



QUABOAG CURRENT

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Friday, June 23, 2023

OSV celebrates Juneteenth with local vendors and craftsmen

By Emily-Rose Pappas
Staff Writer

STURBRIDGE – The living history museum Old Sturbridge Village held an event with vendors, crafts, and speakers for all ages to learn about the national holiday of Juneteenth, and its importance.

The organizers made sure there was a wide variety of things to do and learn about regarding “the history, resilience, and culture of Black people in America”, as featured in its advertisement.

The Juneteenth celebration held nothing back, and there were many opportunities for people to learn about the holiday and why it is important to remember emancipation.

Activities included a spoken word reading with creator Ashley Wonder, a drumming performance by the African

Community Education of Worcester, creating bracelets with Cardethia Moore-Jenkins, owner of Waistbeads by Cardethia, and delicious food made by Rob Evans, owner of Addie Lee's Soul Food.

One of the events was done by public historian Sean Osborne, who shared the story of historical figure Quock Walker and how his story matters to what Juneteenth is celebrated for.

Juneteenth as a holiday celebrates the emancipation of enslaved people in the United States and is meant to serve as a reminder of those who were enslaved, and how much slavery affected the country.

“People’s lives are important- people’s stories are important,” Osborne said during his seminar. “Juneteenth is the culmination of Quock Walker

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Shown from left are members of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility at Old Sturbridge Village, Elaina Cardenas, Efua Dufu, Jasmine Rivas, and Frances Baker-Tucker. TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS

‘Camp Omigosh’

Drama Club brings summer fun to another galaxy

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARREN – Connor’s summer was off to a rocky start after having an argument with his mother and being shipped off to the dubiously named Camp Omigosh.

“What could go wrong?” Connor asked himself, moments before the camp’s bus veered off the road, leaving them stranded while it was repaired.

Played by ninth grader Lilly Nimtz, Connor is less than enthusiastic about summer camp

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Campers get ready for a game of dodgeball at Camp Omigosh, despite strange happenings and ghostly apparitions. COURTESY PHOTOS BY DERICK VELIZ

Construction set to take place on Route 9

By Dallas Gagnon
Staff Writer
dgagnon@turley.com

WEST BROOKFIELD – A 2.1 mile long stretch of Route 9 is set for an improvement project which will expand the roadway nearly 10 feet wider, and rehabilitate the road’s surface.

The sections affected span from West Main Street to Pierce Road.

Some proposed improvements will include the addition of a bike lane, re-pavement of the road, new pavement markings and guard rails.

At a public information meeting held May 24, Section Manager John Morgan of CHA Consulting, discussed the West Main Street Improve-

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Race Cars for a Cause

Military Appreciation Day honored veterans at PMP

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
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PALMER – For the sixth year, Race Cars for a Cause held its annual Military Appreciation Day at Palmer Mo-

torsports Park, giving veterans and their families a chance to feel the thrill of Whiskey Hill.

Despite a steady fall of rain last Saturday morning, veterans were lined up at the gate well before the 8 a.m. opening,

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Race Cars for a Cause offered a free day of fun for military veterans and their families during Military Appreciation Day at Palmer Motorsports Park this past Saturday, including laps on the track in high-performance cars. Shown from left are Carolyn Galica, Ron Savenor, Founder and President Jeff Archambeault, and newest crew member John Giasullo. Giasullo, a U.S. Army veteran, is also a driver for Race Cars for a Cause. TURLEY PHOTOS BY PAULA OUIMETTE



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- community -

Seniors paint the Quaboag rock



The Class of 2023 was the most recent group of seniors to paint the large rock at the entrance of Quaboag Regional Middle High School. TURLEY PHOTO BY HAILEIGH SWISTAK

By Haileigh Swistak
Student Intern

WARREN – The Class of 2023 is continuing the tradition of painting the rock at the entrance of the school.

Quaboag Regional Middle High School has kept this tradition alive since the 1970s – that’s nearly four generations of students that have contributed to this activity.

The tradition started when the students of 1973 asked school administration if they could paint over the rock to which they responded, “absolutely not,” but a handful of students did it anyway and it lasted a few days before it was washed off.

While talking with Quaboag alum John O’Neil, he shared that the painting picked is determined based on a central theme the seniors choose for their final goodbye. In the class of 2023’s case, their theme is the iconic Scooby-Doo.

O’Neil stated that it’s “not always without controversy,” but it all works out in the end; the seniors come together for one last group project that will stay at Quaboag until next year’s graduating class paints over it.

Toto kicks off Summer Reading program

WARREN – Come and meet Toto the Tornado Kitten as he helps the Warren Public Library kick off “All Together Now,” the 2023 Summer Reading program.

Toto will be on the Common on

Thursday, June 29 at 11:30 a.m. Kids can meet Toto, listen to his story and sign up for the summer reading program.

Everyone of all ages is welcome and this event is free. Please call 413-436-7690 for more information.



Toto the Tornado Kitten returns to help Warren Public Library kick off Summer Reading. SUBMITTED PHOTO

ROUTE 9 | FROM PAGE 1

ment Project including site plans, where the town is in the process of the project and potential impacts.

Morgan said two different bids are out for the project and it is expected to be completed in two phases. Phase one mainly focuses on design submission and environmental permitting.

Construction is not expected to take place before spring of 2025.

“We are starting environmental permitting,” said Morgan.

Environmental permits are required to ensure the project will not impact environmental justice areas or heavily affect the environment.

He added the project will be presented before the Conservation Commission to document the intent and impacts.

“About 16 public shade trees and smaller trees will be cleared for widening the road,” said Morgan.

He added there isn’t expected to be “a lot of traffic delay and impact.”

When construction does begin, a temporary one lane road system is anticipated, which will impact travel time.

“A lot of temporary construction easements are required,” said Morgan. Other easements involved will include drainage for rock slopes.

Some of the project’s goals are to “improve safety, bike accommodation [and] drainage improvement.”

The project would widen the road to have 12 foot travel lanes with five foot shoulders on each side for a bike and safety lane. The current road is about 24 feet wide in total.

With the proposed plans, the road would be expanded to about 34 feet wide.

While there would be room for pedestrians, the project does not propose full sidewalks, though Morgan said the improvements would still make the road safer.

Variables that are still being considered are slope and drainage.

Morgan said some rocks may be added to steeper areas to lessen the slope while retaining walls will need to be added near wetlands.

The next steps of the process are to complete the notice of intent with the Conservation Commission and environmental permitting.

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Turley Publications, based in Palmer, is seeking a storyteller who is curious about everything, and who understands how town government works to join our team of weekly reporters.

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- community -

East Brookfield Public Library receives \$20,000 grant

EAST BROOKFIELD – East Brookfield Public Library has been selected as one of 240 libraries to participate in Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities, an American Library Association initiative that provides community engagement and accessibility resources to small and rural libraries to help them better serve people with disabilities.

The competitive award comes with a \$20,000 grant that will add a handicapped entranceway to the library.

“We are so very excited to have been chosen for this amazing opportunity, to offer equal access to the library for all community members,” said Library Director Carolann MacMaster in a press release. “This grant will allow our library to offer access for all our residents with disabilities to the library’s.”

Since 2014, ALA’s Libraries Transforming Communities initiative has re-imagined the role libraries play in supporting communities.

Libraries of all types have utilized free dialogue and deliberation training and resources to lead community and campus forums; take part in anti-violence activities; provide a space for residents to come together and discuss challenging topics; and have productive conversations with civic leaders, library trustees and staff.

Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities is an initiative of the ALA in collaboration with the ARSL.

Outrun the Bear crowns champion

North Brookfield bowler earns second place

MILLIS - The region’s largest elimination-style candlepin bowling tournament, Outrun the Bear, crowned its new Singles Handicap Champion, Nate Walker, on May 6, at Ryan Family Amusements.

Walker emerged victorious after competing in 12 intense rounds of the tournament, surpassing 86 other skilled bowlers from across New England, with a total pinfall of 1211 and an average score of 110 for the day.

In addition to Walker’s impressive victory, Chris McDonough earned the tournament high single for both scratch and handicap, scoring 169 and 185, respectively. Furthermore, McDonough set a new house record for the Men’s High Triple with a score of 459, breaking the previous record set by Dan Legge in 2016.

Additionally, Kendric Payne achieved a remarkable feat by hitting the triple strike pool in the first half of his first string.

The final results of the tournament are as follows: First Place, Nate Walker, Webster (Mohegan Bowl); Second Place, Jim Nester, North Brookfield (Bogey Lanes); Third Place, Mike Nardone, Grafton (Mohegan Bowl); Fourth Place, Shawn Breton, Waltham (Ryan’s Millis); Fifth Place, JJ Tourigny, Nashua, New Hampshire (Leda Lanes); Sixth Place, Bryan Heffernan, Cranston, Rhode Island (Ryan’s Millis); Seventh Place, Brandon Martins, West Springfield (Agawam /Canal Lanes); and Eighth Place, Rob Brown, Amesbury (Riverwalk) Earning the tournament high single scratch (169 and 185) was Chris McDonough, Weymouth (Webster Timber Lanes); and triple strike pool, Kendric Payne, Boston (Ron’s, Hyde Park)

This tournament was generously sponsored by Tax Strategy Pro, Mel’s Commonwealth Café, Lighthouse Productions RI, C&C Ice Cream Truck, The Neigh-



Nate Walker named Singles Handicap Champion of Outrun the Bear championship. (COURTESY PHOTO)

borhood Kitchen, and Winthrop Wealth.

Livestream coverage of the final rounds is now available on Facebook at facebook.com/candlepin-corner. Follow @CandlepinBowling on TikTok.

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- opinion -



It's all about the pie

In our family we get the privilege of requesting a special dessert to celebrate birthdays or other special occasions.

My husband asked for a strawberry pie for Father's Day. My oldest daughter made the crust while my youngest and I picked the strawberries.

After making a sauce with half the berries we mixed it with the other half of chopped fruit and poured it into the crust. Now to wait two hours while it chills.

We'll whip up some cream and, voila! The taste of summer in my opinion!

I love having a small patch of strawberries in my garden. I think I am in year four or five with this particular planting.

I've thinned and replanted but I am starting to worry that having them in close to the same spot for this length of time has lured a strawberry-specific bug to the garden. Let's learn about this bug and maybe figure out a game plan as to how to combat it.

Many of my riper strawberries have damage consisting of circular holes, some of which go deep into the fruit. Occasionally there will be a beetle inside the strawberry, caught in the act.

Upon closer examination, I've determined them to be the strawberry sap beetle.

It's tiny, measuring less than one eighth of an inch long, brown, and oval shaped. They are drawn to ripe fruit and because of this, we can come up with creative ways as to how to catch them.

Pesticides are shown not to work - nor would we want to use them on fruit we are ready to eat!

Folks have had good luck with traps of stale beer, vinegar, fermenting juice, or a mixture of water, molasses and yeast.

Add a few inches of the liquid of your choice into a bucket or other deep container placed outside, but near the strawberry patch. Typically the insect will get lured in and drown.

This type of trap, albeit shallower, will also catch slugs.

Slug holes on strawberries are irregularly shaped, not circular, and most often they extend into the fruit as if the critter is eating its way through it.

A basin or saucer, even a pie plate buried to soil surface level will catch slugs when they come out of hiding to feed. Empty these types of traps every few days, replacing the liquid.

I'm a bit nostalgic today. Thinking of my own dad, of course!

If he were still alive his pie of choice would have been apple, not a la mode, but topped with a piece of cheese!

One thing I am experiencing in my mini orchard right now is "June drop." While my apple orchard is still too young to bear many apples, there are tiny apples at the base of my best bearing tree.

Some say that June drop is due to pollination problems; others surmise that it is caused by a competition for carbohydrates. Roots and shoots are competing with the newly formed apples and sometimes there isn't enough to go around.

I had always thought that insects were to blame. Regardless, June drop isn't necessarily a bad thing.

We are taught to thin clusters of fruit so that individual fruits get to a respectable size. This is Mother Nature taking care of that for us.



Why trustworthiness matters in our democracy

Early this year, the Gallup organization came out with a survey of Americans on how they view the ethics of various professions. Nurses ranked at the top. Doctors, pharmacists, and high school teachers did well, too.

Real estate agents and bankers were considered about average. Down at the bottom? Tele-marketers. And, members of Congress.

So you can imagine how our representatives in Washington feel, knowing that a proven liar in their midst, George Santos, continues to garner headlines and public attention.

He casts a shadow over the entire body. The GOP House leadership seems reluctant to take any steps to expel him. Members of the New York Republican delegation, concerned about how he reflects on them, are agitating for his ouster.

And his constituents? They're the people who should be most concerned.

This isn't just because Santos won office by misrepresenting pretty much everything about himself. It's also because as voters, we depend on our representatives to speak and act effectively on our behalf. With a reputation for untrustworthiness, Santos will struggle to do that.

Over the course of my career in Congress, I dealt with hundreds of legislators over many decades and found the vast majority to be honest and ethical. Most understood that in Congress and other legislative bodies in this country, trust is the coin of the realm. One of the worst things that can happen to a legislator is to have word get around that he or she is not trustworthy.

This is because you're constantly making deals - hammering out the details of a bill, striving to get funding for a key infrastructure project at home, working with the leadership or other members of your state delegation or even legislators from the other party to craft language that can command a majority on the floor. And as part of that process, you have to make commitments. If you don't follow through or you shade your language or you misrepresent your intentions, word gets around.

So why do so many people hold the ethics of members of Congress in such low esteem and often tell pollsters that you can't

trust what they say? I think in part it's because many politicians learn quickly to be very careful about how they use language in public - not for nefarious purposes, but because it's natural to want an audience's support even though, quite often, the issue in question is far more complicated than it's possible to convey in a few words.

Or, especially these days, a politician may be entirely sincere in expressing a point of view, but it's based on misinformation or information that comes from what proves to be an untrustworthy source.

At the same time, issues evolve.

Policy is a dynamic process and circumstances and legislation change: What you said a year ago might no longer be relevant or even useful today. In fact, as a member of Congress, I became very cautious in answering when a constituent or lobbyist asked me whether I would support a particular bill because, by the time it reached the floor, it might have gone through so many changes that it was unrecognizable.

The problem is, as a legislator you don't get to vote "Maybe." A vote is a blunt response to a difficult issue; "yes" or "no" rarely reflects a member's complete thoughts because of the complexities inherent in legislation.

Intriguingly, it's that changeability - in how legislation evolves, politics unfolds, and politicians think - that makes trustworthiness so important. If other legislators conclude they can't take you at your word, then you're sidelined. As deals get struck and the details change, you have no influence. In the end, you're just occupying a seat.

As Santos has found, you may have a megaphone in the press, but when it comes to affecting public policy or the course of legislative events, you're frozen out. And the losers are your constituents.

Lee Hamilton is a Senior Advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar at the IU Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice at the IU O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.



Comments on CONGRESS

By Lee Hamilton

OPINION PAGE/ LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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Quaboag Current Newspaper

- community -

350th celebration continues with chicken BBQ and laser light show

BROOKFIELD – The 350th Anniversary Committee has been working hard to plan a wonderful 350th Anniversary Celebration for the Brookfield community including a chicken BBQ and free laser light show on Friday, June 23.

The Committee will have commemorative T-shirts available for sale at the chicken BBQ and laser light show at Oakholm Farm, 80 Lake Road.

Tickets for the chicken BBQ are \$25 per meal. This delicious meal will be catered by Scott Toupin.

Catering will include chicken, salad, corn, water/soda, and dessert. The dinner starts at 5:30 p.m. at the Oakholm Farm Estate Lakeside Tent.

Tickets can be purchased at the Town Hall, Merrick Public Library, Oakholm Brewing Co., and from Committee members Don Taft, Shelby Hill and Linda Lincoln.

From 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Oakholm Farm Estate Lakeside Tent, there will be live music from the Moonlight Saints, free face painting and a magician. Kettle corn will be available for purchase as well.

The free laser light show is to follow around 9 p.m./dusk and will last about 30 minutes. Bring your own chair or blanket.

Food trucks will be available at Oakholm Brewing Co.

Outside alcohol is strictly prohibited on the property. There is no roadside parking allowed.

The event is limited to property size and parking and will be held rain or shine. The venue has handicap accessibility, however, there is some lawn and rougher terrain.

Other 350th celebration events, as well as other free events happening around town, include line dancing at Brookfield Rod & Gun Club on Friday, June 23 at 8 p.m.; car show at Quaboag Church on Saturday, June 24 from 10 a.m.- 3p.m. (sponsored by the Brookfield Cultural Council); ConnectFest free concert by Fuse Ministries at Oakholm Farm Lakeside Lawn on Sunday, June 25; Bannister Book Group featuring “Warriors Don’t Cry” by Melba Pattillo Beals at Merrick Public Library on Wednesday, June 28 from 11 a.m.-noon; trivia nights at Brookfield Rod & Gun Club June 30, July 28 and Aug. 25 at 7:30 p.m.

A full moon kayak paddle with Quaboag & Quacumquasit Lake Association will be held on July 3; boat parade with QQLA at South Pond on July 4 at 10 a.m.; Bad News Jazz concert on the Common on July 7 from 6-8 p.m. (sponsored by the Brookfield Cultural Council); Sunshine & Blue Skies Band with Henry the Juggler on the Common on July 14 from 6-8 p.m. (sponsored by the Brookfield Cultural Council); Harrington Hospital Auxiliary car show July 15 at Oakholm Farm Estate; Cold Train Band with Roadside Delights food truck on the Common on July 21 from 6-8 p.m. (sponsored by

the Brookfield Cultural Council); Karaoke on the Common on July 28 from 6-8 p.m. (sponsored by the Brookfield Cultural Council); QQLA poker run at North Pond on July 29 at 11 a.m.; and SummerFest & the Artisan Market on Lake Road at Oakholm Brewing Co. on July 29.

In August, the Great Escape (Journey Tribute Band) with Black Sheep BBQ Food Truck and Batch Ice Cream on the Common on Aug. 4 from 6-8 p.m. (sponsored by the Brookfield Cultural Council); town historical walk and Civil War reenactment Aug. 4 from 6-8 p.m. (sponsored by the Historical Committee); Fireman’s Muster at the Fire Department Aug. 5; Ever Fab (Beatles Tribute Band) on the Common on Aug. 11 from 6-8 p.m. (sponsored by the Brookfield Cultural Council); family fun day at the Brookfield Rod & Gun Club on Aug. 12 at 1 p.m.; CobbleStone Road concert on the Common on Aug. 18 from 6-8 p.m. (sponsored by the Brookfield Cultural Council); Wild Bill Yorzyk Swim at South Pond on Aug. 20; Food & Beer Festival and The Artisan Market on Lake Road at Oakholm Brewing Co. on Aug. 26; fall horseshoe league begins at Brookfield Rod & Gun Club on Aug. 31 at 6 p.m.

September events include Illumination Night with QQLA at North/South ponds on Sept. 2; water ski show at South Pond tentatively planned for Sept. 9 (sponsored by the Brookfield Cultural Council); pitch league at

Brookfield Rod & Gun Club beginning Sept. 12 at 6 p.m.; the 350th parade starting in the center of town on Sept. 17 at noon (sponsored by the Brookfield Cultural Council); Festival of Giving Trees doubles tournament at Oakholm Brewing Co. Sept. 23 and 24; Spooner talk at Merrick Public Library on Sept. 26; 1950s dance at Brookfield Rod & Gun Club on Sept. 29 (sponsored by the Brookfield Cultural Council); and chicken BBQ at Brookfield Rod & Gun Club on Sept. 30 at 2 p.m.

The celebration continues throughout the fall and winter with the Apple Country Fair on the Common on Oct. 7 (sponsored by the Community Club); turkey shoots at Brookfield Rod & Gun Club on Oct. 15 at 10 a.m.; Pumpkin Fest on the Common on Oct. 21 (sponsored by the Brookfield Cultural Council); Halloween tournament at Oakholm Disc Golf on Oct. 21; trick or treat townwide on Oct. 28 with a tentatively planned bonfire to follow at Lewis Field (sponsored by the Recreation Committee); trunk or treat at Oakholm Farm on Oct. 29; turkey raffle at Brookfield Rod & Gun Club on Nov. 19; Santa parade and tree lighting on Dec. 3 (sponsored by the Brookfield Cultural Council); house decorating contest on Dec. 17 (sponsored by the Brookfield Cultural Council) and Brookfield Luminaries on Dec. 24 with a rain date of Dec. 31 (sponsored by the Luminary Committee).

Students create music video for rFUTURE project

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Students at the North Brookfield Junior/Senior High School worked on a project called rFUTURE which was brought to the school through the non-profit CGMM, Inc. which is associated with Long View Entertainment.

Through the program young people learn that sustainability means using the resources of the planet, people and

prosperity in a way that satisfies needs today, while preserving resources for the future.

The students’ observations and ideas are shaped into a professionally produced song and corresponding music video that is available to view at <https://youtu.be/egcndO2QX5M> or by searching “rFUTURE 2023: North Brookfield” on YouTube.

GARDEN | FROM PAGE 4

Therefore, if you do plan on thinning, it is best to wait and see what happens between now and the first week of July before you thin down to one or two fruits per cluster.

Well, the strawberry pie was a big hit. I’m already thinking about the leftovers for tomorrow’s dessert and what pie I’ll have for my next big day.

Blueberry, anyone?

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 31 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with “Gardening Question” in the subject line.

Car show for 350th anniversary is June 24

BROOKFIELD – Brookfield’s 350th anniversary car show will be held at Quaboag Valley Church, 175 Fiskdale Road, on Saturday, June 24 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

This event is rain or shine. Registration starts at 9 a.m.; \$10 cash only.

The Clam Box will have a food truck and DJ Glen will provide music from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. There will be T-shirts and trophies.

For more information, call 774-200-0380.



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Paddle explores upper Ware River June 25

HARDWICK – The Chicopee 4Rivers Watershed Council is hosting a paddle along the Upper Ware River Blue Trail on Sunday, June 25 at 1 p.m.

Launching from Old Furnace to Ware River Park in Gilbertville, this great nature paddle is 4.5 miles long and expected to take 1.5 hours. There is quick water and riffles.

The trail map can be viewed at [https://chicopee4riv-](https://chicopee4riv-erswatershed.files.wordpress.com/2022/12/wrbt-upper-11-14-22.pdf)

erswatershed.files.wordpress.com/2022/12/wrbt-upper-11-14-22.pdf.

Please RSVP by emailing chicopeewatershed@gmail.com to stay up to date in the event the paddle is rescheduled or canceled due to weather.

C4R will monitor weather and river levels and post any changes to the events the night before.

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Quaboag Current

JUNETEENTH | FROM PAGE 1

Day, also known as Emancipation Day, because Massachusetts became the hub for the Abolitionist Movement in 1783. That pushes the country towards the Civil War, and Juneteenth.”

Juneteenth matters in a big way, and even if it only became a national holiday in 2021, just two short years ago, it is a holiday everyone should remember.

The celebration of Black culture and resilience carried with opportunities for Black culture to become a spotlight for many people to learn about things they had previously never known.

Cardethia Moore-Jenkins, owner of the Worcester business Waistbeads by Cardethia held a table for children to create beaded bracelets while she taught about how waistbeads have cultural and personal significance to the women who wear them.

“I make the waistbeads [and] they are very personal and significant,” she said of her work.

“I want people to know that this holiday exists,” Cardethia said. “We have celebrated it for a long time. I think it’s important to understand the process of how long it took for the people to know they were free.”

Cardethia offers a recommendation of a Netflix documentary called “High on the Hog”, and it tells the story of cultural dishes like mac and cheese.

Along the topic of food, Rob Evans,

the owner of Addie Lee’s soul Food in Worcester, brought his homemade and delicious recipes for mac and cheese, collard greens, and cornbread.

Evans talked about the different food he offered at his restaurant like fried chicken, but how his mac and cheese was by far the most popular. His restaurant also earned an award for being the “best soul food in Massachusetts”.

Efua Dufu helped organize and pick out local vendors for the event, along with Sam Naring, the assistant director of public programs at Old Sturbridge Village.

Both women wanted the celebrating at this living history museum to be one-of-a-kind and represent all different facets of Black culture.

Jasmine Rivas, the director of the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility organization at Old Sturbridge Village wanted to make a point that they were striving to “commemorate the resistance and resilience of Black people in America and how these events connect...looking at the struggles of Black Americans today.”

Rivas wanted to make a point that it is good that we are now recognizing Juneteenth as a national holiday because as she said, “it is certainly celebrating, but also remembering how people have overcome systemic racism.”

Rivas was joined with two oth-



From left are Sam Naring, Cardethia Moore-Jenkins, Rob Evans, and Efua Dufu. TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS

ers, Frances Baker-Tucker and Elaina Cardenas, who are also a part of DEIA. “I think that in a place that is very white-centered, it is very important to have events that highlight black history and people of color,” Cardenas said.

They went on to stress the importance of this holiday, with a warning against “white-washing” history; we must be careful to make sure that all

voices are heard and understood, and not just the voices of the white man.

“It’s our responsibility as a living history museum to share and bring these connections to light,” Rivas said.

The Juneteenth event was a fantastic and warm celebration of the Black American community and culture, and they look forward to holding more events in the years to come.



Shown playing traditional games from the 1830s are Lily and Cora Pelletier, Emily Bell and Annaleese, Jeremiah, and Isabella Gross man.



Rob Evans, owner and operator of Addie Lee’s Soul Food.



Sean Osborne, public historian at Old Sturbridge Village.



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VETERANS | FROM PAGE 1

ready to pair up with volunteer drivers on one of the top 10 road courses in North America, according to Road & Track Magazine.

The 2.3 mile track has several unique features, including a 190-foot vertical evaluation and some of the most breathtaking views in the northeast.

About 50 veterans showed up for the event, despite the weather, according to Race Cars for a Cause Founder and President Jeff Archambeault.

"In the first 45 minutes, we had 35 signed in," he said, with more continuing to arrive throughout the afternoon as skies cleared.

A total of 16 drivers volunteered their time and skills on the track, including many members of Palmer Motorsports Park. Porsche/Audi of Norwell also supplied cars and drivers for the event.

Dunkin' of Western MA was one hand with plenty of fuel to keep drivers and passengers going.

Attending Military Appreciation Day for the first time was Westfield veteran Bruce Cordero, who serves in the Air National Guard out of Barnes Air National Guard Base in Westfield.

Having served in the U.S. Air Force for 20 years, Cordero has spent eight years in the Air National Guard.

"I'm a lifer," he said.

Cordero said being on the track at Palmer Motorsports Park is like nothing he's ever been able to do before.

"To actively get out and be able to see the track as the drivers do, being able to experience it in a different way than being on the side," Cordero said.

Joining him was his girlfriend Rebecca Jackson,

and their 7-month-old daughter, Myla. Jackson was also able to ride along on the track, as the event serves both veterans and their family members.

Cordero said his favorite car he rode in was a Mazda Miata, while Jackson said her favorite was the 2004 Subaru STI owned and driven by Brookfield resident Mitchell Bourque.

Bourque is an instructor at Palmer Motorsports Park, and the STI is his daily driver, but it's also seen a lot of action on racetracks.

"This car has seen every track in New England," Bourque said.

This was his first year driving at Military Appreciation Day and something he enjoyed doing.

"It's just awesome that I can give back...these guys did things I never did," Bourque said.

West Brookfield U.S. Air Force veteran Ryan Quigley said Bourque's car was his favorite ride of the day and he talked about how important this event was for him.

"It's great...it's nice to have something like this to meet other veterans," Quigley said. "It means a lot."

About Race Cars for a Cause Race Cars for a Cause was founded by Archambeault in 2015, and has already served close to 600 veterans, active military and their families at its events. Race Cars for a Cause is a nonprofit dedicated to helping veterans and active military.

Held at racetracks all over New England, the Military Appreciation Day in Palmer is their biggest event of the year.

For more information, visit cars4acause.co, email jeffgt3@cars4acause.co or call 855-346-7223.



Bruce Cordero and Rebecca Jackson pose with their daughter between laps on the track. TURLEY PHOTOS BY PAULA OUIMETTE



Volunteers of all ages helped make the event successful.



One of the drivers takes his turn as a passenger in Palmer Motorsports Park's Mustang.



Mitchell Bourque of Brookfield was one of the drivers for the event. Bourque is an instructor at Palmer Motorsports Park.



Porsche/Audi of Norwell supplied several cars and drivers.

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DRAMA CLUB | FROM PAGE 1

and struggling to make friends. Fitting in and enjoying his summer soon became the least of his concerns, when campers discover that Camp Omigosh, which has been closed since a camper disappeared 30 years ago, is haunted.

“I have a really strange feeling about this summer,” Connor said as he entered the camp.

Connor and the rest of the campers are the first to attend summer camp since Camp Omigosh closed, and they are shocked to find there are no phones, only a fax machine. There’s no cell service or Wi-Fi either.

There’s something off about the camp counselors as well, and Connor learns they were all campers along with Billy, the lost camper who haunts the woods.

Connor and his friends soon learn that Camp Omigosh isn’t actually haunted, it’s been invaded by aliens.

With the help of Tasha (played by Gabriela Feeney), Parker (played by Toby Chaplin) and Kimberly (played by Madison Schreier), the campers reveal the out-of-this-world secret, while also discovering that Billy isn’t a ghost; he’s actually Mr. Warren, the camp director (played by Madic Andrioloi).

Together, they overtake the aliens and return to camp to enjoy a dance before getting ready to return home.

“No matter how good a summer is; it must always end,” Connor said.

Rounding out the cast are Dezi, played by Natlaia Veliz-Baldizon; Mary and Robot, played by Jessica Waddell; Sheldon, played by Haylee Nash; Raymond and Ghost, played by Grace Smart; Tessa, played by Emma Nault; Vanessa, played by Mackenzie Bennett; Ulah, played by Chloe Zwirecki; Silent Swede and Robot, played by Kyle With-



Camp Director Mr. Warren, left, played by freshman Madic Andrioloi, explains the rules of Camp Omigosh. Courtesy Photos by Derick Veliz

ers; Silent Swede and Rich Alien, played by Lilianna McIsaac; Silent Swede and Gibberish Alien, played by Abigail Degan; Coach Dunbom, played by Jade Fontaine; Ms. Finkle and Puppet, played by Amarie Martino; Ms. Greenblat, played by Brooke Swistak; Ms. Hobbes, played by Persephone Piermarini; Alien, played by Sierra Brote; and Silent Swede, played by Emily Lalshius.

Haileigh Swistak was stage manager for the production, with Dylan Cummins as assistant stage manager.

Crew members include Aviendha Androli, Thomas Bellizzi, Cameron Bennet, Liam Bray, Raven Casey, Parker Chaffee, Emily Cieslak, Asya Osei-Opoku, Victoria Paradis, Nora Pennington-Russell, Karl Prosser, Falon Rice, Cooper Rose, Asher Sargent, Payton Schreier and William Sexton.

Running the light board was Dylan Segatore; spotlights, Rhyann Bray and Emily Hubble; and sound, Richard Gaudette.

Directed by graduates of the Class of 2023, Luisa Feeney, Lucy Sanelli, Josephine Landon and Ari Masterjohn,

“Camp Omigosh” was the last public performance of the school year.

Presented by Quaboag Regional Middle High School, the Drama Club and the 21st Century Program, “Camp

Omigosh” was a student-led performance.

Before the performance started, Fine Arts Department Chair James Joinville invited the directors to the stage.

“I’ve been so proud to watch you grow,” he told the directors.

Sanelli thanked the students who participated in the play, saying, “They worked really hard for this show.”

Mastorjohn thanked the School’s administration and faculty for their support of the arts and Joinville credited Madeline Smola, Assistant Superintendent of Development and the 21st Century Program for helping to make this performance possible.

Special thanks were also given to the School Committee, interim Superintendent Maureen Binienda, Principal Stephen Duff, Assistant Principal Dave Shepard, Facilities Manager Marc Astrella, Joinville, the Quaboag Performing Arts Boosters, as well as the students and audience members.



Student Directors Luisa Feeney, Lucy Sanelli, Josephine Landon and Ari Masterjohn, are all recent graduates of the Class of 2023.

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Understand intuitively

5. Two of something

9. Not involving computer tech

11. Acclaimed

13. Undermine

15. The condition of being concealed or hidden

16. Irritate

17. The process of developing a theory

19. Ceramic jar

21. Not fresh

22. Dad’s fashion accessory

23. Popular review site

25. New Mexico county

26. ‘___ death do us part

27. Fees

29. Takes with force

31. One-time Yankees rookie sensation

33. Gordon and Snider are two

34. Body parts

36. Arranges

38. Fiddler crabs

39. Mimics

41. Witnesses

43. They ___

44. Lasso

46. Runs down

48. In response to

52. Bird-like dinosaur

53. Metamorphic stages

54. Conditions of incapacity

56. Sodas are sold in these units

57. Break away from

58. Ethereal

59. Boggy

CLUES DOWN

1. Mangled

2. Ruffled some feathers

3. Not young

4. Lakers legend

5. Nocturnal S. American rodent

6. Direction (Scottish)

7. Intestinal inflammation

8. Spring back in fear

9. Owl genus

10. Girls

11. Unbeliefs

12. Force unit

14. Expired trade agreement

15. Went alone

18. Animal noises

20. Woman who graduated from a specific school

24. The very top

26. Organs in males

28. Earnings

30. Z Z Z

32. Reddish browns

34. A salt or ester of acetic acid

35. A place to get off your feet

37. More disreputable

38. Kidney condition

40. Cease moving

42. Quick

43. Extra seed covering

45. “Survivor: Panama” winner

47. Six

49. One who inspects lamps

50. Small parrot

51. Primordial matter of the universe

55. ___ fi (slang)

SPORTS

Quabbin falls to South Lancaster

FITCHBURG – It was indeed ‘game on’ at the Game On Sports Complex in Fitchburg where the young and upstart players from Quabbin opened with a 46-24 loss to South Lancaster Academy.

The cagers are in two summer leagues with the majority of the younger players competing in the varsity league in Fitchburg. Quabbin, is sponsored by Ground Up Land-

scape in Fitchburg and by E.P. Wine Propane in Auburn Summer League. The interest level and number of participants warranted exploring two leagues and when the sponsorship opportunity was presented it was decided to go with both.

The Game On team is coached by Dawn Sulmasy and recent Quabbin graduate Aiden Welch. Sulmasy played at

Bentley College for the coach Barabra Stevens.

She has coached the Wachusett boys summer team in the past and is currently the girls coach at Acton-Boxboro High School. Having Sulmasy to teach and mentor the younger players throughout the summer season presents a great opportunity for each of the players to advance their individual skill level and team understanding.

Aiden Welch is making his debut and his knowledge and acumen will certainly be an asset to not only Coach Sulmasy but to each of the younger players. The two-time Wachusett League all-star is taking his skill set to the next level as he will be attending Quinsigamond Community College.

Luke Salvadore and Max Doane led the team with six points each. Anthony Qua-

terone and Matt Wade led the team in rebounds with five points each. The summer emphasis will be on rebounding and defense.

Coach Bob Catalini held his advanced offensive skills clinic last week and 14 players attended to improve their skill set and work with one of the best clinicians around.

Mumper leads Post 241 past Wilbraham

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

WILBRAHAM—A solid pitching staff is a key ingredient for any successful baseball team.

John Mumper was an outstand-

ing pitcher for the Ware varsity baseball team this past spring.

In the Class D championship game, the righthander hurled a masterpiece against top-seeded and previously undefeated Pioneer Regional. The outstanding performance

helped Ware capture the Western Mass. title for the first time since 2010 with a 3-1 extra inning victory.

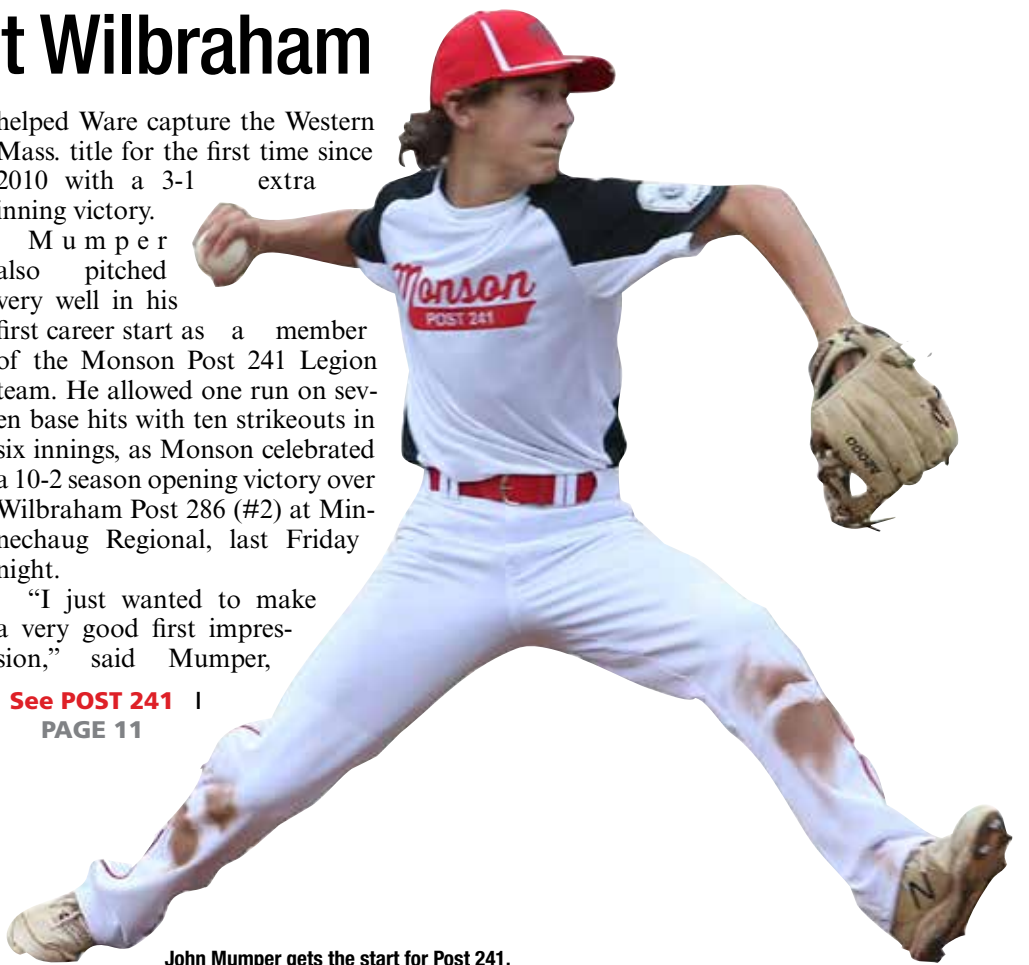
Mumper also pitched very well in his first career start as a member of the Monson Post 241 Legion team. He allowed one run on seven base hits with ten strikeouts in six innings, as Monson celebrated a 10-2 season opening victory over Wilbraham Post 286 (#2) at Minnechaug Regional, last Friday night.

“I just wanted to make a very good first impression,” said Mumper,

See POST 241 |
PAGE 11

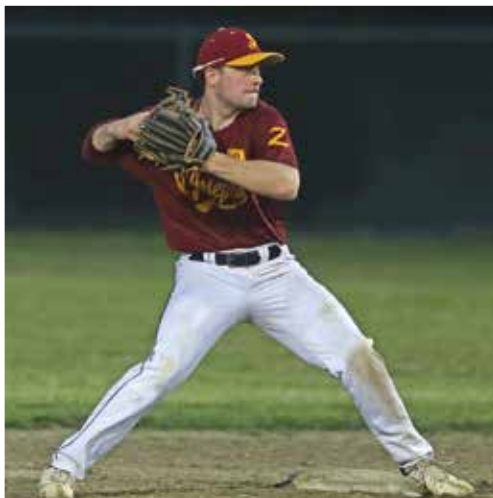


Brayden Mega makes a play at second.



John Mumper gets the start for Post 241.

St. Joe's falls to rival PeoplesBank



PALMER – Last Friday night, PeoplesBank hit their way past St. Joe's 14-1. The loss dropped St. Joe's to 3-4 on the season. The Saints are in third place in the Tri-County Baseball League with six points. The Saints are back in action on Friday night with a matchup with 413ATC at 7:30 p.m. at St. Joe's Park in Palmer.

Left: Devin Slattery, of Ware, fires a relay throw to first. PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM



Max Silverman attempts to make a tag.



Brendan Clark throws across the diamond.



Matt Irzyk pitches for the Saints.

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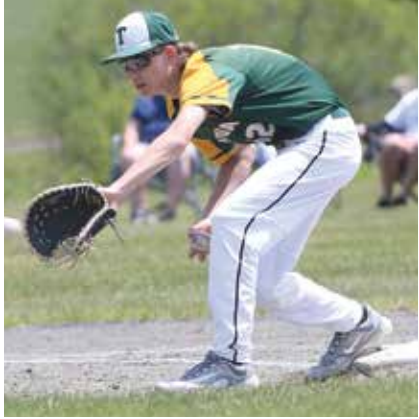
Turleysports

Athlete of the Month

Jack Raposse

SCHOOL: Tantasqua
 Raposse would deliver a walk-off hit in the quarterfinals of the Central Mass. Tournament earlier this month.

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



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Volleyball Basics July to Aug. 16, and Wrestling July 10 to Aug. 16. All clinics are held on the campus of Ludlow High School and are geared toward the development of fundamental skills. For more information log on to lionspridesc.wix.com/lpsc or contact Tim Brillo TBrillo1723@gmail.com. Registration is now online at https://www.familyid.com/organizations/lions-den-sports-clinics

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New England Mutinty ‘rush’ past Albany

By Tim Peterson
 Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW – The June 11 United Women’s Soccer match between the Albany Rush and the New England Mutinty featured several outstanding soccer players from Western Massachusetts.

There was also a talented soccer player from Eastern Massachusetts, who put on the home jersey for the final time during the regular season.

Before heading back to the University of South Carolina to prepare for the upcoming fall soccer season, Catherine Berry scored a second half goal leading the Mutinty to a 2-0 shutout victory over the Rush before a large crowd at historic Lusitano Stadium.

“It’s a bittersweet night for me,” said Berry, who’s from Hingham. “I do have a commitment at my school, and I’m required to be there next week. I’m very grateful for every game that I do get to play for the Mutinty. I have two more years of eligibility remaining at South Carolina and I’m hoping to play for the Mutinty again next summer.”

Joe Ferrara, who’s the Mutinty’s owner/general manager, is hoping Berry will be returning to Lusitano Stadium in the middle of July if the Mutinty qualify for the U.W.S. playoffs.

Berry, who’s entering her senior season, has scored 24 goals and has 14 assists for a total of 62 points in her first three years playing college soccer.

Berry scored four goals in the Mutinty season and home opener against the Worcester Fuel, which was a 7-1 victory.

The Mutinty (2-0-1), who also played a 1-1 tie at the Maine Footy on May 21, had a couple of weeks off before hosting the Rush (2-1-1).

“The support that we receive from our fans at this stadium is something that’s very special. I wouldn’t trade being a part of this for the world,” Berry said. “Joe Ferrara is also an awesome person. He has become a close friend to my family during the past few years. The players on this team are also very special.”

Berry is following in the footsteps of her mother, Lauren, who played soccer at Middlebury College. Her father, Chris, played college basketball at Middlebury. Her parents attended last Saturday’s home match.

The local players that played in last Saturday’s home match for the Mutinty are Alexis Legowski (South Hadley), Hope Santaniello (Agawam), Ela Kopec (Ludlow), Laura Gouvin (Monson), Avery Klingensmith (Belchertown) Chandler Pedolzsky (Westfield), Emma Pedolzsky (Westfield), and Catherine Bean (Westfield).

Klingensmith, who started in five games as a freshman on the American University women’s soccer team last fall, has enjoyed being teammates with Berry.

“Cat is a great soccer player,” said Klingensmith, who’s a midfielder. “We can always count on her to score goals for us. Playing for this soccer team is very similar to my college team.”

Kopec, who was Mutinty starting goalie against Albany, didn’t have to make any saves in recording her first shutout of the season.

The Mutinty defense, which was led by Laci Lewis, Meghan Cunningham, Rachel Marchini, Sofia Weber, Anna Carson, and Bean shutdown Albany forward Katelyn Krohn. She had scored a team leading seven goals in her team’s first three regular season matches.

“We do have a very strong defensive unit this year,” said Mutinty first-year



Laura Gouvin, of Monson, makes a pass.



Rachel Marchini settles the ball. PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

head coach Maurico “Toto” Coimbra said. “Their chemistry has been getting better and better in every match. It’s always nice to post a shutout.”

Berry had several shots on goal during the first 45 minutes of the contest, but Albany goalie Emma Anderson (10 saves) was able to make the saves on them.

The contest was still scoreless at half-time.

Following a breakaway shot attempt by Santaniello that deflected off the right post, Berry gave her team a 1-0 lead in the 56th minute. She fired a line-drive shot from the top of the box into the left corner of the net.

“We did put a lot of pressure on them in the first half,” Berry said. “I had a scoring opportunity early in the second half and I didn’t want to miss it. It’s always special whenever you score a goal, especially in this stadium.”

With less than five minutes remaining in regulation, Chandler Pedolzsky knocked home a rebound shot giving the home team a 2-0 advantage.

Berry was scheduled to play in her final regular season match for the Mutinty against the Scorpions SC on Monday night in a make-up game at Medway High School.

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who's one of five players from Ware High School listed on the Monson Legion roster. "I went out there and threw strikes with my curveball."

His younger brother, Jason, is also a first-year member of the Monson team.

Monson didn't have enough players to field a Legion baseball team a year ago. There are 18 players listed on this year's roster and 14 of them showed up for the road game against Wilbraham (#2).

"I love the game of baseball and it feels awesome to be back on the field again," said Monson manager Steve Tripp. "I think we have some outstanding baseball players on this year's team. They're also very good kids."

The only players listed on this year's Monson Legion roster, who played on the 2021 squad, are Austin Lagimoniere (Pathfinder Tech), James Delaney (Belchertown High School), Dom Allen (Palmer High School), and Mike Mayberry, who graduated from Palmer last year.

Tripp saw Mumper pitch in a home game for Ware and he was very impressed.

"I watched John pitch against Quabbin during the high school season and I really liked what I saw. He pitched

very well in tonight's game," Tripp said. "We do have a lot of pitchers on this year's team, which is great. They're all going to get their turns on the mound. This is probably the best pitching staff we've had since I've been coaching the Legion team."

The other members of the Monson pitching staff are Nathan Kaczuwka (Ware High School), Ty Miller (Palmer High School), Brayden Mega (Pathfinder), Jesse Cygan (Pathfinder), and Mayberry.

Cygan, who relieved Mumper, allowed a run in the seventh inning. He walked a couple of batters.

"Jesse is a hard thrower, and he has a lot of potential," Tripp said. "He just needs to work on his mechanics."

Because of a couple of make-up games, Monson was scheduled to play their first four games in four days.

Mumper's batterymate in last Friday's game was Dylan Sutkaitis, who was the Indians starting catcher.

Sutkaitis threw out two Wilbraham base runners in the first two innings.

"The Monson starting pitcher deserves a lot of credit because he pitched very well against us," said Wilbraham (#2) manager Don Laware. "Their catcher also shut down our running game. You just have to tip your hat to those

two players."

For the first time since before the start of the COVID 19 pandemic, Wilbraham has two Legion teams competing at the senior level. They also have a junior team, which had an outstanding season last summer.

Wilbraham (#2) (0-2) lost to East Springfield Post 420, 2-1, in their season opener on June 12.

Their starting pitcher against Monson was John O'Connor, who attends Wilbraham & Monson Academy.

The righthander also pitched well during the first three innings. During that span, he allowed only two singles and recorded four strikeouts.

Wilbraham (#2) catcher Paul Diehl also threw out a Monson baserunner trying to steal third base in the second inning.

O'Connor didn't get out of the fourth inning.

Monson had two runners in scoring position with two outs in the top of the fourth when a bunt base hit by Lagimoniere, who started in centerfield, scored the game's first run.

Lagimoniere stole second before shortstop Hunter Griswold (Pathfinder) delivered a two-run single to right field.

At that point, O'Connor was replaced on the mound by righthander Ryan Atkin.

Delaney contributed with a two-run single to right, which



Jesse Cygan catches the out at first.



Nathan Kaczuwka makes a throw to first.

PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

gave Monson a 5-0 lead.

Delaney scored Monson's sixth run of the frame following a throwing error by the catcher before extra hitter Jarrett Skowyra capped things off with a run scoring single to left field.

"After we scored all of those runs in that inning, it felt nice to have a little bit of a cushion," Mumper said. "If you do make a mistake, it's not as costly."

Mumper did get into a little bit of trouble in his final inning.

With one-out in the bottom of the sixth, Atkin grounded a

single up the middle into centerfield. A couple of batters later, shortstop Bryce Barlow (2-for-3) drove him home with a line-drive single to center, which ended Mumper's shut-out bid.

With two outs in the bottom of the seventh, Diehl had an RBI single to center before the next batter flied out to right giving Monson their first legion win in two years.

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 Katie Riley – Second Team
 Olivia Magierowski – Second Team
 Lili Shiers – Second Team

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 Eben Mazieka
 Sam Merchant
 Ethan Zhu

GIRLS SWIMMING
 Kira Dambly
 Zoey Zhu

An evening of BBQ+Beer+Band at Farmer Matt's

Rocking on in New Braintree

By Richard Murphy
Correspondent

NEW BRAINTREE – Just a small distance up the hill from West Brookfield lies the farmland of Matt Koziol, or Farmer Matt, if you will.

That is the moniker that he is most known by, and it certainly is accurate.

What else would you call a man who raises purebred angus cattle on his own 214 acres and more than 400 leased?

But farming is not all that Matt is. One might call him a showman.

Granted, that he probably prefers that “Farmer” be prefixed to his name, but Showman Matt would not be an error. Evidence of that is the man puts on events at the farm and invites the public to come and enjoy themselves.

That was clearly in view on June 15 when people began flocking to the farm for the event, BBQ+Beer+Band.

The assembled took to the picnic tables or chairs, but many not before patronizing the tent of Lost Towns Brewing. The name, Lost Towns, conveys the brewers’ love of their community and their connection with the Quabbin Reservoir and its history.

The Lost Towns were the several hamlets either taken by eminent domain or stolen (depending on outlook) to build what was arguably one of the greatest engineering projects of the 20th Century.

Normally, one obtains their beverages at the brewery on 483 Main St. (Route 32) in Gilbertville, but tonight cans and pours would be done on the farm.

There were several offerings from the Fog Dancer IPA to the Flannels & Blankets Brown Ale. Can’t say what Flannels & Blankets conjures in the mind, but we had the Fog Dancer.



Lobsterz From Marz performed music by the Grateful Dead. TURLEY PHOTOS BY RICHARD MURPHY

It was time to think about food. There was much to choose, from smoked ribs to tender pulled pork.

Not wanting meat? Mac n’ cheese was available.

There was a line, but one could electronically jump it by ordering from your phone with what is known as a QR code.

As a primitive, my progress in the process was not impressive. This should not be surprising as the first family phone I remember in my 1950s Boston suburb did not even have a dial, but you spoke to the operator.

Now you order on a phone physically connected to nothing. In the words of Maynard G. Krebs, “What an age we live in.”

Anyway, a staff member, Caitlin, came to our rescue and we would not starve as the food was ready to pick up soon enough.

The band, Lobsterz from Marz, began playing early in the evening. Such an ensemble is proof the 1960s will never die in this country.

Lobsterz from Marz claims to be New England’s longest active Grateful Dead tribute band according to band member, Rand.

When the band began playing, it was obvious that Lobsterz from Marz was true to the era, even if some of the band members might have been too young to remember it.

The second song seemed a departure as it was the Merle Haggard standard, Mama Tried, with that catchy lyric, “Turned 21 in prison doing life without parole.” The Dead covered it, including at Woodstock.

The band would rock on to the enjoyment of the audience. Dave, who was sitting at the same picnic table as us ob-

served that Dead tribute bands are usually better than the original.

Your correspondent appreciated the music but is hardly connoisseur enough of the genre to pass judgement.

Suffice it to say, with Bands like Lobsterz from Marz, the Dead will never die.

The evening progressed with members of the audience rising to dance and enjoying a good time.

BBQ+Beer+Band was a great bit of showmanship by Farmer Matt. The man put on a mini-Woodstock in the rural idyll of New Braintree.

If you missed last Thursday, don’t despair. There will another chance on a Thursday in the next three months for BBQ+Beer+Band. Specifically, July 27, Aug. 24, and Sept. 21. All dates start at 4:30 p.m. with bands to be announced.



Lost Towns Brewing offered liquid refreshments.



Robin with tech advisor Caitlin



Abbie Jo enjoyed the music.



Farmer Matt is hosting a series of BBQ+Beer+Band events at his location in New Braintree.

Hearing/sight impaired dog still awaits adoption

EAST BROOKFIELD – Mack has captured the hearts of many as he navigates shelter life, waiting for a loving home.

The remarkable two-year-old Bernese Mountain dog mix was surrendered to Second Chance Animal Services over a year ago with both hearing and sight impairments. Despite the challenges he faces, Mack’s indomitable spirit and unique communication style will make him a truly special companion.

To give Mack the best chance at a second chance, he participated in Second Chance’s Project Good Dog. He received 24/7 training and support from one of the inmates at the Worcester County Sheriff’s Office.

While Second Chance provides supplies and toys for Project Good Dog pups, Mack’s most favorite thing from his time there was a milk crate. He loved to carry it around and the sheriff’s office made sure he had one to bring back to Second Chance as a very special graduation present.

Mack’s journey has been marked by resilience and determination.

Unable to rely on traditional sensory cues, he has developed alternative ways to communicate and engage with his surroundings. Using his mouth as a means of expression, Mack does sometimes resort to inappropriate mouthing to convey his emotions.

Understanding his distinctive communication style requires patience, observation, and above all, empathy.

Mack has made great progress over the past year and Second Chance Animal Relocation Director Wendy Hall



Mack, a Bernese Mountain dog mix, is still waiting for his forever home. SUBMITTED PHOTO

hopes Mack can find a family who will help him continue his work.

Hall said in a press release, “working with a professional trainer or behaviorist who specializes in special needs dogs can provide invaluable guidance in helping Mack develop alternative communication methods and manage his emotional responses. By approaching interactions with understanding and care, it is possible to create a nurturing environment for Mack to thrive and form deep connections.”

If interested in providing a loving home for Mack or would like to learn more about him, call Second Chance at 508-867-5525 or come meet him in person at the Adoption Center, 111 Young Road in East Brookfield.

No appointment is needed to visit during adoption hours, Monday-Friday from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Thursday from 5-7 p.m. and Saturday from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Quabbin Community Band presents concert June 25

BARRE- The next Quabbin Community Band concert will be held on Sunday, June 25 at 6 p.m. at the Nornay Park Bandstand in South Barre.

The Quabbin Community Band is celebrating their 50th season.

The band has always involved musicians of all ages. In the original concert program of 1973, there were no fewer than 18 band members listed who would just be entering the eighth grade.

The current band also boasts a number of junior

high students.

Steve Aliquo, from Barre, Lois Sturtevant, from Hubbardston, and David Hagberg, from Holden, are three veteran musicians from the original concert.

This week's concert theme, "Everyone Loves A Parade" will feature a variety of marches, much like the first QCB concert in June of 1973.

Right: Peter Cirelli, of Barre, and Jeffrey Furst, of Hardwick, playing their baritone horns in rehearsal at the former Quabbin Community Band Center circa 1976. PHOTO SUBMITTED



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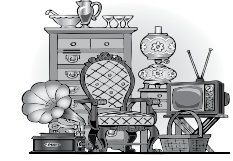
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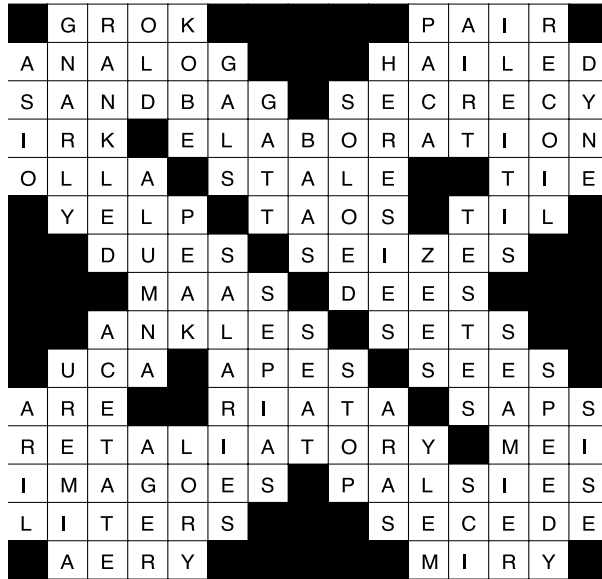
Friends of Town House launch YouTube channel

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The Friends of the North Brookfield Town House would like to introduce their newest media addition to the organization, a new YouTube channel, "Friends of the North Brookfield Town House."

They are currently working on releasing a series featuring local artists of different mediums. They have spoken with local painters, photographers, and musicians.

They will continue releasing videos in the coming months and would love to get more creatives featured on their channel.

Anyone interested in submitting their work and participating in an interview should email them at friends@nbtownhouse.com so they can get started showcasing artists' work.



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Community Newspaper EDITOR WANTED

Turley Publications is looking for a "hands on" energetic candidate who loves telling stories to be the editor for two weekly publications. This position will include managing and coaching a small news staff that will provide the community with a great local newspaper.

The editor will need to cover local government and events while representing the newspaper at public venues.

The successful candidate will have strong community journalism skills and is also expected to gather news and write stories for the two papers as well as for other occasional companywide publications.

This is a job for a self-starter who has a vision for growing and connecting with our valued readers, and who thoroughly enjoys community journalism.

This full-time position with flexible schedule is based in our Palmer office at 24 Water St., this is not a remote position.

Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience
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- Editing experience and ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
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Please send resume and writing examples to:

Eileen Kennedy, Executive Editor
24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069
or email directly to ekennedy@turley.com

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EARLY DEADLINES

In observance of July 4th,

PUBLIC NOTICES

EARLY AD DEADLINE

Place your public notice no later than NOON

Thursday, June 29

– Thank you!

QUABOAG CURRENT



NORTH BROOKFIELD
Friends launch YouTube channel p15

EAST BROOKFIELD
Library receives grant p3

BROOKFIELD
350th events celebrate town's anniversary p5

Editorial/Opinion
Sports
Classifieds

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Volume 16, Number 30

Friday, June 23, 2023

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