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Newspaper

**NORTH BROOKFIELD**  
Octoberfest this Sunday  
p2

**WEST BROOKFIELD**  
Jewelry show returns  
p2

**EAST BROOKFIELD**  
Car show benefited pets  
p8

Editorial/Opinion 4  
Sports 9  
Classifieds 14

Legal Notices 15  
Police Logs 15

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Volume 17, Number 44

Friday, September 27, 2024

## Senior Center welcomes community at open house



The North Brookfield Senior Center recently held an open house this past Saturday, demonstrating all of the programs and activities held at the center. TURLEY PHOTO BY VICTORIA PLEASANT

By Victoria Pleasant  
Correspondent

**NORTH BROOKFIELD** – The North Brookfield Senior Center recently hosted a successful open house, welcoming the community and highlighting its programs and services.

Courtenay Rivera, the Director of the Council on Aging, expressed her enthusiasm for the center's future.

“When I learned September is National Senior Center Month, I thought it was the perfect opportunity for the open house,” Rivera said. “We

want to build upon the strong connections that Ms. Diane Nichols fostered during her time here,” referring to the center's earlier director.

During the open house, attendees toured the center's facilities and learned about the diverse activities and programs

See SENIOR | PAGE 12

## A tour of Sturbridge's Old Burial Ground

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

**STURBRIDGE** – Presented by the Sturbridge Historical Society, a tour of the town's historical Old Burial Ground took place this past weekend.

With light rain in the forecast, the tour still had a great turnout as guests got to tour

a unique piece of Sturbridge's history. Leading the tour was Bill Barnsley who shared many historical facts about the residents who were buried at the historical burial ground.

Barnsley brought numerous historical facts about the residents, their stones and the cemetery itself. It was mentioned prior to the tour that some of

See TOUR | PAGE 12



Bill Barnsley led the tour of the Old Burial Ground and stands next to one of the largest stones in the cemetery. The stone commemorates Dea. Henry Fisk who died Dec. 10, 1815 and his wife, Sarah Fisk. TURLEY PHOTOS BY RYAN DRAGO

## Last Boston lighthouse keeper visits JHPL

By Rowan Bernstein  
Correspondent

**STURBRIDGE** – On Sept. 18, Dr. Sally Snowman visited the Joshua Hyde Public Library to share her experience as the final keeper of the last manned Coast Guard light station in the United States, Boston Light.

This event served as the kickoff to the JHPL's Armchair Travelers book discussion series, and was paired with the book “The Light Between

See KEEPER | PAGE 7



Dr. Sally Snowman presented on her experience as the first and only female lighthouse keeper of Boston Light at the Joshua Hyde Public Library's Armchair Travelers book discussion series. TURLEY PHOTO BY ROWAN BERNSTEIN

## School joins forces with Community Food Collaborative

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

**NORTH BROOKFIELD** – Superintendent Timothy McCormick told the School Committee that the school district's food pantries were now partnering with the North Brookfield Community Food Collaborative.

At the Sept. 16 meeting, McCormick said for the past few years both the elementary

school and the high school have had food pantries and caring closets, offering food, clothing and other necessities to students. He said these services are confidential and available during the school day.

He said both the food pantries and caring closets have been supported through donations.

“We've had some great responses,” he said.

McCormick said he was ap

See SCHOOL | PAGE 6



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# - community -

## Three artists featured in annual Jewelry Show

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

WEST BROOKFIELD – Three jewelry makers are returning for the second annual Jewelry Show at West Brookfield Art & Frame, 10 East Main St.

The show will open with a wine and cheese reception on Friday, Oct. 4, from 5-7 p.m., kicking off the start of the holiday shopping season and giving people a chance to find a one-of-a-kind piece of wearable art for someone special in their lives.

West Brookfield artist and jewelry maker Jennifer Geldard said most of her work at this year's show will feature her handcrafted glass beads, which act as the focal piece of many of her necklaces.

"Most of the necklaces will be a combination of semiprecious stones and silver, and my own beads that I make," she said. "As long as it works, I use all kinds of things."

To celebrate the fall season, Geldard will be making glass acorn beads, which use real acorn caps that she gathered and dried out.

Geldard said most of her time and focus is spent creat-



Jennifer Geldard is one of three jewelry makers featured in the second annual Jewelry Show opening at West Brookfield Art & Frame, 10 East Main St., on Friday, Oct. 4 with a reception from 5-7 p.m. FILE PHOTO

See JEWELRY SHOW | PAGE 13



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### Residents voice concerns about town officials, hospital demo

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Residents Kevin Kruckas and Jim Smith voiced their concerns about town officials and a hospital demolition project during a public hearing on Tuesday, Sept. 24.

Kruckas said he has "a great concern" with allowing Scribner to demolish the hospital building. He said he has heard about a third person being appointed to the Board of Selectmen and that he would like to be appointed to that board.

Smith said he is concerned about the demolition of the hospital building. He said he has heard about a third person being appointed to the Board of Selectmen and that he would like to be appointed to that board.

At the Aug. 22 Selectboard meeting, Kruckas also spoke about a third person being appointed to the Board of Selectmen. He said he has heard about a third person being appointed to that board.

Board of Registrars has been notified on the town's website since the third member resigned. The position needs to be appointed by the Selectboard, usually from candidates recommended by the Democratic Town Committee.

The three names not currently have a Democratic Town Committee. Talbot said the position is open to any Democrat who is registered voter in the town.

Talbot said an advisory will be present at the Aug. 28 hearing to help guide the Board of Registrars following a complaint filed by Scribner's Vice Chair Jack Kruckas. The hearing will determine whether Smith is eligible to serve as an elected or appointed official while he is temporarily living out of town.

Kruckas also discussed an issue being conducted of the town hall, something that has been ongoing for months. He said the former accountant has been coming in on Monday's after the audit began.

Please see WARE 805, page 3

### Board hears results of ADA self-evaluation plan

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Representatives from Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission and the Center for Living and Working shared information gathered from the town's American with Disabilities Act (ADA) self-evaluation and transition plan.

At the Board of Selectmen's Aug. 22 meeting, CMRPC's Center Richard was joined by Mike Kennedy and Jim Mark of the Center for Living and Working and he shared some of his findings and recommendations from the self-evaluation.

He said the town does not currently have a commission on disability, nor does it have recent of previously having had one. He recommended the town establish a disability commission.

Kennedy said Karen Dury is listed on the ADA Coordinator's Disability website. He recommended on the Massachusetts Office of State Auditor's report also be listed on the town's website and business cards to be more accessible to residents.

He said the town does have a nondiscrimination document, but it should also be posted for review. He recommended the town update its ADA Coordinator website with links to important documents.

Kennedy said the town has a general plan, but it is not an ADA plan. He recommended the town update its general plan to include ADA provisions.

Kruckas said the town should have some kind of statement on its website about the ADA. He recommended the town update its website to include ADA provisions.

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Kruckas said the town should have some kind of statement on its website about the ADA. He recommended the town update its website to include ADA provisions.

Please see WARREN, page 7

### Task force will look at bringing healthcare to Hardwick

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

HARDWICK – Residents who gave the Select Board input on a healthcare project, which she hopes will bring healthcare to Hardwick and its surrounding towns.

These pillars include the demolition status of Mary Lane Hospital in Ware, the Gilbertville model for healthcare in the community, grant funding and location identification.

"The Mary Lane demolition is a really big deal," she said. "When it was decided that Mary Lane was being brought down, it's really interesting that Hardwick was not really brought into these discussions."

Krueger said Baystate Health not only shut down Mary Lane Hospital, but it also sold all five health plans it was managing to a private equity group.

"This is not just about two don't have a building anymore," she said. "We're going to have a lot of people in town that are healthcare accessible in the same town as here."

Krueger said there is a demonstration delay for the building and that Mary Lane Hospital property, which she said is being bought by Hardwick and its surrounding towns.

These pillars include the demolition status of Mary Lane Hospital in Ware, the Gilbertville model for healthcare in the community, grant funding and location identification.

"The Mary Lane demolition is a really big deal," she said. "When it was decided that Mary Lane was being brought down, it's really interesting that Hardwick was not really brought into these discussions."

Krueger said Baystate Health not only shut down Mary Lane Hospital, but it also sold all five health plans it was managing to a private equity group.

Please see HARDWICK, page 8

### Ware Grange hosts its 77th annual fair

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – The 77th Annual Ware Grange Fair took place over the course of two days on Aug. 23 and 24.

All events are run by the Grange and its adult members. There was a total of 11 exhibits, with 19 new exhibits this year. The grange had a total of 147 entrants, 252 adult entrants, 70 youth entrants.

There were 134 agricultural prizes and 213 non-agricultural prizes.

Some winners Massachusetts Department of Agriculture Recorders - Special Agriculture Recorders for the youth were: Lukka Hastings of Palmer for 1-shkiki eggs.

Hastings proudly held his ribbon along the door of eggs he won along the fair. He is 7 years old and also won a prize for one of his old and also won a prize for one of his old.

Lukka Hastings of Palmer holds his ribbon for chicken eggs at the Ware Grange Fair.

Please see GRANGE, page 6

### CDAs reviews CDBG grant application

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application review process for the fiscal year 2024 Community Development Block Grant program.

At the Aug. 19 meeting, the CDBG members spoke with Erin Johnson of Present Valley Planning Commission to review the details of the CDBG application. The CDBG members will be reviewing the application for the grant for use in the town's community development program.

According to Johnson, when applying for a CDBG grant, the town would need to submit an application to the state. Johnson said the town's application for a CDBG grant did not score well.

Johnson said the town was surprised by this, and the reviewers took

Please see CDA, page 8

### Having a Ball

Thomas took the ball to the goal during Ware Soccer Club's annual Summer Camp at Memorial Field last week.

Ware Soccer Club held its annual Summer Camp at Memorial Field last week, with a large group of young athletes learning and developing skills with the help of a team of coaches led by Mark Foley.

This is the fourth year the club has held Summer Camp and it was a great success. The camp included an extra day of instruction for the "select" group, with many exciting players. "We want kids to come back and help out with the camp."

Many of these players become coaches, like Jack Birge, who played in the Ware Soccer Club since she was a young child before playing for Ware High School.

Please see SOCCER, page 19

Inside this edition:  
Viewpoints..... 4    Classifieds..... 18  
Sports..... 11  
Police/Fire..... 14  
Obituaries..... 15

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Octoberfest event this Sunday benefits Town House

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The Friends of the North Brookfield Town House will hold their annual Octoberfest on Sunday, Sept. 29 from noon-4 p.m. at Common Ground Cider Works, 31 East Brookfield Road.

There will be vendors with a variety of goods, music will be provided by the Dee Gees and Mama Mia Mania will perform some of their hits. North Brookfield's own DJ, Tabby LeBlanc, will be playing music throughout the day.

Lots of raffles will be available, including a three-day vacation package to Misty Harbor Resort in Wells, Maine, a Family Pass to Old Sturbridge Village, Wine Tasting at Hardwick Winery and a gift card from Salem Cross Inn, just to mention a few.

Common Ground Cider Works will be offering German Food and deserts, and there will be games and activities for the whole family.

# - community -

## NBSB Food Drive to continue the fight against hunger

NORTH BROOKFIELD – North Brookfield Savings Bank is proud to announce the start of their Annual Food Drive, held from Oct. 1-25, offering the perfect chance to share kindness, support the community and help those in need during the season of giving.

North Brookfield Savings Bank's Annual Food Drive helps provide much-needed food items to local neighbors and families in need within the communities they serve. As part of the bank's commitment to giving back, North Brookfield Savings Bank will contribute \$1 for every item and dollar collected, up to a total of \$3,000 to further support the operational cost of local food pantries.

Community members are encouraged to drop off non-perishable food items, paper goods, toiletries, or monetary donations at any of NBSB's convenient branch locations throughout the month of October.

"Our annual Food Drive is one of many ways we give back to the communities we serve," said Audrey Moulton, Marketing Manager at North Brookfield Savings Bank in a press release. "We believe that by working together, we can make a meaningful impact for individuals struggling with food insecurity. Every donation, no

matter the amount or size, plays a role in helping our neighbors and community members in need."

Drop off locations include: North Brookfield Branch, 9 Gilbert St., East Brookfield Branch, 100 West Main St. (Route 9), West Brookfield Branch, 128 West Main St. (Route 9), Ware Branch & Business Center, 40 Main St. (Route 9), Belchertown Branch, 4 Daniel Shays Highway (Route 9 and Route 202) and Three Rivers Branch, 2060 Main St.

Examples of non-perishable and non-food items that pantries can use are paper towels, toilet paper, tissues, diapers, and baby wipes; deodorant, soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste; dry and canned pasta and soups, canned meats, tuna, and salmon; peanut butter, jelly, tea bags, and ground coffee; canned vegetables and fruits, hot and cold cereals, rice, cake mixes, pancake mix, syrup, powdered milk, and granulated sugar; canned juices, baby food, baby formula, granola, and cereal bars.

To learn more about North Brookfield Savings Bank's Community giving efforts and the convenient banking products and services offered, visit [www.NorthBrookfieldSavingsBank.com](http://www.NorthBrookfieldSavingsBank.com).



North Brookfield Savings Bank is hosting its annual Food Drive at its various branches, Oct. 1-25. SUBMITTED PHOTO

## 45th Apple Country Fair to be held Oct. 12

BROOKFIELD – Showcasing the work of more than 90 local crafters, the 45th Annual Apple Country Fair will be held on Saturday, Oct. 12, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on the historic Brookfield Town Common.

This year's fair will also feature live music throughout the day, lawn games and face-painting, baked goods and food trucks, raffle drawings throughout the day including a 50/50, and an apple pie baking contest.

Fair-goers can browse and buy hand-knit sweaters and blankets, carved wooden bowls and décor, beaded jewelry, specialty soaps and lotions, hand-crafted toys, locally produced honey, and more.

The raffle will offer chances to win prizes including the community-stitched quilt, family passes to local museums and attractions, and gift certificates to local restaurants and stores.

The fair is held outside on the common rain or shine. The Brookfield Community Club has been organizing the Apple Country Fair since 1979.

Originally, the money raised at the fair helped pay transportation costs for the Brookfield Elementary School's annual sixth-grade class to attend an environmental program at Camp Bournedale on Cape Cod. Now the funds generated help to provide grant money for a number of community service projects, including holiday programs for Brookfield seniors.

For more information, please visit [www.AppleCountryFair.com](http://www.AppleCountryFair.com).

## Backroads Studio Tour takes place Oct. 5-6

The artists and artisans of central Massachusetts Backroads Studio Tour will once again be opening their studios this fall, on Saturday, Oct. 5 and Sunday, Oct. 6 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. in the towns of Petersham, Barre, Oakham, New Braintree, West Brookfield, North Brookfield and Spencer.

This year the tour gladly welcomes back Tracy Crane from West Brookfield. Crane uses a wide variety of mediums to create her art including inks, glass, buttons, cut paper and resin. Her varied works have an accessible simplicity and capture one's eye and interest. Her work can be found year round at Worcester Art and Frame in West Brookfield.

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

In the town of Barre people will find three studios including Deer Run Studio where metalsmith Bonnie Waterhouse works with sterling silver, semiprecious stones, fused glass and crystals to create rings, bracelets, necklaces, earrings and ornaments.

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

A short drive from Morello and Waterhouse takes people to Stained Glass by Robert Hill. He enjoys building artwork from glass that has texture and character. His favorite pieces are those designed for gardens.

In the town of Oakham one will find Dena Hengst

showcasing her beautiful paintings, prints and notecards, many of which depict ocean shores, waterfalls and water surfaces. She also creates abstract pieces and looks forward to sharing her techniques with her visitors.

Another short drive takes one to New Braintree where you can visit David Thompson's wood shop studio. There, you will find a collection of handcrafted one-of-a-kind spoons, bowls and kitchenware. He also builds a variety of unique interior and exterior furniture pieces.

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

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

So come and be inspired by the different studios and demonstrations this self-guided tour has to offer, while experiencing the autumn beauty of our serene New England backroads. For more information and a map, people may visit their website at [backroadsstudiotour.org](http://backroadsstudiotour.org).

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# in the Garden

by Roberta McQuaid

## Extending the life of summer annuals

It was a lot of fun decorating the porch in an autumnal theme this afternoon.

The switch over from summer to fall always poses a dilemma for me, though. Do I throw out the summer annuals or try and overwinter them?

Or maybe I should take a cutting instead and keep them going that way. Hmmm.

I usually end up at least trying to keep the annuals that I love, and if successful they become houseplants of sort. There are geraniums, coleus and fuchsias that are now part of my plant family.

Perhaps you too are trying to decide whether or not to haul these annuals or others off to the compost pile. If you are up for an experiment, why not consider taking a few cuttings.

Read, on, straight from the archives to learn the skill.

Getting a piece of stem to form roots is relatively easy. Here are a few tips that will guarantee your success.

First, make sure that the plant you are taking the cuttings from, called the “stock plant,” is insect and disease-free and well hydrated. Plan to take cuttings in the morning before the heat of the day has a chance to cause any wilting.

A clean, sharp pair of scissors or hand pruners is the best tool for the job. Cuttings can be taken at any time during the growing season; in the fall, sooner is better than later.

Begin by examining your stock plant. Those stems with the closest placed nodes are the best choice for cutting material.

Nodes are the point on the stem from which the leaves grow. There is a strong accumulation of hormones in this area; for that reason, stem cuttings are taken just after a node.

Terminal cuttings, (those from the growth tip) three to four inches long are desirable. It is tempting to take longer pieces, figuring that the end result will be a larger plant.

These are likely to wilt before they root or take a very long time to root because the stems are woodier the further down you go. Play it safe with stout cuttings.

There are all kinds of potting mediums in which to place the cutting while it grows roots. Ideally it should be able to hold enough moisture to keep the cutting turgid yet not hold so much that it rots the stem.

Sand, perlite, and soilless potting mixes have all been used with success. Water is not recommended as “watery roots” will have a harder time adapting to potting soil later on.

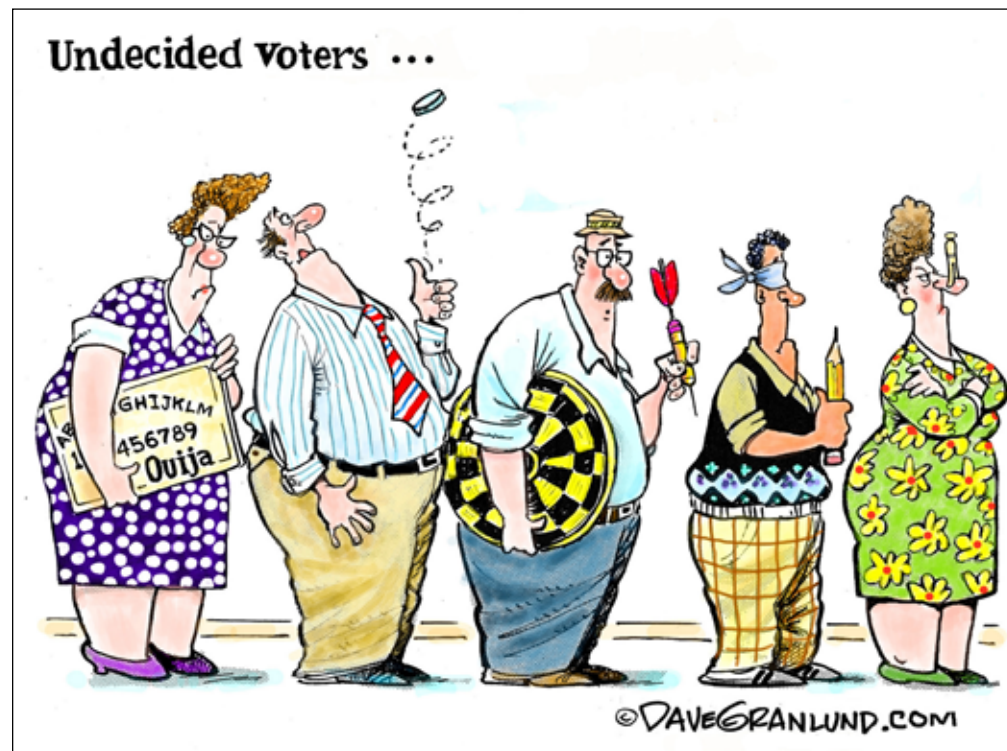
I have had good luck rooting cuttings in peat-based potting mixes that are formulated for seed starting. Moisten the material well and fill your clean container of choice up to the top and tamp it down.

Cut only a few cuttings at a time so that wilting doesn't occur while you prepare the stems for insertion into the growing medium. Strip off the bottom one-third of leaves from the cutting.

If you wish to shorten the amount of time it takes for rooting to occur a commercial rooting hormone can be used. These come in powder or liquid forms. Follow the directions on the container. I have found that “less is more” when using these products.

When you are ready to “stick” the cutting make an indentation into the growing medi-

# - opinion -



## Letter-to-the-Editor

### Have we sunk to theft in this election?

To the editor:

I had one sign supporting a presidential candidate on my lawn until others arrived in the mail yesterday.

Last Friday night, my next-door neighbors and I each had two signs displayed, one at each front corner of each of our properties...

This morning, three of the four signs had vanished! (I am deliberately not naming the candidate in order not to add fuel to an already inflammatory election contest.)

I am proud to live in a democracy, where anyone can voice dissenting views through our cherished first amendment, freedom of speech. I believe most Brookfield/Massachusetts citizens, including myself, would never dream of stealing a sign with which we disagreed.

I am saddened and angered by this disrespect for our American values, and I hope you are as well!

Sherry Zitter  
Brookfield

## Guest Column

### Rear-facing car seat bill aims to protect youngest passengers

To best protect the passengers on the roads in Massachusetts, it's time to update Massachusetts child passenger safety law to prevent one of the most common car seat mistakes a parent can make, turning their child forward-facing too soon.

While existing Massachusetts law, passed in 2008, states that children should remain in a child restraint from birth to age eight, there is no specific language to guide parents and caregivers on the appropriate type of child restraint to use at various stages of development. The rear-facing car seat bill would bring Massachusetts child passenger safety law in line with guidance from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the American Academy of Pediatrics, which clearly states that children are safest when they remain rear facing as long as possible.

H 2318 (Mindy Domb, Sponsor) and S 1524 (Barry Finegold, Sponsor) call for the following addition: “All infants and toddlers under the age of two years or weighing less than 30 pounds shall be restrained in a rear-facing car seat. All children two years and older, who have outgrown their rear-facing car seat by height and weight, should use a forward-facing car seat with a harness up to the maximum height and weight allowed by the car seat manufacturer.”

“It is time for Massachusetts to close the gap in child passenger safety regulation,” said state Sen. Barry Finegold in a press release. “Rear-facing car seats provide better protection for small children compared to a front-facing seats, and I was proud to sponsor this public safety measure to protect our children.”

“This is an important public safety issue that directly impacts our youngest children,” said state Rep. Carlos González, House

Chair of the Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security. “As a parent, I know how vital proper child passenger safety is. I am grateful to the work AAA Northeast and my legislative colleagues have been doing to keep our most vulnerable citizens safe during their travels.”

“I am proud to file this bill to protect and promote the safety of child passengers and bring Massachusetts in line with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the American Academy of Pediatrics,” said state Rep. Mindy Domb (D-Amherst). “I thank Chairman González and the Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security for their consideration and support. I also appreciate the advocacy of AAA on this and so many other issues involved with road and passenger safety.”

The Rear Facing = Real Safety Coalition includes AAA Northeast; Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety; Bay State Medical Center; Boston Children's Hospital; Bourne Fire CPS Program; Brain Injury Association; Cape and Islands CPS Program; Falmouth Pediatric Associates; In Control Crash Prevention; Mass General Brigham; Quincy Police Department; Safe Kids Worldwide; Safe Roads Alliance; Shining Stars Learning Center; and U Mass Memorial Health, Injury Prevention Dept.

For questions or to confirm attendance, people may email Christina Hayman, Senior Manager of Government Affairs, AAA Northeast at chayman@aanortheast.com.

AAA Northeast is a not-for-profit auto club with offices in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, New Hampshire and New York, providing more than 6.5 million local AAA members with travel, insurance, finance and auto-related services.

## 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.

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# - community -

## Funding available for high school financial education fairs

BOSTON – The State Treasurer’s Office of Economic Empowerment, in partnership with the Massachusetts Division of Banks and the Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation announced funding for the 2025 Financial Education Innovation Fund Grant.

Created in 2015, the Financial Education Innovation Fund provides students with the opportunity to experience real-world financial simulations without the real-world consequences.

Credit for Life Fairs include interactive workshops that offer a fun and unique opportunity for students to learn about personal finance. These fairs often serve as a supplement or capstone to financial education classes and engage students in real-world saving, spending, and budgeting simulations.

Student participants either choose or are assigned an occupation and make a variety of financial decisions, ranging from where to live and how to save for retirement to buying a television or owning a pet.

Massachusetts public or charter high

schools and special education programs approved by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education are eligible to apply. Applicants looking to start a new program can receive up to \$6,400 and those enhancing or expanding an existing fair can receive up to \$3,200.

Schools that have over 50% of a student population considered low-to-moderate income, as designated by DESE, can apply for additional funding of \$500.

Applications are open until Friday, Oct. 25. Schools can learn more and apply by visiting [mass.gov/CreditForLife](http://mass.gov/CreditForLife).

Since 2015, over 40,000 Massachusetts students have attended Credit for Life Fairs. The Financial Education Innovation Fund Grant was established as an ongoing effort to strengthen access to financial literacy throughout Massachusetts.

This financial education program is funded by the Division of Banks through a settlement over alleged unlawful lending practices.

## St. Francis Day at Agape Community

HARDWICK – Agape Community, the faith-based eco-justice homestead located at 2062 Greenwich Road, is hosting its annual St. Francis Day event on Saturday, Oct. 5 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

All are welcome to this gathering of people of faith and activists from various traditions, for a day of discussion,

music, food and fellowship. The theme of this year’s youth-led event is Gathering the Community of Communities, as Agape looks to pass the torch to the next generation of faith-based workers for peace.

Please RSVP at [peace@agapecommunity.org](mailto:peace@agapecommunity.org).

## Treasurer Goldberg releases latest unclaimed property listings

BOSTON - State Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg has announced the latest grouping of names added to the state’s list of unclaimed property owners.

Over 50,000 new properties worth millions of dollars are owed to individuals and businesses throughout Massachusetts.

“One in 10 people have unclaimed property, and one of them could be you,” said Goldberg in a press release. “Claiming property is fast, easy, and free, so check the list, go online, or call our office to search for your name and begin the process today.”

The Unclaimed Property Division currently holds over \$3.4 billion in unclaimed property, including forgotten savings and checking accounts, uncashed checks, insurance policy proceeds, stocks, dividends, and the contents of unattended safe deposit boxes.

Most accounts are considered abandoned and are turned over to the state after three years of inactivity. Last year, Treasury processed over 148,000 claims and returned \$185 million in property to its rightful owners.

This newly released list includes only individuals and businesses with unclaimed property over \$100. Treasurer Goldberg urges all citizens to check the comprehensive list for all amounts at [www.findmassmoney.gov](http://www.findmassmoney.gov) or call our live call center at 1-888-344-MASS (6277).

The Treasurer’s Office releases an updated list of unclaimed property assets every six months as the new accounts are turned over to the Commonwealth. There is no time limit for a person to claim this property and, in many cases, claimants will receive interest.

### GARDEN | FROM PAGE 4

um with a pencil or dibble first- do not push in with the stem! After the cutting is inserted firm around it well so that it stays in place.

Put the container, cuttings and all in a clear plastic bag and place in a shady location. The humidity within the bag ought to prevent the stems from wilting. Water well, only about once weekly.


After a month or so roots will begin to form.

Transplanting into individual pots can be done once the roots equal or surpass the size of the cutting. I like to start

out with a small pot and transplant up a size or two at a time as the plant grows.


Most annuals prefer a cool but sunny location in the house to overwinter.

*Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 32 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to [pouimette@turley.com](mailto:pouimette@turley.com) with “Gardening Question” in the subject line.*



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**SCHOOL | FROM PAGE 1**

proached by members of the North Brookfield Community Food Collaborative, which helps to supply senior citizens and members of the community with food assistance.

“We looked at how we could join forces to make this a better endeavor for everybody,” he said.

Collaborative member Karen Farrington said this opportunity to work together is “pretty exciting.”

She said the collaborative serves as a “food hub,” to meet the needs of the town’s various pantries.

Farrington said she was connected to local farms donating fresh produce through the Senior Center, which they were able to distribute to senior citizens throughout town. Senior citizens also received donations of locally raised beef.

The collaborative also receives weekly pallets of frozen food from a supplier that has filled freezers in multiple locations across town. This is in addition to monthly pallets of nonperishable food donations.

The collaborative has also worked with local restaurants to distribute up to 80 meals each week to senior citizens.

“People are happy that they’re being helped, but they’re happy that they’re being seen,” Farrington said.

She said the collaborative members approached the school about working together as the needs of the community continued to grow.

Paraprofessional Margaret Hanson said the school’s food pantries were started by Nurse Maureen Floyde after she received a donation in memory of her father. Hanson said she started helping Floyde deliver the food to students at home when they weren’t in school.

“When this came about and we were talking about reaching more people, I thought the school connection with this project, is the community service with our juniors and seniors,” Hanson said.

Hanson said the junior and senior students will volunteer their time to help distribute food to people in the community.

“They’re very excited to just be part of this,” Hanson said. “I’m excited that the town is going to see our kids working and caring about our senior citizens.”

**Superintendent’s evaluation goals**

McCormick outlined his five goals as the Superintendent of Schools, sharing key actions and steps he will take in order to reach these goals.

His first goal is focused on the continuous improvement of the school district.

“That means making sure that our teachers are coming up with real, attainable goals; that our principals and directors are observing and evaluating them, and that we’re hitting our benchmarks as far as the timelines with our evaluation system,” McCormick said.

He said the approved Strategic Plan will trickle down into school improvement plans for both schools, and goals for administrators and staff.

His second goal will focus on his personal professional practice. He said he is in year three of the new superintendent induction program, which meets monthly for eight to 12 years.

McCormick said in this program, he has a coach who works with him and serves as a sounding board for his ideas. He joins superintendents across the country in his cohort, which meets both in-person and virtually.

“This is just building capacity for me,” he said.

McCormick’s third goal makes sure the school dis-

trict’s curriculum is aligned from kindergarten through grade 12. He said the school district began this work two years ago and its goal is to reach a 75% completion rate.

“That...is something that I think will really increase our instruction, make it more rigorous and make it more student-centered for our students now and beyond,” he said.

His fourth goal focuses on the Innovation Pathway grant the school district received, including putting together an advisory board with MassHire and local advanced manufacturing businesses.

“We need to continue to work on these details,” he said.

McCormick said the additional grant funding received will help the school reach these goals.

His fifth goal is to form a student advisory board, including as many grade levels as possible.

“We want to make sure that we include our students in our decision making,” he said. “These are their schools.”

McCormick said the board will allow students to communicate their thoughts about the school district, in order to present them to the School Committee.

The School Committee voted to accept McCormick’s goals as presented.

**Administrators’ reports**

High School Principal John Diorio said the middle school band has now reached 18 students, and each student has an instrument.

“They have been practicing each day and we’re really looking forward to their holiday concert that’s going to be in December,” he said.

Diorio said sixth grade students will be attending Nature’s Classroom from Sept. 30 through Oct. 3, and that students and chaperones are “really looking forward to a great time.”

Diorio said grades six through 12 will begin the Second Steps program to build social-emotional skills.

The senior class is planning college visits for the first week of October to Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Assumption College and Anna Maria College.

Diorio said the high school is planning on holding two Wellness Days this year, after the success of last year’s event. The first event will be held on Nov. 13 and the second event is planned for March 2025.

High school students will participate in the Black and Red event at Nichols College, to bring awareness to the dilemma of African American and Indigenous identity in the commonwealth. He said the field trip will be paid for (including transportation and food) by Nichols College.

Diorio invited the School Committee members to the high school’s first interdisciplinary class that was spearheaded by two teachers. The students are learning about the justice system and crime scene investigation, as well as how crime stories are represented through the media.

Students will investigate a mock crime scene, hold a mock press conference and a mock trial.

Elementary School Principal Arthur Murphy said the PTO hosted a breakfast for the staff at the start of the school year. The PTO also gave T-shirts to pre-K and kindergarten students.

Murphy said staff got ready for the new school year by attending training on how to use the new student information system, positive behavioral interventions and supports as well as the new reading program. He said four staff members received licenses which will

provide them with access to 24/7 coaching for the reading program throughout the year.

“It’s going to be a great way to roll out the program,” he said.

Murphy said students enjoyed their first “disco lunch” of the school year.

He said several juniors and seniors will run the elementary school’s Star Bucks store, which allows students to purchase prizes using Star Bucks earned through positive behavior.

Student Services Director Amy Emory said she has worked closely with Diorio and Murphy during professional development time.

Emory said data is being transferred for the school district’s new individualized education program system and education plan.

“We have a core team that’s working very hard, and right now, this current phase is quite complex,” she said.

Emory recognized Technology Coordinator Justin Hackenson and Pupil Services Administrative Assistant Katelinde Grenevich for their extensive work to complete this phase of the transition.

“I’m very grateful for all of their hard work,” she said.

**Changes to Title IX laws**

McCormick said the federal government revised the current Title IX laws, which are required to be adopted by all public schools. He said staff attended a training over the summer to become familiar with the changes.

“It really makes Title IX a little more robust,” he said.

Title IX is intended to protect students and staff against any sex-based harassment, now including sexual violence, sexual stereotypes, sex characteristics, pregnancy, sexual orientation and gender identity.

“The entire country is looking at making sure that there are policies in place at public places like a school, where everybody is protected against this kind of behavior,” he said.

McCormick said he looked at language that other school districts are using to see what will work best for North Brookfield. He provided the School Committee with a draft of the revised policy to review.

“It’s making sure that every group is protected,” McCormick said.

**Student Council update**

Student Council Representative Dante Giangrande talked about sixth and seventh grade orientation where incoming students were given a tour of the high school and taught how to use their lockers. The Student Council also helped students learn how to use their schedule and answered questions about the school.

Students in grades seven through 12 attended the annual activities fair to sign up for clubs and sports. It also gave students the opportunity to create new clubs.

Giangrande said class elections will be held from Sept. 17-19, giving students the opportunity to hold offices.

The annual homecoming dance for grades nine through 12 will be held on Saturday, Sept. 28 from 6-9 p.m. There will be pizza, snacks, drinks and ice cream.

Homecoming Spirit Week will be held from Sept. 23-27.

Giangrande invited all community members to follow the Student Council on Instagram and Facebook, and to attend its meetings. He said meetings are generally held every other Monday from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the high school kiva.

“Please feel free to join us if you have anything you would like to discuss or would just like see happening,” Giangrande said.

**Grant award**

McCormick announced the receipt of \$15,000 from a Career Pathways grant from the state to support its efforts to bring an advanced manufacturing IP to the school district.

This grant will allow the school district to join an educational hub in Whitinsville that caters to manufacturing and STEM. This grant includes professional development for staff, transportation, and grant writing support.

“It’s a lot of work for the district, but this is the next step in that process,” he said. “This money will go a long way toward our staff and our students.”

**Recognitions**

McCormick recognized the entire school district for a strong start to the school year.

“We’ve had a lot of changes this past year,” he said. “I think that our families and our teachers have been very accommodating and patient.”

School Committee Chair John Magario also recognized McCormick for becoming the permanent Superintendent of the school district after serving in that role on an interim basis.



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 7pm-10pm  
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**KEEPER | FROM PAGE 1**

Oceans” by M. L. Steadman.

Snowman’s presentation included both a history of Boston Light, and information about her own experiences as a lightkeeper. She was joined by her husband, Jay Thompson.

The two met while volunteering with the Coast Guard Auxiliary, and were eventually married at Boston Light, before Snowman became the keeper.

Boston Light was the first lighthouse to be constructed in the United States, and upon Snowman’s retirement last year, became the last manned (or, as Snowman puts it, woman-ed) Coast Guard lighthouse in the country.

Snowman was the first and only female keeper.

Snowman has always had an interest in maritime

history, and before becoming a lightkeeper, she published a book about the history of Boston Light. Thanks to her wealth of knowledge about the lighthouse, she was asked to assist the government in compiling historical information about the landmark for tours of Little Brewster Island, where Boston Light is located.



Eventually, Snowman was asked to come on as keeper of Boston Light. Not only was she the first female keeper, she was also the first civilian keeper, and there was a ceremony celebrating this exciting landmark.

Originally, Snowman was only meant to hold the position for about two years, but she ended up serving as a lightkeeper for 20 years, from 2003 until 2023.

She and Thompson lived seasonally at Little Brewster Island, where they continued to maintain the lighthouse until Snowman’s retirement. Snowman and Thompson give presentations about Boston Light all over the state.

“Armchair Travelers” is the Joshua Hyde Public Library’s evening book discussion group, hosted by Ellen Duzak. On the third Wednesday of each month, readers gather to discuss a pre-selected book and enjoy snacks and coffee.

Each book has many copies available for checkout at the JHPL, in a variety of formats including large print and audio. The book for October will be “Beyond That, the Sea” by Laura Spence-Ash.



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# Cruise for Critters benefited pets in need



Ariana from Second Chance Animal Clinic cradles a lovable feline up for adoption at the Cruise for Critters Car Show held at Westview Farms Creamery in Monson.

MONSON – The Cruise for Critters car show was held at Westview Farms Creamery this past Saturday for the 12th year.

This event, organized by Al Widlan, owner of Service Connection, continues to bring together car enthusiasts and animal lovers for a meaningful cause - raising support for Second Chance Animal Services.

This year's event was made possible in part by the generosity of sponsors like Ted & Barbara Hebert of Teddy Bear Pools & Spas, Joe Campisi, and Porter Road Pet Care, whose support helps ensure pets in need receive the care they deserve.

Every dollar raised will go directly to helping animals through Second Chance's vital programs.



The Nichols family and their dog Maggie enjoyed the fall weather at the Cruise for Critters event. *TURLEY PHOTOS BY SINGLE SHOT PHOTO*



Gigi and her mom Pamela attended Second Chance Animal Service's Cruise for Critters event.



Gigi was dressed in a pink tutu.



People and their pets supported Second Chance Animal Services at the annual Cruise for Critters Car Show this past Saturday.



A classic 1965 Ford Mustang convertible shined at the annual Cruise for Critters Car Show, drawing the attention of enthusiasts and admirers alike.



Car enthusiasts gathered to admire vintage cars.



A sleek 1968 Chevrolet Chevelle showcased the car's timeless design and powerful presence.



Classic muscle cars like this Pontiac Trans Am were featured at the car show.



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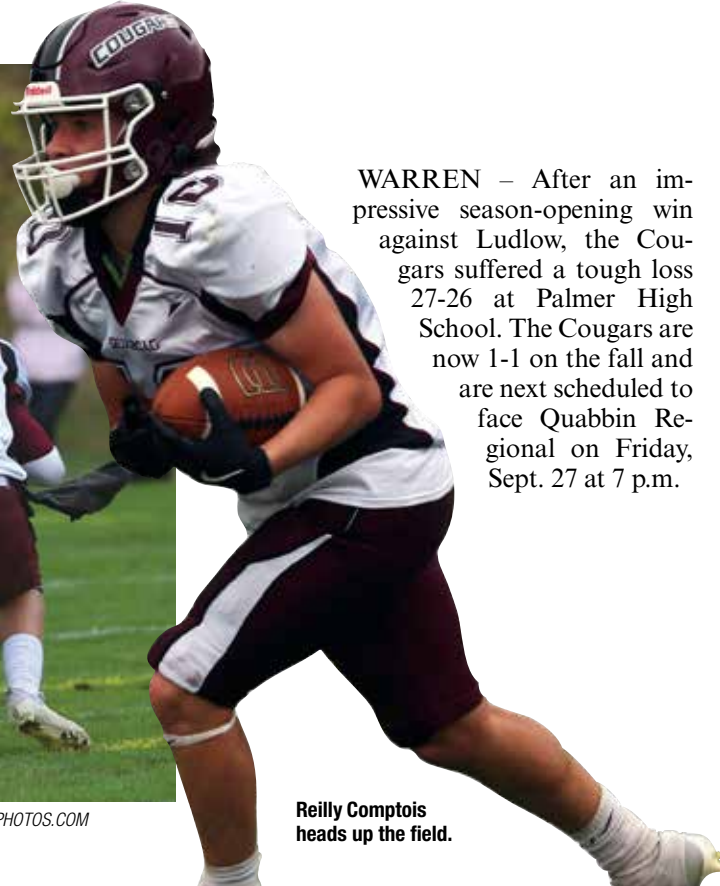
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# SPORTS

## Cougars edged by Panthers in Week 2



Tyler Snow looks to block for Jacob Cacace. TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM



Reilly Comptois heads up the field.

WARREN – After an impressive season-opening win against Ludlow, the Cougars suffered a tough loss 27-26 at Palmer High School. The Cougars are now 1-1 on the fall and are next scheduled to face Quabbin Regional on Friday, Sept. 27 at 7 p.m.

## Warriors suffer shutout at Belchertown

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

BELCHERTOWN—The first ever meeting between the Belchertown and Tantasqua Regional field hockey teams took place on a turf field located on the Tantasqua campus last October.

The Lady Orioles, who were trailing in that contest, 1-0, at halftime, battled back during the second half for an exciting 2-1 non-league road victory.

There wasn't very much suspense when the two teams battled each other for the second time.

The Lady Orioles held a

See **WARRIORS** | PAGE 11



Brasen Sauriol looks for an opening.



Izaiah Flores goes for a tackle.



Emma Fitzgerald makes a play on defense and tries to switch ends of the field. TURLEY PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

## Late first-half goal hurts Pioneers

HADLEY – Last Wednesday afternoon, Pathfinder and host PVCIC found themselves knotted 1-1 late in the first half when PVCIC scored the go-ahead goal in transition and used that to power themselves

to a 3-1 win over the Pioneers. It was just the first defeat of the season for Pathfinder, which was 4-0 prior to the defeat. The Pioneers host Duggan on Sept. 26 at 3:30 p.m.



Adonis Dupre looks to turn the ball around and shoot. TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Evan Costa attempts to overtake an opponent.



Justin Davis sends a free kick deep.



Owen Pear sends a quick pass back.



Zander Auffrey looks to stop the opponent's momentum.



Ethan DeBettencourt gets around the ball to keep play moving forward.

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# Turleysports

## Athlete of the Month

**NAME:** Jacob Cacace  
**SCHOOL:** Quaboag

The Cougars quarterback has led the offense through the first two games of the regular season, including a big season-opening win over Ludlow on Sept. 13.

To nominate someone for Athlete of the Week, contact Managing Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at 413-283-8393 ext. 258 or send an e-mail to gscibelli@turley.com.



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## - sports -

### Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

#### Tuesday Night Commercial Elks League

**PALMER** – The Commercial Elks League at Diamond Junction Bowling Lanes reached week three of the season.

As of Sep. 10, Daft Kings are in first place at 6-2. Last in Line and Gutter Mouths are tied for second place at 5-3. The Mailmen are 4-4, Compression is at 3-5 and Team BK is at 1-7.

In one match, Compression bowled against Team BK. In game one, BK was victorious over Compression, 344-335. In game two, Compression bounced back thanks to team's anchor bowler, Jason Dominick, who bowled a 106. Compression won 355-324.

In game three, Team BK won the last game 380-345. Jeff Whyte of BK was the high man for his team with a 104.

Team BK won total pinfall and a total of three points with a final score of

1048-1035.

Daft Kings bowled against the team of Mailmen. In game one, the match was decided by one point in favor of Daft Kings, 385-384. In game two, The Mailmen bounced back with a victory over Daft Kings 410-372. Bryan Surprise of Mailmen bowled a 110.

In game three, The Mailmen won again by a score of 394-364. The Mailmen won total pinfall by a final score of 1188-1121.

The Gutter Mouths bowled against Last in Line. In game one, Last in Line defeated Gutter Mouths 362-332. In game two, Last in Line won again by a score of 351-324. In game three, The Gutter Mouths won by a score of 377-368.

Last in Line won total pinfall by a final score of 1081-1033.

Visit Diamond Junction Bowling Lanes in Palmer at 1446 North Main St. The lanes can be reached by calling 413-289-0013.

### Hopkins keeps streak alive at Speedway 95

**HERMON, ME** – Since D.J. Shaw won the Granite State Pro Stock Series' Maine debut in 2016, every race in the Pine Tree State had been won by a Mainer leading into Sunday afternoon's showdown at Speedway 95.

And July winner Mike Hopkins kept that streak alive, picking up the win at his home track for a clean sweep of both visits to the Hermon, Maine, third-mile.

The penultimate round of the GSPSS title chase thrust full-season challengers Evan Beaulieu and Casey Call into a Vacationland turf war, with past Speedway 95 winners Hopkins and Josh St. Clair leading the charge alongside reigning champion Travis Benjamin, still winless at the historic speedway.

St. Clair and Hopkins topped the charts in time trials, with Dave Farrington, Jr. clocking in third. Beaulieu qualified fifth and Call eighth, both thinking about the big picture as the green flag flew.

Unencumbered by the bigger picture,

Hopkins drove to the front, putting on a clinic in front of the hometown fans. Benjamin was Hopkins' biggest threat, but he could not catch Hopkins in the final laps, coming up about four seconds shy at the checkered flag.

St. Clair settled for third, with Ryan Deane and Farrington rounding out an all-Maine top five.

Nick Jenkins was sixth, with title contenders Beaulieu and Call seventh and eighth. Veteran Gary Smith and Granite Stater Bobby Frappier rounded out the top ten.

Beaulieu now carries a 21-point advantage over Call into the season finale, with fans assured of a first-time GSPSS champion when the dust settles.

The GSPSS' 13th season concludes on Oct. 6 at Lee USA Speedway, where the championship will be decided as part of Russ Conway's Oktoberfest. Details of the championship finale will be released soon.

### Railers set to host preseason games

**WORCESTER** – The Worcester Railers Hockey Club (@RailersHC), proud ECHL (@ECHL) affiliate of the New York Islanders (@NYIslanders) and the Maine Mariners announced today a pair of preseason games to be played on Oct. 11 and 12, the weekend before the regular season begins.

The Mariners will host a game on Friday, Oct. 11 at Sidney J. Watson Arena at Bowdoin College at 7 p.m. while the Railers will host a game on Saturday, October 12th at the Fidelity Bank Worcester Ice Center at 7:00 p.m. The preseason series kicks off the fourth season of the "VIP Rivalry Cup," presented by VIP Tires & Service.

The Railers have won the VIP Rivalry Cup, the regular season series between Worcester and Maine, in two of its three seasons. The Railers won six

of ten meetings last season between the teams, and will face off against Maine ten more times during the 2024-25 campaign.

VIP Tires & Service, a Quirk family-owned business for 97 years based in Auburn, Maine, operates 70 locations throughout Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, and Connecticut providing retail and wholesale tires and installation, and professional automotive services. VIP is the place where New Englanders turn for everything they need to keep their vehicles running at peak performance. For more information, visit: [www.vipauto.com](http://www.vipauto.com).

The Worcester Railers HC 2024-25 Opening Weekend at the DCU Center is Saturday, Oct. 19 and Sunday, Oct. 20 vs. the Reading Royals.



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# - sports -

**WARRIORS | FROM PAGE 9**

1-0 halftime advantage before scoring four more goals during the second half en route to a 5-0 home victory over the Lady Warriors, last Wednesday afternoon.

“This is a very big win for us,” said Belchertown junior co-captain Edith Audette, who scored a pair of goals in last Wednesday’s contest. “We only beat Tantasqua by one goal in last year’s game on their turf field. Playing them on our grass field gave us the advantage in today’s game. The ball moves a little bit faster on a turf field than it does on a grass field.”

Both teams entered this year’s contest with a 4-1 overall record.

The Lady Orioles began the regular season with road shutout victories against Hampshire Regional, Palmer, and West Springfield before suffering a 3-1 loss at Frontier Regional. They also defeated Franklin County Tech, 4-1, in the home opener on September 16.

“I make every game seem like it’s the super, most important game,” said second-year Belchertown head coach Dina Brunetti. “I didn’t know a whole heck of a lot about Tantasqua, but I knew that last year we had a real tough time scoring against them. The difference between our first and second half is that we adjusted to how they played. Their goalkeeping was also very good.”

The Lady Warriors, who were shut-out at home by Nipmuc Regional in the season opener, reeled off five consecutive wins. They won two games on a grass field against Oxford, 2-0, and Blackstone-Millville Regional, 4-3.

“Belchertown is a very good field hockey team,” said Tantasqua head coach Shelby Green. “We’re more comfortable playing on a turf field, but my players did their best in today’s game.”

Green, whose maiden name is Farland, graduated from Tantasqua Regional in 2009. She’s one of the best

field hockey players in school history.

Tantasqua senior goalie Alyssa Drapuch was credited with a total of 21 saves in the only meeting of the regular season against Belchertown.

“Alyssa is a very important part of our team,” Green said. “She has three shutouts so far this season and is one of our captains.”

Tantasqua’s other two senior co-captains are Libby Dodson and Carsyn Knapik.

After a scoreless opening quarter, Audette, who shares the captain duties with senior Natalie Haluch, scored her first goal less than two minutes into the second stanza giving the Lady Orioles a 1-0 lead. Belchertown’s first goal was assisted by sophomore Addi DiBona.

Down at the other end of the field, Belchertown sophomore goalie Morgan Sambor didn’t have to make any saves during the first half.

The Lady Orioles scored two more goals during the first three minutes of the third quarter.

Their first goal of the second half was scored by sophomore Julia Rainaud, which was her first varsity goal, with 11:28 left in the quarter.

Two minutes later, a goal by junior Mya Phipott gave the home team a 3-0 lead.

The duo of junior Molly Mazzaferro and sophomore Lila Roy assisted on the Lady Orioles only two goals of the third quarter.

With 5:20 left in regulation, Audette scored her second goal, which was assisted by junior Rachel Baltazar.

Freshman Kian Roy, who’s also a member of the j.v. team, capped off the scoring with his first varsity goal with 3:40 left in the final quarter. It was assisted by Lila Roy.

Following a penalty corner with less than a minute remaining, sophomore Emma Fitzgerald had Tantasqua’s only shot on goal which was Sambor’s only save of the game.



Paige Rosen is closely pursued by a Belchertown defender. TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Carsyn Knapik socks a free hit away.



Alyssa Kuszupa tries to keep moving play up the field.



Natalie Bruneau tries to clear the ball up the field.

## MIAA looks to honor officials

The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association is looking to collectively recognize the efforts of our Game Officials. The fall National Officials Appreciation Week will be held Oct. 6 to 12. Once again, MIAA staff members will travel around the state to personally thank officials and support their efforts on the local level. We hope that you will consider recognizing them in some manner. The Winter Officials Appreciation Week will be Jan. 13-18, 2025 and the Spring Officials Appreciation Week will be April 6-12, 2025.

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**TOUR | FROM PAGE 1**

the stones that were discussed during the tour would be difficult to read as many are over 200 years old and have been battered over time due to weathering.

Many of the stones feature different symbols from angels, skulls, urns and biblical quotations. Barnsley also mentioned that after a lot of studies and research, some departed have a stone but no body or burial.

The tour featured over 20 spots at the Old Burial Ground with stones of very important people who are tied to the Town of Sturbridge. One of the first burial plots guests visited on the tour was the stone of Timothy Newell, who was a Revolutionary War hero.

As a citizen of Sturbridge, Newell took a leading part in adding a steeple to the Meetinghouse, in which he also placed a town-clock at his own expense.

There was also a stone dedicated to the Wight family, including David Wight, Sr. and his wife Catherine. There is also a stone for Samuel Hobbs, a member of the Boston Tea Party back in 1773. Hobbs died on May 11, 1823 at the age of 71.

There is a gravestone for James Deneson, who was born in Scotland and was first to settle in the Town of Sturbridge. Barnsley shared a great story about how Deneson met a member of the Fisk family as he was settling in Sturbridge.

His daughter, Experience Wheelock, was the first child born in Sturbridge. Barnsley read the inscription that is written on her stone. "In Memory of Experience Wheelock wife of Capt. Ralph Wheelock who Died October 21st, 1765, in the 33rd year of her age. She was the first child born in this Town."

There are many burial plots in the Old Burial Ground of people who were not from Sturbridge. Col. Thomas Cheny was from Dudley and departed from this world on April 30, 1777.

The stone walls that surround the burial ground have a unique story as well. Back in 1794, a town meeting in Sturbridge took place and a committee was selected to determine how the burial ground might be fenced.

The town would approve and vote that Capt. Samuel Hooker would come with his company on Monday the 16th, Capt. Corey with his company on Tuesday the 17th and Capt. Marcy with his company on Wednesday the 18th of June.

All three companies build a 1,200-foot dry-laid stone wall roughly three feet tall and almost as wide to surround the near one-and-a-half-acre burial ground.

Barnsley said, "The stories these

stones tell are historical and tragical." Many who are buried in this Old Burial Ground have encountered tragic and unfortunate deaths and the emotions those families faced during those tragedies do carry over as guests toured this historical burial ground.

"So much emotion comes from these stones as you read them," Barnsley said.

There are over 550 stones at the Old Burial Ground and over 600 people are buried.

There is a gentleman by the name of Deacon Jonathan Phillips who is buried at the Old Burial Ground and lived to be 104 years old. Prior to passing in 1865, Phillips was 104 years and 4 months old in the Nov. 1864 election and went to vote.

Barnsley shared that his family got a wagon set up so he could go to support President Lincoln.

"Lincoln wrote to him to express his gratitude," Barnsley stated.

The tallest stone in the cemetery is for the Upham family, including George and Thomas Upham. One side of the stone has an inscription that reads "The memory of the just is blessed."

William Johnson died at the age of 2 and is buried with his brother Willis Johnson. William Willard was an important person in the art world during his time and passed away in 1904.

Col. Moses Marcy was known for helping shape the town of Sturbridge. He also served as a selectman who loved taking up opportunities.

"He was always ready for an opportunity," Barnsley said. "Building new places in town, buying land."

Caleb Rice was the first minister in Sturbridge who's stone has unfortunately been through wear and tear over the years. Deacon Daniel Fisk was the first town clerk and also served as a selectman.

The oldest stone in the cemetery dates back to 1740 and belongs to Daniel Fisk, the son of Henry and Mary Fisk, who died on his birthday.

Barnsley was glad to have led a tour of the Old Burial Ground in Sturbridge and looks to offer more tours in the future. Barnsley wanted to see the cemetery and felt there needed to be some preservation work needed.

A map was designed as well as inscription work done to better identify the stones and the people who are resting peacefully in this historic cemetery.

To learn more about the stones and the old burial ground, visit [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com) and search for the Old Burial Ground in Sturbridge. The cemetery is located off Route 131 near the Publick House.



Bill Barnsley led the tour to the tallest memorial in the cemetery, dedicated to the Upham family. TURLEY PHOTOS BY RYAN DRAGO



A stone memorializing Deliverance Fisk, wife of Silas Marsh. The inscription reads "Daughter, Wife, and Mother of Patriots."



Bill Barnsley read about Samuel Hobbs, whose stone is in front of Barnsley. Hobbs was a member of the Boston Tea Party.



Memorial for the Wight family, a familiar family name in Sturbridge.



The stone for Samuel Hobbs with medals remembering him as a member of the Boston Tea Party and a Revolutionary War hero.



Many stones have different symbols. This one for Elizabeth Weld features angels wings.

**SENIOR | FROM PAGE 1**

offered, including Yoga, Tai Chi, and homemade meals. The "Queenagers," a weekly craft gathering, provides a space for socialization and fun.

The center is expanding its offerings with the addition of a poetry/writing group next month. A genealogy group may also be introduced in the future.

To ensure the continued availability of these programs, Rivera emphasizes the need for volunteers.

"We're looking for dedicated individuals to help us offer a wider range of activities," she said.

The center currently hosts a homemade meal on Wednesday evenings but aims to expand this to three meals per week.

The North Brookfield Senior Center is a vital resource for the community, providing a supportive and enriching environment for older adults. Under the leadership of Rivera, the center is committed to serving the needs of its members and fostering a sense of belonging.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact the senior center by calling 508-867-0220, or stop by 29 Forest St.



Visitors to the open house admire a quilted wall hanging.



Community members were able to meet the Friends of the North Brookfield Council on Aging, a vital group of volunteers who support programs and activities at the senior center. TURLEY PHOTOS BY VICTORIA PLEASANT

**JEWELRY SHOW | FROM PAGE 2**

ing her glass beads, a technique she has been perfecting for over 30 years.

Geldard used to own a bead shop in Concord many years ago, before opening Glass Girls Studio and Gallery in the space that is now West Brookfield Art & Frame.

“The glass is what I’ve been doing the longest,” Geldard said. “I teach glass beadmaking and I travel around the country.”

Geldard also takes her art overseas, sharing her talent for beadwork across Europe.

Outside of this show, Geldard has been using her artistic talent for illustrations and is also designing a logo for the TipTop Country Store in Brookfield, a natural food store that is transitioning to a food co-op.

“They’re putting it into the hands of the community,” Geldard said. “They’re going to make it more of a destination stop.”

Geldard said she was excited to be part of the Jewelry Show again and she credited West Brookfield Art & Frame owner Rebecca Fay for supporting local artists and giving them space to display and sell their works.

“Rebecca’s space is really just a precious gem here. She supports so many artists in that gallery and her business model is so original,” Geldard said. “It’s just a really nice thing.”

Also returning to the Jewelry Show are metal artists Cassandra Goldwater and Cathe Palo.

“I like to use stones and metal, so I have some rings that I’ve made using semiprecious stones and I have necklaces,” Goldwater said. “I have used a variety of jaspers and agates. I make a lot of different things.”

Goldwater has also crafted earrings using Montana agate, which is a clear stone that has inclusions. The Montana agate stones are “mysterious” and have different colors, Goldwater said.

Palo is using her metalworking skills to make handmade chains and forged metals. She is also using a process called reticulation, where she melts the surface of the silver, making it travel in an abstract pattern.

Goldwater and Palo met each other at a class they took at LexArt in Lexington, and since they’ve been friends, they have traveled across the U.S. to further develop their craft.



Cathe Palo is shown with some of her sterling silver bracelets and necklaces at last year’s Jewelry Show. FILE PHOTOS

“We worked together in her studio sometimes and we have traveled to classes in North Carolina and Seattle to learn specific skills,” Goldwater said.

While in Seattle, Goldwater and Palo worked with Andy Cooperman, a local artist known for forging his jewelry and his hammer skills. He is also known for incorporating unusual “found” items into his pieces.

“Sometimes I will try to put found objects into my jewelry,” Goldwater said. “It’s very interesting the different materials you can combine.”

On Sunday, Oct. 6 from 2-5 p.m., Goldwater and Palo will lead a jewelry making class called “Arm Candy” at West Brookfield Art & Frame, with participants making and taking home two cuff bracelets. Participants will learn necessary skills including filing, shaping, sizing, annealing and forging.

The cost of the class is \$125 per person and registration is required. All materials are included.

“We hope that people come to the class and realize that anyone can enjoy the fun of making something and being able to call it your own,” Goldwater said.

Goldwater noted that no two pieces of jewelry are exactly alike, giving each one its own unique character, which is something that many people enjoy about buying from an artist.

“There’s something about knowing that somebody’s hand is in the object you’re buying...an expression of a

person, the maker, comes out through what they make as well,” she said. “Every painter could paint the same tree, but it’s not going to be the same tree.”

Goldwater said from her experience, people who choose to shop locally and buy handmade, are looking for a gift that someone else isn’t going to have because it’s handcrafted.

“It’s almost like a relationship with the object they are buying,” Goldwater said. “It’s a whole different thing than going in somewhere you can get a duplicate for something that somewhere else has.”

She said people visiting Fay’s gallery often have a story to share about why they chose a particular piece of artwork.

“I think that Rebecca’s shop is fabulous, and I love the variety of work that she has there...It’s really quite a little gem,” Goldwater said.

**About West Brookfield Art & Frame**

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

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

For more information about West Brookfield Art & Frame, or to register for “Arm Candy,” follow them on Facebook, visit [www.westbrookfieldartandframe.com](http://www.westbrookfieldartandframe.com), email [yafacceber@hotmail.com](mailto:yafacceber@hotmail.com), call 508-753-8604 or stop by during open hours.



Cassandra Goldwater displayed her necklaces made with stones and semiprecious gems at West Brookfield Art & Frame.

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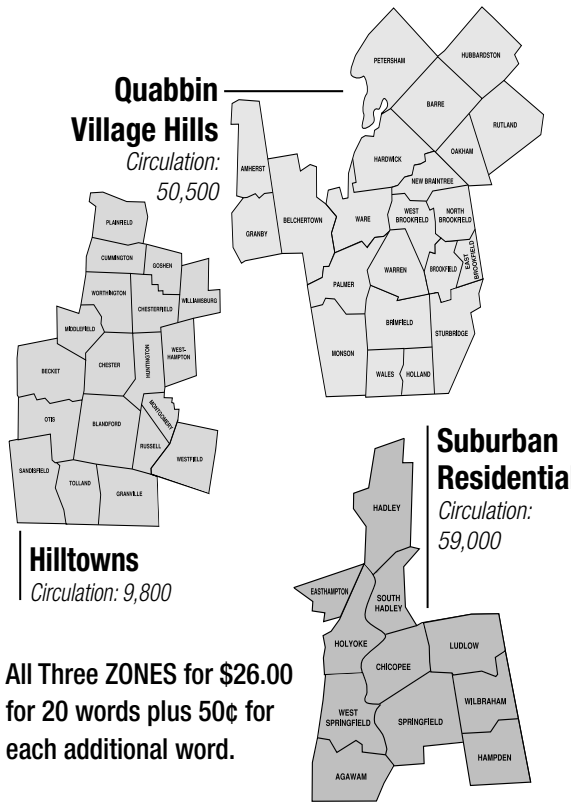
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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised 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.

## TOWN OF WILBRAHAM

### ASSISTANT TOWN COLLECTOR

### GYM SUPERVISOR - P/T HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR 1

### PUBLIC WORKS SKILLED WORKER

### RECYCLING ATTENDANT - P/T

The Town of Wilbraham is looking to fill several vacancies. For application and more information please visit [www.wilbraham-ma.gov](http://www.wilbraham-ma.gov) EOE

# - legal notices & public safety -

**TOWN OF NORTH BROOKFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the North Brookfield Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing to consider a petition to locate poles, wires, cables, and fixtures, including the necessary anchors, guys, and other such sustaining and protecting fixtures, brought before it by National Grid **Tuesday, October 22, 2024 at 6:15 PM** at the Police Department, 55 School Street, North Brookfield, MA 01535.

The pole location that will be considered is as follows:  
**Donovan Road**- National

Grid to install 1 SO Pole on Donovan Rd beginning at a point approximately 420 feet West of centerline of the intersection of Donovan Rd and E. Brookfield Rd. National Grid will install new pole 2-2 45' Southwest of pole 2 on South side of Donovan Rd.

Said hearing will begin at 6:15 PM and continue until completion, and will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 166.

Jason M Petraitis, Chairman  
E. Brooke Canada  
Vaughn Schlegel  
09/27, 10/ 04/2024

## LEGAL NOTICE: TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30A, 18-25, as amended by Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2009, The Wetlands Protection Act, the West Brookfield Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **WEDNESDAY October 2, 2024 at 6:00 pm** in the first floor meeting room, West Brookfield Town Hall, 2 East Main Street.

6:00 - Public Hearing:  
**NOI** - 129 Lakeshore Drive -Continuation - Owen

Kramer, Representative - Rebuild existing structure

**RDA** - 66 Pierce Road - Eberhardt - Tree Removal

**RDA** - 66 Lakeshore Drive - Collings - Tree Removal

**RDA** - 23 Nipmuck Road - Sokol - Well line Repair

**NOI** - 9 Pine Trail - Allan - Retaining wall Repair/Replacement

**NOI** - 21 Hill Brook Drive - Buelow - Stone Wall Construction

**NOI** - Coy Hill Road, West Main Street, Pierce Road, Mill Road, Ragged Hill Road, Lyons Road - Seaboard Solar - Distribution Line Upgrade  
09/27/2024

## New Braintree Police Log

*During the week of Sept. 16-24, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 13 building/property checks, 35 directed/area patrols, two radar assignments, six traffic controls, two emergency 911 calls, one motor vehicle accident, one investigation, one fraud, one illegal dumping, three complaints, three citizen assists, two assist other agencies, two animal calls and six motor vehicle stops in the town of New Braintree.*

**Monday, Sept. 16**  
6:40 p.m. Keep the Peace, Memorial Drive, Services Rendered

**Tuesday, Sept. 17**  
5:42 p.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Accident, Hardwick Road, Unfounded

**Wednesday, Sept. 18**  
9:50 a.m. 911 Misdial, Worcester Road, Services Rendered  
4:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hardwick Road, Written Warning  
7:57 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Negative Contact

**Thursday, Sept. 19**  
12:14 p.m. Fraud, West Road, Negative Contact  
1:34 p.m. Illegal Dumping, Barre Road, Unfounded  
2:32 p.m. Assist Citizen, Mara Road, Voice Message Left  
5:19 p.m. Complaint, Pierce Road, Spoken To  
6:20 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Out of Town, Services Rendered

**Friday, Sept. 20**  
2:20 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Barre Road, Investigated

**Saturday, Sept. 21**  
12:13 p.m. Complaint, McEvoy Road, Spoken To  
9:08 p.m. Investigation, Barre Road, Officer Handled

**Sunday, Sept. 22**  
1:25 p.m. Assist Citizen, Barre Road, Dispatch Handled  
7:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Gilbertville Road, Written Warning

**Monday, Sept. 23**  
12:41 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, West Brookfield Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency

**Our advertisers make this publication possible.**

Let them know you saw their ad in the **Quaboag Current**

Visit us at [www.turley.com](http://www.turley.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.

## Holiday Harvest Festival will be held Sept. 28

**PALMER** - The Three Rivers Chamber of Commerce will sponsor the fourth annual Holiday Harvest Festival at Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School, 240 Sykes St. on Saturday, Sept. 28 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

There will be food, entertainment, raffles, games and over 80 vendors.

Other sponsors for the festival include J. Stolar Insurance Agency, Gold Sponsor; Country Bank, Silver Sponsor; and Beers & Story Funeral Homes, Noonan Energy and North Brookfield Savings Bank, Bronze Sponsors.

*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.**

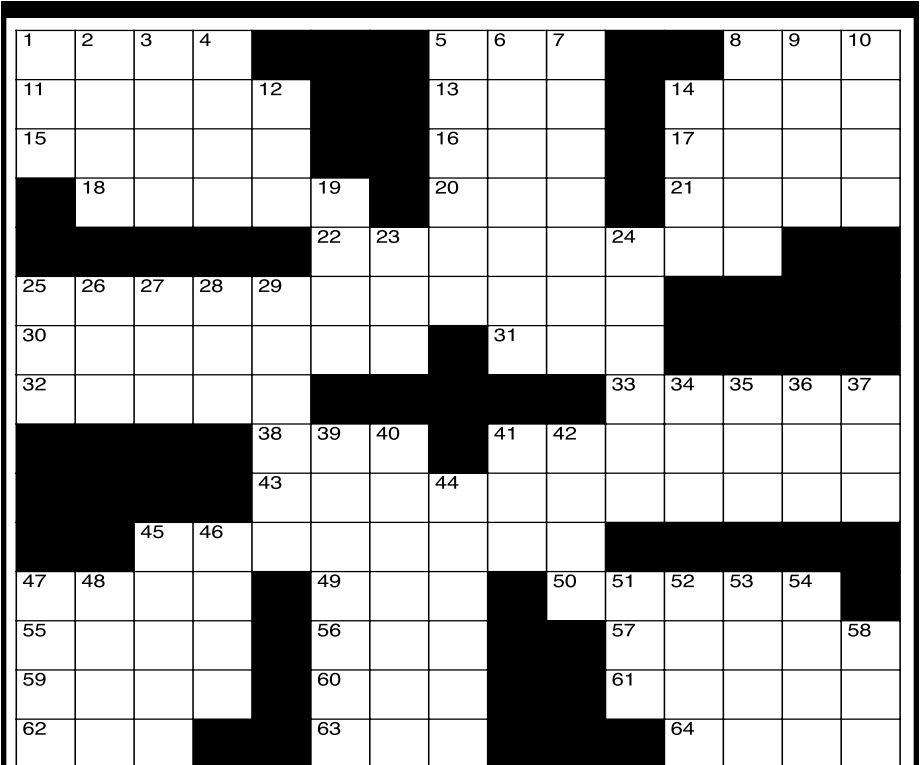
## LOCAL KETONE PROMOTER

**Call For Information 413-813-2391**

Leave Message

Check Out Facebook at **Denise Dubowski**

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### CLUES ACROSS

1. Unequaled
5. \_\_\_-fi (slang)
8. Synthetic resin
11. Chadic language Bura-\_\_
13. Influential come Election Day
14. Bucket
15. European river
16. Earn a perfect score
17. Horizontal passage
18. Barely sufficient
20. Dekaliter
21. Goo Goo Dolls hit
22. Australian city
25. Female servants
30. Plumbing fixtures
31. Tooth caregiver
32. Book of Esther antagonist
33. Say aloud
38. Thyrotrophic hormone
41. Absolute
43. Untimely
45. Area or neighborhood
47. Juicy fruit
49. Expresses distaste, disapproval
50. S. American rodents
55. Swedish rock group
56. Influential American president
57. Volume
59. Begged
60. Resinlike substance secreted by certain lac insects
61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
62. Good friend
63. Body part
64. Tableland

### CLUES DOWN

1. Barrels per day (abbr.)

2. Body parts
3. Invests in little enterprises
4. Rock legend Turner
5. Dug into
6. Laughed
7. Northern European nation
8. San Diego ballplayer
9. Eight
10. Substitutes (abbr.)
12. Moved swiftly on foot
14. Compensated
19. Volcano in the Philippines
23. Speak ill of
24. One who publishes
25. Expression of bafflement
26. Macaws
27. Matchstick game
28. We all have our own
29. Divinatory
34. Explosive
35. Follows sigma
36. Sea eagle
37. Type of bread
39. Bit used with a set of reins
40. Time away from work
41. Parts per thousand (abbr.)
42. Lots on your plate (abbr.)
44. Actor Brosnan
45. It's part of packaging
46. Towards the oral region
47. Public Theater creator Joseph
48. Ancient Syrian city
51. Swiss river
52. Mollusk
53. A French abbot
54. Hoagies
58. Not present (slang)

# QUABOAG CURRENT

**NORTH BROOKFIELD**  
Octoberfest this Sunday  
p2

**WEST BROOKFIELD**  
Jewelry show returns  
p2

**EAST BROOKFIELD**  
Car show benefited pets  
p8

Editorial/Opinion **4**  
Sports **9**  
Classifieds **14**  
Police Logs **15**

Volume 17, Number 44

Friday, September 27, 2024

## Your BUYLINE CONNECTION

**FALL APPLIANCE SAVINGS SPECTACULAR!!!**

**END OF SEASON BIKE SALE**  
**GIANT TOY DEPARTMENT!!!**  
**HUGE APPLIANCE REBATES!**  
**WEBER GRILL SALE!!!**  
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635 E Hill Rd., Oakham, MA, This exquisite 4-bedroom, 2.5-bath horse property offers everything you need for equestrian living! Large cabinet packed kitchen, formal dining room, a spacious front-to-back living room with a cozy fireplace, and a brand-new slider leading to the oversized back deck. The 2nd floor offers an expansive primary suite with a private bathroom for your comfort, a nice sized laundry room, the 2nd full bathroom & 3 more bedrooms! Set on 4.5 acres of scenic farmland, this property includes a 2 car attached garage, huge unfinished basement, 36x36 two-story barn with 3 (12x12) stalls w/ room for more, equipped with hot & cold water and electricity! The fenced-in field, paved driveway, privacy and stunning landscaping add to the charm and practicality of this unique property. Revel in breathtaking views and tranquil country living with easy access to all of the MA cities! Don't miss this rare opportunity to own your country dream property! \$599,900

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**MICHAEL Toomey & Associates, Inc. Real Estate**

East Brookfield | Maryellen Brunelle | 774-230-1419  
Oakham | Irene Caruso | 774-696-9794  
Worcester / West Brookfield | Macey Gaumont | 413-233-8967  
Spencer | Zac Leach | 508-277-5209  
Holden | Sarah Mahoney | 774-245-1218  
Barre | Dan Mankin | 760-617-0548  
Leicester | Lee Martinelli | 774-253-0364  
Paxton | Scott Moss | 508-847-6330  
Spencer | Amy Ekleberry Perro | 508-769-7025  
Brookfield | Meghan Robidoux | 508-414-2518  
North Brookfield | Mike Toomey | 508-951-6460

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Spotlight on Tuscany - May 10-18, 2025  
Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks - May 14-23, 2025  
American Heritage - May 23-30, 2025  
The Colorado Rockies - July 18-26, 2024  
Montana: Exploring Big Sky Country - August 25-September 5, 2025  
Portugal and Its Islands - September 12-26, 2025  
Peaks of Europe - September 12-24, 2025  
Christmas in London - December 5-11, 2025

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

**Oktoberfest**

Join us at the farm for Oktoberfest with Lost Towns Brewing  
**Saturday, September 28**  
12:00 - 8:00 pm at Farmer Matt's

Enjoy Bavarian dishes like bratwurst and beef rouladen, live music, local beer, and fun competitions like trivia, best costume, and the stein-holding challenge. Lace up your lederhosen and celebrate in true Bavarian style.

**Farmer Matt's**  
FARM-FRESH • LOCAL  
FarmerMatt.com  
860 West Brookfield Rd.  
New Braintree, MA