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Quaboag Current Newspaper

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A TURLEY PUBLICATION -

www.turley.com Volume 16, Number 43 Friday, September 22, 2023

Brookfield parade celebrates town's 350th birthday

By Paula Ouimette Editor pouimette@turley.com

BROOKFIELD - This past Sunday, the town celebrated its 350-year history with a parade packed with floats, firetrucks, community members, organizations, businesses, horses and

Organized by the Brookfield Cultural Council, and spearheaded by Council member Jeanne Lytle, over 40 groups made the march from Mill Street, traveling around the Common.

Near the front of the parade was a black car driven by Donald Herbert, containing the town's oldest resident and Boston Post Cane recipient (as well as his mother), Pauline Herbert. At 98 years old, Pauline has spent over eight decades living in town, moving

See PARADE | PAGE 16



Nick Clark of the Brookfield Cultural Council and his tractor pulled the Mark Weissman Quartet on a float. Clark had bags of cow tail candy to pass out, with information about Brookfield's famous bovine, Elsie the Borden Cow. TURLEY PHOTOS BY PAULA OUIMETTE

with classes for all ages | full-time police officer

By Paula Ouimette pouimette@turley.com

BARRE - Fall classes for kids and teens have already kicked off at Listening Wellness Center, 35 South St., but there are still opportunities to take part in some of the many creative and fun programs.

Teen Circuit Training with Rhonda Hamer will be held over five weeks on Mondays, starting Oct. 30 and running through Nov. 27 from 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Children ages 12 and up will build strength and stamina by completing a variety of exercises at multiple stations. Hamer will lead participants through alternating exercises, balancing work and rest, using different workout styles.

Teen Circuit Training will mostly use bodyweight move-



Artist Jen Swan is teaching an art class for adults, Art for Adults - Botanical Workshop, which explores your favorite flowers, herbs and trees through pen and ink and watercolor. SUBMITTED PHOTOS

ment for the training, with plenty of good music to move along to. This program is open to all abilities.

The cost for Teen Circuit Training is \$60.

See LISTENING | PAGE 9

Listening celebrates fall | Selectmen appoint new

By Paula Ouimette Editor pouimette@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD The Board of Selectmen welcomed Nicholas Newman, a new full-time police officer to

the town's Police Department. At the Sept. 12 meeting, Board of Selectmen Chair Jason Petraitis said after reviewing the numbers, it was determined that it would be more economical to hire a full-time police officer to meet the Police Department's needs.

Newman has lived in town since 2013 and worked for the Department for over a year as a part-time officer. Newman has put himself through the bridge program at the Police Academy to be eligible for full-time sta-

The Board voted unanimously to appoint Newman to a full-time position.

Police Chief Mark Smith said Newman has "put the time in" with the Department.

"He learned fast because he had to learn fast," he said. "He's done a great job...he's definitely going to be an asset to the Department."

Turnout gear

Fire Chief Joseph Holway discussed turnout gear needs for the Fire Department. He said the lease for the 12 sets of gear previously purchased is running out this year.

Holway said the lease was about \$8,000 each year

"We were hoping to carry the lease through to get the other 18 sets for the 30 altogether,"

Unfortunately, Holway said the price of turnout gear has gone up substantially. He said research has shown that the

See SELECTMEN | PAGE 14

Local authors share their works at orchard event

By Emily-Rose Pappas Staff Writer

NORTH BROOKFIELD -Brookfield Orchards hosted a local author's fair this past Saturday and many authors came on that windy and blustery day to share their published books.

The wind didn't stop the authors from coming, or the many others who came to purchase their books.

Thom Ring's stand featured books about race cars, motorcycles, and more for all ages. Ring loved sports and spent time writing for several newspapers before moving on to fiction.

His books follow his past working with children that have received brain injuries, and his books are meant to bring awareness to those who suffer with brain injuries.

"I write books a kid who doesn't like to read will love to read," Ring said.

See AUTHORS | PAGE 10



Sharon Healy-Young holds her best-selling mystery. TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE

Your farm-fresh breakfast awaits Farmer Matt's special sale brings you sizzling bacon, farm-fresh eggs, and savory breakfast sausage. Start your day with the finest ingredients straight from our farm. Don't miss out on these delicious morning essentials.



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save in-store and online.



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FALL FESTIVITES at the FARM

Farmer Matt is preparing the farm for your favorite fall festivities. From viewing breathtaking fall foliage to live music and local craft beer, there's something to do at the farm all fall. So mark your calendar. We'll see you at the farm.

Pop-up Beer Garden featuring local brews made with local ingredients is every Sat/Sun through October. 9/23, 9/30, 10/1, 10/7, 10/8, 10/14, 10/15, 10/21, 10/22, 10/28, 10/29

Halloween Party featuring live music, great food, and local craft beer as part of the New Braintree Halloween festivities on 10/28.

Check FarmerMatt.com for details & more events.



Local artists participate in Backroads Studio Tour

BARRE – The artists and artisans of central Massachusetts Backroads Studio tour will be opening their studios this fall, on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 14 and 15 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. in the towns of Petersham, Barre, Oakham, Hardwick, New Braintree, North Brookfield and Spencer.

This year the tour welcomes two new members, Dena Hengst from Oakham and Frank Bly from Hardwick.

Hengst studio will showcase her beautiful paintings, prints and notecards, many of which depict ocean shores, waterfalls and water surfaces. Bly's studio, established in 1971, features beautiful paintings of landscapes, flowers and wildlife.

Bly's friendship with Norman Rockwell has been inspirational to his work.

In the town of Petersham Sylvia Brown will showcase her line of contemporary classic leather handbags, garments, belts, briefcases and luggage.

In the town of Barre you will find three studios including Deer Run Studio where

metalsmith Bonnie Waterhouse works with sterling silver, semiprecious stones, fused glass and crystals to create rings, bracelets, necklaces, earrings and ornaments.

Across the street from Waterhouse is Sue Morello of Sheldon Farm Baskets. Morello creates beautiful baskets in a variety of shapes and sizes, many of which are hand painted with lovely designs.

A short drive from there takes tourists to Stained Glass by Robert Hill.

Hill enjoys building artwork from glass that has texture and character. Hill's favorite pieces are those designed for gardens.

Another short drive brings tourists to New Braintree where they can visit David Thompson's wood shop studio. Thompson has a collection of handcrafted oneof-a-kind spoons, bowls and kitchenware. Thompson also builds a variety of unique interior and exterior furniture pieces.

In the town of North Brookfield, there are two more studios to visit.

At Palmer Design Group, you will find

Jefferey Palmer who handcrafts beautiful furniture using time honored techniques of mortise and tenon and dovetail joinery. Palmer's natural oil finish glows with the warmth of a valued heirloom.

Nearby is Brookfield Paperworks where Elisabeth Hyder will welcome you to view her beautiful boxes, journals, cards, framed art and collages. Vibrant colors and beautiful design combine to create gorgeous "art you can use."

In the town of Spencer this year you will find Lou Meyerdierks creating beautiful table runners, penny rugs and holiday pieces, using techniques of wool applique, rug hooking, needle punch and counted cross stitch.

Be inspired by the different studios and demonstrations this self-guided tour has to offer, while experiencing the autumn beauty of our serene New England backroads. For more information and a map, please visit backroadsstudiotour.org.



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Advertising Sales Dan Flynn dflynn@turley.com

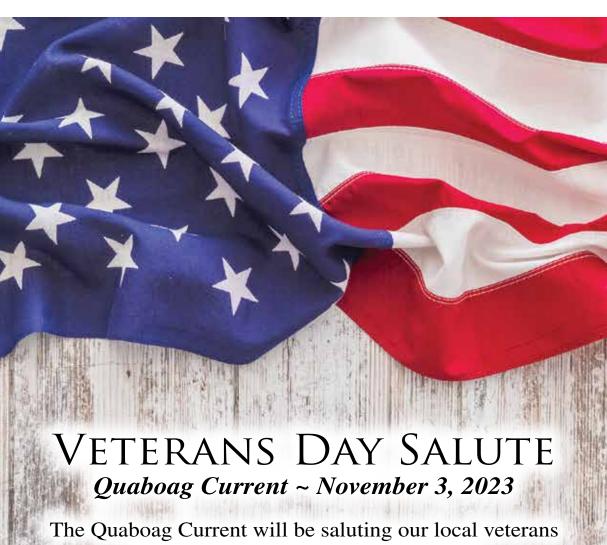
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Editor Paula Ouimette pouimette@turley.com

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(from all wars and branches, including honoring deceased veterans), reservists, active duty U.S. Military members.

Please submit a photo of your veteran with his or her name, rank, branch of military and hometown by email to **dflynn@turley.com** or drop off a photo to Quaboag Current, 80 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082 All photos will be returned.

> Please submit your photo no later than Tuesday, October 17, 2023

There is no cost to submit a photo. No photos will be accepted after deadline. If you would like to use a prior submitted photo, please contact us before to October 10th.

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Quaboag Current

Community Newspaper **EDITOR WANTED**

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

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

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

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

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

Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience
- Willingness to mentor a staff writer and correspondents
- Editing experience and ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
- Proficiency in Associated Press style
- Management experience and/or experience managing content for a print publication.

Please send resume and writing examples to:

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

Country Bank welcomes Brunilda Demiri to team

WARE – Country Bank is pleased to announce that Brunilda Demiri of Natick has joined its Auditing Division.

Before joining Country Bank, Demiri worked as a Lead Auditor for the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston. Demiri has over 14 years of experience in the industry and is currently a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors and the Certified Fraud Examiners Community.

nity.

"We are thrilled to welcome Brunilda to the Audit team; it was not only her background and experience with the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, but her specific interest in community banking and her personal commitment to community service make her a perfect fit for Country Bank. Her approach towards her role and building relationships internally has proven to be a winning strategy and aligns with our iSTEP Corporate Values of Integrity, Service, Teamwork, Excellence, and Prosperity. We are excited she's on our team, and we're pleased that she has chosen Country Bank as her Employer of Choice," said Miriam Siegel, first senior vice president and chief Culture & Development officer, Human Resources, in a press release.

"At the Federal Reserve Bank, I managed multiple audit teams responsible for some of the Fed's most complex and high-risk audit engagements," said Demiri. "Throughout my career, I have learned how impactful audit can be and look forward to providing valuable audit services and helping Country Bank stay ahead of risks that could impact the success of objectives and strategic initiatives. I have enjoyed getting to know the people here and look forward to continued partnerships and working together."

Demiri holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from Bentley University and is currently enrolled in Babson's MBA program. Brunilda is also a certified fraud examiner.

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Cub Scouts host annual joining event Sunday



Cub Scouts from Brookfield Pack 159 participated in the town's 350th parade this past Sunday. TURLEY PHOTO BY PAULA OUIMETTE

BROOKFIELD – Cub Scout Pack 159 is hosting its third annual joining event at Lewis Field, 3 Main St., on Sunday, Sept. 24 from 1-3 p.m.

Cub Scouts is open to any youth entering kinder-

garten through fifth grade, boys and girls. New Scouts who register at the joining night will receive a free Pinewood Derby car kit from the Heart of New England Council.



- opinion -



Friends in the garden

or the last couple of weeks, I have been eagerly observing a garden spider in one of my flower beds.

It is so beautiful.

Spider foes might balk at that particular choice of words. But if the shoe fits, wear it!

This spider is indeed a beauty. Over an inch long, yellow and black in color and attached to an intricately woven web, the spider on guard, waiting for unsuspecting prev.

Many years ago, when I grew flowers that were members of the Celosia genus in a big cut flower garden, it seemed this particular spider was a frequent visitor. I haven't seen one like it in a few years.

Lo and behold, she's attached to some plumed celosia, doing her thing. Read on to learn more about a real hero, garden style!



This garden spider, an Agriope, is a helpful friend to garden-

This particular garden spider goes by the name of Argiope (rhymes with calliope). Besides its brilliant color, other distinguishing characteristics include a large, egg-shaped abdomen, three claws on each foot, and a foot wide (or larger) web that has a zig zag band of silk called "stabilimenta" running through its center.

The argiope makes its home in most of the lower 48 states, Mexico and Central America as far south as Costa Rica. It prefers sunny areas among flowers, shrubs and other tall plants to construct its web.

If weather permits, the female spider will construct and repair her web both day and night and will remain there unless food is scarce, or disturbances are frequent. Males generally roam in search of a mate, and when they find one will sometimes build a small web nearby to begin courtship.

Although their vision is rather poor, males get their intentions across by plucking and vibrating the females' web.

Once mating is complete, it is presumed that males die. Females produce up to three brown egg sacks, each one containing 300-1,400 eggs.

The sacks are positioned close to mom, nearby her resting position in the center of the web.

Unfortunately, she will die prior to or as a result of the first hard frost, and although her eggs will hatch within the sack they do not emerge until spring. In warmer climates the female argiope may live for several years.

As with all spiders, the black and yellow garden spider is carnivorous. Its orb-shaped





The Massachusetts Audubon Society reported a rare sighting of an American white pelican at Big Pond in Otis.

The white pelican winters along the Florida and Gulf Coast and breeds in the western part of Canada and the United States. It is 62 inches long, white with a large orange-yellow bill and throat pouch.

In flight, the trailing half of the wings are

The immature is similar to the adult,

but the bill and throat pouch are gray and the wing markings are brown not black. The im-

mature plumage is kept for three to four years. These peli-

cans feed while swimming, dipping the bill into the water to catch fish in its pouch. They often feed in small groups

where they herd fish toward shallow water to make facilitate catching the fish.

American white pelican

The female lays one to three white eggs in a nest that is a slight depression on bare ground or on a mound of earth, brush stems and debris. They often nest colonially on large inland lakes.

The American white pelican is one of the largest birds in North America. It can soar for long distance and often flies in line or V formation.

During breeding season, they may do flights involving soaring and diving.

They are generally quiet away from their breeding grounds. The young in the nest can give loud whines or grunts.

Bald eagle

An Oakham couple camped with family members at Lake Dennison over the Labor Day weekend. They spotted a bald eagle while kayaking.

Upon returning to shore, their son was looking at a bird perched in a tree and said it was a bald eagle. They took turns watching the eagle through the binoculars.

Lots of wild turkeys

Seeing wild turkeys along the side of the road or even having to stop while they cross the road is a common occurrence in my travels around the area.

This Monday, I stopped and watched a flock of six or so Tom turkeys. The three largest ones displayed their tail feathers in what looked like a competition between

Although wild turkeys are a common sighting now, I enjoy watching them. I also see flocks of several hens with their poults in various stages of growth.

Hummingbirds

The ruby throated hummingbirds are now migrating. Many people keep their nectar feeders out until later this month for a food source for the stragglers.

Soon, it will be time to take in the nectar feeders, clean them and put them away until

next May when the ruby throated humming-

birds return. **Audubon Soci**ety sightings

In addition to the American white pelican in Otis, the Massachusetts Audubon Soreportciety another rare sighting a masked booby at the edge of the continental shelf near Hy-

drographer Canyon. The booby was one of only three or four sightings ever recorded in Massachusetts.

Other sightings included red crossbills at Montague Plains Wildlife Management area, eight red crossbills at the Birch Hill Wildlife Management Area in Winchendon, four sandhill cranes Meadows Conservation Area near Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary in Northampton, and upland sandpiper, a whimbrel, a Baird's sandpiper, a short-billed dowitcher, a dickcissel and two lark sparrows in Northampton.

Also reported were a Bonaparte's gull and a common tern at the Quabbin Reservoir Visitor Center in Belchertown and three black vultures over Mount Wachusett in Princeton.

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

OPINION PAGE/ LETTERS POLICY

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

Send opinions to:

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

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Quaboag Current Newspaper

Baystate Wing Hospital employees donate school supplies



Shown from left are Pamela Iwasinski, principal at Stanley M. Koziol Elementary School; John Mancini. HVAC tech, Baystate Wing Hospital; Nick Connors, facilities manager, Baystate Wing Hospital; and Kim Thompson, principal at Ware Middle School. SUBMITTED PHOTO

PALMER – Throughout the month of August, Baystate Wing Hospital employees made donations to the hospital's annual back-to-school drive with the goal of supporting the great work of local teachers and learning opportunities for students at Ware Public Schools, Palmer Public Schools, and Quaboag Regional High School.

Team members from the hospital filled several bins with school supplies which included pens, pencils, colored markers, folders, spiral notebooks, glue sticks, Post-it Notes, disinfectant wipes, crayons, and much more.

'We are grateful for the school supply donation from Baystate Wing Hospital," said Pamela Iwasinski, principal, of Stanley M Koziol Elementary School in a press release. "We cannot thank you enough for your support of our students. These donations went directly into the hands of students and teachers in the Ware Public Schools. It takes a village to successfully support the students and we thank you for being part of that village."

"Education is essential to success, and we're proud to help equip local students with some of the tools they will need to be successful in school," said Karli Barrett, MS, RN, NE-BC, vice president and chief nursing officer/chief administrative officer of Baystate Wing Hospital. "We believe that these school supplies are a message of hope and inspiration to our local students that receive them. We want them to know we are saying, we believe in you, and we want you to succeed."

"Baystate Health is committed to creating healthier communities by embracing the definition of health to include access to health care and basic needs including quality education, safe neighborhoods, food security, affordable housing, social and racial justice, and arts and culture. All these elements are needed to help communities to thrive," said Barrett.

For more information about Baystate Wing Hospital visit Baytatehealth. org/wing.

Listening holds 'Gifts from the Garden' event Sept. 23

BARRE – Now is a good time to Laura Dusha Nelson said. add some new perennials to your home flower garden, and Listening Wellness Center, 35 South St., is hosting an opportunity to do so for a good cause.

On Saturday, Sept. 23 from 9 a.m.noon, Listening will host "Gifts from the Garden," allowing people to select perennials from the Center's abundant flower gardens for a donation, helping to support the nonprofit organization.

"Our flowers are so overrun after the rain this summer," Executive Director

For a donation, people can come and pick out flowers that they like from the garden. Listening's garden features Shasta daisies, phlox, blue amsonia, Carolina all spice, asters, iris, yellow helianthus, pachysandra, coreopsis, a variety of hostas and more.

Bring your shovel or trowel and a plant-carrying container and help dig and divide these plants.

For more information, email director@listeningwellness.org

GARDEN I FROM PAGE 4

web will capture all sorts of flying insects, including aphids, flies, grasshoppers, and even wasps and bees.

Amazingly, she can bring down prey nearly twice her size thanks to a venomous bite that immobilizes its victims. We need not worry about this spider.

Although it is large, it bites only when harassed, and reportedly, its venom poses no threat to humans. In fact, the argiope is a valued predator of grasshoppers in American rangelands.

The spider will be fun to watch as the season progresses.

I have to admit I am a little sad that

she won't survive the winter. I will have to be on the look out for her egg sacks.

Nature is just amazing. Be sure to stop and admire the spiders every now and then and smell the roses, too!

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





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- sturbridge

Route 20 culvert replacement starts Saturday morning

STURBRIDGE – The Massachusetts Department of Transportation is announcing that a full roadway closure of Route 20 in the vicinity of Cedar Meadow Brook will be required to allow culvert installation to take place.

Route 20 will be closed between Cedar Street and Holland Road, on Saturday, Sept. 23, starting at 9 p.m. The roadway will reopen to traffic Sunday, Sept. 24 at

These temporary overnight traffic impacts are necessary to allow crews and contractors to safely and effectively conduct construction operations.

During the overnight work, the following detours will be in place:

- Route 20 eastbound traffic will be directed to follow the detour signage in place and use Holland Road, Douty Road and Stallion Hill Road.
- Route 20 westbound traffic will be directed to follow the detour signage in place and use Cedar Street, Cooper Road and Arnold Road.
- Truck traffic traveling on Interstate 90 looking to access Route 20 at either I-84 (exit 73) or Route

32 (exit 63) will be directed to use the next interchange to avoid the road closure.

Appropriate signage, law enforcement details, and messaging will be in place to guide drivers through the work area. Drivers who are traveling through the affected areas should expect delays, reduce speed, and use caution.

All scheduled work is weather dependent and subject to change without notice.

For more information on traffic conditions, travelers are encouraged to download the Mass511 mobile app or visit www.mass511.com to view live cameras. travel times, real-time traffic conditions, and project information before setting out on the road. Users can subscribe to receive text and email alerts for traffic conditions.

Dial 511 and select a route to hear real-time conditions.

Follow @MassDOT on X, (formerly known as Twitter), to receive regular updates on road and traffic conditions.

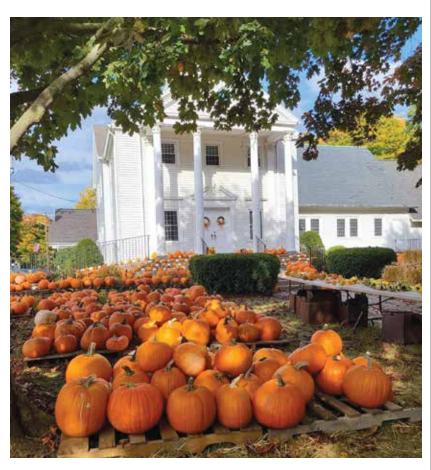
Pumpkin patch to open on Sept. 23

STURBRIDGE - The Federated Church of Sturbridge & Fiskdale's 6th annual Pumpkin Patch is happening from Saturday, Sept. 23, through Monday, Oct. 30, filling the entire front lawn of the church at 8 Maple St., with a wide array of pumpkins and gourds for sale, along with mums, hay bales, corn stalks, loose hay, and cookbooks.

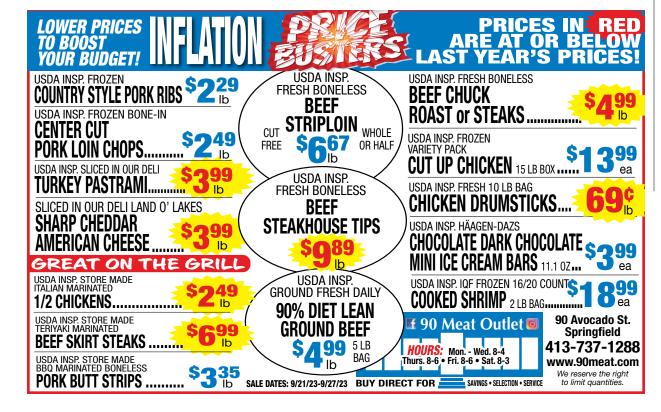
The Pumpkin Patch will be open Sunday through Friday from 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m., and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-6 p.m., weather permitting. The Patch accepts cash, credit cards, Venmo, and PayPal.

A variety of special events and entertainment will be happening throughout the month of October. Regular updates will be available on the Church's Facebook page @FederatedChurch-SturbridgeFiskdale.

For additional information about the Pumpkin Patch or other upcoming events, please visit the Church website at sturfed.org or contact the Church office at 774-304-1021 or churchoffice@ sturfed.org.



Rows and rows of pumpkins at the The Federated Church of Sturbridge & Fiskdale Pumpkin Patch.



3rd annual TREK Sturbridge Halloween 5K Oct. 29



Kegan Cline and his sons, Julian and Kegan, Jr. brought some colonial spirit to last year's event, SUBMITTED PHOTO

STURBRIDGE - The Rotary Club of Sturbridge has announced that its popular TREK Sturbridge Halloween 5K, 1K, and Fun Walk will return on Sunday, Oct. 29.

According to race director Klaus Hachfeld the family-friendly event offers two timed races, including a 5K trail run and fun walk, and a 1K road race.

The timed 1K road race for pre-teens (12 years and under) starts at 9:30 a.m. It will be a road race along Old Sturbridge Village Road, making it accessible to persons with mobility challenges.

The timed 5K trail run and fun walk will start at 10 a.m. using Old Sturbridge Village Road and the Arbutus Park Trail in the Leadmine Mountain Wildlife Conservation Lands.

All activities begin at the OSV Education Center on Old Sturbridge Village Road. Parking will be available in the Education Center lot.

The event also includes a costume parade for younger children, free games, and relay races beginning at 9 a.m. at the Education Center, and organized by a volunteer team from Burgess Elementary School. No pre-registration is required for the children's activ-

"This year, we've added a special prize for the best costume in both races," said Hachfeld. "Judging will be by popular choice during the presentation ceremony at the end of the race."

Pre-registration is now available on the RaceWire bsite at https://racewire.com/register.php?id=13548

All participants who pre-register by Oct. 21 will get a TREK Sturbridge Halloween 5K, 1K and fun walk tee-shirt. On-site registration will also be available starting at 8:30 a.m.

The Trek Sturbridge Halloween 5K and fun walk is a Sturbridge Rotary Club fundraiser, with all profits going to local student scholarships and other community needs projects. For additional information, visit the Sturbridge Rotary Club website at https://sturbridgerotary.com/ or email the race director at laserklaus@gmail.com.

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

We invite you to join us Friday afternoons from 1-2:30 pm to explore these topics and more.

This group will be held in zoom, is educational, confidential, and free.

Please contact Pat James 413-726-8661.

East Brookfield Public Library lists upcoming events

Brookfield Public Library, 122 Connie Mack Drive, will be offering several special fall events, including a Craft Fair on Saturday, Oct. 7 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Come support local crafters and pick up some early holiday gifts - dolls, knitted items, handmade cat beds, and more. Please note that not all crafters accept credit cards, so please plan to bring cash for purchases.

Are you a crafter interested in a spot? Fill out the interest form (the link is on the Library's Facebook page and website, eastbrookfieldlibrary.org) or stop by the library to grab a paper version.

Great Stories Book Club

The Great Stories Book Club meets on the first Monday of the month at 6 p.m. Friends ages 15 and up are welcome to attend this brand-new book group, sponsored by the American Library Association.

Each participant will receive their own copy of each book. Please come to the library in September to pick up your first book.

The group will meet the first Monday of each month starting in October.

Library Card Month

September is Library Card Month, so make sure to visit the Library any day in September to get a library card or update the information on your current one. This is a great chance to make sure Library staff have an email address and/ or a phone number that can receive text messages so they can let you know when your holds are in.

You can also get a tour of the Library to see what exciting new materials we have to offer (it's not just books). After you update your information, you will be entered into a drawing to win a new library T-shirt and a library bag.

Thunderbirds hockey night

Join Storytime group members as they celebrate completing the Summer Reading Program with the Springfield Thunderbirds hockey night at the Mass-Mutual Center, on Sunday, Oct. 15 at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$16 each.

Please stop by the library and reserve your tickets on or before Oct. 5.

Participants group will ride on the

EAST BROOKFIELD - The East Fanbonie, take pictures with Boomer the Thunderbirds' mascot, and be featured on the jumbotron.

Sunflower contest

Participants in the Sunflower Contest can drop off their entries on Saturday, Oct. 14. Bring your largest sunflower head to the library to enter it in the

On Saturday, Oct. 14 the person with the largest sunflower head will win a library T-shirt.

Annual Book Sale

Friends of the Library will host their Annual Book Sale on Saturday, Oct. 21 from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Shop for books, DVDs, or baked goods and help support the Library.

Those wishing to donate gently used books and DVDs may do so starting Oct. 10. The Friends cannot accept VHS tapes, textbooks, magazines, or books in poor condition (no moldy books please).

Recurring programs

The Library is more than just a place to find books - check out these regular programs. You can find full details on any programs in the Library's printed newsletter, which can be picked up at the Library.

Story Time is held weekly on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.; Story Play is held weekly on Mondays at 3:30 p.m.; Great Stories Book Club is held the first Monday of the month at 6 p.m., starting in October; Knitting Group is held weekly on Thursdays at 12:30 p.m.; Technology Help Tuesdays is available for drop-in every Tuesday from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; Library Book Talk Group is held the first Tuesday of the month at noon; Pokémon Go Club is held Thursdays at 3:30 p.m.; and a Drop In Craft is offered every Saturday, with the project available as long as supplies last.

Interested in starting a group? Make sure to contact the Library and share your ideas by stopping by during open hours, Mondays from 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. or calling 508-867-7928 or emailing ebplibrary@gmail.com

Cocktails for Tails to raise funds for vet hospital

sale for Second Chance Animal Services' Second Annual Cocktails for Tails, a very special fundraiser to help pets in the Springfield area to live better

The event will take place on Thursday, Oct. 5, from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the Twin Hills Country Club in Longmeadow. The intimate gathering of animal lovers will include live music, a silent auction and raffle and there will be hors d'oeuvres and a variety of food stations for all to enjoy.

Funds raised will directly benefit programs that provide access to care at the nonprofit's Mulberry Street Community Veterinary Hospital.

Lindsay Doray, Second Chance's Chief Development Officer, is extending an invitation to area animal lovers to come celebrate Second Chance's commitment to Springfield area pets and their families.

"Since 2015, Springfield area pet owners have turned to Second Chance for help caring for their pets," said Doray in a press release. "This is a critical time for pets in the Springfield community. Our services are in great demand as inflation and rising interest rates increase the pressure on the budgets of those on

LONGMEADOW - Tickets are on a fixed income. Our Community Veterinary Hospital on Mulberry Street is helping to keep pets with the people they love.'

> The Mulberry Street location provides access to full-service veterinary care through reduced rates for those that qualify, helping to keep area pets and their families together. Second Chance has three other hospitals in North Brookfield, Southbridge, and Worcester.

> Doray encourages area businesses to join in the evening's festivities. "Consider donating an item, becoming a sponsor, or purchasing a block of tickets - perfect for thanking your team or enjoying a company night out while supporting a local charity. Your support will directly improve the lives of pets in our community."

> Live music for the event will be performed by John and Christina Cantalini and attendees will be taking home a swag bag sponsored in part by Tito's Handmade Vodka. Tickets are \$65 per person and include passed hors d'oeuvres, a cheeseboard, and food stations.

> To purchase tickets or for more information on sponsorship opportunities, www.secondchanceanimals.org/ cocktails.

Environmental Forum 'Sharing Earth's Worth' to be held Oct. 1

WEST BROOKFIELD -The Democratic Town Committee Collaborative, a group formed and designed to share and disseminate the foundational principles of democracy through deeds and actions in central Massachusetts will hold an Environmental Forum on Sunday, Oct. 1, at 1 p.m. at the West Brookfield Town Hall.

The DTCC is made up of leaders of multiple DTC's from central Massachusetts. The forum, entitled Sharing Earth's Worth, will provide attendees with information on ways to save on heating and electric bills, how to navigate the many vendors offering solar and other renewable energy programs, long-term weather predictions and their possible impact on gardens and crops, local weather hazard management, and

Sharing Earth's Worth will be a non-partisan presentation and discussion of current environmental conditions, their expected impact, and ways to mitigate potential hazards. It is hoped that residents may come together to learn about what they can do to mitigate the challenges and costs presented by the weather conditions we've been experiencing and will likely continue to experience moving forward.





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Quabbin Visitor Center lists free upcoming events

BELCHERTOWN - The Department of Conservation and Recreation's Les and Terry Campbell Quabbin Visitor Center will offer several free programs in September and October

The Quabbin Interpretive Services program operates the Les and Terry Campbell Quabbin Visitor Center, offering public and school education programs, teacher workshops, and general information about DCR's water supply resources and watershed management, the history of the Quabbin Valley and wildlife of the area.

Staff members are available to assist with visitor information and services. An automated telephone system, 413-323-7221, provides 24 hour access to current information on fishing, hunting, programs, rules and regulations, and public access.

All ages are welcome to these events. Email QuabbinVisitor.Center@mass.gov with questions or to be added to the mailing list

Please dress appropriately for the weather and bring water and snacks. Dogs are not allowed anywhere on the Quabbin Watershed.

Space is limited.

To register for any of these events, visit www.mass. gov/locations/quabbin-reservoir/events.

Soapstone Mountain Hike

A 2.7-mile difficult hike up Soapstone Mountain will be held on Sunday, Oct. 1 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

This scenic hike will begin at Gate 37 and follow an easy woodland road before branching off to a short but very steep hike up the mountain. The hike is challenging and has points which require climbing over large rocks, however the summit is one of the best views of Quabbin Reservoir.

To locate Gate 27 from Route 122 in New Salem, take Monson Turnpike Road and follow to Gate 37 (https://goo.gl/maps/ddrjNHaAL8cXi5sC7).

Exploring the North Side – Gate 35

A 5-mile moderate hike exploring the North Side of the Quabbin Watershed via Gate 35, will be held on Saturday, Oct. 14 from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

This out and back hike is on Quabbin's north side of the watershed. Participants will be walking down to the water on a dirt road through the forest.

The parking area for Gate 35 is located at the end of Old North Dana Road in the town of New Salem (https://goo.gl/maps/x3djiRBJCMEbduif7).

Quabbin's Hidden History: Webster Road

A 2.5 mile easy walk will explore Quabbin's Hidden History on Webster Road on Sunday, Oct. 22 from 1-3

Quabbin's ghost towns are hiding in plain sight if you know where to look. This two-hour guided interpretive walk will teach you how to read the natural landscape as you uncover clues that reveal the hidden history of Webster Road.

Explore old cellar holes and historic stone walls, get to know some native and invasive plants, and learn more about the families who lived in the town of Enfield a hundred years ago.

Meet at the Hank's Meadow parking lot (https:// goo.gl/maps/4RiEq17PCNEf6s9E7)

Country Bank donates to MA Farm Resiliency fund

WARE - Country Bank, a full-service financial institution serving Central and Western Massachusetts, proudly supports the MA Farm Resiliency Fund.

Gov. Maura Healey and Lt. Gov. Kim Driscol, in partnership with the community and the United Way of Central Massachusetts, has established the MA Farm Resiliency Fund, to respond to the recent storm impact in western and central Massachusetts. This initiative aims to provide assistance to farms affected by the recent flooding and heavy rains that impacted an estimated 2,700 acres, across 100 farms, resulting in \$15 million in losses.

"The relief provided by the Farm Fund is going to be life-changing for so many Massachusetts farmers," said Healey in a press release. "The Lt. Gov. and I spent time over the last several weeks traveling around the state to visit with farmers that have been affected so severely by these rains. We saw the damage, and we know how much of their livelihoods are at stake. That's why I'm thankful to all of the organizations and foundations who have donated to the fund. It's because of their support that Massachusetts farmers will be able to start fresh for the new season," said Healey.

"Our goal with the Fund is to support farmers and communities by raising and distributing funds with urgency, as they are facing challenges right now. We are so grateful to Country Bank for immediately stepping up and joining us to address the losses for farms, food pantries and the rural communities who rely on a vibrant agricultural economy", stated Tim Garvin, President & CEO, United Way of Central MA.

Margaret Mabel Arndt graduated from Saint Michael's College

COLCHESTER, VT - Margaret Mabel Arndt of Sturbridge graduated from Saint Michael's College in May 2023.

Arndt was one of about 360 students to receive diplomas during the College's 116th Commencement.





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JOB OPENING

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

Experience in covering town government is a huge plus, and any experience in community journalism is as well. Staff writers cover all aspects of communities from features to municipal meetings to crimes and fires. Successful candidates must have people skills, plenty of curiosity and able to tell a story.

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Exchange Club donates items to Howe Village



Shown from left to right are Spencer Housing Authority public housing manager Kimberly Hurlbrink, Exchange Club members Nelson Ezen, Arnie Arsenault, Pat George, Bob Berthiaume, Tom Lowkes, Jason Chase and Steve Bryant. SUBMITTED PHOTO

SPENCER – The Spencer Exchange Club has recently donated picnic tables, umbrellas and four cornhole boards with accompanying bags and scoreboards to Howe Village senior housing for the elderly and handicapped.

The Exchange Club is a dynamic, caring group of volunteers who take an active role in helping make a positive difference in the community.

Exchange Club members develop leadership, networking and organizational skills that contribute to

success in business, family and personal endeavors. Members help build a better community, and in doing so, bring out the best in themselves.

LISTENING | FROM PAGE 1

Starting Monday, Nov. 6, Hamer will help kids "takeover" the kitchen just in time for holiday cooking season.

"Kids Takeover the Kitchen" will be held for ages 8-12 for three Mondays from Nov. 6-20 from 4-5:30 p.m. The cost is \$18 per session, or \$45 for all three.

Children will learn to make fun, seasonal and tasty food, while honing their kitchen skills. The Nov. 6 session will focus on breakfast; Nov. 13, lunch and dinner; and Nov. 20, snacks and desserts.

Listening's Executive Director Laura Dusha Nelson said adult classes have also taken off, including Jen Swan's Art for Adults – Botanical Workshop, which explores your favorite flowers, herbs and trees through pen and ink and watercolor.

Classes are Friday, Sept. 22, 29 and Oct. 13 from 10-11:30 a.m. The cost of the class is \$75, and participants will need to bring watercolor paints, various sized flat and round brushes, watercolor paper or block, black micron pens, pencil and an eraser.

More adult art classes are planned for the near future, Dusha Nelson said.

"Listening has heard of several people interested in this class," Dusha Nelson said. "If you have other days and times that work better for you, please reach out to Listening."

Dusha Nelson said Listening Wellness Center has a lot more to offer this fall, including holiday classes

Participants in Jen Swan's Art for Adults – Botanical Workshop, will learn how to recreate a variety of flowers using watercolor paints. Submitted Photos

such as Holiday Gift Making, Holiday Themed Teen Circuit Training and Reindeer Games.

Swan will lead Holiday Gift Making on Mondays, Nov. 27, Dec. 4 and 11 for ages 6-11 from 4-5:15 p.m. The cost is \$60.

This festive workshop series will allow children to make handmade gifts for friends and family including ornaments, paintings, snow globes and fresh pine arrangements.

Hamer will continue Teen Circuit Training with a holiday theme on Monday, Dec. 11 from 2:45-3:45 p.m. for ages 12 and up. The cost is \$12.

Hamer will also host Reindeer Games on Monday, Dec. 11 from 4-5 p.m. for ages 5-12. The cost is \$12.

During Reindeer games, children will enjoy a variety of seasonally themed games and fun.

Scholarships for these upcoming programs are available through Listening Wellness Center's generous donors. People can apply for a scholarship by emailing director@listeningwellness.org or by selecting the "scholarship" ticket in the event on the website, listeningwellness.org.

These programs are funded in part by local Cultural Councils including Hardwick/New Braintree Cultural Council, Hubbardston Cultural Council and Oakham Cultural Council.



Artist Jen Swan teaches a variety of artistic techniques to students of all ages at Listening Wellness Center.

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AUTHORS I FROM PAGE 1

Ring has always had a passion working with children and his neighbor, Cynthia Daigle Xenakis wrote a children's book with an accompanying workbook centering around anti-bullying, which encourages children to have empathy.

"You've got to start early with kids - they need to learn to be kind young," Xenakis said.

She is a retired guidance counselor, and used much of her knowledge to write the book and workbook in ways children will understand.

Micael Frey, a current student at Quinsigamond Community College and studying image, is a three-time published author featuring a two-book series and the first book of a new one.

"I'm always thinking of writing," Frey said. "I love to be able to express my ideas."

His love for writing and enthusiasm is apparent as he strives to publish more books in the future.

Christine Noyes' booth held three different genres of books including a children's book series, a memoir and three books of a six-book mystery series.

Noyes began writing in 2018, only three weeks after the passing of her husband. From there, she wrote a beautiful poem titled "Distance", and writing became her therapy and her passion.

Her children's series featured a bear that looks like her late husband and talks about the wonderful hugs he gave. His memory lives on in Noyes and her beautiful gift.

The love of family is reflected strongly in the work of author and illustrator, Shawn Boyle. He began writing when he was a stay-at-home dad with his two children, where he created stories to entertain them.

His books' illustrations are all done by children, and he takes these drawings and puts them together in comic picture books. His work is for kids and reflects his desire for kids to express themselves through art and enjoy a good story.

Kristi Lee Seymour shared her beautiful testimony of loss and redemption in her book, "Deeply Rooted". She shared her desire to show people that hardships don't mean it's over, and that there is always hope.

"I wanted to bring people hope and show them to never give up on their dreams," Seymour said.



Thom Ring displays his many books featuring race cars and motorcy-



Jacqueline Seymour displays her many illustrated children's books.

Seymour's faith had a strong influence on her book, and her book is beautifully written to show that you are never alone, even in your struggles.

Author Diane Buzzell wrote a book about the story of her family, where she tells the story beautifully in a memoir of faith, hope, love, and familial ties.

The book features drawings and photographs from her family, including a genealogy and even a few delicious recipes to try.

Jacqueline Seymour is a creative of many areas, and not only did she have a children's book series, but also a CD of her own original pop music.

She also works as an actor, and starred in a movie on Amazon, "The Wizard's Books", which is based off of the book series by Joe Ciminera. She truly has a wide range of talents.

Sharon Healy Young was there with her mystery series and is proud to announce her next book coming out in 2024. Her books follow a young woman through mystery and time travel intrigue!

James C. MacIntosh is a writer of murder mystery, and for those who love true crime, his books are a hit. He had published many, many books, and his best seller, "Teacups in the Snow", even won an award.

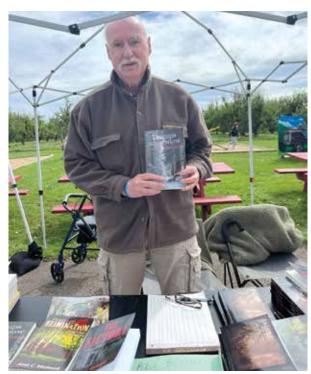
Ware author Dawn Gray had her own fantastic series which depicts werewolves in a fictional town in Massachusetts between Ware and Belchertown called "Collins."

The town has the most supernatural activity in the state and is known for its large number of werewolves. The series was written after a plot and trailer were filmed, and it's possible it could one day become a television series.

Following the theme of the supernatural, Dick Durland's book was featured with spooky Halloween décor, and the book itself is about ways to make your Halloween party every scarier than ever.

His partner in crime, Sue Durland, is the photographer for the spooky scenes and Halloween décor. For all ready for Spooky Season, be sure to check out his book

The local author's fair showcased the pure talent of these authors, and shoppers were happy to take home new stories of life, struggles, and spooky mysteries.



James C. MacIntosh is shown holding his best-seller and award-winning murder mystery novel.



Michael Frey was there with his three published books.



Authors Kristi Lee Seymour and Diane Buzzell show their memoirs of faith, family, and love. TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS



Dick Durland's booth was set up with spooky décor for his book on Halloween parties.



Dawn Gray is shown with her imaginative werewolf series that takes place in a fictional Massachusetts town.



Cynthia Daigle Xenakis shows her children's book and workbook about anti-bullying and empathy.

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Quaboag gets big shutout of Palmer

By Tim Peterson Sports Correspondent

WARREN—Tyler Withers is one of the five seniors listed on the Quaboag football roster.

Withers, who's a co-captain, scored three touchdowns and set-up another one with an interception, as the Cougars rolled to a 34-0 non-league home victory over the Palmer Panthers before a large crowd, last Friday night.

"Tyler is our go to guy offensively. He also plays defense and is our field goal kicker," said Quaboag head coach Dave Shepherd. "He's an outstanding athlete and is a very hard worker. We would certainly be in a lot of trouble without him."

Withers, who made four of his five extra point attempts against the Panthers, joined the varsity football team as a kicker in the eighth grade.

"I'm going to miss playing football under the lights on a Friday night next year, but I'm hoping to play college foot-

See QUABOAG | PAGE 13



Jacob Cacace gets ready to start a play. TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

Panthers edged by Spartans

Monday, two goals in the third quarter lifted Oakmont over host Quabbin Regional. Quabbin dropped to 2-1 on the

BARRE – In the rain last season with a 1-1 Mid-Wach record. Makenzie Casey and Annabelle Magill scored the goals for the Panthers.



Kylie Casey scores Quabbin's second goal. TURLEY PHOTOS BY RAY DUFFY



Farrah Wojick takes a shot on goal.

Twarog tallies twice in Panthers win



Seth Twroag challenges the ball.



Gavin Mayjoy heads the ball out of the Quabbin zone.



Jenkins Miller chases after the ball. TURLEY PHOTOS BY RAY DUFFY



Mike Tobin moves the ball upfield.

- sports -

Pioneers edged by Renaissance

SPRINGFIELD Last Friday afternoon, Pathfinder girls soccer went to halftime in a 1-1 deadlock, but Renaissance tacked on two goals in the second half for a 3-2 win. Pathfinder is 0-2 to start the fall. The Pioneers lost to Athol 7-0 last Wednesday afternoon. The Pioneers look for their first win on Sept. 21 against Sizer School of Central Mass.



Emily Hoad tries to work the ball out of the defensive end. TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Samantha Lowe passes the ball away with a quick touch.



Reilly Ireland stops the ball.



Goalie Addison Doktor makes a low save.

WSU girls get big win

WESTFIELD - Westfield State junior forward Delaney Parker (Orange, Mass./ Mahar HS) notched her 52nd career goal to set the Owls' career goals record in a 5-0 win over Massachusetts Maritime Academy in a Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference women's soccer match at Alumni Field on Saturday afternoon.

Westfield, the defending conference champs and picked first in the league's pre-season poll, looked the part as they outshot Buccaneers 28-0 in the first half, and 37-1 in the match. The Owls improve to 3-3, 1-0 MASCAC. Mass Maritime is now 0-4, and 0-1 in the league.

Parker's record-setter was the Owls fifth goal of the first half, as she scored on PK after the Owls Ryan Moran was taken down from behind while attacking the goal in the 42nd minute.

Parker's shot was just off the left side of Buccaneers starting goalkeeper Brady Deschamps (Brewster, Mass./Nauset).

It feels great," said Parker. "I could tell the shots I was taking earlier were just me in my head. I was thinking 'I need to get it' but I was just off."

The crowd surged with excitement for each Owls scoring chance for Parker, but she delivered a couple of shots high over the cross bar in the early going.

"Even the PK wasn't great," she said, throwing up her hands. "But it went in, and now it's over with."

Westfield made sure the game was over by the half.

Tia Tollis (East Longmeadow, Mass.) put the Owls on the board in the eighth minute with a nice header off of a corner

kick from Jaida Cochran (Middleboro, Mass). Kiana Maratsuka (Mililani, Hawaii) delivered a pair of goals, both on feeds from Parker, and Kiana Patel (Nairobi, Kenya) talled her first collegiate goal with an assist from Maratsuka as the Owls got out to the big early lead.

The Owls peppered Deschamps with 28 total shots as she made 11 saves in the first half. Reagan Kerecz (Tolland, Conn./Ethel Walker School) played between the pipes for the Bucs in the second half and came up wth six saves to keep the Owls off the board in the second frame.

Westfield used 26 players including two goalkeepers. Kayla Santucci (Agawam, Mass.) didn't face a single shot in the first half in getting the win, and Michaella Monchecchi (Winsdor, Mass./Wahconah) came out of the net to play a wide shot from Deschamps, who played in the field in the second half, late in the game on the only serious incursion into Owls territory for the Buccaneers.

Parker now has 52 goals, one more than Owls hall of famer Sandy (Pinto) Graham '97. Parker shares the team lead with Maratsuka with five goals each this season. Parker led NCAA D3 in goals with 31 as a freshman and added 16 in her sophomore

Westfield State was playing its first home game of the season after starting with four straight on the road. The Owls travels took them from Gorham, Maine to Cortland, N.Y. while playing schools from Maine, Massachusetts, New York and Pennsylvania. Westfield traversed 1,114 miles in facing those four foes.

T-Birds start season Oct. 14

SPRINGFIELD - The Springfield Thunderbirds, the proud AHL affiliate of the St. Louis Blues, today announced their slate of promotions and theme nights for the 2023-24 season, presented by MGM Springfield. The T-Birds will host 36 home games from October to April inside the MassMutual Center.

The Calder Cup quest begins on Saturday, Oct. 14 for Opening Night presented by MGM Springfield. In the team's annual tradition, fans will be treated to a pregame Block Party on the property of MGM Springfield from 4:00 - 6:00 PM presented by Community Bank N.A. with the support of the Springfield Business Improvement District (BID). The outdoor bash will feature live music, food, and drink. Thunderbirds fans will have the opportunity to get their hands on a plethora of giveaway souvenir items this season, beginning on Opening Night with jersey-shaped rally towels on each and every seat at the MassMutual Center.

"On the heels of a record 15 sellouts last season, we are continuing to aim higher to ensure the Thunderdome remains a definitive homeice advantage for our team," said Thunderbirds President Nathan Costa. "Our fans will always remain our number one priority, and this year's promotions and theme nights reflect that, as there truly is something in it for everybody. We cannot wait to get another unforgettable season underway."

Fans interested in attending Opening Night can take advantage of a value offer with the purchase of a Dunkin' Opening Night Pack, which starts at \$100 in the Defense Zone, \$115 in the Attack Zone sections and \$130 in the Center Value Zone sections. Fans who purchase a pack will receive: two (2) tickets to Opening Night on Oct. 14; four (4) vouchers redeemable at any regular season game in 2023-24 (subject to availability): one (1) T-Birds hat: a Dunkin' gift card; and one (1) Single Day Big E admission*.

Follow Turley Sports on Instagram

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

- sports -

QUABOAG I FROM PAGE 11

ball," Withers said. "We're now 2-0 and it just feels amazing."

After squeaking out a 22-21 win at Ludlow in this year's season opener, the Cougars managed to pull away from the Panthers (0-2) during the second half in their home opener.

"We started the game off a little bit slowly, but we really got it going in the third quarter," Shepherd said. "We played a lot better in the second half."

It was the first meeting on the gridiron between the two teams since the Cougars pulled out a thrilling 13-12 home win in the 2019 season opener. Quaboag also posted a 13-0 shutout victory at Legion Field in 2018. The last time that Palmer defeated Quaboag was in 2017 by the final score of 6-0.

Palmer head coach Matt Marciniec was pleased with the way his team battled during the first half of last Friday night's contest.

"I thought we performed well during the first half," Marciniec said. "We had the momentum, but we just need to take that next step and make smarter plays."

The Palmer defense did make a key play in the first quarter.

Sophomore Dylan Doherty put pressure on Quaboag sophomore quarterback Jacob Cacace and senior Andrew Menard recorded the sack on a fourth down play, which gave the Panthers offense the ball at midfield.

Palmer sophomore QB Matt Santos picked up a first down by completing a 16-yard pass to Menard on fourth down.

With a little more than two minutes left in the first quarter, the Panthers were forced to turn the ball over on downs, which set up the Cougars first scoring drive.

On a third down play from their own 45, Cacace connected with junior Brason Seriel, who was tackled at the Panthers 29. Palmer also had a roughing the passer penalty, which moved the ball 15 yards closer to the end zone.

Withers capped off the six play drive with a 10-yard run on the final play of the first quarter.

Three minutes into the second quarter, Palmer junior Guillermo Rivera recovered a fumble at the Cougars 23, but they turned the ball over on downs once again.

With 2:40 remaining in the first half, Cacace handed the ball off to Withers, who gave it to Seriel on a reverse play. Seriel ran 62 yards down the left sideline into the endzone giving the home team a 14-0 lead.

"The touchdown on the reverse play was huge for us," Shepherd said. "It gave us a two touchdown lead."

Withers missed a 34-yard field goal as the final seconds ticked off the scoreboard clock.

Withers took over the spotlight in the second half. He returned an interception 73 yards to the Panthers seven yard line with 8:54 left in the third quarter. Seriel scored his second rushing touchdown on the

first play of the series.

Another short TD run by Withers with 1:50 remaining in the third quarter gave the home team a commanding 28-0 lead.



Tyler Withers gets the pass attempt off.

At the beginning of the final quarter, Cacace threw a 10-yard touchdown pass to Withers.

Because Quaboag was leading by more than 32 points at that point, the clock kept running for the rest of the game.

One of the Cougars leading defensive players was senior co-captain Bryce Douglas, who made more than ten tackles.

"Bryce was tremendous defensively," Shepherd said. "He made a lot of tackles and also anchors the offensive line."

The other Quaboag seniors are Chucky Smith, Jaden Ostigy, and Aidan Pontbriand, who are all starters

While the Cougars will be looking to improve to 3-0 with another non-league game at Quabbin Regional on Friday night, the Panthers will be looking to get into the win column for the first time this season when they visit Easthampton.



Jeffery Bouchard goes for the tackle.



Cameron Evans runs through the middle. TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM



Brasen Sauriol heads for the sideline on a run.



Quaboag Youth Baseball & Softball would like to express our appreciation to our sponsors for their generous support of the 2023 season! Your contributions help the youth in the communities of Warren and West Brookfield!

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Listening Wellness Center welcomes physical therapists

BARRE - Listening Wellness Center, 35 South St. has recently welcomed two new practitioners, Dr. Dmitry Voloshinov and Dr. Kristie Voloshinov.

Dmitry and Kristie are both licensed Physical Therapists, offering appointments on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays. Both practitioners are self-pay only and do not accept insurance.

Listening Wellness Center's Executive Director Laura Dusha Nelson said there has been a lot of demand for physical therapy within the community, with many people having to travel over half an hour for services.

Dmitry graduated from American International Col-

physical therapy. He also holds his doctorate degree in physical therapy from from working in acute care, outpatient Temple University.

He has been practicing clinician, healthcare executive, and wellness advocate for over 20 years.

Dmitry's extensive background comes from acute care hospitals, outpatient clinics, acute and subacute care facilities. He has co-founded and managed several rehabilitation organizations and medical practices in western Massachusetts.

Dmitry is a multi-sports admirer, soccer aficionado and has extensive experience in treating musculoskeletal and neurologic disorders, chronic and acute



Kristie Voloshinov, DPT



conditions as well as many sports related injuries. His background includes orthopedics, manual therapy and vestibular rehabilitation.

Dmitry is offering a wellness centered approach to myofascial balancing and postural restoration techniques.

He is accepting new selfpay patients at this time. Please contact Dmitry by emailing vantagewellness1@ gmail.com or calling 413-237-

Kristie graduated from Quinnipiac University with a master's degree in physical therapy. She also earned her doctorate in physical therapy from Temple University.

She has been a clinician, educator, and wellness promoter for over 20 years.

Kristie's clinical experience stems clinics, and workplace ergonomics. She has been a co-founder of multiple outpatient rehab clinics and has focused her career on one to one patient centered care treating musculoskeletal injuries, neurologic disorders, post-surgical recovery, vertigo and vestibular disorders.

Kristie is a provider of holistic, wellness centered approach to myofascial balancing and postural restoration.

She is accepting new self-pay patients at this time. Please contact Kristie by calling 413-237-3228 or emailing vantagewellness1@gmail.com.

SELECTMEN | FROM PAGE 1

gear breaks down after 10 years and needs to be replaced, even if it's not be-

'The stuff has gotten extremely expensive," Holway said. Interest rates for leases have also gone up.

Holway suggested purchasing six sets of turnout gear each year to lessen the financial impact. The Department could purchase four sets using local funds, and purchase an additional two sets through state grants.

He said if they purchased four sets outright (without a lease), it would cost the Department \$15,000. The gear would take about 16 weeks to arrive after purchase.

Holway said the Department also needs new Nomex hoods to wear under helmets, as the ones they currently have are outdated.

"We've slowly but surely gotten everything up to speed," with National Fire Protection Association standards, Holway said.

Gear that's older than 10 years could still be utilized by pump operators, which Holway said isn't ideal, but it's an

Holway said air packs and turnout gear are two places they don't want to cut corners on.

Sign board

The North Brookfield Emergency Management Agency said the sign board poses a safety hazard, as the cable lets go when lowering the board. The display is also not turning on, so messages cannot be displayed.

The cost to repair the sign would be \$550. The Board approved a motion to have the sign repaired.

Highway Department purchases

The Board approved the Highway Department's request to spend money from the Highway Vehicle account to purchase a hydraulic motor for the to Oct. 7.

sander and 125 pounds of barrel grease. A muffler for the 2000 sander, welding steel for the plows and salt neutralizer will come from the Snow and Ice Removal account.

New copier

Administrative Assistant Ashley Barre said they are no longer able to get supplies for the town's copy machine, and the company they currently use will not return phone calls or emails.

The Board approved a new contract with another company, Ricoh, which they have used in the past. The contract includes services, labor, parts, toner, staples, etc.

Cable survey

Petraitis said the local public access has created a cable/internet/phone survey, which is available on the town's website, northbrookfield.net, under "Town News." Information gathered will be used in the town's contract negotiations with Charter Communications/ Spectrum.

Highway barn renovation

The Bay Path School Committee approved the town's request to have students in the cabinetmaking, carpentry, drafting, electrical, HVAC/R and plumbing trades help renovate the Highway Barn at 65 Donovan Road.

Capital Improvement committee

The Board accepted the resignation of Michelle Petraitis from the Capital Improvement Planning Committee. Joseph Trentacosta was appointed to fill the vacancy.

Appointment

Tara Hayes was appointed to the Council on Aging as an alternate mem-

One-day liquor license

The Board amended the date of a previously approved one-day liquor license for Still Hart's Café from Sept. 16



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PARADE | FROM PAGE 1

here from East Brookfield when she was 11 years old.

She enjoyed the quiet rural life of Brookfield where her father worked for the grain company and her mother stayed home with her along with her seven sisters and five brothers.

Joining Pauline in the car were three of her sisters, Janet Morin, Rose Cassavant and Ruth Labonte.

Pauline worked at Gavitt Wire & Cable Co. from age 16 up until she retired at 72 years old, contributing to a lot of the company's 100 year history.

Riding behind Leah Shattuck's team of Percheron draft horses Bernie and Tim was 91-year-old Barbara Wilson, a lifelong resident of Brookfield, along with Town Clerk Michael Seery.

Wilson still runs a daycare in town with her daughter.

Cultural Council member Nick Clark had his tractor ready to pull Brookfield Elementary School music teacher Mark Weissman and his fellow musicians, who quickly formed the Mark Weissman Quartet the day of the parade, having never performed together as a group until that moment.

Playing the upright bass in the quartet was Mark Dunlap, who has played with each member of the quartet through other musical groups.

"This is literally the first time all four of us have met," Dunlap said.

Michele and Wally Connor have lived in Brookfield for 40 years, and are proud to call the town home. It's also "home" to their nonprofit organization S.O.N.G., Inc (Supporting Orphans Nationally & Globally), aimed at helping orphaned children around the world.

Founded in 1999, S.O.N.G., Inc. is also nearing a significant milestone of 25 years next year, something Michele said couldn't be achieved without the dedication and support of the community.

Pulling S.O.N.G., Inc.'s float in the parade was Quaboag Equipment owner Charlie Wilson, with his trusty canine sidekick, Finn. Wilson provided his truck and his flatbed trailer to the Connor's, and he's always been willing to help the organization with their fundraising events.

The float was decked out in banners S.O.N.G., Inc. has used over the past years, as well as event posters dating back to when they were known as Socks for Siberia.

Several marching bands performed during the parade, with baton twirlers leading the way for the Auburn High School band. David Prouty High School stood out with uniforms bearing the school's colors, orange and black.

The last Catholic marching band in the commonwealth, the Immaculate Heart of Mary Marching Band, was led by Director Br. Peter Mary.

Putting a new spin on marching band music, was a the McGann Marching Band from Gardner, which played a mix of traditional parade tunes as well as rock music. Band members hail from all over the central Massachusetts area.

Participating in the antique firetruck section of the parade, driving Oakham Fire Department's yellow-colored Engine 1, was Brookfield native Russell Willett, accompanied by his wife Lisa.

Willett got his start as a firefighter in Brookfield, before moving to Oakham and joining that department. But he was sure to come home to take part in the 350th celebration.

Many business helped support the parade, including Gavitt Wire & Cable Co., sponsoring the Melha Shriners; Intercity Lines, Inc., sponsoring the McGann Marching Band; Custom Pallets Inc., sponsoring the Lincoln Minute Men; and J.P. McCarthy & Sons, sponsoring the Immaculate Heart of Mary School Marching Band.



Brookfield's oldest resident and Boston Post Cane recipient, Pauline Herbert (front passenger seat), rides in style next to her son, Donald. Her sisters (from left) Janet Morin, Rose Cassavant and Ruth Labonte rode in the back seat. TURLEY PHOTOS BY PAULA OUIMETTE



Brookfield's Town Clerk Michael Seery enjoyed a carriage ride in the parade alongside Barbara Wilson, a lifelong resident of Brookfield. The carriage was pulled by Leah Shattuck's team of Percheron draft horses, Bernie and Tim, a familiar sight around the Brookfields.



The Mark Weissman Quartet was founded and gave its first performance all in the same day in honor of Brookfield's 350th birthday celebration parade. Musicians from left are Nico D'Amico on guitar, Riley Godleski on drums, Mark Dunlap on upright bass and Mark Weissman on tenor saxophone.



 $\label{thm:continuous} The \ parade \ was \ filled \ with \ antique \ firetrucks \ from \ surrounding \ towns, including \ Southbridge.$



The Brookfield Community Club made sure parade goers enjoyed an apple a day, while promoting the upcoming Apple Country Fair, which will be held on the Common on Saturday, Oct. 7 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. This is the 44th year the annual fair has been held.



 $\label{thm:continuous} \textbf{The marching band from the Immaculate Heart of Mary School from Still River joined the parade.}$



This hot-rod style tractor caught the eye of parade goers.



McCoy's Action Karate students marched and demonstrated karate techniques during the parade.



McCoy's Action Karate students marched and demonstrated karate techniques during the parade.



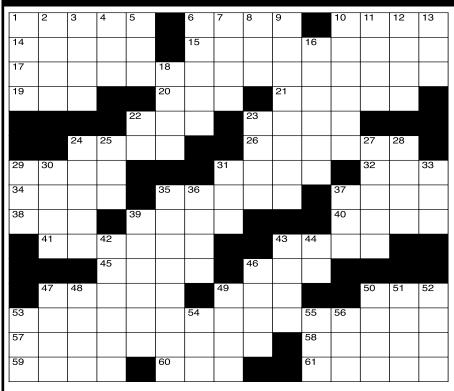
Brookfield-based S.O.N.G., Inc. (Supporting Orphans Nationally & Globally) was represented by founders Wally and Michele Connor (sitting, back row) and volunteers Francesca Rust and Isaac Graves, both of West Brookfield. The float was made possible by S.O.N.G., Inc. supporter Charlie Wilson of Quaboag Equipment (standing, right) who was joined by his dog Finn.



Quaboag Church's Youth Pastor Tim Lundstrom (right) marched with some of the Church's younger members.



The Clam Box team sported an "under the sea" theme to represent Brookfield's popular seafood restaurant.



CLUES	ACROS	S	3	35. Stood	d back f	rom	
1. Type	of cat		3	37. Philip	pine Isla	and	
6. Wea	ponry		3	38. Popu	iar wint	er activit	ty
10. We	stern Ch	nristian		39. Type			•
Ch	nurch se	rvice	4	10. Smal	I freshw	ater dud	ck

Church service 14. Significant eruption of pustules 15. Baltic nation

17. Start of American holidav season 19. Unhappy

20. Maintains possession of 21. Metrical foot of one long and three short

syllables 22. Mountain pass

23. Vestments 24. Type of dish

26. Escaped quickly 29. Zoroastrian concept of holy fire

31. Wings 32. Political action committee

34. Touches lightly

CLUES DOWN 1. Body art 2. Middle East military title

41. Filled with love 43. Without (French)

45. Vetch

46. Swiss river

47. Describes a sound

49. Sign language

50. Hair product

53. Have surgery

57. Quality of being

imaginary

low value

59. Drove

58. Far-right German party

60. Former French coin of

61. Hard, durable timbers

3. Actor Pitt

4. Container 5. Speak incessantly

6. Relating to algae 7. Jacob ___, journalist 8. Rock TV channel

9. Boat's cargo 10. Most wise 11. Within

12. Chinese industrial city 13. Scotland's longest river

16. Not capable 18. Footwear

22. Savings account 23. Capable

24. Vaccine developer 25. Tax collector

27. Fencing swords 28. Native religion in

China 29. Promotional materials 30. A shot in a film

production

33. A passage with access only at one end

35. Breathing devices 36. Employ for wages 37. Kids' TV channel

(abbr.)
39. Popular Boston song

42. Made amends 43. Selling at specially reduced prices

44. Atomic #18 46. With fireplace residue

47. Unleavened cornbread 48. Draw out 49. Southwestern Alaska

island 50. Where the Pyramids

are 51. People of Nigeria

52. Smaller quantity
53. Destroy the inside of

54. City 55. Chivalrous figure

(abbr.) 31. Afflict in mind or body 56. No (Scottish) 12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

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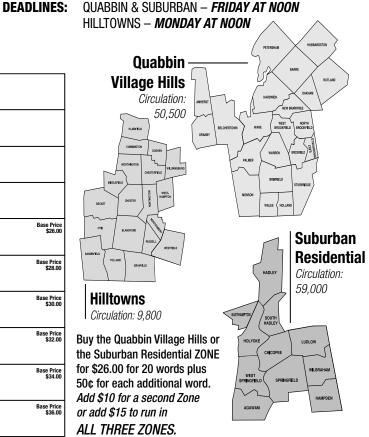
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September is campus fire safety month

STOW – Gov. Maura Healey has declared September to be campus fire safety month in Massachusetts, and fire officials are reminding students, parents, and others to be sure their living spaces have working smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms, and that they know two ways out in an emergency.

State Fire Marshal Jon M. Davine said 2,608 fires occurred in student dormitories, fraternities, and sororities in Massachusetts between 2018 and 2022. These fires caused six civilian injuries, 11 fire service injuries, and more than \$3 million in damage.

Fire officials are especially concerned about fire safety in apartments and other types of off-campus student housing, where two college students died in separate, unrelated fires in 2013.

"Fire safety is vitally important whether you live in a dorm, apartment, single-family home, multifamily dwelling, sorority, or fraternity," said Davine. "Everyone should have working smoke and CO alarms on every level of their residence and know two ways out in an emergency. In the event of a fire, don't waste precious time retrieving personal belongings - get out, stay out, and call 9-1-1.

Davine also noted that fire safety precautions should remain in place all through the year. Windows, doors, and stairways should always be clear of boxes, furniture, bicycles, and anything else that might hinder an escape. Fire doors should never be blocked or propped

Smoke and carbon monoxide alarms must remain operational all year long, as required by law.

"If your rental doesn't have smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, insist on them," said Hyannis Fire Chief Peter J. Burke, Jr, who serves as president of the Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts. "Landlords are required to provide them, but don't spend a single night unprotected in the meantime. For the price of a pizza, you can go to a hardware store and pick up smoke and CO

alarms that could save your life. Choose photoelectric smoke alarms with sealed, long-life batteries. Test them once a month to be sure you're protected, and never, ever disable them."

Working alarms, clear exit routes, and a practiced plan for using them are crucial for when a fire breaks out, but students can also take steps to prevent them from starting in the first place:

There is no safe way to smoke, but if you must smoke then do it responsibly. Don't flick cigarettes on the ground. where they can smolder and ignite debris, or grind them out on porches or steps. Use a heavy ashtray on a sturdy surface and put it out, all the way, every

Always plug appliances such as air conditioners and space heaters into wall sockets that can handle the current, not power strips or extension cords. Don't overload outlets with multiple devices.

Turn space heaters off when leaving the room or going to sleep. Never leave a space heater unattended.

Don't leave pots and pans unattended on a lit stove top, and keep flammable items away from burners. In the event of a grease fire, smother the flames with a lid and then turn off the heat. Cook only when you're alert, not when you're drowsy or impaired.

Never leave candles burning unattended. Extinguish them before leaving the room. Even better, switch to battery-powered candles.

Use the charging equipment provided by the manufacturer and disconnect it when the device is charged. Charge phones, laptops, e-cigarettes, e-bike batteries, and other devices on a hard and stable surface - never a bed, couch, or pillow. If you notice an unusual odor, change in color, change in shape, leaking, or odd noises, stop using the device right away. If it can be moved safely, move it away from anything that can burn and call the local fire department.

For more fire safety tips for both on and off campus, visit www.mass.gov/dfs.

New Braintree Police Log

During the weeks of Sept. 4-18, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 24 building/property checks, 67 directed/area patrols, nine traffic controls, three radar assignments, five emergency 911 calls, four citizen assists, one larcenyltheft/shoplifting, three complaints, eight safety hazards, four motor vehicle investigations, three investigations, two animal calls and seven motor vehicle stop in the town of New Braintree.

Monday, Sept. 4

10:37 a.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

Tuesday, Sept. 5

9:55 a.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

11:38 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Unitas Road, Transported to Hospital 2:14 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency,

Barre Cutoff Road, Transported to Hospital

4:23 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

Wednesday, Sept. 6

3 p.m. Larceny/Theft/Shoplifting, Worcester Road, Officer Handled 6:04 p.m. Complaint, Moore Road, Officer Handled

Thursday, Sept. 7

3:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Hardwick Road, Investigated 4:44 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Report Taken

Friday, Sept. 8

6:25 p.m. Investigation, Ravine Road, Negative Contact

6:33 p.m. Investigation, Ravine Road, Negative Contact

6:42 p.m. Investigation, Mara Road, Officer Handled

7:27 p.m. Safety Hazard, Thompson Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency 8:29 p.m. Safety Hazard, Hardwick Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency

8:42 p.m. 911 Safety Hazard, Hardwick Road, Merge

Saturday, Sept. 9

9:09 a.m. Safety Hazard, Hardwick Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency 11:52 a.m. Utility Issues, Hardwick Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency

Sunday, Sept. 10

11:16 a.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Barre Road, Investigated

7:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Barre Road, Investigated

Monday, Sept. 11

8:25 p.m. Safety Hazard, West Brookfield Town Line, Negative Con-

Tuesday, Sept. 12

3:48 a.m. Safety Hazard, Oakham Road, Officer Handled

1:04 p.m. Scam, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

6:59 p.m. Complaint, Barre Road, Officer Handled

Wednesday, Sept. 13

7:15 a.m. Vandalism, Barr Road, Report Taken

11:50 a.m. Safety Hazard, Gilbertville Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency

2:39 p.m. Safety Hazard, Ravine Road, Removed Hazard

Thursday, Sept. 14

1:01 p.m. Fire Inspections, Memorial Drive, No Action Required

Friday, Sept. 15

11:55 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Ravine Road, Transported to Hospital 8:58 p.m. 911 Misdial, Gilbertville Road, Spoken To

Saturday, Sept. 16

7:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

Sunday, Sept. 17

12:09 p.m. Complaint, Memorial Drive, Spoken To

Register for the 35th Annual Boston **Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk**

BOSTON – Registration is now open in Copley Square, the Jimmy Fund Walk for the 2023 Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk presented by Hyundai.

Scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 1, funds raised from the Walk support all forms of adult and pediatric patient care and cancer research at one of the nation's premier cancer centers, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

The Jimmy Fund Walk is the only organized walk permitted on the famed Boston Marathon course, and participants have the flexibility to choose from four distance options: 5K walk, 10K walk, half marathon walk, or marathon walk.

All registered walkers will receive a bib, medal, and a Jimmy Fund Walk T-shirt.

Register as an individual walker, team member, or start a team. To register for the Walk, or to support a walker, visit www.JimmyFundWalk.org or call 866-531-9255.

Registrants can enter the promo code NEWS for \$5 off the registration fee.

Whatever route walkers choose, participants will be treated to 10 refueling stations as well as poster-sized photographs of patients displayed at each mile and half-mile marker as inspiration.

All four routes of the Jimmy Fund Walk will culminate at the Jimmy Fund Walk Finish Line. Due to construction

Finish Line location has been moved to the Fenway neighborhood for 2023.

The finish line will include a celebration complete with food, music, and a speaking program.

If walkers wish to participate a bit closer to home, the Jimmy Fund Walk has flexible opportunities.

Participants can also join the event virtually by walking their way from wherever they are most comfortable-in their neighborhood, on a favorite hiking trail, or on a treadmill at home. Virtual programming and supporting materials will be available.

The 2023 Walk will be held during the Jimmy Fund's 75th anniversary year and will aim to raise \$9 million in the effort to prevent, treat, and defy cancer. The Jimmy Fund Walk has raised more than \$167 million for Dana-Farber Cancer in its 34-year history, raising a record-breaking more than \$8.8 million

Funds raised from the Walk support all forms of adult and pediatric patient care and cancer research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The Boston Athletic Association has supported the Jimmy Fund Walk since 1989, and Hyundai has been the presenting sponsor for more than 20 years.

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Job Opening Three Rivers Fire and Water District Full Time Fire Chief Position Available

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Note – A complete list of requirements as well as salary and benefits is available to interested applicants who submit a letter of interest to the Three Rivers Prudential Committee at the following

TRFDprudential@gmail.com

BROOKFIELD

Cub Scouts host joining event p3 **STURBRIDGE**

Pumpkin patch opens Saturday p6 **EAST BROOKFIELD**

Library lists upcoming events p7

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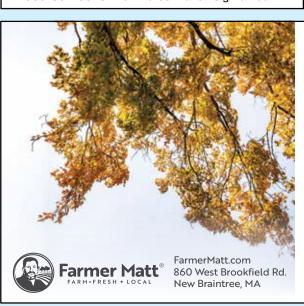
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Share the Adventure with us soon!

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



FALL FESTIVITES at the FARM

Farmer Matt is preparing the farm for your favorite fall festivities. From viewing breathtaking fall foliage to live music and local craft beer, there's something to do at the farm all fall. So mark your calendar. We'll see you at the farm.

Pop-up Beer Garden featuring local brews made with local ingredients is every Sat/Sun through October, 9/23, 9/30, 10/1, 10/7, 10/8, 10/14, 10/15, 10/21, 10/22, 10/28, 10/29.

Halloween Party featuring live music, great food, and local craft beer as part of the New Braintree Halloween festivities on 10/28.

Check FarmerMatt.com for details & more events.