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Brookfield holds inaugural Agricultural Fair

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

BROOKFIELD – The inaugural Brookfield Agricultural Fair took place this past Saturday on the Common.

The Brookfield Agricultural Committee wanted to offer an activity that brought more awareness of agriculture to the youth in the community. With Brookfield and neighboring towns still thriving with agricultural based businesses, the Brookfield Agricultural Committee thought of bringing those entities together for one fun event.

Shelby Hill of the town's Agricultural Committee said the fair is "about all the different aspects of agriculture and have the public know these businesses are here."

Twenty-two vendors arrived

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Brookfield Common was busy during the first Brookfield Agricultural Fair held this past Saturday. TURLEY PHOTO BY RYAN DRAGO

'Willy Wonka Jr.' takes the stage at Quaboag

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The world of Wonka was full of wonder during the "Willy Wonka Jr." show at Quaboag Regional

Middle High School.

Roald Dahl's classic story is brought to life thanks to the talented cast and crew of Quaboag.

"Willy Wonka Jr." was presented through the special ar-

See WONKA | PAGE 8



The Wonka gate led the talented cast through the Chocolate Factory and greeted the audience as well. SUBMITTED PHOTOS BY DERICK VELIZ

Grant provides free transportation to residents

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

STURBRIDGE – Town Administrator Robin Grimm said she began working with Joshua Rickman, administrator of the Worcester Regional Transit Authority, when the town had many homeless mi-

grant people moving into the town by the state.

At the Aug. 5 Board of Selectmen's meeting, Grimm said the lack of transportation to supermarkets became a safety concern for the migrant population and Rickman worked to secure a grant to provide transportation for them.

Grimm said a few residents

asked if that same service could also be extended to include the town's elderly and disabled people and those without access to a vehicle. Through Rickman's efforts, he was able to expand the grant to include these residents.

Rickman said the grant will now also meet the needs of in-

See GRANT | PAGE 6

Venture Community Services adds three to Board of Directors

STURBRIDGE – Venture Community Services, one of the Commonwealth's leading providers of innovative human services, recently announced the appointment of three individuals to its Board of Directors following its merger with Life-Skills, Inc.

The new directors are: Paul



Paul Haughey
SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Nancy Noonan



Janice Smith

Noonan, Nurse Practitioner, Commonwealth Care Alliance; and Janice Smith, co-founder, The Family Voice (now the Autism Alliance).

"The growth of our board mirrors the growth of this agency as we join

forces with Life-Skills to fur-

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- community -

Police departments awarded body-worn camera grants

For the first time, police officers in Hubbardston will be outfitted with body-worn cameras thanks to a \$19,972 grant from the Law Enforcement Body-Worn Camera Program, state Sen. Peter Durant, R-Spencer, announced recently.

More than \$3 million will be distributed to 32 Massachusetts police departments to expand or create body-worn camera programs.

In East Brookfield, \$59,350 will be spent on new, better-quality cameras along with supporting equipment including a computer.

"These cameras have proven their usefulness time and again and serve as an added layer of protection for the public as well as the officers wearing them," Durant said in a press release.

East Brookfield officers currently wear the cameras but there is a need to expand the program, Police Chief Joseph Lazarick said.

"The new cameras are far superior to what we have," Lazarick said. "We will add nine cameras, software and storage."

The cameras, which record audio and

video, often encourage better behavior in interactions between police and the public he said.

Lazarick said grants like this one make it possible for police in small towns whose budgets were adversely impacted by police reform, to have access to the tools they need to do their jobs.

Durant said having access to the latest technology is necessary, even for smaller departments.

"Many of these rural departments could actually have an increased need for body-worn cameras since officers may be patrolling alone in outlying areas. Sometimes just the presence of a camera can help deescalate a situation before it becomes a problem," Durant said.

In Hubbardston, body-worn cameras would not be available without the grant funds, Police Chief Ryan Couture said.

"It's a lot of money and we couldn't afford it," Couture said. "The cameras will help us do our jobs a little more effectively. They help protect us from false claims and

provide accountability."

While it is a small town, Hubbardston welcomes thousands of shoppers at the outdoor Rietta Flea Market every Sunday and it borders the City of Gardner, Couture noted, adding that those things do impact the police department.

The state-funded grant program is managed by the Office of Grants and Research, a state agency under the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security. Since 2021, nearly \$13.2 million has been made available through the program as part of an overall commitment to supporting local police departments with their efforts to enhance transparency, accountability, and police-community relations.

"The use of this advanced technology increases public safety, provides valuable documentation for evidentiary purposes, assists in resolving officer-involved incidents, and offers an important training tool for Departments and officers," Public Safety and Security Secretary Terrence Reidy said.



PHONE
413.967.3505
Fax: 413.967.6009
Subscriptions: 413.283.8393

EMAIL

Advertising Sales
Dan Flynn
dflynn@turley.com

Tim Mara
tmara@turley.com

Editor
Paula Quimette
pquimette@turley.com

WEB
www.quaboagcurrent.turley.com

@QuaboagCurrent

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Towns awarded cybersecurity grants

The City of Worcester, along with the towns of Hardwick, New Braintree, Ware and East Brookfield have been awarded funds from the fiscal year 2024 Municipal Local Cybersecurity Grant Program and FY24 State Share Cybersecurity Grant Program, State Sen. Peter Durant, R-Spencer, announced this week.

The grants were part of a \$6.8 million pool of federal funding awarded to support cybersecurity initiatives across Massachusetts.

The program prioritized funding for projects in rural communities, which the Federal Emergency Management Agency defines as any community with a population of less than 50,000. At least 84 of the grants were awarded to municipalities meeting the Federal Emergency Management Agency's definition of rural.

"I am happy to say that these grants are targeted for rural communities where it is likely that there are fewer local dollars available for cybersecurity," Durant said in a press release. "Smaller communities inevitably feel safer but cyber attacks can hit communities of any size, and rural areas are no exception."

The following communities received grants: City of Worcester \$100,000, Hardwick \$17,000, New Braintree \$10,592, Ware \$6,545 and East Brook-

field Police Department \$100,000

Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School in Fitchburg, which serves nine communities in Durant's district (Barre, Gardner, Holden, Hubbardston, Phillipston, Princeton, Sterling, Templeton and Westminster) was also awarded \$20,000.

Allowable projects under the grant programs include implementing multifactor authentication, migration to a .gov domain, development of a written cybersecurity incident response plan, tabletop exercises, and cybersecurity awareness training.

"All of these steps will help smaller communities to be more secure in the virtual world," Durant said.

Funding for both programs was secured through the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program, offered to states by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and FEMA.

The Office of Grants and Research is responsible for managing and administering the grant funds. Awards were approved by the Massachusetts Cybersecurity Planning Committee, which was formed as a condition of the federal program to guide allowable use of the funds.

Vendors needed for Oktoberfest at Common Ground Ciderworks

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The Friends of the North Brookfield Town House will be hosting Oktoberfest 2024 on Sunday, Sept. 29 from noon-4 p.m. at Common Ground Ciderworks, 31 East Brookfield Road.

Crafters, wood workers and artisans of all kinds are welcome. No food vendors, please.

Spaces are available for \$50 for a 10

x 10 space. Vendors must provide their own table and if desired a tent with weighted legs.

Raffles, games for young and old and music will be provided by the Friends of the Town House. Common Ground will be selling food and drink. For more information, email Friends@NBTownHouse.com or M_Caramiello@yahoo.com.

Rep. Berthiaume and Sen. Durant list office hours

State Rep. Donnie Berthiaume's Chief of Staff, Donna and Senator Peter Durant's, District Liaison, Jared Grigg and Kim Mongeau, communications director, invite constituents and town officials to meet them to express any concerns, ideas or issues that they may need assistance with.

People may call Donna if they would like a private meeting at 774-402-4742. Scheduled office hours include on Tuesday, Sept. 10 from 9-10 a.m. at the Senior Center in Leicester and from 10:15-11:15 a.m. at Howe Village in Spencer. Rep. Marsi's staff Tammy will be joining them that day.

Office hours include on Wednesday, Sept. 11 from 9-10 a.m. at the Town Hall in New Braintree, from 10:15-11:15 a.m.

at the Senior Center in North Brookfield and from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Senior Center in East Brookfield.

Office hours include on Monday, Sept. 16 from 9-10 a.m. in the Senior Center and Town Office in Hubbardston, from 10:15-11:15 a.m. in the Senior Center in Barre and from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the upstairs level of Town Hall in Oakham.

Office hours on Thursday, Sept. 19 include from 9-10 a.m. in the Senior Center in Ware, from 10:15-11:15 a.m. in the Town Hall in Hardwick and from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the Senior Center in West Brookfield. Office hours on Monday, Sept. 19 are from 12:45-1:45 p.m. in the Town Hall in Brookfield.



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- community -

Local towns awarded over \$6 million in FY 23CDBG funding

WORCESTER – In July, the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities announced that seven member communities have been awarded grants through the Fiscal Year 2024 Community Development Block Grant program.

The towns receiving these grants include Hardwick, Millbury, North Brookfield, Northbridge, Southbridge, Warren, and Webster. Collectively, over \$6 million in CDBG funds will be allocated for various grant-funded activities within the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission region.

The FY 24 CDBG grants, originating from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and subsequently administered by the State, total \$39 million across Massachusetts.

The Community Development Block Grant program is designed to assist smaller communities that do not receive CDBG funding directly from HUD. These grants support a wide range of activities aimed at benefiting low-to-moderate income populations and addressing or mitigating blighted physical conditions.

Grants are awarded on a competitive basis, with the exception of ten “Mini Entitlement” communities, including Southbridge and Webster, which receive automatic funding.

For FY 24, CMRPC’s Community Development Division helped the towns of Athol, Hardwick, Millbury, North Brookfield, and Warren in their grant applications and will oversee the administration of their respective grants and projects. A total of \$4.4 million in grants will be utilized for various pur-

poses, including designing and building neighborhood or housing-related infrastructure improvements in Athol, Hardwick, Millbury, North Brookfield, and Warren, as well as planning or designing enhancements to town parks in Hardwick and Warren.

Janet Pierce, Executive Director of CMRPC, stated in a press release, “These grants represent a significant opportunity for our communities to advance critical infrastructure enhancements. The funding will help to address essential needs and enhance the quality of life for residents across the region. We are incredibly grateful to U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities for their continued support and commitment to our communities.”

For additional information about CMRPC’s community development initiatives, please contact Andrew Loew, Director of Community Development at aloew@cmrpc.org.

About CMRPC
Founded by the Legislature in 1963, CMRPC provides a variety of services to its constituencies and brings a regional perspective to planning and development.

One of 13 Regional Planning Agencies in Massachusetts, CMRPC serves the City of Worcester and 39 surrounding communities in the southern two-thirds of Worcester County. CMRPC’s programs include Transportation, Regional Collaboration and Community Planning, and Geographic Information Systems.

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.

Barre, North Brookfield and Ware benefit from grants for broadband access

BOSTON – Three communities in the Worcester-Hampshire Senate district represented by state Sen. Peter Durant, R-Spencer, will benefit from grants awarded through the Broadband Infrastructure Gap Networks Program to fund high-speed internet lines to Massachusetts communities that lack access to broadband.

“I’m pleased to announce that Barre, North Brookfield and Ware will be part of this grant award which will help bring internet access to underserved areas,” Durant said in a press release.

The funding, from the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative’s Massachusetts Broadband Institute, will help expand high-speed broadband internet infrastructure to underserved homes, business and community anchor institutions across the Commonwealth.

The program is funded through the U.S. Treasury’s Capital Projects Fund which aims to expand high-speed broadband internet infrastructure.

“Having access to high-speed internet give students a leg-up, helps local businesses thrive and allows opportunities for socialization using digital communication for those who might wish to stay in touch with friends and family using social media,” Durant said.

Comcast, which was one of four grant recipients, provides service to Ware; while Verizon New England Inc. provides service to Barre and North Brookfield. Other recipients were Greenfield Community Energy and Technology and Spectrum Northeast LLC.

The grants must be used to deliver service that meets or exceeds internet speeds of 100 megabits per second (Mbps) for downloads and 100 Mbps for uploads and provide internet access to 100% of all existing unserved and underserved serviceable locations.

They must also provide a minimum 20% funding match with waivers provided to certain municipalities that have existing debt obligations associated with municipal fiber-to-the-premise projects and reach substantial project completion before Dec. 31, 2026.

The first round of the program requires recipients to work with the Massachusetts Broadband Institute to validate the unserved and underserved location count included in their proposals. The goal of this review is to connect 100% of the serviceable locations in each community, ensuring alignment with the goal of the federal Internet for All initiative.

Medicare 101 Educational Event is Aug. 28

EAST BROOKFIELD – The East Brookfield Senior Center will be hosting an educational presentation on Wednesday, Aug. 28 at 1 p.m. at the senior center located at 110 Pleasant St., for current beneficiaries and for those who will soon be eligible for Medicare.

The information is specific to Massachusetts. The session will run from 1 to 1.5 hours, including time for questions.

The presentation will be conducted by Ed Spater, a licensed insurance agent, who will explain the basics of Medicare including:

- Why it’s important to evaluate your current Medicare coverage each year
- The pros and cons of each of your Medicare coverage options
- What to consider when deciding which Medicare coverage option is right for you
- Ways to save money and get better Medicare coverage in 2024

For accommodations of persons with special needs at meetings call 774-271-5199 or 711 for TTY callers

Water skiing show comes to Lake Wickaboag

WEST BROOKFIELD – On Saturday, Aug. 31, the Lake Wickaboag Preservation Association in conjunction with The Lake Wickaboag Boat Club will be hosting a water ski show.

The Aqua Riders of Holland will be performing on the south end of Lake Wickaboag in West Brookfield from 11 a.m.-noon. Admission is free, lake

merchandise and raffle tickets will be available.

Viewing will be from the town beach on Cottage Street in West Brookfield, The Lake Wickaboag Boat Club or from your anchored boat on the lake in the designated area. All are welcome.

Please visit www.lakewickaboag.com for more information.

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IN OUR DELI PROVOLONE CHEESE.....	\$4⁴⁴ ea	USDA INSP. STORE MADE BONELESS CAROLINA GOLD MARINATED CHICKEN THIGHS.....	\$2⁹⁹ lb	USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN RAW EASY PEEL SHRIMP 31/40 COUNT 2 LB BAG	\$8⁸⁸ ea
GREAT ON THE GRILL		USDA INSP. KAYEM HOT DOGS 2 LB BOX..	\$7⁹⁹		

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- opinion -



A question that will encourage blooms for a non-blooming peony

A reader wrote in with this question for the Garden Lady regarding Peony culture: "I hope you can offer some suggestions for me. I have a couple peonies that my mother-in-law gave me. I just kind of put them in the back of our property. They are sad in that they do have foliage but no flowers. I want to transplant. My question is, where do I plant them and at what time of the year?"

You are in luck! Peonies are best planted in the fall, September or October in our area.

This timing will give the plants an opportunity to develop a healthy stand of feeder roots before the ground freezes. Choose a location that receives six or more hours of sun a day.

Without knowing the exact size of your plants or if you will be able to lift and move the whole clump, it's hard to advise on the exact size of the hole. Just make sure there is ample room around the plant so that the roots will be able to extend out easily.

If your soil is average, the addition of a balanced fertilizer may be all that is necessary at planting. Soils that are lean should be improved prior to planting by amending the hole with roughly equal parts good soil and aged compost or manure.

Peonies prefer a pH of 6.0-7.0, a wide enough range to accommodate most home garden situations. If your soil is more acidic than that, bring up your pH by adding lime.

Peonies fertilized at planting time require no additional food until the following fall. Bear in mind that too much nitrogen will encourage lots of leaves but few roots and flowers, and I know you are looking forward to flowers!

For that reason, choose a fertilizer that is lower in nitrogen than the other nutrients. After the third season fertilize after blooming, as well as in the fall.

An established peony is drought resistant, but if spring rains are scarce, a weekly watering will also help to promote good flowers.

Heavy peony flowers, especially the old-fashioned types will no doubt bow down to the ground in the wind and rain unless staked. I usually pick some for the vase in the bud stage in an attempt to avoid this task, but nevertheless it makes the plant nice and tidy and should be accomplished.

Middle weight bamboo stakes inserted into the ground on the outer edge of the plant cut to three-quarters its height, work well. Run two rows of twine or jute at one third and two thirds up the bamboo, respectively.

Simply start by tying a knot on one stake, wrapping around the next and tightening as you go. If green bamboo and jute are used the staking will hardly be visible, especially if you don't tighten so much that it looks unnatural.

One year my peony buds wilted and dried up just prior to bloom. The culprit was botrytis.

Good hygiene can reduce the risk of this fungus invading your garden. Each fall simply cut the stems of herbaceous peonies down to the ground.

See GARDEN | PAGE 5



HOLY COW! HISTORY:

Josh's golden scam

The nickel that caused a dollar's worth of scandal

By J. Mark Powell
jmarkpowell.com

Like so many things in life, it seemed like a good idea at the time, and it would have been, too, if one man's swindle hadn't ruined everything.

When all was said and done, a conman got off scot-free, Washington had egg on its face, and a new phrase entered the American vocabulary that's still used today.

This is the story of Josh's golden scam. Back in 1866, the government began minting the first five-cent piece. It had the United States shield – our country's coat of arms if you will – on the front and "5 Cents" surrounded by 13 stars on the back.

The public liked the new coin and immediately began referring to it by the metal used to produce it: the nickel. (Its predecessor had been silver and called the "half dime.")

But it proved difficult to strike, causing countless headaches for the United States Mint. So a new design was produced.

Released on February 1, 1883, it featured Lady Liberty on the front with a giant V (the Roman numeral for five) in the center of the reverse. Americans enthusiastically embraced the new coin.

There was just one problem. It was a big one, too...and a man in Boston named Josh Tatum quickly spotted it.

No denomination appeared on the coin. There was just that great big V.

It could mean 5 cents or 5 dollars. Which caused a lightbulb to switch on in Josh's head.

The new nickel was about the same size as a \$5 gold piece. Both bore the likeness of Liberty on the front and, while not identical, to the untrained eye they looked similar to one another.

So, Josh took several of the new nickels to a jeweler and had them electroplated with gold. Then he went to a store.

Walking up the counter, he pretended to be deaf mute and pointed to a cigar. The clerk said, "Five cents, please."

Josh handed over his phony gold-plated coin and was promptly given \$4.95 in real money in change. When he pulled the scam at different stores, it worked perfectly every time.

Apparently, Josh liked to think big. He had 1,000 nickels covered with a thin layer of cheap gold and worked his way to New York City.

Never speaking, only pointing, and always walking away the richer for the exchange. He supposedly made \$15,000 (about \$375,000 today) by the time he was arrested.

Josh was eventually hauled into court and tried for his hoax. But prosecutors had a serious problem.

At no time did Josh ever claim the coin was a \$5 gold piece. In fact, he never said anything at all.

He simply handed it over and trusting clerks accepted it was as genuine. Because he never claimed it was actually gold, the jury found Josh had committed no crime. He was acquitted.

While all this was happening, Washington was dealing with similar headaches caused by the new nickel. Other con artists had spotted the design oversight and were also taking advantage of it.

The head of the Secret Service had noted the potential for criminal mischief at the outset and warned the government. Then as now, bureaucrats are loath to admit a mistake.

The Philadelphia Mint's director loudly defended the new nickel. He pointed out a three-cent coin had been minted for 22 years with just the Roman numeral III on the back and no denomination, and there hadn't been any problems.

Although he didn't mention that coin was smaller than a dime and the \$3 gold piece was larger than a quarter, making it impossible to confuse the two.

By now the scam was being reported as far away as St. Louis, Morgan City, Louisiana, and San Francisco. The government had no choice but to act.

On March 11 new nickels began coming out of the Mint with the word "cents" added directly below the V. It remained there until the Buffalo Nickel replacement debuted in 1913.

Today, the gold-plated frauds are called Racketeering Nickels and are cherished by collectors.

Two lessons from this story. First, the phrase "I'm joshing you" was popularized by the incident.

Though it appears to have shown up in print as early as 1845, its usage exploded after 1883.

And, the Mint learned its lesson. That was the last time it ever produced a coin that didn't bear the denomination.

I'm not joshing you.

Holy Cow! History is written by novelist, former TV journalist and diehard history buff J. Mark Powell.

OPINION PAGE/ LETTERS POLICY

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

Send opinions to:

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PATRICK H. TURLEY
CEO

KEITH TURLEY
President

EDITOR
Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

ADVERTISING SALES
Dan Flynn
Tim Mara

SPORTS EDITOR
Greg Scibelli
sports@turley.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

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Quaboag Current Newspaper

- community -

NBSB announces return of annual Back to School Supply Drive

Backpacks and supplies will be collected at all branches for local children

NORTH BROOKFIELD – North Brookfield Savings Bank is excited to announce the return of their annual Back to School Supply Drive, an initiative dedicated to supporting local students and ensuring they have the essential tools for a successful academic year.

They believe that every child, regardless of their financial circumstances, should have the opportunity to start the school year feeling confident, excited, and ready to learn. That is why North Brookfield Savings Bank is kicking off the seventh year of their overwhelmingly popular Back-to-School Supply Drive.

This year's drive will run from Aug. 1 through Aug. 31, and North Brookfield Savings Bank is calling on

the community to join in this important effort. NBSB will be collecting school supplies and monetary donations at all branch locations in North Brookfield, East Brookfield, West Brookfield, Ware, Belchertown and Three Rivers.

All collected supplies will be distributed to local schools.

"We believe that every child deserves the resources they need to thrive in school," said Audrey Moulton, Marketing Manager at North Brookfield Savings Bank in a press release. "Our Back to School Supply Drive is a way for us to give back and help equip students with the supplies they need to succeed. We look forward to this year's drive and look forward to making an impact on the lives of our local students."

To learn more about North Brookfield Savings Bank's community giving efforts and all the conve-

nient banking products and services offered, visit www.NorthBrookfieldSavingsBank.com.

Some suggested school supply donation items that can be dropped at any North Brookfield Savings Bank branch location are: new backpacks (unisex), construction paper, spiral notebooks, disinfecting wipes, 12" standard rulers, #2 pencils, pencil sharpeners, pencil case, colored pencils, washable markers, erasers, glue sticks, scissors and tissues.

GARDEN | FROM PAGE 4

Haul them off to the trash, don't compost. If watering is necessary, do so early in the morning and water at the plant's base rather than overhead to keep foliage dry.

Any stems that show signs of wilting should be cut away and thrown in the trash as well. Disinfect clippers in between cuts.

I hope that this additional information will help you to achieve the long-awaited flowers that you are hoping for! It may take a year or two for transplanted peonies to get adjusted and do their thing, but once set they will bloom happily for decades!

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.

BOARD | FROM PAGE 1

ther enhance the lives of the individuals we serve," said Donna Peters, President of Venture's Board of Directors, in a press release. "As we embark on this new chapter, we eagerly welcome Paul, Nancy and Janice, and the commitment that they bring and their expertise in education, health care and advocacy."

Haughey served on the Life-Skills Board of Directors since 2015. He has over 30 years of experience in education.

In addition to being a school district superintendent, he is currently teaching and overseeing practicum supervision experiences in special education and serving as visiting professor at Framingham State University and other Massachusetts colleges and universities. Haughey served the Town of Blackstone in various positions, including representing its Board of Selectmen on the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission to enhance the life and work of people living in the region.

He earned a bachelor's degree from Framingham State University, master's degrees in education from the University of Massachusetts Lowell and Framingham State University, and a doctorate in educational leadership from Johnson & Wales University.

Noonan served on the Life-Skills Board of Directors for over 20 years. She is a palliative care nurse practitioner at Commonwealth Care Alliance.

She also practices at St. Anne's Free Medical Program, which is part of the Worcester Free Care Collaborative, providing basic, quality healthcare and social support services, regardless of income, insurance, or housing status.

Noonan is president of the Central Massachusetts Chapter of the Oncology Nursing Society and is a board member of St. Anne's and St. Peter's Free Medical Programs. Noonan holds advanced board certi-

fications in oncology, hospice and palliative care and earned an associate's degree in nursing from MassBay Community College, a bachelor's degree in nursing from Fitchburg State University and a master's degree in nursing from Sacred Heart University.

Smith served on the Life-Skills Board of Directors for nearly 20 years. She has devoted much of her life to her son who has autism and to being an advocate for autism awareness.

In 1993, Smith co-founded a support group, The Family Voice, for families navigating autism during a time when there were minimal resources devoted to this community. This group would become the non-profit Autism Alliance, which currently includes 2,700 families.

She serves on an Advocates for Autism of Massachusetts taskforce and is an active member of her community, volunteering for Meals on Wheels and her local food pantry. Smith is retired and previously served as an administrative specialist at Franklin Pierce University, an employee consultant at Advocates Inc., and as a project coordinator and documentation supervisor at Bose Corp.

About Venture Community Services

Venture Community Services is committed to providing compassionate, person-centered services to nearly 600 people with developmental disabilities and autism across Massachusetts. From its beginnings with two small group homes, Venture has evolved into one of the state's premier human service providers with over 1,000 employees.

Venture encourages independence through a continuum of support, which includes community residential services, day programs, supported employment, transportation, autism supports and shared living. Next year, the agency will celebrate its 50th anniversary of providing support to those in need.

support community journalism

The benefits of local newspapers

Local newspapers play vital roles in communities across the globe. The Information Age has changed the way many people get their news, but local newspapers continue to serve as valuable resources for readers interested in learning more about and becoming more involved in their communities.

While local publishers continue to adapt to the changes brought about by technology, the following are a handful of benefits unique to local newspapers.

- **Local newspapers keep readers up-to-date on their own communities.** Globalization may be here to stay, but that does not mean local communities are no longer home to newsworthy events. National and international newspapers and 24-hour cable news channels can keep men and women up-to-date on national and world news, but in many instances, local newspapers are the only means people have to learn about what's going on in their own communities. Local politics impact residents' lives every day, and

local newspapers cover local politics extensively.

- **Local newspapers benefit nearby businesses.** Small business owners often connect with community members via local newspapers. A strong, locally based small business community can improve economies in myriad ways, creating jobs in the community and contributing tax dollars that can be used to strengthen local schools and infrastructure. And local newspapers do their part by providing affordable and effective advertising space to local business owners looking to connect with their communities.

- **Local newspapers can strengthen communities.** Local newspapers are great resources for residents who want to become more active in their communities and learn more about community events. Local newspapers often showcase community events like carnivals, local theater productions and projects like park cleanups. These are great ways for readers to become

more active in their communities and build stronger communities as a result.

- **Local newspapers can benefit children.** National newspapers may have little age-appropriate content to offer young children, but local newspapers tend to include more soft news items than national periodicals, and such stories typically are appropriate for young readers. According to Newspapers in Education, students who participated in an NIE group in Florida performed significantly better in spelling and vocabulary than nonreaders.



Additional studies have indicated that students who use newspapers in the classroom perform better on standardized reading tests than those who do not use newspapers in class.

Many local newspapers have played vital roles in their communities for decades, providing a go-to resource for local readers and business owners.

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- community -

Grange Fair features dog show and plushie party

WARE – The Ware Grange Fair will be held on Friday, Aug. 23 and Saturday, Aug. 24 at the Grange Hall on Route 9, 297 Belchertown Road.

This year's Fair will feature two new events – a fun dog show and a “plushie party and parade” family event. The fair will also feature exhibits, games, raffles,

a bake sale, live music, a barbecue dinner with a new menu, and an auction.

Exhibits may be entered on Thursday, Aug. 22 from 5-7 p.m. or Friday, Aug. 23 from 9-11 a.m. For more information or details on exhibiting, visit waregrange.org or call 413-284-1135.

Liberty Meisl named to spring semester Dean's List

BOSTON – Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences is pleased to announce that Sturbridge resident Liberty Meisl has been named to the Dean's List for the spring 2024 semester:

Meisl is pursuing a bachelor's degree in nursing and will graduate from the Boston campus in 2024.

GRANT | FROM PAGE 1

dividuals in the community. He said WRTA worked with SCM Elderbus, which currently provides services in the town on Monday, Wednesday and Friday for out of town medical trips and Monday through Friday for in-town trips.

“There's certainly a lot of need for other transportation purposes,” he said. “Starting today, the Sturbridge Local Link is in operation.”

Rickman said any resident in town can call SCM Elderbus (registration is required) and get in-town transportation on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. The service also includes transportation to Southbridge.

The service is available from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. There is no charge for the service.

“That gives you connections to retail, to shopping, to medical, to employment, all of those things,” he said.

Grimm said the Sturbridge Local Link is for residents of all ages; not just senior citizens.

Rickman said the grant will cover transportation now through June 30, 2025, when the grant expires.

Housing coordinator Grimm and Town Planner Jean Bubon introduced Housing Coordinator April Griffin.

“This is the position that we had worked with CPA to fund as part of our Housing Trust,” Grimm said.

Grimm said Griffin's position is part-time and she will help implement programs created by the Housing Trust.

“April really impressed us with her initiative, her willingness to see problems and resolve them...to go get grants for things,” Grimm said. “She was the perfect fit for us.”

Bubon said they interviewed several candidates for the position and Griffin came highly recommended from her prior employer.

“She has a lot of great work experience,” Bubon said.

Bubon said Griffins work days will be on Mondays

and Tuesdays, with evening hours on Mondays.

Department reports

Shane Moody, Veolia's Project Manager, provided monthly reports spanning March through June.

Moody said an intern from Tantasqua Regional High School will start in a couple of weeks, funded by Veolia. Moody said this will be an ongoing program to encourage people to enter the trade.

“Our hope is that we'll train him and get him certifications,” he said.

Moody said the PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) testing continues at the wastewater plant and at the landfill. He said the numbers at the wastewater plant have varied during testing, but that they are still under the limits for the drinking water.

“If it's not in your drinking water but it's in the wastewater, where is it coming from?” Moody said. “It could be several different locations and the landfill being one of them.”

Moody said Veolia will continue to do the testing to monitor the PFAS levels. He said the Department of Environmental Protection does not currently set a PFAS limit on wastewater plants.

Moody said the town continues to have CBOD (carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand) issues and they even shut off septage in mid-July, which helped to reduce the numbers. They shut off leachate last week and saw a bigger reduction.

“I can already see the difference in the plant,” Moody said. “The plant runs 100 times better without the septage and leachate.”

Moody said it's a “fine balance” between operations and economics, due to the costs of transporting leachate and sludge out of town.

He said Veolia also completed another round of lead and copper testing on the drinking water. He said he is still waiting for three test results.

Moody said the public schools (including the nursery school on Main Street) and participating private nursery schools all passed.

Department of Public Works Director Heather Blakeley said the 501 Main St. parking lot is complete, and signage has been ordered.

She said paving projects have been completed on Orchard Road, Lauren Lane and Putnam Road.

“People are relatively very happy with the outcomes,” she said.

Blakeley said she has a draft copy of the pavement management plan, and she expects it to be completed in the coming weeks. She said once it's finalized, she will post it on the website so people can see the current condition of roads.

She said the plan will also detail the different treatments needed for each road.

“That helps us in our long-term maintenance,” she said. “I think it's going to be a good tool going forward for the next couple years...this is an ongoing process that we should expect to continue.”

Blakeley said in this process, it was determined that some of the roadways that have been accepted by the town, have not gone through the Chapter 90 process.

Once they do that, the town will receive more Chapter 90 money.

Blakeley said she has recently hired a senior heavy equipment operator, and there have been two internal promotions. She said there is still one open position for a permitting and engineering manager.

She said the department will file a notice of intent to install pond level controllers to address beaver issues near Old Sturbridge Village and Burgess Elementary School.

“We're not going to totally remove them out of there, but we're going to be able to manage the environment a little better,” Blakeley said.

Blakeley said the department has been responding to a lot of washouts, due to the intense rainstorms. She said they have to prioritize each washout and asked residents to remain patient.

“None of the drainage is setup to deal with that,” she said.

Town Administrator's report

Grimm said the town continues to work with issues pertaining to private roadways. She said she is meeting with residents of Birch Street and continues to work with residents of Lake Road and Old Towne Way.

She said this will be an ongoing discussion because every private road is different, due to ownership and deeds.

Grimm said there are a number of job descriptions that need updating, including general language and job duties.

Municipal lien certificate fees

Finance Director Barbara Barry said the town is currently charging \$25 for municipal lien certificates, which is less than what other comparable towns are charging. Barry requested to increase the fee for the certificate to \$50.

“It puts us in line with what the majority of cities and towns in Massachusetts are doing,” she said.

The board approved the request. The new fee will go into effect on Sept. 1.

Appointments

Dina Sexton was appointed to fill out the remainder of an unexpired term on the Community Preservation Committee, as the Open Space representative. Her term will expire on July 24, 2025.

The following people were reappointed to their positions: Sandra Gibson-Quigley, Sturbridge Tourist Association through June 29, 2027; Edward Goodwin, Community Preservation Committee through June 21, 2027; Penny Dumas, Community Preservation Committee through June 20, 2027; Jim Douglas, Cultural Council, through July 6, 2027; Barbara Search, Community Preservation Committee (Historical Committee representative), through June 19, 2027; Karston Stueber, Conservation Commission, through June 29, 2027; and Antonia Squier, Cultural Council through June 30, 2027.

Resignation

The board accepted Patrick Bressette's resignation from the Cultural Council, effective July 22.

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- community -

LWPA to host its 7th Annual Poker Run

WEST BROOKFIELD – The Lake Wickaboag Preservation Association will host its 7th Annual Poker Run on Saturday, Aug. 24 from 2-5 p.m.; in case of a rain out, the rain date will be the following Saturday on Aug. 31, also from 2-5 p.m.

The event is always a good way to meet up with friends, enjoy the wonders of Lake Wickaboag and have a good time. The LWPA Poker Run has little to do with poker, beyond using the hand rankings to score the game.

To play, all players need is a scoresheet and a winning attitude.

On the day of the Poker Run, players can purchase a scoresheet at any of the five dealer pontoon boats marked with red flags for a \$20 donation to the LWPA (cash preferred). Scoresheet in hand, players can then take a leisurely cruise to each of the dealer boats in any

order they choose to be dealt one card.

To improve their chances of a winning hand, players can also purchase an extra card at any one of the dealer boats for an additional \$10. Dealers will mark cards dealt on players' scoresheets and for final hands to be counted and scored, players must turn in their scoresheets to any dealer boat no later than 5 p.m.

LWPA volunteers will tabulate and score all scoresheets, and the winner of the game will be the player who has the best five-card poker hand at the end of the event. Second and third place winners will also be determined by their hands.

Winners will be announced at 7 p.m. at the Boat Club, or reached by phone.

For more information, visit the Lake Wickaboag Preservation Association Facebook page or lakewickaboag.com.

Info sessions offered for MassEducate program

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College will be holding virtual information sessions on Thursday, Aug. 15 and Monday, Aug. 19, for anyone interested in learning about MassEducate, the state's new program for free community college.

The two, live online information sessions will be hosted by HCC Admissions staff on Thursday, Aug. 15, from 11 a.m.-noon, and Monday, Aug. 19, from 6-7 p.m.

Last month, Gov. Maura Healey signed the state budget bill, which includes funding for MassEducate. Regardless of age or income, Massachusetts residents who have not yet earned a bachelor's degree can apply to HCC for the free college program, which includes tuition and fees and a stipend for books and supplies for qualified students.

The MassEducate program complements MassReconnect, the free community college program for students 25 and older that was launched in 2023.

"We are beyond excited for prospective students to join us and learn more about how MassEducate can help them complete an associate degree or certificate program at HCC," said Anne Morales Medina, associate director of recruitment and enrollment, in a press release.

The sessions are open to anyone, including prospective students, currently enrolled students, and their family members.

To sign up, please visit the MassEducate page on the HCC website at hcc.edu/masseducate

Those who can't make it to the two virtual sessions are encouraged to attend HCC's Registration Express event on Saturday, Aug. 24, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., or visit the HCC Admissions and Advising offices on the first floor of the Campus Center, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. (4:30 p.m. on Fridays).

PVPA Charter Public School holds supplemental lottery

SOUTH HADLEY – Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter Public School will hold a supplemental lottery on Wednesday, July 31 to fill openings in grades seven and nine for the 2024/2025 school year.

The application deadline is Tuesday, July 30 at 11:59 p.m. Applications are available in English and Spanish on the PVPA website www.pvpa.org/admissions.

PVPA offers over 70 arts classes as a core part of our college preparatory curriculum. Students with a strong interest in the arts are encouraged to apply.

Enrollment in PVPA is free and open to all Massachusetts students in grades seven-12 on a space available basis; no audition is required. Priority is given to students from Franklin, Hampden and Hampshire counties, as well as Brookfield, Petersham and Sturbridge.

Application is open to students in grades seven-11. The July 31 lottery will be for grades seven and nine only, and applications for grades eight, 10 and 11 will be held until the current waitlists for those grades have been exhausted.

The lottery is open to the public,

and will take place at 11 a.m. on July 31. The public is welcome to attend via a Google Meet link posted on PVPA's website at www.pvpa.org/admissions.

Grade seven and nine applicants will be notified of their lottery results by Aug. 2.

About PVPA

Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter Public School is a regional public charter school serving 400 students grades seven-12, from over 50 towns throughout western Massachusetts. PVPA seeks to connect the creative process with critical thinking to inspire a love of learning.

As a charter school, the work PVPA does informs educational policy at local, state and national levels.

Per MA General Laws, Chapter 76: Section 5, PVPA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, creed, sex, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, mental or physical disability, age, ancestry, athletic performance, special need, proficiency in the English language or academic achievement.

To learn more about PVPA, and to apply visit www.pvpa.org/admissions.

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WONKA | FROM PAGE 1

rangement with Music Theatre International. All the performance materials were also supplied by MTI.

The play was directed by James Joinville, educator at QRMHS. Joinville is also the music director for the show.

Assistant Director and in charge of costumes is Christine Taylor. The choreography of the show was done by Bethany Bressette.

The crew did a fantastic job taking care of the stage throughout the show. Lucy Sanelli served as Stage Manager and crew members consisted of Raven Casey, Asya Osei-Opoku, and Cameron Bennett.

Thomas Bellizzi was in charge of lighting for the show. The sound for the show was operated by Joinville and Richard Gaudette.

The cast features Quaboag students of all grades, seven through 12. Willy Wonka/Candy Man was portrayed by Lilly Nimtze. Nimtze also played Phineous Trout.

Nimtze has performed in many productions at Quaboag including productions of "Curse of the Bard", "Camp Omigosh" and "The Addams Family". Nimtze is currently a junior at QRMHS.

Parker Chaffee portrayed Charlie Bucket, the lovable poor boy who always thinks positively and lucks out by finding a golden ticket. Chaffee has been a part of Quaboag performances since seventh grade and is now a senior and continues to perform on stage.

Liam Smith portrayed Grandpa Joe. Smith is also a senior at Quaboag. As Grandpa Joe, Smith got to sing "Cheer up Charlie".

Kaiyah Menard was on stage taking up two different roles, Veruca Salt and Grandma Josephina. Haylee Nash also had two roles, Mr. Salt and Grandpa George. Gabriela Feeney played Mrs. Beauregarde and Grandma Georgina. Rolando Galvan portrayed Mr. Bucket, Charlie's father.

Jessica Waddell portrayed Violet Beauregarde, the gum chewer, and Mrs. Bucket, Charlie's mother. Natalia Veliz-Baldizon portrayed Augusta Gloop. Emma Desrosiers portrayed

Mrs. Gloop. Maddisen Boucher played Mikayla Teavee a big TV and electronic enthusiast. Kyle Withers played Mr. Teavee, the father of Mikayla Teavee.

The show consisted of 20 scenes and many scenes include musical numbers from the familiar story. Famous songs such as "Pure Imagination", "The Candy Man", Oompa Loompa songs, "I've Got a Golden Ticket", "Cheer Up Charlie", "I Want it Now" and many more. Music and lyrics were by Leslie Bricusse and Anthony Newley.

Joinville said prior to the first show on Aug. 9 that the "students have worked really hard" and have "taken a lot of ownership" throughout the whole experience of the summer production. The students participating brought a lot of enthusiasm when experiencing theatre at Quaboag.

The Quaboag Theater Department and 21st CCLC were proud to bring "Willy Wonka Jr." to the stage for the community. The school will have a production of "Beauty and the Beast" in December with show dates scheduled for Dec. 13, 14 and 15.



Kaiyah Menard portrayed Veruca Salt in "Willy Wonka Jr."



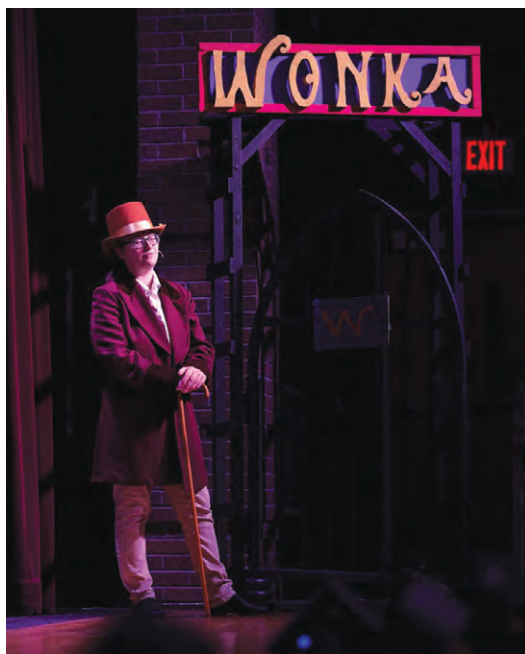
The cast of "Willy Wonka Jr." performed at Quaboag Regional Middle High School this past weekend. TURLEY PHOTO BY RYAN DRAGO



The cast during a musical scene with Parker Chaffee as Charlie Bucket in front. SUBMITTED PHOTOS BY DERICK VELIZ



The cast in tie dye surrounded Lilly Nimtze as Willy Wonka.



Lilly Nimtze portrayed Willy Wonka and stands proudly alongside the Wonka Gate.



Parker Chaffee, a senior at Quaboag Regional High School, portrayed Charlie Bucket in "Willy Wonka Jr."



Wonka Bars and candy were on display during the performance of "Willy Wonka Jr." TURLEY PHOTO BY RYAN DRAGO



The kids lined up for some Wonka Bars and other candy during the show.



The stage crew got a standing ovation for their hard work behind the scenes. From left to right, Raven Casey, Asya Osei-Opoku, Lucy Sanelli and Cameron Bennett served as the stage crew.

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SPORTS

Overtime loss ends summer season for Quabbin Cagers

AUBURN – Quabbin summer boys basketball team was looking to advance in the Auburn League playoffs but aspirations ended with an overtime loss to Monty Tech by a score of 54-53 in a game that saw multiple lead changes. Monty Tech lead at the half, 23-22, in a very physical game that never had more than a 4 point lead for either team.

The Quabbinians had six players in scoring column led by senior power forward Luke Santoro with a personal summer season high of 15 points. Defensive specialist Jaxon Warburton demonstrated again that he can score as the senior guard netted 9 points on a variety of strong drives to the basket.

Center Kyle Clark and guard Brady Patchen each added 8 points followed by forward Quinn Geary and point guard Jacoby Dilling with 6 apiece.

The multiple lead changes were highlighted by Quinn Geary stepping to the free throw line and draining both

to tie the game in the closing minutes of regulation. After an exchange of baskets the game remained tied at the end of regulation and the team went to overtime to decide who would be moving on. It would be the first overtime experience for the cagers this summer.

In overtime, the Quabbin cagers went to their senior center and he responded with a power post move inside the paint to send the Quabbin cagers ahead by one again after Monty Tech took the lead on a free throw. However, the Quabbin defense couldn't get the 'big stop' and Monty Tech converted on a driving layup and edged ahead by one point again.

With seconds left in the overtime stanza the cagers went back to their standout center Kyle Clark, setting up in the post one more time, and despite a Herculean effort his power layup spun around the rim and out. It was a devastating defeat for a team that had

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Quabbin guard Jaxon Warburton looks to make the open pass to a teammate during the overtime Auburn League playoff loss. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Bankers take 11th consecutive playoff title



Seth Allen looks to get things going for PeoplesBank. TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Dave Clark connects on a home run to left in the first inning.

HOLYOKE – PeoplesBank of the Tri-County Baseball League continues to field one of the best rosters in Western Massachusetts. Last Tuesday evening, the Bankers would capture their 11th consecutive championship with a two-game sweep of Hilltown Tents, ending with an 8-3 win last Tuesday night. The Bankers had an unusual playoff path, having to wait nearly two weeks after the end of the regular season to compete in the playoffs. The quarterfinal series went through several postponements following the end of the regular season. When the Bankers finally came to play, they rounded off four wins in five days to take the semifinals and finals. The Bankers defeated St. Joe's, their longtime rivals, in the semifinals.



Pete Hogan hustles down the first.



Joe Ferry fields a base hit to left.



Jimmy Flahive delivers a pitch home.

Here for Beer comes up short in PVSSL finals

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—Six of the ten women teams in the Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League qualified for the playoffs.

The Lusitano Women and Here for Beer finished the regular season with 6-4-2 records and a coin flip was held to determine their playoff seeds. The two squads wound up facing each other in the championship match.

The fifth-seeded Lusitano Women took home the championship trophy for the first time since 2019 with a 3-0 shut-out victory over the sixth-seeded Here for Beer at historic Lusitano Stadium, last Friday night.

"We've always made the playoffs, but it feels really good to win the championship game for the first time in five years," said Lusitano Women player/coach Taylor Jordan. "We're an experienced team this year, and everyone showed up ready to play in tonight's match."

Jordan shared the coaching

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- sports -

FINALS | FROM PAGE 9

duties with Stephanie Goncalves. The Lusitano Ladies, who play their home matches at Lusitano Stadium, advanced into the finals after defeating the fourth-seeded Western Mass. Extremes, 1-0, in the quarterfinals, and the second-seeded Heat, 3-1, in the semifinals. “We won our first two playoff matches on the road. We just wanted to end the season by playing another game on our home field,” Jordan said. “It’s always very special to play a match here.” Back in 2019, the Lusitano Women celebrated a 3-0 victory over the Xtremes in the championship match. The previous year, they lost by the same score to Here for Beer in the finals. Following the last Friday’s championship match, Julia Farnham, who’s a third year member of the Lusitano Women, received the M.V.P. award.

“I didn’t score any of the goals or had an assist, but I did help my teammates set up the goals,” said Farnham, who’s a midfielder. “It feels great to win a championship game for the first time in the three years that I’ve been playing for this soccer team.” Farnham lives in Amherst, and played soccer at Vassar College, which is in Poughkeepsie, New York. She led her college soccer team in minutes last fall as a senior.

Here for Beer, who plays their home matches at South Hadley High School, advanced into the finals after posting a pair of road victories. They beat the third-seeded Monson Mustangs, 4-3, in the quarterfinals, and upset the top-seeded Westside Sports Shop, 2-0, in the semis. Westside Sports Shop had won the last three women’s championship titles.

“We began the season well before suffering a couple of injuries,” said Here for Beer player/ coach Cassie Ashwell. “I never thought that we would make it to the finals this year, but we knocked out the top-seeded team in the semifinals. It was a fun season.”

Ashwell, who was selected as the M.V.P. of the 2018 championship match, shares the coaching duties with Gina Lord.

Ashwell is normally a midfielder, but



Here for Beer were the Women’s Division runners-up. TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

she was the starting goalkeeper in this year’s finals.

“Our starting goalie, Sue Jenney, suffered an ACL injury during the regular season. Our back-up goalie, Kelly Callahan, suffered a season ending injury in our semifinal match on Wednesday,” Ashwell said. “I’ve never been a goalie before the other night. I was our starting goalie in tonight’s game and it’s the first time I’ve played a full game at that position. You just need to have a different mindset being a goalie than a field player. I just needed to step up for my team.”

The Lusitano Ladies took a 1-0 lead following a free kick goal during the eighth minute.

Ada Siepman, who plays soccer at Mount Holyoke College, fired a high shot that Ashwell couldn’t save. The ball landed in the right corner of the net.

“I tried my best to make the save on their first goal,” Ashwell said. “I just hesitated a little bit and the ball got past me.”

Two minutes later, Lauren Cantin delivered a pass from the left side to Tzystin Burger, who finished off the play by scoring the Lusitano Women’s second goal.

Burger also played soccer at Granby High School and AIC.

The final 30 minutes of the opening half was evenly played.



Hannah Duggan, of Palmer, goes for a header.

Here for Beer best scoring chance came on a shot attempt during the 18th minute of the first half from Lauren Majanski, who graduated from South Hadley High School.

The Lusitano Women built a 3-0 lead following a goal by Jordan Chatman



Macie Bolton, of Belchertown, crosses the field with the ball.

with about twenty minutes remaining in regulation.

The Lusitano Ladies will be looking to defend their PVSSL women’s championship title a year from now.



Emily Landry, of Agawam, heads past midfield.



Lindsey Marjanski, of South Hadley, makes her way up the field.



Mackenzie Shean of Agawam dribbles up the field.

CAGERS | FROM PAGE 9

battled back and forth the entire game and was looking to capture their second summer championship.

One of the ten rules for winning any championship is ‘getting there’. And to the credit of the team and coaches they absolutely accomplished that mission. After winning the opening playoff round the Quabbin Cagers saw an opportunity and a path to capture an Auburn League title, once again, for E.P. Wine, the team sponsor. However, as is often said, in order to win a game such as the overtime game they played, a team must have learned from the pain

of losing such a game. And this learning experience is certainly on the Quabbinians plans and agenda going forward as they seek to benefit and improve in many areas of the game. One of those areas will be applying consistent defensive pressure and containing the ball handler. Monty Teach was able to convert on multiple drives to the basket with ease especially when they needed to do so. It will take preparation, planning and practice on the defensive side but each player is committed to improving the defensive effort because that is what wins championships. Coach Steve Carington and the summer staff have been

advocating to the players that a great defense produces a great offense and that his team can score off the defensive pressure. Just ask seniors Jaxon Warburton and Bryce Venne, both thrive offensively from deflections and loose ball recoveries.

At GameOn League action in the north, The Quabbin cagers are now 6-0 with a 54-45 win over Sizer and headed to the first round of playoffs after finishing first in the league. This has been a good league for a team consisting mostly of younger players needing see action on the court and gain valuable experience and knowledge. Coach Steve Car-

ington is at the helm with Alan Crane assisting and the duo has been mixing the underclassmen players with the older ballers with success.

With the fall approaching fast attention will now turn to scheduling the basketball clinicians on the courts of Quabbin. Former college coach John Leonard, top clinician Bob Catalini, former UMass standout Chris Kirkland and Roots Basketball with Geoff Billingham and Tim Sheridan headline the slate of teaching masters that always are very popular and draw a number of players seeking to both acquire and elevate their skill set.

- sports -

Conte leads way in Owls golf tourney

WESTFIELD – Sunny skies met the 33 registered foursomes for the 18th annual Owl Club Tournament at Crestview Country Club in Agawam, Mass. on Monday.

The tournament is a key fundraiser for Westfield State athletics with alumni, sponsors, families and university coaches and staff all participating to net more than \$21,000 to support Owls' athletics. Westfield Bank again served as the lead sponsor of the event.

Westfield State president Linda Thompson welcomed the players at dinner and thanked them for the support of the University and Owls athletics. She mentioned her increased focus on the success of the Owls athletic teams and their role in university life, and reminded players that the University will be celebrating its 185th anniversary this fall with a gala event as part of the homecoming weekend on Oct. 18.

Westfield State director of athletics Richard Lenfest, Jr. formally introduced Westfield State's new head football coach Lou Conte, Jr., as the guest of honor at the tournament's post-round dinner, sponsored by Westfield Gas and Electric and Whip City Fiber.

"Coach K and Coach Marino I held in high regard as a young man," said Conte in his remarks about the Owls previous two head coaches, both in attendance at the tournament. "I knew what I wanted to do, I wanted to coach football They were kings to me, and to be able to follow in the footsteps of the path that they laid out, both individually and together, and I am so appreciative, and so lucky to be here. I'm so excited for the season and there are many great things here that makes it feel like the right move for us."

Conte, an Agawam native, noted that he and his wife and children were excited to be able to set down roots in Western Mass again after stints coaching at Lenoir-Rhyne and the Citadel in South Carolina.

Players played in the scramble format at Crestview, former home of the LPGA's Friendly's classic and a qualifying site for the PGA's Travelers Championship. Players received lunch, spon-

sored by College Hype Sportswear and Screenprinting, and competed in variety of contests on the course, including long drive, pot of gold, a putting contest, shot for a \$5,000 hole in one prize, and contested closest-to-the-pin on multiple holes. Carts were sponsored by the Follett Campus Bookstore.

The Owls 2023 MASCAC Champion women's soccer team helped out as volunteers on the course, running several of the contests and staffing the players' Oasis on the course, which was sponsored by Pepsi and Commercial Distributing. Part of the proceeds from the event will help support women's soccer's season-opening trip to the Nashville, Tenn. area for a multi-day tournament.

Conte's big day continued as his foursome won the tournament's open division with a remarkable score of 17-under par.

"I hope his playbook is as good as his scorecard," joked tournament director Dave Caspole, the Owls associate director of athletics, in announcing the winners.

A foursome headed by Conte's father, Lou Sr., topped the senior division with a 16-under score.

Westfield State athletic trainers Cheryl Lee Seccina and Katie Sylvain were part of the winning coed foursome with a score of nine-under.

Other honors went to baseball alumnus Jack Mosko '78 who won the putting contest, hockey alumnus Chad Lesage '78 who topped the long drive, and Deb Murphy p'17 who topped the women's long drive. Closest to the pin honors went to Tom Mathis, Jake Hough, and former Owls men's basketball guard Austin Joseph '18. Retired Owls cross country coach and Owls Hall of Famer Bill Devine '73 won the pot of gold drawing after hitting the green in regulation on the 11th hole.

The tournament is annually contested the first Monday in August, as the Owls ramp up for their teams to arrive for fall preseason. Conte's football team will be the first ones back on campus beginning Aug. 13.

Actions picks up at Thompson Speedway

THOMPSON, CT — What started out as a gloomy day in the quiet corner of Connecticut turned sunny for the teams, fans and supporters of the 5/8-mile Thompson Speedway. Track championship action started with the AZ Roofing SK Light Modified division under the command of John O'Sullivan and Rob Schultz. O'Sullivan quickly took charge on the bottom groove with Schultz sliding back on the outside. Launching into a four-car race saw Meg Fuller, Tyler Chapman and Nick Hovey join O'Sullivan under a blanket at the front.

Fuller stole the lead before a hard-charging Chapman took over on lap five as Nick Hovey stalked from behind. The extra-distance feature saw the three leaders run nose-to-tail before a mid-race caution for the spinning Rob Schultz set up a dash between Chapman and Hovey. The two leaders turned sour in turn two, spinning off the treacherous turn and leaving Fuller the lead for the restart with eleven laps remaining. In just five laps, Hovey and Chapman returned to the front as Hovey tried his best to claim the win but Tyler Chapman took down his fifth win in a row at Thompson with John O'Sullivan taking third.

The Mini Stocks were next on the field with Rick LaFlesh and Steve Michalski in command under the green flag. LaFlesh led the early goings before Kevin Moore powered through on the bottom to lead lap 4 with defending champ Jarred Roy patiently making his way to the front. After battling LaFlesh for second place lap after lap, Roy finally made his way into the runner-up spot with five laps remaining and set his sights on Moore. Side-by-side under the white flag, both former champions gave it all they had but it would be Kevin Moore at the line to snap Jarred Roy's four-race wins streak with Ryan Pospellos joining the podium in third.

Moving on to the Street Stocks, rookie Austin Flanagan and Icebreaker winner Al Stone III brought the fan-favorite division to the initial green with

trouble early for Ryan Waterman and Scott Souza as they dragged across the length of the backstretch wall. After rookie Flanagan led lap one, Stone powered back to the lead with Scott Sundeen, Corey Fanning and 'Lead-foot' Larry Barnett following him on the bottom. Fanning used a strong run through turns one and two to launch under Stone and lead lap seven.

The Thompson Late Models jumped on the highbanks for their 25-lap feature with Ryan Morgan and Derek Gluchacki leading the charge into turn one. Kulwicki Driver Development Program (KDDP) finalist Gluchacki led the early circuits with Jake 'The Jet' Johnson trying to track him down as Connor Souza made a physical battle in his fight to third-place. Three wide with former champions Morgan and Nick Johnson, Souza battled hard to join the top-three. The physicality continued to the lap 10 caution with Souza sent to the rear for contact that sent Morgan around in turn two. One final late race caution for rookie Kyle Gero's dust-up in turn three set up a final chase to the checkers with Derek Gluchacki becoming the first repeat Late Model winner at the Big-T with Jake Johnson and Matt Lowinski-Loh rounding out the podium.

The Tripoint Showdown 50-lap main event for the Thompson Sunoco Modifieds rounded out the evening's program under the lead of Danny Cates and Josh Carey. Cates led from the start as Jon Puleo motored into second with Kieth Rocco looking to come from the back of the pack. Puleo and Cates would swap lanes over and over again with crossovers galore as Rocco watched from two car lengths back in the catbird seat. The first caution would slow the field as Derek Ramstrom smacked the turn one wall with Puleo getting the restart jump on Cates. Cates and Josh Carey would suffer the same fate on lap 27, slamming into the turn one wall. Jon Puleo would take off on the restart and lead down to the wire with Keith Rocco and Isaiah Newcomb rounding out the podium three.

Candlepin League News

Summer Edition

By Ryan Drago

Staff Writer

rdrago@turley.com

EAST BROOKFIELD – This past league night was the second to last league night for Wednesday Nights at Bogen Lanes.

As of Aug. 7, Rolling Stones are hanging on to a three-point lead in first place with a record of 71-33. Team Seven is close behind in second place at 68-36. Team Nine is in third place at 64-40.

Split Smashers are in fourth place with a record of 56-48. Team Swish also has a record of 56-48 but are behind in total pinfall compared to Split Smashers and are in fifth place.

Seeds 6-10 are Clock Barn (51-53), Straight Shooters (48-56), Gutter Snipes (40-64), Gutter Dolls (40-64) and Gutter Fingers (26-78). The top three teams (Rolling Stones, Team Seven and Team

Nine) are in the running for finishing in first place in the summer league.

Clock Barn bowled against Gutter Fingers on lanes one and two. In game one, Gutter Fingers were victorious 448-425. In game two, Clock Barn was the winner by a score of 457-450. Bob Davenport of Clock Barn scored 108 in game two.

In game three, Clock Barn won the last game of the evening, 437-431. Gutter Fingers won total pinfall by a final score of 1329-1319. Each team split at receiving four points each.

Straight Shooters bowled against the Split Smashers. In game one, Straight Shooters started off with a decisive victory over Split Smashers, 484-442. Phil Clough of Straight Shooters was the high bowler on his team with 115. Nate Fontaine of Split Smashers started off with 120.

In game two, Split Smashers won by a score of 478-453. Fontaine bested his first game score by bowling a 125.

In game three, Straight Shooters won the last game by a score of 484-460. Clough had a 109 in game three, matching his second game score and had a series of 333. Fontaine finished with a 127 and a series of 372. Final scores were 1421-1380 in favor of Straight Shooters.

Gutter Snipes bowled against Team Nine. In game one, Team Nine won the first game 469-455. In game two, Gutter Snipes won by a score of 460-434. Tony Musnicki of Gutter Snipes bowled 118, the high game out of both teams.

In game three, Team Nine won 440-421. The final score was 1343-1336 in favor of Team Nine.

Team Seven bowled against the Gutter Dolls. In game one, Team Seven won by a score of 451-433. In game two, Team Seven won the game by one point, 454-453. In game three, déjà vu happened with Team Seven winning by one point again and with the same scores, 454-453.

Team Seven won total pinfall by a fi-

nal score of 1359-1339.

The #1 seed Rolling Stones bowled against Team Swish. In game one, Rolling Stones defeated Team Swish 451-429. In game two, Rolling Stones won again 456-405. In game three, Rolling Stones achieved a three-game sweep over Team Swish by winning the last game 452-439.

The final score was 1359-1273 in favor of Rolling Stones, who now have a three-point lead over Team Seven in the standings going into the final week.

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- community -

FAIR | FROM PAGE 1

at the fair and all were local and tied to agriculture.

The fair also hosted a vegetable contest for kids. This contest helps encourage kids to grow their own vegetables and taking care of them. The contest had a turnout of 12 kids of all ages.

Hill was pleased with the turnout the committee had for their inaugural fair and have every intention of bringing back the fair as an annual event for the community. Their goal is to have the fair on the second Saturday of August.

Throughout the Common in Brookfield were local vendors with all varieties of agriculture to offer the public. In the center of the Common was Emily Ellithorpe of the ESF Mighty Oaks. Ellithorpe grew up in Sturbridge and is a participant of timber sports. These sports involve wood chopping competitions where the athletes compete in the use of axes and saws.

Ellithorpe was demonstrating sawing, axe use as well as historic logging practices. Some kids came by and practiced as well, pretending to be hardworking lumberjacks. Ellithorpe represents ESF Mighty Oaks out of Syracuse, New York.

Many vendors provided petting zoos for kids and their families to learn more about taking care of farm animals. One of the vendors was Pine Hollow Farm Animal Sanctuary of Wales. This sanctuary focuses on livestock, but also assists in animal placement services and rehoming animals in need.

The owner of the sanctuary is Sarah Phifer. According to her fellow board member and sanctuary secretary, Theresa Roeder, Phifer has always had an undeniable passion for animals of all sizes and finds great joy in helping those in need.

"This sanctuary was Sarah's dream," Roeder said.

The sanctuary has pigs, sheep, over 50 chickens, a rabbit, a horse and a miniature horse. Pine Hollow Farm Animal Sanctuary had prizes for kids during the agricultural fair after they participated in a scavenger hunt.

For fun games the Cub Scouts Pack 159 was offering a fun game called "Splat the Gnat." This game involves one Scout dropping a water balloon while a participant tries to splat it with

a wooden swatter. Members of the Cub Scouts Pack 159 helping out during the Agricultural Fair were Declan, Daniel, Lucas, William, Colton, Timmy, Aiden, Landon and Patrick.

Another fun game for kids was wheelbarrow racing. Hill was running the races as two kids started off with an empty wheelbarrow and ran to the other side of the field to collect vegetables and then bring them back.

Oakholt Brewery brought some animals from their farm for guests to meet. In addition, the brewery also brought a tractor to give hayrides around the common.

One vendor involving both yoga and animals is Beyond Yoga & Wellness. Operating this business is Ashley Bousquet that provides unique forms of yoga for all bodies, abilities and mobilities. Bousquet offers classes throughout Massachusetts but is based in Spencer.

Bousquet's style of yoga involves some animals that provide animal therapy and calmness. Animals such as piglets and baby goats are part of the yoga experience that Bousquet believes provides guests a "mood changer."

"These are unique styles of yoga for everyone," Bousquet said.

Bousquet has been teaching yoga for 17 years but has been teaching animal based yoga for the last year. During the Agricultural Fair, Bousquet had a demonstration on the common to explain how this unique form of yoga works.

For information about the community, the Friends of Brookfield offered a booth to ask the public questions about the town needs. Member Don Taft is a part of a great community of people who want to help businesses in town and increase economic development.

"Anything we can do to help the community," Taft said.

The Friends of Brookfield also had a fun game for kids where they try to land a frog onto a lily pad.

Don't miss out on a new annual fair that educates the community about agriculture and highlights many local businesses committed to providing agricultural goods and needs. The Brookfield Agricultural committee is currently forming a website and has a Facebook page for viewers to see.



Brookfield's first ever Agricultural Fair was a lot of fun for the community. Emily Ellithorpe, right, demonstrates how to saw timber. TURLEY PHOTOS BY RYAN DRAGO



Food was available at the gazebo on Brookfield Common.



Sarah Phifer, right, is the President and Founder of Pine Hollow Farm Animal Sanctuary. The sanctuary provide a scavenger hunt for kids.



Willow Brook Academy had a petting zoo for guests to meet during the Brookfield Agricultural Fair.



Oakholt Brewery provided hayrides around the common during the agricultural fair.



Cub Scout Pack 159 demonstrated how to play Splat the Gnat.

- community -



Friends of Brookfield provided information about how to support the public and help promote businesses in town.



Ashley Bousquet of Beyond Yoga & Wellness was one of the vendors at the Agricultural Fair and does classes of unique forms of yoga, including classes with animals.



Shelby Hill was in charge of a wheelbarrow race for kids.



Daisy is a friendly goat from Mables Acres in North Brookfield.

Applications being accepted for St. Aloysius Catholic School

HARDWICK – St. Aloysius Catholic School in Gilbertville is presently accepting applications school-wide for the 2024/2025 school year.

There are just a few seats left in this very popular preschool/pre-kindergarten program. Jennifer McNally has been the preschool/pre-kindergarten teacher at St. Aloysius since the school opened in 2016 and has been an early childhood educator for over 20 years.

“My favorite part of teaching young learners is to see those ‘Ah Ha’ moments, where they get a concept that they might have been struggling with prior. They are also full of life all the time; to see things through a child’s eyes is heartwarming and awakening to the soul. Working at a Catholic school is wonderful, in that our faith is woven into our day. From morning prayer, grace before meals, to learning about the wonderful world God made and how we are best to love one another, it’s great to be able to reinforce what children are learning at home in regards to their faith!” McNally said. “I love being able to prepare my students for success in kindergarten and beyond. We learn primarily through play, with a focus on age appropriate early literacy and math skills.”

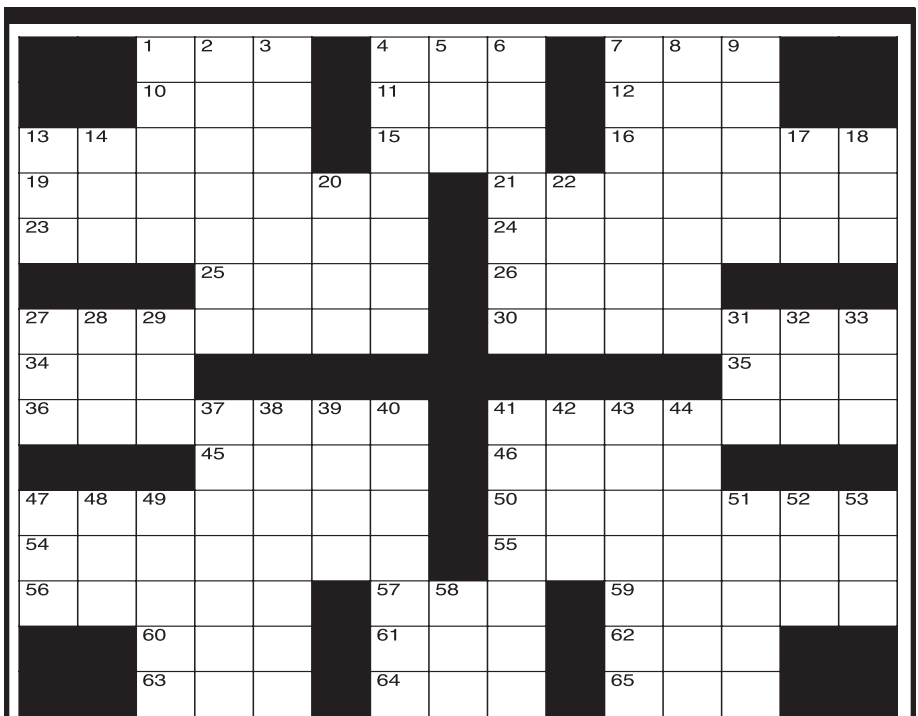
The school offers two-day, three-day and five-day per week options.

There are also select openings in kindergarten through grade eight classrooms.

“We have had a upsurge in inquiries for older students this year. I think some parents are looking for a different approach to their child’s education and if faith is important to them they want their children to be in that type of environment during the school day. We are a big family at St. Aloysius. We support each other and rally for one another. It’s a great environment to be part of and the education is top notch. Our graduates remain successful in their high schools and beyond,” said Enrollment Coordinator, Roberta McQuaid, in a press release.

Tuition at St. Aloysius is affordable, and all students, even our preschoolers, are eligible for a scholarship discount. Additional tuition assistance is often provided by the attendees parish and also from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Worcester.

Reach out to McQuaid by email to rmcquaid@staloyusiuscatholicsschool.com to schedule a tour before the new school year begins. All of the necessary enrollment paperwork is available online at www.staloyusiuscs.com, under the “Join our Family” tab.



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|---|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| CLUES ACROSS | 30. Immobile | CLUES DOWN | vehicle |
| 1. Major American automaker (abbr.) | 34. Pie __ mode | 1. Policemen (French) | 32. Fall behind |
| 4. Pressure measurement | 35. Moved quickly | 2. Toy dog | 33. Midway between northeast and east |
| 7. Two-year-old sheep | 36. Passenger's place on a motorbike | 3. Inflamed colon disease | 37. Head pain |
| 10. Indigenous person from Laos or Thailand | 41. A way through | 4. Can't move | 38. Popular sport in England and India |
| 11. Up in the air (abbr.) | 45. Former US Secretary of Education Duncan | 5. Helps little firms | 39. King Charles's sister |
| 12. Actress de Armas | 46. Leader | 6. Lists of names, subjects, etc. | 40. Boat race |
| 13. Not moving | 47. Flowing | 7. Takes down | 41. About fish |
| 15. Cool! | 50. Greetings | 8. Makes possible | 42. Mailservant |
| 16. Bog arum genus | 54. Remedy | 9. Wife of Julius Constantius | 43. Able to be marketed |
| 19. Perceptible by touch | 55. Soft lightweight fabric | 13. Engine additive | 44. Tinier |
| 21. Type of test | 56. Building material | 14. Arctic explorers (abbr.) | 47. Parts per billion (abbr.) |
| 23. Monetary units | 57. Sea bream | 17. Written account | 48. Paddle |
| 24. Collection of various things | 59. A way to cause to be swollen | 18. Consumed | 4.9 Oneness |
| 25. Sum of five and one | 60. One and only | 20. Something the first shall be | 51. Bitter chemical |
| 26. Type of sword | 61. People get one in summer | 22. No (slang) | 52. Not around |
| 27. Hates | 62. Wreath | 27. Gov't lawyers | 53. Very fast airplane |
| | 63. Thus far | 28. Peyton's little brother | 58. Swiss river |
| | 64. They __ | 29. Small amount | |
| | 65. Sea eagle | 31. Investment | |

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HELP WANTED
 The Trustees of the Otis Library seek applicants for a **Library Director Position.** The position pays \$21-\$25 per hour commensurate with experience. The Director can expect to work between 25-30 hours per week. An application packet is available by emailing otislibrary@cwmaris.org or at the **Otis Library at 48 North Main Road, Otis, MA 01253. (413) 269-0109.** The application deadline is **September 13, 2024.** The Otis Library Board of Trustees is an equal opportunity employer.

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

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

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FOR RENT

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 All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.
 This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development " HUD " toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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MAIL TO: **Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069** DEADLINES: **MONDAY AT NOON**
 or call: **413-283-8393**

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1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	Base Price \$26.50	22	Base Price \$26.00
23	Base Price \$27.00	24	Base Price \$28.00
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29	Base Price \$30.50	30	Base Price \$31.00
31	Base Price \$31.50	32	Base Price \$32.00
33	Base Price \$32.50	34	Base Price \$33.00
35	Base Price \$33.50	36	Base Price \$34.00
37	Base Price \$34.50	38	Base Price \$35.00
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Classified Advertising DEADLINE MONDAY AT NOON

- public safety -

East Brookfield Police Log

During the week of July 29-Aug. 4, the East Brookfield Police Department responded to 139 building/property checks, 59 directed area patrols, 10 traffic controls, seven radar assignments, seven emergency 911 calls, five citizen assists, three assist other agencies, two complaints, five safety hazards, two property damages, one fraud, two fires, one motor vehicle accident, five animal calls and 27 motor vehicle stops in the town of East Brookfield.

Monday, July 29

9:57 a.m. 911 Property Damage, Wildwood Road, Report Taken
 10:22 a.m. Assist Other Agency, West Main Street, Officer Handled
 10:30 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 3:16 p.m. Property Damage, Connie Mack Drive, Services Rendered
 9:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued

Tuesday, July 30

7:59 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, North Street, Transported to Hospital
 8:50 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Out of Town, Dispatch Handled
 9:15 a.m. Assist Citizen, Connie Mack Drive, Officer Handled
 2:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, East Main Street, Report Taken
 5:26 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Harrington Street, Written Warning
 8:28 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Red Gable Road, Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, July 31

12:07 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Cove Street, Officer Handled
 2:34 p.m. Safety Hazard, North Street, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
 4:38 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Main Street, Merge
 7:09 p.m. Fraud, Connie Mack Drive, Report Taken
 8:40 p.m. Safety Hazard, Rice Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency

8:49 p.m. Safety Hazard, Oakwood Drive, Merge

Thursday, Aug. 1

10:23 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Harrington Street, Arrest(s) Made
 12:29 p.m. Assist Citizen, Connie Mack Drive, Officer Handled
 8:16 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Podunk Road, Summons Issued

Friday, Aug. 2

11:23 a.m. Assist Citizen, Connie Mack Drive, Negative Contact
 2:15 p.m. Fire/Illegal Burn, Shore Road, Officer Handled
 4:07 p.m. Safety Hazard, Harrington Street, Taken/Referred to Others
 4:48 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Howe Street, Transported to Hospital
 5:09 p.m. Assist Citizen, Connie Mack Drive, Officer Handled
 8:05 p.m. Fire/Other, South Pond Road, Investigated
 8:58 p.m. Safety Hazard, Podunk Road, Services Rendered

Saturday, Aug. 3

1:55 a.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Route 49, Arrest(s) Made
 2:47 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Sturbridge, Services Rendered
 2:47 p.m. Assist Citizen, Podunk Road, Dispatch Handled

Sunday, Aug. 4

12:20 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Citation Issued
 12:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Connie Mack Drive, Citation Issued
 2:30 a.m. Parking Complaint, Oakwood Drive, Spoken To
 12:11 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Howe Street, Transported to Hospital
 8:34 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Podunk Road, Citation Issued
 8:40 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Citation Issued
 10:38 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued

New Braintree Police Log

During the week of Aug. 5-12, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to seven building/property checks, 12 directed/area patrols, two radar assignments, three emergency 911 calls, two citizen assists, one assist other agency, one safety hazard, one complaint, one motor vehicle accident, five animal calls and one motor vehicle stop in the town of New Braintree.

Wednesday, Aug. 7

12:52 p.m. Medical Emergency, Town Hall, Services Rendered
 1:21 p.m. 911 Animal Call, Barre Road, Unknown Outcome
 2:04 p.m. Disabled Motor Vehicle, Barre Road, Officer Handled

Thursday, Aug. 8

1:25 p.m. Medical Emergency, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

4:44 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled
 8:03 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

Friday, Aug. 9

11:11 p.m. Safety Hazard, West Road, Officer Handled

Saturday, Aug. 10

10:01 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, West Brookfield Road, Negative Contact
 8:32 p.m. Complaint, Pierce Road, Spoken To

Monday, Aug. 12

6:10 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Unknown Location

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.

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.

Maintenance Supervisor

The Ware Housing Authority is seeking a qualified full-time Maintenance Supervisor. The incumbent is expected to oversee and perform routine and preventative maintenance of the Ware Housing Authority's entire housing portfolio includes 86 units of Ch. 667 Elderly/Handicapped, 23 units of Ch. 705 family and 61 Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers.

The position has management responsibility covering a wide range of duties, including but not limited to, overseeing maintenance staff, contractors, and any additional help to assist with maintenance and repair work and the operation of equipment and vehicles. Oversights of Capital Improvements, Modernization Projects and Massachusetts CAPHUB.

Responsible for scheduling and record keeping of all property mechanical systems such as fire alarms and fire extinguisher inspections. The work requires basic skills such as plumbing, carpentry, electrical, masonry, painting, janitorial and landscaping. The job requires the ability to operate motor vehicles, move heavy objects and lift and carry items up to 75 pounds working in a variety of conditions.

Must have a valid drivers license and be insurable under Housing Authority insurance. The selected applicant must be able to pass a criminal background check (CORI).

The maximum salary is \$ 73,632 and is dependent upon experience, education and certifications in accordance with EOHLC Maintenance Supervisor Schedule. (MMA) Massachusetts Maintenance Supervisor certification will be required in a timely manner if applicant is hired. The required work hours are 40 hours per week and the position includes excellent benefits.

To apply, in confidence please submit a cover letter and resume to Linda Hanssen, Executive Director at warehousing@comcast.net.

*Diverse applicants are encouraged to apply.
 The Ware Housing Authority is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

HELP WANTED

DRIVE FOR THE QUABOAG CONNECTOR

Description

Drivers wanted for the Quaboag Connector community transportation service! The Connector operates in ten towns in the Quaboag Region, connecting residents to their everyday needs. We are seeking friendly, responsible drivers to be the face that community members see while traveling to work, medical appointments, grocery stores, and beyond.

Hours and Salary:

We are looking for van and bus drivers for full and part time opportunities. 6AM-2PM shifts and 3PM-7PM shifts for van operators available starting at \$16.00/hour. We are also looking for full-time CDL Class B drivers starting at \$27/hour.

Application Process:

Interested applicants should visit the Ware Town Hall for an application or visit our website at www.rideconnector.com/driveforus. If you have any questions, please call (413) 667-7196.

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer and committed to excellence through diversity. Qualified applicants are considered for all positions regardless of race, color, religion, creed, gender, national origin, age, disability, marital or military status, genetic information, sexual orientation, or any other legally protected status.

QUABOAG CURRENT

NORTH BROOKFIELD NBSB holds school supplies drive p5	WEST BROOKFIELD LWPA hosts water ski event p3	REGION Legislators hold office hours p2	Editorial/Opinion 4 Sports 9 Classifieds 14 Police Logs 15
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Volume 17, Number 38

Friday, August 16, 2024

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NEW LISTING - \$470,000 - 91 WEST MAIN ST., W. BROOKFIELD

A rare opportunity to own a two-family duplex home in the charming town of West Brookfield. This property features a two-bedroom unit with a fully equipped kitchen and a one-bedroom unit with a spacious living area, full bathroom, and washer and dryer hookups. The convenient location on Route 9 makes it ideal for professionals seeking a live-in/rental arrangement, an in-home office, or an in-law apartment. Investors can also capitalize on this excellent investment opportunity by renting out both units. Recent upgrades include the fenced in yard, roof and windows. Additionally, the property is just a short drive from the beautiful 320-acre Lake Wickaboag, offering year-round recreational activities. Don't miss out on this exceptional chance; schedule a viewing today!!

Cassie Paolucci
774-200-3523  

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Dec. 7.....	Newport Mansions Christmas	\$110
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BBQ+BEER+BAND
at Farmer Matt's

FarmerMatt.com/events

BBB IS BACK at Farmer Matt's

Join us at the Farm Thursday, Aug. 22 from 4:30 - 8:00 PM for great music, local beer, & farm-fresh food.
FREE ADMISSION

Upcoming events

BBQ + Beer + Band
Thur., Aug. 22 • Thur., Sept. 19 • Thur., Oct. 31

Oktoberfest w/ Lost Towns
Sat. Sept. 28

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