

Volume 17, Number 35

4th annual Band Together for Tyler's Heart at Common Ground

By Ryan Drago Staff Writer rdrago@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD -Common Ground Ciderworks was the home of the 4th annual Band Together for Mental Health Event for Tyler's Heart this past Saturday.

Tyler's Heart is a nonprofit organization dedicated to support mental health awareness in honor of Tyler Kubert and Grace Boos. Its mission is to bring awareness to mental health by providing education and resources to local schools and communities and continuing acts of kindness.

Along with the Band Together event, the event started out with the 2nd annual Ride Together. The ride consisted of over 20 motorcyclists who ded-

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From left to right, Jamie Dodge, Paul Haynes, Elissa Boos, Jim Boos, Alysia Kubert and Jenn Spangenberg in front of the Tyler's Heart booth during the Band Together event at Common Ground Ciderworks. TURLEY PHOTO BY RYAN DRAGO

# 'Listening for the Light' Brookfield artists display joint show at gallery

By Paula Ouimette Editor pouimette@turley.com

WEST BROOKFIELD Brookfield artists Vanessa Varjian and Cruger Johnson Phillips have joined together to display their paintings at their show "Listening for the Light," opening on Friday, Aug. 2 from 5-7 p.m. at West Brookfield Art & Frame Gallery, 10 East Main St.

"In any two-dimensional art, it's all about the light," gallery owner Rebecca Fay said of the show, which will be on display through the month of August.

tention," she said.

Varjian, who is inspired by the natural world around her through her years as a farm laborer and landscaper, said she has always been drawn to the light. She's been painting since she was 3 years old, and said her paintings are her "heart."

"I am attracted to the drama of intense sunlight in the landscape, filtered through foliage and across tree trunks, veils of neon color intersecting shadows," she said.

Varjian is a plein air painter d enjoys capturing this light by painting outdoors, allowing her to further enhance her interpretation of her environment's energy.



Three trucks with their hoods up, sparkling in the sun. TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS

Drivin' it Ho(l)me

# Brewery hosts car show tor health and education

#### **Board approves** interim library appointments

**By Paula Ouimette** Editor pouimette@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD -Board of Selectmen Vice-Chair Elizabeth "Brooke" Canada read a letter from the Haston Library Board of Trustees recommending the appointment of Youth Services Librarian Brianna Lamb to the position of interim Library Director following the resignation of Amy Vessella.

The Trustees also recommended appointing Assistant Librarian Gabrielle Holmes to

Fay explained her interpretation of what "Listening for the Light" means, saying it's more than just visual.

"I interpret that to mean you not only have to see it, but what is the light telling you to paint or draw...the light demands at-

Before moving to Brookfield, Varjian lived near Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary in Worcester for some time, and was regularly inspired by its stunning landscapes.

See ARTISTS | PAGE 7

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

BROOKFIELD - For the past three years, Oakholm Brewing Company has hosted a classic and vintage car show by UMASS Memorial Health,

Harrington Hospital, and the Chamber of Central Mass South.

The proceeds of the event went towards benefiting the health and education offered by these organizations by providing scholarships for stu-See BREWERY | PAGE 12

the position of interim Youth Services Librarian. Both Lamb and Holmes will assume their interim positions on Aug. 14 and return to their regular positions when a new Library Director has been hired.

Board members approved these recommendations at their July 16 meeting.

See LIBRARY | PAGE 7



#### Upcoming events you won't want to miss

July 25: BBQ, Beer, and a Band Aug. 3: Lost Towns Brewing Beer Garden Aug. 22: BBQ, Beer, and a Band Sep. 19: BBQ, Beer, and a Band

More info: FarmerMatt.com/events (508) 980-7085

# Federated Church announces Aug. 10 community event

STURBRIDGE – The Federated Church of Sturbridge & Fiskdale invites the local community to attend an Open House and Family Activity Day from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 10, on the church grounds at 8 Maple St.

The event is open to the general public free of charge and no advance registration is required.

According to Reverend David W. Cote, pastor, the event will include a cookout prepared by the church men's and women's groups, Crossroads and Koinonia.

"All are welcome to attend the cookout with church members for conversation and fellowship," he said.

Sturbridge Scout Troop 161, which meets at the church on Sunday evenings, will organize a variety of children's games on the church lawn. Kathy Krikorian will offer face painting, and Judy LaVergne will be holding story time in Fellowship Hall.

The Federated Church's music director, Andrew Kosiba will provide musical entertainment throughout the event.

"We're also throwing the Meeting House doors wide open for tours to showcase the partial renovations we've accomplished over the past six months," said Cote. "We're eager to share our additional plans for this historic building with the community, and reintroduce our Sunday School, adult study groups, and other faith-based programs."

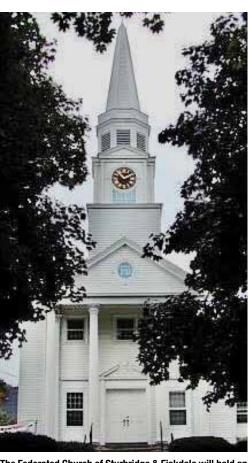
"Parents and children in attendance will have an opportunity to attend a meet-andgreet in Fellowship Hall with a few of our CORI-certified Sunday School teachers," said Cote. "Starting this fall, our staff will



The Federated Church member Bob Knight is heating up the grill for the Aug. 10 Open House and Family Activity Day. *SUBMITTED PHOTOS* 

be available during the Sunday service to supervise up to 25 children, aged 6 months to 10 years of age while their parents attend church. The Sunday School will encourage Christian morals and ethics, within their understanding and age level, through story time, videos, crafts, and other activities aligned with that Sunday's teachings and sermons."

The Federated Church of Sturbridge & Fiskdale joyfully celebrates Christ's presence and God's grace in our lives. Community members are welcome and invited to join in



The Federated Church of Sturbridge & Fiskdale will hold an Open House and Family Activity from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 10 on church grounds at 8 Maple St.

worship on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

Services are also live streamed on the church's Facebook page. For more information, call 774-304-1021 or visit sturfed.org.

## St. Aloysius Catholic School lists honor roll

HARDWICK – St. Aloysius Catholic School in Gilbertville listed students named to the honor roll. High Honors

Jason Aller and Hannah LaRochelle.

Honors Alex Velez, Dianne Aller, Jackson Boudreau, Olivia

Mosso, Sophia Adams, Aria Carfagna, Rose Theriault and Christopher Rice.





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#### Cultural Council seeks input from residents

NORTH BROOK-FIELD – The North Brookfield Cultural Council is looking for input from residents.

If you are a resident, please fill out our survey on the North Brookfield Cultural Council Facebook page by Aug.15.

Are you are interested in the arts, humanities and sciences? The cultural council is also looking for new members. If you'd like to join the Council, email nbculturalcouncil@gmail.com.

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# Summer savings extended at Old Sturbridge Village

STURBRIDGE - Old Sturbridge Village is reminding visitors that only a few days remain to take advantage of the "Friends and Family Discount," offering 20% off standard full-price daytime admission for groups of six or more.

This limited-time promotion, available on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from now until Aug. 2, has just been extended to include Saturday, July 27, and Sunday, July 28 to incorporate the popular Music and Art Weekend.

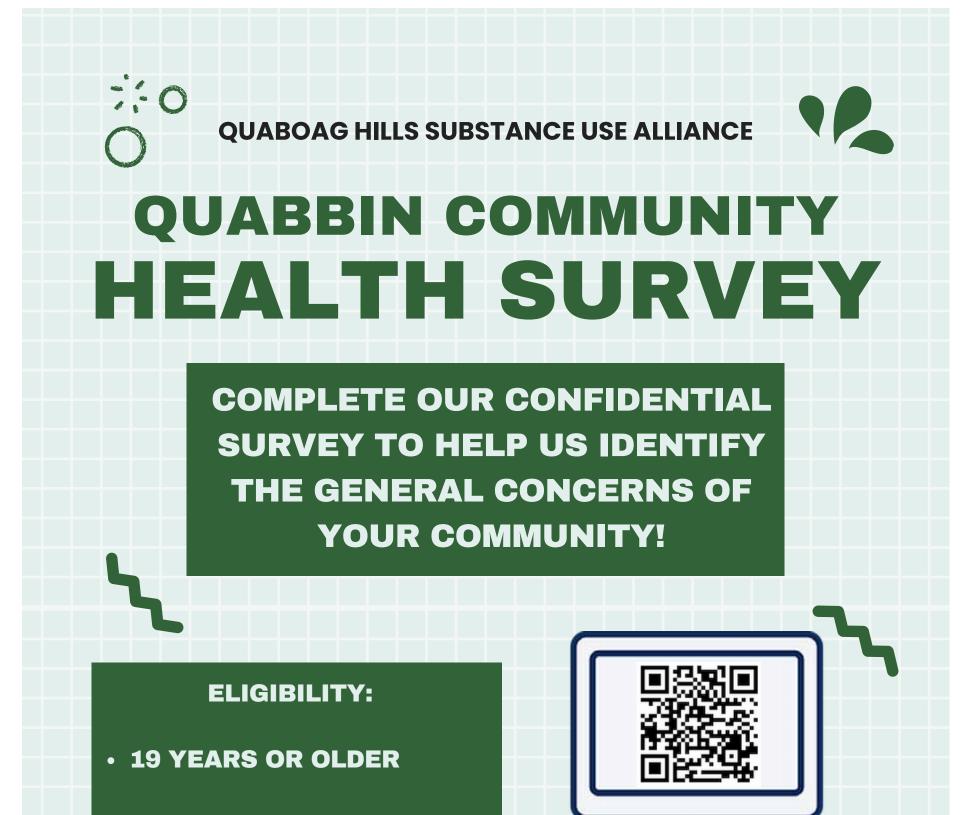
Visitors to Old Sturbridge Village can explore the extensive historical exhibits that bring early 19th-century New England to life. The museum features over 40 historic buildings, including the mill neighborhood, blooming gardens and heritage-breed animals.

Visitors can experience interactive demonstrations of traditional crafts and trades and engage with costumed historians who offer in-depth insights into the past.

"Summer is the perfect time to take your group for

a visit to Old Sturbridge Village," said Christine Tieri, Chief Advancement Officer at Old Sturbridge Village in a press release. "With engaging, hands-on activities for all ages, history is as fun as it is educational. Create great summer memories while saving money with this special promotion!"

To purchase tickets or for more information, please visit https://www.osv.org/event/friends-and-familysummer-discount-days/.



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# July questions for the Garden Lady

ichelle, who is enjoying the gardens in her new home in Worthington, sent the Garden Lady a picture of a spiky leafed plant that produces strong stems of creamy-white bell shaped flowers.

She asked for the plant to be identified and also wanted some tips on caring for the unidentified species.

The plant that Michelle discovered growing in her new landscape is Yucca (Yucca filamentosa), also known by the common names Adam's Needle or Ghost Lily. The plant produces basal foliage that is stiff, long and sharp to the touch due to needle-like tips.

Arising from the center of the plant are stems that carry the flowers. They can range up to eight feet tall.

It's my theory that the tall flower-covered stems must give it a ghostly appearance by the light of the moon, hence where it gets its other common name. Thread-like filaments line the leaves, giving it the species name "filamentosa."

These threads provide added interest in the landscape.

As long as it isn't planted in dense shade or moist soil, the Yucca can grow in just about any difficult spot that you can imagine. Animals won't touch it. Salt spray won't affect it.

Your soil, as long as it's of neutral pH can even be of poor quality. Your choice spot can also be droughty and hot.

It requires very little in the maintenance department other than cutting away brown leaves and flower stalks that have gone by. More severe pruning is only needed if the plant is growing out of bounds.

Sometimes Yuccas produce a branch-this can be pruned away so that the basal foliage remains the center of attention.

It was interesting to learn that the Yucca moth pollinates the plant at night. I read that they have a relationship whereby the moths only let an appropriate number of seeds become viable.

Nature is so amazing, isn't it?

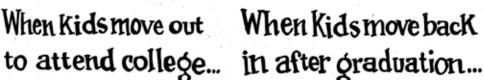
Fruits that form are toxic to cats, dogs and horses but apparently not to humans, although don't take my word for it!

Enjoy your Yucca plant and all of the discoveries a new landscape affords.

Here is another question for the Garden ady – this time involving the strawberry Melissa is curious why the leaves of her strawberries plants have red blotches on them and if it is something she needs to worry about. She noted that she just installed new plants in an area where old strawberry plants were recently removed.

# - opinion -









Early this week I saw two scarlet tanagers

on the gorund in my daughter's driveway. As I drove in, they flew up. The red of the

male was clearly visible. I think the second bird was either a ju-

venile or a female. It has been years since I have seen a scarlet tanager. The previous sighting was one along the side of the road near my house.

The scarlet tanager is about seven inches long. The male is scarlet red as the name implies with black wings and tails. The female is yellowish below and greenish feathers above with gray-

ish brown wings. The juvenile male has patches of red and yellow with dark brown wings and tail. The juvenile female is like the adult female.

They feed on the ground where I spotted these two and in foliage. They eat insects and wild berries. The female lavs two to five pale blue green eggs

A Brimfield resident, who regularly sends emails about birds in his area, also had a comment about the whippoorwill. He said, "I saw you most recent column where you wrote about a woman reporting whippoorwills. We built our house in Brimfield in 1981 and during the summer of 1984 we heard whippoorwills calling behind the house all summer. Unfortunately they have never returned."

#### **Brimfield birds**

In the most recent email from the Brimfield resident, he said, "In the yard I have started to see young birds recently out of their nests. Three juvenile Baltimore orioles were following an adult male

around the yard, also juvenile cardinal (dark bill), male hairy woodpecker (red on top of it head), blue jays (young begging with quivering wings) and towhee have been seen recently. House wren and

great crested flycatcher used nesting boxes in the yard and the young have fledged."

> **Birds near water** The Brimfield resident frequently checks local ponds. He reported the common grackle nesting in a tree cavity, kingbird, chickadee and tree swallow with nests he watched at a pond in Warren all fledged their young.

He also keeps track of four great blue heron nests

#### **OPINION PAGE/** LETTERS POLICY

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

#### Send opinions to:

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



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SOCIAL MEDIA f



This problem is a common one, especially with the weather we've been experiencing. I tackled it once before and the advice still holds true! Read on.

What you describe sounds like leaf spot fungus to me. All of the recent rain apparently awakened some spores from your previous strawberry growing experiences, and the awful humidity set it on its course.

I assessed my own patch and sure enough I too am afflicted! Had I put more thought into my garden I would have ordered resistant varieties, but alas, I was more concerned with size, flavor and freezing ability when I made my selection - it sounds like you were too!

Rest assured that most of the experts usually consider this a cosmetic problem.

See GARDEN | PAGE 6

with brown dots in a nest of twigs, grasses and root-

lets placed in at

tree from five to 75 feet above the ground. Scarlet tanagers inhabit mature, deciduous forests. Tanagers are often heard rather than seen despite the males bright red when in the forest canopy. They make a two part whistle "zureet zeeyeer zeeroo." Their call is a metallic "chip."

Male scarlet tanager

#### Other birds

This past weekend while traveling on Route 122 in Barre, I saw three great blue heron fly over. I often see a lone wild turkey on New Braintree Road in Oakham.

#### Whippoorwills

I received two more comments about whippoorwills since the last column. A Pelham resident sent an email.

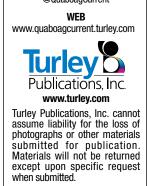
He said, "I live in Pelham and hear an eastern whippoorwill most nights around 8:30. It's a beautiful call."

and said the first nesting herons to start incubating fledged their

young a week ago. The other three nests still have young herons in them.

He also watches an osprey nest, which has three chicks. He said, "About a week ago on a very hot and sunny day I saw that the adult on the nest was spreading its wings to provide shade for the chicks. I watched the nest for over an hour and the adult kept its wings spread the entire time trying to provide shade for the young birds." He said the young stay around the pond for awhile after fledging, sometimes until late August.

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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#### **Quaboag Current** Newspaper

# **Campers learn about wildlife at Camp Marshall**

SPENCER – Last week, campers at Camp Marshall enjoyed a visit from members of the Wickaboag Sportsmen's Club, when they brought a display of native wildlife to Andrews Hall.

Joining the club members was camper Zoe Hebert, a West Brookfield Elementary School student and the recent winner of the club's Fifth Grade Essay Contest. Hebert's essay gave a detailed description of the Wood Duck, a once endangered (now thriving) waterfowl in the commonwealth.

Hebert earned a full week's stay at Camp Marshall as a prize for her winning essay. This is something the club does every year, to help promote a love of the outdoors in young people.

Campers were able to view tables set up with feathers, pelts, skulls, antlers and full mounts of the area's native wildlife, from foxes to covotes and bobcats, to turkeys, pheasants and more.

Each campers was given a turkey or pheasant feather to keep.



Paul Lapenas identifies animal pelts with a Camp Marshall counselor.



Dean Wisniewski hands out turkey and pheasant feathers to campers.



Mounted animals were displayed, including this bobcat and turkey.



The Wickaboag Sportsmen's Club displayed a number of pelts, skulls, antlers and mounts in Andrews Hall at Camp Marshall last week. Joining them was recent Fifth Grade Essay Contest winner Zoe Hebert. Shown from left are Dennis Dextradeur, MJ Haesche, Hebert, Paul Lapenas and Dean Wisniewski. TURLEY PHOTOS BY



The Wickaboag Sportsmen's Club brought feathers from different birds found in our area.



MJ Haesche displays a replica Native American fan made from a deer's shoulder bone and various bird feathers.

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

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Please contact Pat James 413-726-8661.

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#### *Ride N2B on MCRT* **Three-day cycling event covers 104 miles of rail trail**

NORTHAMPTON – A three-day cycling adventure will cover 104-miles of Mass Central Rail Trail Sept. 20-22, starting in Northampton and ending in Boston.

This historic rail corridor is becoming the longest rail trail in New England. Currently, the corridor is 60% finished and its completion is a state priority, expected to bring in over \$200 million in new revenue to cities and towns it passes through.

Once completed, the MCRT will span 120 miles across the commonwealth.

"Ride N2B on the MCRT" will make roughly 12 stops along the route with overnight stays in Ware and Hudson. Presentations by local advocates, community leaders and historians will be made at these stops to spread awareness about efforts to continue the MCRT.

"Each day we'll be having rest stops, an outdoor lunch, and an evening dinner event. At each of the stops and events, we'll be meeting with local leaders who are eager to get the rail trail finished," Norwottuck Network Chairman Craig Della Penna said in a pree release.

The ride will have 12-15 riders for the whole route with other riders encouraged to join for parts of each day.

For information about the ride and joining a section, contact Della Penna at craigdp413@gmail.com.

# - community -

# Haston library announces temporary summer hours

NORTH BROOKFIELD – From July 22 through Aug. 13, the Haston Free Public Library will temporarily adjust its operating hours to reflect its reduced staff so please mark your calendars.

The library will be open on Mondays and Thursdays from 4-7 p.m. and Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 2-5 p.m. The Trustees look forward to adding more operating hours in mid-August.

Check the library's website, Facebook page, and signage outside the building for up-to-date information.

#### **GARDEN | FROM PAGE 4**

To try and get the upper hand on leaf spot, remove affected leaves and put them in the trash. Provide plenty of air flow by thinning away extra runners as recommended and avoid overhead watering.

Not that we can help what Mother Nature dishes out, since it has been coming from "on high" by the bucket of late!

Next year after harvest, renovate your strawberry patch with the lawn mower on an elevated setting. Rake up and get rid of the chopped leaves, thin out the patch and watch as it grows back happy and healthy.

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.

#### Part Time Library Assistant Position

Tuesdays 2pm-6pm & Fridays 4pm-7pm. Also some fill in hours when needed. Computer skills necessary.
Knowledge of Dewey Decimal System. Should be able to follow directions and be detail orientated.
Full job description at the library. Send resume to
Gilbertville Public Library, PO Box 535, Gilbertville, MA 01031 by August 2, 2024. Position begins Sept.10, 2024.

# Sons of Legion host scholarship golf tournament

OAKHAM – The Sons of the American Legion, Post 244, West Brookfield is hosting its 19th Annual "Scholarship Scramble" Golf Tournament on Saturday, Aug. 10, at Quail Hollow Country Club.

The tournament is 18 holes and has an 8 a.m. shotgun start. A chicken dinner will follow at the Legion Post in West Brookfield.

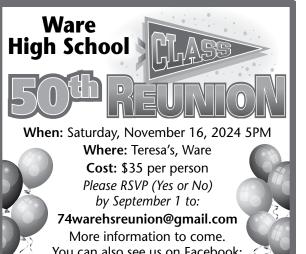
The cost is \$120 per person and must be received by Aug. 3. For more information, call Kevin at 774-230-3262.

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#### LIBRARY | FROM PAGE 1

#### Spending requests

The Fire Department requested approval to spend \$1,540 for mandated air pack flow test, \$1,250 for mandated air compressor annual service, \$1,000 for mandated hydrotesting of storage tanks, \$5,000 for mandated hose testing and \$192 for three replacement panels for turnout gear

The department also requested approval to spend \$171 each for two water extinguishers for Engine 1 and Tower 1.

"These are required to be on the trucks as part of their Class A pumper status," Canada said.

The board approved the requests. Special town meeting

The board approved the warrant for a special town meeting which will be held on Wednesday, July 31 at 6 p.m. at the North Brookfield Police Department Training Room.

There are two articles on the warrant related to the Sewer Department, with article 1 asking voters to establish a Sewer Stabilization account and article 2 asking voters to transfer money from Sewer Retained Earnings to the Sewer Stabilization account.

Administrative Assistant Ashley Barre said the town is required to retain \$50,000 in order to meet the requirements of the U.S. Department of Agriculture grant.

Cider Mill bridge

The board approved the Chapter 90

#### "I just ask people to try to respect town property and keep it nice." he said.

that feeds the pond.

the BSC Group.

it," he said.

town property and keep it nice," he said. "If we have to go back and repair things, we're just taking steps back."

reimbursement for the Cider Mill bridge

said this amount paid for engineering

services through Fuss & O'Neill. He

said the firm has since been replaced by

Public comment Parks & Recreation Committee

Chair Brandon Avery requested that

people respect town property, saying

there have been complaints of teenagers hanging off of and bending the new

basketball hoops on the town common,

and throwing logs in the Town Forest

Park pond and boards into the stream

"This \$33,000 will pay off Fuss & O'Neill and we're being reimbursed for

Town Administrator Michael Szlosek

project in the amount of \$33,193.

#### New business

The board agreed to hold off on making annual appointments for the town's boards and committees, and just appoint the town officials.

Canada said there are a lot of vacancies on the boards and committees, and she encouraged people to reach out to the Town Clerk or the board to express interest in a position.

#### ARTISTS | FROM PAGE 1

Drawn to trees, water and flowers, Varjian likes to focus her paintings (which are mix of acrylic layered with oil paints), on filtered, small areas.

"It's always that kind of portal...filtered light," Varjian said.

Phillips's paintings are more contemporary, but light plays just as strong of a role, drawing your eye to the vibrant colors of her bold pieces.

"Turning to abstraction has been a natural progression as I seek to express a hidden wholeness in color and composition," she said.

Last year was Phillips' first official exhibit as an artist, after having worked as a hospice chaplain up until her retirement. Prior to moving to Brookfield, Phillips lived in Connecticut and always dreamed of becoming an artist.

"I loved art when I was a little girl," she said.

Phillips was told by somebody that if she wanted to become a good artist, she would need to On Friday, Sept. 6, local artist, Karen Thompson Bullock and rare book dealer, Ron Bullock, present recent book restorations from their collection along with new, hand bound, blank books made by Karen. An artists' reception will be held from 5-7 p.m.

On Friday, Oct. 4 from 5-7 p.m. the gallery will host an opening reception for the second annual Jewelry Show, featuring three local jewelry makers, Jennifer Geldard, Cathe Palo and Cassandra Goldwater.

On Friday, Nov. 15 the gallery will hold its eighth annual Small Works Show with an opening reception from 5-7 p.m.

Gallery hours at West Brookfield Art & Frame are Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sundays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.



The Love Dogs will perform at Powder Mill Park on Sunday, July 28 from 2-5 p.m. as part of the Parks & Recreation Commission's 2024 Summer Concert Series.

# **'Love Dogs' perform at Summer Concert Series**

SPENCER – The Spencer Parks & Recreation Commission 2024 Summer Concert Series continues from 2-5 p.m. on Sunday, July 28 at Powder Mill Park, corner Smithville and Meadow Roads, Spencer with the Love Dogs.

Take one red-hot horn section, add liberal amounts of barrelhouse boogie-woogie piano, stinging Fender guitar, a funky and swinging rhythm section that "Blues Review" magazine called "the best in the business", and top it all off with a crazy and charismatic front man with one of the biggest blues voices around and you've got the Love Dogs.

The band is seasoned with years on the road tearing up juke joints, concert halls and festivals, while releasing four critically acclaimed CDs. It's a recipe

SPENCER – The Spencer Parks & for music, mayhem, intensity and irrevcreation Commission 2024 Summer erence – it's the Love Dogs.

> A food truck will be on site with beverages and various food items.

> Next up in this series that runs through Aug. 18 will be The New England Yacht Club on Aug. 4.

> The concert series is proudly sponsored by Cornerstone Bank.

> Serving Worcester County, Cornerstone Bank's local presence and community-based banking model enables a unique ability to deliver outstanding service, with a personal touch. Cornerstone provides the highest level of service and expertise for individuals, businesses, and community organizations with branch locations throughout central Massachusetts.

# Vendors needed for Flea Market on the Common

WEST BROOKFIELD –The First Congregational Church, 36 North Main St. has been hosting its Flea Market on the town Common for more than 50 years and this year it will be held on Saturday, Sept. 14 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

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

Spaces are available for \$40 for a 20 by 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 to fccofwbfleamarket@gmail.com for an application.

paint 1,000 paintings.

"I did 3,000," she said. "I painted and painted and painted a lot of terrible art."

Fay said both artists have been wonderful additions to the gallery, and she encouraged all to attend the opening reception and support local artists.

Other gallery happenings

On Saturday, July 27, the gallery will host "Tunes, Java Brews & Artist Views" from 7-10 p.m. The gallery and it's favorite neighbor, The Joy Of Beans coffee roasters, join forces for a fun, outdoor, summer evening with live music from local singer/songwriter Adelaide Fay and her band.





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#### HEART | FROM PAGE 1

icated their time for a 73-mile ride, also known as the Quabbin Run.

This is the biggest fundraising event for Tyler's Heart and it raises about \$8,000 each year. Funds are raised through raffles and generous donations. The Band Together has always been hosted by Common Ground Ciderworks who had their backfield filled with games, vendors, food, drinks and prizes.

"Each year it grows bigger and bigger," Alysia Kubert said.

This organization continues to make mental health a priority and promote conversations with friends and families to open up about their feelings. Helping individuals and families out through education and resources is part of the Tyler's Heart mission.

Tyler's Heart also awards a \$2,000 scholarship every year to a high school graduate. The organization also provides peer-to-peer support.

There is a sharing wellness library in the center of North Brookfield in honor of Grace Boos. Wellness books for Children, Teens and Adults are available.

Tyler's Heart also provides journals for local schools in the area and those go to students.

"We want to empower the children with a positive mindset and coping skills," Kubert said. Another annual event Tyler's Heart has is Comedy for Cash over at the Auburn Elks. The organization helps raise money to support local families who have had experience with suicide loss.

Donations to Tyler's Heart can be sent at tylersheart.org. They can also be followed on Facebook and Instagram, @kubesheart.

11-year-old Lukas Dodge kicked off the Band Together event by singing the national anthem. Many bands played throughout the day on the outdoor stage of Common Ground Ciderworks.

Many vendors were first time vendors at this fundraiser and were all local, including Laser Worx of West Brookfield works on custom engravings. They had various items such as bottle openers, pens, coasters and glassware.

Sharon Wellman was at Common Ground offering custom apparel, signs and banners at her booth.

"I have something for everyone," Wellman said.

Tyler's Heart Band Together and Ride Together for Mental Health continues to grow and continues to spread mental health awareness and support for those who need them. The organization appreciates the support of Common Ground Ciderworks for hosting this charitable event every year.



Paul Haynes is the director of events for Tyler's Heart and shared some information during his introduction.





Many guests participated in raffles taking place at the fourth annual Tyler's Heart Band Together for Mental Health. TURLEY PHOTOS BY RYAN DRAGO



Merchandise was available including shirts, patches, journals, cups, stickers and bandanas.



An ice cream truck was parked and ready to serve during Tyler's Heart Band Together event.





Ink Fusion was one of the vendors at Tyler's Heart Band Together for Mental Health at Common Ground Ciderworks.

Many great prizes were up for grabs at the raffle.



The North Brookfield High School booth raised money for the student trip to Washington, D.C. in 2025.



More than 20 motorcyclists participated in the Tyler's Heart Ride Together prior to the event at Common Ground Cider Works.

# Exports@turley.com Control Con

AUBURN – The Quabbin boys basketball team has evened their record in the Auburn Summer League at 3-3 with dominant wins over Nipmuc and Main South.

After downing Leicester in the opening game the team, sponsored by E.P. Wine Propane, the Quabbinians had to endure two consecutive losses to Northbridge and Monty Tech.

However, the offense began to develop and the man defense has become more consistent behind the tutorage of summer coaches Tim Hay, Steve Carrington and Luke Brownell.

Emphasizing the passing motion offense and the layers of the read and react several players have matured into scoring threats.

A close win over Nipmuc by a score of 55-47 had the cagers leading the entire game by double digits before Nipmuc went on a run in the final minutes. But the Quabbinisns held on in their first time and score situation this summer season.

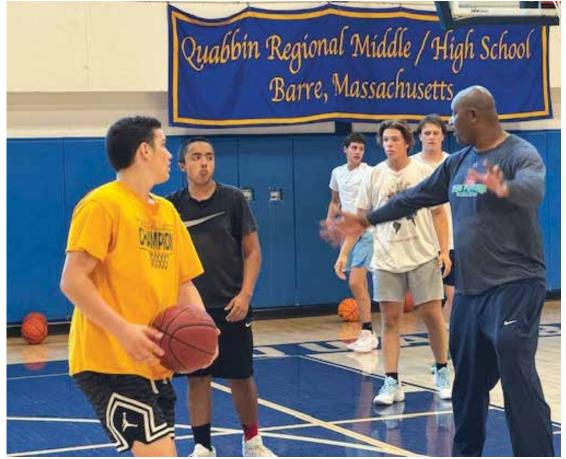
Kyle Clark led the scoring with 17 points and 7 rebounds. He was followed by Jacoby Dilling with 11 points and 6 assists. Quinn Geary also added 11 points in the win.

A convincing win over Main South by a score of 79-39 had Senior Captain Kyle Clark lead the way with a double-double. Clark scored 20 points and coralled 16 rebounds. Jacoby Dilling followed with an impressive performance as well with adding 13 points and a personal best 9 assists. Teammate Brady Patchen had a breakout scoring game with 18 points on a variety of offensive shots while Zeke Santoro posted 12 points many in the low post.

Leading the team overall in scoring is senior power forward Kyle Clark. The 'Big Dawg' has been working diligently on his post skills and perimeter offense as well.

Clark has been training with former UMass standout Chris Kirkland on his inside post up skills, rebounding and

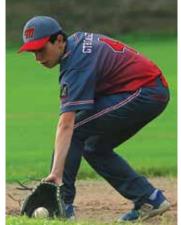
See QUABBIN | PAGE 10



Quabbin's Brady Patchen receives post entry instruction as teammates Teodoro Lopez, Collin Leclare, Zeke Santoro and Kyle Clark await their turn in the low post. SUBMITTED PHOTO

# Post 241 finishes up regular season

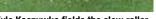




PALMER – Last week, Monson American Legion baseball completed its regular season with a few games last week. One game resulted in a forfeit while Monson played and lost last Thursday against Northampton 11-0. Post 241 would finish the regular season with a 6-10 record. They finished 10th overall in the Senior Legion standings and were scheduled to take on East Springfield in the preliminary round of the zone playoffs. Results and highlights from that matchup will be in next week's edition.







Kyle Kaczuwka fields the slow roller. Niko Matthieu backhands a play.



Jesse Cygan, of Ware, fires to the plate.

Brendan Hess slings a throw to first. *TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID* HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM Hope Santaniello, of Agawam, takes a shot on goal. TURLEY PHOTO BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

# Mutiny wins in double OT to capture conference title

**By Tim Peterson** Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—The New England Mutiny lost a heartbreaker to the Lancaster Inferno FC, 2-1, in the 2019 United Women's Soccer East Conference championship match. The 2019 season was also the Mutiny's first year playing home matches at Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow.

Five years later, the top-seeded Mutiny faced second-seeded Sporting CT in the East Conference finals at Lusitano July 14.

It took 120 minutes to get the job done, but the Mutiny players celebrated a 1-0 overtime victory on a very hot afternoon, last Sunday.

"We went undefeated during the regular season, and it just feels awesome to finally win a championship title," said Agawam's Hope Santaniello, who's the only remaining Mu-

See MUTINY I PAGE 11

# sports -

eturleysports www.turleysports.com **Turleyspc** Athlete of the Month

**SCHOOL:** Quaboag Letendre is one of many players from Quaboag High School working hard on improving her skills at a summer league held in South Hadley.

NAME: Mia Letendre

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.



## Blue Sox pull off big win over Bristol

walked into Saturday night's game on a two game losing streak, 3.5 games behind the Bristol Blues for the division lead, and fell out of the playoff picture. It was a must-win situation against the division leader themselves, the Bristol Blues, in a possible season-changing win. Win and hope to make the playoffs increases monumentally, lose and the chances plummet.

weather decided to make its own imprint on today's game. A late storm before gametime pushed the first pitch back in a 30-minute delay. Regardless, it was just a prelude for the storm that was about to take place on the field. Tonight's game was a thriller, plain and simple. From the opening pitch, to the final strike, it was eye-gluing baseball and a battle of both pitching and hitting. Both teams went out the depth of their bullpen to the test, with the Blue Sox using four pitchers, and the Blues seven. From the opening pitch however, it was clear tonight's game would not be a pitcher's paradise. Off an early Jay Bant single in the bottom of the first inning, the Blue Sox brought Logan Hugo home early to take a 1-0 lead. Minutes later, in the top of the second, the Blues tied it up thanks to a Thomas Rollaver RBI single. In the bottom of the third and fourth inning, the Blue Sox began growing their lead, scoring six unanswered runs

HOLYOKE - The Valley Blue Sox of their own to take their lead to 7-2 going into the fifth. Ethan Lyke started on the mound for the Blue Sox, pitching four innings total while giving up two earned runs off five hits, tacking-in two strikeouts of his own.

Moving to the sixth inning, the Blues closed the distance, scoring two runs in the top of the inning to cut the lead to three. However, Jonathan Hogart and Derek Williams had other plans. In a Before the game even began, the two punch combo, Hogart hit a double first to bring Logan Hugo home first. Minutes after, on a 0-1 count with two outs and Hogart now stranded at third base, Williams hit a massive shot deep out of the park to center field to give the Blue Sox a 10-4 advantage. Williams now leads the Blue Sox with the most home-runs hit so far this year with four. The Blues ended up making things interesting by cutting the lead to 10-8, but the pitching of Chris Torres over the last two innings sealed the door for a comeback. This Blue Sox win now puts them just 2.5 games behind the Blues for the division lead with two meetings to go, both split at Muzzy and Mackenzie fields. This game also puts the Blue Sox back in the playoff picture as they hold the series lead tiebreaker over the Upper Valley Nighthawks, with no meetings left between the two. With eight games to go on the season, the Blue Sox are once again in full control of their destiny, and their eyes on the Blue's division lead.

#### **QUABBIN | FROM PAGE 9**

footwork. The 6'5 senior emerged in the winter season as a true power forward and has attended numerous clinics and personal training sessions to springboard his game into a new level of performance.

'Preparation Leads to Separation' in the competitive world and Clark knows that the extra work is elevating his skills and helping his team.

With combo guard and forward Quinn Geary adding a slashing skill set to the basket this season the overall offense has picked up. Geary, a 6'2 senior is also an outside shooting threat and enjoys the transition game which is improving.

The fast break transition offense has been emphasized by both coaches Hay and Harrington and the results are beginning to become obvious with scoring averages going up.

The transition game has been sparked by sophomore point guard Jacoby Dilling as he leads the team in assists. He can create shots for his mates but also has demonstrated a propensity to score in variety of offensive ways. He is a threat to see the open driving lanes and score at the basket while developing a solid perimeter scoring game as well.

Jaxon Warburton has improved his ball handling and passing. The 6'0 senior guard has now acquired strong defensive skills and this has the eyes of the coaching staff to now award him the honor of becoming the shut-down lock up defender assigned to the best player on the other team. Warburton seems the relish the role and the program certainly needs a player of that stature. Opponents fear such a player and this can impact any game.

Excelling in the transition game and feeding off the assists of Dilling and Warburton has been the athletic guard Bryce Venne. The speedy senior can get out of the blocks quickly and does most of his scoring by slashing to the iron with economy dribbling. Nobody seems to do it better than the 6'0 speedster.

Maintaining a growing presence on the hardwood has been senior power forward Zeke Santoro. The 6'3 has also been training hard and seems to never miss a clinic opportunity to add to his skill set.

With Santoro and Clark learning the tandem opportunities that are available given their size in the paint they can be a demonstrative scoring threat in the nail-flank and in the rebounding game as well.

Freshmen Brady Patchen has taken on more minutes and his skills on the defensive side of the ball are improving as the hoopsters do execute a lot of switching on defense. The 6'0 combo guard can handle the ball and his strength in getting to the rack has been trouble for opponents to neutralize.

Add classmate Aiden Crane as a perimeter scoring threat and the duo has worked well together.

Crane trains hard and regularly with Coach Chris Kirkland and the skills that he has been adding have certainly elevated his game at both ends of the court.

He has been contributing to the offense especially in the GameOn League as has Patchen in Fitchburg.

Joining the two frosh on maple wood has been fellow incoming classmate Collin Laclare. The 6'2 forward has been scoring in double figures and learning the post game from Kirkland too. Also a regular at every training session that comes available his basketball acumen has been on the rise.

Earning more time on the court has been Evan Sherblom. The 6'1 sophomore can run the transition game and has been a spark defensively.

Clinician Bob Catalini has worked with a number of Quabbinians on shooting and post play.

Coach John Leonard will be returning later this summer for a number of high intensity workouts in areas the hoopsters need.

And Roots Basketball, led by coaches Geoff Billingham and Tim Sheridan are anxious to begin their training regimen with the cagers as well.

The Quabbin players have two highly competitive northeast tournaments coming up fast.

The end of July will have Mass Premier Courts hosting the Wally Seaver Tournament and the beginning of August will feature the Assumption University Shootout.

Coaches Steve Carrington and Tim Hay are excited to be sending a team to both.

Athol Savings Bank has sponsored the Seaver Tournament while Friends of Quabbin basketball have sponsored the team entering the Assumption Shootout.



Quabbin players Kyle Clark and Zeke Santoro have been training with former UMass standout Chris Kirkland. Santoro looks for a power post drive on his defender teammate Kyle Clark in this skill drill. SUBMITTED PHOTO

#### MUTINY | FROM PAGE 9

tiny player from the 2019 squad. This has been our number one goal since the start of the regular season."

In the second game of the 2024 regular season, the Mutiny (10-0-0) defeated Sporting CT, 4-1, at Lusitano Stadium. Cat Barry, who only played in a couple of matches for the Mutiny, recorded a hat-trick.

It wound up being the only regular loss for Sporting CT (8-2-0), who captured the East Conference championship trophy a year ago.

The Mutiny will be playing in the National Semifinals for the first time since joining the U.W.S. in 2016.

"It's a very nice feeling winning a championship game, especially since this is my first season coaching a women's soccer team," said first-year Mutiny head coach Federico Molinari. "We now have one more weekend to go. I'm very happy for these players."

The U.W.S. National semifinals and finals are scheduled to be held at All-High Stadium in Buffalo, New York on Friday and Saturday night.

The other three teams who'll be trying to take home the National championship trophy, which is very similar to the Stanley Cup, are the Michigan Jaguars, the Santa Clarita Blue Heat, and FC Buffalo, who earned an automatic bid to the championship weekend because they're the host team.

The Jaguars are the U.W.S defending National champions,

Another local player listed on the Mutiny roster is Avery Klingensmith, who graduated from Belchertown High School. She was one of the starters in the final home match of the season.

"This is the farthest we've gone in the three years that I've been a member of this soccer team," said Klingensmith, who's also a member of the women's soccer team at American University. "Winning a championship with this team is very special. We have a couple of local players on this year's team, along with several other players who live a little bit farther away. It's really cool that we can all come together and win a championship."

The other local Mutiny players who were starters in the East Conference finals are Maddy Theriault (Palmer) and Alex Legowski (South Hadley).

Several of the Mutiny players are current or former players members of the UConn women's soccer team.

Two of the current UConn players are Chioma Okafor and Maddie Fried, who played a key role in last Sunday's match

The contest was scoreless until the



The New England Mutiny has won its conference championship. TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

duo hooked up five minutes into the second 15-minute overtime session.

Okafor, who's a first-year player for the Mutiny, sent a crossing pass from the left side of the penalty box to the far post where Fried put a shot into the back of the net past Sporting CT goalie Abby McCarthy.

"It just feels amazing to score what turned out to be the game winning goal," said Fried, who transferred to UConn from Villanova. "Chioma sent me an incredible pass and I just didn't want to miss that shot. We really wanted to win today's game."

Fried, who has scored three goals this season, has been playing for the Mutiny for the past four seasons. She's from Monroe Connecticut and was an All-American high school soccer player at St. Joseph High School, in Trumbull, Conn.

The other UConn players listed on the Mutiny roster are Anna Carson, Laci Lewis, Jess Mazo, Abbey Jones, and Rachel Marchini, who's the Mutiny captain.

Joe Ferrera, who's the Mutiny's owner and general manager, has built a very good relationship with UConn women's soccer coach Margaret Rodriguez.

"We wanted to win this championship title for Joe, and I hope he's happy," Fried said. "He's like a dad to us. He treats us like his own kids."

Okafor would like to see a few more UConn soccer players play for the Mutiny during the next couple of years. "It's very special having some of my UConn teammates on the field with me. We know each other very well," Okafor said. "I hope more UConn players come play for this team in the future. It's a great atmosphere here."

When Okafor was a freshman at UConn, the Huskies lost to St. John's in a penalty shootout in the quarterfinals of the Big East tournament. She really didn't want to see the East Conference championship game end in another shootout.

"I was really hoping that we could score an overtime goal because any team could win the penalty shootout regardless of who the better team is. I don't like that aspect of soccer," Okafor added. "When I passed the ball to Maddie, I knew that she was going to put the ball into the back of the net."

Mutiny goalie Natalie Mutscheler made a couple saves during the next ten minutes before the celebration began.

The Mutiny players are looking forward to making a six hour bus ride to Buffalo this weekend.

Win or lose, the 2024 season has been a memorable one for them.



Avery Klingensmith, of Belchertown, takes a free kick.



Alexis Legowski, of South Hadley, goes through the opposing defense.



Abbey Jones fights to keep the ball.

#### BREWERY | FROM PAGE 1

dents, and financially supporting the hospital departments and their needs for equipment and projects.

"The cars and their owners are the best," Kelly Hibbard from UMASS Memorial and Harrington Auxiliary said. "It goes to a good cause and being outside is always great."

"(The owners) put a lot of time and money into the cars," Alexandra McNitt from the Chamber of Central Mass South said.

The event was filled with music and fun from Bruce Marshall, operator of the Palmer and Ware radio station, 97.7 FM, The Valley's Classic Hits.

"If the cars could talk, the story of their lives would be very interesting." Marshall said. "The owners of these cars truly show a lot of passion."

Many local businesses donated items to raffle off, including gift cards and gift baskets from Tractor Supply to Dunkin, to Klems, Yankee Spirits, local pizza places, and even a family pass to Old Sturbridge Village.

The 2024 Drivin' it Ho(l)me Car Show was sponsored by Lamoureux Ford, Pickleball U, The Valley's Classic Hits 97.7 FM, Oakholm Brewing, Chamber of Central Mass South, and Harrington Auxiliary.

The show featured all different kinds of cars, from 1934 to the newest models of Mustangs and Challengers. There was a car or truck for everyone to enjoy, and the people got to show off their beloved models.



Mark Grubbs with his blue1970 Cutlass, and Tere Grubbs with her green 1968 GTO. TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS



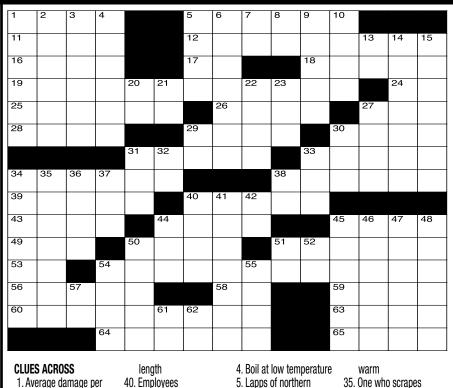
John Nurek with his stunning orange 1934 Ford Three-Window Coupe.

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Gary Gagne proudly showing off his 1960 Ford Fairlane.



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Repping the army, Tim Driscoll poses with his 1941 Dodge WC12.



Three beautiful cars, and in the middle, an orange and white 2012 Challenger RT Classic.



Mark Gomes' perfectly yellow 1934 Ford Pickup, Model 40.





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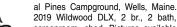
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# Country Bank announces retirement of president and CEO Paul Scully

WARE – On July 1, CEO Paul Scully announced his retirement after a distinguished career of 28 years at Country Bank and 48 years in the financial services industry.

His retirement will be effective on July 31. Scully, who started his banking career as a part-time teller while attending Bentley University, previously served as Senior Vice President of Country Bank was appointed President in 2004 and later assumed position of Chief Executive Officer in 2005.

"Throughout my career, I've been guided by the belief that success is not just about growth in numbers but about the positive impact we make in the lives of our team members, customers and communities. It's been an incredible journey and I'm immensely proud of what we've achieved together. As I retire, I leave with a deep sense of gratitude for the opportunity to serve as Country Bank's CEO for the past 20 years and with the utmost respect of my successor, Mary McGovern and the entire Country Bank team to continue the Bank's legacy of excellence," said Scully



Retiring Country Bank CEO Paul Scully is shown with incoming CEO Mary McGovern, the bank's current president. SUBMITTED PHOTO

ees and its team members are deeply grateful to Scully for his exceptional leadership and unwavering dedication throughout his tenure. His visionary guidance has positioned the Bank for continued success and growth. As the Bank embarks on this new chapter, it looks forward to the leadership of Mary McGovern, who will undoubtedly build upon Scully's legacy and drive Country Bank to new heights.

# - legal notices -

#### 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 **Mondaym August 5, 2024 at 7:00 pm** in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 2 East Main Street, for the following application:

Anthony Woodman seeks Special Permit approval to create a Backlot, approximately 8 acres, at 421 Wickaboag Valley 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 and on the Town website at www.wbrookfield.com, under the Events Calendar.

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

Timothy Morrell Planning Board Chair 07/19, 07/25/2024

# Job Connection Helping You Find Help

#### The Ware Housing Authority (WHA) is seeking a qualified and experienced Program Administrator.

The Authority's portfolio includes Ch. 667 Elderly/Handicapped, Ch. 705 Family and Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers. The candidate should be familiar with both the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) and U.S. Department and Urban Development (HUD) program requirements.

in a press release.

Mary McGovern, appointed President by the Bank's Board of Trustees on April 1, will assume CEO, effective Aug. 1. McGovern, who has been with the Bank since 2011, previously served as EVP and CFO before assuming the role of COO in 2023.

With her extensive experience in the financial services industry spanning over three decades, McGovern brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to her new position.

"I am honored to have worked alongside Paul for the past thirteen years," said McGovern. As I assume the organization's leadership, I am dedicated to the Bank's continued growth and supporting our customers, community, and team members. The Bank is committed to providing best-in-class customer service, the latest banking services, safety and security, and ensuring Country Bank remains a trusted financial institution in our communities."

Country Bank's Board of Trust-

#### About Country Bank

Country Bank is a full-service \$1.8 billion mutual community bank serving central and western Massachusetts with 14 offices in Ware, Palmer, West Brookfield, Brimfield, Belchertown, Wilbraham, Ludlow, Leicester, Paxton, Charlton and Worcester. With a commitment to personalized service and community involvement, Country Bank offers individuals, businesses, and municipalities a comprehensive range of banking products and services.

Country Bank is a member of FDIC, DIF, and the SUM network. Country Bank can be reached by calling 800-322-8233 or online at countrybank.com. Tenant Intake/Outreach, Maintenance of waiting lists, Assist program participants to secure appropriate housing and complete all associated paperwork. Negotiate with landlords for comparable rents. Attend training sessions. Administer the Section Program, Ch. 667 and Ch. 705. Including but not limited to all other tasks as assigned.

Possess excellent written and verbal skills, ability to communicate effectively. Familiar with centralized public housing wait lists, (CHAMP) housing software, HUD and EOHLC databases.

The maximum salary is \$50,286 and is dependent upon experience. The required work hours are 37.5 hours per week and the position includes excellent benefits. The candidate will be subject to qualification verification prior to employment.

To apply in confidence please submit a cover letter and resume to Linda Hanssen, Executive Director, Ware Housing Authority at lindashanssen@gmail.com.

> The deadline is no later than August 1, 2024. Diverse applicants are encouraged to apply. The Ware Housing Authority is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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**NORTH BROOKFIELD** Library lists summer hours **b** 

**STURBRIDGE** Church holds open house p**2** 

REGION MCRT holds cycling event p6

Nestled on a beautiful 2.96-acre flat country lot, this picture-perfect Cape-style home offers privacy and charm. The main house features 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, a

large eat-in kitchen with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, an island, and a

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back deck, and a paved driveway with lots of parking! This property also includes a separate space with a living room, kitchen, full bath, and laundry! The oversized detached, heated barn/garage offers a large finished room above! Don't miss this incredible home!! **\$649,900** 

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