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Submitted photo

(In no order) The Falcons 12UA Boys Baseball team consists of players Brayden Pacifico, Cohen Nelson, Cooper Donovan, Drew Dowling, Jackson Gagner, Joey Comes, Louis Morin, Nolan Costello, Owen Piquette, Peter Siciliano, Peter Appleby and Thomas Campbell. Coaches are Dave Costello, Jessie Donovan, Jim Gagner and Nick Morin. Missing from the photo is Cohen Nelson.

Wilbraham youth baseball team earns spot in Cooperstown tournament

By Dalton Zbierski
Editor
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WILBRAHAM – Next month, a group of local youths will enjoy the trip of a lifetime, as the Falcons 12UA Boys Baseball team participates in the Cooperstown Dreams Park Tournament in Cooperstown, NY, the birthplace of baseball and home of the Baseball Hall of Fame.

The tournament is held annually in Cooperstown and will feature teams from across the country. The tournament is known for its competitiveness, and Falcons coach Dave Costello believes his team is up to

the task.

“There’s a strong possibility that we’re going to see kids that will go pro one day. We’re going to be watching them on tv so to know that you’re on the same diamond as these kids just playing the great game of baseball is very humbling and very neat,” Costello said.

The players who will play in the July tournament have an opportunity to showcase their talents on a national stage. The team is growing more excited by the day as the tournament approaches.

“Being with my friends is the highlight of what I hope will be an amazing trip,” Brayden Pacifico said.

“I’m looking forward to the experience. Hopefully, I’ll have a lot of fun with my friends and just have a great time in the field, playing baseball.”

Louis Morin anticipates interacting with players from across the country. The tournament facilitates a pin swap so that players on each team can interact with each other.

“Other teams in Cooperstown will have pins and we can trade them off. It’s going to be exciting,” he said.

Nolan Costello is viewing the trip as a “once in a lifetime opportunity.” He heard there will even be teams representing Canada. Like Brayden,

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School Committee discusses MASS Insight Equity Audit Presentation

The biggest takeaway is generating change

By Kristin Rivers
Staff Writer
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WILBRAHAM -- The Hampden-Wilbraham Regional School Committee welcomed MASS Insight on June 15 to present the equity audit.

Dr. Carmen Thomas-Browne, engagement manager for MASS Insight, was joined by Consultant Destiny Woodbury, Analyst Krista Reed and Project Coordinator Emma Milliken.

Thomas-Browne explained the goals.

“Our goals for our presentation are to build a shared understanding of the equity audit purpose and process, to present and gather your reflections around our findings and recommendations and to support you in your role to further equity in Hampden-Wilbraham,” Thomas-Browne said.

The hour-long presentation shared how the audit was conducted, including surveys and focus groups from community members, school leaders, students and parents, with recommendations moving forward.

Secretary/Clerk Sean Kennedy had residents approaching him asking about data when comparing other districts and schools.

“How would you respond to this request for a broader comparison?” Kennedy said.

Reed said it is “a natural inclination” to ask that question.

“I think it’s an ongoing conversation to say, totally valid thing to ask, and we have to view more questions that we should answer together,” Reed said.

Patrick Kiernan commented on professional development.

“As we look at how to move forward, it is crystal clear that this is now a third data source that has been incredibly vocal on the need to revamp how professional development occurs and how voices are heard or enhanced, and in some cases, individualized professional development,” Kiernan said.

Sherrill Caruana asked about generating change with the district’s strategic plan, the equity audit and finances.

“All three of those have to work together to make a better experience for our families and our children. How do we align those?” Caruana said.

Please see **SCHOOL**, page 3

Library discusses “Breakfast at Tiffany’s” during Book Club

The meeting took place in the Rochford Reading Room

By Kristin Rivers
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HAMPDEN - The library held its final Saturday Book Club meeting of the year on June 17 reading “Breakfast at Tiffany’s” by Truman Capote.

Director Ellen Moriarty chooses the books, with the meetings held on the third Saturday of every month in the Rochford Reading Room.

Additionally, members can pick a book for the book club to read.

“It’s often very entertaining to hear the opinions,” Moriarty said. “It’s just a good book club that’s been around. I’ve been here 10 years and I look forward to it each month.”

Moriarty said, “Our book club is wonderful” due to the opportunity to hear different perspectives.

“We have members from different generations who have different points of view on the book, and I always like hearing different points of view. Sometimes people will love a book, other people will hate a book, and I always like to hear why and get their perspective on it so I can see the book in a different way. We’re a fun bunch for sure,” Moriarty said.

Please see **BOOK CLUB**, page 9



Turley photo by Kristin Rivers

Hampden Free Public Library Director Ellen Moriarty leads members of the Saturday Book Club in a discussion of “Breakfast at Tiffany’s” during the Saturday Book Club meeting on June 17. The club meets in the Rochford Reading Room the third Saturday of the month to discuss a book.

Women's Club's plants trees through Commemorative Tree Fund

WILBRAHAM – For the past 35 years, the Wilbraham Women's Club has been responsible for a Commemorative Tree Fund in our town. Any person or group may make donations for a tree to commemorate a special occasion such as a wedding, a birth, a graduation, a retirement or a memorial to a loved one. A book of honorees and memorials is updated as necessary and is on permanent display at the Wilbraham Public Library. In 2011, the beautiful brass plaque on the display case was donated by a very supportive and generous friend to our club, Kathy Selvia.

The trees are planted along the town's tree belts to restore trees that have been lost through the years and around schools, public buildings, and in town parks to further beautify the town of Wilbraham. Well over 150 trees have been purchased with donations from townspeople, local organizations, and members of the Wilbraham Women's Club. Many of the trees are planted around schools, public buildings, and in the town's parks. Three more trees have been planted this month at Crane Park from donations from the club in honor of its deceased members and other friends or loved ones of members.

If you would like more information about this program or would like to donate to this fund, please contact Cheryl Wesolowski, 538-1178, Chairman of the Commemorative Tree Fund for the Wilbraham Women's Club.



Commemorative Tree Program Chairman Cheryl Wesolowski, Felice Coffey (in honor of husband Dick), Marlene Jobson (for husband Bruce), Marge Magill (in honor of her sister Marilyn), and Shirley Facey (for her husband Don).



Mark and Dave Graziano planting trees with Commemorative Tree Program Chairman Cheryl Wesolowski.

Submitted photos

Boston Tea Party participant to be honored at Old Cemetery June 25

HAMPDEN – Robert Sessions, a Boston Tea Party participant who was laid to rest in Hampden's Old Cemetery, will be honored there by the Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum on June 25 at 11 a.m.

Elected officials and public employees will be present as the museum places a brass marker on Sessions' grave. The public is invited to the ceremony at the cemetery on Chapin Road.


Main Street Farmers Market on Wednesdays

WILBRAHAM – Come support local farms, specialty food producers, artisans, food trucks and community groups every Wednesday from 2-6 p.m. between June 14-Aug. 30. Market is located on the front lawn of Wilbraham United Church, 500 Main Street, Wilbraham. We are grateful to our sponsors for their support of the market: InfinityEd, Iron Horse Flower Farm, Premier Exteriors & Design, Jeni Mei- Coldwell Banker Realty and Katie Beliveau- Geneva Financial Home Loans.


History Book Club to discuss the Homestead Strike

WILBRAHAM – The Wilbraham Public Library's American History Book Club will be meeting on Monday, June 26 in the Brooks Room from 6-8 p.m.

The book to be discussed is Les Standiford's "Meet You in Hell: Andrew Carnegie, Henry Clay Frick, and the Bitter Partnership That Transformed America". Readers can pick up a copy of the book for July, "Shoot for the Moon: The Space Race and the Extraordinary Voyage of Apollo 11", by Jim Donovan, which will be available at the circulation desk.



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Wilbraham looks to fill Planning Board vacancy

Position is for Associate Planning Board member

By Dalton Zbierski
Editor
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WILBRAHAM – The Wilbraham Planning Board is currently seeking an Associate Planning Board member to join the board as an alternate voting member on special permit applications.

“The board’s looking for a resident that has an interest in the development of the town and has some time to devote to the board. They meet roughly every three weeks. It’s somewhat flexible. It’s on Wednesday nights. It’s a fairly busy board. They’re hoping to have some interest,” said Michelle Buck, director of Planning and Community Development.

The Associate Member attends all meetings and is present in discussions. They are available as an alternate voting member in the case of absence, inability to act, conflict of interest on the part of a regular board member or in the event of a vacancy on the board.

The Planning Board is responsible for overseeing land use planning and development in town and works in close cooperation with both Buck and the Building Commissioner/Zoning Enforcement Officer.

The board studies the needs and resources of Wilbraham, particularly conditions affecting public welfare and safety related to land use development. To do so, the board conducts public hearings and makes recommendations on Zoning By-Law amendments.

“The Planning Board is involved in reviewing land use permits basically, both commercial and residential development. Some recent things that the board reviewed and approved were Starbucks, the True Storage facility on Boston Road, the new Golden Nozzle Car Wash, and Lia Toyota made a bunch of changes,” Buck said.

Buck said the board also reviews residential projects like Cedar Ridge of Wilbraham, a large condominium development, and “of course, ground-mounted solar which can be controversial, but they review those as well.”

The board also reviews zoning amendments and long-range planning.

Buck said the word “associate” essentially means “alternate” that can only vote on a special permit that requires a four-fifths vote when another member is absent.

“The majority of applications the board gets are these special permits so they do get an opportunity to vote from time to time, and the board welcomes the associate member to participate fully in every discussion and

will listen to their input, even in cases where they can’t vote,” she said.

Buck said the town is looking for someone who might eventually step into a role as a more permanent member of the board, for which they would have to run for election.

“So the regular five members of the Planning Board are elected. This position is appointed, but the hope is that the person who serves as the associate member might run for election and serve on the board as a full member eventually,” she said.

Buck said the position is open to anyone who is interested, although having a background in real estate, construction or anything related to land use is a bonus.

“But it’s really open to anybody who cares about future development in town,” she said.

According to the town, interested residents who would like to be considered for appointment are invited to submit a Volunteer Form (available at <https://wilbraham-ma.gov/612/Volunteer>) along with a resume and letter of interest to Heather Kmelius at hknelius@wilbraham-ma.gov with priority given to applications received by June 22.

Candidates must be registered voters and be willing to attend regular meetings of the Planning Board on Wednesday evenings. For more information, please contact the Planning Office at 413-596-2800 x203 or mbuck@wilbraham-ma.gov

SCHOOL from page 1

Thomas-Browne shared the organization can support districts with multiple plans.

“Sometimes a district may need support in that area because it can become confusing, and so then we bring in an outside pair of eyes to actually look at the different plans that you have. They can kind of help you triangulate this, as Krista said, into a crosswalk to arrive at a place that really addresses and aligns all of your plans,” Thomas-Browne said.

Karen Romano, a parent, expressed the district and community need to work together, asking MASS Insight for their recommendations.

“I don’t see how we fix it on the school level if we don’t fix it at the community level and vice-versa,” Romano said. “I think unless we can

make overall changes, I think we’re going to struggle with really seeing the outcomes that we’re looking for.”

Reed said Romano’s point came through in the stakeholder engagement part of the audit.

“Involving community stakeholders, strategically, is going to be an important part of pretty much every recommendation I’ve been giving you,” Reed said.

Vice Chair Maura Ryan thanked Romano for her question, explaining, “We’re starting to see a change in folks, in the community.”

“I think everybody wants the best interest for the students and the kids in the district, and I think that, collectively, is the first step to us being one united front,” Ryan said.

Kennedy addressed concerns about the audit, explaining, “We’ve had the conversation. Now we can address some of these issues and have more conversations.”

“It is okay to feel uncomfortable. It is important to have difficult conversations. It’s important to identify the hidden and unconscious biases that we all have towards different groups different from us,” Kennedy said.

“We need the teachers, the students, the administration and the families. We all have to work on this together, and to Karen’s point there, we all have to want this for true change to happen.”



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DEA warns most fake pills contain lethal fentanyl

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration is alerting the public of a sharp nationwide increase in the lethality of fentanyl-laced fake prescription pills.

According to a news release, the DEA lab found that, of the fentanyl-laced fake prescription pills analyzed in 2022, six out of 10 now contain a potentially lethal dose of fentanyl. This is an increase from DEA's previous announcement in 2021 that four out of ten fentanyl-laced fake prescription pills were found to contain a potentially lethal dose.

"More than half of the fentanyl-laced fake prescription pills being trafficked in communities across the country now contain a potentially deadly dose of fentanyl," DEA administrator Anne Milgram said in the release.

"This marks a dramatic increase – from four out of ten to six out of 10 – in the number of pills that can kill. These pills are being mass-produced by the Sinaloa Cartel and the Jalisco Cartel in Mexico. Never take a pill that wasn't prescribed directly to you. Never take a pill from a friend. Never take a pill bought on social media. Just one pill is dangerous and one pill can kill."

Last year, the DEA issued a Public Safety Alert on the widespread drug trafficking of fentanyl-laced fake prescription pills in American communities. These pills are largely made by two Mexican drug cartels, the Sinaloa Cartel

and the Jalisco Cartel, to look identical to real prescription medications, including OxyContin, Percocet, and Xanax, and they are often deadly. In 2021, the DEA seized more than 20.4 million fake prescription pills. Earlier this year, the DEA conducted a nationwide operational surge to target the trafficking of fentanyl-laced fake prescription pills and, in just over three months, seized 10.2 million fake pills in all 50 states. Through its One Pill Can Kill campaign, the DEA is working to alert the American public of the dangers of fake prescription pills.

Fentanyl remains the deadliest drug threat facing this country, according to the DEA. It is a highly addictive synthetic opioid that is 50 times more potent than heroin and 100 times more potent than morphine. Just two milligrams of fentanyl, the small amount that fits on the tip of a pencil, is considered a potentially deadly dose. According to the CDC, 107,622 Americans died of drug poisoning in 2021, with 66 percent of those deaths involving synthetic opioids like fentanyl.

The Sinaloa Cartel and Jalisco Cartel in Mexico, using chemicals largely sourced from China, are primarily responsible for the vast majority of the fentanyl that is being trafficked in communities across the United States, the DEA says.

For more information, go to the Fentanyl Awareness page at dea.gov.

Hampden Summer Reading Kickoff – June 24 at noon

With the Bright Spot Therapy Dogs and Ice Cream Emergency Truck

HAMPDEN – The Hampden Public Library presents its Summer Reading Kickoff on June 24 at noon.

Pre-K – Grade 5: Sign up at the table on the front lawn or any time during the regular library hours at the front desk before July 8. You will be handed a flyer with details.

Grade 5-12: Sign up with Maxine in the Shelia R. Flynn Teen Center or any

time during regular library hours at the front desk before July 27. Your reading bag will have instructions.

Adults: Sign up at the front desk. After reading a book, fill out a review slip and hand it in. We will cut off your contact info and hand it to you. Choose which \$50 local business gift card raffle you'd like to have a chance to win. Come celebrate your success at our **Adult Summer Reading Social on Saturday, Aug. 5 at noon.**

Healing Touch Spiritual Practices at Federated Community Church

By Dalton Zbierski
Editor
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HAMPDEN – Residents are invited to the Federated Community Church on Main Street next Wednesday evening to experience intentional prayer through Healing Touch Spiritual Practices.

Approximately seven or eight members of the church community took a course last year to be able to offer the procedure. The church has offered the healing touch practices since January, every Wednesday at 7 p.m., but will be pausing until the fall following the June 28 session.

Beth Algie was trained to practice the technique and offers the spiritual healing each week at the church. She explained how the process works.

"We don't heal (any physical ailments), we're not doctors, we're just trying to bring comfort and peace from God," she said. "Then, we raise our hands over in certain positions as we go along. It's systematic, the procedure that we do, and we're doing the seven chakras to release negative energy and bring comfort and peace."

Chakras are energy centers of the body that are located in the astral body, along the spine, beginning at its base before running up towards the crown of the head. Each physical body has a corresponding astral body part, although the astral body cannot be seen or touched.

The seven main chakras in the body are the Muladhara Chakra, Svadhishtana Chakra, the Manipura Chakra, the Anahata Chakra, the Vishuddha Chakra, the Ajna Chakra and the Sahastrara Chakra.

Algie noted that the individual leading the spiritual healing does so through prayer.

"We ask the person lying on the table if they have any concerns and if we can touch them or put our hands on them and then we say a prayer and we put our hands on their ankles, their knee, their hip, their wrist, their elbow, their shoulder. We're saying prayers and are attempting to be a vessel from God," she said.

Algie promised that the procedure does not invade one's space. The healing touch is gentle; she explained the purpose of the touch, noting that it benefits body parts like the ankle, hip, knee, elbow and wrist.

"It really makes a difference with us putting our hands on those joints and those spaces in that order," she said, noting it is best to complete the experience with your eyes closed.

Algie said those experiencing the healing can feel a variety of different things. Some see colors and others see visions. Everyone seems to have a different reaction and some have even been moved to tears.

"Some people just find it very relaxing," Algie said. "Everybody has been having a great experience from it. We're just a vessel from God bringing his feeling and his peace and comfort."

Many of the same people return to the sessions each Wednesday, but Algie and others welcome new people to the church for the final session of the spring next Wednesday.

For Algie, the experience is highly rewarding but it isn't about her or the other individuals leading the sessions.

"The whole thing is spiritual; that I could be a vessel that (God) goes right through me to the person laying on the table. It's nothing to do with me," she said. "It's really a very soothing, healing process bringing peace and comfort to them."

Register for the 35th Annual Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk

BOSTON - Registration is now open for the 2023 Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk presented by Hyundai. Scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 1, funds raised from the Walk support all forms of adult and pediatric patient care and cancer research at one of the nation's premier cancer centers, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

The Jimmy Fund Walk is the only organized walk permitted on the famed Boston Marathon course, and participants have the flexibility to choose from four distance options:

5K walk, 10K walk, Half Marathon walk, or Marathon Walk. All registered walkers will receive a bib, medal, and a Jimmy Fund Walk T-shirt.

Register as an individual walker, team member, or start a team.

To register for the Walk or to support a walker, visit www.JimmyFundWalk.org or call (866) 531-9255. Registrants can enter the promo code NEWS for \$5 off the registration fee.

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

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

Please see **JIMMY FUND**, page 5

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National Dog Bite Awareness Week began June 4

WASHINGTON — More than 5,300 Postal Service employees were attacked by dogs while delivering the mail last year. Aggressive dog behavior is a common safety concern USPS employees face. To keep its workers safe, the organization is providing important information on how dog owners can be good stewards for safe mail delivery as part of its annual National Dog Bite Awareness Week public service campaign.

The campaign ran Sunday, June 4, through Saturday, June 10. This year's theme is "Even good dogs have bad days." Spread the news of the campaign with the hashtag #dogbiteawareness.

"When letter carriers deliver mail in our communities, dogs that are not secured or leashed can become a nemesis and unpredictable and attack," said Leann Theriault, USPS employee safety and health awareness manager. "Help us deliver your mail safely by keeping your dog secure and out of the way before your carrier arrives."

Pet Owners Can Help Support Safe Mail Delivery

Mail carriers know all dogs can bite, even those perceived as nonaggressive. Dogs are generally protective of their turf and dog owners have an important responsibility to control them to ensure safe mail delivery.

Most people know the approximate time their letter carrier arrives every day. Securing your dog before the carrier approaches your property will minimize any potentially dangerous interactions.

When a letter carrier comes to your home, keep dogs:

- Inside the house or behind a fence;
- Away from the door or in another room; or
- On a leash.

Pet owners also should remind children not to take mail directly from a letter carrier as the dog may view the carrier as a threat to the child.

Inform Yourself, See the Mail Before It Arrives

By using Informed Delivery, a free USPS service, customers can digitally preview incoming mail and packages from a computer, tablet or mobile device. More than 52 million customers have enrolled since it was launched in 2017. Sign up is at informedelivery.usps.com. This service can help dog owners anticipate when their carrier will arrive.

"When our mail carriers are bitten, it is usually a 'good dog' that had not previously behaved in a menacing way," said USPS Occupational Safety and Health Senior Director Linda DeCarlo. "In 2022, too many aggressive dogs impacted the lives of our employees while delivering the mail. Please help us reduce that number by being a responsible pet owner who secures their dog as we deliver the mail."

The Victims

Many attacks reported by letter carriers came from dogs whose owners regularly stated, "My dog won't bite." Dog bites are entirely preventable. One bite is one too many.

Being Attentive While Delivering

Letter carriers are trained to observe an area where they know dogs may be



Photo courtesy of USPS

Gaithersburg, MD, letter carrier Hugues Pointe Jour takes a protective stance against an approaching dog.

present. They are taught to be alert for potentially dangerous conditions and to respect a dog's territory.

- Letter carriers are trained to:
 - Not startle a dog;
 - Keep their eyes on any dog;
 - Never assume a dog will not bite;
 - Make some noise or rattle a fence to alert a dog if entering a yard;
 - Never attempt to pet or feed a dog; and
 - place their foot against an outward swinging door to prevent a dog from es-

caping.

If a dog attacks, carriers are also trained to stand their ground and protect their body by placing something between them and the dog — such as a mail satchel — and to use dog repellent, if necessary.

Even though postal officials ask customers to control their dogs, bites still happen and may result in injuries to carriers and costly medical expenses for dog owners. Please heed the above best practices to help stop dog bites and protect your mail carrier.

"Recently, I was delivering to a customer's mailbox and was nearly bitten by their large aggressive dog," said Swain Lowe, a letter carrier in Manassas, Virginia. "Despite the dog being behind a fence, it still managed to jump over and charge me. Thankfully, I was aware of it and remembered not to run but to turn and use my satchel as a shield to prevent what could have been a terrible bite."

Carriers have tools to alert them to dogs on their routes. A dog alert feature on carriers' handheld scanners can remind them of a possible dog hazard, and dog warning cards may be used during mail sorting to alert carriers to routes where a dog may interfere with delivery.

Lastly, when a carrier feels unsafe, mail service could be halted — not only for the dog owner, but for the entire neighborhood. When mail service is stopped, mail must be picked up at the Post Office. Service will not be restored until the aggressive dog is properly restrained.

Vacation Bible Camp Registration

WILBRAHAM — Wilbraham United Church invites you to register for our summer vacation Bible camp program "Stellar".

We welcome campers ages 4 (as of July 31) through sixth-grade.

Program runs July 31- Aug. 4 from 9 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$50 per child. Registration is online at <https://wilbrahamunit-edchurch.org/vacation-bible-camp/>. Volunteer opportunities available!



JIMMY FUND from page 4

Copley Square, the Jimmy Fund Walk Finish Line location has been moved to the Fenway neighborhood for 2023. The finish line will include a celebration complete with food, music, and a speaking program.

If walkers wish to participate a bit closer to home, the Jimmy Fund Walk has flexible opportunities. Participants can also join the event virtually by walking their way from wherever they are most comfortable-in their neighborhood, on a favorite hiking trail, or on a treadmill at home. Virtual programming and supporting materials will be available.

The 2023 Walk will be held during the Jimmy Fund's 75th anniversary year and will aim to raise \$9 million in the effort to prevent, treat, and defy cancer. The Jimmy Fund Walk has raised more than \$167 million for Dana-Farber Cancer in its 34-year history, raising a record-breaking more than \$8.8 million in 2022.

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

HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER 32 Carriage Lane, South Hadley, MA

2,200 sq. ft. Colonial home located at the end of a cul-de-sac in a quiet well-desired neighborhood. Home has 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, central air, central vac, security system, finished walkout basement, large shed, 2 car garage, 27 ft. aboveground pool and very large deck. Home is listed at \$549,000. Photos can be seen on Zillow.com.



If you have any questions, contact Elaine Roberts 413-561-5608. Serious inquiries only.

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VIEWPOINTS



In our family we get the privilege of requesting a special dessert to celebrate birthdays or other special occasions.

My husband asked for a strawberry pie for Father's Day. My oldest daughter made the crust while my youngest and I picked the strawberries.

After making a sauce with half the berries we mixed it with the other half of chopped fruit and poured it into the crust. Now to wait two hours while it chills.

We'll whip up some cream and, voila! The taste of summer in my opinion!

I love having a small patch of strawberries in my garden. I think I am in year four or five with this particular planting.

I've thinned and replanted but I am starting to worry that having them in close to the same spot for this length of time has lured a strawberry-specific bug to the garden. Let's learn about this bug and maybe figure out a game plan as to how to combat it.

Many of my riper strawberries have damage consisting of circular holes, some of which go deep into the fruit. Occasionally there will be a beetle inside the strawberry, caught in the

It's all about the pie

act. Upon closer examination, I've determined them to be the strawberry sap beetle.

It's tiny, measuring less than one eighth of an inch long, brown, and oval shaped. They are drawn to ripe fruit and because of this, we can come up with creative ways as to how to catch them.

Pesticides are shown not to work - nor would we want to use them on fruit we are ready to eat!

Folks have had good luck with traps of stale beer, vinegar, fermenting juice, or a mixture of water, molasses and yeast.

Add a few inches of the liquid of your choice into a bucket or other deep container placed outside, but near the strawberry patch. Typically the insect will get lured in and drown.

This type of trap, albeit shallower, will also catch slugs.

Slug holes on strawberries are irregularly shaped, not circular, and most often they extend into the fruit as if the critter is eating its way through it.

A basin or saucer, even a pie plate buried to soil surface level will catch slugs when they come out of hiding to feed. Empty these types of traps every few days, replacing the liquid.

I'm a bit nostalgic today. Thinking of my own dad, of course!

If he were still alive his pie of choice would have been apple, not a la mode, but topped with a piece of cheese!

One thing I am experiencing in my mini

orchard right now is "June drop." While my apple orchard is still too young to bear many apples, there are tiny apples at the base of my best bearing tree.

Some say that June drop is due to pollination problems; others surmise that it is caused by a competition for carbohydrates. Roots and shoots are competing with the newly formed apples and sometimes there isn't enough to go around.

I had always thought that insects were to blame. Regardless, June drop isn't necessarily a bad thing.

We are taught to thin clusters of fruit so that individual fruits get to a respectable size. This is Mother Nature taking care of that for us.

Therefore, if you do plan on thinning, it is best to wait and see what happens between now and the first week of July before you thin down to one or two fruits per cluster.

Well, the strawberry pie was a big hit. I'm already thinking about the leftovers for tomorrow's dessert and what pie I'll have for my next big day.

Blueberry, anyone?

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



Dear Rusty: Hypothetically, if I plan to sign up for Social Security at 70 and pass away before that, I will get nothing. My spouse would still get a boost in the amount she receives because I made more, but everything I put into the program vanishes. I haven't reached my full retirement age yet and I still have income, but if I sign up now at 63 my benefits will be withheld due to my income. Then at full retirement age (presuming I elected to claim earlier) a re-calculation will take place and my monthly amount would be adjusted. Well, what happens if I decide to wait until 70 but pass away before I claim? Are my contributions repaid in a lump sum or will I or someone else still lose everything?

Signed: Uncertain About My Future

Dear Uncertain: You are correct that if you pass away before collecting your earned Social Security benefits you won't personally get anything. Social Security has, since inception, been a "pay as you go" program where those currently working and contributing to Social Security pay benefits for those currently receiving Social Security. That means that if you die before collecting, the monies you contributed will have already been used to pay other recipients, but the contributions you made may still entitle your dependents to benefits on your record. For those who are in their early 60s, average longevity is mid-80s, meaning your spouse would likely collect benefits on your record for more than two decades, any minor children could collect until they are adults and any permanently disabled child you may have would get benefits from your record for the rest of their life as well.

The Social Security payroll taxes you contributed were not put into a private account in your name. And, on average, it is to the beneficiary's advantage the program doesn't work that way because that personal account would be depleted fairly quickly after you claim rather than getting benefits for the rest of your life, you'd only get benefits plus interest from your personal account, which would run dry pretty fast. For Your Information, we have researched this very carefully and found that, on average, all payroll taxes contributed to Social Security by an individual will be recovered within about five years of starting benefits. The actual length of time to recoup one's contributions varies somewhat depending on lifetime earnings and contributions

What if I delay but die before claiming Social Security?

made, but lower earning beneficiaries will recover everything contributed through payroll taxes within about three years, while it could take as much as five years for higher earners to get back everything they've paid into the program. And for clarity, since self-employed individuals pay both the employee and employer portion of the payroll tax, it does take longer for those, who own their own business to recoup what they've contributed. Nevertheless, on average, most who claim benefits will get considerably more from the program than they paid in Social Security payroll taxes.

As to your specific question, if you die before collecting, the contributions you made weren't deposited in a personal account for you and won't be paid out in a lump sum. Rather, the payroll taxes you paid while working were used to pay benefits to beneficiaries receiving at the time and those working and contributing after you die will fund the benefits paid to your spouse or disabled adult child until they die or to your minor children until they are adults. The Social Security benefits you earned aren't just for you your eligible dependents will also benefit from your record.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or fi-

ancial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.

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Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.



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Correction Policy

The TIMES will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper and can be substantiated. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on the editorial pages. To request a correction, send information in an e-mail or mailed communication to the editor at the above address listed above.

The Wilbraham-Hampden TIMES is published every Thursday by Turley Publications, Inc. One year out of town subscriptions are available at \$45, out of state \$50 by calling 800-824-6458 Ext. 201. The deadline for submission of news material, letters to the editor and photos is Monday at 12 p.m. The TIMES is not responsible for submitted photos.

Events & announcements schedule

Soil testing to occur at the Wilbraham Farmer's Market June 28

WILBRAHAM – On June 28, pH soil testing is being conducted by the Western MA Master Gardeners from 2-4 p.m. at the Wilbraham Main Street Farmer's Market, 500 Main St., Wilbraham. (in front of the United Church).

Provide one cup of dry soil collected from four corners of your garden in a plastic bag that is labeled with the garden location, your name and phone number or email. This is a pH test to determine alkalinity with recommendations for amendments. A \$2 donation is requested for each test.

Genealogy series at the Wilbraham library

WILBRAHAM – Have you already searched Ancestry and want to know what else the Wilbraham library has to offer in your family history research? Join Assistant Library Director Mary Bell in discovering the genealogy resources available, both in-library only and at home.

Each session will cover a different product, and participants can come to one or all three. Here are the dates:

Fold 3 (military), Newspapers.com, and HeritageQuest - Friday, June 30 at 3 p.m.

FamilySearch.org - Friday, July 7 at 3 p.m.

American Ancestors - Friday, July 14 at 3 p.m.

The sessions are designed to give a broad overview of searching records in each database, and be interactive with searches that Bell will perform based on the audience's questions as well as her own research.

"Ancestry Library Edition has by far been our most popular genealogy research database," said Bell. "I designed this series to dig into more of what we offer, whether it be a War of 1812 pension through Fold 3 or Mayflower descendant research in American Ancestors. Each product has its own unique features and records."

All of the products covered are available in-library during regular library hours; HeritageQuest and FamilySearch are accessible remotely.

This program is free and open to the public. Sign-ups are going on now.

For more information or to register, contact the Wilbraham Library at 413-596-6141 or visit the Event Calendar online at www.wilbrahamlibrary.org.

Amended instructions for Adult Summer Reading Challenge

The Adult Summer Reading Challenge for 2023 started on Saturday, June 17 and will run until Saturday, Aug. 12. Participants can register by downloading the free Beanstack app onto their device. Readers can also register by going to <https://www.beanstack.com/find-a-site>. Type "Wilbraham" and then click on the image for Wilbraham Public Library. Create an account and then follow the prompts to the Adult Summer Reading Challenge.

Patrons have the option of participating in the challenge by filling out review forms each week at the library. A raffle ticket will be given for each review.

Contact tsymington@wilbrahamlibrary.org for information.

Contact tsymington@wilbrahamlibrary.org for answers to any questions.

Rotary Club is holding a Calendar Raffle

WILBRAHAM – The Wilbraham-Hampden Rotary Club is holding another Calendar Raffle throughout the months of May and June to raise money for local community projects. Calendars will be on sale now through the end of June for \$10 each and are available from any club member.

The raffle is different from the one held last fall in that only cash prizes will be awarded. Prizes will be awarded every day of the month of June. "There will be a winner every day. That gives every entry many chances to win," announced club president Tracey Perry of Country Bank. To purchase a calendar contact Perry at 413-627-2571 or email Happytral6@gmail.com. All proceeds will be given back to the community through various service projects and scholarships.

Hampden Senior Center Trips

HAMPDEN – A tribute to Garth Brooks at the Log Cabin will entertain us on Wed, July 12 with your choice of Lobster or Prime Rib for lunch all for only \$85/pp. Payment deadline June 23. No bus, Self-Drive.

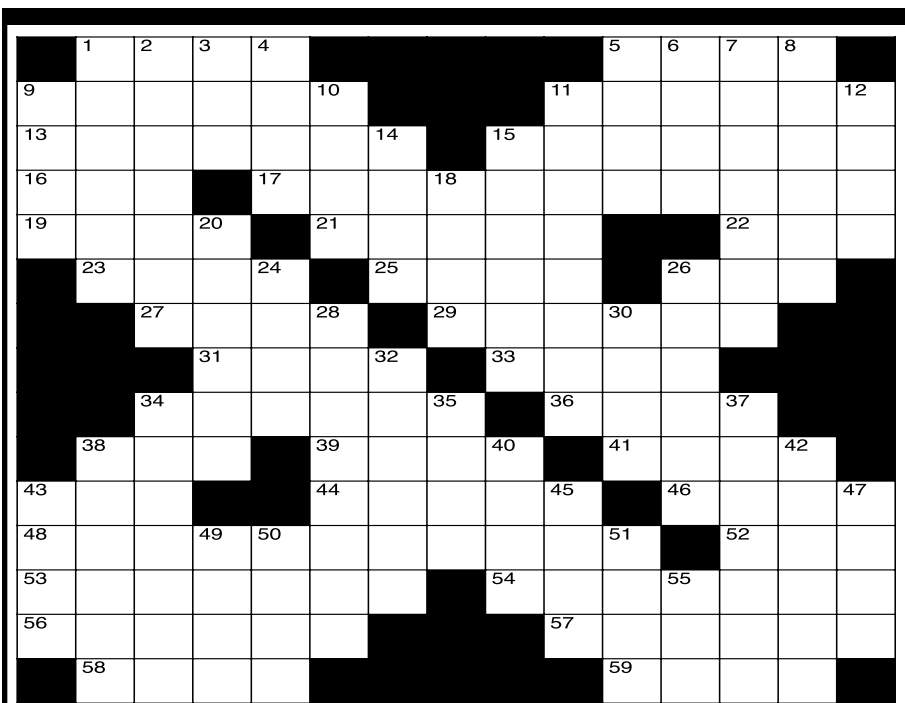
A great trip to The Aqua Turf Club on Tuesday, Aug 15th for "Come Fly with Me", a musical journey through the decades; coffee/donuts, free drink, lunch, show & door prize, all for only \$119/pp. Payment deadline Aug 1.

On Tuesday, Sept. 12, start the day with a great lunch a Maggiano's Little Italy in Boston; the Fun begins when you board your Boston Duck Boat for a fascinating tour, including background info on the Ducks, Free Time in Quincy Market, all for only \$140/pp. Payment deadline Aug. 29.

Any questions/for more info call Bobbi at 413-566-8271.

Newport Playhouse on Thursday, Sept. 28 is offering a Hilarious play "Ghost of a Chance", along with an All-u-Can-Eat Buffet and a second Cabaret Show, all for only \$142/pp. Payment deadline Sept. 14.

Above prices based on a minimum of 35 passengers; any questions/for more info call Bobbi at 413-566-8271



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Understand intuitively
- 5. Two of something
- 9. Not involving computer tech
- 11. Acclaimed
- 13. Undermine
- 15. The condition of being concealed or hidden
- 16. Irritate
- 17. The process of developing a theory
- 19. Ceramic jar
- 21. Not fresh
- 22. Dad's fashion accessory
- 23. Popular review site
- 25. New Mexico county
- 26. '___ death do us part
- 27. Fees
- 29. Takes with force

- 31. One-time Yankees rookie sensation
- 33. Gordon and Snider are two
- 34. Body parts
- 36. Arranges
- 38. Fiddler crabs
- 39. Mimics
- 41. Witnesses
- 43. They ___
- 44. Lasso
- 46. Runs down
- 48. In response to
- 52. Bird-like dinosaur
- 53. Metamorphic stages
- 54. Conditions of incapacity
- 56. Sodas are sold in these units
- 57. Break away from
- 58. Ethereal
- 59. Boggy

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Mangled
- 2. Ruffled some feathers
- 3. Not young
- 4. Lakers legend
- 5. Nocturnal S. American rodent
- 6. Direction (Scottish)
- 7. Intestinal inflammation
- 8. Spring back in fear
- 9. Owl genus
- 10. Girls
- 11. Unbeliefs
- 12. Force unit
- 14. Expired trade agreement
- 15. Went alone
- 18. Animal noises
- 20. Woman who graduated from a specific school
- 24. The very top

- 26. Organs in males
- 28. Earnings
- 30. Z Z Z
- 32. Reddish browns
- 34. A salt or ester of acetic acid
- 35. A place to get off your feet
- 37. More disreputable
- 38. Kidney condition
- 40. Cease moving
- 42. Quick
- 43. Extra seed covering
- 45. "Survivor: Panama" winner
- 47. Six
- 49. One who inspects lamps
- 50. Small parrot
- 51. Primordial matter of the universe
- 55. ___ fi (slang)

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Bridal GUIDE

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May was National Nurses Month

SPRINGFIELD – Baystate Health reports that for an impressive 21st year in a row, nursing has been rated the most trusted profession in the annual Gallup Honesty and Ethics poll released in January 2023.

“The honor comes as nurses throughout the country, including here at Baystate Health, continue to deal with the effects of a nationwide nursing shortage and the emotional impact that the COVID pandemic has had on nurses. I am proud to say that since the beginning of the pandemic, every nurse at Baystate Health has fulfilled our promise of advancing care and enhancing lives,” said Joanne Miller, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, Chief Nursing Executive, Baystate Health, and Chief Nursing Officer, Baystate Medical Center.

“In 2022, our nurses continued to do what they do best by providing outstanding clinical, compassionate, and holistic care. With the ongoing shock our healthcare system faced in 2022 with new variants of the COVID-19 virus, we strove to not only heal our patients but heal the emotional impact on our nurses,” she added.

As part of National Nurses Month, nurses were honored not only for their trustworthiness, but for their compassionate and skilled clinical care as the

backbone of the American healthcare system. In fact, 99% of people who responded to the Gallup survey ranked nurses’ honesty and ethics as high or very high, 17 percentage points higher than any other profession. Medical doctors and pharmacists ranked second and third, further proof of the trust Americans place in healthcare professionals.

National Nurses Month at Baystate had as its theme “Lighting the Way with Resilience” because when clinical excellence meets compassionate care, our amazing nurses are illuminating and leading the journey for self-care and holistic nursing practice, Miller noted.

Baystate Health celebrated its nurses with a variety of events at locations around the health system during National Nurses Month.

Today’s nearly 4.4 million registered nurses in the United States constitute our nation’s largest healthcare profession, one of the highest paying large occupations in the country. Nursing offers a tremendous range of opportunity to those considering a career in the highly-respected profession, including practicing as clinicians, administrators, researchers, educators and policymakers.

There is more than one educational pathway leading to eligibility to take

the standardized National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX)-RN. At the undergraduate level, the associate degree in nursing is a two-year degree offered by community colleges and hospital-based schools of nursing, while the bachelor of science in nursing is a four-year degree offered at colleges and universities. There are also various graduate degrees to advance the expertise of registered nurses, including the master’s degree, doctor of philosophy and doctor of nursing practice.

In 2022, Baystate Health welcomed over 900 nursing students into clinical placements from nursing programs at American International College, Elms College, Bay Path University, UMass Amherst, Westfield State University, Holyoke Community College, Springfield Technical Community College and Greenfield Community College.

Baystate Health is committed to the success of all its nurses, including those newly graduated registered nurses (less than 12 months of clinical nursing experience) from an accredited school of nursing, who apply to its 10-month paid Nurse Residency Program. During that time, they work directly with a unit preceptor and nurse educator for clinical instruction combined with classroom-style seminars and skills/simulation sessions. The collaborative learning approach is designed to provide the knowledge base and skill set needed to

successfully transition into the role of a professional nurse.

“Baystate Health is proud of the elbow-to-elbow support that we provide to our novice nurses,” Miller said.

Baystate Medical Center’s high quality nursing care has earned it prestigious status for an unprecedented fourth consecutive time in 2020, achieving Magnet® recognition from the American Nurses Credentialing Center, a distinction that places the hospital’s nursing staff among the finest in the nation.

“Nurses Month is a time to reflect on the great dedication of our nurses, not just why they became a nurse, but why they remain so incredibly dedicated to what they do – providing outstanding clinical, compassionate, and holistic care to our patients. Thank you for rekindling the art and science of nursing. I am truly humbled to work alongside you and for you,” Miller said.

“We are growing the next generation of nurses at Baystate, which is a great place to begin and expand your nursing career. Our leaders are committed to ensuring that our nurses feel valued and appreciated all year long, but especially during Nurses Month,” she added.

For more information on the Nurse Residency Program, visit <https://bit.ly/3wi0DtX>

where you will also find a link to Baystate Health’s nursing job listings.



Joanne Miller

Motor Maids are coming to Springfield in 2023

SPRINGFIELD – Motor Maids Inc. is pleased to announce that it will host its annual convention in Springfield July 11-13 for the very first time! They have been an organization for 82 years.

The Motor Maids were formed in 1940 when founders Linda Dugeau and Dot Robinson composed a list of 51 female motorcyclists who would become the charter members of an all-female club. In 1941, the American Motorcycle Association issued the Motor Maids a charter. Membership has grown to a diverse group of 1,300 members across Canada and the US. The common threads that bind them are a passion for

riding, promoting safe riding habits and presenting the world with a positive image of women on motorcycles.

Highlights of the convention include a Red Ribbon event, at which the club recognizes first-time conventioners, the signature Dot Robinson Road Run, (a timed road race with secret checkpoints), a parade in full uniform, and a closing banquet on Thursday evening.

The Motor Maids will start arriving on July 8. A requirement for prospective members is that they or an immediate family member own a motorcycle and that they actively ride. Motor Maid club members will come from all over

the US and Canada, as far north as Ottawa, as far south as Ft Lauderdale and as far west as Sacramento. Each lady must ride her motorcycle from her home to the convention and back home. They range in age from 18 to 92. Mothers will bring daughters and daughters in law who are also members and the club’s history holds more than one precedent for three generations of a family holding membership.

The parade will be on July 11, starting at 1:30 p.m. and concluding at 3 p.m. It will start at Springfield Technical Community College Student Lot #1 at the corner of Pearl St and Federal St.,

Downtown Springfield. We will be traveling left on Federal St out of the parking lot, going through the city and into Chicopee briefly, then back into Springfield. We will travel through Forest Park and come out on Longhill. From there, we turn left on Main, Right on E. Columbus, Right on State and Left on Federal, back to STCC Student Lot #1, where we will conclude our parade. We would love to wave at you as we ride past.

For more information see our webpage at <https://www.motormaidsinc.org> or follow us on Facebook or Instagram.

Death Notices

Carol A. Supernant
of Wilbraham
died on Friday,
June 9, 2023
Wilbraham Funeral
Home is assisting the
family.

Clarice Ferri Baker,
formerly of Wilbraham
died on Saturday,
June 10, 2023
Wilbraham Funeral
Home is in charge of
the arrangements.

Wilbraham-Hampden Times 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 \$120, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice 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.

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History of Quarries presentation

The Historical Society of the Town of Hampden Inc. presents a "History of Local Area Quarries" with Mr. Bruce Moore on Tuesday, June 27 at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Moore will discuss the history of quarries in Hampden, East Longmeadow and Wilbraham. He will bring tools and other artifacts to share.

Pizza, chips and soda will be served. This event will take place at Academy Hall, Main St., Hampden MA. All are welcome to attend.

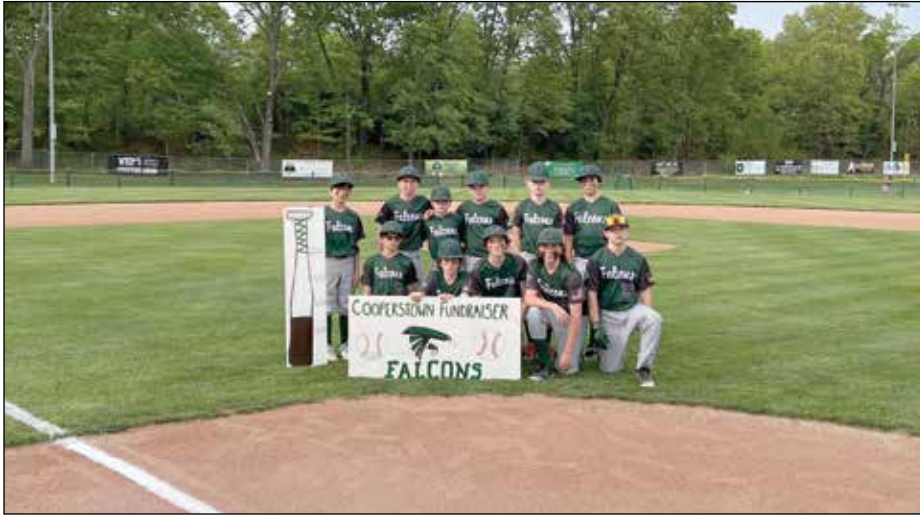
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(Submitted photo)

The Falcons 12UA Boys Baseball will play in Cooperstown next month.

YOUTH from page 1

Nolan is looking forward to playing alongside his friends on an extended trip out of state.

"I think it's going to be great. I think it will be a blast being with my friends. Our team is like family. I can't wait," Nolan said. "I think it will be a blast to do everything there; connect with players, trade pins, hit dingers."

Peter Siciliano is thrilled to be able to visit the Hall of Fame. He also looks forward to sleeping over with some of his best friends from school.

Peter said he "can't wait" and explained why.

"It's definitely something you only get to do once, especially when you're young and you can have fun," he said, before remarking on the pins. "They're really going to help me remember who we played and how much fun I had there."

For Coach Costello and others, it has taken a lot of work to prepare for the trip, work that began well before the current season started. He is proud of the fundraising effort.

"A lot of the family, all the parents are stepping up. We're getting a ton of support from the community as well. A lot of donations from local businesses and so on," Costello said. "A lot of leg work, but I think the memories are definitely going to be lifelong for these boys so no matter how much work it takes, it's absolutely worth it for these kids."

On June 4, the team held a fundraiser at Iron Duke Brewing in Ludlow that featured a cornhole tournament, live music, raffles and an auction.

As the weeks count down, Costello is excited because he knows the trip will be more than an athletic competition.

"To me, baseball is more than just a sport," he said. "It builds better people in life just because of having to deal with adversity. It's a game of failure. You're constantly having to overcome failure, but again, it's not just the trip. It's the camaraderie, it's being out there for a week, being in the mecca of baseball together for a week. It's going to be a blast, I can't wait. It's going to be awesome."

BOOK CLUB from page 1

Throughout the meeting, each member rated the novella between one and five stars, explaining the reasons for their ranking.

The reviews ranged from not finishing the book and disliking Capote's writing to loving the book, with acknowledgments that it was "a book of its time" due to the language and descriptions of the characters.

Additionally, the most touched-upon topics were the language, the main character Holly Golightly, the ending and the differences between the novella and the 1961 film adaptation.

Later, the book club discussed the author, with discussion questions for deeper conversation.

Jean Hall has been part of the Saturday Book Club for over 30 years and enjoys it, sharing her thoughts on this month's pick.

"I found it shocking at times, a little controversial because words that were used wouldn't be used today," Hall said. "But I think people by and large enjoyed the book."

Hall also enjoyed discussing the film adaptation as the film was vastly different and had a Hollywood ending.

"It had to have some sort of a love story. Whereas the original 'Breakfast at Tiffany's' was more a love story of friends, I think. It's a different way of looking at it," Hall said.

Cathy Rochford also enjoys being a member, adding she loved discussing Capote's other short stories, including "The Christmas Memory."

"There's a couple of other short stories at the end of this book that he wrote that I'm going to take back home and read just for the greater

breadth of his work," Rochford said.

Rochford loves the vast perspectives the book club provides.

"I like everyone's opinion. Everybody's choice of books is different and that's what's good about reading," Rochford said. "I would read books I would probably not pick up."

Hall agreed.

"We're all different ages, different generations, different ethnicities, different backgrounds. We all bring something new and different to the table," Hall said.

Hall and Rochford said the book club is open to all, encouraging new members to join.

"Anyone is welcome to join," Rochford said.

"They're guaranteed to be introduced to a lively discussion," Hall said.

Moriarty said the book club is open to everyone and there is no pressure to read a book, adding the group will resume in September.

In the meantime, she encourages residents to check out the Summer Reading Kickoff on June 24 at noon, open to all ages with the emergency ice cream truck, Bright Spot Therapy Dogs and program sign-ups planned.

"It's a wonderful program. Come on down, keep reading all summer, come to the library and just read a book," Moriarty said.

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A COMMUNITY GALLERY



The two Hampden T-Ball teams finished up their season last week. Hampden Team 1 coached by Jesse Os in the royal blue. Hampden Team 2 coached by Jacob Strange is in the navy blue. (Photos courtesy of Jon Cooper)



Patrick O'Connor and Lucy Mathieson finished 1,000 books before Kindergarten and were congratulated by the Hampden Public Library. (Photos courtesy of Kate Rumpalik)

Life in &

Readers are encouraged to send in medium to high resolution photos for this page by e-mail to dzbiarski@turley.com or mail to TIMES, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069. Please note that if you send us a photo of the Times in different parts of the world, please include a recognizable landmark in the background. Examples: Eiffel Tower; castle in Spain.

WILBRAHAM HAMPDEN

Happy 65th Anniversary

Harry & Liz Setian

Married June 22, 1958



On June 16, some of the kindergarten students from Green Meadows School of school. (Photo courtesy of Melanie Joy)

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Community Bulletin Board

*Happy Birthday
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Charley is seven-years-old on June 27. She was born on her father's birthday, and he says it's the best birthday present he ever had.

*Love,
Mom, Dad, Harper, Jaxson, Nana, Granny and Grampy*



**Send us in your announcements!
Happy Birthdays, Anniversaries, etc.**

We will pick one each week to run here free of charge, please keep it to less than 50 words. Please send to dzbierski@turley.com



Melissa Carreira (King) and her Niece Layla King both of Wilbraham come out of the mud crawl obstacle in Saturday's Mudgirl Run in Hartford, CT.
(Photo submitted by Peter Camyre)



met up at the spray park at Hampden Memorial Park to celebrate the end



Pictured here are Melissa Carreira (King) and her Niece Layla King both of Wilbraham after their completion of The MUDGIRL RUN in Hartford, CT on Saturday June 17.
(Photo submitted by Peter Camyre)

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SCHOOLS

Matthew W. DeVine graduates from The Berkshire School

SHEFFILED – Matthew W. DeVine of Wilbraham was recently awarded The Berkshire Cup, the highest distinction The Berkshire School confers on one of its graduating seniors. The award is given to the student who is considered by faculty to have made the greatest contribution to the success of the school year. Along with his honor roll status, Matt also reached a milestone on the basketball court this past winter after he scored his 1,000th point for his high school career. Matt will be attending Williams College, Williamstown in the fall.

Trebbe awarded degree during Salve Regina commencement

NEWPORT, RI – Nora Trebbe of Hampden was awarded a bachelor of science degree in Biology during Salve Regina University's 73rd commencement.

Salve Regina President Kelli Armstrong conferred 804 degrees in total during the ceremony, including 589 bachelor's degrees, 207 master's degrees and eight doctoral degrees.

Springfield College recognizes local Dean's List Students for the 2023 Spring Semester

SPRINGFIELD – Springfield College recognizes the following local students for being named to the Dean's List for academic excellence for the 2023 spring semester:

Hampden

Jacob Bailey. Bailey has a primary major of Psychology.

Tim Connors. Connors has a primary major of Criminal Justice.

Connor Joyce. Joyce has a primary major of Exer Sci / Applied ES.

Sophia Varelakis. Varelakis has a primary major of Business Management.

Wilbraham

Kelsey Allard. Allard has a primary major of Health Sci / Pre-PT.

Francesca Bongiorno. Bongiorno has a primary major of Health Care Management.

Catharine Brennan. Brennan has a primary major of Health Sci / Pre-PA.

Sarah Champagne. Champagne has a primary major of Sports Biology.

Audriana Croteau. Croteau has a primary major of Health Science.

Gianna DeRose. DeRose has a primary major of Psychology.

Emma Delamarter. Delamarter has a primary major of Health Sci / Pre-PT.

Scott Dunbar II. Dunbar II has a primary major of Accounting.

Frank Gulluni. Gulluni has a primary major of Sport Management.

Amanda Hitchcock. Hitchcock has a primary major of English.

Jennifer Holstrom. Holstrom has a primary major of Business Management.

Jacob Long. Long has a primary major of Sport Management.

Olivia Long. Long has a primary major of Sport Management.

Joe Manning. Manning has a primary major of Sport Management.

Joseph Maurer. Maurer has a primary major of Sport Management.

Ryan McConnell. McConnell has a primary major of Exer Sci / Applied ES.

Abigail Roebuck. Roebuck has a primary major of English.

Madison Roy. Roy has a primary major of Health Sci / Pre-PA.

Jessica Semanie. Semanie has a primary major of Psychology.

Maggie Skorka. Skorka has a primary major of Education.

Samantha VanZandt. VanZandt has a primary major of Business Management.

Scholarship recipient



Pediatric & Adolescent Medicine awards The George F. Vitek Scholarship to a deserving high school senior with excellent academic achievement, dedication to their community, and a plan to study in the field of science or medicine. This year we were able to award the scholarship to three deserving students. Congratulations, we wish you all the best!

Submitted photo
Dr. Malik presented the 2023 The George F. Vitek Scholarship to Alyssa Penna from Hampden.

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SENIORS

Wilbraham Senior Center announces programming

WILBRAHAM – The Wilbraham Senior Center, located in Post Office Park, has announced the following programs.

Baked Goods

On Wednesday and Friday morning, the senior center offers Big Y baked goods at a reduced cost.

Grief Support Counseling- FREE
Second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 11 a.m.

Drop ins welcome. Free
Owner and Founder, Liane Smola will be joining us monthly to discuss topics such as; the nature of grief, managing difficult emotions, self-care, remembering the person who has passed, coping with the stress of change, handling special occasions, reaching out for support, and finally share some ideas on how to support others in your life who also may be faced with grief. This course will also allow you a space to share the story of your lost loved one, and will offer soft guidance and support for your continued grief journey. All are welcome. Call 596-8379 to sign up.

Weekend Meals On Wheels

If you are a Wilbraham resident and you qualify for Meals on wheels during the week, you can also get meals on the weekends. Just call Jen at 596-8379.

REAL ID

June 26 at 10:30 a.m.
Do I need a Real ID? What are the benefits of having a Real credential ver-

sus a Standard license or MA ID? What documents are required for licensing? When am I in renewal status for my license? What RMV transactions can be done at AAA? Pricing, document review, vision screen requirements sign up at 596-8379.

TOUR: Christopher Heights of Belchertown

On June 30. Bus leaves at 10:30 a.m. Join us for a group tour of Christopher heights of Belchertown. If you are thinking about a senior living facility for yourself or a loved one, this is a great way to start exploring your options. Take the senior center van with Jen. On the tour you will experience their different style apartments, common areas, meet current residents, and have plenty of time for questions with the staff in their PUB. Please sign up at 596-8379.

YOGA TIME CHANGE

Yoga will now be held on THURSDAY at 11 a.m. Starting June 1. relocation, estate sale, or down-sizing project. Sign up at 596-8379.

QUILTING CLUB

Join us to make your own quilt. Bring all your own supplies. Wednesdays at 10:30. Stop in to check out this new program.
Tuesday, June 27 at 9:15 a.m.

Koala Trail Loop (Part of Facing Rock Area) Easy 4.2 miles. Park at the end of 111 Bridle Road, Ludlow

Monthly highlights for June at the Hampden Senior Center:

HAMPDEN – Reservations for special events and Grab & Go Dinners will be taken on the first business day of the month, on a first-come, first-serve basis. All other reservations will be accepted anytime.

HELP US STOCK OUR SHELVES with Toilet Paper!

Thank you to those that donated shampoo last month. Every month we will target a different item to fill our shelves.

D & R FARM:

Winter Farm Share, PICK-UP is Wednesday, June 28 at 9:30 a.m.
Summer Farm Share, Starts Wednesday, July 5 at 9:30 a.m.

FREE with SNAP/HIP if you qualify! If you do not qualify for SNAP/HIP you may purchase a share for \$40 cash per month. If interested, contact Wendy ASAP to get your application in! Shares are limited. Please call Wendy at 566-5588, or email outreach@hampdenma.gov to sign up.

Drumming & Movement with Tara
Six-week session on Wednesdays starting Wednesday, June 14 through July 19, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Cost is \$25 per person if paid in full and includes one free class. Or, \$5 per class as a drop-in, space pending. Call ahead to schedule a drop-in class. Space is limited.

Summer Kick-Off Luncheon, Thursday, June 22 at noon

Hot Dog with Bun, Baked Beans, Italian Pasta Salad, and Dessert!
Lunch is provided by Greater Springfield Senior Services: Suggested donation of \$2.00 per meal.

Music with audience participation performed by: Gary & Natalie Jones/Father & Daughter Duo!

Sponsored by the Polish National Credit Union and Bluebird Estates

Please call 566-5588 to sign up. Taking reservations beginning June 1st.

Introduction to Ukulele Workshop, Friday, June 23 at 1 p.m.

Instructor Chris Foe from The Community Music School of Springfield will begin to teach you the necessary skills to master this accessible and charming instrument. This workshop is relaxed, but highly engaging, and designed to start you on the path of making music. The cost is \$5 per person. Please call 566-5588 to reserve your spot now. Space is limited.

Grab and Go Dinner, Thursday, June 29, pick up is 2 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Sweet Sausage Grinders with Peppers and Onions, Pasta Salad, and Dessert. \$5 per person. Please call 566-5588 to order your dinner. Taking reservations beginning June 1st.

Liz from the Hampden County Sheriff's Department will be here Friday, June 30 at noon

Lunch and learn session to discuss the following programs and why they are important for you and first responders:

File of Life Program

Is Your Number Up? (Is your house # visible from the street?)

Lock Box Program

Lunch is provided by GSSSI. Shrimp Fried Rice, Oriental Blend Vegetables, Whole Wheat Roll, and Mandarin Oranges. Suggested donation of \$2.00 per meal. Please call 566-5588 to reserve your spot.

The Friends of Hampden Senior Citizens is looking to fill two openings on the Board of Directors. If you are interested in joining the group, or you have any questions, please call Claudia Kapinos at 566-8896.

The Friends is a non-profit organization established to assist in fundraising efforts to support programs and activities of the Hampden Senior Center.

Community Newspaper EDITOR WANTED

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

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

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

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

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

Qualifications should include:

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

Please send resume and writing examples to:

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JOB OPENING

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

If you're a self-starter who enjoys community journalism and who can envision themselves connecting with our communities, we encourage you to apply for this position. Not a remote position.

Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience
- A determination to get the story, whatever it might be
- Equally comfortable writing hard news, features and event coverage
- Ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
- Proficiency in Associated Press style

Please tell us in a cover letter why you would be a good fit for this position and send it along with a resume and three writing samples to

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OPPORTUNITY

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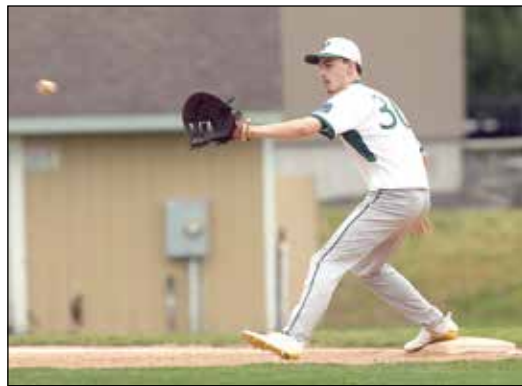
Tim Harrigan slides safely back to first.

Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Wilbraham 1 gets win in opener

WILBRAHAM – The American Legion baseball season is underway and town from all over the region are playing high school level baseball for the summer. Last Monday evening, the Belchertown Post 239 squad faced off with Wilbraham 1 at Spec Pond under the lights. Wilbraham Post 286 was able to get the 5-4 win. It was the only action of the week for Belchertown while Wilbraham had another win later in the week and are 2-0 to start the summer.

Matt Nordstrom fields a ground ball.



Jake Ferri catches an out at first.

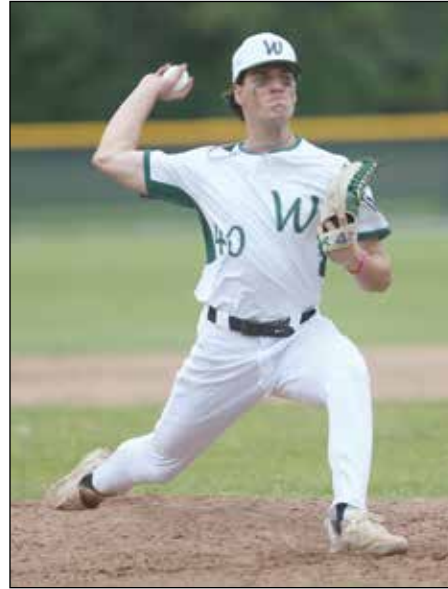


Vinny Chiarizio sizes up the ball.

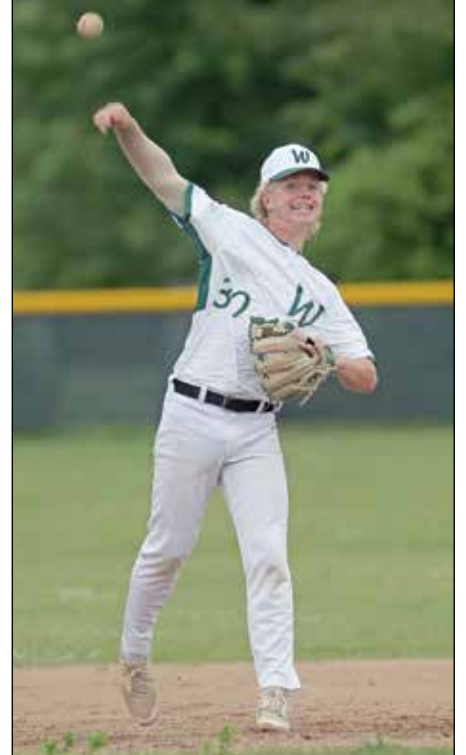


Lucas Stonger pitches for Post 286.

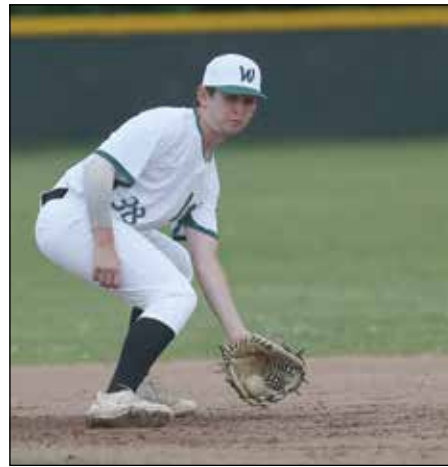
Wilbraham 2 falls to East Springfield, Monson



John O'Connor gets the pitch to the plate.

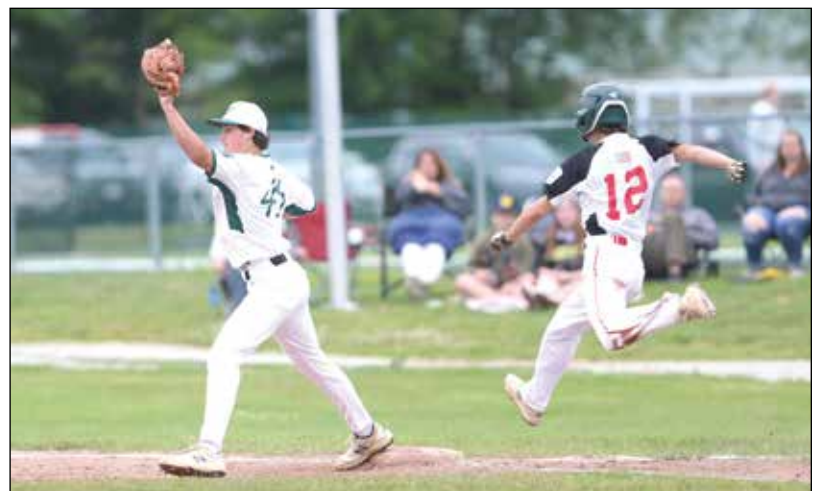


Bryce Barlow fires a throw to first.



Frank Graziano fields a throw at second.

Aaron Gasteyer gets an out at first.



Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Mutiny 'rush' past Albany

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW – The June 11 United Women's Soccer match between the Albany Rush and the New England Mutiny featured several outstanding soccer players from Western Massachusetts.

There was also a talented soccer player from Eastern Massachusetts, who put on the home jersey for the final time during the regular season.

Before heading back to the University of South Carolina to

prepare for the upcoming fall soccer season, Catherine Berry scored a second half goal leading the Mutiny to a 2-0 shutout victory over the Rush before a large crowd at historic Lusitano Stadium.

"It's a bittersweet night for me," said Berry, who's from Hingham. "I do have a commitment at my school, and I'm required to be there next week. I'm very grateful for every game that I do get to play for the Mutiny. I have two more years of eligibility remaining at South Carolina and I'm hoping to play for the

Mutiny again next summer."

Joe Ferrara, who's the Mutiny's owner/general manager, is hoping Berry will be returning to Lusitano Stadium in the middle of July if the Mutiny qualify for the U.W.S. playoffs.

Berry, who's entering her senior season, has scored 24 goals and has 14 assists for a total of 62 points in her first three years playing college soccer.

Berry scored four goals in the Mutiny season and home opener against the Worcester Fuel,

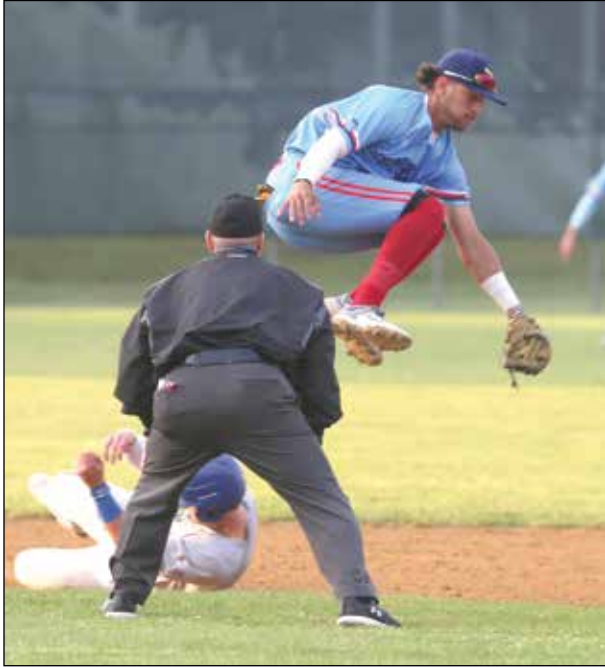


Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Please see **MUTINY**, page 9

Goalie Ela Kopec makes a save.

Valley Blue Sox out to 6-3 start



Matthew Garcia hops over the runner as he makes a relay to first.

HOLYOKE – The wins keep coming for the Valley Blue Sox in the early goings. The team defeated the Danbury Westerners last Saturday by a score of 8-6 to increase their lead in the West Division to two games. The Blue Sox now sit at 6-3 on the season.

Thomas Ballard started for the Blue Sox today, and pitched four innings with four strikeouts allowing three runs. Greg Jeffries and James Vaughn both made their team debuts. Jeffries earned the win after he pitched a clean fifth inning with one strikeout. Vaughn pitched two innings and struck out three batters.

The bottom of the lineup was the story of the game for the Blue Sox. The seven, eight, and nine hitters combined for four RBIs in the ballgame.

Third Baseman Zach Ketterman went 2 for 3 with an RBI single. The Pennsylvania native boosted his average to .208 on the season.

Second Baseman Jeff Pierantoni went 2 for 2 with two singles and two RBIs. He was also hit by a pitch



Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Nick Callano delivers a pitch.

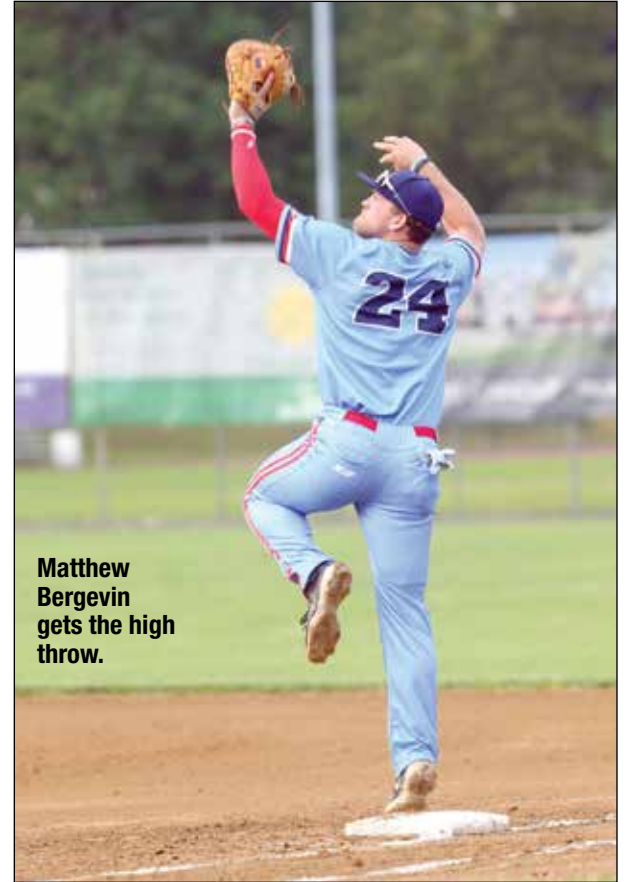
twice in this game, getting on base in each of his four plate appearances.

Catcher Efrain Correa Jr. went 1 for 2 with an RBI and a walk.

Danbury had a chance to come back in this game in the seventh and eighth innings, but hit into two double plays to minimize the damage. The defense was on full display tonight as AJ Guerrero made an excellent over-the-shoulder catch on the run to end the game in the top of the ninth inning.



Eliot Dix fields a grounder.



Matthew Bergevin gets the high throw.

Blue Sox holding promotional games

The Valley Blue Sox revealed their home promotions for the rest of June. The team is offering different promotions each night in cooperation with sponsoring companies.

The next night on Thursday, June 22 vs. the Newport Gulls

at 6:35 p.m., the team will give away water bottles sponsored by Holyoke Gas and Electric.

Sunday June 25, vs. the Danbury Westerners is Military Appreciation Night. The Blue Sox will celebrate the courage and sacrifice of the United States

Military by giving away military towels. The night will be sponsored by the Veterans Affairs of Central Western Massachusetts as well as UMassFive College Federal Credit Union.

Finally on Friday June 30, vs. the Bristol Blues, the offi-

cial bus drivers of the Blue Sox, Michael's Bus Lines, will sponsor a giveaway of seat cushions for the first 150 fans to enter the ballpark. Additionally, Michael's Bus Lines will raffle off a free 25-person ride to a destination of the winner's choosing.

The Blue Sox are looking forward to ending the month of June right, and encourage fans to come out to MacKenzie Stadium to join their celebrations and promotions.

HISTORICAL from page 1

which was a 7-1 victory.

The Mutiny (2-0-1), who also played a 1-1 tie at the Maine Footy on May 21, had a couple of weeks off before hosting the Rush (2-1-1).

"The support that we receive from our fans at this stadium is something that's very special. I wouldn't trade being a part of this for the world," Berry said. "Joe Ferrara is also an awesome person. He has become a close friend to my family during the past few years. The players on this team are also very special."

Berry is following in the footsteps of her mother, Lauren, who played soccer at Middlebury College. Her father, Chris, played college basketball at Middlebury. Her parents attended last Saturday's home match.

The local players that played in last Saturday's home match for the Mutiny are Alexis Legowski (South Hadley), Hope Santaniello (Agawam), Ela Kopec (Ludlow), Laura Gouvin (Monson), Avery Klingensmith (Belchertown) Chandler Pedolzsky (Westfield), Emma Pedolzsky (Westfield), and Catherine Bean (Westfield).

Klingensmith, who started in five games as a freshman on the



Rachel Marchini settles the ball.

American University women's soccer team last fall, has enjoyed being teammates with Berry.

"Cat is a great soccer player," said Klingensmith, who's a midfielder. "We can always count on her to score goals for us. Playing for this soccer team is very similar to my college team."

Kopec, who was Mutiny starting goalie against Albany, didn't have to make any saves in recording her first shutout of the season.

The Mutiny defense, which was led by Laci Lewis, Meghan Cunningham, Rachel Marchini,



Laura Gouvin, of Monson, makes a pass.

Sofia Weber, Anna Carson, and Bean shutdown Albany forward Katelyn Krohn. She had scored a team leading seven goals in her team's first three regular season matches.

"We do have a very strong defensive unit this year," said Mutiny first-year head coach Mauricio "Toto" Coimbra said. "Their chemistry has been getting better and better in every match. It's always nice to post a shutout."

Berry had several shots on goal during the first 45 minutes of the contest, but Albany goalie



Hope Santaniello, of Agawam, works near the corner.

Emma Anderson (10 saves) was able to make the saves on them.

The contest was still scoreless at halftime.

Following a breakaway shot attempt by Santaniello that deflected off the right post, Berry gave her team a 1-0 lead in the 56th minute. She fired a line-drive shot from the top of the box into the left corner of the net.

"We did put a lot of pressure on them in the first half," Berry said. "I had a scoring opportunity early in the second half and I didn't want to miss it. It's always special whenever you score a



Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Alexis Legowski dribbles past midfield.

goal, especially in this stadium." With less than five minutes remaining in regulation, Chandler Pedolzsky knocked home a rebound shot giving the home team a 2-0 advantage.

Berry was scheduled to play in her final regular season match for the Mutiny against the Scorpions SC on Monday night in a make-up game at Medway High School.

Athletes invited to participate in sports clinics

LUDLOW – Lions Pride Sports Clinics are back. Young inspiring athletes have the opportunity to participate in one or all of our exciting clinics. The 2023 lineup consists of, Soccer session 1 from June 26 to 30, Soccer Session 2 from July 17 to July 21. Athlete Prep strength and conditioning program from June 27 to Aug. 10, Basketball from July 10 to 14, High School and Beach Volleyball June 20 to Aug. 15, Volleyball Basics July to Aug. 16, and Wrestling July 10 to Aug. 16. All clinics are held on the campus of Ludlow High School and are geared toward the development of fundamental skills. For more information log on to lionspridesc.wix.com/lpsc or contact Tim Brillo TBrillo1723@gmail.com. Registration is now online at <https://www.familyid.com/organizations/lions-den-sports-clinics>



Turley photo by Dalton Zbierski

This Week in Rec

Bryan Litz

Parks & Recreation Director

Pickleball is the hottest spot in the country! At the very least it is the fastest growing sport according to most publications. If you haven't had the pleasure of participating in the sport, I suggest you give it a try. It caters to those of all ages and abilities, and it is very popular here in Wilbraham. Currently the Department offers a myriad of pickleball related programs:

- Lessons
- Tournaments
- Indoor Daily Play (pay for a day or buy a punch pass)

All these pickleball related activities take place at the Memorial School in Wilbraham.

On the horizon are outdoor pickleball courts. At this past town meeting, the WPRD was approved to build 4 – 8 outdoor courts with lights. The amount of courts and if they have lights depends on how far we can stretch a dollar. The location of these outdoor courts will either be the Memorial School or the Spec Pond Recreational Complex.

We are currently awaiting the completion of the feasibility study on Memorial School. Once that is complete it will be presented to the Board of Selectmen, if the town decides to invest in the building and hold on to it, then the outdoor courts will be located there. If the town does not want to invest and or hold on to Memorial School, then they will be located at Spec Pond.

Just like many of you, we are anxious to get these courts built, but have to wait for the first domino to fall.

NOTES: For more information on all of our current and upcoming programs, please visit our website at WilbrahamRec.com

Fireworks Season

Leave it to the professionals, public safety leaders say

After a record-setting number of fireworks-related fires in 2020 and a sharp decline in 2021, fireworks incidents in Massachusetts rebounded last year, according to Massachusetts State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey and State Police Colonel John E. Mawn Jr.

The two remind residents “to leave fireworks to the professionals this summer,” a news release states.

Fireworks-related fires and explosions in Massachusetts skyrocketed at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, jumping from 57 in 2019 to 189 in 2020, the officials said. These numbers declined significantly in 2021, when 80 incidents were reported statewide.

In 2022, however, Massachusetts fire departments reported 106 fires and explosions attributed to fireworks, an increase of nearly a third over the prior year. More than half of these incidents took place in the week of July 4, 2022.

All told, the fireworks-related incidents last year caused 38 injuries and \$414,279 in damages – more than double the property loss caused by fireworks in 2020.

“Every single year in Massachusetts, people are hurt and property is destroyed by illegal fireworks,” Ostroskey said.

“As we count down to the weeks when most of these incidents occur, we’re reminding everyone that fireworks are illegal because they are dangerous. There will be plenty of permitted fireworks displays this summer, so stay safe and leave fireworks to the professionals.”

Last year, joint enforcement efforts by the Massachusetts State Police and Department of Fire Services led to about 40 criminal summonses for violating the state’s fireworks laws, the officials said, confiscating nearly 3,000 packages of aerial shells, cakes, fountains, bottle rockets, large rockets, Roman candles, sparklers and other dangerous, illegal devices worth upward of \$46,000.

Those enforcement efforts will resume this year, they said.

“The unlicensed possession, use, and sale of fireworks are illegal in Massachusetts,” Mawn said.

“Massachusetts law requires the confiscation of any illegal fireworks we encounter, even if legally purchased elsewhere. Massachusetts State Police will seize any illegal fireworks that we discover during routine traffic stops and other activity. And with our local and state partners, State Police will be con-



Contributed photo

Police continue to confiscate illegal fireworks and warn about the dangers they pose, particularly serious injuries and fires.

ducting targeted enforcement efforts to intercept illegal fireworks coming in from out of state.”

Officials emphasized that fireworks, including sparklers, are especially unsafe around children. Sparklers burn at temperatures of over 1,800 degree fahrenheit – hotter than the melting point of glass and aluminum. According to a 2021 report from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, “there were an estimated 1,600 emergency department-treated injuries associated with firecrackers and 900 with sparklers,” in 2020. This accounted for almost 10% of all fireworks-related injuries that year. Of those 900 injuries from sparklers, 44% were to children under the age of 5. Sparklers burn at such high temperatures that they can easily ignite combustible materials even after they are extinguished; Last sum-

mer, nine people were displaced after careless disposal of sparklers started a three-alarm fire in their home.

Massachusetts fire departments reported nearly 1,000 fires related to illegal fireworks between 2013 and 2022, officials said. In addition to the 42 fire service injuries, five civilian injuries, and \$2.5 million in damages attributed to these fires, Massachusetts medical facilities reported about 30 severe burn injuries extending to 5% or more of the victims’ bodies that were caused by illegal fireworks.

The Department of Fire Services posts a list of permitted municipal fireworks displays and updates it each week through the summer. To view the list – and to learn more about the dangers of illegal fireworks – visit the DFS page at mass.gov.

EARLY DEADLINES

In observance of July 4th,
there will be an
EARLY AD DEADLINE
To advertise,
place your ad no later than **NOON**
Thursday, June 29

– Thank you!

A TURLEY PUBLICATION
www.turley.com



EARLY DEADLINES

In observance of July 4th,
PUBLIC NOTICES
EARLY AD DEADLINE
Place your public notice
no later than **NOON**
Thursday, June 29

– Thank you!

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.

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MORE HEAT LESS WOOD. Central Boiler Classic Edge HDX Outdoor Wood Furnace. EPA Certified. Titanium Stainless Steel. 26% Tax Credit. Call **(508)882-0178**

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TAG SALE

COMMUNITY WIDE TAG SALE PINE VALLEY PLANTATION
281 CHAUNCEY WALKER (ROUTE 21) BELCHERTOWN **SAT 6/24 8:00 AM-3:00PM** MAPS, LUNCH, RESTROOMS. USE FRONT ENTRANCE

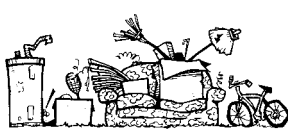
TAG SALE: JULY 1ST & 2ND, 9am-5pm. Household items, some antiques, power tools, mechanics tools, tig welder, many items to see. **26 Aspen St., Ware MA.** Rain or shine.

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Donald Roy **(860)874-8396**

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or call: 413-283-8393 HILLTOWNS – **MONDAY AT NOON**

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First ZONE base price _____ Includes additional words

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PUBLIC NOTICES

TOWN OF HAMPDEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, (MGL CH 131, S 40), it's implementing regulations (310 CMP 10.00) and the Town of Hampden's Wetlands Protection Bylaws, the Hampden Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, July 19, 2023 at 6 PM** at the Town House, 625 Main Street, Hampden, for a ANRAD (Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation) filed by Peter Levesque on behalf David and Lisa Chapdelaine for the property known as 37 Allen Street, also known as Assessor's Map 12, Parcel 0. Additional information relating to this request is on file in the Conservation Commission office and available for review by the public by contacting the Commission. Anyone interested in or wishing to be heard on the request may appear at the time and place designated.

On Behalf of the Conservation Commission,
Judy McKinley-Brewer,
Ted Zebert,
co-chairs
06/22/2023

TOWN OF HAMPDEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, (MGL CH 131, S 40), it's implementing regulations (310 CMP 10.00) and the Town of Hampden's Wetlands Protection

Bylaws, the Hampden Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, July 19, 2023 at 6 PM** at the Town House, 625 Main Street, Hampden, for an RDA, (Request for Determination of Applicability), filed by Bedrock Financial, LLC for the property known as Chapin Road, also known as Assessor's Map 14, Block 010, Parcel 2, to construct a single family home with related site work. Additional information relating to this request is on file in the Conservation Commission office and available for review by the public by contacting the Commission. Anyone interested in or wishing to be heard on the request may appear at the time and place designated.

On Behalf of the Conservation Commission,
Judy McKinley-Brewer,
Ted Zebert,
co-chairs
06/23, 06/30/2023

TOWN OF WILBRAHAM NOTICE OF TAKING

To the known and unknown heirs of James M. Pease and Fred S. Pease, Under Sections 7B and 8A of Chapter 79 of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Board of Selectmen of Town of Wilbraham, awarded Three Hundred Eighty Thousand and 00/100 (\$380,000.00) Dollars as damages for the eminent domain taking, to Anthony Carnevale, holder of a mortgage on the real property described below and Anthony Carnevale, Trustee of the Berkshire Funding Realty Trust, the current identified record owner of the real property described as
Parcels B, C, D, and E on a plan recorded at the

Hampden County Registry of Deeds entitled "Plan of Land in Wilbraham, MA prepared for Mile Oak Land Holdings, LLC" dated June 21, 2010 prepared by Sherman & Frydryk Land Survey and Engineering 3 Converse Street Suite 203 Palmer, MA 01609 recorded in the Hamden County Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 358, Page 48 and;

Parcel G-2 as shown on a plan of land entitled "Plan of Land in Wilbraham, MA prepared for Berkshire Funding Realty Trust" dated May 26, 2022 prepared by Sherman & Frydryk Land Surveying, Engineering & Scientists A Division of Hancock Survey Associates, Inc. 3 Converse Street Suite 203 Palmer, MA 01609 recorded in the Hamden County Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 395, Page 64;

as further described in an Order of Taking dated June 5, 2023 and recorded on June 8, 2023 with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds at Book 25035 Page 466.

If you believe you are entitled to an award, you may petition the superior court of said county under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 79 Section 14 within three years after the rights to such damages has vested, per Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 79 Section 16.
06/15, 06/22, 06/29/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Division Docket No. HD23P1173EA Estate of: David Polley Date of Death: May 14, 2023 INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE
To all persons interested

in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Laurie A Drew of Moses Lake, WA**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Laurie A Drew of Moses Lake, WA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without** surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
06/22/2023

PUBLIC NOTICE
This ad is pursuant to MA Gen. Law Ch.255, Sec. 39A as of **June 23, 2023** the following motor vehicle will be for sale to satisfy a garage keepers lien:

2017 Hyundai Elantra
VIN: 5NPD74LF8HH212762
COLOR: Silver
LKO: Deborah Magill
53 Champlain Ave
Indian Orchard MA
R & S Assoc. Inc.
Wilbraham MA
413-596-4374
06/08, 06/15, 06/22/2023

Town of Wilbraham 2023 OR NEWER SELF-PROPELLED TRACK MOUNTED AERIAL LIFT Notice of Invitation for Bid

The Board of Selectmen will receive sealed bid for the contract entitled "**2023 or Newer Self-Propelled Track Mounted Aerial Lift**" until **Thursday, July 20, 2023 at 3:00 PM** at the Engineering Department, Town Office Building, 240 Springfield Street, Wilbraham, MA 01095 where they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid must be enclosed in a sealed envelope plainly and legibly entitled "**2023 or Newer Self-Propelled Track Mounted Aerial Lift**".

This Invitation to Bid is being conducted under M.G.L.c.30B.

Bidders **must** provide with their bid a signed "Contractors Certification" found in the Bid Proposal, which certifies Non-Collusion and Non-Discrimination.

Contract documents are available at the Engineering Department, Town Office Building, 240 Springfield Street, Wilbraham, MA 01095 or email, Tonya Capparello DPW@wilbraham-ma.gov.

The Town reserves the right to reject any or all bid, to waive informalities, to advertise for new proposals, as deemed in the best interest of the Town.

Tonya L. Capparello, P.E.
Director of Public Works
Town Engineer
06/22/2023

WILBRAHAM LINE PAINTING 2023 Notice of Invitation for Bids
The Town of Wilbraham invites sealed bids for the

purchase of Wilbraham Line Painting 2023. Bids must be made in accordance with all applicable Federal, State and Town laws and by-laws and regulations and **must comply in all respects** with the instructions, conditions, specifications and other requirements in the Invitation for Bid packages. Prevailing State Minimum Wage Rates must be complied with as per MGL Ch 149 section 26-27d. These wage rates are contained within the contract documents.

Bid packages can be obtained from the Department of Public Works, Town Hall, 240 Springfield Street, Wilbraham, MA 01095 (413-596-2800 x208) or via email at DPW@wilbraham-ma.gov. Bids in sealed, opaque envelopes shall be marked "**Wilbraham Line Painting 2023 Bid**" and delivered to the above address by **3:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 13, 2023** where they will be publicly opened and read aloud by the Chief Procurement Officer. All bids must be submitted on the official Standard Bid Form, included in the bid packages. Bids must include the signed Non-Collusion and Non-Discrimination paperwork. No bidder may withdraw his bid for a period of forty-five days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays, after the actual date of opening of the bids.

The Town reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive minor informalities or irregularities in any bid, and to make an award in any manner consistent with the law and deemed to be in the best interest of the Town of Wilbraham.
Tonya L. Capparello, P.E.
Director of Public Works/
Town Engineer
06/22/2023

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