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Falcons wrap up regular season  
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Wilbraham Farmers Market fosters

community pride and connection

The farmers market wraps up on Aug. 30

By Kristin Rivers  
 Staff Writer  
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WILBRAHAM – The Wilbraham Farmers Market on Main Street is having a busy season filled with fresh produce, handmade crafts and more.

The farmers market, which kicked off June 14, runs every Wednesday from 2-6 p.m. outside Wilbraham United Church through Aug. 30.

Vendors include the Wilbraham Welcome Project, D & R Farm, Baystate Health, The Prop Shop, Friends of the Wilbraham Senior Center, Spudley’s Sweets, Wicker Woman Herbals, Girlie’s Cakes, Tom’s Wildflower Honey and many more.

Additionally, food trucks from Batch Ice Cream and Cousins Maine Lobster.

Greg Donovan is part of Four Clovers, run by his wife, Jessie, selling Wilbraham-themed t-shirts and sweatshirts to encourage town pride.

Four Clovers took part in last year’s Peach Blossom Festival and will be at the Wilbraham v. Hampden Battle of the Badges event on Sep. 9 at 7 p.m. at Mc-



Diane Stimpson of DMS Creations shows off her crafts with her grandchildren, Sage and Nolan, at the Wilbraham Farmers Market. Stimpson is a first-time vendor this season. Turley photos by Kristin Rivers

laughlin Softball Field at Spec Pond.

Donovan explained they’re doing several farmers markets this summer.

“This is only our second one, so it’s kind of new to us. It’s cool because we see a lot of people that we don’t see a lot that we’re friends with through sports and school, so we get to just say ‘hi’ to people which is probably the best part,” Donovan

said.

Debra Brown of Spudley’s Sweets shared it’s an opportunity to grow her business, selling strawberry-creme crepes, varieties of fudge, brownies and cookies and many more.

Brown also loves farmers markets.

“It’s local. I live in Hampden. My kids are growing up in Hampden, so it’s the lo-

cal aspect of it. Getting to see people, the kids see their friends come by here and there and I see different people I know,” Brown said. “So, it’s the local, the community. Hampden-Wilbraham is really about community, and I like to be a part of that.”

Diane Stimpson of DMS Creations is a first-time vendor, selling locally made burrito pillowcases, bowl cozies, tote bags, aprons and more.

A registered nurse for over 40 years, Stimpson got into sewing after retirement and was encouraged by her family to sell her creations at the farmers market.

She’s had a great experience this season.

“You meet a lot of people and you get to know the community better. My granddaughter’s joining in with me, so it’s been really fun,” Stimpson said.

Tom Meade and Martha Bryenton of Bucket List Maple Syrup have been at the farmers market for three years, selling maple syrup, granulated maple sugar, maple cream, maple candy and more.

Meade had worked at the post office and sold maple syrup to his coworkers, later forming a business upon retirement.

“This is a little different, but still, it’s an outlet for our syrup, our product. It’s

Please see **MARKET**, page 16

‘Portraits of Nature’ on

exhibit in WPL’s Brooks Room

By Dalton Zbierski  
 Editor  
 dzbierski@turley.com

WILBRAHAM -- A Springfield artist is presenting her collection of nature-themed paintings in the Wilbraham Public Library’s Brooks Room through the end of the month.

In her return to the Brooks Room, Carole Adamski-Maggi is showcasing “Portraits of Nature”, work that includes her renditions of seascapes, florals, animals, people and most anything that relates to the outdoors.

“This is my first exhibit prior to when COVID struck so I’m so happy with having this opportunity to re-

start my exhibiting ventures,” Adamski-Maggi said.

Adamski-Maggi said she begins her creative process by looking for something that is a little out of the typical format. For example, she might be inspired by a tree and think to herself, “What if I add another element to it?”

“And I always think of the size and the compositions by putting (something) small against a larger object as well as doing closeups at different angles you wouldn’t typically see. That’s one of the ways art inspires me or I get ideas,” she said.

Adamski-Maggi began her journey by painting animals, and her collection

Please see **EXHIBIT**, page 11



A Department of Public Works volunteer keeps the line moving smoothly during the Household Hazardous Waste Day event on Aug. 5. Submitted photo Joe Lynskey

Household Hazardous

Waste Day is a big success

Also, DPW project updates

By Kristin Rivers  
 Staff Writer  
 krivers@turley.com

WILBRAHAM -- Residents stopped by the Minnechaug Regional High School parking lot from 8:30 a.m. to noon on Aug. 5 to take part in Household Hazardous Waste Day.

The event, hosted by the Department of Public Works, helped attendees properly dispose of their hazardous waste products.

Joseph Lynskey, engineering technician and field inspector, managed and coordinated the event with the DPW, explaining 265 cars dropped off hazardous products including paint, pesticides, fertilizer and old oil.

“The residents seemed very happy and thankful that they were finally able to get

some of this stuff out of their house,” Lynskey said.

DPW Director Tonya Capparello was thrilled with the turnout.

“It further emphasizes how conscientious the residents are in town. They took full advantage of this opportunity, which they had to take time out of their day to come down there and wait in line. They had to sign up and they chose to do that versus just throwing it in the trash. I think it says a lot about our community as a whole and their commitment to keeping our environment as clean as possible,” Capparello said.

For next year, Capparello and Lynskey hope to expand the types of products for disposal, spread the word to more residents and more.

Attendees will receive a survey via email or phone call for feedback.

“We basically want to be able to pro-

Please see **HAZARDOUS**, page 12



Carole Adamski-Maggi is showcasing her work throughout August in the Wilbraham Public Library’s Brooks Room. Turley photo by Dalton Zbierski







# Boards of Selectmen discuss Shared Public Health District

Also, discussion on the regional school district agreement

By Kristin Rivers  
Staff Writer  
krivers@turley.com

HAMPDEN -- The Wilbraham and Hampden Boards of Selectmen discussed public health and the school district on July 31 during their joint meeting in the Selectmen's Office.

Wilbraham's Town Administrator Nick Breault provided highlights on the Shared Public Health District, which includes the towns of Wilbraham, Hampden, Longmeadow and Monson.

"Generally, we think that things have been working out pretty well. We think that having it housed in Longmeadow hasn't been an inconvenience for residents or for our businesses. If there are issues that have come up, our experience has been is they've been addressed rather quickly," Breault said.

Breault added the public health district has received support from the state through grants, the funding currently in year two.

Hampden Board of Selectmen Chair John Flynn agreed that "it's worked well from what we've heard."

"I think we're pretty happy with what's happening," Flynn said.

Similar to the discussion on Belchertown's interest in joining the regional dispatch, Flynn asked about the funding impact after the district reaches the third fiscal year.

"Is there any talk of a possible change after that? We got to figure out a couple years down the road impacts, some capital needs. Obviously, we're going to be talking about the dispatch in the following year. Is there any talk from the state about extending that?" Flynn said.

Breault said Flynn's questions are "always something in the back of our minds."

"We will be asking those questions, absolutely, because we want to know for sure," Breault said.

Meanwhile, the Hampden-Wilbraham Regional School District agreement discussion included the reconfiguration plan public meetings and utilization of schools.

Wilbraham Board of Selectmen Chair Theresa Goodrich explained it "has been a lengthy, lengthy process" with "many meetings of narrowing it down to what makes the most sense," adding Superintendent Dr. John Provost is meeting with the public.

"So, people can go in and voice their concerns, what they like, what they don't like, and he's listening and he's documenting it all and he's very involved. He needs to come up with a solution for this and he realizes that," Goodrich said.

Goodrich clarified changes would not be happening this fall.

"It's in the works, but it's a very lengthy process," Goodrich said.

Craig Rivest reached out to Provost with ideas, including proposed traffic studies.

"I feel within the schools that are proposed on those four options that, you know, we in Hampden and you in Wilbraham, took the opportunity to investigate traffic studies, traffic patterns, time of day. What does it look like in those areas to help make a better-educated decision of, you know, moving forward?" Rivest said.

When Goodrich expressed concerns about the limitations and if streets would be reconfigured, Rivest clarified the study would not be changing streets, just collecting data.

Flynn then presented this idea.

"It seems like the right way to do it would be to have a formal request from the superintendent to both towns," Flynn said.

Don Davenport of the Hampden Board of Selectmen later brought up the litigation settlement during a discussion on costs and the utilization of schools.

"If we go forward with an amendment to the agreement to change the utilization of the schools, let's say, for instance, eighth grade goes to Minnechaug or sixth grade, seventh goes to Wilbraham Middle School, and then we're coming to Hampden saying, 'We want to give you more money,' I think it's going to be a difficult sell to say 'We're asking you to do this' and pay more, so I don't know how you work through that," Davenport said.

Rivest agreed.

"I think the outcome of the utilization is going to have a determining factor of how things get shifted around and rewritten if needed," Rivest said.

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Library hosts metalsmith for interactive presentation



The Wilbraham Public Library’s Teen Department held a Teen Copper Bookmark Workshop on Tuesday, July 25. Taught by metalsmith, Heather Beck, she taught teens about the structure of copper, how to create drawings on copper and how to use letter stamps to create textures and words on metal. Each teen made their own personalized copper bookmark to take home. This workshop was sponsored in full by a grant from the Wilbraham Cultural Council, a local agency which is funded by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency. Photos submitted by Rachel Hapgood, Teen Services Librarian

SCHOOLS

Lynn named to St. Lawrence’s Dean’s List

CANTON, NY -- Courtney Lynn from Wilbraham has been named to St. Lawrence University’s Dean’s List for achieving academic excellence during the Spring 2023 semester.

Lynn is a member of the Class of 2024 and is majoring in performance and communication arts and Hispanic studies. Lynn attended Minnechaug Regional High School.

To be eligible for the Dean’s List, a student must have completed at least four courses and have an academic average of 3.6 based on a 4.0 scale for the semester.

Local students receive Bachelor’s Degrees from UMass Amherst

AMHERST -- Approximately 5,500 students received bachelor’s degrees in over 100 majors at the University of Massachusetts Amherst’s Undergraduate Commencement on May 26, 2023 at the McGuirk Alumni Stadium.

Below is a list of students from your area who earned a degree.

HAMPDEN

Katherine Natalie Duncan, Cameron Hunter, Aniello Siniscalchi and Jessica Marie Smith

WILBRAHAM

Michelle Gabriella Alexander,

Christopher Michael Avery, Elizabeth Marie Blask, Alison R Boudreau, Caroline Elizabeth Campbell, Michael Cheng, John Alexander Cowles, Benjamin Joseph Dunklee, Lily Grace Elkhay, Angelina Isabelle Flebotte, Amy Catherine Footit, Maximus G George, Kathryn Calvanese Gormally, Mitchell Fagan Guzzo, Jared William Kelleher, Jennifer Marie Kovarik, Ryan Maria Kuhn, Timothy Glen Ladd, Michelle M Leckey, John Patrick McGrath, Philip Thanh Nguyen, Madison R Poisson, Lydia Ann Ryan, Franchelee Zoe Torres Garrafa, Corrina Emily Williams and Nicholas John Zeimbekakis.

Open House at Academy Hall in Hampden

HAMPDEN – The Hampden Historical Society will host an open house on Aug. 19 at 616 Main Street from noon to 5 p.m. in conjunction with four other museums in Wilbraham, East Longmeadow, Longmeadow & Somers. The open house is sponsored by Pioneer Valley History Network.

Questions: call (413)566-8447.

Evening book discussion at the Wilbraham Library

WILBRAHAM – The Evening Book Discussion wants to know “What are you reading now?” on Wednesday, Aug. 16 at 7 p.m.

The group meets on the third Wednesday of the month and is facilitated by Assistant Director Mary Bell.

“The summer is such a busy time for people, that we decided instead of reading one book we would have a laid-back discussion about what we’re reading,” said Bell.

Come with a title (or two!) and be prepared to share a little bit about what you’re reading, or a book you enjoyed this summer, and what you think of it. Add to your TBR pile by getting others’ recommendations! No sign up is necessary, and newcomers are always welcome.

The Evening Book Discussion goes back to its regular schedule in September and will be reading “The Overstory” by Richard Powers. Copies will be available for pickup at the Service Desk.

For more information contact Mary Bell at 413-596-6141 or email mbell@wilbrahamlibrary.org



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# Hampden could install electric car chargers at senior center

By Dalton Zbierski  
Editor  
dzbierski@turley.com

HAMPDEN -- On Monday evening, the Board of Selectmen further discussed the prospect of installing Level 3 DC electric car chargers in the parking lot of the senior center on Allen Street.

Town Administrator Bob Markel, who drives an electric vehicle, visited with six employees of National Grid on Aug. 2 to discuss electric charging among other topics. After doing some of his own research, he presented the following statistics to the board on Aug. 7.

“There are 389 charging stations in the Springfield metro area. They are Level 2s. There are three levels,” Markel said. “Level 1 is house current. The typical electric car would take two to three days to charge with house current. Level 2s, these are the charge points that you see just about everywhere now, they will take six to seven hours to charge a standard electric vehicle. (Level 3) DC fast chargers (take) 20 minutes to 30 minutes at most.”

Markel said the town received a \$9,000 grant from the commonwealth that would

aid in the installation of electric car chargers in Hampden. Considering the cost of electric car chargers, he does not believe this is enough money to act unless the town will spend some of its own money on Level 3 DC chargers.

Markel initially proposed adding the chargers to the Town Hall parking lot but received negative feedback due to lack of parking at the site. However, Council on Aging Executive Director Becky Moriarty has volunteered the senior center parking lot as a site where the chargers could go.

Markel recommends installing Level 3 chargers there.

“I said I can’t think that it makes any sense to put in two (Level 2) charging stations, which would be four ports, and have a car pull up there and stay there for six hours or so. I said what we need is a Level 3 DC charger. There’s one in the region that’s operating right now; in Chicopee. They’re expensive; that’s the reason,” he said.

Markel noted that Big Y is installing Level 2 chargers and that Whole Foods is in the process of putting in Level 3 chargers at its locations.

“The incentive is for you as a customer to stay in the store at least 20 to 30 minutes so you get a full charge. Level 3s make sense,” he said.

Markel noted that the town of Hampden can make money off a Level 3 charger. He said the town pays 13.3 cents per kilowatt hour for electricity per machine but can charge residents to use the devices.

“I would propose that we would put in two Level 3 stations with four ports and maybe set the per kilowatt hour rate at maybe 16 cents,” Markel said, noting that other communities are charging that amount and that the revenue can benefit a cause or operation such as the senior center.

Markel said that most electric cars have “iPad-type devices” on the dashboard. With a push of a button, it will tell a driver where the nearest electric car charging stations are located.

“Somebody from Meriden, CT driving through hits the button and sees there’s a Level 3; they come and use it, and the town I think would benefit both in earning revenue and (with new people coming to town),” Markel said.

Markel recommends using a company called Rise to install the ports. He said the Rhode Island-based company is reputable and works with National Grid regularly.

Markel would recommend the addition of two 60-kilowatt DC fast chargers; including the \$9,000 grant and other grant-funded services, the town would be asked to pay \$24,896 as a local match. He recommends asking Town Meeting voters for free cash to fund the purchase.

On Aug. 7, Markel made it clear he is not advocating for the addition of electric car chargers because he has an electric car. He has his own Level 2 charger in his garage at home.

“I want to make it clear that I charge where I live. I would never use the charger here. I don’t need it. I get a 300-mile charge when I leave in the morning. I can do everything I do to work here during the day,” Markel said.

No decisions were made on Monday, as Markel clarified that there is more work to be done. The other Selectmen were open to the idea, if the chargers can be moved in the case of an expansion to the senior center; Markel said it would be plausible.

# Wilbraham library holds candle-making workshop for teens

Gariné Arakelian  
from Kulina Folk Art  
led the workshop

By Kristin Rivers  
Staff Writer  
krivers@turley.com

WILBRAHAM -- Teens came to the library’s Brooks Room from 3-4 p.m. on July 26 to participate in a Teen Summer Candle Making Workshop.

The event was sponsored by the Friends of the Wilbraham Public Library.

Led by Gariné Arakelian, a third-generation artist from Kulina Folk Art, the event, slated for beginners, introduced

participants to fragrance candle making by learning about different candle types, wick sizes, heat-resistant containers and their sizes, the differences between essential and fragrance oils and how they should burn their candles.

Arakelian also assisted participants step-by-step in putting their candles together and picking out their fragrances.

According to her website, in addition to candle making, Arakelian offers workshops in paper quilling, clay tiles, soap making, paper weaving, clay tiles and painting on silk, cotton and textiles.

Her other candle-making workshops include a children’s workshop for making colorful candles, a Lucky Clover can-



Gariné Arakelian of Kulina Folk Art welcomes attendees and explains what they’ll be doing during the Teen Candle Making Workshop at Wilbraham Public Library. The event took place in the library’s Brooks Room on July 26. Right, Arakelian helps a participant pour in fragrance or essential oils into a glass container to create a candle.

Submitted photos Rachel Hapgood

Please see **CANDLE**, page 7

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VIEWPOINTS



Massachusetts Audubon Society reported a blue grosbeak in Hadley.

The blue grosbeak is one of just a few birds with blue feathers. The male is dark blue with two reddish-brown wing bars. It has black feathers around the base of its large silvery bill.

The female is plain brown



Ryan Magni fields a grounder.

overall, with dark wings and tail. She has two buff brown wing bars and a large gray conical shaped bill. Immatures resemble the adult female. The young males in the spring of the next year start to show blue patches. Immature plumage is kept for one year.

Blue grosbeaks forage on the ground, hopping about in search of insects. They also glean foliage, eat spiders, seeds and wild fruits.

The female lays two to five pale blue eggs in a nest of rootlets, grasses, twigs, snakeskins, cotton and bark strips lined with grass. The nest is usually placed in a shrub, vine tangle or tree.

These grosbeaks often twitch and rapidly spread their tails when agitated. During migration, they can be found with buntings.

Their song is a warbled phrase of musical notes and the call a loud “chink.”

**Update on osprey nest**

I received an email about an osprey nest in Warren on South Street near a pond. He said the nest is visible from the road. There are also three great blue heron nests on the far shore of the pond, but they are not as noticeable.

He said on a recent visit, “The osprey chicks looked to be close to fledgling, their flight feathers looker fully formed and the two young osprey in the nest each exercised its wings.” He said there were still three great blue herons in two different nest.

He said a pond on New Reed Street near the osprey nest often has bald eagles show up and great egrets have been seen there in August.

**Poolside visitor**

I received an email from a Wilbraham Hampden Times reader. She had a red-tailed hawk land on

**Massachusetts Audubon Society sightings**

In Berkshire County a short-

billed dowitcher was seen in Sheffield and single merlins in Pittsfield and Lenox. Franklin County had three sandhill cranes in Ashfield and five semipalmated plovers in Whately.

In addition to the blue grosbeak in Hadley Hampshire County had 18 greater yellowlegs and two sanderlings in the East Meadows in Northampton and three red crossbills at Quabbin Park in Belchertown.

Worcester County had a Bonaparte’s gull and an acadian flycatcher at the Quabbin Reservoir in New Salem, four sandhill cranes in Hardwick, two black vultures in Fitchburg, two cliff swallows in Ashburnham and a sora at Bolton Flats Wildlife Management Area in Bolton.

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

The Wilbraham-Hampden TIMES TEAM

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The zucchini season started out with promise. I sowed my seeds early and covered the hills with Reemay (a light, polyester row cover) to keep out the striped cucumber beetle. From past experience I knew that young seedlings could be decimated by this pest.

Within a few days the seeds had popped. I thinned them to three per hill and continued to water.

Soon they grew too big for their covering, and I figured that at this point in the game they could withstand a little damage. Sure enough, striped cucumber beetles found the plants.

It was harder to sneak up on them during the day, but at night I was able to position a cup of soapy water under a leaf and “tap,” sending them in for a swim. My plants endured a bit of leaf damage, but not much more than that.

**Zucchini and its many pests**

Populations dropped off and I presumed that it would be smooth sailing from here to harvest. So I thought.

Along came the squash bug, a brownish gray insect about a half-inch long with a triangular top and an oval bottom. Many people confuse squash bugs with stink bugs because they do indeed stink!

Squash bugs have a taste for the foliage and fruit of the cucurbit family, whereas stink bugs don’t. Entire plants can be killed if infestations are severe enough.

You’ll notice yellow stippling on the leaves first, followed by wilting and browning; they head for the fruit last. Because I was on the lookout for the cucumber beetle I saw the adults before any damage ensued and sent them swimming as well, sometimes “two at a time.”

If you miss the grownups, chances are you will have to scout for eggs. Usually they are laid in a

“V” pattern on the undersides of the leaves.

They are hard to scrape off, so I crushed them between my two thumbnails. I must have also passed by a few eggs, so next I had to look for young squash bugs called nymphs.

If a bug could ever qualify for cute status, this one would with its one quarter inch light gray body, black legs and head. “Tapping” comes in handy here too - this time I brought a shallow cardboard box out into the garden, gave the leaf a good tap, and the whole team was cornered then dumped in a bath of soapy water.

It’s beginning to sound as if all I do is hang out in the garden all day catching bugs - not true. With only two hills of zucchini all this work took just a few seconds each morning and night.



At last, we harvested the first zucchini and summer squash, picked at about six inches. At that size the flesh is tender, and the seeds are barely evident. The cucumber beetle did not transmit a disease.

Nor did the squash bug kill the plant. But while I was busy looking under the leaves for obvious bugs, the squash vine borer was at work inside its stem.

One giveaway that you have it: a mushy, sawdust-like excrement appearing outside of small holes in the stems. Affected plants also have leaves that wilt despite being well watered.

I tried removing the white, wrinkled worms from the hollow stems by making a slit with a needle and removing the insect. I must have missed a few - a strong possibility considering the female moth lays two hundred individual eggs at the plant’s base!

The eggs hatch into larva that tunnel into the stems, eventually killing the plant.

As ridiculous as it sounds, wrapping a shiny barrier such as aluminum foil around the plant’s base does seem to deter the red bodied, transparent-leaved moth from her egg-laying endeavors.

My dead plants were carried off to the trash, not the compost pile, and I will turn over the soil in both fall and spring to kill any pupae that may be overwintering. Rotating your crops can also help.

Some gardeners wash down their stems daily to dislodge and kill the eggs. Others make a late sowing only; supposedly after July Fourth or so egg laying ceases.

I made a second sowing a couple weeks back. If the borers don’t get these, the frost likely will, but I am crossing my fingers that an Indian Summer may mean more zucchini for our household, because what we had certainly wasn’t enough!

*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.*



Editorial Policy

Letters to the editor should be 350 words or less in length. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require letter writers to include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous or contain unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, defamation of character and offensive language. All unknown or alleged facts and quotations offered by the author need to cite credible, unbiased sources. Send letters to: Editor, Wilbraham-Hampden Times, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-682-0013 or via e-mail to dzbierski@turley.com. The deadline for submissions is Friday at noon.

**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.



# Sheriff's Office welcomes new generation

SPRINGFIELD – On Friday, Aug. 4, 41 new people were welcomed into the Hampden County Sheriff's Office family during a special graduation ceremony at Western New England University.

"This generation of young men and women are often unfairly harshly critiqued. What I see in this generation is a group of people who want to make a difference, who want to have an impact, who want to affect people in a positive way," Sheriff Nick Cocchi said to the graduating class. "And will I make this one promise to you all. What you seek in your work you will find here. It is about service above self. It is about commitment to your community. This is what the Hampden County Sheriff's Office stands for and this is what we live by."

The graduates are from a variety of cities and towns across the region and a host of countries. Their ages range widely, as do their backgrounds. But the one thing they all have in common is the drive to make the world a better place.

And for that, we are thankful for their dedication that lasted through 11 difficult weeks of training, and we are excited to see what each person brings to the table.

Submitted photos



## CANDLE from page 4

dle for St. Patrick's Day, a spooky candle for Halloween and making candles with spring, fall or winter-themed fragrances.

Residents can learn more about Arakelian and her workshops at [duckie-soaps.com](http://duckie-soaps.com).

During the event, each participant made a candle with soy wax and their choice of various seasonally inspired fragrance oils, including floral, a clean fragrance scent and daffodil scents.

Participants were advised to let their candles cool after 24 hours and they could start burning their candles after a two-week curing period.

Young Adult Librarian Rachel Hapgood explained this was the first time the library held a candle-making workshop.

"Last year, youth services held a soap-making workshop for both kids and teens with Gariné from Kulina Folk Art teaching the workshop. The teens especially liked how Gariné taught them to make rainbow curl soap, and the Teen Advisory Board wanted to learn another craft from her," Hapgood said. "That was how we decided to hold a candle-making workshop this summer. In addition, teens can look forward to learning another candle-making workshop at Halloween when she comes back to Wilbraham Public Library for a 'Spooky Candle Workshop.'"

Hapgood loves how summer programming, including the candle-making workshop, brings teens to the library, adding this summer's events have had great turnouts.

"I love that our summer teen programs draw in lots of teens with all different interests and they are free for all participants," Hapgood said. "I am happy to say that almost all of our teen programs this summer were full and had a waitlist, so we know that we are offering programs that our community likes."

Additionally, Hapgood stressed the importance of encouraging teens to read during the summer through the summer reading program.

"It's important to keep teens reading over the summer and active at our library. With our teen summer reading program, we offer exciting raffle prizes as an incentive so teens will participate and read during the summer," Hapgood said.

Hapgood wants the community to know events like this are possible due to

the Friends of the Library, community members lending their support and the library's Teen Advisory Board for thinking up ideas for the events.

"The Wilbraham Public Library is so fortunate to have a very supportive and active Friends of the Library group. Through fundraising and donations, their support is what allows us to offer new and popular programs that are free for all ages," Hapgood said. "Also, we have supportive community members that sponsor our reading programs. Additionally, since our Teen Advisory Board is active and involved at the library, TAB helps to decide what programs we will offer, and we know they will be successful when our teens are excited about it."

To check out future library events, visit [wilbrahamlibrary.org](http://wilbrahamlibrary.org).



# A COMMUNITY GALLERY



St. Cecilia's Stellar Summer Adventure was a great success! Campers sang songs, made crafts, heard some great Bible Stories and most importantly shined our light! Campers collected school supplies for local families in need. The theme for the last day was "When we are in need, shine Jesus' light!" Campers learned when we are in need, the Wilbraham Police and Fire Departments are truly superheroes! Thanks to them for a wonderful visit. Photo submitted by Saint Cecilia's



As the #3 seed in the 10U B Division, the Wilbraham Falcons (Kudla) defeated #6 seed Palmer in the quarterfinals, bested the #2 seed Wilbraham (Bourke) in the semifinals, and then upset the #1 seed Batter's Box to win the 10U B Championship. Down 8-5 in the sixth inning of the Championship game, the Falcons rallied to score 4 runs in the top half of the inning and then hold off Batter's Box 9-8 for the win. Liam Devine, Reed Edgar, Grayson O'Sullivan, Cameron O'Sullivan, Sam Zanetti, Asst. Coach Ben Lopez, Jayden Lopez, Jack Fulton, Jackson Tanguay, Noah Kelly, Connor Sullivan, Ryan Kudla, Asst. Coach Eric Devine, Asst. Coach Mike O'Sullivan, Asst. Coach Lindsay Tanguay, Head Coach Kevin Kudla. Photo and caption submitted by Jessie Donovan



Congratulations to our 8U Falcons baseball squad for bringing home the championship. The team went undefeated this season and won 17-4 in the playoff final against East Longmeadow. Players: Jake Appleby, Michael Clark, Evan Donovan, Isaiah Gee, Noah Knox-Dietz, Grayson Lemelin, Oliver Michel, Dominic Moretti, Vince Morin, Jack Ryan, Brody Summers, Matthew Thouin & Jordan Wong-Vallejo (not pictured) Coaches: Pete Appleby, Jessie Donovan, Nick Morin & Shawn Summers. Photo and caption submitted by Jessie Donovan

# Life in & WILBRAHAM

Readers are encouraged to send in medium to high resolution photos for this page by e-mail to [dzbierski@turley.com](mailto:dzbierski@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.



Two sister fawns grab their morning breakfast outside the Oakland Trail in Wilbraham. Photo submitted by Diane Testa, Wilbraham



The Summer Junior Falcon Tennis Program, run through the Wilbraham Parks and Recreation Department with parents. So much fun was had and a great way to end the program! Photo submitted by Erin Carroll, A

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A  
F



# WILBRAHAM HAMPDEN



the last baby bluebird to leave its nest on July 28.  
mitted by Elizabeth Frederick of Hampden



ment, ended their summer program with a World Cup Tennis Jamboree  
Asst. Director of Parks and Recreation Department

Community Bulletin Board

Happy Birthday, Harper,  
who will be 9 on Aug. 15.

Love Mom, Dad, Charley, Jaxson, Nana, Grammy and Grampy

Happy 16th Birthday Max Baroni!  
Enjoy your Birthday weekend.  
We are ALL SO proud of your academic  
and athletic accomplishments.

Love, Grandma, Pops, Nanny and Papa

Send us in your Happy Birthdays, Anniversaries, etc. announcements!  
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](mailto:dzbierski@turley.com)



Mia Mason finished her 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten and received a certificate and free new book.  
Photo submitted by Teen Librarian Rachel Hapgood



The Teen Department at the Wilbraham Public Library has 105 teens signed up for their 2023 Reading Challenge and Ashley Griguoli was the first to finish! She received a free, new book of her choice, prizes and coupons to local businesses and was able to enter in the online raffle by completing the challenges of reading a book and writing a review. Teens have until Aug. 12 to sign up and earn prizes.  
Photo submitted by Children's Librarian Heidi Kane



Nicholas Kennedy enjoying a pistachio soft-serve ice cream from Mountain View Drive In in Hampden.  
Photo taken by his mother, Liliya Kennedy on Aug. 6



The Wilbraham Public Library had its first finisher of the Kid's Summer Reading program! Andrew Griguoli finished his reading of 21 days this summer and received a new book of his choice, coupons to local businesses, prizes, raffle tickets and more!  
Photo submitted by Children's Librarian Heidi Kane

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Events & .....

announcements schedule

Portraits of Nature

WILBRAHAM – A collection of paintings by Carol Adamski-Maggi will be on display in the Wilbraham Public Library’s Brooks Room from Aug. 2-30.

100 Books for 100 Kids

WILBRAHAM – Saturday, Aug. 12, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. local author Kelly Partridge will be signing her book “How Owls Become Wise” during an author signing and free book event at the GRATTI Shop at 2440 Boston Road, Unit C on Aug. 12 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event is sponsored by Unify Against Bullying and will raise awareness and open up conversation around the issue of bullying. A child must be present to receive a book.

Farmers Market

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.

Hartsprings Bin

HAMPDEN – As a reminder, the Hartsprings Bin will be located at The

Hampden Senior Center through the Summer and Fall. This bin is a fundraiser sponsored by The Friends Of the Hampden Seniors, and items such as clothing, shoes, pocketbooks, books, towels, sheets and bedspreads or comforters and any small kitchen item can be accepted. However, No BED PILLOWS or FLOOR RUGS can be placed in this bin. If you have any item that is in a box or large bag and does not fit in the bin’s door, please contact Joan Shea at (413) 566-8224 and arrangements will be made to help you. Any additional questions in regards to an item you have, please feel free to contact Joan.

Cornhole Tournament

WILBRAHAM –Whether you enjoy playing CORNHOLE just for fun or you are a serious league player, the Bushels of Fun Fest event on Aug. 27 at Fern Valley Farms, 758 Main St, Wilbraham is where you need to be. There will be three single elimination tournaments, at 12, 2, & 4 p.m. Each winning team will walk away with a Trophy, gift cards, and bragging rights. Proceeds from this event will benefit the Friends of Wilbraham Seniors programs and the new Senior Center. Sign-ups for 2 person teams are going on NOW, so email Kate at katebelsky13@gmail.com to register your team. For more information, call Kate at 413-949-6466. Spots are limited! Cost \$20 per team payable at the event. So, here’s your chance to smoke out all your friends & family and attain the glory of “Bushels of Fun Fest” Cornhole Champions title while supporting the

Friends of Wilbraham Seniors with their programs.

Car Show: Aug. 19

WILBRAHAM – Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council 10195 with BodyWorks Unlimited Inc., a car show will occur at Fountain Park on Aug. 19. The first 200 cars will receive a dashboard plaque and swag bag. The show will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; show cars can arrive as early as 8 a.m. There will be 15 trophy classes; three trophies for each class. \$20 entry fee per show car. The event is free for spectators and there is free parking. Family fun, food, games and Cruising with Bruce: Classic Hits 97.7 FM & 1250AM.

Hampden Senior Trips

HAMPDEN – Below are the upcoming Hampden Senior Trips. For more information, call Bobbi at 413-566-8271 or email bobbijg2@charter.net.  
The Aqua Turf Club Tuesday, Aug. 15: “Come Fly with Me”. Dance to music from Sinatra, Kenny Rogers, Tim McGraw & more; coffee/donuts, free drink, family-style lunch, show & door prizes, \$119/pp. Payment deadline Aug. 1.  
Boston’s Duck Boats Tuesday, Sept.12: with lunch @ Maggiano’s Little Italy, Duck tour, Quincy Market; \$140/pp. Payment deadline Aug. 29.  
Newport Playhouse Thursday, Sept. 28: All-You-Can-Eat Buffet, Hilarious Show “Ghost of a Chance” & Cabaret, NEW LOWER PRICE \$132/pp. Pay-

ment deadline Sept 14.  
Atlantic City Tuesday – Thursday, Oct. 10 – 12: Caesars Resort Hotel, two shows, \$50 food & slot bonuses; \$295/pp double, \$285/pp triple, \$395/pp single; \$50 deposit due @ sign-up. Payment deadline Sept. 8. Cancellation Ins. Avail.  
The Aqua Turf Club – ELVIS ISIN THE BUILDING ! on Wednesday, Nov. 8; coffee/donuts, free drink, family-style lunch, show & door prizes, \$119/pp. Payment deadline Oct. 18.

Communication group

Are you having difficulty communicating with your partner, struggling with boundaries, and healthy relationships? We invite you to join us Friday afternoons from 1-2:30 pm to explore these topics and more. This group will be held in zoom, is educational, confidential and free. Please contact Pat James 413-726-8661.

Parkinson’s Total Body Class

WILBRAHAM -- Parkinson’s Total Body Class uses interval-style instruction for individuals with Parkinson’s disease. Meeting twice a week, activities include strength, cardio, boxing, cycling, agility, flexibility and balance training. This modality of exercise has been shown to increase neuronal activity, which is usually decreased in individuals with Parkinson’s disease. Total Body Parkinson’s class is an additional benefit of YMCA of Greater Springfield membership. Classes are also available to the community with a non-member fee of \$30 per month. This program is supported, in part, by a grant from the American Parkinson Disease Association Massachusetts Chapter.  
For more information or to register, contact the Scantic Valley YMCA, a branch of the YMCA of Greater Springfield, at 413.596.2749 x3107.

HOMETOWN

SPOTLIGHT

WILBRAHAM-HAMPDEN TIMES

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Carole Adamski-Maggi's artwork in the Brooks Room is nature-themed. Turley photos by Dalton Zbierski

EXHIBIT I from page 1

on display in the library features several paintings of them. She also enjoys painting flowers and combining them with butterflies or ladybugs, which can be seen in the exhibit.

“I also like using three (elements); so, in some of the artwork, there’s collage involved. So, I decided why not incorporate that in this exhibit,” Adamski-Maggi said. “Then, I remembered I had also done the seascapes when I went to Italy, and I hadn’t really featured them so much in

the past, so I thought I’d put them together with this particular show.”

Adamski-Maggi also creates arts and crafts and has two pieces displayed in window cases in the library’s hallway. She is pleased to return to Wilbraham, where she previously presented.

“I think it’s a wonderful opportunity and I’m really thankful that I have the opportunity to have a show at the Wilbraham library. It’s such a wonderful venue, and I’ve had always wonderful experiences in the past,” Adamski-Maggi said.

For artists looking to launch their first

exhibit, Adamski-Maggi encourages them to believe in their artwork and make sure to create something that satisfies themselves. She said it is more important to please yourself than to worry about what other people will like.

“Just work from your heart and your gut and just go with what you enjoy the most and just be bold and present yourself and see what happens. Don’t be afraid in other words,” she said.

On Aug. 2, Adamski-Maggi was available for several hours in the Brooks Room to interact with library patrons who came

to view her work. She was happy to answer questions and interact with potential customers.

Adamski-Maggi’s work can be viewed during the library’s hours of operation, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Except for two pieces, all of the work displayed is for sale; Adamski-Maggi can be reached at carolmusic82@live.com.

“It is up for the entire month and in addition to selling the artwork that’s here, I also do commission work so if there’s something specific somebody would like me to paint, I can do that,” she said.

PUBLIC NOTICES

WILBRAHAM BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING

The Wilbraham Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on **Thursday, August 17, 2023 starting at 5:45 PM** on the application of Timothy and Danelle Skorka for a variance from the provisions of Sections 4.4.7 and 4.4.10 of the Wilbraham Zoning By-Law to construct an in-ground pool within the rear yard setback at 13 Devonshire Drive as further specified in the application and plan that are on file in the Planning Office and posted for public viewing on the Zoning Board of Appeals page of the Town of Wilbraham website at [www.wilbraham-ma.gov/135/Zoning-Board-of-Appeals](http://www.wilbraham-ma.gov/135/Zoning-Board-of-Appeals).

Both in person and virtual participation are available. To participate virtually go to <https://meet.goto.com/668302645> or call 866-899-4679 (Access Code: 668-302-645).

Edward Kivari Jr.,  
Chairman

08/03, 08/10/2023

WILBRAHAM BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING

The Wilbraham Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on **Thursday, August 17, 2023 starting at 5:30PM** on the application of Marcel Verdon for a Special Permit under the provisions of Section 3.9.2.13 of the Wilbraham Zoning By-Law to allow a gutter business to be operated as a Home Occupation in the proposed detached accessory building on property owned by Marcel Verdon at 23 Pine Drive and as further specified in the application on file in the Planning Office and posted for public viewing on the Zoning Board of Appeals page of the Town of Wilbraham website at [www.wilbraham-ma.gov/135/Zoning-Board-of-Appeals](http://www.wilbraham-ma.gov/135/Zoning-Board-of-Appeals).

Both in person and virtual participation are available. To participate virtually go to <https://meet.goto.com/668302645> or call 866-899-4679 (Access Code: 668-302-645).

Edward Kivari Jr.,

Chairman  
08/03, 08/10/2023

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD23P1604EA  
Estate of:  
Frances C Brown  
Date of Death: 01/08/2023  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Daniel R Brown of Hampden, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Daniel R Brown of Hampden, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **without surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/25/2023.**

This is **NOT** a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsuper-

vised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: July 28, 2023  
**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
08/10/2023

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD15P1496EA  
Estate of:  
Robert J Chmura  
Date of Death: 05/10/2015  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT**

A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by **James R Auclair of Wilbraham, MA** and **Judith M Auclair of Wilbraham, MA** requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/31/2023.** This is **NOT** a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without

further notice to you.

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M. Hyland, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: July 31, 2023  
**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
08/10/2023

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD22P2215EA  
Estate of:  
Claire A O'Brien  
Date of Death: 06/26/2022  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT**

A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by **Judi A O'Brien of Wilbraham, MA** requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, a determination of heirs at law and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/31/2023**

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WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M. Hyland, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: July 31, 2023  
**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
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Gen. Law Ch.255, Sec. 39A as of **August 25, 2023** the following motor vehicle will be for sale to satisfy a garage keepers lien:  
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LKO: Madeline Cortez  
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08/10, 08/17, 08/24/2023

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD21P2068EA  
Andrew F Sears, Sr.  
Date of Death: 09/12/2021  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT**

A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by **James H Searsof Wilbraham, MA** and **Andrew F Sears, Jr. of Dobbs Ferry, NY** requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, a determination of heirs at law and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition. .

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition

from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/31/2023.**

This is **NOT** a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M. Hyland, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: August 01, 2023  
**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
08/10/2023

**Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.**

Wilbraham-Hampden Times  
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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Volunteers from the DPW get ready for residents to arrive to help dispose hazardous waste products during the Household Hazardous Waste Day event on Aug. 5.



Cars line up in the Minnechaug Regional High School parking lot on Aug. 5 for the Household Hazardous Waste Day event. The event, held by the Department of Public Works, was sponsored by USA Waste & Recycling and Western Recycling. Submitted photos Joe Lynskey



Volunteers begin their work of helping residents dispose of hazardous waste products they're dropping off at the Household Hazardous Waste Day event on Aug. 5.

HAZARDOUS I from page 1

vide an event that can serve the entire community,” Capparello said.

Lynskey wants the community to know hosting an event like this shows the DPW’s commitment to protecting the environment.

“By hosting an event like this, it gets things disposed of properly. I think a lot of times when people think of DPW, they just think about the roads. But we do similar things with the Disposal & Recycling Center and even with the drainage—which is part of the roads—but the highway. A lot of the stuff we do is with the environment in mind,” Lynskey said.

Capparello shared the goal was to “create a mechanism for residents to easily and efficiently bring their household hazardous waste to us to keep it out of the trash.”

“We wanted to make it so that it was very convenient for the residents, and they didn’t have to take too much time out of their day to come down, drop it off and go about their business,” Capparello said.

Lynskey added the event alleviates costs.

“Being able to offer it at no cost to the residents, it doesn’t put any burden on them to have to take out of their hard-earned money to go towards getting rid of things like this and have them decide

between if they need something for their family or get rid of hazardous waste,” Lynskey said.

Capparello also thanked the sponsors for their support.

“The town thanks USA Waste & Recycling and Western Recycling for sponsoring the Household Hazardous Waste Day event for the Town of Wilbraham,” Capparello said.

Looking ahead, Capparello provided an update on gas line replacement work on Main Street.

“They are excavating the sidewalk, installing a new gas main. They are temporarily patching the sidewalk but will be removing it completely and installing a

brand-new sidewalk for the town,” Capparello said.

Capparello clarified the temporary patching is not the finished product.

“The sidewalk will be fully removed and replaced. That’s all on the gas company, the town is not paying for that,” Capparello said.

Capparello also said the Cottage Avenue Bridge repair project has begun and will be completed in November 2023 and traffic control measures are installed.

“If you drive over the bridge right now, you’ll see traffic control measures in place, which are the barrels, the signs and so forth,” Capparello said.

HIKING I from page 2

for a hike. She used the term “forest bathing” to describe the appeal.

Some people enjoy quiet hikes, so the club offers some hikes that include talking only at the breaks or rest stops.

As the survey is identifying, many people like to hike for the socialization, Burk explained.

“Some people are hiking for the social opportunity; the ability to chat with other people and catch up with other people who they might not see except during a hike. That’s been very important for a good segment of the hiking population,” she said.

When it comes to choosing the location for a hike, the decision is left up to the club leader. Each hike leader chooses

a day they would like to hike, as well as a time, level of difficulty, duration and place.

“Then, that is what gets posted with details about the actual hike to let people know how to get there and how to find maps or whatever. Then, anybody who wants to can sign up for the hike (online),” Burk said.

Burk chooses her hikes based on the ones she can do and the locations she enjoys. She said she has many routes, rotates through them and that “there are very few repeats throughout the year because there are so many wonderful places

in and around Wilbraham.”

For those who have never hiked with the club before, Burk encourages them to try the experience. She offered the following advice.

“If you’re a person who’s never hiked before, look for a hike where it says, ‘sneakers apply for the hike,’ and that’s a great place to start. Try if you’ll like it,” she said. “Then, if you become more interested, you may decide to go on hikes which require hiking boots or hikes in the winter, which require micro spikes on top of hiking boots.”



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# SPORTS

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## Falcons wrap up regular season

WILBRAHAM – With fall football season just a couple short weeks ago, many members of Minnechaug football enjoyed their own home turf for 7v7 two-hand touch football. The league host more than a dozen schools from around the region for action Tuesday nights for the past several weeks. The league’s playoffs were scheduled for earlier this week.

## West showcased in girls soccer

BOSTON – In last month’s Bay State Games, the Western part of the state featured a girls soccer team showcased. Here is a look at how they fared in some of their matchups held July 6-9:

The West started out with a drubbing of the Northeast team 9-1.

In a dominant display of attacking prowess, West’s forwards Hannah Murphy (Monson, Monson HS), Gianna Sakowski (Springfield, Minnechaug Regional HS), and Lauren Marjanski (South Hadley, South Hadley HS) each notched two goals, alongside contributions from midfielder Danica Dorozynski (Chicopee, Chicopee

Please see **SOCCKER**, page 14



Hunter Bennett looks to get the tag on an opponent.



Luis Prambarger makes a throw for the Falcons.



Max Baroni looks to make a catch.



Davis Nelson secures a catch.



Vinh Nguyen heads for the end zone after making a reception.



Noah Braithwaite tries to avoid being tagged.

## PeoplesBank wrap up another championship title in TriCounty League

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

CHICOPEE – Just like they’ve done during the past decade, PeoplesBank didn’t have very much trouble capturing the

2023 Tri-County League championship title.

After posting an 8-0 victory over the second-seeded Chicopee Falls Tigers in game one at Legion Field in Palmer, top-seeded PeoplesBank swept

the best of three series following a 15-1 win at Szot Park in Chicopee, last Thursday night.

“All of the players get along very well with each other on and

Please see **TRICOUNTY**, page 14



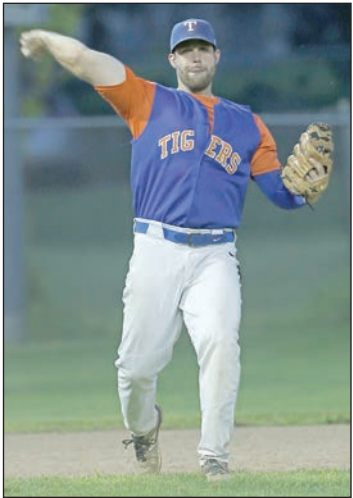
Aiden Consedine delivers a pitch.



Johnny Gegetsas slides safely home.



Sam Allen slings a throw to first.



Nick Koziol throws to first.



Ryan Magni fields a grounder.



Jason Byers throws a pitch.

Turley photos by David Henry



# Granite State Pro Stock Series headed for Maine

WALPOLE, N.H. – Granite State Pro Stock Series officials announced today that Coastal Auto Parts will sponsor the upcoming Coastal Auto Parts 100 at Speedway 95 on Saturday, August 19. In what will be the second stop of the season for the series to the Maine oval, drivers will be chasing the championship as the season begins to wind down.

The Speedway 95 event will be one of the final three on the schedule for the season, with only events at Star Speedway and Lancaster Motorplex to follow to crown the 2023 champion.

Coastal Auto Parts, in business for many years, has built a great business by focusing on superior customer service, through deep inventory, quality people and building meaningful relationships with their customers. They are a family business, deeply rooted in the Ellsworth, Maine, community. From a single store in 1981, Coastal Auto Parts has 29 stores today and more than 270 employees. They have truly transi-



There will be another race at Speedway 95 in Maine this weekend

Submitted photo

tioned to the next generation.

The event at Speedway 95 on August 19 will also include the R&R Street Stock Series and the Cage Runners. A full schedule for the day will be available soon.

“We support racing in the state of Maine for many reasons,” Michael Boles of Coastal Auto Parts said. “These people are customers for us, both on the track and in the stands. They work

really hard to be able to do what they love and we want to help provide them a place to play. We are always excited to go to the track. Hopefully this event will continue to help grow racing in the Bangor area and the state of Maine.”

“Partnering with Coastal Auto Parts for this event is great for our series,” Mike Parks, President of the Granite State Pro Stock Series, said. “We’re happy to have them working with us

for what will be another great event. Speedway 95 produces some fantastic Pro Stock racing and we’re excited to get back there for another race later this month.”

For more information on Coastal Auto Parts, visit capnapa.com. For more information on the Granite State Pro Stock Series, visit gpss.net and follow the series on social media for the latest news and updates.

## Twins grab final playoff spot with win, A’s take first

WILBRAHAM – Last week, the Twins of the Valley Wheel Over-28 Baseball League edged out the Angels for the final playoff spot thanks to two consecutive wins to finish off the regular season.

The Twins would defeat the Angels last Sunday 6-4 in a very close contest, but then moved in win-or-go-home makeup game against the Tigers last Wednesday night at Spec Pond in Wilbraham.

The Tigers were already in the playoffs, but the Twins needed a win to finish a game ahead of the Angels. A loss would have tied the Twins with the Angels, and the Angels would have made the playoffs through the tiebreaker.

The Tigers, which showed a much-improved offense this season, did jump out to a six-run lead early in the game, but not wanting to use too much pitching with a playoff game looming, the Twins were able to come back and

tie the score 7-7 in the fifth inning. In the sixth, the wheels would come undone for the Tigers, as the Twins simply started mashing the ball, batting around nearly twice as they plated the 15 runs needed for the game to end via the mercy-rule for a 22-7 Twins win.

The Athletics would defeat the Tigers last Sunday, July 30, and then followed that with a 23-12 win over the Cubs to finish the regular season 10-5 and win the top seed in the playoffs.

Both the A’s and Cubs had also made the playoffs and the game was simply for the opportunity to finish in first place and gain the top seed.

The playoffs began Sunday, Aug. 6 with the Twins and Cubs facing off while the Tigers and A’s met in the other semifinal. Results from those games were not available as of press time. The championship game is set for this Sunday, Aug. 13 at 3 p.m. at Spec Pond in Wilbraham.

## Thunderbirds caravan event moved

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds today announced that the first installment of the T-Birds Community Caravan presented by Dunkin’ has been postponed to Saturday, Aug. 12 due to potential inclement weather this weekend.

The T-Birds Community Caravan will still make a total of three stops in the Springfield area throughout the summer months:

- Saturday, Aug. 12 - Szot Park (Chicopee), 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday, Aug. 19 - Amelia Ice Arena

(Westfield), 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in conjunction with the T-Birds Street Hockey Tournament

- Public skating from 10:50 to 11:50 a.m.
- Saturday, Sept. 9 - Forest Park & Cyr Arena (Springfield), 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Each event will feature an appearance from Thunderbirds mascot Boomer and team staff, as well as a wide variety of activities and vendors, including a Dunkin’ Taste Truck, street hockey activities, and various food options.

### SOCCER | from page 13

Comprehensive HS) and defender Makenna Kennedy (West Springfield, West Springfield HS), securing an emphatic 9-1 victory. Northeast’s midfielder Siena Hesbach (Maynard, Maynard HS) scored the consolation goal, with an assist from midfielder Phoebe Whitcomb (Newburyport, Newburyport HS).

The West would lose one game in the showcase and would play for the bronze medal, defeating Central Mass. 3-2.

In the bronze medal game, Central and West battled fiercely in a close match. Central’s forward Bianca Facchetti (Longmeadow, Minnechaug Regional HS) opened the scoring with an assist from

forward Kalli White (Granby, Granby HS), holding the lead at halftime. However, West fought back in the second half, as forward Gianna Sakowski (Springfield, Minnechaug Regional HS) netted a goal off a corner kick. Central responded with a goal of their own from forward Sydney Reed (West Springfield, West Springfield HS), assisted by midfielder Sabina Mackechnie (East Longmeadow, East Longmeadow HS). With tensions high, West was awarded a penalty kick, which Marjanski converted confidently. In the final moments of the match, West midfielder Allison Fleury (South Hadley, South Hadley HS) sealed the victory with an assist from Marjanski, leading West to a thrilling comeback win.

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

### TRICOUNTY | from page 13

off the field,” said PeoplesBank player/manager Joe Ferry. “The target on our backs gets bigger and bigger each year because everyone wants to beat us. Winning the championship title never gets old and the next one is always better than the last one.”

PeoplesBank has now won 18 Tri-County League championship titles, including the past ten, since 1995.

Ferry was the starting leftfielder and he’s been the PeoplesBank manager since 2019. He dedicated the 2023 season to Tom Bouvier, who’s from Ware. Bouvier retired a year ago.

“I would like to dedicate this season to Tom Bouvier,” Ferry said. “Tom was our captain and our leadoff hitter.”

Holyoke’s Danny Gaines, who made just two regular season starts, was the winning pitcher in game two. The lefty didn’t allow any runs on six base hits in 5 2/3 innings.

“I can’t believe this is our tenth championship title in a row and I’m looking forward to playing for this team again next year,” said Gaines, who issued two walks and didn’t record any strikeouts. “We were able to take an early lead in tonight’s game, which is always a very important thing. My teammates also made the plays behind me. We do have the best

defense in the league.”

Ferry and Gaines, along with second baseman Dave Clark, catcher Pete Hogan, and pitcher Andy Gaines, are the only PeoplesBank players who have been members of the last ten championship teams.

“We do have a great group of baseball players and we own this league now,” Ferry said. “We just fill in the holes every year.”

While the PeoplesBank players were celebrating another championship title outside of the first base dugout, the mood was a little bit different on the other side of the field following the game.

“I’m glad that we made it to the finals, but we just didn’t play very well in the past two games,” said Tigers player/manager Sean Bourgeois. “I’ll be moving to New Jersey soon, so this was my final Tri-County League baseball game. I’m hope this team can win the championship title next year.”

Bourgeois, who started in left field, would like Mike Truff to replace him as the Tigers manager next year.

PeoplesBank scored an unearned run in the second inning.

Centerfielder Seth Allen (2-for-4) blasted a leadoff double down the left field line against righthander Ryan Magni. The next batter struck out before shortstop Sam Allen drew a walk. Then Hogan

bounced into a fielder’s choice play. Seth Allen advanced to third on the play before scoring the game’s first run on a throwing error by the shortstop.

An RBI line-drive single to center by designated hitter Johnny Gegetsas gave PeoplesBank a 2-0 advantage with one-out in the third inning. Then Seth Allen blasted a triple to left field against Magni scoring two more runs.

Bourgeois thinks Magni is one of the top pitchers in the TCL, but he hasn’t had very much success against PeoplesBank.

“We’ve beaten Magni in a number of big games over the years,” Ferry said. “At least six of our nine batters have faced him at least 30 times. We know what he throws.”

The Tigers had just one base hit during the first three innings before they loaded the bases in the fourth.

With one-out, Right fielder Tom Burzynski hit a flyball just out of the reach of PeoplesBank right fielder Breon Parker Jr., who attempted to make a diving catch. Catcher Nick Kreuzer followed with a single and shortstop Shane Denault walked. Gaines retired the next two batters on a pop-up and flyout ending the threat.

Magni kept PeoplesBank off the scoreboard for the next two innings before allowing four runs in the top of the sixth inning.

Hogan, who had a leadoff single, scored on Ferry’s triple to right field. Ferry also scored on a throwing error. Their other two runs crossed the plate on a double by Clark (3-for-5) and a single by first baseman Kyle Platner, who led the way offensively with four hits and a walk.

PeoplesBank scored seven more runs in their final at-bats against a couple of relief pitchers.

The Tigers finally got on the scoreboard in the bottom of the seventh inning against Gegetsas, who replaced Gaines on the mound. Burzynski reached first base on a fielder’s choice play which scored pinch hitter Josh DeSouza, who singled leading off the frame.

Had there been a game three of the series, righthander Zach Handzel, who graduated from Palmer High School, would’ve been the starting pitcher for PeoplesBank.

“It just feels awesome to win another championship title,” said Handzel, who has been wearing a PeoplesBank uniform for the past six years. “Danny threw a gem tonight and Jimmy Flahive pitched very well in game one. We do have a very strong pitching staff. I’m hoping that we can win another title next year.”

Before taking a team picture at home plate, Ferry received the championship trophy from first year Tri-County League President Michael Kennedy, who’s a former PeoplesBank player.



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

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DEADLINES: QUABBIN & SUBURBAN – FRIDAY AT NOON

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CATEGORY:

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Base Price \$26.00
21 Base Price \$26.50	22 Base Price \$27.00	23 Base Price \$27.50	24 Base Price \$28.00
25 Base Price \$28.50	26 Base Price \$29.00	27 Base Price \$29.50	28 Base Price \$30.00
29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
37 Base Price \$34.50	38 Base Price \$35.00	39 Base Price \$35.50	40 Base Price \$36.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Weeks: \_\_\_\_\_ X per week rate = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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☐ Quabbin

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OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!





Bill Partelo of Wicked Woodworking shows off his custom woodworking pieces. Turley photos by Kristin Rivers



The Batch Ice Cream food truck was one of the food vendors at the Wilbraham Farmers Market this season.



Alysse Davis of Girlie's Cakes in Monson is ready to provide attendees with sweet treats.



Evelyn Goss, Sue Lak and Maria Cacela, vice president of the Friends of the Wilbraham Senior Center, are all smiles at the Wilbraham Farmers Market on Aug. 2.



Martha Bryenton and Tom Meade of Bucket List Maple Syrup show off their maple syrup offerings.



Bridget McMahon from Mama LIFE Oils & Wellness showed off Everything Elderberry syrups, with free samples.



Ryan, Jessie, Hannah, Cooper, Greg and Evan Donovan pose for a group photo at their table, Four Clovers.

**MARKET** | from page 1

good to keep us involved in the community and be part of something bigger than just our immediate four walls,” Meade said.

Diane and Robert Rollins of D & R Farm have been part of the farmers market for five years, selling homegrown vegetables, baked goods and farm-raised chickens and turkeys.

The farm accepts all forms of payment, including SNAP Benefits and HIP credit cards, and visits senior centers or housing authorities in Monson, Brimfield and Palmer and the Hampden Senior Center.

Diane Rollins encouraged residents to support farmers markets and their vendors.

“That’s what we’re here for. We’re here to help them and we hope that people reach out to us and help us,” Rollins said.

Meade also encouraged residents to visit before the season ends.

“Come on down, see for yourself. You’re lucky to have a vibrant market in your town. Take advantage of it. We’re only here for another three, four weeks. Please feel free to come down,” Meade said.

To learn more, visit [thewilbrahamwellcomeproject.com/farmers-market](http://thewilbrahamwellcomeproject.com/farmers-market).

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**AUGUST 15**  
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