

QUABOAG CURRENT

WEST BROOKFIELD
Ham radio club meeting

Page 2

NORTH BROOKFIELD
Friends of COA fundraiser

Page 3

HARDWICK
Invasive insects talk

Page 8

Volume 19, Number 19

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

September 25, 2026

School Committee selects new member at special meeting

By Paula Ouimette
Editor

pouimette@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The School Committee held a special meeting to interview candidates to fill a vacant seat on the committee.

One of the two candidates who came before the committee on Sept. 8 was Tonya Matthews, who recently served on the School Committee.

“I think that being on the School Committee not that long ago, that I could be of help as it goes forward and seeing the different things that have transpired...like the talk of school tuitioning out,” Matthews said.

Matthews said she has lived in town for about seven years and she loves the community.

“I have found North Brookfield to be such a great community. So welcoming and friendly,” she said. “I would like to see the school become stronger and the community around the school become stronger. I think that we have so much potential here and that there’s so

much good to be had here.”

Matthews is a mother, and she has worked as a teacher, playgroup facilitator, developmental specialist and nanny. She has also been a special needs foster parent.

Matthews said she has a lot of personal experience as a parent of special needs students, and she understands the importance of IEPs and a strong special education program.

“I want to be a part of building the special needs facet of the school system to have a better reputation,” she said.

Candidate Deb Arnold said she has a “soft spot” for North Brookfield schools, and she had four children go through the school district.

“I just feel called to help with making a better community, and I also believe in the public school system...we have a lot going for us,” she said. “In general, public schools, I think, have made this nation what it is.”

See **SCHOOL COMMITTEE** PAGE 3



TURLEY PHOTO BY RYAN DRAGO

Members of the East Quabbin Land Trust hosted a ribbon cutting to celebrate the new segment of the Mass Central Rail Trail in New Braintree.

Mass Central Rail Trail connects communities

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer

rdrago@turley.com

The East Quabbin Land Trust held two ribbon cuttings last week to celebrate the opening of new segments of the Mass Central Rail Trail.

The first celebration on Sept. 16 was held at Grenville Park in Ware with the new addition of a 1,500-foot Connector Trail linking to the rail trail on Church

Street. The path is now fully accessible thanks to many working partnerships and organizations.

State Rep. Todd Smola attended the ribbon cutting ceremony and wanted to thank everyone involved who made this new trail a reality. He said the accessible trail was part of the beauty that central and western Massachusetts has to offer and it is part of promoting recreational activity in the region.

“It’s a treasure that we have as part of the Commonwealth,” Smola said.

Smola said he hopes having this new trail at Grenville Park will be appreciated by the next generation of visitors who have this access to the outdoors.

Dozens of bikers and hikers were ready to explore the trail after the ribbon cutting and were joined by many local organizations. These organizations played a part in making the trail

possible.

The Town of Ware, East Quabbin Land Trust, numerous volunteers, and the Edward and Barbara Urban Foundation were all acknowledged as being contributors to making this trail possible.

Ware Town Manager Stuart Beckley said the vision of the rail trail is continuously growing and he is thankful for all the partner-

See **RAIL TRAIL** PAGE 5

Historic photos displayed at Senior Center

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer

rdrago@turley.com

STURBRIDGE – The Senior Center hosted an open house of a new historic photograph exhibit on Sept. 15.

The Sturbridge Historical Society worked with the Senior Center to bring this historical exhibit to fruition for public view and enjoyment.

Guests during the open house were able to explore the rich history and heritage of Sturbridge with about 40 historic photographs on display.

The photographs featured were framed and arranged by photographer Bob Arnold and historian and author Walter “Wally” Hersee. Some of the photographs are part of Arnold’s



TURLEY PHOTOS BY RYAN DRAGO

The Sturbridge Senior Center hosted an open house of a new historic photo display that shares some history of the town.

own collection.

Arnold moved to Sturbridge back in 1972 and saved photographs he took over the years.

The exhibit also had photographs produced from glass plate negatives that were donated to the Sturbridge Historical Society by Mary and Jeff Lavergne.

About 100 glass plate negatives were donated last spring and both Arnold and Hersee got to work and try to salvage as many photographs as they could.

Thanks to tools of modern technology, Arnold was able to process prints

despite some photographs having some ragged edges.

“Even if damaged they can still be salvaged,” he said.

With the help of AI as well, many photographs were restored and reprinted. The exhibit had two photographs of the same picture displayed next to each other, one original and on AI restored.

Arnold has been a photographer for over 50 years and has worked with the historical society to help preserve pieces of the town’s history.

One photograph from around 1907-1911 featured

the first motorcar to arrive in town. In the photograph was car owner Herman Hyde, Nelson Baker and William Whittemore sitting inside either a 1907 Buick Model H or a 1901-1910 Buick Model 16 touring car.

The Sturbridge Fairgrounds was a gathering space for all arrivals featuring a racetrack for horses, cars and motorcycles. The events of the fairgrounds faded away over the years up until the Hurricane of 1938 when the grandstand was taken out.

The land was sold in 1939.

See **HISTORIC** PAGE 6

Town clerk, SB discuss voting information

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis
Staff Writer

zachf@turley.com

WEST BROOKFIELD – The Select Board met last Tuesday where Town Clerk Klarissa Rose requested a reduction in early voting hours for the upcoming state elections. Early voting runs from Oct. 17-30, and the regularly scheduled Election Day is Nov. 3.

At the Sept. 15 meeting, Rose said since the town has under 5,000 registered voters, they are able to reduce the hours of operation for early voting. She said for the state primary at the beginning of the month, there were only 18 voters who came in early.

Rose said the office would be open for three hours per day plus the required week-end times.

The times that were approved by the Select Board are 9 a.m.-noon on Monday and Wednesday and 1-3 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. There would be four hours on the Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1p.m. for the first Saturday of early voting, Oct. 17 and 1-5 p.m. on the second Saturday, which is also the last day

See **W BROOKFIELD** PAGE 6



A 1983 photograph by Bob Arnold showed Police Officer Bobby Landerville assisting a duck and her six ducklings cross Route 20.

- community -

Back Roads Studio Tour is Oct. 3-4

The Back Roads Studio Tour will be held Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 3 and 4 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and includes studios in Barre, Gilbertville, North Brookfield, Petersham, Spencer and Ware.

Studios include Pieceful Primitives, Lou Meyerdi-erks, 36 Donnelly Cross Road, Spencer; Buck Hill Studio, Russell Buzzell, 25 Tucker Road, North Brookfield; Brookfield Paperworks, Elisabeth Hyder, 23 High St., North Brookfield; Jeff Palmer Designs, 14 Mill Road, North Brookfield; John Collins Studio, 29 Beach Road, Ware; Dragonbelly Ceramics, Lisa Cohen, 183 Mechanic St., Gilbertville; Sheldon Farm Baskets, Sue Morello, 587 Sheldon Road, Barre; and Petersham Leathers, Sylvia Brown, 202 Popple Camp Road, Peter-sham.

For more information about the Back Roads Studio Tour and the featured artists and crafters, visit backroadsstudiotour.org.

SUBMITTED PHOTO
This map shows the locations of studios participating in this year's Back Roads Studio Tour, to be held Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 3-4 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.



Federated Church Pumpkin Patch returns Sept. 26

STURBRIDGE – The Federated Church of Sturbridge & Fiskdale, 8 Maple St., will host its 9th annual Pumpkin Patch starting on Saturday, Sept. 26, and continuing through Saturday, Oct. 31, with pumpkins, seasonal displays and a growing schedule of activities for the community.

The Pumpkin Patch will be open Monday through Friday, 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Sunday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., weather permitting. Payment may be made by cash, credit card or Venmo.

Visitors will find more than pumpkins during the five-week run. Plans include pumpkin carving, face painting, music and Storytime with Judy, along with a performance by Rock Voices Auburn, with the date to be announced.

The Central Mass Plain Air Painters will also return on Saturday, Oct. 10, setting up their easels around the church grounds to paint the Patch and surrounding autumn landscape.

Proceeds help the Federated Church support a variety of local missions

and ministries, including Sturbridge Girl Scout and Scouting America troops, both of which meet at the church, the local Veterans Association and the church's ecumenical work with other area congregations.

A portion of the proceeds supports the Navajo Nation in Farmington, New Mexico, where Pumpkins USA grows the pumpkins and provides seasonal and year-round employment.

October will be a particularly active month at the Federated Church. In addition to the Pumpkin Patch, the church will host its monthly movie night and ice cream social on Thursday, Oct. 1; a Roots and Relics concert on Friday, Oct. 9, from 7-8:30 p.m.; and the Koinonia women's group Rummage Sale on Oct. 23 and 24.

For additional information about the Pumpkin Patch, October activities or volunteering to help with unloading and setup, visit sturfed.org, call the church office at 774-304-1021 or email churchoffice@sturfed.org.

Congregational church hosts Family Fall Festival

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The First Congregational Church of North Brookfield, 144 Main St., will host its annual Family Fall Festival on Saturday, Oct. 3 from noon-2:30 p.m.

The annual Family Fall Festival has activities for all members of your family.

There will also be free hamburgers/cheeseburgers, chips, lemonade and apple cider (served hot and cold) for all.

There will be a silent auc-

tion and cake/pie sale. A bouncy house, cotton candy machine, popcorn and games for the whole family, including the famous (or infamous) tug of war between the adults and the children.

Other activities include

horse rides, corn hole, Zumba with Melanie, and the North Brookfield Fire Department Fire Prevention team. This event is free and open to all. Call the church office with any questions at 508-867-8428

Quaboag Valley Amateur Radio Club to meet Sept. 29

WEST BROOKFIELD – The Quaboag Valley Amateur Radio Club will hold its upcoming membership meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 29, at the Senior Center at 73 Central St.

Doors open at 6 p.m. with the meeting starting at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

The club will look ahead to an exciting milestone: celebrating the club's 40th anniversary in March, 2027.

Club members will provide updates on their recent visit to the HamX-position in Marlboro, the largest amateur radio convention in the Northeast. Members plan to discuss and share ideas for celebrating four decades of amateur radio service in the Quaboag Valley area and will be starting to plan special activities and

events to mark the occasion throughout the year.

Looking toward 2027, the club will also discuss offering amateur radio licensing exam classes, electronic VE testing sessions, and ways to welcome new members into the hobby.

QVARC warmly welcomes area hams and anyone curious about amateur radio to reach out and get involved. Whether you're a licensed operator, a lapsed one looking to get back on the air, or simply curious what ham radio is all about, there's a place for you in the club as it heads toward its 40th year.

For more information about QVARC, upcoming events, or how to get involved, visit www.qvarc.com or find the club on Facebook at Quaboag Valley Amateur Radio Club.

QVARC offers ham radio testing sessions on Sept. 29

WEST BROOKFIELD – The Quaboag Valley Amateur Radio Club is offering their first VE session of the year on Tuesday, Sept. 29 at 5:30 p.m. at the West Brookfield Senior Center at 73 Central St.

Anyone looking to become a ham radio oper-

ator or to upgrade their ham radio license can come at this time. The exam fee is \$15. Session starts at 5:30 p.m. Questions? Please email Peter at pbaldracchi@charter.net.

For more information about the club, you can visit www.QVARC.com.

Free premiere of 'The American Constitution' film Oct. 25

Includes Q&A with writer/director and legal expert

NEW BRAINTREE – Explore the origin story of the American system of government at a free public screening of the new documentary film, "The American Constitution", on Sunday, Oct. 25, 2-4 p.m. at New Braintree Town Hall, 20 Memorial Drive.

The film, from award-winning filmmaker David Garrigus, dramatizes the creation of one of history's most influential

documents. Using only the Framers' own words drawn directly from the historical record, an impressive cast portrays the impassioned debates between figures like George Washington, James Madison and Benjamin Franklin.

Following the screening, attendees will have the special opportunity to participate in a live Q&A session with the film's writer and director, and a legal expert.

The event is free and open to all. For more information, visit ConstitutionMovie.com.

LIFE'S MEMORIES & MORE PRESENTS

CRAFT Materials Tag Sale

SATURDAY, OCT 3, 10A - 4P

FREE ADMISSION
FREE PARKING
CASH EVENT

GREAT DEALS ON SUPPLIES FOR

SCRAPBOOKING, DIY DECOR, CARD MAKING, SEWING, CROCHETING, KNITTING, PAPER CRAFTING, JEWELRY MAKING, & SO MUCH MORE

Kelly Bado, O.D.

Doctor of Optometry

Eye Exams

Will Be Resuming Practice on October 5th

Barre Opticians

395 Main St., Barre • 978-355-2191

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS
Most Insurances Accepted

BILL'S GARAGE OF RUTLAND INC

General Auto Repairs • 24 Hour Towing
Gas • Diesel • Propane
Custom Exhausts & Alignments

TIRE & ALIGNMENT CENTER

Also Featuring
Non Ethanol Fuels & VP Racing Fuels
DEF AT THE PUMP

74 Maple Avenue (Route 56), Rutland
508-886-4401 • 508-886-2371

Function Space Available

HARDWICK CROSSING COUNTRY CLUB

EST. 2022

Prime Rib
Every Thursday, Friday & Saturday
Online Ordering Available

Monday - 6:30 p.m. TRIVIA NIGHT
Wednesday - 6:30 p.m. MUSIC BINGO

hardwickcrossing.com
262 Lower Road, Gilbertville
774-757-8907 • Pro Shop 774-261-2634

OPEN 7 DAYS FOR LUNCH, DINNER & GOLF

Specials Posted on Facebook & Instagram

Sip & Paint
Tuesday
Oct. 6 & Oct. 20
Starting at 6:30 p.m.
Visit Our Website For More Details

Fall Into Golfing & More
Please Check Facebook For Dinner & Drink Specials
See Website for More Information

BOOK YOUR EVENT WITH US!

- community -

School is back in session

HARDWICK – Students arrived at St. Aloysius Catholic School on Aug. 27 to start the 2026-2027 school year.

This is also the school’s 11th academic year, after it was established in a vacant school building located at 52 Church St., in Gilbertville. St. Aloysius Catholic

School has grown to offer a private, faith-based education to students in preschool to grade eight.

For more information about the school, visit its website, staloyuscs.com or Facebook page, or call 413-477-1268 Monday through Friday from 7:20 a.m.-3 p.m.



Students were all smiles on the first day of school at St. Aloysius Catholic School on Aug. 27.



Students were eager to return to school after summer vacation.



These students had their new backpacks ready to start the school year.



Parents dropped their students off for the start of the 2026-2027 school year at St. Aloysius Catholic School.

East Brookfield library lists upcoming events

EAST BROOKFIELD – The East Brookfield Public Library, 122 Connie Mack Drive, listed upcoming events and ongoing programs.

Fall Reading program
Continue the Summer Reading program into the fall. Come pick up your reading log and bag complete the reading activities and qualify for two Springfield Thunderbirds game tickets, for a game in January 2027.

Books on your reading log must be checked out from the library.

These tickets are not transferable and are picked up on game day at the MMC in Springfield. Ride on the Fanboni, meet the Thunderbirds Mascot.

Additional tickets may be purchased at a reduced price.

New Story Time
A new Story Time for children ages 6 months to 6 years old will be held on Mondays at 10:30 a.m. Children will play games, listen to stories, and create art projects to take home.

Caregivers are required to stay with the child. One adult caregiver is required for every two children.

Movie Time
Stop by the library with your lunch and enjoy a block buster movie and meet new friends. Movies and times are “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow” on Oct. 13 at 1 p.m.; and

“The Librarian” on Nov. 10 at 1 p.m.

Cribbage Club
Cribbage Club for all levels of experience will be held at 4 p.m. on Mondays, Oct. 5, 26, Nov. 2, 16 and 30.

American Mahjongg
Stop by and learn to play American Mahjongg or help others learn together on Tuesdays, Oct. 6, 20, Nov. 3, 17 and Dec. 1 at 2 p.m.

Haunt the Town Hall/movie
The library will play “It’s the Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown” movie starting at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 29. Children in costume can then Haunt the Town Hall after the movie.

A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving
The Charlie Brown Thanksgiving movie will be played on Thursday, Nov. 19 at 3:30 p.m. A Charlie Brown Feast will be served.

Tag Sale
A Tag Sale will be held at the library on Saturday, Sept. 26 (rain date Oct. 3) from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Set up starts at 9 a.m.

Reserve your post by visiting the library. Please do not call as library staff want to make sure you understand how and where you will set up.

No items may be left after the sale.

Open poetry series continues on Oct. 15

WEST BROOKFIELD – An open poetry reading series meant to provide a venue for writers to share their work as well as the work of established writers they admire will be held at the Merriam-Gilbert Public Library, 3 West Main St., in the upstairs Library Meeting Room.

This room is elevator accessible.

The series will be held on select Thursdays from

4-6 p.m. Generally, readings will occur on the third Thursday of every month, though some schedule adjustments may have to be made around holidays.

Dates include Oct. 15, Nov. 19, Dec. 17, Jan. 21, Feb. 18, March 18, April 15 and May 20. The series is open to the central Massachusetts community at large.

For every original poem a person reads they will be

asked to compliment that poem by reading a poem of their choosing by another established and published writer:

From Shakespeare to Stern, Bradstreet to Bukowski, Yeats to Young, Rumi to Rich and any and all between.

If you have no original work to read but want to offer poems from writers you love, please join us.

The reading will be held

in round robin fashion (two poems maximum each time) and the number of turns allowed for each person will be determined by the number of willing participants.

The host ask those who read to be sensitive to other attendees and not present overly long poems that will delay another’s turn. One may also participate by attending and simply listening, not reading, if they so choose.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE
FROM PAGE 1

Arnold said she served nine years on the School Committee at the time the high school was built. She is currently an observer on the Rural Schools Committee for the Massachusetts Association of School Committees.

Arnold said she has lived in town for 44 years, and she works as the secretary of the First Congregational Church, a position she has held for 35 years.

“I kind of stick to things once I start doing them...I don’t give up easily,” she said.

Arnold said she has “done everything” on the School Committee, including writing policies and negotiating contracts. She has also worked with the Finance Committee to build the school district’s budget.

Arnold said during this time, the Finance Committee recommended more than just net school spending for the school district’s budget.

“The school makes the town,” she said.

Arnold said there is value to having a small school, where students can get individual attention and “don’t slip through the crack.”

Arnold also worked on the North Brookfield Educational Task Force.

The School Committee members voted 3-1 to appoint Matthews to fill the vacant seat.

School Committee Chair Matt Grant said Matthews will next go before the Board of Selectmen for appointment to the committee.

Grant said after Matthews is appointed and sworn-in, the committee will reorganize.

Friends of COA hold flower bulb fundraiser until Oct. 1

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The Friends of the North Brookfield Council on Aging is holding a flower bulb fundraiser now through Oct. 1.

Please place orders at the Senior Center, 29 Forest St., or with a member of the Friends group.

LANDRY & MEILUS, LLP

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Real Estate • Wills
Probate • Estate Planning

21 Summer St., P.O. Box 910
Barre, MA 01005-0910

160 Main Street
Spencer, MA 01562

(978) 355-2289
www.landryandmeiluslaw.com

Spaces available for library tag sale on Sept. 26

EAST BROOKFIELD – The East Brookfield Public Library, 122 Connie Mack Drive, will host a tag sale on Saturday, Sept. 26 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Set up time is 9 a.m. Rain date is Oct. 3.

Reserve your post by

visiting the library, where staff can answer all your questions.

Please do not call as library staff want to make sure you understand how and where you will set up.

No items may be left behind after the sale.

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**.

STIHL® @Husqvarna

PARK SAW SHOP

LOGGING • ARBORIST • SAFETY

1292 PARK ST. PALMER, MA 01069

1-800-232-6132 (413) 544-9027

Mon-Fri 6:30am-4pm • Sat 7am-Noon

Shipping Can Be Arranged

RENTALS AVAILABLE

THE PUMPKINS ARE COMING!
THE PUMPKINS ARE COMING!

Spread the word that the best place to get your fall decorations is the

Sturbridge Federated Church
in Sturbridge, MA

where the finest pumpkins, gourds & mums will be on sale from
September 26th - October 31st

Open:
Monday to Friday 10:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Proceeds will benefit Navajo Nation as well as various local and regional charities.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Matters

By Russell Gloor

When should my wife file for spouse benefits?

Dear Rusty:

My wife is 66 (born February 1960) and started taking Social Security retirement benefits just over one year ago at age 65.

She was a stay-at-home Mom for most of her adult life. I turned 62 this past March and received my first SS payment recently for a May 2026 start. We are scheduled to meet with SSA in late July to initiate spousal benefits because my wife's current benefits are less than 50% of mine.

We also have an adult disabled son, who receives Supplemental Security Income and Social Security benefits (this split in benefit sources happened after my wife filed - that whole process was confusing and we don't understand it).

My question relates to spousal benefits (I was a career finance person but don't completely understand these rules). We were going to file in July but is there any benefit to waiting until she turns 67? And will her 50% benefit be 50% of my lower benefit due to my filing at 62 or is that based on another amount?

Signed:
Confused Finance Guy

Dear Confused:

First, be aware that your wife's spousal benefit will be based on her age when she claims it, and half of your Full Retirement Age, (although you claimed at 62, her benefit as your spouse will still be based on your FRA entitlement).

Because she claimed her SS retirement at 65, your wife will not get 50% of your FRA entitlement; rather she will get her own reduced SS retirement benefit (which was reduced by about 13% from her FRA entitlement) plus a "spousal boost." The amount of that "boost" will be the difference between her own FRA entitlement and half of your FRA entitlement, but that boost amount will also be reduced because she will be claiming in July before her FRA.

Your wife will reach her FRA in February 2027, so by claiming her spousal boost in July her boost amount will be reduced by about 5% and the "boost" will be added to her already reduced SS retirement about. The result will be your wife's benefit as your spouse will be less than 50% of your FRA entitlement. And, FYI, your wife will be automatically deemed to be filing for her spousal benefit, she will not be able to defer claiming it.

As your son is now collecting SS benefits based on your wife's personal SS record, you should ask Social Security to switch him over to payments based on your record because you have the higher SS benefit.

FYI, because your son is now receiving Supplemental Security Income, the SS disability benefit he receives will offset by his SSI benefit, and the payment amount will consist of two sources - SSI and SSDI. Nevertheless, he cannot get more than 50% of your SS retirement amount and will likely be affected by the Family Maximum, which may further reduce his SSDI entitlement.

Your wife's benefit as

your spouse will also be affected by the "Family Maximum," which limits how much can be paid on any one person's SS record (on your SS record).

That also means that your wife will not get a full 50% of your FRA entitlement; rather she will get less because the family maximum limits how much all your dependents can receive to somewhere between 50% and 88% of your FRA benefit amount (after subtracting your own SS entitlement).

That also means that your son's SS payment, as well as your wife's SS payment as your spouse, will be reduced to less than 50% of your FRA entitlement. SSA will be able to guide you through the Family Maximum calculations for both your son and your wife when you meet.

To recap all of this: a) your wife will be automatically deemed to be filing for her spousal benefit; she cannot delay until her FRA. b) her amount as your spouse will be less than 50% of your SS FRA entitlement. And c) both your wife's and your son's SS benefit will likely be also affected by the Family Maximum and, thus, be less than half of your FRA entitlement.

Nevertheless, it was likely the right decision to claim as you have, considering that your son and wife have been receiving SS benefits for some time now, and both will continue to receive more as your dependents.

The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. This article is intended for information purposes and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the Association Mature Citizens Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association To submit a question, visit amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

- opinion -

Raised beds? Why not!

I have to say that today I am having a hard time thinking of something to write about.

As I scan my mind of all the seasonal gardening topics, I come up blank. Winter squash? Done it. Mums? Ditto. Seed saving. Yup.

So, on this rainy Sunday, I give you all the luck of the draw. I will grab a gardening book off of my shelf, twirl the pages, and where my finger lands, I will expound on the subject. It may not be autumnal, but it will be interesting, I guarantee that.

Here we go... The book I grabbed from the shelf was "The Dirt Cheap Green Thumb," by Rhonda Massingham Hart. My finger landed on page 189, with the heading "Raise Your Beds, Not Your Expenses."

I have some experience with raised beds. In my home garden I have four rock-edged beds. Prior to that I had beds edged in pine slabs.

My friend uses hemlock edged beds and is happy with them. I envy how neat and orderly they are. Another friend is using galvanized metal beds this year. They seem to be all the rage.

Her tomatoes and peppers continue to produce like gangbusters even late in the season. She has just gotten back into gardening after a two year hiatus and I am proud of her and happy she has been so successful.



Let's begin our chat with some of the advantages of raised bed gardening.

The first one that comes to mind is that you can be selective about the soil you fill it with. I've enjoyed using the Coast of Maine Raised Bed Mix.

Blending loam and aged manure or compost at a 2 to 1 ratio is another option. Additionally, raised beds make it easy to concentrate fertilizers where they are needed.

In large garden plots we often broadcast fertilizers and other amendments throughout the bed. Some inevitably gets wasted in walkways or around hills of plants.

Raised beds can be constructed to suit your needs. I wanted to be able to reach into the middle of my beds from either side, so they are about four feet wide.

Some gardeners construct them 36 inches wide so there is less of a stretch.

In my four beds, I have a pretty good crop rotation system going. Each crop does a slide to the next bed each year. That way it is four years before onions are grown in the same space.

Another interesting thing I have set up is that onions, for example, follow

melons in my rotation. I grow the melons on black plastic. All season long the black plastic is limiting weeds from germinating, so that hopefully next year, the onions, who hate weeds, will see less weed pressure.

Raised beds warm up quicker in the spring, and stay warmer later into the fall. Sometimes the edging material helps with that.

My rock beds, for example, hold heat. So does the metal to some degree.

In mid spring, prior to the frost-free date, raised beds can be easily fitted with hoops on which plastic or polyester row covers can be draped to offer even more frost protection. They can also be covered with the black plastic I mentioned to grow crops like melons or peppers, who appreciate the heat.

With raised beds you will likely never need your rototiller. Beds can effortlessly be turned over by hand from either side. Typically, unless you walk all over them, the soil in the raised beds stays nice and friable, as well.

If I need to get into my beds, say to separate crops, sometimes I will position a plank across the width of the bed, and step on that to disperse my weight, therefore avoiding compaction. Plants always grow better in loose soil.

I almost forgot the obvious! Raised beds are easier to work with. Beds are typically a foot or so tall, sometimes a bit taller.

Bring out a short stool to the garden and you can comfortably sit and work in the beds. No more long periods of stooping or crouching.

Well, I hope you enjoyed reading this luck of the draw column as much as I did writing it! And if you haven't gardened in a couple of years, give raised beds a try and maybe you will be as fortunate as my friend, with six foot tomato plants still going strong at the end of September!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 34 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.



SUBMITTED PHOTO BY DAWN RUDNANSKY

in my

BACKYARD

By Ellenor Downer



Sandhill crane

Someone reported hearing as sandhill crane calling in New Braintree, but did not see it. Recently, someone saw a pair of sandhill cranes in a field on Pleasant Street in Barre. The cranes stayed about a week and then left.

Sandhill Cranes are large birds that live in open habitats, so they're fairly easy to spot. They are gray overall, have red foreheads, white cheeks, a long dark bill and dark legs.

Immature birds have reddish-brown upper parts and gray underparts and lack the red foreheads. This makes it easy to pick out the parents from the youngsters even when they are the same height.

Sandhill cranes make a loud trumpeting call that can be heard for long distances. They are mainly herbivores, but feed on other foods depending on availability. They will feed

on berries, small mammals, insects, snails, reptiles and amphibians.

These cranes raise one brood per year. The female lays one to three brownish eggs. Both sexes build the nest using plant material and both incubate and feed the young.

In summer cranes are often seen in small bogs, marshes and prairies across northern North America and the southeastern United States. In winter they form immense flocks in places like Bosque del Apache, New Mexico and Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge, Texas.

Sandhill crane's call is a loud, rolling, trumpeting sound whose unique tone is a product of anatomy. They have long tracheas that coil into the sternum and help the sound develop a lower pitch and harmonics that

See BACKYARD PAGE 5

QUABOAG
CURRENT

We Want to
Hear From You

EDITOR
Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

ADVERTISING SALES
Dan Flynn
dflynn@turley.com

SPORTS EDITOR
Greg Scibelli
sports@turley.com

THE QUABOAG CURRENT (USPS# 10860) is published every Friday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977. Periodical Postage Prices are Paid at Palmer, MA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069.



WEB
quaboagcurrent.turley.com



PHONE
(413) 283-8393



ADDRESS
24 Water Street
Palmer, MA 01069

Turley
Publications, Inc.
www.turley.com

Turley Publications, Inc. cannot assume liability for the loss of photographs or other materials submitted for publication. Materials will not be returned except upon specific request when submitted.

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:

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.

Quaboag Current OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries. One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place. The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice (with a word limit of up to 500 words) and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

- community -



A ribbon cutting for the newly completed Connector Trail to the Mass Central Rail Trail was celebrated at Grenville Park. Paul Opalinski of the Edward and Barbara Urban Foundation cut the ribbon, accompanied by members of local organizations, town officials and state legislators.

RAIL TRAIL FROM PAGE 1

ships involved.

Steven Hawk of the Ware Selectboard thanked everyone for attending the ceremony and said he hopes all visitors will enjoy this new and accessible Connector Trail.

Hawk also put a time capsule together with Mass Central Rail Trail engraved on it. This time capsule will be opened in 50 years, when the U.S. celebrates its 300th anniversary of independence.

The Mass Central Rail Trail is about 104 miles long between Northampton and Boston. Part of the vision is to complete the entire trail.

Paul Opalinski of the Edward and Barbara Urban Foundation cut the ribbon to officially open the Connector Trail at Grenville Park.

The celebrations were not over as many of the Mass Central Rail Trail supporters made their way to New Braintree off McEvoy Road.

Another part of the Mass Central Rail Trail is located on a piece of land that once housed the railroad back in the late 1800s and the airport. The runway can still



Guests walked the Mass Central Rail Trail in New Braintree, which is 1.5 miles long and reaches up to Station Road in Barre Plains.

be seen on the land.

Executive Director of the East Quabbin Land Trust Cynthia Henshaw said the trail experienced significant storm damage after the land was purchased in 2024.

Henshaw acknowledged Jason Brown of Brown's Trucking & Excavating Inc. of Barre for helping with the storm damage that happened on the trail. Brown's crew have also supported the land trust with other trail related projects over the years.

Brown said working on

the trails is his favorite work to do.

Trail work was completed on June 30 of this year and the trail, approximately 1.5 miles long, was ready and accessible for travel. The trail continues to Station Road in Barre Plains.

The East Quabbin Land Trust also recognized the working collaboration it has with MassWildlife. Central District Supervisor for MassWildlife Todd Olanyk attended the ribbon cutting ceremonies and said "these partnerships are extremely

important" to have in the state.

Henshaw said when she started at the land trust over 20 years ago her first job was to work on the Mass Central Rail Trail.

Making these trails accessible for the communities was all part of a long-term vision. She said that are more connecting sections of



TURLEY PHOTOS BY RYAN DRAGO

Visitors at Grenville Park reviewed history, articles and maps of the trail prior to the Connector Trail's ribbon cutting.



The new Connector Trail at Grenville Park is a 1,500-foot section linking to the Mass Central Rail Trail on Church Street in Ware.

trail being planned for the future.

"Trails are open, come walk," Henshaw said.

Funding for both projects came from the Mass Trails grant program, the

Edward and Barbara Urban Foundation, the East Quabbin Land Trust and volunteer support.

More information about these accessible trails can be found at eqlt.org.

BACKYARD FROM PAGE 4

add richness.

Sandhill cranes are also known for their dancing skills. Courting cranes stretch their wings, pump their heads, bow, and leap into the air in a graceful and energetic dance.

Many years ago, a Barre resident saw a pair dancing in a field. He said it was a "sight to behold."

Although some start breeding at two years of age, Sandhill cranes may reach the age of seven before breeding. They mate for life, which can mean two decades or more and stay with their mates year-round. Juveniles stick close by their parents for nine or ten months after hatching.

Sandhill crane chicks can leave the nest within 8 hours of hatching and are even capable of swimming.

The oldest sandhill crane on record was at least 37 years, 3 months old. Originally banded in Florida in 1982, it was found in Wisconsin in 2019.

Scarcity of birds

I received an email from a woman who lives on Lake Lashaway.

She said, "Since Sunday, Aug. 30, they had most days without birds...

any type, large or small at our feeders or just in the shrubs or anywhere. All my neighbors have noticed their feeders are full too." One neighbor said he has seen a falcon. She wonders if the falcon has anything to do with the lack of birds.

Several people at the Oakham Senior Center reported, they see only a few birds and the feeders remain full of seeds.

Massachusetts Audubon sighting

This report to the Massachusetts Audubon Society supports the lack of birds. Someone stated, "On Sept. 11 we birded around Hardwick and on Sept. 12 we birded around Warren. Both days were very poor for passerine migration." They also stated, "On both days we only saw 1 species of warbler: common yellowthroat. In general, song birds were in very low numbers and poor variety. And we went to spots that had proven good for migrants in years past. We really worked hard to turn up migrant warblers, and it just was not happening, at least where we were."

Migrating hawks

The Massachusetts Audubon Society listed migrating hawks spotted on Friday, Sept. 11 at Mt. Watatic in Ashburnham.

They included 3 osprey, seven bald eagles, ten sharp-shinned hawks, 131 broad-winged hawks and one merlin.

Canada geese

On Friday, Sept. 4, I saw a large flock of over fifty Canada geese in a field in Spencer. On the same day, I also saw a small flock of wild turkeys and about six Canada geese in field in Barre.

People may report a bird sighting by emailing edown-er@turley.com or calling or texting 774-262-5882.



Professional - Reliable - Fully Insured

Tree Trimming and Removal
Emergency Tree Work • Stump Grinding
Crane Service • Firewood Delivery

All Major Credit Cards Accepted
100% Financing Available

162 Sturbridge Road, Brimfield, MA 01010
508-641-5249 • office@robinsontreeservice.net
www.robinsontreeservice.net



Upcoming

Saturday, September 26th
7pm-11pm
Caboodle

HALLOWEEN PARTY
Saturday, October 31st
7pm-11pm
Caboodle

EVERY FRIDAY
Karaoke

EVERY WEDNESDAY
Wise Guys
MUSICAL BINGO
7:30-9pm

EVERY SUNDAY
DARTS
LUCK OF THE DRAW
5:30pm • All Welcome

948 Main Street, Warren, MA • 413-436-8491

- community -



This is a photograph of the Major Alvan Allen House from 1882.

**HISTORIC
FROM PAGE 1**

The stories behind the photographs were shared and reintroduced to many attendees. Arnold recounts several stories behind some of the photographs he took.

One of his photographs from 1983 showed Police Officer Bobby Landerville assisting a mother duck and her ducklings cross Route 20.

Arnold said he was go-

ing to pick up pizza and as he pulled in, he spotted Landerville parking his police cruiser in the middle of Route 20. Arnold acted quickly and managed to get a couple photos with Landerville looking in his direction.

Next to the duck photo was a 1979 photograph of a practice drill for the K-9 Unit. A TV crew from Boston were present doing a story of the drill.

Hersee had provided some photographs as well

for the exhibit and was responsible for putting the captions together for each one. He also had posters of events from his collection and had them framed for the exhibit.

Photographs featured in the exhibit will change out every six months to a year and introduce additional original photographs and modern photographs.

The exhibit can be seen at the Senior Center, 480 Main St.



This photos showed the front of Rom's Restaurant when it was still off Main Street.



This is a 1978 photograph of the Publick House Historic Inn after the Blizzard of '78.



Bob Arnold's 1979 photo of a practice drill for the K-9 Unit with a Boston TV crew.



This photograph showed the first motorcar in Sturbridge with Nelson Baker, owner Herman Hyde and William Whittemore in the car.



THE CENTERED PLACE
SINCE 1988
Yoga & Meditation Classes
Offering both onsite and online classes
**Voted Best Yoga in the region by
Town & Country Living Magazine**

**YOGA
FOR
EVERY
BODY**

*Yoga leaves you more relaxed, centered,
open and energized.
Come experience this for yourself.*

413 436 7374
286 BRIDGE ST, WARREN MA
WWW.THECENTEREDPLACE.COM

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

**W BROOKFIELD
FROM PAGE 1**

to register to vote, on Oct. 24.

Rose said this structure will total 16 hours of early voting per week, for a total of 32 hours, compared to in the past when it was 28 hours a week for a total of 56 hours of early voting availability.

The request was approved by a 2-1 vote by the board, with member Roland Sickenberger opposing, saying he does not like anything restricting one's ability to vote.

Voting place change

Rose said starting at the next local election in May 2027, she is requesting the voting place be changed from the Senior Center to the former West Brookfield Elementary School.

Rose said the number of voters is increasing every election, and the moving of equipment from the Town Hall to the Senior Center is physical. Rose also said this move would create more parking, as it became a problem at the Senior Center because of Meals on Wheels, and it would also create more occupancy.

She said if they move to the former elementary school, the equipment could stay in the same

building. Rose said she would donate a movable storage container if needed to put the equipment inside.

Select Board Chair Henry Brogna said it is a possibility, but the section where Rose suggested placing it in the back of the school is separate from the alarm system. The board approved the change of voting place, but Sickenberger noted it is unknown what is happening to the school, so they may have to change back.

Appointments and resignations

The board appointed Renee Adams White as administrative assistant to the Board of Assessors, Mike Pluta as Gas and Plumbing Inspector, Troy Allen as Alternate Gas and Plumbing Inspector, Heather Walker to the Historical Commission and Cultural Council, Stacie Beland to the Cultural Council and Lori Lussier and Hilary Shea as election workers.

The board accepted the resignations of Amy Dugas from the Cultural Council and Anne Garwood Hampp as the administrative assistant to the Highway Department.

The board will meet next on Sept. 29.

SHOP LOCAL
SUPPORT SMALL
LOVE LOCAL

QUABBIN

Third Annual

CRAFT FAIR

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24TH

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

AT THE
**QUABBIN REGIONAL
MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL**
in Barre, MA

RAFFLES | FOOD | UNIQUE VENDORS

Fun for the WHOLE FAMILY!

Support our local community and our Quabbin students!

SPORTS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

SEND US YOUR SPORTS SUBMISSIONS

Cougars suffer home loss to Uxbridge



WARREN — Last Wednesday afternoon, Quaboag Regional girls soccer was shutout by Uxbridge 6-0. The Cougars are now 0-3-1 on the season. The Cougars did earn a tie 1-1 last Friday against Doherty. The Cougars search for their first win against Oxford on the road Thursday, Sept. 24 at 6 p.m.

Isabelle Manzano competes with an opponent for a 50/50 ball.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Bryann Lussier clears the ball to the other end of the field



Persephone Piermarini fights to clear the ball away.



Alyssa Lussier socks a free kick away.



Julia Guelroga passes ahead of pressure.

Pioneers get split of first two games

SPRINGFIELD — After a postponement delayed the start of the season for Pathfinder Tech girls soccer, the Pioneers got things going with two games last week. To open the regular season, Pathfinder defeated Commerce 4-2. The next day, the Pioneers made a long trip north and suffered a 6-1 loss at Athol and are 1-1 to start the year. Coming up on Tuesday, Sept. 29, the Pioneers will host Dugan Academy at 4 p.m.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Amber Roman clashes with an opponent.



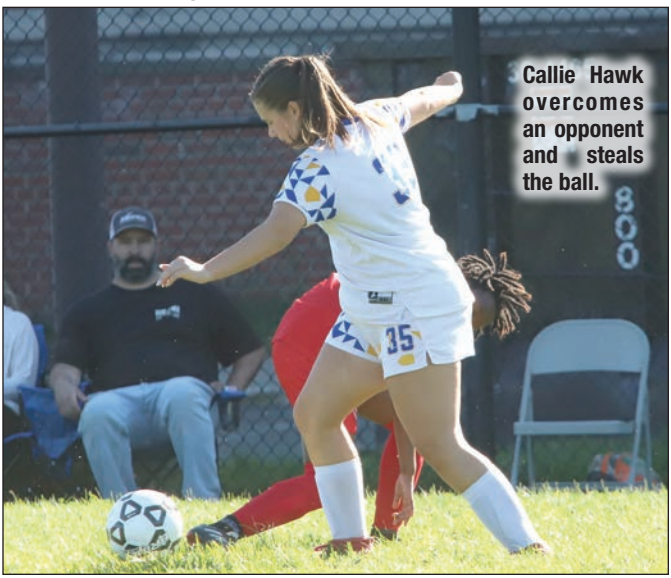
Abigail Carmody brings in a pass.



Makaela Tourville starts to dribble after taking possession.



Evelyn Wood makes her way up the field.



Callie Hawk overcomes an opponent and steals the ball.

Tantasqua falls at home

FISKDALE — It has been a full split to start the season for the Tantasqua Regional High School girls soccer team. Tantasqua suffered its first loss last Wednesday 6-1 against neighbor Auburn High School. The Warriors also have a win over Clinton and a tie against Notre Dame Academy of Worcester. Coming up, the Warriors will face Douglas High School on Monday, Sept. 28 at 4 p.m.



Maeve O'Neil heads up the field turf.



Tess Baker tries to steal the ball away.



Isla Czub winds up for a free kick.



Tessa Shelden goes after a loose ball.



Jenna Cain sends a long kick away.

- community -

EQLT to host talk and presentation on invasive insects on Oct. 4

HARDWICK – The East Quabbin Land Trust will host an informational talk and presentation on invasive insects on Sunday, Oct. 4 at 1 p.m. at EQLT’s office located at 120 Ridge Road.

Elizabeth Barnes, Ph.D., Forest Pest Outreach Coordinator, Crop & Pest Services at the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, will be the guest speaker and will share information on monitoring, managing, removing, and projected impacts of, existing and emerging invasive insects in Central Massachusetts, including spotted lanternfly, emerald ash borer, and wooly adelgid, among others. Barnes will discuss the conditions under which these invasive insects have arrived in Massachusetts, the crops, trees, vegetation and other conditions that are enabling them to thrive in this region, the impacts that they can have on farming, native landscapes and wildlife, and human systems. Barnes will share what steps homeowners, municipalities and organizations can take to help control or mitigate their impact and spread.

This educational public awareness event is open to everyone, though due to space limitations, RSVPs are required. Please email Amy Trevvett at atrevvett@eqlt.org by Oct. 1 to RSVP.

About EQLT

The East Quabbin Land Trust fosters a meaningful relationship with the natural world by conserving, connecting with, and caring for the farmlands, woodlands, and waters in the East Quabbin region of Massachusetts. EQLT works closely with community members to foster vibrant communities through engagement with the outdoors.

EQLT was formed in 1994 out of concern for the loss of farmland and wildlife habitat in and around Hardwick. Since 1998, EQLT has expanded its land protection efforts to include Barre, Petersham, New Braintree, North Brookfield, West Brookfield, Hubbardston, Ware and other nearby towns.

By working cooperatively with property owners, government agencies, conservation groups, and other land trust organizations, EQLT has been able to protect over 7,000 acres in the region; purchased and leases the historic Country Store in Petersham, revitalizing the heart of the town; and has purchased and opened eight miles of former railroad corridor as part of the Mass. Central Rail Trail in Hardwick, New Braintree, Ware and Barre.

For more information about EQLT, visit www.eqlt.org.

North Brookfield Cultural Council seeks funding proposals

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The North Brookfield Cultural Council has set an Oct. 15 deadline for organizations, schools and individuals to apply for grants supporting community cultural activities.

According to LCC spokesperson Nancy Waldron these grants can support a variety of artistic projects and activities in or around North Brookfield, including exhibits, festivals, field trips, short-term artist residencies, performances in schools, workshops and lectures.

The North Brookfield Cultural Council is part of a network of 329 Local Cultural Councils serving all 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth. The LCC Program is the nation’s largest grassroots cultural funding network, supporting thousands of community-based projects in the arts, humanities, and sciences every year.

The state legislature provides an annual appropriation to Mass Cultural Council, a state agency that allocates funds to each community.

This year, the North Brookfield Cultural Council will distribute about \$7,200 in grants.

Previously funded projects include: production of “Legally Blonde 2”, programs Birds of Prey, Watercolor Painting at the Haston Library; and Hip Hop Square Dance at the Senior Center.

For local guidelines and complete information on the North Brookfield Cultural Council, contact Nancy Waldron at nancy.rachel@comcast.net. Application forms and more information about the Local Cultural Council Program are available online at www.massculturalcouncil.org.

Input needed for 2026 Open Space and Recreation Plan update

EAST BROOKFIELD – The town of East Brookfield, with assistance from the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission is updating its 2006 Open Space and Recreation Plan and is seeking input from residents.

Community members are encouraged to participate in a survey to share their thoughts on open space, recreational opportunities and priorities for the future. Public feedback will help guide the development of the updated plan, which is required to maintain the town’s eligibility for state grant funding for conservation and recreation projects.

Residents can complete the survey online at <https://tinyurl.com/yv7b-23fy>. Hard copies are also available at Town Hall, the East Brookfield Public Library and the Senior Center.

The town encourages all residents to take part and help shape the future of East Brookfield’s parks, recreation resources and open spaces.



SUBMITTED PHOTO
Little Lies: A Tribute to Fleetwood Ma will perform at The Center at Eagle Hill on Saturday, Sept. 26 at 7 p.m.

Fleetwood Mac tribute band kicks off The Center’s 19th season

HARDWICK – Join The Center at Eagle Hill for a night of romance, drama, and “rumors” with Little Lies: A Tribute to Fleetwood Mac on Saturday, Sept. 26 at 7 p.m.

This concert kicks off The Center’s 19th performance season.

Little Lies is a touring, high-energy tribute band that captures the youthful spirit and classic sound of one of the most popular bands in the world, Fleetwood Mac. Hailing from Boston, this seven-person lineup of professional musicians carefully reconstructs the magic of Fleetwood Mac with soaring harmonies and a thundering rhythm section.

The tribute’s repertoire spans four decades of albums and live performances, from the original 1968 self-titled album to the iconic live moments of The Dance. Come dance the night away and sing along to some of the most memorable music in rock history.

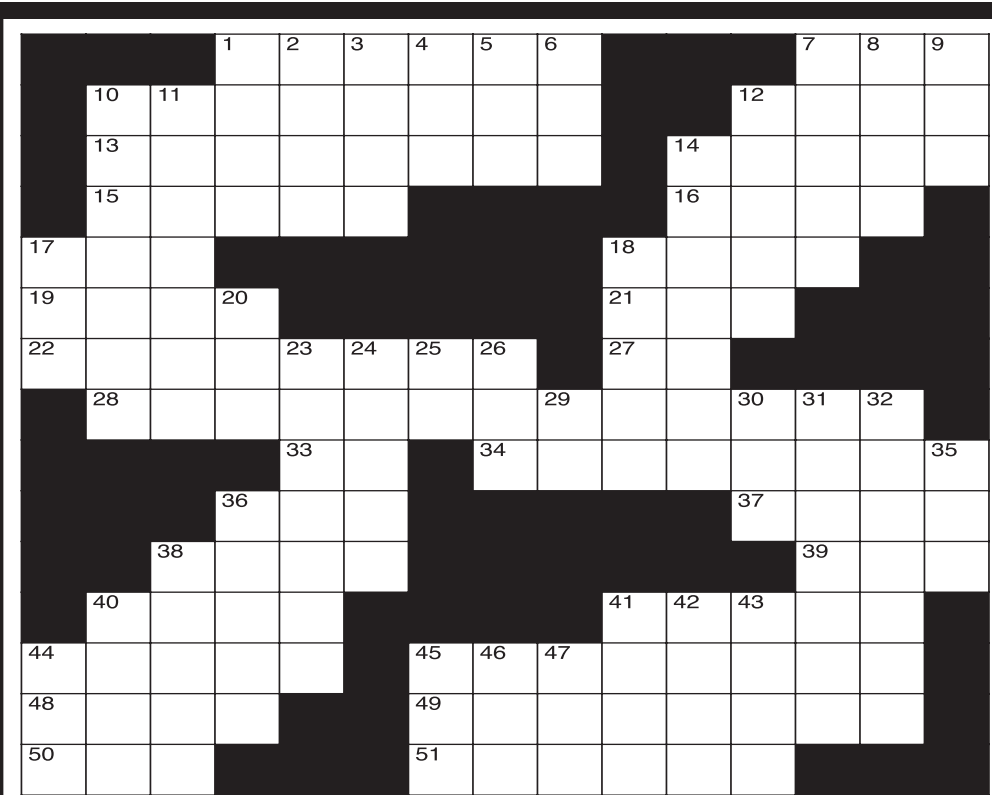
Tickets are \$35 for adults, \$30 for students and seniors. The Center also offers discounted \$10 tickets to EBT cardholders through Massachusetts’ Card to Culture Program.

For tickets and information, visit www.thecenter-ateaglehill.org or call the Box Office at 413-477-6746.

About The Center

The Center at Eagle Hill is a performance venue in central Massachusetts presenting world class music, dance, theatre, and comedy.

For more information about this, and other events please visit our website at www.thecenter-ateaglehill.org. The Center at Eagle Hill is located at 242 Old Petersham Road, Hardwick.



- CLUES ACROSS**

 - 1. A place for worship
 - 7. Referee declaration
 - 10. Torsos
 - 12. Used to introduce something
 - 13. Healing method
 - 14. Takes to the sea
 - 15. Make law
 - 16. French coastal city
 - 17. Hawaiian dish
 - 18. Young of domestic cattle
 - 19. Women’s undergarments
 - 21. 60-minute intervals (abbr.)
 - 22. One after another
 - 27. It’s a hot topic these days
 - 28. Folk band frontman
- 33. They precede C
 - 34. Heavenly
 - 36. Fiddler crabs
 - 37. Major Hindu deity
 - 38. Hebrew given name
 - 39. Cost per mile
 - 40. ___ Romeo, car
 - 41. Rural municipality in Manitoba
 - 44. Narratives
 - 45. “A tragedy had ___ him”
 - 48. Iranian city
 - 49. Praises publicly
 - 50. Founding Father Franklin
 - 51. Herbal tea
- CLUES DOWN**

 - 1. Indian unit of mass
 - 2. “Tears in Heaven” singer Clapton
 - 3. Part of a sailing vessel
 - 4. Part of (abbr.)
 - 5. Polynesian garland of flowers
 - 6. Keyboard key
 - 7. One who steals
 - 8. Large oven
 - 9. Former CIA
 - 10. Idea
 - 11. Solomon Islands capital
 - 12. Afrikaans
 - 14. Remove thatch
 - 17. Television network
 - 18. Jalen Brunson is one
 - 20. Title of respect
 - 23. Flowering trees
 - 24. Occurring in a tube
 - 25. Exists
 - 26. Woman (French)
 - 29. Expression of doubt
 - 30. NHL legend Bobby
 - 31. Accomplished
 - 32. Makes slightly wet
 - 35. National Assn. of Manufacturers
 - 36. Not sated
 - 38. Poe’s middle name
 - 40. Swiss river
 - 41. Rhythmic pattern in Indian music
 - 42. “Shane” actor Ladd
 - 43. Popular whodunit board game
 - 44. Bar bill
 - 45. Ballplayer’s tool
 - 46. Indicates near
 - 47. Feet per second



SALUTE VETERANS DAY

November 5, 2026

HONOR THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED THANK ONE AND ALL

If your business has a veteran they want salute/honor photos may be submitted with the ad.

Contact Dan Flynn
413-297-5886
dflynn@turley.com

2 column ads
3.476”x 3” \$45
3.476” x 4” \$60
3.476”x 5” \$75

3 column ads
5.25”x 3” \$79
5.25” x 4” \$99
5.25”x 5” \$119

Larger Sizes Available!
Price is per ad per newspaper.

***FULL COLOR INCLUDED IN ALL ADS**

DEADLINE OCTOBER 28TH

- community -

The Stone Church Cultural Center announces 2026-27 concert series

HARDWICK – The Stone Church Cultural Center, 283 Main St., Gilbertville, has announced its 2026-2027 concert season, opening on Saturday, Sept. 26th.

The series will feature four ticketed programs, in addition to four free concerts from the Weir River Jazz Ensemble and Weir River Concert Band. This is the first season with Artistic Director, Mary Mackenzie, at the helm.

“I am thrilled to be a new member of the Hardwick arts community, and part

of my mission with the concert series is to share unique classical artists and programs with the community,” said Artistic Director and soprano Mary Mackenzie in a press release.

“This season will feature familiar faces like pianist Diana Fanning from Vermont, performing a dynamic solo piano program featuring works by Beethoven, Czech composer Leoš Janáček, Debussy, and Chopin, and fan-favorite organist Peter Krasinski, who will be creating his own unique accompaniment to Buster

Keaton’s innovative silent comedy, ‘The General’,” she said.

To open the season, Mackenzie will present “Wild & Tended” with pianist Matthew Jaskot.

“This program is my love letter to art song and its evolution, featuring some of my favorite German, French and American composers and songs that I have performed over the past 20 years,” Mackenzie said.

For the season finale, the Stone Church will present “Voyages” by Gram-

my-nominated classical and world music artist David Krakauer and acclaimed pianist/composer/producer Kathleen Tagg.

Widely considered one of the greatest clarinetists alive, Krakauer has been praised as a key innovator in modern klezmer and a major voice in classical music. Tagg, an award-winning pianist, composer and producer, has performed on four continents, produced classical and multi-genre albums, had her work performed around the world, and is known for her distinctive sound mixing acoustic and electronic sounds, loops, samples and extended techniques.

“Voyages” brings together all aspects of their music making- influences range from interlocking African drumming patterns to jazz to Romantic symphonic music to minimalism to klezmer.

Season subscriptions and individual tickets are now available online from the Stone Church’s box office. www.friendsofthestonechurch.org

About Friends of the Stone Church

The Friends of the Stone Church is a charitable corporation and community group organized in 2015.

In 2023, FOSC took ownership of the former Gilbertville Trinitarian Congregational Church building which is now the Stone Church Cultural Center.

Its mission is to preserve and protect the historic 1872 Gilbertville Stone Church, and to facilitate the building’s use by, and service to, the community.

Warren author releases newest book

WARREN – Author Ed Londergan will release his new contemporary fiction novel, “A Thousand Miles from Home”, on Sept. 24.

The novel follows Sam Parker, who had walked away from his family 12 years earlier, trying to find his place in the world. His wanderings uncovered things he hoped to find and others he wanted to forget.

Surrendering to his demons brings him to rock bottom, with nowhere to go but up. After beginning to rebuild his life, he falls in love with the woman who saved him, and an overpowering dream compels him to finish his journey.

Knowing he might never see her again, it was heart-breaking when he had to leave her. When he reaches his destination, the startling news awaiting him turns his life upside down and leads to a future he could never have imagined, including helping his estranged brother fulfill a promise neither of them wants to keep.

“A Thousand Miles from Home” is ultimately a story about second chances,” Londergan said in a press release. “Sam has spent years running – from his past, his family and, in

many ways, himself. His journey asks whether it is ever too late to stop running, make things right and find your way home; to confront the past, repair a broken family and find where you truly belong.”

The book is set primarily in West Brookfield and Warren.

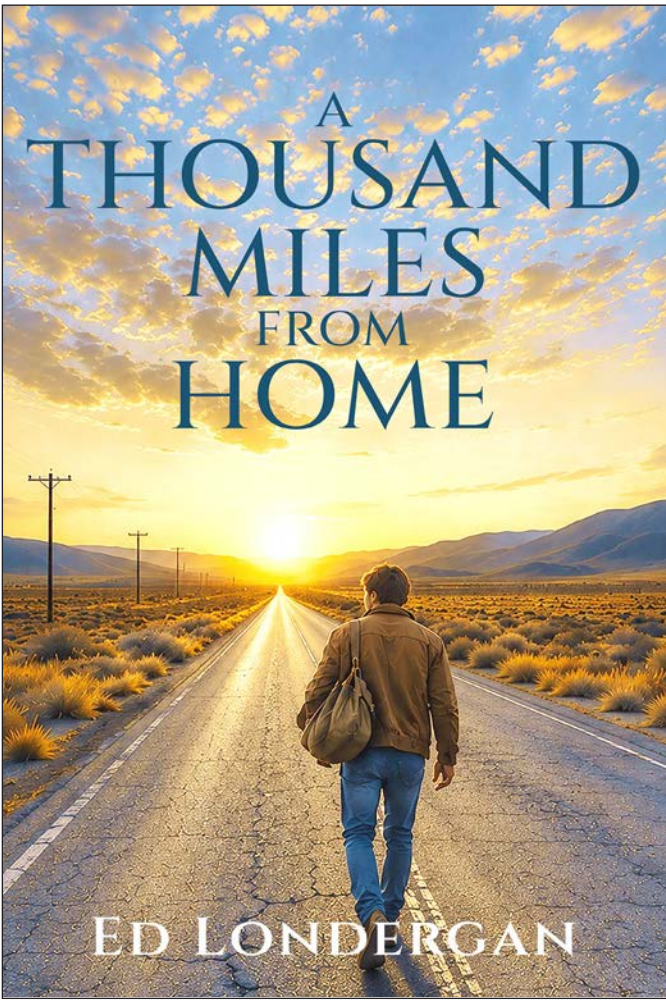
“The idea came in fits and starts, banging around in my head for a couple of years. The story line changed three times. As you get older, you look back at life and see things, realize things that you never had before. Seeing the second chances that I and other people had stuck with me. The idea that each of the characters deserve a second chance appealed to me,” Londergan said.

The book took three years to write.

“I think it’s a great story,” Londergan said.

Londergan is the author of “The Devil’s Elbow”, “The Long Journey Home” and “Unlike Any Other”. His fiction explores family relationships, hope, reconciliation, redemption and the resilience of the human spirit.

“A Thousand Miles from Home” will be avail-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Local author Ed Londergan will release his new contemporary fiction anovel, “A Thousand Miles from Home”, on Sept. 24.

able beginning Sept. 24 in paperback and eBook editions. For more information about the author, the book,

and upcoming events, visit www.edlondergan.com or contact Londergan at ed.londergan@gmail.com.

Auxiliary hosts Fall Harvest Festival and Bake Sale

NORTH BROOKFIELD – American Legion Auxiliary Unit 41 will host its annual Fall Harvest Festival and Bake Sale on Saturday, Oct. 24, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

The festival will be held at American Legion Post 41, 163 North Main St. (located behind Subway).

Join the auxiliary for local vendors and crafters, homemade baked goods, a white elephant table and great raffles. A few tables are still available for vendors/crafters.

This event is open to the public with no admission fee.

Please contact Andrea at adupell@charter.net for more information.

Exchange Club announces annual ‘18 Under 18’ youth leadership program

For the sixth consecutive year, the Exchange Club of Spencer will in November announce the recipients of their 18 Under 18 awards to those under the age of 18 who reside in the towns Spencer or East Brookfield.

The Exchange Club membership has annually been made aware of young men and women whose impact on their communities may have gone unnoticed.

They are not necessarily the highest academic achievers, star athlete or the most popular among their peers. They are those unassuming young adults who demonstrate attributes of leadership, passion, a caring and supportive nature, selflessness and citizenship.

They are making a difference to others and their communities.

The Exchange Club has acknowledged and awarded nearly 100 young adults with the 18 Under 18 award over the past five years who were nominated by their teachers, employers, school counselors or others who felt they made a difference in their communities.

Award recipients were recognized with citations and presented with monetary awards.

This year’s award ceremony will be held during a Worcester Railers game at the DCU Center in Worcester on Sunday, Nov. 22.

The Exchange Club membership is purposefully invested in the present and future of the Spencer and East Brookfield communities.

They wish to highlight the innate talents that our youth exhibit unselfishly every day in what sometimes seems like the simplest of actions of caring and the ability to relate to others. They believe that curiosity, analytical thinking, dependability and a strong work ethic make the greatest difference where we all live, work and play.

The club’s vision of the future is that these young men and women will carry on the Exchange’s mission of “Unity for Service.”

Application and nomination forms may be accessed on the Facebook pages of the Spencer Exchange Club, Spencer Bulletin Board or at www.spencerexchangeclub.org. Sponsorship forms may also be accessed at those locations.

Support the local businesses that support your local newspaper.

Let them know you saw their ad in the Quaboag Current

Heather Bouchard earns advanced degree

LINCOLN, NE – Heather C. Bouchard of West Brookfield was among 595 graduates who received degrees from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln during a combined graduate and undergraduate commencement ceremony Aug. 15 at Pinnacle Bank Arena.

Bouchard earned a Doctor of Philosophy from the Office of Graduate Studies.

fastest-growing IT firms in the region, delivered the commencement address.

The following local students earned the degrees listed:

- Brookfield**
Stephen Comtois III earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Holli Eckhardt earned a Master of Science in Counterterrorism.
- East Brookfield**
Kiana Barnes earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration.
- Fiskdale**
Angel Colon Rivera earned a Master of Business Administration.

Local students graduate from Nichols College

DUDLEY – Nichols College congratulates the 2026 graduating class, who earned their academic degrees at the college’s commencement ceremony on May 2 at the DCU Center in Worcester.

Delcie D. Bean IV, founder and CEO of Paragus IT, an employee-owned managed information technology services firm that is one of the most successful,

- North Brookfield**
Colin Wallace earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Ashley Ottman earned a Master of Business Administration.
- Sturbridge**
Benjamin Yarter earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration.
- West Brookfield**
James Manzano earned a Master of Science in Organizational Leadership.

Students named to Holy Cross’ spring 2026 Dean’s List

WORCESTER – College of the Holy Cross congratulates the students named to the spring 2026 Dean’s List for outstanding academic achievement during the spring semester of the 2025-2026 academic year.

The following local students made the list: Jenna Dupell of North Brookfield, Class of 2026; and Alexandra Matheson of Sturbridge, Class of 2028

To qualify for the Dean’s

List, students must pass four or more letter-graded courses with no failing grades during the semester and earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Suprenant named Tufts University Dean’s List

MEDFORD – Sebastian Suprenant, Class of 2028 of Fiskdale, was named to the Dean’s List at Tufts University for the spring 2026 semester.

Dean’s List honors at Tufts University require a semester grade point average of 3.4 or greater.

CHECK OUT ALL THE

Turley Publications

www.turley.com

LOWER PRICES TO BOOST YOUR BUDGET! **INFLATION** **PRICE BUSTERS** **PRICES IN RED ARE AT OR BELOW LAST YEAR’S PRICES!**

USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN PORK LOIN RIB END or LOIN END ROAST	\$2²⁹ lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF STRIPLOIN CUT FREE	\$7⁷⁷ lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN BONELESS & SKINLESS CHICKEN TENDERLOIN TRAY PAK ...	\$1⁶⁹ lb
USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS CENTER CUT PORK LOIN CUT FREE	\$2²² lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TOP SIRLOIN SPOON ROAST or STEAK	\$7⁸⁸ lb	USDA INSP. FRESH CHICKEN DRUMSTICKS 10 LB BAG	77^c lb
USDA INSP. 1/2 SMOKED PORK SHOULDER PICNIC.....	\$1⁹⁹ lb	USDA INSP. GROUND FRESH DAILY DIET LEAN GROUND BEEF 5 LB BAG	\$5²⁹ lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN PEPPERIDGE FARMS CHOCOLATE FUDGE LAYER CAKE 19.6 OZ	\$3⁹⁹ ea
SLICED IN OUR DELI				USDA INSP. FROZEN YANKEE TRADE CRAB BURGERS 16 OZ	\$3⁹⁹ ea
USDA INSP. TURKEY BREAST	\$4⁹⁹ lb			USDA INSP. FROZEN SWORDFISH STEAKS 1 LB BAG	\$4⁹⁹ ea
USDA INSP. PROVOLONE CHEESE.....	\$4⁴⁴ lb				
TAILGATE TIES					
USDA INSP. STOREMADE CAROLINA GOLD MARINATED BONELESS CHICKEN THIGHS.....	\$3⁶⁹ lb				
USDA INSP. STOREMADE BOURBON MARINATED STEAKHOUSE TIPS	\$5⁹⁹ lb				

SALE DATES: 9/24/26-9/30/26

90 Meat Outlet

HOURS: Mon. - Wed. 8-4 Thurs. 8-6 • Fri. 8-6 • Sat. 8-3

90 Avocado St. Springfield 413-737-1288 www.90meat.com

We reserve the right to limit quantities.

BUY DIRECT FOR SAVINGS • SELECTION • SERVICE

- public safety -

East Brookfield Police Log

During the week of Aug. 3-9, the East Brookfield Police Department responded to 124 building/property checks, 79 directed area patrols, 10 radar assignments, five traffic controls, 10 emergency 911 calls, nine citizen assists, four assist other agencies, four complaints, five investigations, one safety hazard, one property damage, one illegal dumping, one vandalism, two suspicious activities, one burglary, one motor vehicle accident, three animal calls and 43 motor vehicle stops in the town of East Brookfield.

Monday, Aug. 3
3:49 a.m. 911 Suspicious Activity, Cove Street, Spoken To
5:51 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, North Street, Officer Handled
8:56 a.m. Investigation, Out of Town, Investigated
10:22 a.m. Assist Citizen, Faith Drive, Spoken To
11:13 a.m. Complaint, South Pond Road, Spoken To
11:17 a.m. Complaint, West Sturbridge Road, Spoken To
11:40 a.m. Lost/Stolen Vehicle, Unknown Location, Checked

12:29 p.m. Property Damage, Howe Street, Transferred Call to C3
3:38 p.m. Motor Vehicle Crash, Harrington Street, Citation Issued
4:36 p.m. Illegal Dumping, East Main Street, Officer Handled
4:56 p.m. Radar, Route 49, Citation Issued
5:02 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Route 49, Citation Issued
5:04 p.m. 911 Vandalism, East Main Street, Officer Handled
5:56 p.m. Investigation, Connie Mack Drive, Spoken To
9:09 p.m. Investigation, East Main Street, Checked/Secured

Tuesday, Aug. 4
10:38 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
10:49 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
10:56 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
11:09 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
11:19 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield

Road, Citation Issued
11:28 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
11:47 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
12:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
12:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Main Street, Citation Issued
12:57 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
1:10 p.m. Investigation, South Pond Road, Negative Contact
1:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
1:47 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
2:05 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
2:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
2:27 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
5:55 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Draper Road, Services Rendered
6:12 p.m. 911 Disturbance, East Main Street, Pa-

tient Refusal
8:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Citation Issued

Wednesday, Aug. 5
5:49 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Vehicle Towed
9:13 a.m. Assist Citizen, South Pond Road, Services Rendered
10 a.m. 911 Animal Call, Allen Road, Services Rendered
10:07 a.m. Assist Other Agency, East Main Street, Services Rendered
10:23 a.m. Assist Citizen, East Main Street, Services Rendered
10:23 a.m. Safety Hazard, North Brookfield Road, Services Rendered
10:26 a.m. Assist Citizen, Connie Mack Drive, Services Rendered
1:18 p.m. Investigation, East Main Street, Report Taken
1:39 p.m. Assist Citizen, Connie Mack Drive, Services Rendered
1:45 p.m. Assist Citizen, Connie Mack Drive, Spoken To
3:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Citation Issued

7:54 p.m. Traffic Control, East Main Street, Citation Issued
8 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
8:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Criminal Complaint

Thursday, Aug 6
10:12 a.m. Complaint, Podunk Road, Services Rendered
8:08 p.m. Assist Citizen, Connie Mack Drive, Officer Handled

Friday, Aug. 7
6:49 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
11:31 a.m. Assist Other Agency, West Main Street, Spoken To
4:27 p.m. Fire/Alarm, East Main Street, Extinguished
4:29 p.m. 911 Fire/Alarm, East Main Street, Merge
6:51 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Cove Street, Officer Handled
7:36 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Harrington Lane, Services Rendered
9:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Route 49, Citation Issued

Saturday, Aug. 8
7:31 a.m. Assist Citizen, Connie Mack Drive, Referred to Other Agency
9:07 a.m. Complaint, East Main Street, Referred to Other Agency
10:47 a.m. 911 Suspicious Activity, Cove Street, Transported to Hospital
11:35 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
2:28 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Out of Town, Services Rendered
6:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Harrington Street, Citation Issued
9:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Podunk Road, Citation Issued

Sunday, Aug. 9
7:51 a.m. Directed/Area Patrol, North Brookfield Road, Citation Issued
7:55 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Citation Issued
10:41 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Lane 4, Transported to Hospital
11:04 a.m. 911 Burglary (Breaking and Entering), Pine Road, Report Taken
11:34 a.m. Assist Citizen, Harrington Street, Transported to Hospital

New Braintree Police Log

During the week of Sept. 7-14, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 19 building/property checks, eight directed/area patrols, six radar assignments, two traffic controls, two emergency 911 calls, one citizen assist, one motor vehicle investigation, one safety hazard, two animal calls and two motor vehicle stops in the town of

New Braintree.
Monday, Sept. 7
2:35 p.m. Complaint, Memorial Drive, Spoken To
6:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Failure to Stop, Barre Road, No Action Required
9:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Hardwick Road, Investigated
11:58 p.m. Safety Hazard, Gilbertville Road, Ser-

vices Rendered

Wednesday, Sept. 9
2:22 p.m. Disabled Motor Vehicle, Old Turnpike Road, Officer Handled

Thursday, Sept. 10
8:43 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Utley Road, Transported to Hospital
8:52 a.m. 911 Misdial, Gilbertville Road, Negative

Contact
11:12 a.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

Sunday, Sept. 13
1:54 p.m. Walk-In, Memorial Drive, Citation Issued
4:24 p.m. Welfare Check, Ravine Road, Officer Handled

- public notices -

TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
The Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, October 12, 2026 at 6:00pm** in the Assessor's Office, first floor, West Brookfield Town Hall, to act on an application for a Special Permit, for Robert and Jennifer Dold, for the property located at 207 Shoreline Dr,

West Brookfield. The applicant wishes to rebuild a house that was demolished due to failing foundation. A Special Permit is required per Section 1.52, Non-Conforming Structures. 09/25, 10/02/2026



TURLEY PUBLICATIONS CELEBRATES

Women in BUSINESS

October 14-16, 2026

Highlight Your Achievement with a Business Profile in the Turley Newspaper of your choice for only \$139

Add an additional paper of your choice for only \$99.

AD COPY DEADLINE October 1st

Please provide us with: a photograph & approx. 150 word bio.

Call Your Turley Sales Representative Today! DAN FLYNN 413-297-5886 dflynn@turley.com

5.25" x 9" ad

Dr. Ana Serrenho is the owner of POP Orthodontics, located in Post Office Park in Wilbraham. Dr. Ana is a Wilbraham resident and grew up in Ludlow. She completed her dental training and orthodontic residency at Boston University. In addition to her private practice, she is a faculty member at NYU Langone, where she teaches pediatric dental residents. She has been recognized by the Massachusetts Dental Society and the Massachusetts Association of Orthodontists.

POP Orthodontics recently celebrated its first anniversary, and our team looks forward to continuing our mission of providing convenient, comfortable and conservative treatment. We offer both traditional braces and Invisalign, as well as interceptive treatments such as expanders. We use the latest in dental technology and offer daytime and evening appointments. We are excited to be able to provide a locally-owned option for orthodontic care to the community!

pop ORTHODONTICS

75 Post Office Park Wilbraham 413-675-7570 www.mypoportho.com

Book Your Consult Today!

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

1 Email all notices to notices@turley.com

2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.

3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Friday at 3 p.m.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

			T	E	M	P	L	E				T	K	O		
	T	H	O	R	A	C	E	S				T	H	I	S	
	H	O	L	I	S	T	I	C			S	A	I	L	S	
	E	N	A	C	T						C	A	E	N		
P	O	I								C	A	L	F			
B	R	A	S							H	R	S				
S	E	R	I	A	T	I	M			A	I					
	M	A	R	C	U	S	M	U	M	F	O	R	D			
					A	B			E	M	P	Y	R	E	A	N
					U	C	A						R	A	M	A
				A	N	I	L							C	P	M
	A	L	F	A								T	A	C	H	E
T	A	L	E	S				B	E	F	A	L	L	E	N	
A	R	A	D					A	P	P	L	A	U	D	S	
B	E	N						T	I	S	A	N	E			

Find your MARKET

IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

413.283.8393 • classifieds@turley.com 24 Water St., Palmer • 80 Main St., Ware

Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

FOR SALE

BUSINESS FOR SALE

BIOLINKS OF NEW ENGLAND
Grease trap pumping business.
Ninety customers, two pump trucks.
Call Les 413-297-1513

FIREWOOD

FIREWOOD
Fresh cut & split \$240.00
Seasoned cut & split \$375.00
All hardwood.
Tree length available
*Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & volumes **guaranteed!!** New England Forest Products (413)477-0083

MORE HEAT LESS WOOD. Central Boiler Classic Edge HDX Outdoor Wood Furnace. EPA Certified. Titanium Stainless Steel. \$2K Tax Credit. Call (508)882-0178

MISCELLANEOUS

BROWN JORDAN CHAISSE. White, mint condition, \$800 or best offer. Call 508-867-7972.

WANTED

WANTED!
CASH for:
• Machinist tools, power tools & Snap on.
• Electronics & Audio Equipment.
• Sports Cards.
• 70s/80s/90s Toys.
• Antiques & Collectibles.
Much, much more!
Call/Text Sam 413-531-5381

WANTED TO BUY

ALL ANTIQUES AND OLD STUFF WANTED.
BUYING Bottles, Crocks, Jugs, Pottery, Costume Jewelry, Toys, Games, coins, sterling, Glassware, Silver-plated items, watches, Musical instruments, typewriters, sewing machines, tools, radios, clocks, lanterns, lamps, kitchenware, cookware, knives, military, automotive, fire department, masonic, license plates, beer cans, barware, books, oil cans, advertising tins, hunting, fishing, signs, and more.
Donald Roy (860) 874-8396

WANTED

ALWAYS BUYING ALL ANTIQUES:
Musical instruments, guitars, horns, keyboards, vintage electronics, jewelry, coins, watches, military cameras, sports memorabilia, art, sterling, signs, automotive, hunting, advertising, radios, ham radio equipment, audio equipment, toys, one item or entire estate.
Call Paul 413-206-8688

JUNK REMOVAL

ARA JUNK FURNITURE REMOVAL
Full house cleanouts, attics, basements, garages, pools, hot tubs, sheds, decks. Same day service. 8am-9pm. Credit cards accepted. Free estimates on phone.
Fully insured.
Call Pete 413-433-0356.

A Call We Haul FAST REMOVAL
Junk, Appliance, Cleanouts.
We load it & take it.
413-531-1936
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

SERVICES



A B Hauling and Removal Service

2***A & B HOUSEHOLD JUNK REMOVAL SERVICE*******
Cellars, attics, garages cleaned, yard debris. Barns & sheds demolished. Swimming pools removed. Cheaper than dumpster fees and we do all the work. Lowest rates. Fully insured. (413)283-6512, cell (413)222-8868.

DRYWALL, PAINTING AND CEILINGS, plaster repair. Drywall hanging. Taping & complete finishing. All ceiling textures. Fully insured. Jason at Great Walls. (413)563-0487

ELECTRICIAN

GAGNON ELECTRIC
All types of electrical work. Fully insured. All work fully guaranteed. Free estimates. Lic. #14960A. 413-533-8867

SERVICES

PJ's Electrical MASTER ELECTRICIAN
• Licensed & Insured •
Providing safe, reliable electrical services for residential and commercial projects.
NOW OFFERING FREE CONSULTATIONS.
Call today to schedule your appointment.
(413) 366-1703
(Lic. #24046-A)

DANNY'S ELECTRICAL SERVICES LLC
I offer good quality electrical work, no project too small, free estimates, service up-grades, pools, budget friendly, committed to satisfaction, dependable & insured. Master Lic. #20773-A, Business Lic. #9310-A1.
Text or call Daniel at 413-218-3301 or visit my website at dannyselectricllc.com to fill an online work request

HOME IMPROVEMENT

HOME IMPROVEMENT SPECIALIST
Decks, porches, repair service, roofing and siding contractor.
Tim 413-563-2229. Licensed/Insured. 35 year construction supervisor.

HOME IMPROVEMENTS. REMODELING Kitchens, baths. Ceramic tile, windows, painting, wallpapering, siding, decks. Insurance work. Fully insured. Free estimates. (413)246-2783 Ron.

CHAMELEON PAINTING & REMODELING
INTERIOR/EXTERIOR
Remodeling & Deck Specialists
Residential/Commercial
Fully Insured • Free Estimates
413-351-1147

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Handyman Services

Walker
Home Improvement

Finish Carpentry • Framing • Drywall • Painting • & more!

(413) 687-5552

Licensed & Insured

SERVICES

LANDSCAPING

A+ ROZELL'S LANDSCAPING & BOBCAT SERVICE
Excavator Services
Overgrown property?
Extreme Brush Cutting!
Shrub, Stump, Tree Removal
Lawn/Arboretum Installed
Loam, Stone, Mulch, Sand
Storm Clean-up
Small Demolition/ Junk Removal
Insured
Josh Rozell 413-636-5957

****ALL SEASON**** Specializing in shrub trimming, pruning, design, deliveries, loader, backhoe, insured. Professional. Please call Bob (413)537-5789.

LAND CLEARING

HENRY'S TREE SERVICE LLC
Clearing and forestry mulching for lot clearing, perimeter clearing, 1-5+ acres & stumping. Certified & Fully Insured. Free Estimates. Over 30 Years Experience. Offering Senior Citizen & Military Discounts
Call 413-279-1050

LAWN & GARDEN

HEADS UP LAWN SPRINKLERS LLC.

Need sprinkler repairs or complete system check? We fix leaks, replace heads, troubleshoot problems, and add zones/upgrade existing systems. Fast reliable service without big company prices.

Call 413-279-4122 to set up an appointment.

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES
FRIDAY AT NOON

SERVICES

MASONRY

STOP WET BASEMENTS
ABC MASONRY & BASEMENT WATERPROOFING
All brick, block, stone, concrete. Hatchway doors, basement windows, chimneys rebuilt & repaired, foundations repaired, basement waterproofing systems, sump pumps. BBB+ rating. Free estimates. Lic #14790. Call (413)569-1611, (413)374-5377

PAINTING

PRO PAINTING
Low, low prices. All phases interior, exterior painting and wallpapering. Also minor carpentry. 413-310-5099.

RUBBISH REMOVAL

BOB ROBILLARD'S RUBBISH REMOVAL Attics, Cellars, Garages cleaned, Pools/Hot Tubs Removed. Family owned/operated since 1950 (413)537-5090

TREE WORK

AAA-TROM'S TREE SERVICE PROFESSIONAL SERVICE. Residential removal of trees, Free estimates, Fully insured W/Workman's Comp. Remove them before the wind takes them down. Cordwood, stump grinding. Call 413-283-6374/cell 413-237-9881.

AFFORDABLE STUMP GRINDING
Fast, dependable service. Free estimates. Fully insured. Call Joe Sablack 413-436-9821, cell 413-537-7994

DL & G TREE SERVICE- Everything from tree pruning, tree removal, stump grinding, storm damage and brush chipping. Honest and Dependable. Fully insured. Now offering a Senior Citizen & Veteran discount. Call today for free estimate (413)478-4212

HENRY'S TREE SERVICE LLC
Tree Removal-Tree Trimming
Storm Damage-Structure Pruning
Forestry Mowing
Certified & Fully Insured.
Free Estimates
Over 30 Years Experience
Offering Senior Citizen & Military Discounts
Call 413-279-1050

STUMP GRINDING

DL & G STUMP GRINDING Grinding stumps of all sizes, insured & certified. Senior discounts. Call Dave 413-478-4212

Find archives of this local newspaper at www.newspapers.turley.com

SERVICES

HENRY'S TREE SERVICE LLC
We do what others don't.
We grind stumps of any size, provide cleanup and add loam and seed. Certified & Fully Insured.
Free Estimates
Over 30 Years Experience
Offering Senior Citizen & Military Discounts
Call 413-279-1050

PETS

GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPS. Champion Czech and Belgian bloodlines, 2M, 1F, 30 years experience. Available 9/25/2026. \$1,200. Taking deposits now. 413-218-2321

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED:
General maintenance. Good pay.
413-297-1513, Les.

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.

ROOM FOR RENT

Short Term Room Rental. Enjoy a peaceful, comfortable stay at Paradise Lake sanctuary in Monson. Fully furnished room available for short term rental. Available Oct. 1st.

- All utilities included
- Full kitchen access
- Laundry access
- Pets welcome
- Quiet, welcoming setting
- Ideal for traveling professionals or temporary stays.

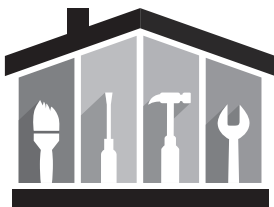
For rates, availability and more information call Teri, 413-381-7950

FOR RENT



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.

Advertise your
HOME IMPROVEMENT SERVICES
in our classifieds.
WE GET RESULTS!
Call 413-283-8393



Post your
job openings
in our classifieds.
WE GET RESULTS!
Call
1-413-283-8393

FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

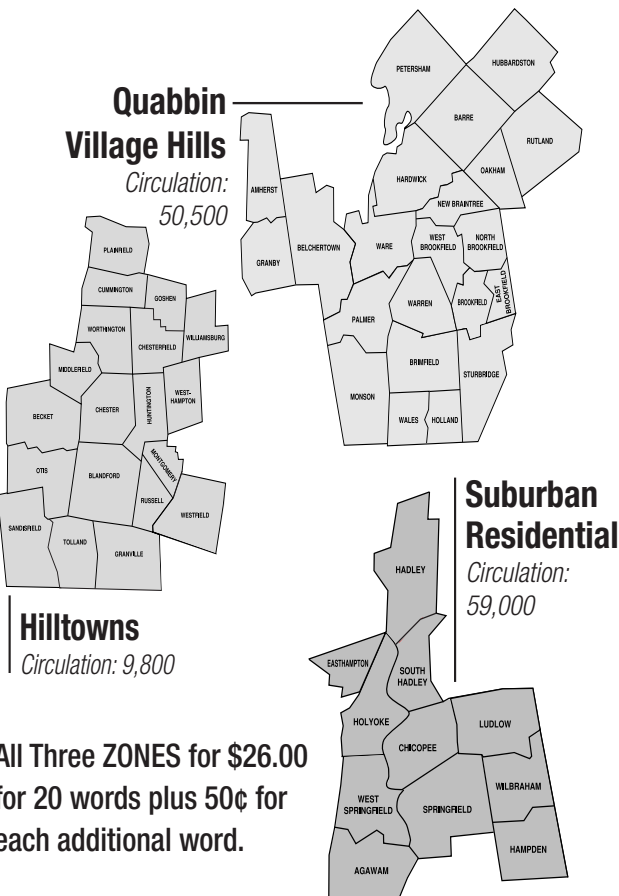
MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069
or call: 413-283-8393

DEADLINES: FRIDAY AT NOON

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Base Price \$26.00
21 Base Price \$26.50	22 Base Price \$27.00	23 Base Price \$27.50	24 Base Price \$28.00
25 Base Price \$28.50	26 Base Price \$29.00	27 Base Price \$29.50	28 Base Price \$30.00
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	39 Base Price \$35.50	40 Base Price \$36.00

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Number of Weeks: _____ X per week rate = \$ _____
Credit Card: ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover ☐ Cash ☐ Check# _____
Card #: _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV _____
Amount of charge: _____ Date: _____

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!



All Three ZONES for \$26.00
for 20 words plus 50¢ for
each additional word.

GREAT VALUE!
ALL 3 ZONES NOW FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!

Make checks payable to Turley Publications

Your BUYLINE CONNECTION

**VOTED #1 APPLIANCE DEALER
IN WORCESTER COUNTY!!!**

**MATTRESS SALE!!!
END OF SEASON
BIKE SALE!!!
WE REPAIR BIKES!!!**

**12 MONTHS
0% FINANCING**

WHITCO
140 Main St., Spencer
www.whitcosales.com
508-885-9343

Open: Mon.-Fri. 10am-8:30pm, Sat. 9am-8pm, Sun. 12pm-7pm

MasterCard VISA American Express Discover

NOW AVAILABLE: PALMER

Distinguished, meticulously maintained property, built in 1924, offering 1,788 square feet of refined living space. This attractive American Foursquare, traditional-style home is in great condition, blending classic architecture and contemporary comfort. Kitchen appointed with stainless steel appliances, providing a functional and aesthetically pleasing environment for culinary endeavors. Living room offers a fireplace that creates warmth and ambiance. Primary suite offers an ensuite bathroom & ample closet space. Remaining 3 bedrooms are all generously sized, with great storage space. Private yard, with a beautiful patio and gazebo, gorgeous farmer's porch on the front, and a fully enclosed porch on the back extend the living areas outdoors, providing versatile spaces for enjoyment. Includes a two-car garage, offering ample parking. New heating system, mini splits, gorgeous hardwoods, updated windows, and a newer roof. All in an incredibly convenient location, with easy highway access, and close proximity to shopping, restaurants, and the hospital. You won't want to miss out! Listed at \$420,000.

YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS

**We Do More
So You Will
Make More!!!**

exp REALTY

Michelle Terry
Broker

michelleterryteam.com 130 W. Main Street
Spencer, MA 01562

GIVE US A CALL TODAY! 508-202-0008

**WHERE EVERYONE GOES FOR
THEIR PIECE OF THE EARTH!**

LANDSCAPE STONE
White • Blue • Purple • Red
Lt Gray • Dark Gray • Beige • Rip Rap

SCREENED LOAM STORED IN BUILDING

Construction Stone • Title V & Presby Septic Sand
Concrete Sand • Chicken Coop Sand • Utility Sand
Pool Liner Sand • Stone Dust • Silt • Crushed Gravel
Crushed Asphalt • Crushed Concrete • Cold Patch

Homeowner Friendly • No Minimums

PICK-UP OR CALL TO SCHEDULE YOUR DELIVERY TODAY!

Bond
98 North Spencer Rd., Spencer
bondsandandgravel.com
508-885-6100
508-885-2480

Sand, Gravel & Asphalt

MasterCard VISA American Express Discover

**MS + NN PAINTING
AND HOME MAINTENANCE**

**INTERIOR/EXTERIOR
Home Painting & Maintenance**

Residential/Commercial
NO JOB IS TOO SMALL – FREE ESTIMATES
Fully Insured – HIC License Holders
81 Jackson Lane, Barre, MA 01005
774-321-4509
Mmguzman.2011@yahoo.com

OPEN HOUSE: Sept. 26 11am-1pm

WARE
38 Prospect St.
\$319,000

4-bedroom, 1.5-bath;
home available for
immediate occupancy.

CENTURY 21
Century 21 North East
160 Main St., Spencer
dorrinda@C21Lovett.com
1-978-434-1990

OPEN HOUSE: Sept. 27 11am-1pm

W. Brookfield
69 W. Main St.
\$329,000

Home offers 4 bedrooms,
2 full baths; home available
for immediate occupancy.

CENTURY 21
Century 21 North East
160 Main St., Spencer
dorrinda@C21Lovett.com
1-978-434-1990

**BREEZELANDS
ORCHARDS**

**Our Donuts Are
Famously Delicious!**

**FREE
1/2 Dozen
Cider Donuts**
WITH THIS COUPON AND \$8 PURCHASE
GOOD TUES. THRU THURS. ONLY TP

VISIT THE FARM FOR:
• Honey • Cheese
• Jams • Early Apples
• Maple Syrup

Southbridge Road, Warren, MA
5 min. from Sturbridge - 148 N. Follow Signs
Open 10am-6pm
(413) 436-7122
www.breezelandSORCHARDS.com

**Country Canine
KENNELS**

**Boarding,
Grooming, Daycare**

Boarding starting at \$40 a night
Daycare starting at \$26 a day

84 Greenwich Plains Road
Ware, MA 01082
(413) 277-0334 Office Phone
countrycaninekennels@gmail.com

**HONEY CRISP
AND CORTLAND**

**NOW AVAILABLE
CIDER DONUTS**

PICK FALL RASPBERRIES

RAGGED HILL ORCHARDS

Open Daily 9-5 • 508-867-2187
Ragged Hill/John Gilbert Rd., W. Brookfield
www.raggedhill.com

Directions From Rte 9, take Pierce Rd.
to Ragged Hill Rd. or take Snow Rd.
to Wickaboag Valley Rd. to Ragged Hill Rd.

Adventure tours of Warren
Share the Adventure with us!

Collette Vacations
Sunny Spain, Madrid,
& Costa del Sol,
October 18-26, 2027

Sept. 16Collette Slide Show, Hitchcock Tavern 6:30pm
Sept. 26Pickity Place Lunch..... \$130
Nov. 7Great Gatsby at PPAC \$165
Dec. 5Vermont Country Store with Lunch..... \$175
March 112-Night Caribbean Cruise..... from \$2499
Sept. 12-18...Canadian Rockies, Glacier Nat. Park..... \$5049

Share the Adventure with us soon!
For further information call Randall at (413) 436-5357
or email adventuretours@att.net
or go to www.adventuretoursofwarren.com

THE WHISTLESTOP

THE WHISTLESTOP
BREAKFAST & LUNCH

OPEN 6AM-2PM
MONDAY-SUNDAY
248 MAIN, GILBERTVILLE 01031

**SUMMER
Flea Market**

EVERY SATURDAY
7AM-2PM
JUNE THRU
OCTOBER

at **TIMMY'S**

Fabulous Finds Await!

20'X30' AREA ON GRASS
Most have shades & tables
\$20.00 Cash To Set Up

1042 West St.
(Rt. 122) Barre
2 mi. north of
Barre center

CONTACT: Text: 978-257-9461
Facebook: @timmy.s.996763

**Support Your
Hometown Businesses
SHOP LOCAL**

**Prime Rib &
Fresh Seafood
Best Pizza In Town!**

**Ladd's
RESTAURANT & LOUNGE**

64 Barre-Paxton Road, Route 122, Rutland

Daily \$14.99 Home Cooked Specials!



**CATERING & EVENT AVAILABLE
BOOK YOUR PARTY NOW!!!**

Check Out Our Specials at
www.laddsrestaurant.net

WED & THURS 4:00-9:00 PM; FRI 2:00-9:00 PM; SAT 11:30 AM-9:30 PM; SUN 11:30 AM-9:00 PM

6 Big Screen TVs To Watch!

508-886-4771

KENO

MasterCard VISA American Express Discover

RESTAURANT & LOUNGE HOURS: