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Community Day highlighted State Police's specialty units



NEW BRAINTREE – The State Police Academy hosted what is hoped to become an annual event last Wednesday, with the first ever Community Day.

On July 12, people had the opportunity to get an up close and personal look at the State Police's specialty units and the equipment they use,

as well as meet with various Troopers as well as recruits attending the Academy.

Farmer Matt along with the Academy's commissary, Eures, provided free food to the hundreds of people who attended Community Day.

The Mounted Unit was there with horses, as well as the K-9 unit with a variety

of dogs to demonstrate their skills.

Remy, an almost 7-year-old black Labrador Retriever, is an accelerant detecting K-9 with the Fire and Explosive Investigation Unit, assigned to the State Fire Marshal, along with her handler, Trooper Dan Riopel.

See **COMMUNITY** | PAGE 8

K-9 Knox demonstrates how to apprehend a suspect. TURLEY PHOTOS BY PAULA QUIMETTE

Select Board discusses roadside eatery, new fire truck and more

By Eric Troy
Correspondent

NEW BRAINTREE – At last week's Select Board meeting, residents, citizens, business owners, and town officials gathered to discuss a BBQ eatery on Barre Road, cost concerns of a new fire truck, the transition of information technology service providers and more.

A roadside BBQ eatery has recently started serving customers on Barre Road (Route 67). A letter of complaint was filed by a resident regarding potential parking issues and the business's signage.

Select Board members commented that there seemed to be plenty of parking near the facility. The business has appropriate certifications for

serving food and has received temporary operating approval through the town.

Additional permits and permission are being pursued by the business owners, including approval from the Zoning Board. While additional permits for the business are being sought, the roadside BBQ eatery has been permitted to continue operating.

If approved by the Zoning Board, and properly permitted, the BBQ business will continue to serve customers.

Fire Department report

The Fire Department responded to four calls between June 26 and July 10. These responses were for a water leak at the New Braintree Grade School, a couch being burned

See **BOARD** | PAGE 2

Flea market treasures are ripe for picking

By Emily-Rose Pappas
Staff Writer

NORTH BROOKFIELD – This past Saturday, the Brookfield Orchards hosted their third flea market of the season, an annual event where locals and visitors can all find something unique.

From name brand purses to clothes to dishware to board games, each table had something unique to share. Each of the vendors at the flea market truly had something amazing to put on the table.

See **TREASURES** | PAGE 12



Jenna Singvongsa, left, and Odessa Gaulin a pair of best friends, sold numerous items including upcycled clothing. TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS

Board continues site plan hearing for Senior Center

By Paula Quimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

STURBRIDGE – Jacob Murray of Waterfield Design Group and Mark McKevezit from ICON Architecture, the

civil engineer and landscape architect and architect, respectively, presented a site plan review for the Senior Center, located at 480 Main St.

At the Planning Board's June 27 meeting, Murray said the hope is to build the addi-

tion in the back of the building, and leave the front as is.

"The addition requires more parking," he said, going from 28 to 49 parking spaces.

Murray said the side parking spaces will be moved to the

See **SENIOR** | PAGE 15



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- community -



The Brookfields Rotary Club held their installation recently with Teresa McCarthy as president. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Brookfields Rotary Club holds installation

BROOKFIELD – The Brookfields Rotary Club brought in the start of the new rotary year with the installation of its incoming President Teresa McCarthy and her Officers Christine Gagne and Lynn DuffyO’Shea and Board of Directors on July 12 at White’s Land- ing.

Officiating the evening was Assistant Governor Dave Zonia and Past Pres-

ident of the Sturbridge Rotary Club Klaus Hachfeld. Assisting with the ceremony was Brookfields Rotary Club member and graduate of Tantasqua Regional High School Jake Rosen.

The Club looks forward to choosing projects for this year that will help in the seven towns it services. For more information about the Club, email rotarclubofthebrookfields@gmail.com.

Evan Couture performs at OSV July 22

STURBRIDGE – Brookfield musician Evan Couture is being featured as part of Old Sturbridge Village’s first-ever Taste of New England: Summer, being held during the evenings of July 21, 22 and 23.

There will also be three stages with live bands and musicians, including Couture, who will be on the Countryside Stage on Saturday, July 22 at 5:30

p.m. and 7 p.m.

Old Sturbridge Village is the largest outdoor living history museum in New England and is tapping into Massachusetts’ own history by serving foods and beverages inspired by traditional recipes, tours of historic buildings representing each state, and talks from costumed historians about industry and traditions and their origins.

Lions and Rotary clubs present Big Band concert July 27

STURBRIDGE – The Sturbridge Lions and Rotary clubs annual concert will take place at the Sturbridge Bandstand on Thursday, July 27 from 6-8 p.m.

The Big Band Boston-based Abletones, playing music of Frank Sinatra, Tommy Dorsey and other bands of the Big Band era will bring back fond memories. Listen and feel free to dance on the grassy common to the beat and sound.

Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy.

Henry the Juggler visits library July 27

WEST BROOKFIELD – On Thursday, July 27 at 4 p.m. Henry the Juggler will be performing at the Merriam-Gilbert Public Library, 3 West Main St.

Henry the Juggler juggles any number of balls, clubs, rings and members of the audience. He balances strange items on the tip of his nose.

Everything is accomplished wordlessly as Henry uses body language to express himself. There will be audience participation in the juggling act as well.

BOARD | FROM PAGE 1

in the front yard of a residence, downed wires and a fuel leak.

Discussion about securing a new fire truck for the town continued. New Braintree Fire Chief and Selectman Dennis Letendre Jr. commented on the continued increase of fire truck costs, saying that prices have risen by \$66,000 and are likely to continue climbing. He mentioned that many new fire trucks will be transitioning their drivetrain from a former Cummins motor to a new iteration whose primary difference is in emission control.

The current cost of a new fire truck is \$789,000 and this price will be held through August. A vote will take place on July 24 at the next Select Board Meeting regarding the purchase of the new fire truck.

IT provider

The Select Board opted to transition from its current IT company to another provider, seeking to secure more responsive IT assistance. Numerous individuals present at the Select Board meeting commented on the lack of communication from the current IT company.

Oakham’s CM Geeks was selected as New Braintree’s new IT provider, with Select Board members commenting on the organization’s effective communication and speedy response times. Additional discussion among the Select Board and individuals present at the meeting focused on finding new options for printers that may be more cost-effective.

Rainfall and road washout

The Highway Department discussed

challenges presented by the substantial rainfall we’ve seen this summer. The department has been dealing with washouts along many New Braintree roadways and has been opening culverts to place screens to filter debris out of water taken in by drainage systems.

Significant rainfall has caused the ground to be saturated, limiting its ability to absorb water and increasing runoff from fields and roadways.

With the town’s water systems having nearly reached capacity, the Highway Department noted a need for assistance from the Fire Department to clear culverts of debris.

Flagpole lighting

A new flagpole has been erected on the Town Common. The American Flag flies high, but, for proper reverence and etiquette, nearby lighting equipment needs to be improved.

Components are already in place to properly illuminate the flag at night, but it needs troubleshooting and repair to be fully operational. Select Board members discussed the need for proper lighting at the site and plan to have the lighting system repaired.

Flags/signs on town property

The Select Board discussed the creation and adoption of a town policy preventing the placement of flags and other signage on town property.

The Select Board encouraged the free expression of individuals and advertising efforts of local businesses on private property but commented that town property isn’t the appropriate place to do so.

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- community -

Second annual 'Wild Bill Swim,' at South Pond is Aug. 20

BROOKFIELD – The second annual “Wild Bill Swim,” Sunday, Aug. 20, is destined to be bigger, better and even more beneficial, with the added mission of funding swimming lessons to 200 third graders.

Held on the shores of Lake Quamquasit - South Pond - in Brookfield, Wild Bill offers a swim for every age and ability level, from the challenging three-mile open-water swim to the leisurely one mile “floatella,” and many in between.

Last year’s inaugural event, a fundraiser for lake preservation, far exceeded sponsors’ and organizers’ most lofty goals. The event started by Jennifer Yorzyk-Triger simply as a way to honor her father, the late Olympic Gold-Medalist Dr. William “Bill” Yorzyk, by preserving the lake he lived on and loved for many years.

The event was so much more.

“It got people out training for the swim, it got kids outside with their families, it got neighbors together who had never even met, and volunteers came out of the woodwork — the community unified, which is something I didn’t expect,” Yorzyk-Triger said.

Wild Bill raised \$4,000 for lake preservation, much to sponsors’ delight. The money was donated toward a matching grant to conduct an alum treatment at the lake that meant so much to Bill.

“I remember when we were planning last year, thinking that having 50 swim-

mers would be outrageous,” Yorzyk-Triger said, then smiled. “We had 75.”

Yorzyk-Triger thinks part of the event’s success is its broad appeal - it provides a unique, local challenge for the serious swimmer, suits the newbie who is happy doing a one-miler, and is perfect for the trendy “floatella” crowd, which travels on a variety of fun, colorful floaties.

In addition to the three-mile open-water swim, which has a maximum swim time of 2 hours and 30 minutes, there are one- and two-mile open-water swims, a one-mile paddleboard loop, and a one-way 400-yard swim. Start times and fees are available on the event website wildbillswim.org.

There are also fun activities for the family, entertainment, and the Floatilla on the South Pond Beach, where every swimmer will be celebrated when they return to shore. When all are back, there will be a large raffle.

Everyone is urged to join the after-party at Oakholm Brewery and enjoy a Wild Bill Beer, a Wild Carrol Seltzer and a Wild Bill pizza with everything on it.

The funds raised this year -Yorzyk-Triger’s “outrageous” goal is \$50,000 - will be shared with a second mission to teach 200 local third-graders swimming and water safety by funding swimsuits, goggles and transportation for four weekly lessons for all of the students at the Southbridge YMCA.



After participating in last year’s inaugural “Wild Bill Swim & Paddle Challenge” on South Pond Beach in East Brookfield are, from left, Mark Farrell of Sturbridge; founder of the Leadmine Swimmers; South Pond resident Lynn Fazen; and Southbridge’s Maura Powers, who is aquatic director at the YMCA and a member of Leadmine Swimmers. SUBMITTED PHOTO

About ‘Wild Bill’

“Wild Bill” Yorzyk shattered all existing records and took the Gold Medal at the 200-meter butterfly at the 1956 Summer Olympics in Melbourne, Australia, just seven years after learning to swim as a freshman at Springfield College.

Information is available through email Yorzyk-Triger at jenn@wildbillswim.org, through Instagram @wildbillswim, and the Facebook page, The Wild Bill Swim & Paddle Challenge. Donations can be made to gofundme.com/the-wild-bill-swim-and-paddle-challenge

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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.

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- Proficiency in Associated Press style
- Management experience and/or experience managing content for a print publication.

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Eileen Kennedy, Executive Editor
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WORTH THE DRIVE FROM ANYWHERE

- opinion -



Rainy weather equals slug paradise

I was so excited to be growing my cabbage, kale and cauliflower plants under bug netting this year in an attempt to keep them free from cabbage worms and loopers.

Formerly I had used a row cover with moderate success. It kept in the heat and seemed to encourage tall spindly growth on the broccoli.

So, I did some research and ended up with some netting that so far was working out great, until I saw the holes on my outer cabbage leaves. Slugs.

And of course, bug netting would not have an effect on slugs. Not at all.

Has the recent bout of rainy weather made your garden slug paradise? If so, here is a recap from a previous article so that you too can wage your own private war on the slug.

Your first strategy should be to alter your surroundings to make them less slug friendly. Slugs feed during the night and hide during the day, for that reason we should rid the garden of popular daytime hiding spots, or at least conduct a search and destroy mission on these spots regularly.

I use old boards as garden paths, separating plots of greens. First mistake; boards, bricks, and rocks make great cover for slugs from the midday sun.

From now on I'll turn these boards over once a day and play "salt a slug" or better yet, "squirt a slug." A couple shakes of the salt shaker will dehydrate slugs, and a mixture of half-water, half-vinegar in a spray bottle will take care of business as well.

You can also bring a container of vinegar water or salt water to the garden and simply drop them in, using gloves, of course, less be stained by soap resistant goo.

Mass trapping also works. Probably the most famous trap around is made from stale beer.

To be effective it must be set up correctly, otherwise slugs will be lured but not trapped. Bury a container level with the soil surface and fill it with beer to one inch from the top.

Ideally, slugs stretch out their bodies to reach the liquid, fall in and drown. Dump the container often, especially after it rains, since water will dilute the beer as well as raise the level of the liquid.

Commercial slug "motels" come with a yeasty powder you mix with water - these work on the same principle as our homemade version.

Some folks also have good luck trapping slugs in watermelon or cantaloupe rinds placed about the garden. Dispose of the slug filled fruit into the trash each morning without an ounce of slime on your fingers!

Barrier methods are also used to keep slugs off of your plants.

The most common is diatomaceous earth, a sharp substance formed from the skeletons of microscopic organisms called diatoms. Slugs avoid it, less they be cut to shreds.

My mom had reasonable success using lime, and I have heard the same regarding wood ashes. The most common recommendation is a two inch strip around the plants you want to be spared.

Slugs also reportedly hate crossing over copper. Line the perimeter of your garden with copper strips, or just target specific plants that slugs seem to go for.

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.



What if I delay but die before claiming Social Security?

Dear Rusty: Hypothetically, if I plan to sign up for Social Security at 70 and pass away before that, I will get nothing.

My spouse would still get a boost in the amount she receives because I made more, but everything I put into the program vanishes. I haven't reached my full retirement age yet and I still have income, but if I sign up now at 63 my benefits will be withheld due to my income.

Then at full retirement age (presuming I elected to claim earlier) a re-calculation will take place and my monthly amount would be adjusted. Well, what happens if I decide to wait until 70 but pass away before I claim?

Are my contributions repaid in a lump sum or will I or someone else still lose everything?

Signed: Uncertain About My Future

Dear Uncertain: You are correct that if you pass away before collecting your earned Social Security benefits you won't personally get anything. Social Security has, since inception, been a "pay as you go" program where those currently working and contributing to Social Security pay benefits for those currently receiving Social Security.

That means that if you die before collecting, the monies you contributed will have already been used to pay other recipients, but the contributions you made may still entitle your dependents to benefits on your record.

For those who are in their early 60s, average longevity is mid-80s, meaning your spouse would likely collect benefits on your record for more than two decades, any minor children could collect until they are adults and any permanently disabled child you may have would get benefits from your record for the rest of their life as well.

The Social Security payroll taxes you contributed were not put into a private account in your name. And, on average, it is to the beneficiary's advantage the program doesn't work that way because that personal account would be depleted

fairly quickly after you claim rather than getting benefits for the rest of your life, you'd only get benefits plus interest from your personal account, which would run dry pretty fast.

For Your Information, we have researched this very carefully and found that, on average, all payroll taxes contributed to Social Security by an individual will be recovered within about five years of starting benefits.

The actual length of time to recoup one's contributions varies somewhat depending on lifetime earnings and contributions made, but lower earning beneficiaries will recover everything contributed through payroll taxes within about three years, while it could take as much as five years for higher earners to get back everything they've paid into the program. And for clarity, since self-employed individuals pay both the employee and employer portion of the payroll tax, it does take longer for those who own their own business to recoup what they've contributed.

Nevertheless, on average, most who claim benefits will get considerably more from the program than they paid in Social Security payroll taxes.

As to your specific question, if you die before collecting, the contributions you made weren't deposited in a personal account for you and won't be paid out in a lump sum. Rather, the payroll taxes you paid while working were used to pay benefits to beneficiaries receiving at the time and those working and contributing after you die will fund the benefits paid to your spouse or disabled adult child until they die or to your minor children until they are adults.

The Social Security benefits you earned aren't just for you, your eligible dependents will also benefit from your record.

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Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

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Quaboag Current Newspaper

MSB continues support of River East School-to-Career

MONSON – In an effort to support local areas, Monson Savings Bank has supported River East School-to-Career program since 2005.

The mission of this non-profit organization is to promote career education and assist in preparing youth for the demands of the 21st century workplace.

The River East School-to-Career Partnership brings together schools, businesses, and organizations to create exciting career exploration opportunities for students. Their aim is to help students make informed decisions regarding their career and educational goals.

Monson Savings has supported this mission by offering internship opportunities, scholarship sponsorships, board participation, financial support, and participation in career readiness programs.

Monson Savings VP and HR Officer Dodie Carpentier has served on the River East Board of Directors since 2014.

“Working with River East School-to-Career has been so rewarding. The Bank has hosted several interns over the years. I am continuously so impressed by their hard work and dedication!” said Carpentier. “I am always so happy to see the confidence and knowledge these students gain from the hands-on experience they receive during an internship. Career readiness is a priceless addition to the education they receive at our local schools, and I am proud that Monson Savings has been able to support that through River East.”

At this year’s River East School-to-Career Annual Recognition Breakfast, it was announced that Monson Savings would receive the Business Champion Award for all the support they have offered to the local non-profit.



Shown from left are Dan Moriarty, Monson Savings President & CEO; Jack Hibbard, Monson Savings VP Controller; Stacy Gilmour, River East School-to-Career Scholarship Committee Member & Monson Savings Board of Directors; Stephanie Maher, River East School to-Career Board Member; Amy Scribner, River East School to-Career Director; Kevin Lynn, River East School to-Career President; and Michael Rouette, Monson Savings EVP & COO. SUBMITTED PHOTO

“We are so thankful for the partnership we have with Monson Savings Bank,” said Amy Scribner, River East School-to-Career director. “So many doors have been opened for students because of the Bank’s support of our organization.”

During the breakfast ceremony, Monson Savings President and CEO Dan Moriarty made a surprise announcement - the Bank would be donating an additional \$10,000 to River East School-to-Career.

“Being a champion means making the right decision, at the right time, for the right reason. We recognize the value of the programs and opportunities offered through River East School-to-Career and this surprise announcement felt right,” said Moriarty. “Today’s students are tomorrow’s employees and leaders. Thank you to the Career Facilitators, RESTC Board, and Amy Scribner for their dedication to preparing our students to enter the workforce.”

Flea Market on the Common is Aug. 26

WEST BROOKFIELD – The First Congregational Church, 36 North Main St., has been hosting their Flea Market on the town Common for more than 50 years.

This year the Flea Market on the Common will be held on Saturday, Aug. 26 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Sellers of all kinds are welcome - flea folk, antique sellers, crafters, product vendors, and those emptying out basements and attics. No food vendors, please.

Spaces are available for \$40 for a 20 x 20 grassy spot. Vendors must bring their own tables and tents.

The church will sponsor a food tent with grilled food, cold drinks and sweet treats. Email FCCofWB-FleaMarket@gmail.com for an application.

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Remembering Mike Dymon

Family and friends honor Quabbin educator and coach

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

BARRE – Family, friends and former high school students and athletes came together recently to remember a man whose drive and determination forever shaped their lives.

Joseph Michael “Mike” Dymon of Amherst, a longtime educator, athletic director and coach at Quabbin Regional High School, died on May 23 at the age of 84.

Born in Ware in 1939, Dymon attend Barre High School, earning the title of Most Valuable Player for basketball and baseball. He went on to earn degrees from Boston University before taking his first teaching job at East Corinth Academy in Maine.

In the mid-1960s, Dymon became athletic director for Wilmington High School in Vermont, as well as coach of the basketball and baseball teams. His baseball team won the first and only state championship ever won by Wilmington High School.

Dymon then returned to Barre to dedicate the rest of his career to the students and athletes at the newly created Quabbin Regional High School, where he stayed from 1967 until his retirement in 1994.

Dymon was inducted into the Massachusetts Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame in 1988 and the Quabbin Athletic Hall of Fame in 2006.

Baseball was Dymon’s top sport, his daughter Rachel said, and she remembered attending games as a child.

“My grandfather used to change the scoreboard during the games,” she said. “Every so often I’d get to change the numbers.”

A petition was signed by at least 26 people in attendance at the remembrance held at Barre Post 2 American Legion recently, seeking to dedicate



Former athletes coached by the late Joseph Michael “Mike” Dymon gathered at Barre Post 2 American Legion to remember their mentor. TURLEY PHOTOS BY PAULA OUIMETTE

Quabbin’s baseball field in Dymon’s memory.

“I grew up on baseball,” Rachel said. “It’s really so meaningful.”

While many remember Dymon for being an inspiring coach, his role as a husband, father and grandfather is where he truly set records.

“He made my childhood magical,” Rachel said. “He just had an enthusiasm for everything he did...I’m really going to miss him.”

Fellow Quabbin coach and educator Dennis Dextradeur acted as master of ceremonies at the remembrance, listing Dymon’s many impressive accomplishments.

One of the most significant being leading the 1972-1973 basketball team to an undefeated Wachusett League championship.

Although Dextradeur didn’t play on Dymon’s championship team, he went on to coach varsity basketball and led his own team to victory 22 years later.

“That meant a lot to me and to Mike, it made a major impact on my coaching career,” Dextradeur said.

Dextradeur first met Dymon in 1981, when he was 22 years old and just out of college.

Dextradeur was surprised when Quabbin’s administrators named him as varsity coach at the start of his career, with Dymon as the junior varsity coach. But years later he realized it was so Dymon could continue to mentor him, while letting him get a handle on coaching.

“They knew I would stumble in that position, but Mike Dymon wouldn’t let me fall,” he said. “I always think of that when I work with younger coaches... don’t let them fall.”

Still coaching after more than 40 years, Dextradeur credits Dymon for his fulfilling career.

“I had one of the most rewarding experiences working under Mike,” he said. “It’s a debt of gratitude.”

Several former athletes that Dymon coached traveled from across the country to share their memories, including Cliff Duncan, an alumnus of Wilmington High School.

“Mike had a gift that transcended... he was a boundless man of energy,” Duncan said.

Duncan said Dymon had the ability to look at each athlete as an individual, offering them the personalized support they needed to succeed.

“He would push you out of your comfort zone...he read you like a map,” he said.

Dymon would also find ways to get things his students needed, including new glass backboards to replace the school’s old tin ones.

Duncan said the school’s principal said the backboards could only be replaced over his “dead body,” but Dymon found a loophole when the principal was admitted to the hospital and out of the

See MIKE DYMON | PAGE 7



Rayne shared his favorite memories of his grandfather with the help of Dennis Dextradeur.



Rachel Dymon said her father made her childhood “magical.”



Olen Muir talked about car rides with his coach.



Mike Richard shared memories of his coach and colleague.

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- community -

MIKE DYMON | FROM PAGE 6

school for a period of time. Through fundraising and his own money, Dymon replaced those backboards.

Like Dextrateur, Duncan also went on to become a coach.

"It made me realize that this is important," Dymon said. "Mike always said, 'baseball emulates life more than any other sport.'"

Dennis "The Bear" Davis said he injured his knee going into his senior year of high school, and his doctor recommended surgery.

This would have ended his career, but Dymon pushed for a second opinion. It turned out that the injury was just a sprain and Davis was able to return to the court to play his final year of high school basketball.

He went on to become the first Quabbin Regional High School student to score 1,000 points.

Davis thanked Rachel and her mother Ute for supporting Dymon's coaching career.

"Thank you for sharing Mike over all these years," Davis said.

Olen Muir remembered how Dymon would bring rakes and shovels to all baseball games, even earning the "Golden Rake" award.

Muir and Dymon were both catchers, and would spend many car rides just talking baseball.

"He loved to teach baseball," Muir said of his coach.

Al Gray remembers the "grueling" conditioning Dymon put his athletes through, and how it was all worth it.

Gray kept in touch with Dymon, who always wanted to know how he and his family were doing.

"I was one of hundreds of players that he had, and he took the time," Gray said.

Mike Richard said Dymon's memory was "incredible," and he could remember any stats. However, he was not so good at remembering first names of his female colleagues and would often refer to them as "Missy."

"The only women in his life were Ute and Rachel," Richard said.

Tommy Gareau talked about a faster-than-expected drive to Groton for a game with Dymon, joking that he must have dreamed of being a NASCAR driver outside of coaching. During this time, he "met the man," not just the coach or teacher.

In addition to being a coach, Dymon was also an avid outdoorsman, hiking parts of the Appalachian Trail with his daughter and traveling the world with his wife Ute.

"Mike's unwavering passion for athletics and the great outdoors was infectious," Dextrateur said.

Dymon's family asked that donations be made in his memory to the Quabbin Alumni Field Press Box Fund, c/o Quabbin Regional School District, 872 South St., Barre, MA 01005.



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Quabbin Community Band presents 'Scenes From The Movies' July 23

BARRE – This Sunday, July 23 at 6 p.m., the Quabbin Community Band will be featuring band arrangements highlighting themes from famous movies.

Thanks to donations from our supporters the Band has invested in a few contemporary arrangements; "Selections from"UP ","Captain Marvel MAIN THEME" and "The Mandalorian". They will also perform favorites such as, "Back To The Future", "John Williams In Concert", and "Jurassic World".

In recognition of the Band's 50th anniversary they're bringing back, "Great Themes from Great Italian Movies" in a nod to one of the most notable paisanos (fellow Italian American) to play in the Band over the past 50 years, trombonist Frank "Mimo" Valente.

Frank lived to be 99 years old, passing peacefully in June of 2016. Frank was one of the "old timers" who played in the Gilbertville Band before it became the Quabbin Community Band, and for many years led his own big band swing group.

During the 1970s Mimo connected with many of the then high school students who became the next regulars in his jazz band, which QCB director John Hansen insisted on featuring as part of the Quabbin Community Band Summer Concert Series, giving them their own concert on the Bandstand at the end of the summer. This popular "jazz night" eventually became the current season-ending favorite, "Dixieland Night".

Frank taught his son Gary to play the trombone, putting Quabbin Regional "on the map" in the high school band world when Gary was the first student from Quabbin ever accepted into the McDonald's All-American Band (Martha Campbell from Hardwick, also a member of QCB, was selected the following year on piccolo).

Bring your lawn chair or blanket, the show starts at 6 p.m. In the case of inclement weather,



Frank "Mimo" Valente during rehearsal with the Quabbin Community Band, circa 1976. SUBMITTED PHOTO

concerts will move to the Barre Town Hall.

Margaret Reidy is the current musical director of QCB who encourages musicians of all ages to join the band at 6:30 p.m. each Monday night through Aug. 7 at the Barre Town Hall for weekly practice. Be sure to follow the Band on Facebook at Quabbin Community Band.

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COMMUNITY | FROM PAGE 1

Riopel said Remy has a high work drive, and is food driven.

Remy has been in training since she was eight weeks old, raised by an inmate through the “Puppies Behind Bars” program.

She attended about six or seven fire scenes last month, searching for the use of an accelerant, which is about average, Riopel said. He added that the pair travels all around the country as Remy is a federal K-9.

Remy is one of 10 accelerant-detecting K-9s in the state.

“She’s a regular dog at home,” Riopel said.

K-9 Scout was also raised through the “Puppies Behind Bars” program and is trained in explosives detection, assigned to the Bomb Squad.

Scout, a yellow Labrador Retriever celebrated his 5th birthday in December and lives with Trooper John Ragosa and his other dogs.

While Scout is skilled in his ability to detect explosives, he’s also a hide and seek pro, as demonstrated at Communi-

ty Day, when he quickly hid behind Ragosa when the Trooper covered his eyes.

Other K-9s can be trained to detect cadavers, find lost people or apprehend suspects.

K-9 Knox has received over 580 hours of training and originates from the Czech Republic, while K-9 Barry has received close to 1,000 hours and comes from Holland.

Central and western Europe are the breeding grounds of the some of the top U.S. K-9 breeds, including the Belgian Malinois; a breed that trails closely behind the German Shepherd in K-9 use.

Trooper Nick D’Angelo said for K-9s like Barry and Knox, all of their “fun” is had on the job, and their home life is very calm, maybe even boring at times.

Community Day also offered people the chance to meet with their local law enforcement, as well as first responders, including the Hardwick-New Braintree Police Department, Hardwick Fire Department and West Brookfield Rescue Squad.



K-9 Knox responds to his Trooper's command. TURLEY PHOTOS BY PAULA OUIMETTE



Hardwick Fire Department, West Brookfield Rescue Squad and the Hardwick-New Braintree Police Department also participated in the State Police Academy's Community Day.



The State Police had many vehicles displayed at Community Day, including this breast cancer awareness cruiser, dedicated to the memory of Trooper Tamar Bucci.



Mitchell Avellino, age 2 of Leicester, checks out “Roscoe” the State Police Bomb Squad’s robotic dog.



Members of the State Police's Mounted Unit were at the State Police Academy.



Trooper John Ragosa and K-9 Scout play a game of hide and seek.



K-9 Knox waits to be rewarded with his toy.



Family and friends of State Police troopers enjoyed lunch in the shade.

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SPORTS

Balanced scoring emerging for Quabbin despite losses

AUBURN – Balanced scoring is beginning to emerge for the young cagers from Quabbin and coaches Tim Hay and Luke Brownell continue to emphasize and teach an effective passing offense.

Despite two recent losses in the Auburn Summer League, the E.P. Wine sponsored team had as many as six scorers in each game. The effort to share the basketball and find the open player seems to be a lesson that the young cagers are responding to and, more importantly, making a commitment to apply each game.

A close loss to Grafton by a score of 32-24 in a highly contested defensive game by both teams saw power forward Kyle Clark led the team with eight points and eight rebounds. Brownell has been working with the junior on establishing himself in the low and mid-post area and this is where Clark seems to be most effective and sometimes dominant.

The coaches have been working with lone senior Nick Whitelaw as well towards creating a twin tower high-low post forward tandem on offense. Both Whitelaw and Clark have

See **QUABBIN** | PAGE 10



Guard Jaxon Warburton explodes to the basket after receiving a high ball screen from teammate Nick Whitelaw in Auburn League action. SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Junior guard Bryce Venne slashes past his defender for a strong layup and resulting foul.

Mutiny makes playoffs following tie with Rush

By **Tim Peterson**
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—The New England Mutiny managed to qualify for the United Women's Soccer (UWS) playoffs for the second consecutive year.

The Mutiny officially clinched a berth in this year's East Conference playoffs following a 2-2 draw against the Connecticut Rush at Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow on July 8.

However, it wasn't the result that the Mutiny players or coaches were really looking for in the regular season home finale.

"You don't always get the result that you're looking for in the game of soccer," said Mutiny assistant coach Jill Kochanek. "We tried a slightly different formation with the personnel that we had for tonight's match."

First-year Mutiny head coach Maurico 'Toto' Coimbra was unavailable for comment following the home match.

The Mutiny, who finished the regular season with a 4-2-2 overall record, entered the playoffs as the sixth seed. They were scheduled to make to Lancaster for a quarterfinal match on Wednesday July 12.

"We come into every season



Hope Santaniello maneuvers through the middle of the field. TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

expecting to make the playoffs. That's our number one goal," said Meghan Cunningham, who has been playing for the Mutiny for more than ten years. "It's disappointing that we're not a higher seed this year."

The conference semifinals and finals are scheduled to be held at a site to be announced this weekend.

Following a 3-0 road win against the [Scorpions SC](#) on

See **MUTINY** | PAGE 11

Blue Sox doubled up by Westerners

HOLYOKE – The Valley Blue Sox were defeated by the Danbury Westerners by a score of 10-5 last Saturday. The team fell to 16-15-1 on the season.

Sean Scanlon started the game for the Blue Sox, pitching five shutout innings with four strikeouts.

Valley led the game for the first five innings. Eliot Dix leadoff the game with a solo home run, followed by an RBI groundout by Efrain Correa Jr. in the top of the second.

Michael Zarrillo added a solo home run in the top of the sixth inning to make it 3-0. Zarrillo batted 2-for-3 on the night with a walk.

The trouble began in the bottom of the sixth inning, when the Blue Sox gave up seven runs off of back-to-back-to-back home runs followed by a fielding error and a sacrifice fly to allow the Westerners to take the lead 7-3.

AJ Guerrero hit a solo home

See **BLUE SOX** | PAGE 10



Matthew Garcia fields a grounder. TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

- sports -

Bonsignore wins photo finish at New Hampshire

LOUDON, N.H. – Justin Bonsignore scored his second win of the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour season on Saturday evening at New Hampshire Motor Speedway – and did it in a photo finish coming to the line. The driver of the No. 51 for Ken Massa Motorsports machine was out front when rain hit the track with just under 35 laps to go and the field pulled down pit road.

It looked as though it might be over - but the rain stopped - NASCAR and track officials dried the track - and the Mohegan Sun 100 went back under the green flag. Bonsignore pitted during the caution and had to restart outside the top-10. He charged through the field and was in position to race for the lead in the final few laps in the Phoenix Communications ride.

Bonsignore passed Doug Coby to take the lead when the field crossed at the white flag. Off turn two on the final lap, Coby went to the outside of Bonsignore for the lead with Ron Silk looking three-wide to the bottom. Bonsignore led through the middle of turn

three before Coby crossed to the bottom and got inside coming off turn four to the finish line.

Bonsignore and Coby drag-raced to the line and made a little bit of contact, with Bonsignore coming out on top by a small margin. It was the 37th career win for the Holtsville, New York, native and his second points-paying win at New Hampshire.

“It was just crazy,” Bonsignore said. “The way we were able to drag-race back to the line and beat Doug, it was amazing. This is our Super Bowl, our Daytona 500. There’s nothing like racing a Modified here. I’m glad we got the race back going and the fans stuck it out. Coby, Silk and I have a good rivalry but there’s a ton of respect involved. I knew where I wanted to be on the last lap.”

Bonsignore will be back on the track at Claremont Motorsports Park for the next NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour event on Saturday, July 29. For more information on the three-time series champion, visit JustinBonsignore.com.



Justin Bonsignore was a winner at New Hampshire Motor Speedway last weekend. SUBMITTED PHOTO

BLUE SOX | FROM PAGE 9

run in the top of the seventh to cut the Danbury lead to three runs. The left fielder went 3-for-5 on the night.

Danbury added three more runs off in the bottom of the seventh following a two run home run and an

RBI double, allowing the Westerners to increase their lead 10-4.

Valley would take one more run back following a solo home run from CJ Willis, making the final score 10-5.



Jeff Pierantoni winds up for a long throw. TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOG-PHOTOS.COM



Michael Zarrillo gets the out at first.



Jonathan Bautista pitches for the Blue Sox.

QUABBIN | FROM PAGE 9

shown the ability to create offense around the high-low post area and their size and acumen will certainly expand their roles on the team.

With the addition of Zeke Santoro, a junior forward, and Anthony Quarterone, a 6'3 sophomore to the summer team the Quabbinians are deep in the power forward position and looking to take advantage.

Chris Prunesti-Leveille matched Kyle Clark in scoring eight points including two treys. Jaxon Warburton, adding an advanced skill set each time he takes the court, led the team with five loose ball recoveries.

Warburton has taken advantage of the starting position in the lead guard spot to facilitate the passing game and has shown a propensity to get to the basket more and more in his development.

Team captain Nick Whitelaw is working with a young group but the hard-working senior never misses a clinic and has provided good instruction and confidence to the younger forward players in Quarterone and Santoro. Though the team endured two losses with Grafton and David Prouty by a score of 63-44, both were good efforts

In the second loss to David Prouty, Chris Prunesti-Leveille led the team with 18 points followed by Kyle Clark with 11 points. Ricky Janoure, Jaxon Warburton and Nick Whitelaw each added 4 points apiece.

While the offense seems to be more balanced and developing a more lethal passing attack it is the defense that needs to be more consistent. The amount of ball-bys leading to direct scoring opportunities, usually an uncontested lay-up by the opposition, remains an area that needs improvement. Defensive fundamentals are needed and the fact that the team allowed 15 opportunities which translated to 30 unanswered points is a focus of the summer coaching staff.

Coach Tim Hay has been working with guards Bryce Venne, Ricky Janoure, Jaxon Warburton and Jacoby Dilling on defensive strategy and tactics.

The sub-varsity players, coached by Dawn Sulmasy and sponsored by Ground Up Landscaping have held their own in a varsity dominated league in Fitchburg. Despite losses to varsity teams from Fitchburg High School and Gardner the team is gaining valuable experience and playing time.

Coach Sulmasy's team was edged by Gardner 44-39 in a highly competitive and exciting game. Zack Alves, Anthony Quarterone, Matt Wade and Jacoby Venne stood out with strong efforts and performances. Anthony Quarterone is playing in both varsity leagues and the sophomore, with his now increasing scoring and rebounding, is taking advantage of the opportunity.

Quarterone has also been an emerging team leader with the younger team in Fitchburg which has been noticed and appreciated by the summer coaching staff and, more importantly, his teammates.

Coach John Leonard will be back again conducting his advanced skills development clinic on Thursday, July 27 at the Quabbin High School gym. Participation is very limited as instruction is very personalized so any player interested should sign up with a summer coaching staff member.

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- sports -

MUTINY | FROM PAGE 9

June 12, the Mutiny had a 3-0-1 record.

Their leading goal scorer at that point of the regular season was Catherine Berry, who headed back to University of South Carolina to prepare for the upcoming fall soccer season.

Had Berry been able to play in every regular season match, the Mutiny, who posted a 1-2-1 mark during the second half of the regular season, would've probably been hosting a playoff match for the second consecutive year.

A year ago, the Mutiny lost to FC Buffalo, 2-1, in the East Conference semifinals at Lusitano Stadium.

"Having to play a midweek playoff game on the road is always a very difficult thing to do," Cunningham said. "Hopefully, we can get a good group of players for our playoff game. It has been a lot of fun being a member of this soccer team and I'm hoping to

come back again next year."

The start of last Saturday's match was delayed for an hour due to lightning.

Once the weather did clear up, the Mutiny took a 1-0 lead during the second minute of the opening half.

Jenna Kalwa, who's the head coach of the University of Saint Joseph women's soccer team, began the scoring play by sending a pass to Catherine Bean in the middle of the box. Bean finished off the play by blasting a shot into the upper left corner past Rush goalie Alessandra Augur.

Bean, who's from Westfield, will be a junior on the Bryant University women's soccer team in the fall.

She gave the Mutiny a 2-0 advantage by converting a rebound goal during the 23rd minute.

The Mutiny other local players, who saw action in the regular season finale, were Hope Santaniello (Aga-

wam), Laura Gouvin (Monson), Ela Kopec (Ludlow), Brooke Samborski (Chicopee), and Alexis Legowski (South Hadley). Julia Robak (Chicopee) was the back-up goalkeeper.

The Rush (1-6-1) cut the deficit in half a couple of minutes later following Ellery Winkler's first goal of the contest.

A little more than five minutes into the second half, the Mutiny had another scoring chance on a header in the box by Rachel Marchini following a corner kick, but it just sailed wide.

The Mutiny managed to hold onto the one goal lead until the 74th minute when Winkler fired a low shot into the right corner of the net past Kopac tying the score at 2-2.

Marchini missed another header and the Mutiny had to settle for the draw.



Laci Lewis gets ready to clear the ball.



Laura Gauvin gets past an opponent.



Catherine Bean tries to corral the ball. TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

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- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Commoner
 - 5. Tea leaf
 - 11. They save you a table
 - 14. Submissions
 - 15. Secretly revealed
 - 18. Personification of the sea (Norse)
 - 19. Unreal
 - 21. No seats available
 - 23. Bangladeshi currency
 - 24. Leaders
 - 28. Famed garden
 - 29. Denotes past
 - 30. Not living
 - 32. Midway between south and southeast
 - 33. Small island (British)
 - 35. Woman (French)
 - 36. Wife
 - 39. Two-toed sloth
 - 41. Blood group
 - 42. Soaks
 - 44. Biu-Mandara language of Cameroon
 - 46. Japanese prefecture
 - 47. Place to be during a rock concert
 - 49. Fully grown humans
 - 52. Emaciation
 - 56. Sparkling
 - 58. Fruits you peel
 - 60. Derived from a noun
 - 62. Popular items to grill
 - 63. Port in Yemen
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Before
 - 2. Actress Dunham
 - 3. This (Spanish)
 - 4. Director Peter
 - 5. Dominant
 - 6. English artists' society (abbr.)
 - 7. NY Giants legend
 - 8. It's in the ground
 - 9. No No No
 - 10. Pesky insect
 - 12. Danish-American muckraking journalist
 - 13. Kids love to do it
 - 16. Good Gosh!
 - 17. Fakes
 - 20. A citizen of Denmark
 - 22. Mystic syllable
 - 25. Commercial
 - 26. Letter of the Hebrew alphabet
 - 27. Helpers
 - 29. Water (French)
 - 31. Young woman
 - 34. Red-brown sea bream
 - 36. Messenger ribonucleic acid
 - 37. Comprehends
 - 38. Walk with confidence
 - 40. Home of the Flyers
 - 43. Appetizer
 - 45. News organization
 - 48. Source of the Nile
 - 50. A way to march
 - 51. Soluble ribonucleic acid
 - 53. Egyptian bull-god
 - 54. Children's author Blyton
 - 55. Baseball pitching stat
 - 57. Rude young person
 - 58. Table napkin
 - 59. Monetary unit in Asia
 - 61. One-time AL MVP Vaughn

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TREASURES | FROM PAGE 1

Linda Guinee had dishes, jewelry, and kitchen aides including travel mugs and blenders. Her jewelry box was truly the star piece with a beautiful pink rose.

Jenny Singvongsa and Odessa Gaulin, a best friend duo, had many things at their table including adorable plants and home décor. Jenny had her small business of seven years, Cotton Nostalgia, at their table as well.

Singvongsa's talent in upcycling clothing is shown in a pair of comfortable sweats, a cute T-shirt with flowers, and handmade hair scrunchies made of scrap fabric. Singvongsa upcycles clothes from thrift stores and uses her degree in fashion to create something new.

She is joined by her best friend, Gaulin, at various pop-ups for her business, and the pair work wonderfully well together. Cotton Nostalgia can be found on Instagram.

Raising funds for the Veteran's

Shelter on Grove Street in Worcester, is David and Linda Fortier. Their table featured baseball cards, signed baseballs, and hunting knives with beautifully decorated handles.

The Fortiers donate what they make selling these things in honor of their late son, who was a U.S. Marine, to honor him and the other brave men and women who fought for this country.

Laurel Weissman's table was filled with different styles of clothing from T-shirts to shorts to dresses. She was also advertising her business, Thrifting With Laurel, which can be found on social media.

The mother-daughter duo Nancy and Teri DiPilato had a table set up with countless books and movies and trinkets from Nancy's time as a Spanish teacher.

Brookfield Orchards has one more flea market scheduled this year on Saturday, Aug. 19 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m.



Nancy, left, and her mother Teri DiPilato with their booth and case of beautiful jewelry.



Laurel Weissman with her booth set up for her small business, Thrifting With Laurel.



David and Linda Fortier are shown with their collection of hunting knives. The Fortiers donated proceeds from their booth to a veterans shelter. TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS



Linda Guinee with her booth of treasures.

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 13, 2023.**

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Deadline for Calendar submissions is August 16.

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JHPL hosts author Ashley Hope Perez

STURBRIDGE – The Joshua Hyde Public Library in conjunction with other central Massachusetts libraries, will host Ashley Hope Perez to discuss her book “How to Fight Book Bans & Stand Up for

the Right to Read” on Wednesday, Aug. 2 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. Pérez is an assistant professor of world literature at The Ohio State University and the author of three novels including “Out of Dark-






ness” (2015), which has been on the American Library Association’s list of Top 10 Most Challenged Books since 2021. For more information or to register, visit sturbridgelibrary.org.

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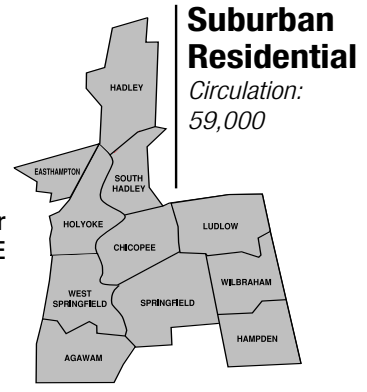
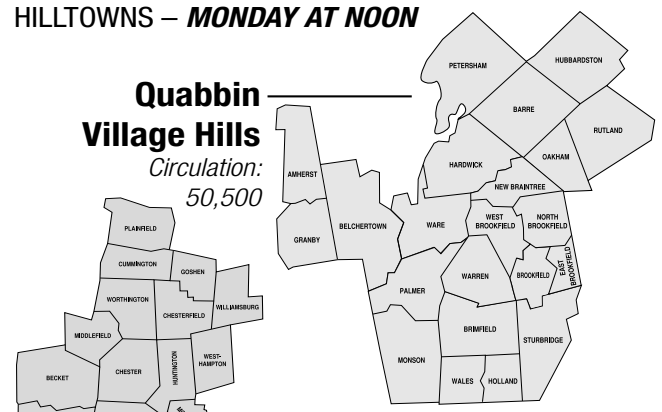
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Country Bank recognizes the President's Platinum recipient

WARE – Country Bank, a full-service financial institution serving Central and Western Massachusetts, announced the recipient of the 2023 President's Platinum Award.

The Bank's recognition program, "Above and Beyond," encourages team members to look for coworkers who embody the Bank's corporate values of Integrity, Service, Teamwork, Excellence, and Prosperity. Within this program, members can receive different levels of recognition: Silver Spotlight, Gold Star, and the President's Platinum.

"Country Bank's team members contribute to the Bank's success in many ways throughout the year, and we are delighted to celebrate their contributions. The 2023 President's Platinum award was presented to Crystal Mansfield, Customer Experience and Sales Support Specialist. Crystal embodies the Bank's corporate values in every interaction she has. In addition, her nominator recognized her contributions to the organization, customers, and coworkers. The Country Bank team is extremely dedicated, knowledgeable, and committed to delivering the best service to their external and internal customers," said Paul Scully, President and CEO of Country Bank in a press release.

"I am extremely honored to have been named a recipient of the Presidential Platinum Award! Thank you to my colleague for nominating me and to Paul for selecting me to receive this year's award. My focus is always on a positive customer experience. Supporting, listening to, and finding customer solutions is simply the best part of my job. I could not do what I do without all the amazing team members at Country Bank. I am humbled to receive this award and appreciate that Country Bank has a culture that supports and recognizes the contributions of the team," said Mansfield.

About Country Bank

Country Bank is one of the Commonwealth's most highly capitalized mutual savings banks, offering full-service consumer and commercial banking services. Country Bank serves Central and Western Massachusetts with 14 offices in Ware, Palmer, West Brookfield, Brimfield, Belchertown, Wilbraham, Ludlow, Leicester, Paxton, Charlton, Springfield, and Worcester. Country Bank is an FDIC, DIF, and SUM network member.

Country Bank can be reached by calling 800-322-8233 or visiting countrybank.com.



The 2023 President's Platinum award was presented to Crystal Mansfield, Customer Experience and Sales Support Specialist. She is shown with Paul Scully, President and CEO of Country Bank. SUBMITTED PHOTO

SENIOR | FROM PAGE 1

rear and the front of the building.

In the front of the building, most of the parking spaces would be on an angle to minimize the space used.

"Accessible parking is both in the front and in the rear, depending on where your needs are for access in the building," Murray said.

Murray said there will be two entrances, one located in the front and the other in the rear.

A six-foot high fence will be installed along the property line to screen the residential area from the parking area.

Murray said the generator will be moved from the western side of the building to the front, and it will be screened with landscaping to preserve the Main Street view of the building.

The Snellville School memorial, which is located near the front of the building, will be maintained and "spruced up" with new plantings.

Murray said they have added deep sump catch basins and infiltration chambers in the rear and the front of the building. Overflows will go in the wooded area.

Planning Board Chair Charles Blanchard said the bids for the project came in higher than expected, and one way to reduce costs would be to switch from underground chambers to a retention pond.

Murray said they could create a berm to hold the water in for an above ground detention/retention pond with an overflow.

"Another option that has also been discussed, is potentially going into the wooded area along the eastern side where we'd remove the trees and put a long detention pond there as well, or in place of the one along the street," Murray said. Re-grading would be necessary for the pond, but they would save on excavation costs of having to dig for the underground chambers.

Another cost-saving measure would include eliminating an areaway that would house mechanical equipment, and instead installing a simple railing that connects to the screened/fenced dumpster area and have concrete pads built into the hill for the mechanical

equipment.

"The savings there is to eliminate a couple of retaining walls, and we're also minimizing and lessening the overall impervious area," McKeivitz said.

Murray said this design is still in the early planning stages.

McKeivitz said the addition would add 8,000 square feet, bringing the total to around 16,000 square feet. This includes 3,000 square feet in the basement, which will result in 13,000 square feet of programable space in the Senior Center.

Town Planner Jean Bubon said the application and plans have been distributed to all departments, boards and commissions as required.

The hearing will be continued to Tuesday, Aug. 29 at 6:35 p.m. to review the stormwater design change as suggested.

150 Charlton Road

An approximately 6.1 acre parcel in the industrial park district at 150 Charlton Road is the proposed location for an 8,000 square foot building. Currently, a cell tower is located on the parcel.

The building is expected to house a medical device manufacturer.

The building would be connected to utilities such as electricity and sewer via Charlton Road.

There would be 16 parking spaces on the property. Light poles would be installed around the perimeter of the parking area, as well as on the building itself.

One van-accessible parking space will be located at the front of the building.

The dumpster would be located in the back.

A transportation impact study determined that the project would operate at "acceptable conditions" and no safety deficiencies along Route 20 and the available lines of sight exceeded the recommended distances for safe operations.

The bulk of the site traffic would be to and from the south.

Bubon said there was nothing major noted after town officials had reviewed the plan, and she recommended approval.

The Board approved the site plan with conditions.

Route 20 roundabout update

Bubon said once the roundabout reached 16% design completion for Noble Energy, they realized that considerable land taking needed to occur near the bank, Seven Hills and 198 Charlton Road.

She said the property owners were not happy, but willing to work with the town.

Bubon said the Massachusetts Department of Transportation handed the land taking over to the town, which would have required town meeting.

"We kind of pushed back a little bit," Bubon said, adding that it was somewhat "unrealistic."

She said after talking with state representatives and senators, they met with MassDOT again.

MassDOT committed to working with the town to go back to the signalized intersection, for which the developer agreed to pay.

Bubon said they received a letter of support from MassDOT to amend the town's MassWorks grant, and they can now use it for the design of the signalized intersection.

She said the travel plaza will be opening under stop sign controls, but the electric vehicle center will not be opening until the signalized intersection is installed.

"Finally, I feel like we are all on the same page," Bubon said.

Affordable housing unit

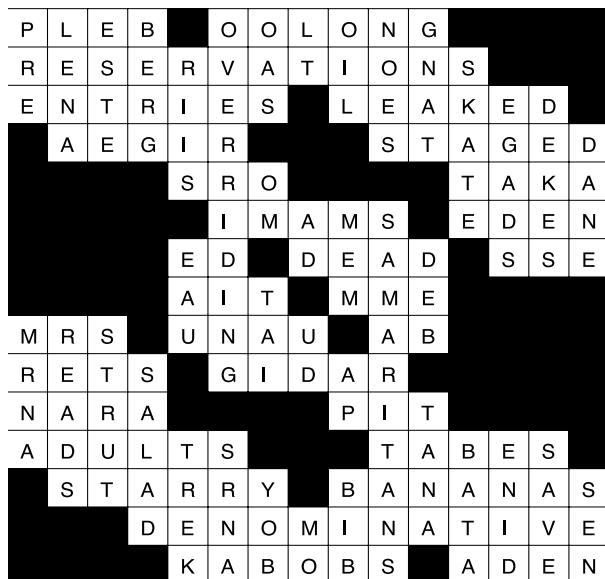
Habitat for Humanity is accepting applications for the affordable housing unit located at 226 Cedar St., which should be move-in ready in August. Income guidelines and requirements are on the town's website, sturbridge.gov.

"It's a fantastic opportunity for someone to own their own home in town," Bubon said.

Reorganization

Blanchard was reappointed to the position of chair, along with Sue Waters as vice-chair/clerk.

Taylor Stedman was appointed as representative to the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission.



Quaboag Current
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

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QUABOAG CURRENT



REGION Quabbin coach and teacher remembered p6	BROOKFIELD 'Wild Bill Swim' returns Aug. 20 p3	STURBRIDGE Big Band concert July 27 p2	Editorial/Opinion Sports Classifieds	4 9 14
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Volume 14, Number 42

Friday, July 21, 2023

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For further information call Randall at (413) 436-5357 or email adventuretours@att.net or go to www.adventuretoursofwarren.com

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