boundaries, and healthy relationships?

We invite you to join us Friday afternoons from 1-2:30 pm to explore these topics and more.

This group will be held in zoom, is educational, confidential, and free.

Please contact Pat James 413-726-8661.

*Adventure tours of Warren*  
Share the Adventure with us!

**Three Great Norwegian Cruise Experiences**

*Experience MORE with Norwegian*

March 1-13, 2027 12-Night Eastern Caribbean ..... from \$2499  
May 23-30, 2027 7-Night Halifax & Bermuda.....from \$1799

**BOOK THESE TWO BACK-TO-BACK**

Aug. 23-29, 2027 7-Night Halifax & Bermuda from \$1799	<b>BOOK EARLY FOR BEST CABINS</b>	Aug. 29-Sept. 5, 2027 7-Night Canada & New England from \$1699
---	-----------------------------------	---

**Share the Adventure with us soon!**  
For further information call Randall at (413) 436-5357 or email [adventuretours@att.net](mailto:adventuretours@att.net) or go to [www.adventuretoursofwarren.com](http://www.adventuretoursofwarren.com)

# Glenda's

**Saturday, June 6th**  
7pm-11pm

## The Loose Knit Whits

EVERY FRIDAY  
**Karaoke**

EVERY WEDNESDAY  
**Wise Guys**  
**MUSICAL BINGO**  
7:30-9pm

Upcoming  
**Saturday, June 20th**  
7pm-11pm  
**Caboodle**

EVERY SUNDAY  
**DARTS**  
*LUCK OF THE DRAW*  
5:30pm • All Welcome

948 Main Street, Warren, MA • 413-436-8491

# QUABOAG REGIONAL MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL *Class of* 2026



Saharah Ackerman



Madic Andreoli



Emma Astrella



Juliana Augusto



Madelyn Bagg



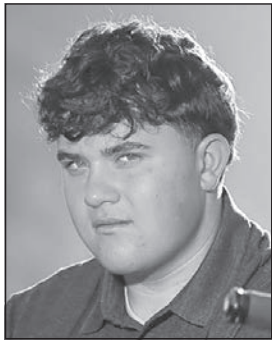
Jaylin Bailey



Emily Baker



Milo Biedron



Jeffrey Bouchard



Rhyan Bray



Shelby Bridges



Connor Burgess



Connor Burke



Jacob Cacace



Kenadi Chenevert



Jennifer Christman



Gretchen Conn



Isaac Cowher



Emma Dion



Brennan Doe



Kadin Dufault



Madeline Dufresne



Chelsea Duszak



Lexi Fair



Gabriela Feeney



Hayssa Freitas



Hunter Gagnon



Serenitee Gagnon



**DAVE'S APPLIANCE, INC**

**Congratulations & Best Wishes to the 2026 Quaboag, Quabbin & North Brookfield GRADUATES**


[www.davesapp.com](http://www.davesapp.com)  
**508-867-3122**  
 Parts Hotline 888-229-1027  
 42 W. Main Street, Brookfield, MA  
 Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9-6 • Fri. 9-5 • Sat. 10-3  
**Factory Authorized Technicians**

**Congratulations Class of 2026**




**Jeffery** [www.jefferyandjeffery.com](http://www.jefferyandjeffery.com)  
 413-967-9941

**Jeffery** 137 Main Street  
 PO Box 720  
 Deputy Tax Collectors Ware, MA 01082-0720  
*family. integrity. service.*



*"Never be afraid to ask for the order."  
 Congratulations to the Class of 2026*



**WESTBROOK INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.**  
*Insurance & Paralegal Services*

**BILL MANSFIELD, Founder/CEO**  
 130 East Main Street, Post Office Box 1013  
 West Brookfield, MA 01585-1013  
**508-867-6894 • Fax: 508-867-7856**

**Congratulations Class of 2026!**



**THE KORZEC INSURANCE AGENCY**  
*Insurance Needs with a Personal Touch*

Highest Standards of Professional Service  
 Homeowners • Tenant • Motorcycle • Car  
 2400 MAIN STREET, P.O. BOX 151  
 WEST WARREN, MA 01092  
 TEL: (413) 436-7000  
 FAX: (413) 436-7500



**YOUR FUTURE. OUR SUPPORT.**



Scan to learn more.

**Congratulations, Class of 2026!**

No matter where life takes you, having the right financial partner makes a difference. Scan the QR code to explore account options to help you manage your money with confidence. We're proud to support the goals, dreams and futures of our local community!

**countrybank** MEMBER FDIC | MEMBER DIF  
 Made to make a difference.

**2026 Graduates**

Good Luck & May You All Have a Successful & Bright Future



**Ready to Buy or Sell? Call Me!**  
**Dorrinda O'Keefe-Shea**  
[www.DorrindaSellsHomes.com](http://www.DorrindaSellsHomes.com) • 978-434-1990

**CENTURY 21** North East  
 Century 21 North East  
 109 West St., Ware

# QUABOAG REGIONAL MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL *Class of* 2026



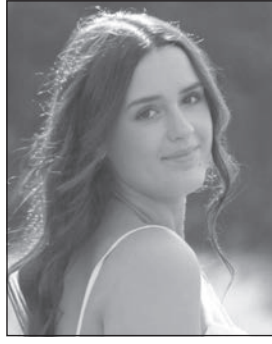
Briana Hawk



Landon Hogan



Evangeline Iwaniec



Alison Jones



CJ Kady



Jacoby LaBillois



Lynx Lamoureux



Mia Letendre



Gianna Lindsey



Brayden Lopato



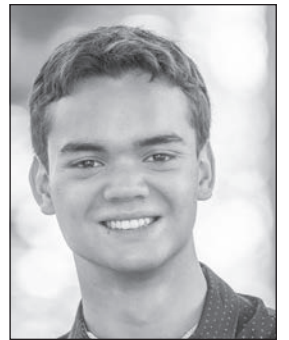
William Lopes



Gianni Manzano



Jackson McGarry



Reece Miner



Gabe Moberg



Evelyn Mongeon



Olive Moulton



Haylee Nash



Kaitlyn Nault



Emily Nelson






Lilly Nimtz

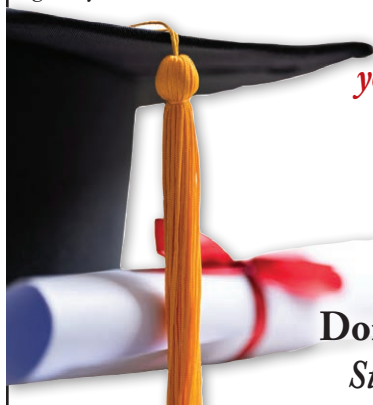


**Sherman Oil**  
 SERVICE • VALUE • COMFORT  
  
*Congratulations to all the 2026 graduates!*  
 82 Ware Street, P.O. Box 376, West Brookfield, MA 01585  
 508-867-7447 • 413-967-6941  
 Fax: 508-867-3048 • Email: shermanoil@aol.com

**Congratulations & Best Wishes to the Class of 2026 Quaboag, North Brookfield & Quabbin Graduates**  
*Buying... I am an accredited buyers representative*  
*Selling... I have a proven marketing plan*  
*Relocating... I can guide you every step of the way!*  
  
**Lisa Caron**, Broker/Owner  
 ABR, GRI, SRS, SRES, MRP, LMC, COPE, PSA, RE, E-PRO, C2EX  
 42 W. Main Street (Rt. 9) Brookfield, MA • 508-341-8299  
 www.lisacaron.com  
  
 15 Years Experience  
 FOR ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS

*Congratulations*  
**2026 GRADS**  
*from your friends at*  
  
**Turley Publications, Inc**  
 www.turley.com • 413-283-8393  


*Congratulations*  
  
*Class of*  
**2026**  
  
**GUZIK MOTOR SALES**  
 East Main Street, Rte. 9 & 32, WARE 413-967-4210 • (413) 967-7761  
 Under The Same Ownership For Over 48 Years

*Wishing This Year's Graduates*  
**Great Happiness & Success**  
 Hats off to the students whose hard work and dedication have led them to this milestone achievement. May the classroom and life lessons you've learned from your peers, parents and teachers here guide you toward continued success as you take the next step.  
*We're proud of your accomplishments, and we wish you all the best!*  
 Peter Durant,  
 State Senator  
 Donnie Berthiaume,  
 State Representative  


**Best Wishes to All the Grads!**  
 Thanks for making this community proud!  


# QUABOAG REGIONAL MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL *Class of* 2026



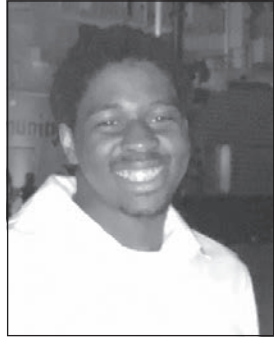
Camden Olivo



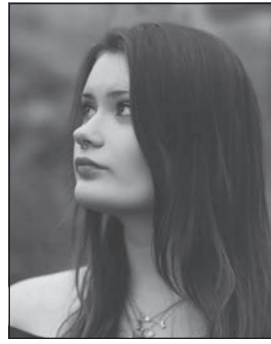
Ava Ostrout



Hailey Patchen



Shyloh Peter



Kimber Peyman



Jacob Plante



Madeline Potvin



Genevieve Regan



Amara Reis



Gabrielle Riendeau



David Robies



Makayla Savoie



Madison Schreier



Madison Sears



Kayden Smart



Lennon Smith



Steven Smith



Jack Stevens



Jacob Toomey



Matthew Twomey



Kaleb VanKleef



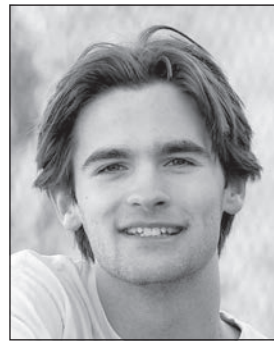
Bildad Vernet



Elijah Wilhelm



Alyson Williams



Camden Williams



Ashton Winders



Kyle Withers

Photos Unavailable.  
 Rylie Barton  
 Maddix Castle  
 Adam Convery  
 Jayden Gonzalez  
 Peter Naiihly

Good Luck Class of '26

**PARSONS AUTO INC.**  
 Main Street, East Brookfield  
 508-867-6253 • 800-287-6253

Congratulations & Best Wishes!

**GRADUATES!**

**CLUETT'S**  
 Furniture & Appliance Center  
 23 East Main Street, Ware  
 3 Mechanic Street, Ware  
 413-967-6871

*A Note of Congratulations*  
 May your hard work and education open the door to a world of new opportunities and success!

**HARDWICK CROSSING**  
 EST. 2022  
 COUNTRY CLUB

[hardwickcrossing.com](http://hardwickcrossing.com)  
 262 Lower Road, Gilbertville • 774-757-8907

CONGRATULATIONS

CLASS OF GRADUATES 2026

Special Congratulations to  
 Jessie Bachand  
 Dayne Shanley  
 Matt Tilton

from your Friends at  
 Bell & Hudson Insurance Agency

**BELL & HUDSON**  
 Insurance Agency, Inc.

Servicing the Insurance Needs of  
 Our Community for Over 100 Years

19 N. Main St., Belchertown (413) 323-9611  
 15 Central St., West Brookfield (508) 867-4646

Congratulations! GRADUATES

**UABBIN®**  
 WIRE & CABLE CO., INC.

Veteran Owned Small Business  
**VOSB**  
 cve

PROUDLY MADE IN THE U.S.A.  
 10 Maple St. Ware, MA 01082  
[www.quabbin.com](http://www.quabbin.com)

CONGRATULATIONS to the Class of 2026

*Grow Your Dreams!*

**Grain & Feed - Farm & Garden Supplies**

**Hardwick Farmers' Co-Operative**  
 444 Lower Rd, Hardwick, MA • 413.477.6913  
 Monday-Friday 8-6; Saturday 8-5; Sunday 9-3  
 Check out our website [www.HardwickFarmers.net](http://www.HardwickFarmers.net)

# SPORTS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

SEND US YOUR SPORTS SUBMISSIONS

## Middle school track action



Caleb Brouillet leads the pack in the one-mile race.

BARRE – Last week, Quabbin Regional Middle School had outdoor track action, featuring contests in multiple events for the young Panthers. It was one of just a few meets scheduled for the middle school team this spring.



Penny Ouimette winds up to launch the discus.



Landon Swindlehurst goes flying in the long jump.



Kayla Despres propels herself for distance in the long jump.



Leona Barre stretches out as she easily clears the bar in the high jump.



Eden Fortier powers through her throw in the shot put.

## Mutiny battles Hartford to scoreless draw

LUDLOW – On Friday, May 22, the New England Mutiny battled the Hartford Athletic to a scoreless tie. The Mutiny is now 1-1-1 on the season. They previously defeated the Worcester Wanderers and had a defeat against the Hudson Valley Crusaders. More on the Mutiny and their new challenges in next week's edition.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY  
WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTO

Kayleigh Lukasik sends a pass away.



Nadia Cassmajor sends a pass away.



Kendall Bodak, of Monson, sends a free kick away.



Se-Hanna Mars fights for the ball.

## Magical runs ends for T-Birds in Wilkes-Barre

WILKES-BARRE, PA – The Springfield Thunderbirds saw their remarkable Calder Cup Playoff journey come to a bitter ending in an 8-1 loss to the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins on Saturday night inside Mohegan Arena at Casey Plaza in a deciding Game 5 of the best-of-five series.

After getting shut out by Georgii Romanov and the T-Birds in Game 4 in Springfield two nights earlier, the Penguins came out

with renewed purpose, and Tristan Broz's second goal of the series just 3:56 into Game 5 put Wilkes-Barre/Scranton in front, 1-0.

Harrison Brunicke would follow with a goal of his own on a 2-on-1 at 7:43 to make it 2-0. Broz added his third point of the period with a power play goal at 16:17, and Rafael Harvey-Pinard completed the Penguins' prolific first period with a rebound finish with just 20 seconds left in the frame to

make it 4-0 at intermission.

The T-Birds swapped goalies heading into the second as Vadim Zherenko took over, but the Penguins still managed to find offense when Atley Calvert swatted a loose puck through Zherenko at 17:21.

As the third period began, the Penguins power play found a second connection when Ville Koivunen finished off a passing play at 2:52 to extend the lead to six.

Akil Thomas finally got one back for Springfield at 4:30, but it would prove to only delay the Penguins' continued attack, as Harvey-Pinard and Koivunen each would add another tally to their night's work to finish off the victory and the series.

The T-Birds' storybook season may have come to an end, but the excitement is only building as Springfield prepares to celebrate 100 years of hockey in the city.



Josie Castell slides and adds another run as she slides into home.

## Panthers score pair of wins

BARRE – Last week, Quabbin Regional High School softball scored a pair of wins, defeating Bromfield last Monday afternoon 15-3 followed by a win over Murdock High School 17-1 last Thursday afternoon in a matchup that ended in the fifth inning. Quabbin is on the borderline for qualification in the state tournament. The most recent rankings had Quabbin ranked at No. 35. With a sub-.500 record, Quabbin would need to finish in the top 32 in order to make the state tournament this year.



Anna Rogowski prepares to deliver her pitch.



Kai Schuster catches a strike from pitcher Abby Rogowski.



Kelsey Allen slides safely into second base.



Anna Hautala secures the catch and the out at first on a throw from Anna Rogowski.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY JEFFREY HAYNES

- community -

# North Brookfield receives risk management grant

**NORTH BROOKFIELD** – The Town of North Brookfield was awarded a \$9,200 risk management grant from the Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association, the town's property and casualty insurance provider, to support a lockout/tagout station, a winch tripod with harness for confined space work and a Safety Care trainer.

The town said the grant has enhanced the safety, preparedness, and effectiveness of its municipal workforce.

The town said the lockout/tagout station has improved safe equipment servicing at the wastewater treatment plant, the confined space equipment has strengthened sewer department safety during high-risk operations, and the Safety Care trainer has helped equip school staff with skills to prevent injuries and respond appropriately to challenging situations.

"We are extremely grateful to MIIA for providing this funding and helping us make meaningful

investments in employee safety across multiple departments," said Jamie Gilman, chair of the Board of Selectmen. "I would also like to recognize and thank our Administrative Assistant to the Board of Selectmen, Mary Beth Kularski, for her efforts in identifying and securing these grant opportunities that directly benefit our employees and residents. These funds will help keep our school staff, Sewer Department personnel, and other municipal employees safer while they perform the

essential work that serves our community every day."

Now in its 24th year, MIIA's fiscal year 2026 risk management grant program awarded a total of \$1 million to 146 members to support risk management practices and projects that help protect employees, buildings, infrastructure, and other public assets.

"This grant program is about helping members take practical steps to reduce risk and strengthen resilience," said Stan Corcoran, Senior Executive and MIIA Exec-

utive Vice President. "Our focus this year was to empower members to effectively address the growing challenges of evolving weather patterns, employee health and safety, and emerging cybersecurity threats. We are pleased to support North Brookfield's efforts to strengthen employee preparedness, reduce workplace risk, and support safer municipal operations."

MIIA is a membership service of the Massachusetts Municipal Association. As a mission-driven, member-led

nonprofit, MIIA focuses on providing Massachusetts municipalities and other governmental entities with insurance coverage alternatives, quality risk management and wellness programs.

For over four decades, MIIA has proudly supported its members in their efforts to build stronger communities, foster safer work environments, and implement programs that promote the health and well-being of their employees. For more information, visit [www.emi-ia.org](http://www.emi-ia.org) and [www.mma.org](http://www.mma.org).

**W BROOKFIELD FROM PAGE 1**

walls on their property.

David Fixler, an attorney representing Agilitas, the solar company who made the agreement with National Grid, said the scenic road bylaw only takes effect when there is road reconstruction, maintenance or paving, and that the installation of poles does not fall under that definition.

Several residents also brought up concerns about why the poles are not being placed along Route 9, and why National Grid has not looked at other options that do not go through the scenic roads. Will Kern, a representative from National Grid, said there is a 1.5 mile stretch of the route that is nearly impossible for poles to be installed on because of the landscape.

Residents also asked why the National Grid does not use existing right-of-ways for this project, and Kern said the area the residents are

talking about are only used for transmission, and can't be used for distribution.

MJ Haesche, a resident and member of the Advisory Committee, said they should be able to use facilities for other things than what they are designated for, and set a precedent.

One resident said they were worried that if this project went through, it would lead to more roads being affected in the future.

Steven Carroll, a member of the Planning Board, said he was advised to recuse himself from any votes related to this project since he lives on a road affected, but said he had concerns about statutory processes being followed, and said public hearings have been held, and decisions have been made, and said he would want any board considering action on this item to refer to those decisions.

Tim Morrell, the chair of the Planning Board, said they had three sessions on the scenic road bylaw, and they

have received a lot of feedback from people saying they do not want roads destroyed, and since the power goes to the substation, residents get no benefit from the project.

Roland Sickenberger, the chair of the Board of Selectmen said this process has been going on for a long time, and they have heard from citizens, but the town would not be able to fight Agilitas in court because of financial concerns. The motion was made to approve the shade tree removals, and Board of Selectmen member Henry Brogna said he would not vote in favor because he wanted National Grid to come back with a new plan, and the motion to accept failed 1-2.

Town counsel was present at the hearing and recommended the board table any pole petitions related to the shade tree removal since that motion failed, as well as table the community benefits agreement, so all of those items were tabled by the board.

**E BROOKFIELD FROM PAGE 1**

gone that route.

Lynch also said there are facilities in Spencer and North Brookfield that residents could use.

Lynch said Republic Services prefer the users to use 95 gallon totes, or possibly totes in the 30-40 gallon range or 60-70 gallon range. A representative from Republic Services said there is an app where users can choose which tote they want.

Lynch said there could be problems with the totes though, especially in the winter when they get bumped into, or stuck in snow, and he also said some people only use a couple bags a week, but the totes are meant to hold far more. The representative from Republic Services said bag pick-up, where the employee has to physically throw the bag into the truck, causes people to get injured, or leave.

One resident said she felt like she was paying for

services she wasn't getting, because they would get notices that the trucks broke down and they could not service their home that day.

She also asked if residents have to pay if they are not on the town contract. Lynch said they do, if they do not have proof that they have another hauler, the resident has to pay \$160 a year to the town.

The board said they may hold another informational meeting on this topic next year.

**BROOKFIELD FROM PAGE 1**

gether a draft volunteer policy and waiver, and the board voted to put it forward pending legal review. The policy focuses on things like grounds maintenance, mowing, building cleanup, minor beautification and trimming.

Coughlin said this is a highway focused policy, and not a replacement for the department.

**Cultural Council requests**

The board approved the Cultural Council requests to use the town common throughout the summer for events, and also approved

a spending request of over \$500 for car show and garden club events.

**Cemetery project**

Coughlin said the Highway Department is short staffed, and she has received two out of three quotes needed to put out the milling portion of the project.

**Administrative items**

The board signed a project extension for a 2022/2023 Community Development Block Grant project for Americans with Disability Act accessibility. The board signed invoices from CMRPC for the 2022/2023 CDBG grant.

The board also signed a contract extension for an ADA sidewalk ramp improvement project.

**Items not anticipated**

The board discussed the hiring of interim Town Administrator Blythe Robinson. Coughlin said the current plan would be to hire her to work three days a week at \$85 and hour.

Select board member Richard Chaffee said that is a lot of money, and a full-time administrator only makes \$55 an hour. Chaffee also said he was not comfortable moving forward with this since it was not on the agenda.

**SOCIAL SECURITY FROM PAGE 4**

ly \$3 trillion in SS reserved funds, but that has now dwindled to about \$2.5 trillion as reserves are used to supplement SS payments. And that problem continues. The Trustees of SS now predict that the reserves will be fully depleted in about 2032, at which time, lacking program reform by Congress, Social Security will be forced to pay out only what it receives in revenue. And that would mean an estimated cut of about 23% to everyone's monthly SS benefit. In the unlikely event that happens, wouldn't a 23% reduction to your larger age 70 benefit be better than a 23% cut to your lower age 68 benefit?

No one wants those cuts to happen least of all politicians because it would amount to political suicide (seniors are, after all, a very large voting bloc). Thus, we believe that Congress will act to reform Social Security to prevent any general benefit cuts from happening. It will, however, require Congressional bipartisanship because the reforms needed for Social Security are likely unsavory to some.

Those reforms may include SS tax increases and changes to the basic structure of the SS program to align it with today's demographic reality. The program needs reform, which Congress has, unfortunately, neglected to provide for many years.

And this neglect will likely also continue, at least through the forthcoming mid-term elections. It seems the nature of Congress is to wait until the last possible moment to offer corrective legislation.

Here's what to keep in mind: Congress already knows how to reform Social Security to avoid any future benefit cuts; they just lack

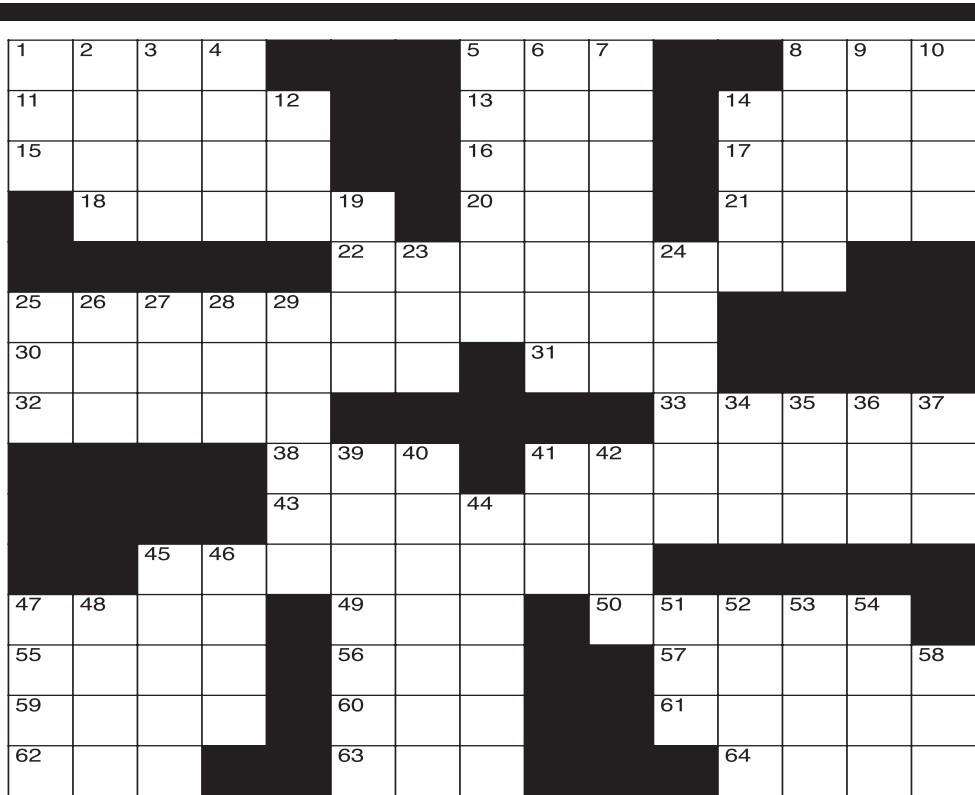
the bipartisanship to accomplish that reform. For our part, the Association of Mature American Citizens has offered to Congress a commonsense reform plan via its "Social Security Guarantee." AMAC's proposal has received a positive reception in Congressional circles and we are optimistic that the proposal will provide financial stability to the program for generations. AMAC continues to advocate for SS reform in Washington, D.C. on a regular basis, even more intensely as the depletion of the SS Trust Funds grows closer.

We do not suggest changing your strategy for claiming Social Security benefits based upon fear the program will cut benefits. That's because it's unlikely that all benefits will be cut because we believe Congress will eventually enact reform. And even in the unlikely event that Congress neglects to reform the program by 2032, the percentage of reduction to a higher monthly SS benefit amount would be better than a simi-

lar reduction to a lower benefit amount. In other words, your original plan is still a prudent one.

Regarding your question about your estimated benefits, I expect your most recent SS statement didn't include future benefits because you are already collecting SS survivor benefits. You can contact SSA at 1-800-772-1213 to obtain the future SS retirement estimates you seek.

*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](http://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at [ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org). Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.*



**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Egyptian bull-god
- 5. A young canine
- 8. Cologne
- 11. Fictional British P.I.
- 13. Midway between northeast and east
- 14. A place to shop
- 15. Minneapolis suburb
- 16. Single lens reflex
- 17. NY Mets great Tommie
- 18. Informal loan clubs
- 20. Habitual twitching
- 21. Holm oak
- 22. Willing to consent or submit
- 25. In an early way
- 30. Made possible
- 31. Language in Ghana
- 32. Relating to one's birth
- 33. Deep-bodied fishes
- 38. Defunct European currency
- 41. Small American songbird
- 43. One from L.A.
- 45. After tenth
- 47. Hillside
- 49. Red deer
- 50. Partner to "oohed"
- 55. Indian musical pattern
- 56. Israeli city \_\_ Aviv
- 57. Golden peas plant
- 59. Breezed through
- 60. Midway between east and southeast
- 61. Frameworks
- 62. Danish krone
- 63. Fall back
- 64. Influential Korean leader
- 2. Expression of sorrow or pity
- 3. Large, stocky lizard
- 4. Turkish leader title
- 5. Nag
- 6. Blank
- 7. Closely woven cotton fabric
- 8. A nice shot in golf
- 9. Away from wind
- 10. Evergreen shrub genus
- 12. Large African antelope
- 14. Something you receive
- 19. Satisfy
- 23. Wet dirt
- 24. No longer here
- 25. Writing utensil
- 26. Ribonucleic acid
- 27. Consume food
- 28. Licensed for Wall Street
- 29. Alternative forms of a gene
- 34. Buddy
- 35. We all do it
- 36. Chicken
- 37. No seats available
- 39. Yearned to possess
- 40. Ineffectual
- 41. Explosive
- 42. Turkish title
- 44. Worn near the foot
- 45. Impatient
- 46. Set an example for others
- 47. Actor Pitt
- 48. Instrument of torture
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Grayish white
- 53. A way to print
- 54. Storied college hoops program
- 58. Midway between south and southeast

**Messages** Edit

JOB ALERT



**Turley**  
Publications, Inc.  
[www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)

*Send writing samples with resume to:*

**PAULA OUIMETTE**  
24 Water Street  
Palmer, MA 01069

*or email directly to*  
[pouimette@turley.com](mailto:pouimette@turley.com)

NOW HIRING  
Writers/  
Journalists

- Must be dependable, professional and able to meet strict deadlines
- Salary based on a flat rate by story and photo

• Produce news and/or feature stories of local interest for various towns and cities.

# - obituary -

## David F. Paul, M.D., 79

SCOTTSDALE, AZ – After a life defined by energy, courage, curiosity, and kindness, Dr. David F. Paul, age 79, passed away on Jan. 23, 2026 in Scottsdale, Arizona.



education and hard work, and attended many school events and sports competitions.

His dad jokes, thoughtful guidance, and unwavering support will be deeply missed.

David later married Susan (Ryan), his loving wife and partner in adventure, with whom he shared many active and meaningful years until the time of his death.

David lived life fully. His passions included skiing, golf, fishing, gardening, photography, and travel.

A testament to his endurance and determination, he completed The Trek Across Maine, a 180-mile bike ride across Maine, ten times, often alongside one or more of his children and Susan.

He also loved spending time with his grandchildren, such as taking them on ATV rides on his rural Maine property and cheering them on at their various dance, theater and other events.

David was predeceased by his parents and his sister, Christina. He is survived by his wife, Susan Paul; his former wife, Ginny Paul; his siblings, Robert Paul (Ladan), John Paul, and Maureen Paul; his five children, Bridget Kowalsky (Matthew), Christina Paul, Alex Paul (Jessica), Stephanie Testa (Tom) and John Paul (Leah); his stepson, Nicholas Ryan; and his eleven grandchildren, Patrick Kowalsky, Catherine Kowalsky, Madeleine Walsh, Avery Paul, Boden Paul, Tucker Paul, Thomas Testa, Michael Testa, Jacob Testa, Evelyn Paul and Harold Paul.

The family invites all who knew and loved David to a funeral Mass at St. Joseph's Church, 296 North Main St., North Brookfield on Monday June 15, 2026 at 11 a.m., followed by a graveside service at St. Joseph's Cemetery in North Brookfield.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration.

David was born in Worcester to Alexander Paul (Paulauskas) and Margaret Connelly. He graduated in 1964 from St. John's High School in Shrewsbury where he was a student leader and athlete, and went on to earn his undergraduate degree from the University of Notre Dame in 1968.

He received his medical degree from Tufts University School of Medicine in 1972.

David proudly served his country for 10 years in the United States Air Force, where he distinguished himself as an exceptional flight surgeon. He was named Pacific Air Forces Flight Surgeon of the Year in 1974 and United States Air Forces in Europe Flight Surgeon of the Year in 1976.

He logged countless hours supporting rescue and training missions while stationed in the Philippines, England, San Antonio, Texas and near St. Louis, Missouri, with a 1977 newspaper article noting David's "concept and practice of total care for the flyer and his family approaches the ideal of medicine."

Following his military service, David established a successful orthopedic surgery practice in southern Maine, where he became an early adopter of advanced surgical techniques. Over the course of his career, he treated thousands of patients, performing joint replacements and repairing injuries with skill, commitment, and compassion.

Following his retirement, David volunteered in Haiti providing medical support during the 2010 earthquake relief.

In 1969, David married Virginia "Ginny" Carr, and together they raised five children, eventually settling in Saco, Maine.

Though his professional life was demanding, David was a devoted father. He taught each of his children to ski, instilled in them the importance of edu-

# - community -

## Quabbin High School lists 3rd quarter honor roll

BARRE – Quabbin Regional High School announced the students who earned honor roll distinction for the third quarter.

**Grade Nine, High Honors**  
Alison Baptiste, Hazel Carter, Lauren Colleton, Adalyn Cranston, Maya Faucher, Silas Flint, Porsche Mathieu, Whitney Reeves, Madisyn Shotwell, Addison Surprenant and John Tyler.

**Grade Nine, Honors**  
Olivia Abbas-Peck, Emma Ackert, Shahad Alshujairi, Kalina Bassett, Annabella Desrosiers, Brynn Dunphy, Tyler Ellis, Kiara Hanny-Rivera, Sarah Jean-Francois, Aixamary Maldonado, Sage McQueston, Gemma Mullins, Greyson Mullins, William O'Neill, Nathaniel Perry, Lukas Potter, Chloe Richardson, Kimberly

Riendeau, Jillian Rigney, Ava Rogowski, Connor Roohan, Zoey Salvadore, Adele Strickland, Michael Tabares, Robert Tobin, Mackenzie Toupin, Launa Tran, Robyn Waltz, Dylan Woodward and Jack Wynne.

**Grade 10, High Honors**  
Nicholas Carroll and Ava Sobol.

**Grade 10, Honors**  
Brent Benoit, Anyiah Bergeron, Abraham Brown, Josephine Buck, Brian Colleton, Kayla Curran, Ryan Dailey, Hailey Days, Aliyah Edouard, Maya Edouard, Arianna Fagnoli, Audrey Faucher, Sydney Freeman, Daniella Gaudreault, Nolan Gorman, Chloe Howarth, Ava Kinney, Matthew Labrousse, Alison LaRoche, Collin Leclair, Emma Lindsey, Gianna Montalvo, Audrey

Niles, Anthony Noborini, Sophia Pena, Aubrie Phelps, Moira Powers, Juliet Priestley, Carter Stevenson, Hailey Stoll, Silas Stukuls Barrieau, Ryleigh Sullivan, Natalie Theriault, Benjamin Thompson, Erin Trottier, Catherine Tucker, Matthew VanScoy and Shane Woodruff.

**Grade 11, High Honors**  
Alexa Araujo, Madeleine Boisselle, Isabel Doty, Leah Doucette, Tess Dunphy, Kathryn Ford, Ella Reeves and Ellary White.

**Grade 11, Honors**  
Klavdiya Antonian, Skyler Bard, Jacob Bassett, Halo Bissonnette, Ruari Bosley, Mackenzie Casey, Brody Faucher, Grace Flaman, Kayleigh Fuller, Kirk Kaelin II, Sierra Lambert, Jillian LaMontagne, Audrey Laursen, Scarlett Merriman, Anna Metcalf,

Mia Miville, Jesse Newton, Samantha O'Connor, Sylvan Rector, Emma Ryan, Sienna Shaw, Brady Skinner, Owen Twarog and Brendan Welch.

**Grade 12, High Honors**  
Adam Adams, Tricia Bruso, Elizabeth Matheson and Madelyn Stauder.

**Grade 12, Honors**  
Aaron Bodine, Owen Breuer, Troy Budreau, Bailey Burke, Kylee Costello, Mia Ducos, Kalina Dyer, Hemily Halaby, Adelaide Harmon, Ian Haupt, Annie Howe, Emma Kahlau, Anthony Landry, Jacob LaValley, Aidan Mahoney, Grace Manna, Hunter McQueston, Adrian Parker, Madeleine Rigney, Lindsey Ryan, Cameran Vega, Samantha Vessair, Thomas Wigglesworth, Bianca Wilder and Jin Xi Zou.

## Quabbin Middle School lists 3rd quarter honor roll

BARRE – The Quabbin Regional Middle School announced the students who earned honor roll distinction for the third quarter.

**Grade Six, High Honors**  
Lia Aiesi, Leona Barre, Clayton Cranston, Nolan Cronk, Kayla Despres, Ralph DiBenedetto, Elise Flores de Oliveira, Andrew Gingras, Annabelle Ickler, Kylee Lomastro, Dylan Mace, Thendara Magario, Richard May, Scarlett McDonald, Jonah Melad, Avery Phelps, Deklan Sampson, Sophia Serrano, Jorja Thorpe, Andrei Timofeev and Richard Valcourt.

**Grade Six, Honors**  
Caiden Ahearn, Bella Arriola, Moriah Baxter, Elias Bellemer, Danica Bjorklund, Makayla Boos, Ella Bourgeois, Audrey Breault, Casey Coates, Emily Conway, Troy Corbett, Charlotte Daniels, Milena DeSouza, Joshua Doherty, Isla Fagnoli, Derek Ferreira, Logan Grandmaison, David Groner, Noah Harper, Michael Hicks, Aria Jackson, Abigail Kajjala, Mason Kazanovicz, Hunt-

er Kukas, Alix Lindsay, Mia Longtin, Noah Longtin, Evelyn Lord, Liam McKenzie, Logan McManaman, Chase McQueston, Aria Missildine, Valkyrie Moore, Sage Morin, Tyler Nadeau, Hunter Nagle, Owen Nally, Penny Oumette, Harris Paakkonen, Bridgette Parker, Dylan Potter, Nathaniel Putealis, Jacob Rigney, Aubree Roseberry, Sadie Russell, Vincent Stark, Jaide Stillman, Benjamin Toupin, Katara Tran, Emma Tyler, Jaylyn Vega, Irelyn Venne, Benjamin Wickstrom, Rhys Wynne and Luna Yules.

**Grade Seven, High Honors**  
Anna Coomey, Davin Goodwin, Maishao Lee, Brady Malin, Theodore Minton, Annaleigh Moncoeur, Nolan O'Connor, Ximena Palomera-Espinoza, Liam Shaw, Brayden Surprenant, Ty'v Vaughn, Alonzo White and Joseph Youngstrom.

**Grade Seven, Honors**  
Nevaeh Andrews, Asher Baker, Julianna Bienvenu, Jacob Blanchard, Talasyn Boissoneau, Aleksander

Bonenfant, Caleb Caban, Jaysen Cassano, Josie Castin, Cameron Charpentier, Charley Chauvin, Ayla Clark, Ryan Colgate, John Cook, Ella Critelli, Hannah Cutler, Joy DeMalia, Ethan Donaldson, Hannah Dube, Matthew Flamand, Maia Flint, Andrew Fuller, Addyson Garceau, Alexander Girouard, Lincoln Graves, Colby Hill, Madilyn Houle, Jack Johnson, Levi Kniskern, Elizabeth Laramee, Ryan LaRange, Walker Larson, Ilyanna Lynch, Carter Majoy, Adalyn McHugh, Kayla McHugh, Lucy Merrill, Sawyer Minton, Adelaide Moeller, Aviendha O'Neill, Bryce Pariseau, Catheryn Racine, Hazel Serra, Weston Stukuls Barrieau, Landon Swindlehurst, Zachary Thompson, Hana Mae Tousignant, Anthony Wade and Brady White.

**Grade Eight, High Honors**  
Saylor Bissonnette, Julia Blanchard, Winter Boyea, Eliza Brown, Emily DeMalia, Brody Despres, Maria Hamm, Nolan Hertrick, Evelyn Johnson, Pele Johnson, Caiden Lance,

Mathieu LeBlanc, Ava Maxim, Cameron McDonald, Madeline Omasta, Sebastian Palomera-Espinoza, Owen Pears, Evelyn Priestley, Madeleine Proulx, Lily Ryan, Baelin Sullivan, Maggie Ward, Elizabeth Welch, Lila Wilson and Raegyn Wnek.

**Grade Eight, Honors**  
Nicholas Baldwin, Addyson Barringer, Amelia Breault, Caleb Brouillet, Henry Corbett, Christopher Dallair, Enzo Fagnoli, Lane Fagnoli, Addison Ford, Lucas Gaspar, Brayden Hurley, Aimee Ickler, Theodore Langer, Grace Lantiegne, Maggie Leander, Jack Leclair, Chiara Manna, Bree May, Valerie Metterville, Giella Montalvo, Brayden Nadeau, Jonathan Nunes, Calleb Oliveira, Coleton Pina, Autumn Rector, Kira Roden, Maci Roseberry, Fordyce Ruggles, Thomas Schoonmaker, Andrew Scott, Hannah Shotwell, Madalyn Simons, Bella Spring, Emma Stauder, Fiona Stevens, Arina Timofeev, Kailyn Traynham and Lola Zantouliadis.

### Death Notice

Paul, David F.  
Died Jan. 23, 2026  
Services June 15, 2026

## New Braintree Police Log

During the week of May 11-18, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 16 building/property checks, 21 directed/area patrols, six radar assignments, one traffic control, two emergency 911 calls, three citizen assists, three assist other agencies, three investigations, one illegal dumping, one safety hazard, one motor vehicle accident and five motor vehicle stops in the town of New Braintree.

**Monday, May 11**  
12:53 p.m. Assist Other

Agency, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

**Tuesday, May 12**  
1:07 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled  
1:45 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

**Wednesday, May 13**  
5:25 a.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Crash, Unitas Road, Report Taken  
10:27 a.m. Investigation, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled  
4:29 p.m. Investigation,

Unitas Road, Report Taken

**Thursday, May 14**  
3:38 p.m. Investigation, Unitas Road, Officer Handled  
4 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled  
4:49 p.m. Assist Citizen, Gilbertville Road, Officer Handled  
9:54 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, West Brookfield Road, Patient Refusal

**Friday, May 15**  
6:54 a.m. Safety Hazard, Old Turnpike Road, No

Action Required

**Saturday, May 16**  
10:58 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Ravine Road, Written Warning  
11:05 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Ravine Road, Written Warning  
4:58 p.m. Assist Citizen, West Brookfield Road, Spoken To

**Sunday, May 17**  
9:25 a.m. Illegal Dumping, Webb Road, Officer Handled  
2:06 p.m. Safety Hazard, Davis Road, Officer Handled

Find it in the Classifieds  
413.283.8393 • classifieds@turley.com  
24 Water St., Palmer • www.turley.com

B	A	T	A			P	U	P		E	A	U
C	L	E	G	G		E	N	E		M	A	L
E	A	G	A	N		S	L	R		A	G	E
	S	U	S	U	S		T	I	C		I	L
						A	M	E	N	A	B	L
P	R	E	M	A	T	U	R	E	L	Y		
E	N	A	B	L	E	D		D	E	G		
N	A	T	A	L						O	P	A
						E	C	U		T	A	N
						L	O	S	A	N	G	E
						E	L	E	V	E	N	T
B	R	A	E			E	L	K		A	A	H
R	A	G	A			T	E	L		A	O	T
A	C	E	D			E	S	E		R	A	C
D	K	R				D	S	T		R	H	E

### FOR RENT

## Quabbin Estates

41 Church Lane, Wheelwright, MA 01094

Accepting applications for wait list.  
The apartment features - w/w carpeting, kitchen appliances, maintenance coverage, laundry facilities. We specialize in Senior Housing and "Barrier Free" accessible units. Rent is \$810/mo. or 30% of income, whichever is lower. RD regulations. Handicap Accessible apartments when available.

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT  
413-477-6496  
TDD (800)439-2379

Quaboag Current

## 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 (with a word limit of up to 500 words) 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.*

# Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

## FOR SALE

### FIREWOOD

#### FIREWOOD

Fresh cut & split \$240.00  
Seasoned cut & split \$375.00  
All hardwood.  
Tree length available  
\*Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap).  
Quality & volumes **guaranteed!!**  
New England Forest Products  
(413)477-0083

**MORE HEAT LESS WOOD.** Central Boiler Classic Edge HDX Outdoor Wood Furnace. EPA Certified. Titanium Stainless Steel. \$2K Tax Credit.  
Call (508) 882-0178

## MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

**HÖHNER VERDI III.** Red 120 Bass Piano Accordion. 3/5 reeds, full size keyboard. 5/3 switches. New condition. Bargain! \$1475. **413-583-3740.**

## WANTED

### WANTED!

**CASH for:**  
• Machinist tools, power tools & Snap on.  
• Electronics & Audio Equipment.  
• Sports Cards.  
• 70s/80s/90s Toys.  
• Antiques & Collectibles.  
Much, much more!  
Call/Text Sam  
**413-531-5381**

## WANTED TO BUY

### ALL ANTIQUES AND OLD STUFF WANTED.

**BUYING** Bottles, Crocks, Jugs, Pottery, Costume Jewelry, Toys, Games, coins, sterling, Glassware, Silver-plated items, watches, Musical instruments, typewriters, sewing machines, tools, radios, clocks, lanterns, lamps, kitchenware, cookware, knives, military, automotive, fire department, masonic, license plates, beer cans, barware, books, oil cans, advertising tins, hunting, fishing, signs, and more.  
Donald Roy (860) 874-8396

### ALWAYS BUYING ALL ANTIQUES:

Musical instruments, guitars, horns, keyboards, vintage electronics, jewelry, coins, watches, military cameras, sports memorabilia, art, sterling, signs, automotive, hunting, advertising, radios, ham radio equipment, audio equipment, toys, one item or entire estate.  
Call Paul 413-206-8688

## JUNK REMOVAL

### A Call We Haul FAST REMOVAL

Junk, Appliance, Cleanouts.  
We load it & take it.  
**413-531-1936**  
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

### ARA JUNK FURNITURE REMOVAL

Full house cleanouts, attics, basements, garages, pools, hot tubs, sheds, decks. Same day service. 8am-9pm. Credit cards accepted. Free estimates on phone.  
Fully insured.  
Call Pete **413-433-0356.**

## SERVICES



**2\*\*\*\*\*A & B HOUSEHOLD REMOVAL SERVICE\*\*\*\*\***  
Cellars, attics, garages cleaned, yard debris. Barns & sheds demolished. Swimming pools removed. Cheaper than dumpster fees and we do all the work. Lowest rates. Fully insured. (413)283-6512, cell (413)222-8868.

**DRYWALL, PAINTING AND CEILINGS,** plaster repair. Drywall hanging. Taping & complete finishing. All ceiling textures. Fully insured. Jason at Great Walls. (413)563-0487

## ELECTRICIAN

### PJ's Electrical MASTER ELECTRICIAN

• Licensed & Insured •  
Providing safe, reliable electrical services for residential and commercial projects.  
**NOW OFFERING FREE CONSULTATIONS.**  
Call today to schedule your appointment.  
**(413) 366-1703**  
(Lic. #24046-A)

**ZEN ELECTRIC COMPANY LLC**  
Fully licensed and insured; Master Electrician on staff. Call for all your electrical needs. No job too small. Senior citizen and Veteran Discount. A veteran owned company. MA License #8101A1.  
Call John at (413)206-6509

### DANNY'S ELECTRICAL SERVICES LLC

formerly (Luis Arroyo licensed electrician)  
I offer good quality electrical work, no project too small. Service upgrades, pools, budget friendly, committed to satisfaction, dependable & insured. Master Lic. #20773-A, Business Lic. #9310-A1. Text or call Daniel at **413-218-3301** or visit my website at [dannyelectrical.com](http://dannyelectrical.com) to fill an on-line work request.

## SERVICES

### HOME IMPROVEMENT

**HOME IMPROVEMENTS. REMODELING** Kitchens, baths. Ceramic tile, windows, painting, wallpapering, siding, decks. Insurance work. Fully insured. Free estimates. (413)246-2783 Ron.

### HOME IMPROVEMENT SPECIALIST

Decks, porches, repair service, roofing and siding contractor.  
Tim **413-563-2229.** Licensed/insured. 35 year construction supervisor.

## CHAMELEON PAINTING & REMODELING

INTERIOR/EXTERIOR Remodeling & Deck Specialists  
Residential/Commercial  
Fully Insured • Free Estimates  
**413-351-1147**

## LANDSCAPING

### A+ ROZELL'S LANDSCAPING & BOBCAT SERVICE

Excavator Services  
Overgrown property?  
Extreme Brush Cutting!  
Shrub, Stump, Tree Removal  
Lawn/Arborvitae Installed  
Loam, Stone, Mulch, Sand  
Storm Clean-up  
Small Demolition/ Junk Removal  
Insured  
Josh Rozell **413-636-5957**

**\*\*ALL SEASON\*\*** Specializing in shrub trimming, pruning, design, deliveries, loader, backhoe, insured. Professional. Please call Bob (413)537-5789.

### MATT GUERTIN LANDSCAPING

Landscape Design and Installation  
Paver Patios, Walkways  
For more services visit  
[mattguertinlandscaping.com](http://mattguertinlandscaping.com)  
Call or text **413-266-9975**  
Insured - Commercial - Residential

## HOME IMPROVEMENT

Handyman Services

**Walker Home Improvement**

Finish Carpentry • Framing • Drywall • Painting • & more!

**(413) 687-5552**

Licensed & Insured

## SERVICES

### LAWN & GARDEN

**A.A.A. ROTOTILLING** Yes time to till gardens and flower beds too. Be safe grow your own. Call for appointment, fair and reasonable rates. Suburban residential only. **413-626-1927.**

## MASONRY

### STOP WET BASEMENTS

**ABC MASONRY & BASEMENT WATERPROOFING**  
All brick, block, stone, concrete. Hatchway doors, basement windows, chimneys rebuilt & repaired, foundations repaired, basement waterproofing systems, sump pumps. BBB+ rating. Free estimates. Lic #14790. Call (413)569-1611, (413)374-5377

## PAINTING

### DUTCH TOUCH PAINTING

Interior only \$199.00 for average 12x16 room. Very neat, references, prompt service. Serving Palmer, Barre and surrounding area. Call (508)867-2550

### PRO PAINTING

Low, low prices. All phases interior, exterior painting and wallpapering. Also minor carpentry. **413-310-5099.**

## PLUMBING

**GREG LAFOUNTAIN PLUMBING & HEATING** Lic #19196 Repairs & Replacement of fixtures, water heater installations, steam/HW boiler replacement. Kitchen & Bath remodeling. 30 years experience. Fully insured. \$10 Gift Card With Work Performed. Call Greg (413)592-1505

## PRESSURE WASHING

**HOT WATER PRESSURE WASHING.** We use brushes and state of the art equipment. We remove grime and mold from homes, patios, fences, walkways, all decks, concrete & driveways • Senior Discounts. For free estimates call Bill (413)519-9800.

## SERVICES

### RUBBISH REMOVAL

**BOB ROBILLARD'S RUBBISH REMOVAL** Attics, Cellars, Garages cleaned, Pools/Hot Tubs Removed. Family owned/operated since 1950 (413)537-5090

## TREE WORK

**AAA-TROM'S TREE SERVICE PROFESSIONAL SERVICE.** Residential removal of trees, Free estimates, Fully insured W/Workman's Comp. Remove them before the wind takes them down. Cordwood, stump grinding. Call **413-283-6374.**

**AFFORDABLE STUMP GRINDING** Fast, dependable service. Free estimates. Fully insured. Call Joe Sablack **413-436-9821, Cell 413-537-7994**

**DL & G TREE SERVICE** - Everything from tree pruning, tree removal, stump grinding, storm damage and brush chipping. Honest and Dependable. Fully insured. Now offering a Senior Citizen and Veteran discount. Call today for free estimate (413)478-4212

## TUNE-UPS

### LAWNMOWER TUNE UP & REPAIR

**A&M TUNE-UPS**  
Push Lawnmowers, Riding Mowers and Small Engine Repair.  
Work done at your home.

**FREE PICKUP OF UNWANTED LAWN EQUIPMENT**  
Call Mike (413) 348-7967

## AUTO

### MOTORCYCLES

**1992 HARLEY SPORTSTER,** new brakes, chain, sprockets, clutch, battery, tires, starter. 27K miles. Ready to go. \$2900 or best offer. **508-867-2647/774-757-8400**

## HELP WANTED

### SERVERS WANTED

Inquire at Girly's Grill, 1315 Park St., Palmer, MA 01069 or call **413-284-0005.**



Post your job openings in our classifieds. **WE GET RESULTS!**

## HELP WANTED

### HEALTH CARE

**Holyoke Health Center, Inc.** has a position available in Holyoke, MA for a **BE/BC (Board Eligible or Board Certified) Pediatrician** to provide medical care and treatment to infants, children, and adolescents. Diagnose and treat various medical conditions, conduct examinations, prescribe medications, administer vaccinations, and offer guidance on child health and development. Salary range is \$208,000 to \$250,000 per year. Minimum Requirements: M.D. or D.O. or foreign equivalent + BE/BC (Board Eligible or Board Certified) in Pediatrics.  
Apply to: [resumes@hinc.org](mailto:resumes@hinc.org) using ID: PD25DD.

## REAL ESTATE

### FOR RENT

**APT. FOR RENT: 826 EAST STREET, LUDLOW.** 2 BR., 1-1/2 bath, kitchen, dinette, LR. Applications required. For more information, please call **413-583-3097.**

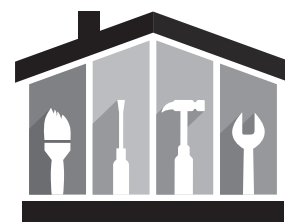


EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

**ALL REAL ESTATE** advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

## Advertise your HOME IMPROVEMENT SERVICES

in our classifieds. **WE GET RESULTS!**  
Call **413-283-8393**



## Buying? Selling?



Our Classifieds Get Results!



**STAY ON TOP OF IT ALL!**  
Subscribe Today!



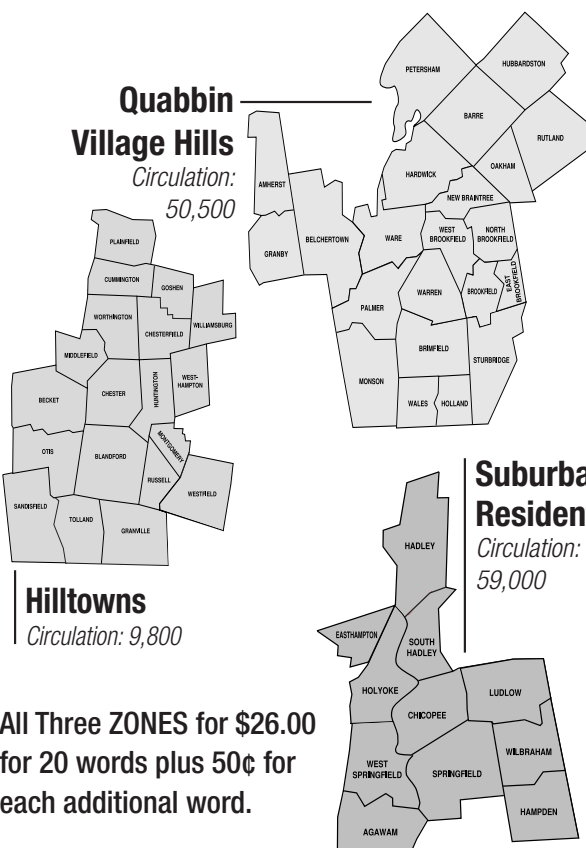
**Turley Publications, Inc.**  
12 HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS  
**413.283.8393**  
[www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)  
24 Water Street  
Palmer, MA 01069

## FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069  
or call: 413-283-8393

DEADLINES: FRIDAY AT NOON

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40



All Three ZONES for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word.

**GREAT VALUE!**  
ALL 3 ZONES NOW FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!

Make checks payable to Turley Publications

**OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!**

# - community -

## Sturbridge celebrates Arbor Day and 250th

STURBRIDGE – Tree Warden Tony Crane led a series of special tree plantings in celebrating Arbor Day 2026.

He was assisted by Deputy Tree Warden Joe Kowalski and retired Tree Warden Tom Chamberland.

Starting the week of April 13, in an annual observance of Arbor Day since 1990 over 750 seedlings were bagged and distributed by sixth grade students at Burgess Elementary School. A highlight of the program was a

visit to the sixth grade class by both Crane and Chamberland to talk about the seedlings they bagged, as well as the history of, and what Tree Wardens do, along with the importance of celebrating Arbor Day.

Then on April 24, the Sturbridge Senior Center celebrated the 250th Anniversary with Senator Ryan Fattman as a special guest. The event featured a tree planting, symbolizing growth, and continuity, and encouraged community members to contribute let-

ters and pictures for a time capsule to be opened in 25 years. Following the ceremony, a reception was held as the Sturbridge Senior Center Bell Ringers performed patriotic songs.

The town's "official" arbor day tree planting was on April 23, in front of the Central Office Building, Town employees led by Town Administrator Robin Grimm assisted Crane and Kowalski in the planting of another weeping spruce.

And finally, in special recognitions of our coun-

try's 250th Anniversary a 32-foot American Liberty Elm tree was planted on the town common. Due to the size of the tree a crane was used to pick the tree from the delivery trailer and set for planting. Leading the planting was Chamberland, assisting in the planting were members of the DPW staff and Crane.

A plaque commemorating the official dedication of this 250th Anniversary tree will occur later this summer.



From left to right Ellen Thibodeau, Marcia Wildgrube and JoAnn Kass help Leslie Wong with the shovel, to plant the weeping spruce at the Sturbridge Senior Center



Sixth grade students at Burgess Elementary School held up the Tree City USA flag after bagging and distributing tree seedlings to the students at Burgess Elementary.



Tree Warden Tony Crane and retired Tree Warden Tom Chamberland stand next to the 32-foot American Liberty Elm tree planted on the town common in celebration of the National 250th Anniversary. The Common was selected for this tree as it was the very same grounds that Sturbridge Patriots assembled to respond to the call for

# Your BUYLINE CONNECTION

**BEAT THE PRICE INCREASES!**  
**1,000'S OF ACs ON SALE!!!**  
**MATTRESS SALE!!!**  
**BIKES, E-BIKES!!!**  
**WE REPAIR BIKES!!!**  
**SEE AD INSIDE!**

**WHITCO**  
 12 MONTHS 0% FINANCING  
 140 Main St., Spencer  
 www.whitcosales.com  
 508-885-9343  
 Open: Mon.-Fri. 10am-8:30pm, Sat. 9am-8pm, Sun. 12pm-7pm

**POST ROAD REALTY**  
 BUYING OR SELLING... WE HAVE THE PERFECT FIT FOR YOU!  
 www.PostRoadRealty.com

<b>OPEN HOUSE</b> Sat., June 6 11:00 to 12:30	<b>OPEN HOUSE</b> Sat., June 6 12:00 to 1:30	<b>OPEN HOUSE</b> Sun., June 7 11:00 to 12:30
 10 Foster Rd. W. Brookfield, MA \$559,900	 95 Town Farm Rd. Warren, MA \$529,900	 71 Pine St. Warren, MA \$369,900

**Cassie Paolucci**  
 774-200-3523

**Country Canine KENNELS**

**Boarding, Grooming, Daycare**

- Boarding starting at \$40 a night
- Daycare starting at \$26 a day

84 Greenwich Plains Road  
 Ware, MA 01082  
 (413) 277-0334 Office Phone  
 countrycaninekennels@gmail.com

**WHERE EVERYONE GOES FOR THEIR PIECE OF THE EARTH!**  
**LANDSCAPE STONE**  
 White • Blue • Purple • Red  
 Lt Gray • Dark Gray • Beige • Rip Rap  
**SCREENED LOAM STORED IN BUILDING**

Construction Stone • Title V & Presby Septic Sand  
 Concrete Sand • Chicken Coop Sand • Utility Sand  
 Pool Liner Sand • Stone Dust • Silt • Crushed Gravel  
 Crushed Asphalt • Crushed Concrete • Cold Patch  
**Homeowner Friendly • No Minimums**  
**PICK-UP OR CALL TO SCHEDULE YOUR DELIVERY TODAY!**

**Bond**  
 Sand, Gravel & Asphalt  
 98 North Spencer Rd., Spencer  
 bondsandandgravel.com  
 508-885-6100  
 508-885-2480

**440 N Woodstock Road, Southbridge \$639,900**

**LAUREL LEDGE FARM** - This totally renovated 3 bed, 2 bath home sits on 54 acres to turn into your own private farm. Great for horses, cows, goats, whatever you may have or want to have. Many outbuildings & open fields. Riding trails thru the woods lead to a beautiful pasture. Kitchen has quartz countertops & country cupboards & leads to a beautiful sunroom. Large living room w/wood burning fireplace. There's an attached 4 car garage, separate 2 car garage & enormous 2 story barn. Furnace 2019, roof 15 years old, updated plumbing & electrical. Just 4 miles from the Woodstock Ct border

**Lisa Caron Realtor®**  
 Broker, Owner GRI, ABR, SRS, RENE, C2EX, SRES, MRP, PSA, LMC, COPE, E-PRO  
 Call today to get started!  
 508.341.8299

**W.R. ROBINSON LUMBER CO., INC.**  
 www.wrrobinsonlumber.com

**OUR PRODUCTS INCLUDE:**

- The Largest Selection of Eastern White Pine in the Area
- Wide Pine Flooring, Paneling, Siding
- Beams & Timbers
- Natural or Dyed Bark Mulch at Mill Direct Pricing

**413-477-6050**  
 Cleveland Road (off Route 32) • Hardwick/Barre Line  
 Open Monday-Friday 7am-4pm; Saturday 7am-Noon

*Adventure tours of Warren*  
 Share the Adventure with us!

**Provincetown by Fast Ferry \$220**

June 27....Lake George Cruise & Lunch .....	\$185
July 11 ....Provincetown by Fast Ferry.....	\$220
Sept. 26 ..Pickity Place Lunch.....	\$130
Nov. 7 .....Great Gatsby at PPAC .....	\$165
Aug. 30 ....7-Night Nova Scotia Cruise .....	from \$1699

**Share the Adventure with us soon!**  
 For further information call Randall at (413) 436-5357 or email [adventuretours@att.net](mailto:adventuretours@att.net) or go to [www.adventuretoursofwarren.com](http://www.adventuretoursofwarren.com)

**SUMMER FLEA MARKET**  
 at **TIMMY'S**  
**EVERY SATURDAY 7AM-2PM**  
**JUNE THRU OCTOBER**

**20'X30' AREA ON GRASS**  
 Most have shades & tables  
**\$30.00 Cash To Set Up**

**1042 West St. (Rt. 122) Barre MA**  
 2 mi. north of Barre center

*Fabulous Finds Await!*

**CONTACT:**  
 Text: 978-257-9461  
 Facebook: @timmy.s.996763