

QUABOAG CURRENT

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Friday, June 28, 2024

Hills of East Quabbin Ride

Inaugural bike ride benefits East Quabbin Land Trust

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
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NEW BRAINTREE – This past Saturday morning, 71 cyclists took to the road to conquer the rolling hills of the region, with the goal of raising money to benefit the East Quabbin Land Trust.

EQLT Executive Director Cynthia Henshaw said the Hills of the East Quabbin Ride was the idea of Ware resident and avid cyclist John Hogan, who helped lay out two courses, a 25-mile and a 50-mile, through the towns of New Braintree, North Brookfield, West Brookfield, Hardwick, Barre and Oakham. The ride started and ended at Farmer Matt's.

Hogan said he has attended a few events sponsored by EQLT, but this was his first time being an active participant in organizing one.

"It really just came about because as far as cycling,

See **BIKE RIDE** | PAGE 10



The Pumpkin Heads were one of the road biking clubs that participated in the East Quabbin Land Trust's inaugural Hills of East Quabbin Ride held this past Saturday. Shown from left are Randy Thomas of Belchertown, Jen Ayre of Belchertown, Marcy Thomas of Belchertown, Karen Davis of Palmer, Lloyd Ortman of Belchertown, Jim Davis of Palmer, Melinda Rigney of Belchertown, Brad Hoffman of East Longmeadow, Moe Esposito of Lakewood Ranch, Florida and David Casey of South Hadley. TURLEY PHOTOS BY PAULA OUIMETTE

BBQ + Beer + Band returns to Farmer Matt's

By Richard Murphy
Correspondent

NEW BRAINTREE – Western Central Massachusetts was in the throes of a dreaded "heat dome" as June progressed.

What this meant, as those of us not air-conditioned can attest, is that we suffered under debilitating sweat-inducing temps, hoping for a bit of relief.

Yet, there were places where that relief existed. One of them required a drive up a hill to the town of New Braintree, where there was a gentle and cooling breeze.

On that hill is the spread of Matt Koziol, also known by the moniker Farmer Matt.

Farmer Matt raises pure-

See **BBQ** | PAGE 16



Spoooner Well performed at Farmer Matt's BBQ + Beer + Band last Thursday. TURLEY PHOTOS BY RICHARD MURPHY

North Brookfield welcomes first Town Administrator

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
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NORTH BROOKFIELD – Board of Selectmen Chair Jason Petraitis introduced the town's first Town Administrator, Michael Szlosek of Ludlow.

At the June 18 meeting, Szlosek said he has served in municipal government for over 20 years and started his career as Town Administrator in Ludlow, before moving on to Uxbridge, Athol and Sterling. He was also the Assistant Director

See **FIRST** | PAGE 14

Adelaide Fay celebrates new album launch at Workshop13

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – The Grand Hall at Workshop13 will welcome New England based singer and

songwriter, Adelaide Fay, to celebrate the launch of her second album.

Fay, who grew up in West Brookfield and attended Tantasqua Regional High School,

See **ALBUM** | PAGE 16



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- community -

'Independence Day Classics' featured at QCB concert

SOUTH BARRE – On Sunday, June 30 at 6 p.m., the Quabbin Community Band will be kicking off celebrations for the 4th of July holiday a little early with their theme of, "Independence Day Classics!"

Performing for the final time this summer on the Nornay Park bandstand in South Barre before moving to the Barre Common, the band has prepared a rousing line-up of patriotic tunes. Included on Sunday's program will be; "The Armed Forces Salute", "Salute to the G.I.", "National Emblem March", "Three Songs of Colonial America", "The Liberty Bell March", "America

The Beautiful", the powerful and dramatic, "1812 Overture", and the popular closer, "Stars and Stripes Forever" by John Philip Sousa.

The band is indebted to its premium and corporate sponsors this summer who contributed \$500 and above toward the band's annual budget. Many thanks go to The First Parish Church Committee, The Mass Cultural Council, Fidelity Bank, Bull God Lawn Care & Pest Control, Barre Savings Bank Foundation, and Lois Sturtevant.

Be sure to save the next seven Sundays for live music by the Quabbin Community Band.



Scoby the Great Dane and his handler Steven Robertson, a Quabbin Community Band member, led a parade for children while the band played, "When The Saints Go Marching In" at the Children's Theme Concert last Sunday. SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Maggie The Clown was on hand at the Quabbin Community Band's Children's Theme Night on June 23rd. Pictured with her is Genevieve Cummings from Spencer.



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Bluegrass Gospel Service to be held June 30

WEST BROOKFIELD – The George Whitefield United Methodist Church, 33 West Main St., will be hosting its popular Bluegrass Gospel Service on Sunday, June 30 at 10 a.m.

This quarterly event, which happens when there is a fifth Sunday in a month, will next bring together local musicians for an all music Bluegrass Gospel Service. The event is free, though a free will

offering will be taken and refreshments will be served after.

The services have drawn many from around the area and have been entertaining and spiritually uplifting. Mark your calendar and plan to join us to listen, sing, tap your toes and leave feeling good.

For more information, call Heidi Jeldres at 978-989-5736.

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- community -

Freeze Frame

Original play written by Quaboag graduates

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – Quaboag Regional Middle High School Class of 2024 graduates Haileigh Swistak and Raven Casey recently wrote an original play called “Freeze Frame”, which was performed June 14 and 15 at the school.

The story follows a teenage superhero who has to hide her identity from her friends. While trying to keep her secret, the conflict grows as the supervillain Vanisher sends out evil henchman to do their dirty work.

While still attending Quaboag Regional High School, one of the aspiring writers was approached by the school’s music teacher and drama club director, Jams Joinville, about creating a theatrical play for the school’s spring production.

Swistak and Casey decided to partner up and work on a story idea that would be funny and entertaining for junior high and high school students to be a part of. The whole storytelling process took a total of about three months for Swistak and Casey to create “Freeze Frame”.

This was the first play Swistak and Casey had written together. Swistak has written stories in the past.

She is a published author who loves writing and reading poetry, science fiction and fantasy. She has written two poetry books titled “Rain Drops in

April” and “Roses in May”.

Both books are available on Amazon.

This original play was designed to be performed on stage. According to Swistak and Casey, the play was heavily inspired by other familiar superhero stories and comics.

Freeze Frame is the name of the superhero and Vanisher is Freeze Frame’s supervillain.

“Freeze Frame” took time to write but after helping each other out, Swistak and Casey were able to put a fun play together.

“The story wrote itself in a way,” Casey said. “Sometimes you have to write backwards.”

For Casey and Swistak, starting the story backwards wasn’t the case and they were able to write “Freeze Frame” from beginning to end. The play features funny aspects that even got the adults laughing a lot.

When the two playwrights approached Joinville with the final copy of the play, it was a total of 45 pages. Joinville enjoyed reading the play and thought it was really funny.

At that point, the spring production at Quaboag was in the works. The play featured a total of 25 cast members who found the play really funny when they first read it.

Both shows had a great turnout and the show got a lot of positive feedback. Swistak and Casey got to co-direct the play itself with their fellow graduate



Haileigh Swistak, left, and Raven Casey are the co-writers of the original play Freeze Frame. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Rachel McGrath handling the wardrobe for the show.

The story came out to be over an hour long on stage and the crowd featured many former Quaboag students who previously participated in their school’s theater program. Many former theater students thought the show was great.

When asked what to do next for “Freeze Frame”, both Swistak and Casey plan on offering this play to be performed on other stages. As of now, both writers have completed high school and are preparing for college.

Joinville encouraged both Swistak and Casey to take this script to the next

level and get the recognition it deserves.

Swistak and Casey are not working on anything new as they’re preparing for college. Swistak will be attending Wheaton College and Casey will be attending the University of Vermont.

Both are studying English and creative writing. Swistak will also be minoring in theater arts, while Casey will also be majoring in theater. Both intend to continue writing and pursue a career in creative writing.

Swistak and Casey are good friends and enjoyed working together to create “Freeze Frame”. When they get extra time to work on their own writing again, both plan on doing a spin-off story to “Freeze Frame”.



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- opinion -



A rabbit rendition

Yesterday I walked up to one particular garden at Old Sturbridge Village and stood in amazement.

There was something off with the bed of red dahlia plants, orange cannas and a mixed color lot of rudbeckia that I had planted less than a month ago. What kind of animal would eat the rough, somewhat hairy leaves of the rudbeckia, better known as “brown-eyed Susan” almost all the way down to the ground?

The culprits ran or should I say “hopped” in front of me, just as I approached the bed. Peter and Petra Rabbit in plain sight.

If you too are plagued with rabbits, read on for a few tips straight from the archives on how to dissuade them from eating your precious plants.

I never had a problem with rabbits in my home garden until after the dog died. It would be safe to assume that “the marking of his territory” had something to do with keeping the bunnies at bay.

Outside of dog urine, there are lots of other deterrents out there that folks swear by.

One is dried blood. The smell signals danger. To be effective it must be reapplied each week as well as after it rains. You can either sprinkle a narrow band around the perimeter of the border or place containers of it in the garden.

Dried blood is a nitrogen fertilizer and is available at most garden centers. It will burn sensitive plants if applied directly on top of them, so sprinkle it a few inches away from the base. Along the same line would be ammonia sprays.

I have also heard of different home brews that you may, or may not want to whip up in your blender. One consists of garlic, hot peppers and marigold leaves – maybe this combination would work better than the other tactics already tried. These would need to be reapplied periodically, especially after it rains.

A less attractive but better option to control rabbits would be to install a wire fence. It should be at least three feet tall and dug into the ground four inches or more.

Be sure that the fence is fine enough so that the rabbit’s head won’t fit through the holes – the unfortunate rabbit that is able to fit his head may think that the rest of his body will follow suit. When it doesn’t, panic ensues, and the result is not something I would want anyone to find in his or her garden a day later.

Rabbits will eat almost anything except for prickly plants or strong smelling/tasting plants. For prickly plants think Globe Thistle (*Echinops Ritro*); blue globes bloom in early July. Sea Holly (*Eryngium maritimum*) is another similar plant.

Strong smelling/tasting plants include Bee Balm (*Monarda didyma*), Catmint (*Nepeta racemosa*), Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), Mints (*Mentha spp.*) Garlic and Onions among others. In fact, I read of one gardener having great success keeping rabbits away from her flowering plants by planting a living fence of garlic in between them.

This summer, when it came time to clip the scapes off of my garlic plants, I collected the stems and dispersed them in and amongst the broccoli. It worked for a time being, probably as long as the scapes held their stink.

Along the same lines are all natural pellets that are soaked mainly in garlic essential oil. These should be hung or planed about three feet apart to make a stinky barrier that the rabbit won’t cross to get to your plants.

I will certainly have to employ some of these tactics after I replant that garden.

You would think that the rabbits would have been happy enough with the clover in the lawn. I guess they are more “hoppy” with a varied diet.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 32 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.



A Brimfield resident reported his wife saw an Eastern towhee in their driveway.

It has been some time since I saw a towhee. I saw it hopping to get seeds on the ground under my feeder.

The towhee is eight inches long with a long tail. The male has a dark hood, beak and back with reddish brown flanks and white belly. The female is brown on top with the reddish flanks and white belly.

They hop backward, raking up leaf litter in search of insects and seeds. They eat insects, spiders, lizards, snakes and weed and grass seeds. They come to feeders for seeds on the ground.

The female lays two to six cream with brown spotted eggs in a nest of leaves, strips of bark and grasses lined with finer grasses. The female places the nest on the ground in a scratched depression under brush.

Towhees inhabit edges or open woods with shrub cover. Often towhees are heard rather than seen. The distinctive “chevink” or “chwee” call note of both sexes is a good clue to their presence. The noise from their “raking” of leaf litter is another clue they are nearby.

In the spring, the male sings and counter sings with neighboring males. He courts the female with song and by displaying with wings and tail spread. Their song is two whistles followed by a high trill like “drink your tee.”

During egg laying and incubation, the male rarely comes near the nest and the female is secretive. Both parents feed the young.

Bobolinks

An Oakham resident sent an email, he said “In 1982, after graduating with my M.S. degree from Cornell, I worked as a field assistant on a bobolink study. We assembled staging in the fields to construct elevated observation platforms. Then we needed to capture and mark all the individuals. Several mist nets were set up.”

He said, “When a bird landed near one of the nets we would rush to it and



Eastern towhee

try to scare the bird into a net, quite effective. With ‘bird-in-hand’ we needed to mark it to allow us to recognize it. So we painted the tails with different combinations of colors. Capturing the very last bird took a lot of time and effort.” He also said, “When females returned repeatedly to a particular spot, we searched there for the nests, which was very difficult, as the nests were well hidden. We could then monitor nest success.”

Bluebirds

I received an email from a woman, who also sent photos of fledgling bluebirds, in her yard. She said, “At the end of winter the mated pair shooed off their offspring and got down to nesting. We now have four fledglings visiting our mealworm feeder. They are too funny to watch, so hungry and they keep their parents very busy.” The bluebirds laid eggs for second time.

More Brimfield birds

The Brimfield resident, who sent the email about the towhee also said, “The other day I spent a couple of hours at the pond in South Street where the osprey nest is located. In addition to the osprey nest there are four great blue heron nests with at least eight chick, I can’t see the fourth nest very well but an adult is standing on the nest so I assume there are young chick there also. Young herons can’t stand for awhile so they probably wouldn’t be visible yet.”

He said he saw common grackles, chickadees and tree swallows at the pond as well phoebes, Eastern kingbirds and belted kingfishers.

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

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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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Touch-a-Truck returned to apple orchard

By Emily-Rose Pappas
Staff Writer
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NORTH BROOKFIELD – The North Brookfield, Spencer, and Brookfield Fire Departments came together over the weekend at the Brookfield Orchards to host a joint Touch-a-Truck event.

The orchard has hosted the fire departments and the Touch-a-Truck events for five years, and every year has been filled with fun opportunities for families to learn about fire safety.

This year, there was face painting with Party Time Face Paint, owned by artist Terri Sutton, cornhole, and a fun opportunity to get coloring books, hats, bracelets, and stickers from the firefighters.

Brookfield Orchards held a fundraiser for the Fireman's Relief Fund. The money specifically goes to the North Brookfield department, where they can use the money for whatever they need.

Fire Chief Darin Anderson and Chief Deputy Keith Marshal partner with the orchard's owner, Diana Nydam, and have worked to host these events for the community.

"We're all one big firefighting family," Ralph Kirouac of the North Brookfield Fire Department said.

"My favorite part about hosting these events is supporting my town and first responders, but also bringing awareness to the people that live in these towns and surrounding towns fire safety techniques," Diana Nydam said.

The Touch-a-Truck event is a community favorite, so be sure to go to it next year so that you don't miss some fun moments with friends and family.



Hannah shows off her cat face paint and Blueey dress. TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS



Remy and his dad, Lionel Touze, relax in North Brookfield's Engine 2 at the Touch-a-Truck event held at Brookfield Orchards this past weekend.



Max and Ralph Kirouac, and Lyndon Perkins stand with the basket of a ladder truck.



Julian wore his firetruck shirt and is shown with his mom, Hillary, and dad, Eryk Knutelski.



Sammy Sousa practiced his skills at putting out fires.



Murphy Swindell lined up with a ball to dunk the Fire Chief Darin Anderson while his grandma Kim Swindell stood by to help.

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- sturbridge -

Federated Church presents 2024 Koinonia Scholarships

STURBRIDGE – The Federated Church of Sturbridge & Fiskdale presented its annual Koinonia Education Awards as part of its Sunday services on June 16.

The award selection committee was comprised of Koinonia members, Nancy Castendyk, Suzie Schwartz, Barbara Stietzel and Lucette Favreau.

This year's recipients are both 2024 graduates of Tantasqua Regional High School. Alex Fairbrother, the son of Michele and Casey Fairbrother, will be studying cybersecurity at Wentworth Institute of Technology, in Boston. Mason Michael Leo, son of Kristen and Michael Leo, will be studying computer science at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, in Worcester.

In presenting the award to Mason Michael Leo, Nancy Castendyk acknowledged that Mason had applied to, and been accepted by, five colleges and universities before committing to his first choice, WPI. She said he has worked hard at Tantasqua Regional High School, while also participating in the school's performing arts program, and cited one reference as saying that Mason is "responsible, reliable, and, above all, a good person. As a leader, he has found an impressive balance of leading with humor, while always treating others with respect."

Another reference described Mason as "mature, bright, and funny. He is a charismatic young man who is sure to make you laugh while also making you think." Mason has spent his free time working in area restaurants and volunteering with the Pan Mass Challenge.

Committee member Suzie Schwartz highlighted three key organizations in Alex Fairbrother's development: the

Federated Church of Sturbridge and Fiskdale, Scouting America Troop 161, and the IT honors program at Tantasqua Regional Vocational High School. She described him as an exceptionally bright, dedicated, service-oriented leader gifted with multiple leadership skills.

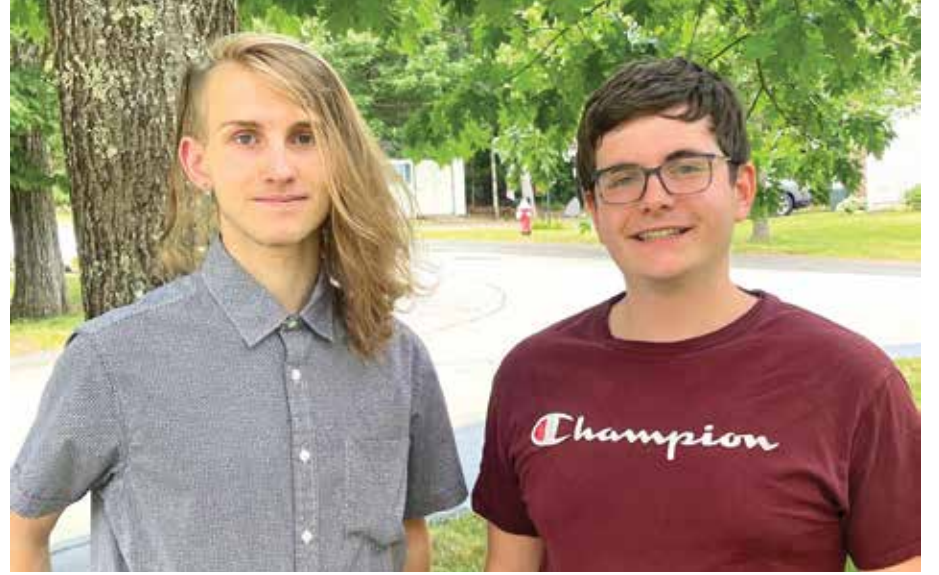
One of his references, a Scout leader, praised Alex's generosity and willingness to assist others, emphasizing his role in supporting fellow Scouts. "He is not just there for himself, he is there for others, to make them successful in whatever they are doing," he added. Another reference said Alex "has a heart of gold and cares deeply for the success of his fellow Scouts and others."

Alex's Eagle Scout project involved leading volunteers in over 150 hours of service to renovate charity collection bins at the town's recycling center. He and other members of his group also earned the Duty to God award at the Philmont Scout Ranch.

Alex recently won a gold medal and was named state champion at Skills USA for Cybersecurity and will soon be representing Massachusetts at the national competition in Atlanta, Georgia.

Koinonia, the church's women's fellowship group, makes the annual awards to candidates who best exemplify qualities of character, merit, and service. The group meets monthly and welcomes new members.

According to award selection committee member, Suzie Schwartz, "the scholarship is available to anyone, young or old, who is seeking a college degree or any kind of classes that would enhance one's knowledge and skills. We encourage anyone who might benefit from this award to apply in the future."



2024 Koinonia Education Award recipients Alex Fairbrother (left) and Mason Michael Leo (right). SUBMITTED PHOTO

Smola and Fattman announce grant for Sturbridge Trails

BOSTON – State Rep. Todd M. Smola (R-Warren, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means) and state Sen. Ryan C. Fattman (R-Sutton, Assistant Minority Leader) are pleased to announce the Town of Sturbridge Trails Committee has been awarded a significant grant for the GTT River Road Trail Extension.

As part of the 2024 Mass Trails Grant program, the project will receive \$400,000 in funding, with a local match of \$152,939. This grant will advance the extension of the trail and promote outdoor recreational activities.

The GTT River Road Trail Extension

is part of a broader effort to expand recreational opportunities and connect communities through a network of well-maintained trails. This project will provide a safe and enjoyable environment for walking, cycling, and exploring the natural beauty of Sturbridge.

"There is no doubt that the natural resources in my district are remarkable," Fattman said in a press release. "During the pandemic we saw many people explore Mass Trails who had never done so before. I'm glad to see the GTT River Road Trail Extension receive this significant grant award which will allow many more of my constituents to enjoy these outdoor spaces like my family and I do on a regular basis."

Smola stated, "This investment is a testament to the hard work and collaboration of the Sturbridge Trails Committee and members of Sturbridge leadership. This funding will improve our trail systems and ensure that they remain vibrant and accessible for future generations. I am eager to see this project come to life and grateful for the work of EEA and DCR."

The Department of Conservation and Recreation officially announced the 2024 Mass Trails Grant Awards during an event on June 21 at Blair Square along the Upper Charles Trail in Holliston. Both Fattman and Smola encourage the community to stay engaged and look forward to the trail's development.

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Quabbin Regional High School lists honor roll

BARRE – Quabbin Regional High School listed the fourth quarter honor roll for the 2023-2024 academic year.

Grade Nine, High Honors

Madeleine Boisselle, Makenzie Casey, Jack Desjean, Isabel Doty, Leah Doucette, Tess Dunphy, Brody Faucher, Grace Flamand, Anna Hautala, Violet Kelley, Audrey Laursen, Anna Metcalf, Ella Reeves and Brendan Welch.

Grade Nine, Honors

Klavdiya Antonian, Skyler Bard, Carter Bassett, Jacob Bassett, Halo Bissonnette, Emma Clark, Benjamin Darcey, Kherington Deschenes, Katelyn Durant, Quinlan Fauteux, Alijah Flint, Aiden Gow, Jacoby Hartshorn, Sadie Kennan, Sierra Lambert, Ailey Majoy, Scarlett Merriman, Mia Miville, Jesse Newton, Samantha O'Connor, Charlotte Oliver, Nahdiya Pena Leary, Julia Quintal, Camren Robertson, Emma Ryan, Kailynn Schuster, Gabriella Totas, Grace Vanoudenhove, Ellary White and Leanna Zou.

Grade 10, High Honors

Micah Cerezo, Annabella DiMartino, Kenzie Gallagher, Elizabeth Matheson and Zoe Orellana Cadenas

Grade 10, Honors

Aaron Bodine, Owen Breuer, Tricia Bruso, Troy Budreau, Addison Christiansen, Kylee Costello, Mia Ducos, Kalina Dyer, Evelyn Giese, Ava Gilman, Madeleine Hardy, Adelaide Harmon, Emma Harrington, Emma Kahlau, Jacob LaValley, Collin Lindley, Grace Manna, Hunter McQuestion,

Parker Proulx, Lindsey Ryan, Wesley Sanderson, Allison Sprinkle, Madelyn Stauder, Cameran Vega, Andrew Warfield, Bianca Wilder, Hannah Zereski and Jin Xi Zou.

Grade 11, High Honors

Ava Conlee, Matthew Erickson, James Geary, Isabel LaBelle, Ethan Salvatore, Sydney Slattery, Isabella Smith, Irene Stolgitis and Jaxon Warburton.

Grade 11, Honors

Eamon Arnold, Haley Ayer, Alexander Bedard, Kevin Boles, Kaeliana Boucher, Samantha Carlson, Kyle Clark, Teaghan Earle, Adam Faulha, Angelina Feliciano, Ellie Frost, Ruby Gatulis, Kyra Grummell, Samuel Guertin, Veronika Mendrek, Sadie Sheldon, Richard Tucker and Abigail Ure.

Grade 12, High Honors

Baylee Carcia, Kylie Casey, Grace LaValley, Ally Legare, Amy Stauder, Michael Tobin, Seth Twarog, John Waltz and Brianna Whitelaw.

Grade 12, Honors

Student in Grade 12 attaining Honors are: Alena Arnold, Hannah Baxter, Trinity Boissoneau, Sophie Borbone, Brianna Caponigro, Chloe Dennis, Erin Eldredge, Jady Gonzalez, Colin Harmon, Sophia Januszewski, Gavin Majoy, Natalia Marchand, Joshua Marcotte Jr., Kelsey Marsh, Cole Morrill, Camryn Orsini, Aubrey Raposa, Carlee Rich, Kayla Sherblom, Julianna Stanger, Heather Stuart, Eleanor Thompson and Benjamin Vasseur.

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Boy Scouts of America changing name to Scouting America

RUTLAND – The Boy Scouts of America recently announced that it will be changing its name to Scouting America.

This change reflects the organization's ongoing commitment to welcoming every youth in America to experience the benefits of Scouting. The name change to Scouting America will go into effect on Feb. 8, 2025, the organization's 115th birthday.

This announcement also comes as the organization celebrates the fifth anniversary of welcoming girls into Cub Scouting and Scouts BSA programs. Boy Scouts of America currently serves 176,234 girls and young women across all programs, including more than 6,000 who have earned Eagle Scout status.

"Though our name will be new, our mission remains unchanged: we are committed to teaching young people to be Prepared. For Life," said Mark Barbnitz, Scout Executive and chief executive officer of the Heart of New England Council in a press release. "This will be a simple but important evolution as we strive to ensure that everyone feels welcome in Scouting."

Heart of New England Council, via partnerships with 170 community organizations, serves 4,000 youth in more than 60 communities in central Massachusetts.

Scouting America builds on the organization's 114 years of helping America's youth.

Its ongoing goal is to provide young people with a safe environment where they can learn meaningful life skills and have fun, educational experiences, fostering their growth and future outcomes as leaders, and be prepared for life. At the same time, values instilled by the Scout Oath and Law help prepare young people for lives of purpose and impact.

More than 130 million Americans have been through Scouting programs since its founding in 1910, and currently, more than 1 million youth, including both men and women, are served by 477,000 dedicated adult volunteers

in local councils throughout the country.

To date, more than 2.75 million youth have earned Scouting's highest rank of Eagle Scout.

In addition to supporting the nation's youth, Scouting America will continue to be an important asset to strengthen our communities, having provided more than 7 million hours of volunteer services for community improvement and other projects across the country.

About Scouting America

Scouting America provides the nation's foremost youth program of character development and values-based leadership training, which helps young people be "Prepared. For Life.®"

Scouting America welcomes all of America's youth into its programs. Its goal is to give them fantastic experiences in the outdoors, and elsewhere, where they can grow in a safe environment.

More than 130 million Americans have been through our programs since our founding, and currently more than 1 million youth are served by 477,000 dedicated adult volunteers in local councils throughout the country. To learn more about Scouting America's mission, visit Scouting.org.

About the Heart of New England Council

Headquartered in Rutland, the Heart of New England Council is a 501(c)(3) organization that serves about 4,000 boys and girls in more than 60 communities in central Massachusetts. The council provides the nation's foremost program that teaches young people character, leadership, and citizenship through fun and exciting adventures for the entire family.

They foster a culture of diversity and inclusion that makes it enriching to participate, volunteer and work in the Scouting program. Visit www.hnebsa.org for more information.

To find a Scouting unit in your local community, visit BeAScout.org.

Junior Achievement's 18 Under 18 Class of 2024 announced

SPRINGFIELD – On May 16, Junior Achievement of Western Massachusetts honored its 18 Under 18 Class of 2024, sponsored by Teddy Bear Pools and Spas, at Tower Square in Springfield.

The event, which was also sponsored by The UPS Store and Holyoke Community College, provided the opportunity to spotlight outstanding young people throughout western Massachusetts and surrounding areas who exemplify innovative spirit, leadership and community involvement.

The program included poster board displays by the students; remarks by Ted Hebert, owner, Teddy Bear Pools and Spas; Tracey Alves-Lear, JA of Western MA Board Chair; Brooke Sokoloff-Adams, director of student development, Holyoke Community College; and individual student recognition.

"This is our third year honoring students in this special way, and we were pleased with the outstanding caliber of the nominations we received," said Amie Miarecki, president, JAWM in a press release. "We feel so inspired by the amazing young people in our community, and are delighted to highlight the impact they are making. We hope the whole community joins us in applauding them for their achievements and community contributions."

The following students comprise the 18 Under 18 Class of 2024:

Haileigh Swistak, Grade 12, Quaboag Regional Middle High School. Swistak will be attending Wheaton College in the fall. She plans on majoring in creative writing and possibly minoring in theater. For the past two years, she has been stage director for Quaboag's Theater Program, and has self-published two poetry collections: "Raindrops in April" and "Roses in May".

Jordan Wetherell, Grade 11, Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School. As a dedicated business technology student, Wetherell has honed her skills in marketing, management, entrepreneurship, and customer service, all while pursuing a Microsoft certification. She also man-

ages the school store, serves as a Peer Tutor, assists at the Palmer Public Library and volunteers at her dojang's taekwondo summer camp.

Lila Broadley, Grade 11, Quaboag Regional Middle High School. Broadley is a member of the Lucy Stone Chapter of the National Honor Society, a member of the Women in Business Club, president of the Environmental Club and plans to start a student-led school newspaper next fall. Last summer, she interned for the Worcester County District Attorney's Office and represented her school at the Massachusetts State House in Boston for the 77th annual Student Government Day. She plans to attend law school and practice either business or environmental law.

Nominations for 18 Under 18 were open to anyone 18 years or younger who attends school in Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin or Berkshire counties, as well as the Quaboag and Tantasqua regional school districts and the state of Vermont. Judging criteria were divided into three categories: innovative spirit, leadership and community involvement.

About JAWM

Junior Achievement is the world's largest organization dedicated to giving young people the knowledge and skills they need to own their economic success, plan for their future, and make smart academic and economic choices.

JA learning experiences are delivered by corporate and community volunteers and provide relevant, hands-on experiences that give students from kindergarten through age 25 knowledge and skills in financial literacy, work readiness, and entrepreneurship.

JA was founded in Springfield in 1919, making Junior Achievement of Western Massachusetts the organization's first chapter. Today, it serves thousands of young people in Western Massachusetts and parts of Worcester County and Vermont participate in JAWM learning experiences annually.

For more information, visit jawm.org.



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Art sale to commemorate late artist Andre Juarez

WARE – There will be “Farewell Art Sale” of well-known artist, poet and arts organizer Andre Juarez’s numerous paintings at the ArtWorks Gallery (www.workshop13.org), 69 Main St. on Saturday, June 29, from 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

The event is free and open to the public. All proceeds will directly benefit Juarez’s family.

Juarez, of Ashiwee and Yeomen First Nations (Zuni and Yaqui) descent and founder of the Worcester artists cooperative, Noh Place, was a lifelong practicing poet, musician, and artist, whose recent art exhibitions included the MAP Gallery in Easthampton and the exhibi-

tion space at Jacob Edwards Library in Southbridge.

Juarez had recently published a book of his poetry, “A Year of Questions”, with Lost Valley Press (www.lostvalley-press.com) of Hardwick, and his final public reading was at the Merriam Gilbert Public Library in West Brookfield only one month before he died. Books will also be available on the day of the sale.

For more information, please contact Stephen Campiglio at sacampiglio@gmail.com or Jonathan Blake at jblake1@worcester.edu.

Registration/sponsorship open for golf tournament

OAKHAM – Knights of Columbus Council # 11080, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish, Brookfield/West Brookfield/Warren Massachusetts, is having its 7th Annual Alex Cordy Memorial Charity Golf Tournament at Quail Hollow Golf and Country Club, 1822 Old Turnpike Road, on Sunday, Aug. 25.

Registration begins at 7:15 am, with a Shotgun Start at 8 a.m.

As many of you are aware, Alex was an integral part of the West Brookfield community for many years. In memory of his outstanding service to his community, his parish, and being a founding member of our Knights of Columbus Council 11080, this tournament will once again benefit the Youth Activities Fund to support the youth in the local

community, a cause that was very important to Alex.

The Knights were able to award two \$1,000 scholarships this past year from the proceeds of this event to two local high school seniors, as well as fund many other youth activities.

They ask that you please consider supporting this event by sponsoring or participating in the tournament individually or with a foursome. Tournament Raffle Items and General Donations to this event are always welcomed and appreciated!

Registration and sponsorships are now available for this tournament. To register, and for more information, please call 413-813-8100 or email wallyconnor122@gmail.com.

East Brookfield summer concert series starts July 11

EAST BROOKFIELD – The East Brookfield Summer Concert Series will be held on Thursday evenings starting at 6 p.m. at Connie Mack Field.

The first concert of the series will be held on Thursday, July 11 with Local Talent Night. Other concerts include July 18, The Otters; July 25, LeBeau Family Band; Aug. 1, Island Castaways;

and Aug. 8, Fab Beatles Tribute Band.

Food and drinks will be available to purchase at all concerts.

This year’s series is made possible by the East Brookfield Cultural Council, Howe Lumber, Audette’s Towing, Lamoureux Ford and Lamothe and Associates.

Concerts on the Common held Wednesday evenings

WEST BROOKFIELD – The Friends of the Bandstand will hold Concerts on the Common on Wednesday evenings from 7-9 p.m.

Upcoming concerts include July 10, Dan Gabel and the Abletones; July 17, David Keith & The Coalition; July 14, The Crop Dusters; July 31, The Delo-

reans; Aug. 7, The Midnight Riders; and Aug. 14, Trigger South.

Gold sponsor for this year’s concert season is Country Bank. Silver sponsors are North Brookfield Savings Bank, Bell & Hudson Insurance Agency, Quirk Wire Co., Sherman Oil and Bonin’s Wood Products & Landscape Supply.



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- community -

BIKE RIDE | FROM PAGE 1

there's several nice cycling events in the area. Two of the ones I really enjoy have been fundraisers for land trusts," Hogan said.

Hogan has been cycling as his primary form of exercise for about 10 years, joining his friends and fellow cyclists The Pumpkin Heads for rides around the region every Sunday. Many of The Pumpkin Heads signed up for the ride, ready to take on the 25-mile course.

The Pumpkin Heads hailed from Belchertown, Palmer, South Hadley, East Longmeadow and even Florida.

One of The Pumpkin Heads, so named because of his bright orange helmet, is Belchertown resident (and former North Brookfield Public Schools teacher) Lloyd Ortman. Hogan said Ortman was very instrumental in building this event and mapping out the courses using an app.

"Lloyd was essentially the brains of the project. I know these roads well, but Lloyd knows how to do apps...It worked fantastically," Hogan said.

Ortman was one of two tandem bike teams that participated in the Hills of East Quabbin Ride, partnered with his wife, Melinda Rigney.

"John and I designed the course, with Melinda's help," Ortman said.

The biggest challenge on both courses, Hogan said, is the degree of climbing, which he said is reflective of this area.

"Both really had respectable elevation for those distances...this area is just loaded with gorgeous back roads most of which are in really good shape and do not have a lot of traffic."

These two things combined make the roads of the East Quabbin region especially appealing to cyclists.

"You just get a chance to put your head up and breathe the air and look around," Hogan said.

Ortman and Rigney are now on their third tandem bike, and they have traveled roads near and far for adventures, including Sicily, France, Netherlands, Majorca and more.

"It's the most fun you'll ever have on a bicycle," Rigney said of the tandem.

Rigney said at first, she was opposed to riding on the tandem but now it has been a bonding experience for her and her husband.

Another cycling club, the Seven Hills Wheelmen, also had a strong showing, including member and past president, Bill Dobson of Spencer. Dobson has been a member of the club for 25 years.

Dobson, a regular customer at Farmer Matt's, said he rides for six hours a week and also enjoys mountain biking.

Dobson said he "blames the bikes" for helping him overcome the side effects of his cancer treatment following his diagnosis two years ago. He is now cancer-free and enjoying the challenge the hills of East Quabbin and Worcester give him every time his tires meet pavement.

"It's been great," Dobson said of the ride. "This is the time of year you want to do this."

Matt Koziol of Farmer Matt co-hosted the ride on his farm located at 860 West Brookfield Road, offering barbecue food options while Lost Towns Brewing brought cool, refreshing brews. Live music was provided by Serena Mae of Mama Kilsmith and Andrew Paulin.

"I'm an avid supporter of the East Quabbin Land Trust," Koziol said, adding that one of its kestrel nesting boxes is located on his farm.

Koziol said he saw a lot of his regular customers as well as new faces at the ride.

Hogan said the feedback he received following the event from cyclists was overwhelmingly positive.

"The feedback was good, and people were happy. We were lucky, too, the weather was decent. Considering how the weather was a couple of days before," he said.

Hogan and others are already looking forward to next year's event after the success of Saturday's ride.

"It was really just the idea to do something that I think would be nice locally for an annual event," Hogan said. "It's a win-win. Helping the land trust is something I feel strongly about... it's just what I had hoped it would be."



Bikers leave Farmer Matt's on Saturday morning for the Hills of East Quabbin Ride. TURLEY PHOTOS BY PAULA QUIMETTE



A biker takes off on the 50-mile course.



Bill Dobson of Spencer takes a moment to pose with Farmer Matt's Matt Koziol before heading out on the 25-mile course.



Bikers wave as they make their way to the start.



Patrick Brandon of Killingworth, Connecticut sets out on the 50-mile course.



Lloyd Ortman and Melinda Rigney of Belchertown rode their tandem bike on the 25-mile course.



SPORTS

Panthers begin summer basketball season

AUBURN – Over the past several years, Quabbin Regional High School basketball has worked to be competitive by doing an extensive amount of work during the summer and fall seasons with recreational

leagues.

One of those is the Auburn High School summer league, which was scheduled to kick off action earlier this week.

The Panthers have been **See PANTHERS | PAGE 13**



Quabbin boys basketball has participated in the Auburn Summer League the past few years. FILE PHOTOS



Auburn High School is the host site for all the games.



The team has had pretty good success and uses the league to prepare for the winter.

Post 241 falls to Belchertown

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

PALMER—The first four innings of last Monday’s Senior Division Legion baseball game between Belchertown Post 239 and Monson Post 241 was very close.

Belchertown scored four runs in the fifth inning enroute to a 6-3 victory at Legion Field in Palmer.

“I’m very proud of the way my players played against a very good Monson team,” said Belchertown manager Todd McDonald. “We had a little bit of trouble against their starting pitcher early in the game, but we were able to get the job done.”

The come-from-behind victory improved Belchertown’s early season record to a perfect 3-0.

A year ago, the Post 239 squad represented District 3 in the Senior Division Legion state tournament.

Monson (1-1) began the legion season with a walk-off victory against North Adams Post 12 a week earlier.

“We just made a couple of costly errors, which you couldn’t afford to do, especially against the district champions,” said Monson manager Steve Tripp. “We’re capable of beat-



Hunter Griswold makes a play to his left. TURLEY PHOTO BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

ing any team in this league if we don’t make very many mistakes.”

The winning pitcher in the only meeting of the regular season between the two squads was lefthander Brady Perkins, who graduated from Belchertown High School in 2023.

Perkins allowed three runs

on three base hits with four walks and two strikeouts. He threw a total of 52 pitches during the first four innings.

This past spring, Perkins won two games as a freshman member of the Framingham State University baseball team.

Belchertown righthander

See POST 241 | PAGE 12

Sturbridge Little League holds division championship

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

STURBRIDGE— In game one of the Sturbridge Little League Major Division championship series, the top-seeded Red Sox held a three run lead against the second-seeded Yankees entering the sixth inning.

The Yankees, who had lost to the Red Sox four times during the regular season, scored a total of seven runs in their final at-bats. The Red Sox battled back in the bottom half of the sixth inning, but the Yankees managed to escape with an exciting 9-8 victory at Town Barn Field, last Tuesday night.

“The Red Sox are a great baseball team and they beat us four times during the regular season,” said Yankees manager Sean Bucenec. “My players worked very hard in tonight’s game, and this is a very good win for them. This is my first year coaching this baseball team and it has been a ton of fun.”

The Yankees wound up capturing the 2024 Major Division championship title with a 3-1 victory in game two of the best of three series twenty four hours later.

The players listed on the

Yankees roster are Sam Gilbert, Lukas Guzman, Lucas Bucenec, Lucas Ferguson, Max O’Malley, Jaxson Farraher, Nick Abramo, Carter Bucenec, Zephirin Mondor, Jacob Reed, Nick Abair, and David McGuill.

The members of the Red Sox are Aiden Wawizkiewicz, Hunter Ryan, Jayce Ryan, Jack French, Owen George, Austin Carter, Andrew Choquet, James Tripp, Michael Martin, Quinn Sorenson, Bradley Carter, Jase Hunter, and Ethyn Johnson.

“We played well for five innings, but we just rattled a little bit in the final inning,” said Red Sox manager Sarah Ryan. “We made a couple of costly mistakes. This is only our second loss of the season, but we did battle back in our final at-bats. It was a great game.”

The Yankees only had two base hits against Hunter Ryan during the first five innings of game one.

The sixth inning Yankees rally began with a lead off walk by Abair and Gilbert followed with a double to left field which put two runners in scoring position. Guzman, who also had a run scoring triple in the fourth, drove home both base runners

See LEAGUE | PAGE 13

- sports -

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Turleysports

Athlete of the Month

NAME: Erin McGrath
SCHOOL: Quaboag

In Quaboag girls tennis' state playoff win earlier this month, McGrath picked up a win in second singles.

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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Bonsignore wins Mohegan Sun 100

LOUDON, N.H. – Justin Bonsignore had a busy Saturday at New Hampshire Motor Speedway - one that ended with his 42nd career NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour victory - and a strong performance in his NASCAR Xfinity Series debut with Joe Gibbs Racing.

Bonsignore started the day early - as the Whelen Modified Tour hit the track for the Mohegan Sun 100 at 10 a.m. Bonsignore ran inside the top-three for the duration of the race after rolling off on the front row for the 100-lap event. In the final laps, he battled with his cousin, Kyle Bonsignore, for the win. Justin kept control of the race for the final restart, then drove away from Kyle on the backstretch and back to the start-finish line to rocket to Victory Lane.

The Whelen Modified Tour win was Justin's second of the season through seven events, and tied Ted Christopher for third all-time on the series wins list. Bonsignore now sits behind Reggie Ruggiero (44) and Mike Stefanik (74) on the wins list.

"We have 16 awesome races in a year, but this is our Daytona 500," Justin said. "Everyone wants to win this race. There's so much that goes into putting yourself in position and having a good car. It's mentally tough to control and understand what you need to do in these late restarts."

Bonsignore pulled within two points of leader Ron Silk in the championship standings as the series heads for the halfway point of the season in the next race, set for July 20 at Monadnock Speedway.

After the Whelen Modified Tour win, Bonsignore moved to his NASCAR Xfinity Series debut with Joe Gibbs Racing, competing in the SciAps 200. Driving the M3 Technology, USNE No. 19 Toyota GR Supra, Bonsignore started 25th in the field after qualifying

was canceled on Friday due to rain. In the early part of the race, Bonsignore pitted and stayed out at the end of the first stage, taking the lead of the race. From there, he ran in the top-five for a large portion of the day.

After a late caution, contact in turn one sent Bonsignore spinning, pushing him to a finish of 23rd in his debut. However, the result didn't show the day the New York native had on NASCAR's National Series stage.

"You really couldn't have asked for a better day with Joe Gibbs Racing," Bonsignore said. "Our crew chief played some great strategy to get us up there. I was still learning even right to the end of the race. I was getting better and better all day long and we had a really good car. I can't thank M3 Technology, USNE and everyone else who made this possible enough for the opportunity."

\$12.50 Each



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POST 241 | FROM PAGE 1

Alex West, who attends Hopkins Academy, took over on the mound in the bottom of the fifth inning. He only allowed just one base hit over the final three frames.

Righty James Delaney was the Monson starting pitcher.

Delaney lives in Palmer, but he graduated from Belchertown High School a year ago where he was a member of the Orioles varsity hockey team.

"James asked me if he could be the starting pitcher in tonight's game," Tripp said. "He was an outstanding hockey player at Belchertown High School, but he didn't make their baseball team. In my opinion, he got a raw deal."

Delaney also played hockey at Phillips Academy (Andover) this past winter.

He allowed six runs (four earned) on five hits with three walks and three strikeouts.

After scoring two unearned runs during the first three innings, Belchertown put-together a rally in the fifth.

Derek Gould, who was a senior on the Orioles varsity baseball team this past spring and was selected as an Academic All-American by the High School Baseball Coaches Association, drew a leadoff walk.

His younger brother, Ryan followed with a bunt hit and Pat Fitzgibbons also walked which loaded the bases.

At that point, Delaney was relieved by righty Nate Kaczuwka, who was a pitcher on the Ware var-

sity baseball team.

Another walk by Beau Elson (Hopkins) forced home the tying run.

Then Ryan Gould scored on a wild pitch giving the visiting team a 4-3 lead.

Two more runs crossed the plate when Chace Earle (2-for-4) doubled to right center with one out.

West retired six of the final seven Monson batters that he faced.

Belchertown took a 1-0 lead in the top of the first inning.

With two-outs, Fitzgibbons was safe at first base following a throwing error by the Monson third baseman. Fitzgibbons came home when Elson blasted a triple to right field.

Belchertown didn't keep the lead for very long.

Monson took a 2-1 lead in the bottom of the first when Dylan Sutkaitis(2-for-2) blasted a two run double to the gap in right center. Sutkaitis is one of the five players from Ware High School listed on the Monson legion roster. He's planning to play baseball at Anna Maria College in Paxton next year.

After Belchertown tied the score with another unearned run in the third inning, Monson answered right back in the bottom half of frame.

Jason Mumper, who's another Ware varsity baseball player, broke the tie with an RBI single to right field.

Monson held onto the one run lead until the fifth inning.



John Mumper slings a throw over to first.



Brayden Mega swings and connects. TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEET-DOGPHOTOS.COM



James Delaney pitches for Monson Post 241



Austin Meacham slides into second base.

- community -

Blue Sox get big win over North Adams

HOLYOKE - Sunday was a statement game for the Valley Blue Sox against the North Adams Steeplecats.

Scoring in the first inning off a double hit by Chris Jans, the Blue Sox never trailed in this game.

However, the Steeplecats did not give up whatsoever.

With the Blue Sox holding onto that 1-0 lead, both teams were in a stalemate going into the fifth inning. Pitcher Jax Traegar took early care of the Steeplecat offense in the top of the inning, to give the bats back to the Blue Sox. It was just the momentum needed to deliver a shot to blow the game wide open.

The Blue Sox did just that, starting with Jonathon Hogart's RBI single bringing Chris Jans home and Michael O'Connor following it up with a highlight, two run home run. When it was all said and done, the Blue Sox scored five total runs to extend their lead to 6-0.

The Steeplecats scored two runs over the last three innings, but the deficit was simply too large to overcome. The most intriguing aspect of this game was that both teams had eight total hits, yet the Blue Sox took advantage of far more to win the game.

In a game where early on it was clear hitting and scoring was going to be a deciding factor for the victor, the Blue Sox came together as a team to deliver just that. Throughout this season, it has been discussed that hitting was a "work in progress" for the Blue Sox, and that they leaned on their pitching for many of their wins. However, tonight they proved that when needed their hitting was also reliable. It's a major stepping stone for the Blue Sox offense, and it helps them advance to a 2-0 season record over the Steeplecats and 8-5 overall.



Most of the boys games are held on Mondays and Wednesdays. Quabbin girls basketball is not taking part in the league this year. FILE PHOTO

Registration now open for Owl tournament

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

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

Registration is open at www.westfieldalumni.org/OwlGolf

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

"It's a great chance for us to introduce Lou to some of our most loyal alumni, and the folks that support Westfield State athletics," said Westfield State director of athletics Richard Lenfest, Jr. "It's great that Lou has ties here in the local area, and I think that everyone will look forward to hearing his approach to Westfield State football."

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

The Owl Club Golf Tournament includes 18 holes with cart in a scramble format, a cookout style lunch before the round, and a buffet dinner following. Raffles, on course contests, and a player's oasis on the course helps to ensure an enjoyable round for golfers of all levels.

The event has been popular with alumni, parents, friends and fans, and has sold out for the last 15 events. Westfield Bank will serve as the lead sponsor for the event.

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

"It's always a great day to see a lot of old friends and classmates, and some of the sponsors that really help to support the accomplishments of our talented student-athletes," added Lenfest. "The golf is fun, but the proceeds help to put our Smith Cup-winning programs in position to be as competitive as possible on the field and in the classroom."

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

PANTHERS | FROM PAGE 11

fielding a team in the recent years and has seen moderate success facing familiar players from schools in the area. Auburn hosts all the games. The boys games typically play on Mondays and Wednesdays while girls games play on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Unfortunately, the girls basketball team has not sent an entry to Auburn last year and they are not on this year's schedule, either.

The boys had two games scheduled this week, and return to action following the Fourth of July holiday on July 8 against Montachusett Tech with a July 10 matchup against Northbridge.

The Panthers are also scheduled to face Leicester, Millbury, Nipmuc, Oxford, Whitinsville Christian, and Quaboag. It is an eight-game slate and this year's boys division is stacked with participants. More than 20 teams are taking part in the league this year.

Quabbin League wants to fill remaining roster spots

Rosters spots are dwindling, but there are still some spots available as the Quabbin Valley Over-28 Baseball has begun its season. There are still several open spots to get filled despite the season being underway.

While the fee for the full season is \$190, the league will prorate the fee as the season goes on. Teams are still looking to fill their last couple of roster spots and plenty of season remains.

Registration for the 2024 season is now open and any interested players can go to www.quabbinvalley-baseball.org to get registered, or to seek more information or make inquiries about the league.

The league plays most Sunday from late April through late August with playoffs following that. The league plays a 15-game schedule and typically fields six

teams each year. Games are usually played at 10 a.m. with fields in Easthampton and South Hadley used as well some expansion to the surrounding area this season. The league does not play on Mother's Day or Memorial Day weekends.

The Quabbin Valley league is an all-abilities league and all are welcome to join. Eligibility is players who are age 28 and over. You must be 30 to be eligible to pitch in the league. Your age for eligibility is whatever age you will turn in 2024. The league is also able to entertaining taking in an entire group as a team to add to the league. Please email the league board for to inquire about entering a team. The league can also pro-rate registration at this point. Simply contact a league board member. Contact information is located at the registration link.

LEAGUE | FROM PAGE 11

with a single up the middle into center field.

After George replaced Ryan on the mound, Guzman scored the tying run on a wild pitch. A couple of batters later, Farragher hit into a fielder's choice play scoring another run, which gave the Yankees the lead for the first time at 6-5. Two more runs crossed the plate following back-to-back infield singles by Carter Bucenec, and Mondor. Another walk by Abair with the bases loaded increased the Yankees lead to 9-5 before the inning finally came to end with a flyball out.

"We were very patient at the plate in the final inning," said Sean Bucenec, who grew up as a New York Yankees fan in New Jersey. "We had a couple of huge hits in that inning. We just need to win one more game now."

The Red Sox didn't go down quietly in their final at-bats.

With one-out, Hunter Ryan blasted a double to left field scoring Johnson, who drew a leadoff walk. Ryan scored on a wild pitch closing the gap to 9-7. Jayce Ryan continued the Red Sox rally with a walk and he also scored on a wild pitch.

Ferguson, who took over on the mound at the start of the sixth inning, ended the drama by striking out the next two batters.

The Red Sox took a 3-0 lead in the first inning

against Lucas Bucenec, who only pitched three innings. French and Carter had RBI singles, while Jayce Ryan scored the other run on a passed ball.

The Red Sox took a 4-0 lead two innings later when Hunter Ryan, who lined a single to left, scored on a wild pitch.

The Ryan's are twins, and they were also battery-mates.

The Yankees, who only had one hit against Hunter Ryan during the first three innings, cut the deficit in half in the top of the fourth inning.

The Red Sox put another run on the scoreboard in the bottom half of the frame giving them a 5-2 advantage.

The three run lead wasn't good enough, as the Yankees battled back in their final at-bats.

The highlight of game two was the outstanding pitching performance by Farragher. He allowed only two hits and recorded eight strikeouts in his complete-game masterpiece. He also had an RBI. O'Malley drove home the other two of the Yankees runs with a double.

The Red Sox run was driven home by Jase Hunter, who hit a triple.

Several of the players on both teams will be teammates on Sturbridge's District 5 Major Division All-Star team. That tournament is scheduled to begin this week.

Follow Turley Sports on Instagram

Turley Publications sports department has recently joined Instagram. You can find our account by searching "turleysports." We will regularly feature samples of photos that you will see in our publications on a weekly basis. Please follow and share with your friends and loved ones. We will be featuring photos from all 11 of our sports sections, but as always, you can see all the photos that appear by subscribing to your local paper or picking up a copy in your community.

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- public safety -

New Braintree Police Log

During the week of June 10-17, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 12 building/property checks, 28 directed/area patrols, eight radar assignments, three emergency 911 calls, two citizen assists, one scam, one fraud, two complaints, one brush fire, one motor vehicle investigation, one motor vehicle accident, one animal call and four motor vehicle stops in the town of New Braintree.

Monday, June 10

10:14 a.m. Scam, Oakham Road, Investigated
5:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Utley Road, Spoken To

Wednesday, June 12

2:50 p.m. Fraud, West Brookfield Road, Officer Handled

Thursday, June 13

3:01 p.m. Fire/Brush, Prouty Road, Negative Contact

5:29 p.m. Complaint, West Brookfield Road, Officer Handled
6:36 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Gilbertville Road, Investigated
11:37 p.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Accident, Hardwick Road, Vehicle Towed

Friday, June 14

3:37 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Barr Road, Transported to Hospital

Saturday, June 15

10:13 a.m. 911 Gunshots, Padre Road, Officer Handled
6:23 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

Sunday, June 16

11:59 a.m. Assist Citizen, McKay Road, Officer Handled

Monday, June 17

7:51 a.m. Alarm, Tucker Road, Investigated

FIRST | FROM PAGE 1

of Public Works in Enfield, Connecticut.

He graduated from the Boston University School of Law and has a master's degree from the Isenburg School of Management at UMass Amherst.

A lifelong Ludlow resident, Szlosek said he and his family are eager to meet people in the community.

"We all look forward to meeting you," he said.

The board approved the transfer of \$3,448.20 from the Treasurer's Group Health account to the Town Administrator's salary to cover the first two weeks of that new position.

Annual town report dedication

Petratis said this year there are two dedications in the annual town report; one to retired Fire Chief Joseph Holway and the other to Lt. Col. James J. Foyle.

Holway has lived in town most of his life and has been a prominent fixture

in all aspects of public safety, including police, fire and EMS. He began as a part-time patrolman in 1978 and also joined the ladder company in 1979.

Holway climbed through the ranks and was appointed Fire Chief in 2017, serving until he reached the state's age of retirement in 2023. He is also a rescue diver and EMT.

He was key in the design and construction of a new fire station, and also helped secure numerous grants to improve the town's public safety. Holway continues to act as a consultant for the fire station upgrades.

"Joe's always given his all for the safety and wellbeing of the residents of our community," Petratis read from the dedication.

Foyle, a U.S. Marine veteran, moved here in the 1970s with his family and has been an active member of St. Joseph's Church. He was elected to serve on the Board of Selectmen in 2005.

He served as ex officio on the Master Plan Committee, Town House Building

Committee and the Downtown Development Committee.

Foyle took over the organization of the town's Memorial Day festivities in 2012 until 2023.

"He continues to support charities and organizations that reflect his faith and his belief in the inalienable right to life," Petratis read.

Electrical aggregation

Representatives from Colonial Power Group, Mark Cappadona and Denise Allard, continued discussion on the town's electrical aggregation program. Allard presented pricing from the four suppliers that are currently offering aggregation in the commonwealth.

Residents will automatically be enrolled in the electrical aggregation program, but will have the ability to opt out at any time. The program is expected to start in October. Electricity users are expected to save about \$12-15 a month.

The electrical aggregation program offers two "greener" renewable energy options, which residents can customize to meet their needs.

Cappadona said the 24-month term has an estimated rate of 00.13644 per kilowatt hour and the 36-month rate is 00.13652 per kwh. These rates can change by the time the board signs the contract.

"It's about 60 cents difference per month," he said, between the two term rates.

Cappadona said the process of selecting the electrical supplier is similar to the town going out to bid for fuel.

The board will make its decision about the energy options at its July 9 meeting.

Fire Station update

Captain Eric Hevy updated the board on the four bids that came in for the Fire Station project. He said W.J. Mountford Co. of Windsor, Connecticut had a base bid of \$4,370,000, as well as three alternates that included mini piles in the old Highway building, an emergency shower at the old Huck's building, and renovating the upstairs kitchen at the Fire House, respectively.

"As of right now, W.J. Mountford is the low bidder for the base bid," he said. "We then looked at all the alternates and they also came in as the low bidder including the alternates at \$4,704,000."

The second bid came from Construction Dynamics Inc. of Clinton with a base bid of \$4,839,000; the third bid was from City Enterprise Inc. of Springfield with a base bid of \$4,930,566; and the fourth bid from D.A. Sullivan & Sons, Inc. of Northampton with a base bid of \$5,197,000

Eric said the committee recommends awarding the bid to W.J. Mountford Co.

"Everything came within the budget," he said. "We're looking forward to moving forward and getting some updates done in those three buildings. I think it was a good process that we went through, based on the times and the market."

A newly construction fire station was estimated to cost around \$12 million, which would have provided less room than the current project, which includes

the renovation of three buildings to benefit both the Fire and Highway departments.

Holway said a lot of area fire departments are now considering rehabilitating existing buildings rather than constructing new buildings due to the elevated costs.

Reserve fund requests

The board approved a request from the Haston Free Public Library to transfer \$2,000 from the Reserve Fund to the library's Heat Account to cover electrical expenses. Petratis said the cost of electricity was more than the budget allowed.

The board also approved a request from the Council on Aging to transfer \$1,498.76 from the Reserve Fund to the Purchase of Services account with is in deficit, due to the higher than expected cost of utilities.

ARPA discussion

The board approved the American Rescue Plan Act Committee's recommendation to rescind unspent remaining funds allocated to the Sewer Department for the purpose of main line scoping, and to reallocate those funds (about \$40,000) to replace a failing Bigelow Street pump.

Senior Center report

Senior Center Director, Courtenay Rivera, submitted her monthly report to the board, highlighting programs and activities.

Seniors enjoyed a Memorial Day cookout, and the next lunch special will be a luau on Friday, Aug. 23. Art classes will be moved to Mondays to help balance weekly activities.

A new television will be purchased by the Friends of the North Brookfield Senior Center and installed soon.

Rivera said there has been an increase in attendees to the Senior Center, and bread distribution days has seen very high attendance. She is looking into supplementing the program by using some funds from the center's food account to purchase food, due to a decrease in the amount of food received for distribution.

Rivera said seniors enjoyed a trip to New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill on June 21. The cost of transportation was paid for by a donation.

Appointment

Rivera said the Council on Aging voted to appoint Darlene Foster to the position of Program and Outreach Assistant. Foster is a longtime resident, and she has been volunteering at the center for the past couple of months.

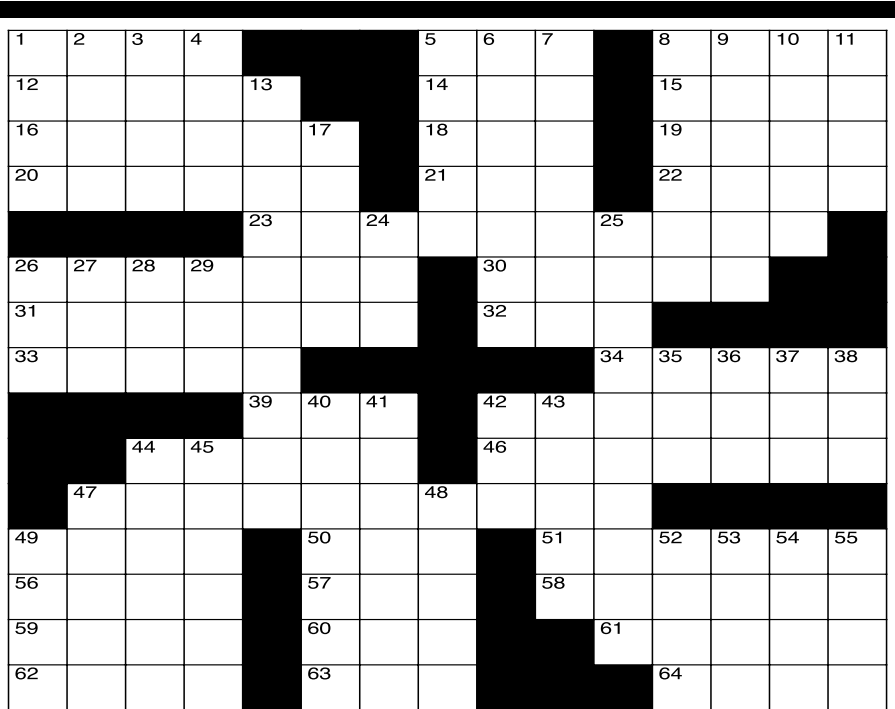
"Darlene has been a key volunteer down at the center...I think she'll be an excellent, excellent team player," Rivera said. "I'm really excited to have her."

Liaison to the COA

Board of Selectmen Vice-Chair Elizabeth "Brooke" Canada was selected to serve as the board's ex officio liaison to the Council on Aging.

Ambulance services contract

The board approved the contract for ambulance services. Holway said the contract is the same as it has been, including a \$20,000 increase to keep the agency stable.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Volunteer school groups
- 5. Cash machine
- 8. Title of various Muslim rulers
- 12. Indian hand clash cymbals
- 14. Scarf
- 15. Easily manageable
- 16. Cry
- 18. Financial term
- 19. Reactive structure in organic chemistry (abbr.)
- 20. Clean out a riverbed
- 21. Seaport (abbr.)
- 22. English seascape painter
- 23. Bring back again
- 26. Subtracted from
- 30. Related on the mother's side
- 31. Mooches
- 32. Commotion
- 33. Boer War general
- 34. Silklike nylon fabric

- 39. CNN's founder
- 42. Sarcastic in a bitter way
- 44. Minute reproductive unit
- 46. Nourishment
- 47. Large predatory tropical fish
- 49. Small, rich sponge cake
- 50. Drink a small amount
- 51. Golfer Rodriguez
- 56. Norse personification of old age
- 57. Large flightless bird
- 58. Capsized
- 59. Convicted American spy
- 60. Music genre
- 61. Makes tractors
- 62. Undergo cell disintegration
- 63. Patti Hearst's captors
- 64. Selfs

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Post-traumatic stress disorder
- 2. Goat-like mammal
- 3. Swiss river
- 4. Slithered
- 5. Humiliate
- 6. Tumbled
- 7. Popular alcoholic drink
- 8. Small round hole in a leather cloth
- 9. Fertilizer
- 10. State of affairs that seems deliberately contrary
- 11. Count on
- 13. One who discriminates against
- 17. New Hampshire city
- 24. One who cares for teeth
- 25. Sent off
- 26. Mutual savings bank
- 27. Initial public offering

- 28. Denial
- 29. Northeastern institution of higher learning (abbr.)
- 35. A doctrine
- 36. Consumed
- 37. Trent Reznor's band
- 38. Perform in a movie
- 40. Schoolhouse implements
- 41. Mathematical term
- 42. Man who behaves dishonorably
- 43. Expression of regret
- 44. Martens
- 45. Approval
- 47. Pleasantly warm
- 48. The Eurasian hoopoe
- 49. NBAer Bradley
- 52. Engineering organization
- 53. Horsefly
- 54. Type of sandwich
- 55. A day in the middle of the month

- community -

Irina Jackson graduates from Willie Ross School for the Deaf

LONGMEADOW – Two students graduated from Willie Ross School for the Deaf at this year’s commencement held on June 7 in the Furcolo Student Center at the school’s Longmeadow campus, 32 Norway St.

The two graduates are Irina Jackson, of Quaboag, and Eliel Vazquez Martinez of Springfield WRSD leadership, graduates and their families were all present at the ceremony.

The Willie Ross School for the Deaf provides a comprehensive educational program stressing academic excellence that focuses on the development of students’ intellectual, social, and emotional growth from the early childhood level through high school.

Willie Ross serves students at its main campus in Longmeadow and at its partnership campus located in the East



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Longmeadow Public Schools. Mainstreaming opportunities are provided at the partnership campus.

East Brookfield celebrates Independence Day on July 8

EAST BROOKFIELD – The town will celebrate Independence Day on Saturday, July 8, starting with a pancake breakfast at the East Brookfield Baptist Church from 9-11 a.m.

The celebration will continue at Connie Mack Field from 11 a.m.-10 p.m., with crafters and vendors and food trucks. Free kids activities will be offered from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

A kids wheel parade will begin at 11:15 a.m. with lineup at 11 a.m. The main parade will begin at noon with lineup at 11 a.m.

A Battle of the Bands will be held from 1-4 p.m. and Heartland Radio will perform from 7-9 p.m. Fireworks will begin at 9 p.m. and admission is \$2 per person (starting at 5 p.m.).

Brookfield Unitarian Universalist Church hosts clothing drive

BROOKFIELD – The Committee for Ecology and Social Action of the Brookfield Unitarian Universalist Church is sponsoring our second clothing and textile drive through Helpsy, the largest clothing collector in the Northeast.

Textile waste is a fast-growing problem and occupies nearly 5% of all landfill space, but 95% of unwanted clothing can be reused, repurposed, or recycled. Only 15% currently is.

On July 16-20, the church will be open between 3-7 p.m. so you can bring your old clothing (including slips, bras, underwear, socks) and certain other acceptable items, such as shoes, accesso-

ries (including hats, bags, belts, scarves and jewelry), luggage, stuffed animals and linens (including sheets, blankets, curtains, table linens and quilts). All items in any condition are acceptable if they are clean, dry, and odorless.

Last year the church was able to keep over 5,000 pounds of textiles out of the landfills. They hope to exceed that this year.

The Brookfield Unitarian Universalist Church is located at 9 Upper River St. on the Brookfield Common, near the junction of Route 9 and Route 148.

For more information, contact Barbara Hale at blh.buuc@gmail.com.

Concerts in the Park start June 28

WARREN – The Warren Parks & Recreation Department will be hosting the annual Concerts in the Park at Dean Park, located at the end of Dean Street in West Warren on Friday evenings starting at 6 p.m. throughout the summer.

The first concert will be held on Friday, June 28, featuring Downright Country. Moonlight Run Farms will have a petting zoo, with pet food available to purchase.

Concerts continue on Friday, July 5 with a Neil Diamond Tribute by Charlie Lask. All veterans at the concert will receive a free hot dog, chips and a drink.

On Friday, July 12 Matt York will

perform Willie Nelson songs and share stories during the Touch-A-Truck event.

Cruise Night will return on Friday, July 19 featuring the band Stomp N Holler. Bring your car, truck or bike for free.

The final concert of the season will be held on Friday, July 26 with Brookfield Rhythm. This will also be Vendor Night, featuring a variety of crafters, vendors and food trucks.

Concerts in the Park is sponsored in part by a grant from the Warren Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Send Us Your Autumn Event Information

Turley Publications will print your Autumn event **FREE OF CHARGE** in our **Autumn Fest Supplement** which will be published **September 11, 2024.**

Total circulation of 85,000 reaching over 200,000 readers in the Pioneer Valley.

Deadline for Calendar submissions is August 12.

Community Autumn Events

Event Should Be Non-Profit & Open to the Public

FREE Calendar Listings Reaching over 200,000 Readers in the Pioneer Valley

Event Name _____

Date/Time _____

Location _____

Description _____

Cost _____

Contact name & phone number for more information _____

MAIL YOUR LISTING INFORMATION TO:
Turley Publications, Attn: Jamie Joslyn, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069
or email* them to: jamie@turley.com
***Be sure to indicate "Autumn Event" in the subject line of your email.**

ALBUM | FROM PAGE 1

will also have copies of her new album available during the performance. Fay's new album is called "Sustainable Change".

Fay and her band, Adelaide and Leopard Frogs, will be the headlining band on the night of Friday, June 28. Their music features gritty folk with hints of soul.

Fay will have some songs with harmonica solos. Fay is also an acoustic guitarist and the lead vocalist.

She will be sharing eight new songs on "Sustainable Change".

Adelaide and the Leopard Frogs will also be performing covers of classic rock and pop songs along with songs from both albums.

Opening for Adelaide Fay and her band is Highland Rush. The band hails from the hill towns of the Connecticut River Valley and blends indie folk and rock to create mesmerizing melodies.

A perfect start to a fun evening of live music with artists who perform similar themes.

In 2022, Fay released her first album that featured 12 songs. The name of the album is called "Exhalation". Songs from Exhalation include "Drown", "Burned & Wet", "Blind & Misled", "Dead Leaves", "Take Some Time", "Special", "My Distraction", "Windmill", "Safe & Sound", "Close to You", "Sitting Duck", and "Til I'm gone".

Fay and her music can be heard on all streaming platforms, including Spotify, Apple Music, Amazon Music and

YouTube.

Fay has performed at Workshop13 in the past. She said it was during an open mic event about 10 years ago and now she is returning to the Grand Hall to share her new music with the local audience.

Fay has been involved in music her whole life. Gigs for Fay have been steadily increasing after high school.

Going through the first album was a big process and she has gotten a lot of positive responses. For Fay, that was a clear sign that tells her she can further her singing career.

"Sustainable Change" is also the title of a song that is featured on the new album. The theme behind these new songs are part of a collection of events that have occurred over the last few years.

"Focuses on grounding yourself and self-discovery," Fay said. "Okay to be in love and be happy, but there are still those storms on the sea of that happiness."

Fay said her show at Workshop13 is more of a celebration of all the work her and her band put in. Fay looks forward to performing in a comfortable space and have people make many connections while listening to some upbeat and soulful music.

The concert starts at 7:30 p.m. and the doors open at 7 p.m. General admission is \$10 for all ages, free admission for under 12 years old.

The show will be held at Workshop13's Grand Hall, located at 13 Church St.

BBQ | FROM PAGE 1

bred angus cattle on his own 214 acres and more than 400 leased.

He is also known for the summer events called BBQ + Beer + Band. The evening of June 20 had all those elements together at his idyllic location.

Arriving at the scheduled 4:30 p.m. start, folks were drifting up from the parking lot and the band was tuning up. We went to the back of the barn that had the beer being served by Lost Towns Brewing of Gilbertville.

On tap was the Nelson's Swift Ryde, a West Coast style IPA and the Barn Kat Kolsch, a more Germanic brew. We ordered our beer and began to walk around the bucolic farm.

In one of the fields was a group of the Angus cattle grazing on the grass. In the next field was a slightly different scene. The cows and offspring were brownish in color from light to dark.

Interesting.

When we returned the band, Spooner Well was still tuning, but getting closer. More seats were being occupied and the night was getting started.

Before we ordered food, we had the pleasure of meeting Farmer Matt's Restaurant's executive chef. New this year, John Steinhilber has taken command of the kitchen.

Steinhilber is a New England Culinary Institute alumnus. He also has a wealth of experience in the chef business. He was the executive sous chef at the Seabrook Island Club off the coast of South Carolina and has been owner/chef at the classic French bistro, Chez Fish, also a coastal Carolinas venue.

Judging by what was on offer and what we ate, the man is accomplishing the mission.

So, it was over to order the food with the help of Katelyn who showed us the menu. We would certainly enjoy the brisket sandwiches we selected.

That task accomplished; it was time to listen to the music.

At the makeshift bandstand on the side of a barn, the band, Spooner Well, was now fully set up and playing.



Many people enjoyed the evening at Farmer Matt's. TURLEY PHOTOS BY RICHARD MURPHY



Farmer Matt's Angus cattle were grazing.

To say Spooner Well is a local Brookfields band with a local story could be considered an understatement.

The Spooner Well tale is one of deception and betrayal, things versatile music makers could easily use for great songs.

Joshua Spooner was a wealthy local loyalist during the Revolution. His wife, Bathsheba had deep feelings for him. Unfortunately, for him, and eventually for her, they consisted of hatred.

Bathsheba and a trio of guys conspired to do him in. When he was done for, Spooner was thrown down his own well. Hence, the origin of the band

name.

Bathsheba would enter the record books as one of the defendants in the first capital murder case in U.S. history as well as the first woman executed after the Declaration of Independence.

Now the ensemble knows a good deal of music, but they do have the Spooner Well business down pat and they have a CD available for download called Headstone Marker and they passed out cards with the info on the front and a QR code on the back.

Those interested can find the information at their website.

During an early set, one of the band

members mentioned that the Summer Solstice was upon us. Much later on the rains would come but at this moment, with the band and the food and the locale it was a grand way to greet the new season.

There will be more BBQ + Beer + Band evenings monthly this summer as well as other events. Dates include Thursdays, July 25, Aug. 22, Sept. 19 and Oct. 31.

You can find info at Farmer Matt's website as well as the front page of the Quaboag Current.



Executive Chef John Steinhilber prepares the grill.



A lovely and well-proportioned shade tree provided relief from the summer sun.



Alex was offering Lost Towns Brewing's evening choices.

Second Chance Animal Shelter celebrates 25 years

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

EAST BROOKFIELD – Second Chance Animal Shelter celebrated 25 years open, and the whole community came together to celebrate.

Spread between both Klem’s and Timberyard Brewery, the celebration lasted all day and included a craft and vendor fair, vendors inside Klem’s, food, dogs to pet, and more.

At Timberyard, there were free pet beds donated by Chewy, a trivia night where food donations for cats and dogs were accepted, a raffle, caricature artist, and live adoptions.

One dog, Milo, a nine-year-old Yorkie, got to leave the shelter’s travel bus kennel and go home with his fur-ever home.

The craft and vendor fair sat on the lawn outside of Klem’s, and you could find anything from delicious homemade dog treats, to pet CPR classes, to dog collar bling.

Inside Klem’s the fun didn’t end with tastings from Tito’s Handmade Vodka, Timberyard Brewery, and Hardwick Winery.

At Timberyard, there were group photos for pets adopted from the shelter

and their new humans, and a book signing of “Walking Off Leash” by authors Joe Blancato and CEO and Founder of Second Chance, Sheryl Blancato.

There was a BBQ all day, and even more delicious foods and special beer flights for the occasion, and the rain stayed away for all to enjoy the day!

“I started as an animal control officer, and there wasn’t a place for the animals that were rescued, so I made one,” Sheryl Blancato said.

Today, the shelter now takes in an annual 49,000 animals, helps to find them new homes, and provides affordable medical care for people to get help for their pets.

“It means a lot to have people come out and share how they have been able to get help from us,” Blancato said.

Over 40 businesses and organizations sponsored or donated to the block party, including Chewy, Herlihy Insurance Group, Portside Truck and Auto Repair, the Veterinary Specialty Center of Sturbridge, Lamoureux Ford, IDEXX, and more.

Second Chance Animal Shelter is one of the community’s most popular spots to find a new fur baby, and they have always shown an unwavering desire to help all animals in need.



The Zarif family, owners of Timberyard Brewery, posing with their two special rescue dogs, Nugget the three-legged dog, and sweet Lucy with her prosthetic. TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS



Amanda McCarthy Esiason, owner of “ceramics by ame,” with her adorable ceramic creations, including ZooPals plates, and little balloon dogs.



Samantha Chaput (left) and SueAnne Hamel with a collection of adorable anime critters.



Ashley Pietrowski, and her dog, Chief, the mascot for The Cookie Chief, where you can find homemade and yummy treats for your dog.



Max Richard and Miko (left) and Kelsi Jarvis and Esmè (right) both rescues from Second Chance.



Rob Collette with ColBro, teaching families how to perform life-saving CPR on their dogs and cats.



Tammie Meier and the star of the show, Skye, modeling her handmade “Bark Bling.”



Kim Lapworth, owner of Hop Hollow Beer Soaps, shows off her perfectly smelling soaps and shared the benefits beer for the skin.

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MISCELLANEOUS

DUE TO NON PAYMENT, storage units G2 and G4 Morse Ave. storage will be emptied and the contents disposed of the first week of July unless amount in arrears is paid in full by June 30, 2024.

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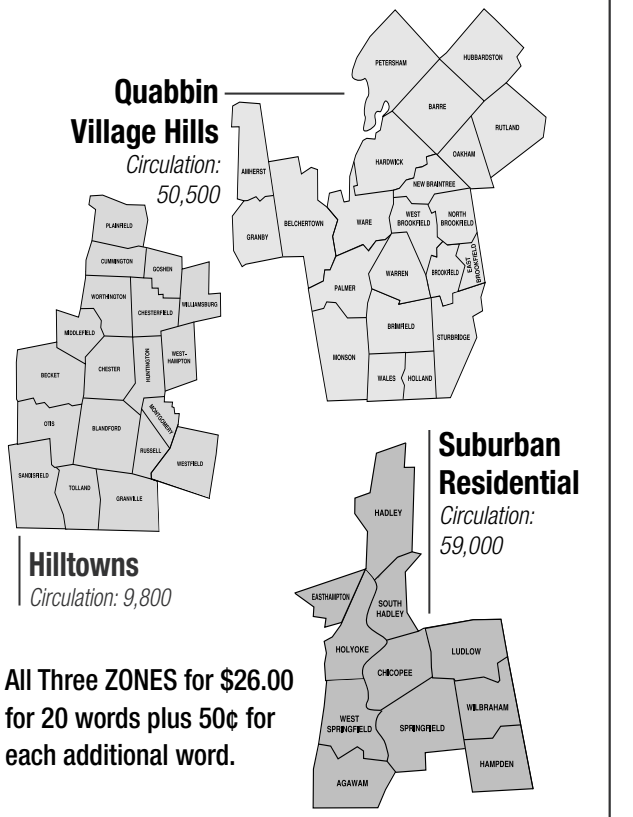
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TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L Chapter 40A, Section 9, and Section 11 Back Lot Permit, of the West Brookfield Zoning Bylaws, the Planning Board will open a public hearing on **Monday, July 8, 2024 at 7:00 pm** in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 2 East Main Street, for the following application:

Wesley Slobody, representing T-C-P Enterprises, Inc

seeks Special Permit approval to create a Backlot, approximately 67.7 acres at 213 Long Hill Road, West Brookfield.

Interested parties may review the plan at the office of the Town Clerk in the Town Hall, 2 East Main Street, West Brookfield. A copy is posted on the display board outside of the Town Hall.

The Board invites all interested parties to attend the public hearing.

Timothy Morrell
Planning Board Chair
06/21, 06/28/2024

Quaboag Regional School District Student Records Regulation Public Notice

Massachusetts Student Record Regulation 603 CMR 23.06(3) states: "The temporary record of any student enrolled on or after the effective date of 603 CMR 23.00 shall be destroyed no later than seven years after the student transfers, graduates, or withdraws from the school system. Written notice to the eligible student and his/her parent of the appropriate date of the destruction of the record and their right

to receive the information in whole or part shall be made at the time of such transfer, graduation or withdrawal. Such notice shall be in addition to the routine information letter required by 603 CMR 23.10."

The Quaboag Regional School District Student Services Office has reviewed records of students with an IEP who have left the district prior to June 2017 and will initiate the destruction of those records after August 30, 2024. No other copies will exist as of that date. Please

notify the Office if you wish to review and/or receive these records prior to their destruction by calling 413-420-1994 by August 23, 2024.
06/28/2024

LEGAL NOTICE: TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30A, 18-25, as amended by Chapter 28 of the

Acts of 2009, The Wetlands Protection Act, the West Brookfield Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **WEDNESDAY July 10, 2024 at 6:00 pm** in the first floor meeting room, West Brookfield Town Hall, 2 East Main Street.

6:00 PM Public Hearing: Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) - Chapman Ave – Villa Estates – Tree Removal – 5 Trees.
06/28/2024

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QUABOAG

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Volume 17, Number 31

Friday, June 28, 2024

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