



LOCAL
Getting ready for Kindergarten
Page 12



SPORTS
Falcons win youth title
Page 15



Turley photo by Kristin Rivers

The Hampden Police Department is reminding the community to be safe and vigilant as the new school year begins on Aug. 29.

HPD: Stay safe returning to school

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
krivers@turley.com

HAMPDEN - As the first day of school approaches on Aug. 29, the police department wants to remind the community to stay safe and vigilant.

Kindergarten begins Sept. 5, while Pre-K starts Sept. 7.

From making sure to stop for school buses when the stop signs and red flashing lights are on to watch for children and families crossing in crosswalks, safety first is the biggest priority to make for a safe and healthy new school year.

Ofc. William Jacques, who also serves as a school resources officer at Green Meadows Elementary School, explained traffic "definitely picks up" as school resumes.

"There'll be buses on the road, the kids will be waiting for those buses. Some walk to school so they'll be out," Jacques said. "So, kind of just like a friendly reminder to obey the traffic laws and drive safe. Our police department--the chief--puts an extra officer on so we have one extra traffic car. Sometimes it

follows the buses around to see if cars don't pass it, because they're not used to it all summer and then they blow by a bus with the lights on... have it stop, see its lights on, make sure the cars coming the other way is stopped, traffic stuff like that."

Recalling the school bus fire that took place on Jan. 12 at Bayberry Road and Somers Road, Jacques understands parents may be concerned about their children's safety while riding the school buses, along with children understandably concerned too.

He shared how he's spoken to bus drivers and school faculty and received assurance that all precautions are being taken.

"I think the buses are safe. The drivers are all trained on what to do and when to do it," Jacques said. "They've gone through the protocols and stuff and the safety reassurances to make sure the buses are safe. To my knowledge, even speaking with the superintendent, he was right on top of it. So, I think they'll be safe and the parents should be comfortable to send their kids to school."

Please see **SCHOOL**, page 19

Trot for Tom Run/Walk set to take off on Sept. 14

The event will support neurological research

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
krivers@turley.com

WILBRAHAM - The Trot for Tom Run/Walk in honor of Dr. Thomas "Tom" Julian will take place on Sept. 14.

The one-time event will take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Minnechaug Regional High School and comprises a 5K Run and one-mile walk, followed by music, a picnic, a raffle and a silent auction.

The proceeds will be donated towards neurological research, with a member of Julian's dissertation committee—who was also his advisor and professor—at the University of Connecticut, Dr. Ruth Lucas, receiving the donation to continue her work and the work Julian started.

Interested participants and anyone who wants to donate can visit <https://www.RunReg.com/trot-for-tom> to sign up and learn more information.

Julian was a researcher and scientist on the path to becoming an academic, having graduated with top honors from Wilbraham & Monson Academy, the University of Massachusetts and Elms College. He then furthered his education by earning a doctoral degree in nursing from UConn and completing a post-doctoral fellowship with the School of Psychology and Neuroscience at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

A humble, loving, generous, kind and bright young man taken way too soon, Julian left a mark not just on people in his

Submitted photos
Marcy Julian

Dr. Thomas "Tom" Julian's life and legacy will be honored during the Trot for Tom Run/Walk on Sept. 14. The logo for the Trot for Tom Run/Walk to honor Dr. Thomas "Tom" Julian and support neurological research taking place on Sept. 14 at Minnechaug Regional High School.



own life, but on the community as well.

Julian's mother, Marcy, shared the best way her family wanted to honor her son's legacy and life "was to highlight the type of work he was doing and to contribute to research."

She was moved by the community support to help bring this event together, saying the goal would mean a lot to her son.

"Our goal would really mean a lot to him. So, it's really gratifying to see both people who are lifelong friends of ours, of his, people in our community and complete strangers stepping up to support this effort," Julian said. "As his parents, it's a healing experience for us as well."

Julian said Hampden Coun-

ty Sheriff Nick Cocchi and District Attorney Anthony Gulluni have also lent their support, contributing videos to help spread the word about the event and encourage people to support it.

"Both men in their positions are 100% committed to their communities and making the lives of people in their communities better, which is why I think this event resonates with them," Julian said. "They both knew Tom personally and we're very grateful that they're putting the power of their voices behind the event."

Julian stressed how the event can help raise more awareness for neurological research because researchers and scientists "do amazing work that benefit all of us."

"They pretty much stay un-

Please see **TROT**, page 19

'Treasures from the Attic' on display Sept. 7



Charles F. Bennett photo

Atheneum President Dave Bourcier tries out an 1930's Underwood typewriter that was used in Wilbraham Town Hall.

By Charles F. Bennett
Times Editor Emeritus

WILBRAHAM - Wilbraham history buffs may remember the old small-size Yankee Magazines, which had a feature each month that highlighted an unfamiliar antique object that they wouldn't readily know what it was used for.

But once they were told how it was used, for instance, like an electricity-free iron that would have been filled with hot coals to smooth out wrinkles, it made a lot of sense.

Readers Digest also published a feature entitled: "Vintage Objects: Can you Guess the Uses of These Old Objects?"

With that in mind the Old

Meeting House Museum's chief curator, past president and treasurer Lucy Peltier came up with an idea for an interesting exhibit to show off at the museum's monthly Open House on Saturday, Sept. 7 from 2 to 4 p.m. called "Treasures from the Attic". She is aided by museum trustee Marty Lyman.

The Sept. 7 open house at the museum at 450 Main Street will feature artifacts from the Wilbraham Atheneum Society's collections that have rarely been displayed, if ever. (The Atheneum Society oversees the town-owned museum.)

"We have searched through boxes, closets, and chests in the storage room and attic of the Old Meeting House to find items of

various areas of interest," said Peltier. "This is a chance for the public to see historical items from the greater Wilbraham area which have been hiding in storage for years," she said. Refreshments will be served.

As a retired reporter and editor, and no stranger to an old-fashioned typewriter, I was intrigued by the display of a 1930's vintage Underwood typewriter. So much so that I asked Atheneum president Dave Bourcier to sit down and pose for a photo of it.

Can You Guess?

Echoing those old Yankee Magazine and Reader's Digest articles, the open house will also

Please see **TREASURES**, page 4

The Dance Studio celebrates 25 years

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
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WILBRAHAM - The Dance Studio, located in the Kids Village at Post Office Park, is celebrating 25 years and prepping for their upcoming 25th season.

The Dance Studio offers a variety of classes including toddler classes, classical ballet, jazz, tap, musical theater dance, modern contemporary, acro, street hip-hop, breakdance and funk, pre-dance, ballet fairy tales, combo classes and competition and performance team.

A new class is called "The Remarkables," dedicated to people with special needs or physical needs so they, too, can enjoy dance and movement.

Fall enrollment is ongoing and runs through December, with in-person registration open every Tuesday from 5 to 7 p.m. and an open house slated for Sept. 3 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Classes begin on Sept. 9. and the team is there every evening Mondays through Fridays from 4 to 8 p.m.

Angela Vital-Martowski, owner and artistic director, shared the studio was created "to make sure children of all ages and all levels got quality dance instruction."

"When I came back to this area--to the Western Mass area--after being away at school and dancing professionally, I was teaching in the area and found that a lot of schools would do--especially for little kids or novice dancers--they were giving them the teenagers that would teach them or maybe teachers who are less experienced and I found that it was kind of a lacking, if you will," Vital-Martowski said. "I felt like everybody regardless of their age or level should get a quality dance instructor."

Vital-Martowski added how she noticed a lot of dance schools "were focused on being very competitive and their most advanced dancers, but they weren't focused on the recreational dancers."

"The dancers that come in just once a week, come in and have fun and get exercising and have it be a social outlet," Vital-Martowski said. "That was really important to me to make sure that those children also got quality dance instruction. That they were getting teachers who were educated, that they were knowledgeable, that they knew about the body and injury prevention and how to execute the steps correctly and safely. So, that was a big point for me in opening the studio."

Vital-Martowski's dance journey is vast, having begun at the age of three and studying every aspect of dance, spending summers dancing in nationally renowned dance programs including the Princeton Ballet, the Boston Ballet, Jacobs Pillow and White Mountain Dance Festival, later studying at The New England Dance Conservatory (NEDC) with Shelley Zeibel-Lipitz and Ken Liptiz, later performing as a soloist with their company, the New England Dance Theater.

"They were very poignant into making my career and really giving me the love of teaching and going further into my career, so I have to thank them," Vital-Martowski said.



Photos courtesy of Angie Vital-Martowski

A group shot of dancers in their range of dance classes at The Dance Studio in Wilbraham.

said. "They're no longer teaching and their studio has since closed, but they were very crucial into kind of putting the love of teaching and the love of dance into my career."

Professionally, Vital-Martowski performed with the Boston Ballet, Pittsburgh Ballet Theater, American Repertory Ballet Theater, Ballet South, Albany Berkshire Ballet, Hartford Ballet, Disney, Universal Studios, MTV and local musical theater productions.

Upon leaving Boston, she returned to NEDC to teach and, also received her teacher certification in both dance and Early Childhood Education, later teaching for a decade at the Springfield Jewish Community Center.

After receiving her degree in Ballet Pedagogy from The Hartt School, The Dance Studio of Wilbraham officially opened its doors in Fall 2000.

Vital-Martowski also currently serves as an adjunct professor of Dance and Movement at Springfield College.

Reflecting on the impact of her studio, Vital-Martowski finds the children excelling in dance and being happy and finding a safe space in the art fulfilling.

"We try really hard to make our studio a non-competitive atmosphere, meaning that, yes, we have a lot of competition--performance team--we do visit competitions and we do this for the children, but we don't want them to compete within themselves," Vital-Martowski said. "That's a very important aspect for me that everybody is included, that everybody feels welcome and in this day and age, that's not always the case. So, we try really hard to make that a focus on our studio and on our team."

Community engagement is important to Vital-Martowski too, sharing how the team has visited Orchard Valley at Wilbraham to engage with, speak and dance for the residents, participated in Wreaths Across America and more.

"So, we try to get our kids to be involved with the community," Vital-Martowski said. "For them to understand how lucky they are. It's kind of important to us that we get engaged in the community as well."

She emphasized how important the arts--including



Dance students from The Dance Studio bust a move.



Dance students from The Dance Studio in Wilbraham pose in this photo.



A dance student from The Dance Studio strutting her stuff in this dance pose.

An action shot of a dance student from The Dance Studio in Wilbraham.

dance--are to helping in many areas and deserve support. "The arts are--in the world as we know--underfunded and I feel like sometimes, people overlook the arts and their importance in education, mental health, physical health. Dance is a point that all of those things can engage with," Vital-Martowski said.

Reflecting on 25 years and the coming 25th season, Vital-Martowski was amazed.

"Now, I'm getting students who are coming back with their children, so now we're on the second generation of dancers coming in, which is amazing. I've had children who were in my studio at five and six years old now coming in with their children," Vital-Martowski said. "So, that is really the pivotal point of this 25 years for me, really seeing the second generation coming in, and that is, truly, the amazing part that we're hitting another generation of dancers, another generation of people who can really engage with the arts and find a love of movement and a love of dance at the studios, so that's really pivotal. (A) poignant moment."

Vital-Martowski thanks the community for all their support throughout the years and encourages them to support dance, sharing this message for students ahead of the coming season.

"I want them to enjoy dance by maybe experiencing something new. So, maybe trying a different style of dance," Vital-Martowski said. "Even though we're talking about our 25-year history, it's always about what new things that they can experience as a studio. That's what I'd love for them to do, especially our longtime students. I'd love for them to try something new. We always have new experiences, new classes, new opportunities starting up that they can engage in. and even the whole family can engage in."

To learn more, visit thedancestudioma.com, call 413-596-0121 or check out their Facebook page.

The Dance Studio

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Advanced Removal and Advanced Depositing for Early Voted Ballots

WILBRAHAM – The following is a notice regarding advanced removal of early voted ballots from envelopes and advanced depositing of early voted ballots:

In accordance with the Secretary of State Regulations 47.12 and under the provisions of section 7(k) of Chapter 115 of the Acts of 2020, the Town of Wilbraham will be opening and/or depositing early

voted ballots at the Town Offices, 240 Springfield Street at the following sessions:

- Saturday, August 24, 2024 9:00 AM TILL COMPLETE

As the Town Offices is closed to the public on Saturday, August 24, 2024, we respectfully ask that observers register by emailing clerks@wilbraham-ma.gov in advance of all processing of early vot-

ed ballots sessions.

In accordance with the Regulations 47.12 and the provisions of section 7(k) of Chapter 115 of the Acts of 2020, no results shall be determined or announced until after the time the polls close on September 3, 2024. At that time the results from the advance processed ballots will be added to the election day results and posted in a public place.

Vote-By-Mail and Absentee Voting

WILBRAHAM - Vote-by-mail ballots and absentee ballots are now available for the upcoming

State Primary scheduled for Tuesday, September 3, 2024. A request in writing is

required for obtaining an early or absentee ballot. An application to request a ballot can

be found on the Wilbraham Town Website and Secretary of State's website. Please call

596-2800, ext. 200 if you have any questions.

For the Vote by Mail Paper Application, visit <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/divisions/elections/download/vote-by-mail-applications/vote-by-mail-paper-application-2023.pdf>.

To register to vote or change name/address on voter registration, visit <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ovr/>.

Wilbraham announces In-Person Early Voting Hours

WILBRAHAM - The State Primary is being held on Tuesday, September 3, 2024.

Registered voters in Massachusetts will be able to cast their ballots in-person before the State Primary.

Registered voters in Wilbraham can come to Town Hall during scheduled business hours listed below to cast their ballot.

In-person Early Voting will take place at the Wilbraham Town Hall, 240 Springfield St., on the following dates/times:

Hours of Early Voting:

Saturday, August 24, 2024

11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Monday, August 26 thru Friday,

August 30, 2024

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Memory Café at the Senior Center

WILBRAHAM – The senior center will be hosting a Memory Café the first Monday of every month at 11 a.m.

Memory Café is an informal social gathering where you can participate in activities that help retain and possibly improve memory skills. It is open to everyone who wants to work on their brain power. It is especially helpful to those suffering memory loss and their caregivers.

- Prevent social isolation
- Form new friendships
- Make the reality of memory loss less traumatic

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Call Barbara Harrington at 596-8379 to register and for more information.

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Hampden announces State Primary Election Voting

HAMPDEN – Voting for the 2024 State Primary Election will begin soon.

Residents have four ways to vote in this election.

1. Absentee Ballot
2. Early Voting by Mail
3. Early Voting In Person
4. In Person Voting on Election Day

1. Absentee Ballot Voting – For those who qualify, absentee voting can be done by mail or in the Town Clerk’s Office. Voting in the Clerk’s Office is allowed until Noon on Thursday,

August 29, 2024. Applications for a mailed ballot must be received in the

Clerk’s Office by 5 p.m. on Monday, August 26, 2024.

2. Early Voting by Mail – To request a Vote by Mail ballot, a signed application or any signed form of written communication requesting a ballot is sufficient. Please state your name and voter address, and if you are an unenrolled (unaffiliated) voter, the party ballot desired for a Primary Election. Requests must be received at the Town Clerk’s Office before 5 p.m. on Monday, August 26, 2024.

Absentee or Mail in Early Voter ballots can be returned:

*By mail using the envelopes provided

*Placed in the drop box located behind the Town House by the parking lot.

*Hand delivered to the Town Clerk’s Office.

All Ballots must be received by 8 p.m. on September 3, 2024

3. Early In-Person Voting will take place in the auditorium at the Hampden Town House located at 625 Main Street, Hampden, MA 01036 the following dates and times.

Saturday - August 24, 2024
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Tuesday - August 27, 2024
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Thursday - August 29, 2024
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

4. In Person Voting on Election Day, Tuesday, September 3, 2024 – Voting will take place in the Town House auditorium located at 625 Main Street, Hampden, MA 01036 between the hours of 7:am – 8:pm

The Voter Registration deadline to vote in this State Primary is Saturday, August 24, 2024, until 5 p.m. at the Town Hall, or online at “mass.gov”.

Wilbraham Notice to Voters: Registration information

WILBRAHAM – From the office of the Board of Registrars of Voters:

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Registrars of Voters is in session.

Dates Monday - Friday
Times 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Places Town Clerk’s Office
Saturday August 24, 2024
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Town Clerk’s Office

*(Last Day to Register and change party enrollment for State Primary)

for the purpose of registering voters for the State Primary to be held on Tuesday, September 3, 2024 and to make any necessary corrections in the list of voters.

QUALIFICATIONS: An applicant for registration must be at least 18 years of age by the date of the election, a citizen of the United States and a resident of this city or town.

A registered voter who chooses to adopt a new name by decree of court or as a result of marriage shall continue to be registered in his/her former name until June first of the following year at

which time the voter shall be registered in his/her new name; provided, however, that if such voter appears in person prior to the close of registration for any preliminary, primary, or election to notify the registrars of such adoption of a new name, the registrars shall correct the current annual register so that such voter shall be registered in his/her new name. (G.L. Chapter 51, sec 2 as amended)

If a qualified voter whose name was on the voter’s list last year finds after close of registration that his/her name has been omitted from the current list by mistake or that there is a clerical error in the listing, he may apply to correct the omission or error.

If the application is made on Election Day, he/she may have a certificate to vote. Call the Board of Registrars’ Office, 413-596-2800, ext. 200, for information:

- If you are unable because of physical disability to appear in person to register, or
- If you wish to verify your voting status.

Board of Registrars }



Do you know what this antique was used for?... The vintage object on display at the Old Meeting House Museum is an antique check writer. (Lucy Peltier photo)

TREASURES from page 1

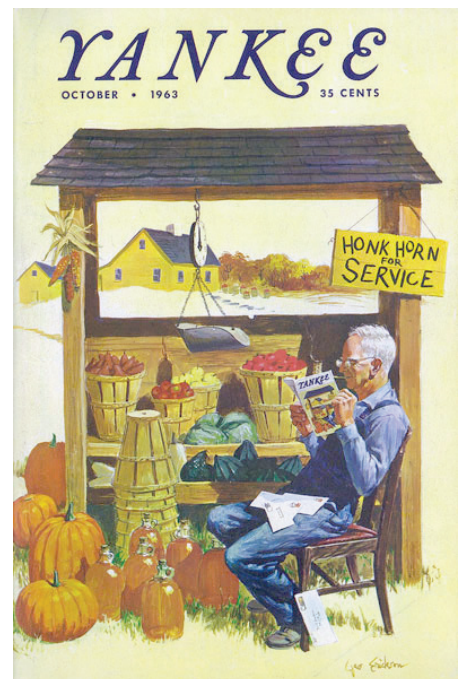
feature a “Can you guess what this is?” display of unusual items. Visitors are invited to guess the purpose and function of these items that used to be common, but are now unfamiliar to many, according to Peltier.

This season, commencing in May, the Museum has hosted guest speakers in the Brooks Room at the Wilbraham Library at its open houses - but at the Sept. 7 event, Treasurers from the Attic will be the stars of the show and the open house will be confined to the Museum.

Also this season visitors have been greeted with a redesigned gift shop, which is restocked with “Wilbraham” tee shirts for townies and visitors alike. There is an inventory of Wilbraham history books for those who want to know more about the town’s origins.

The museum has a tradition and goal to inform residents, new and old, of the history of Wilbraham going back to the 1730s said Bourcier. All museum events, from guest lectures to kids’ activities like the historical Scavenger Hunt at the Christmas Tree Festival, are free and open to the public.

For more information about the museum or the Wilbraham Atheneum society



The October 1963 edition of Yankee.

(photo courtesy Yankee)

email: president@wilbrahamatheneum.org.

Charlie Bennett is a member of the Wilbraham Historical Commission and a Trustee of the Atheneum Society.

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VIEWPOINTS

Does Congress pay into Social Security?

Dear Rusty:

I've been told that members of Congress do not have Social Security deducted from their pay. Additionally, their retirement dollars come from the Social Security Administration purse even if they only serve as a member of Congress for a short number of terms. Also, if this is true, are there other individuals that enjoy these advantages?

Thank you in advance for your service as a Social Security Advisor.

Signed: Concerned Senior

Dear Concerned Senior:

I'm afraid this is one of those "urban legend" kind of rumors that just seems to keep popping up, especially when the issues surrounding Social Security's financial problems come up. In addition to being untrue, it often is used to display the public's animosity toward elected officials and the feeling that Congress and other elected officials are above the fray, so to speak, and therefore not affected by the implications of Social Security's looming insolvency problem.

Here's the reality. Since Jan. 1, 1984, all members of Congress, the President and Vice President, Federal judges, and most political



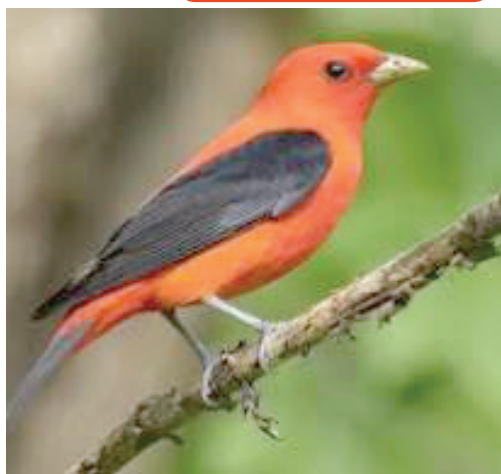
appointees, are covered under the Social Security program. The rumor that these elected officials do not pay Social Security tax most likely is attributable to the fact that from 1920 to 1983, they were participants in the Civil Service Retirement System, the federal retirement plan federal workers used even before the Social Security Act was passed. CSRS provided a pension for federal employees, so they were exempted from contributing to or collecting from the new Social Security program.

In 1987, then, the federal government officially changed over to the Federal Employee Retirement System and all employees hired from that point forward are now covered under FERS. There are multiple parts to FERS, and one of them is mandatory FICA contributions. So, all federal employees including members of Congress are subject to the 6.2% FICA tax, are eligible for Social Security retirement benefits and are governed by the multitude of rules

and regulations associated with Social Security.

But other than standard SS benefits which they may normally be entitled, no Social Security funds are used to supplement Congressional retirement. In other words, the rumor that Congress didn't pay into Social Security was actually true prior to 1984, but today it is a misstatement of fact. And the federal employee retirement plans (both the prior CSRS plan and the current FERS plan) are totally independent of Social Security and do not negatively affect program solvency.

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



Male scarlet tanager

Early this week I saw two scarlet tanagers on the ground in my daughter's driveway.

As I drove in, they flew up. The red of the male was clearly visible. I think the second bird was either a juvenile or a female. It has been years since I have seen a scarlet tanager. The previous sighting was one along the side of the road near my house.

The scarlet tanager is about seven inches long. The male is scarlet red as the name implies with black wings and tails. The female is

yellowish below and greenish feathers above with grayish brown wings. The juvenile male has patches of red and yellow with dark brown wings and tail. The juvenile female is like the adult female.

They feed on the ground where I spotted these two and in foliage. They eat insects and wild berries. The female lays two to five pale blue green eggs with brown dots in a nest of twigs, grasses and rootlets placed in a tree from five to 75 feet above the ground.

Scarlet tanagers inhabit mature, deciduous forests. Tanagers are often heard rather than seen despite the males bright red when in the forest canopy. They make a two part whistle "zureet zeyeer zeeeroo." Their call is a metallic "chip."

Other birds

This past weekend while traveling on Route 122 in Barre, I saw three great blue heron fly over. I often see a lone wild turkey on New Braintree Road in Oakham.

Whippoorwills

I received two more comments about whippoorwills since the last column. A Pelham resident sent an email. He said, "I live in Pelham and hear an eastern whippoorwill most nights around 8:30. It's a beautiful call." A Brimfield resident, who regularly sends emails about birds in his area, also had a comment about the whippoorwill. He said, "I saw you most recent column where you wrote about a woman reporting whippoorwills. We built our house in Brimfield in 1981 and during the summer of 1984 we heard whippoorwills calling behind the house all summer. Unfortunately they have never returned."

Brimfield birds

In the most recent email from the Brimfield resident, he said, "In the yard I have started to see young birds recently out of their nests. Three juvenile Baltimore orioles were following an adult male

around the yard, also juvenile cardinal (dark bill), male hairy woodpecker (red on top of it head), blue jays (young begging with quivering wings) and towhee have been seen recently. House wren and great crested flycatcher used nesting boxes in the yard and the young have fledged."

Birds near water

The Brimfield resident frequently checks local ponds. He reported the common grackle nesting in a tree cavity, kingbird, chickadee and tree swallow with nests he watched at a pond in Warren all fledged their young.

He also keeps track of four great blue heron nests and said the first nesting herons to start incubating fledged their young a week ago. The other three nests still have young herons in them. He also watches an osprey nest, which has three chicks. He said, "About a week ago on a very hot and sunny day I saw that the adult on the nest was spreading its wings to provide shade for the chicks. I watched the nest for over an hour and the adult kept its wings spread the entire time trying to provide shade for the young birds." He said the young stay around the pond for awhile after fledging, sometimes until late August.

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.

Election letters to the editor welcome

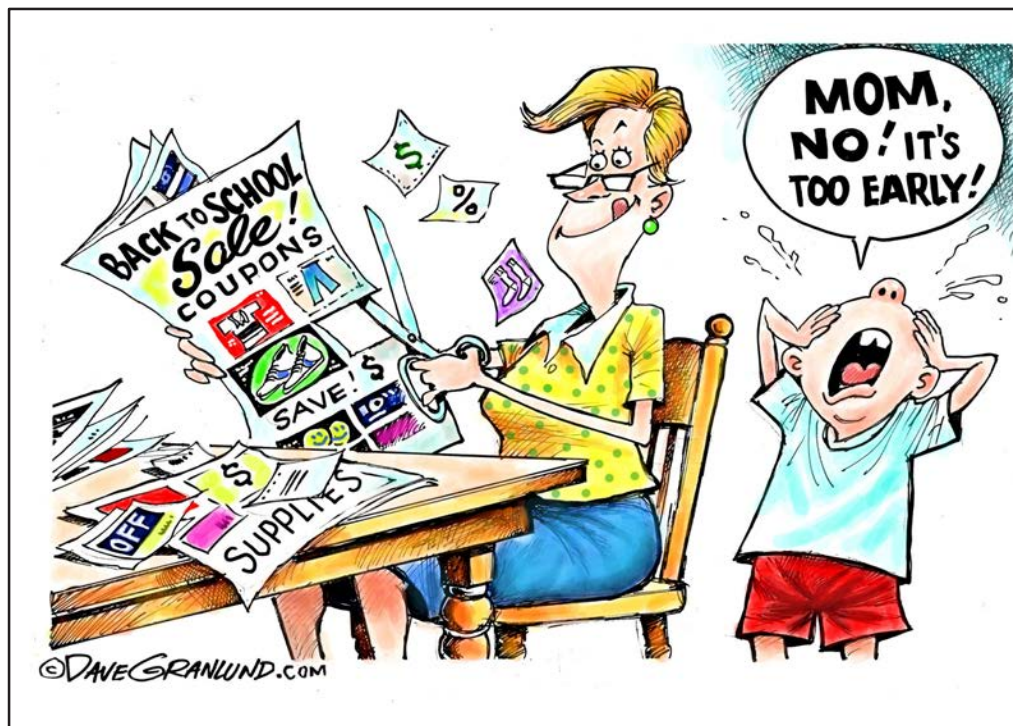
The Wilbraham-Hampden Times welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to Wilbraham-Hampden Times, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to krivers@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Thursday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

For more information, call the editor at 413-283-8393.

Campaign news

As part of its election coverage, the newspaper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers.

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in Wilbraham-Hampden Times.



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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.

Board of Selectmen exploring Shared Energy Manager position

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
krivers@turley.com

HAMPDEN - The Board of Selectmen voted on Aug. 12 to engage in and further explore the Shared Energy Manager position.

Town Administrator Brian Domina explained to the board it would be funded by the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant, money being passed through the state to municipalities to "try to kick around some project ideas."

"It's pretty much clean energy planning or building off of improvement. My original thought was to try and find something at TWB that could be low-hanging fruit and it could be something we could do. But it just seems a bit premature for that," Domina said.

Domina said he got an email from the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission about trying to put together a Shared Energy Manager position.

"The job description's in here, but it's really just to assist municipalities in trying to pursue those goals, so energy conservation..." Domina said.

After Selectman John Flynn asked if

this was different from aggregation, Domina confirmed yes.

"This is just a staff person that would navigate us through the utility incentives and things like that and find out the best way to do this," Domina said.

Selectman Craig Rivest's concern was this.

"My only question or concern was this turned into the shared health services where they didn't factor in the salary of the people when they came to us and it went over and above the grant and then we were on the hook," Rivest said.

"All of a sudden we had a bill," Flynn added.

Domina clarified he hadn't seen an agreement yet and could make sure a similar scenario to the shared health services didn't occur.

"It'll at least give us some resources internally that doesn't cost anything to go through that process," Domina said. "I think there's going to be a lot of improvements that could at least be made at TWB."

Chair Don Davenport wondered about the numbers.

"Is each municipality getting \$45,000 a year?" Davenport said.

Domina said that's the amount the grant would cover.

"So, the maximum grant amount for this position, Clean Energy Planning, is \$45,000," Domina said.

After Davenport asked if it was per town, Domina said yes and the amount would stay the same.

"At this point, they would be looking to hire two energy managers that would be shared amongst whatever the finalists of participating towns is," Domina said.

When Davenport wondered what the people would do in the position, Domina said whoever it is, they would take direction from the town and work on projects the town wants them to do related to energy conservation and improvements.

Which led Davenport to say this.

"So, we could say, 'Could you take a look at Thornton Burgess and see what we can do there to save energy? Can you look at the--I don't know--fire station?'" Davenport said.

Domina affirmed yes, adding the energy manager can also help with any energy professionals who may want to do work in town as a couple emails come in per week.

"So, those emails can go to that per-

son, they can vet those people, figure out what makes sense for us and then we can move forward that way," Domina said.

Flynn reiterated how answering Rivest's concern needs to be addressed.

"But, there's no additional obligation. But, for free, there's no harm," Flynn said.

The other towns looking into participating in the program--according to the list Davenport read--were Belchertown, Chester, Easthampton, Granby, Ludlow, Palmer, Greenfield, Longmeadow, South Hadley and Ware.

After considering whether to take a vote or await more from the Planning Board, Flynn presented a motion.

"I'd like to make a motion to engage in this program, with the understanding that there will be no additional expense to the town, other than--what--the grant probably," Flynn said.

The motion passed 3-0.

Domina added a clarification that, right now, all they're doing is authorizing submission for the grant.

"So, there will be a grant contract and then a contract for the shared energy manager and if we don't like it, then we just say no thanks," Domina said.

Fall into Art Art Show set for Sept. 13, 14

HAMPDEN - The Scantic River Artisans present the "Fall into Art Art Show" on Sept. 13 and 14 at Thornton W. Burgess Middle School on 85 Wilbraham Rd. in Hampden.

We invite you to experience, explore and purchase the diverse art on display.

The two-day show takes place from 3 to 7 p.m. on Sept. 13, and from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sept. 14, with a reception from Noon to 2 p.m.

The New England Mosaic will also

be featured in the show!

The New England Mosaic is a 24-foot fine art wall made up of 264 individual canvas "tiles" painted by over 200 area artists that capture the beauty and diversity of New England life. The tiles will be for sale and the proceeds will fund scholarships for area art students.

To learn more, email: info@scanticriverartisans.com or visit www.scanticriverartisans.com.

Fall Storytime available at the WPL

WILBRAHAM - A fall storytime session will be held at the Wilbraham Public Library starting on Thursday, September 19 and continuing weekly for six weeks.

Children ages 3 1/2 - 5 are invited to join us at the library for a fun-filled time of stories, songs, and crafts. Kids must come in independently and parents/caretaker must wait in the library. 10 to

10:45 a.m. Thursday Sept. 19, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, Oct. 10, Oct. 17 and Oct. 24.

Registration is required and starts on August 19 at 9 a.m. Space is limited. Sign ups are for the six week session.

To sign up, visit the Event Calendar at www.wilbrahamlibrary.org or contact the library at 413-596-6141.

This program is sponsored by the Wilbraham Friends of the Library.

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Seniors get fit at 'Fit After 60' class

By Hannah Yeasley
Correspondent

WILBRAHAM - The chatting in the multi-purpose room of the senior center faded away quickly as the Fit After 60 exercise class began at 10 a.m. on Aug. 15.

The class takes place every Tuesday and Thursday and is free to attend.

Erin Pincince, the instructor, says that most of the chairs are full each time.

"I usually expect about 70 people for this class," Pincince said. "But it's always possible to make room for more."

The class included a mix of standing and seated exercises, beginning with everyone standing next to their chairs to begin their aerobic workout. The exercises covered just about everything from shoulders and wrists to abs, arms and full legs.

Music like Dusty Springfield played while many attendees sang along as they worked.

One attendee, Janice Knittle, has been coming to this class for eight years.

Knittle loves coming, especially since Pincince has taken over.

"Our last instructor was amazing, and when she retired Erin took over," Knittle said. "She's one of the best we've had, you can even ask her about vitamins and all kinds of things."

Pincince shared she taught at the YMCA for a long time and still does as a substitute. She taught this same class at the old senior center, so when the new one opened she transferred over right away.

Spending about ten minutes of exercises standing or sitting at a time, the class began their warmup marching, but also did things like side steps and arm circles.

After the warmup, and the collective sigh of relief at the first water break, the attendees started with a few chair exercises that focused on the legs, including shin walks and drawing the alphabet with one outstretched leg.

Standing up, they then moved on to moves like squats with hammer curls, lunges and donkey kicks.

Another attendee, Betty Davis, comes to every class.

"I also do stuff at the Y on other days," said Davis said. "I love staying active."

The next set of exercises were seated and moved the focus to the upper body. Moves like one armed rows and seated chest presses then turned into crunches.

Pincince asked the class if they would rather do bicycles or scissors, which earned a unanimous, "Scissors!" shout from the attendees.

"Why do I even ask," laughed Pincince. The last set of standing exercises involved a little bit of everything; exercises for the obliques, triceps, biceps, and legs.

"For bicep curls, remember to use your muscle, not momentum," Pincince said.

Throughout the class, Pincince was adamant that everyone only does what they can, especially with weights and stretching involved. The important thing is that they're moving.

She was sure to offer variations on

some exercises, more so when it came to the balance and stretching portion of the class.

Knittle also said, "No one likes balancing, even though it's good to do."

Just as with the first water break, there is a sigh of relief when it's over.

For their cool down stretch, attendees could choose to be seated or stay standing. Once the class was over, exercisers trickled out, stacking their chairs as they left.

While many attendees were regulars and were familiar with the exercises, it's not exactly the same every time according to Pincince.

"I try to mix it up sometimes," Pincince said. "I have one CD that requires dancing for part of it and everyone seems to really love that one."

Pincince also offers another Tuesday class of Pilates that does more advanced workouts on the floor. That starts at 1 p.m.

To learn more, check out the senior center newsletter or call 413-596-8379.



A side view of lunges with weights. Everyone brings their own weights.



The group does donkey kicks, using their chairs to help with balance.



Betty Davis, a devoted regular post-workout.



The group class even covered exercises for wrist strength. Turley photos by Hannah Yeasley



Seated scissors: the instant unanimous choice over bicycles.



A view from the back of the room while the group does seated flies.



The group warms up with arm circles.



Erin Pincince, the instructor, demonstrates a bicep curl.

Fifth Graders Go Back in Time With 3D Projects



Photos courtesy of Cheryl Erskine

By Angelica Capatina, Amyr Ly, Nate Choinski, Philip Costello, and Stella Petit.
From Grade Five Mrs. Alben's Class.

WILBRAHAM - The 5th grade classes at Soule Road School worked extremely hard on a Native American unit. At the end of the unit, our class, Room 1, decided they would all individually create a 3D project and write an essay of one of three things they learned from the Native Americans day to day life. The students studied long

and hard to create their 3D models on a Southern California Tule (a small one room hut), a Coastal Southern Tribe Tomal (a long canoe), or model the Wiyot people's World Renewal Ceremony, which was usually hosted by the more wealthy villages. In the ritual, tribes would show their respects to nature and would pray for a good year ahead.

Mrs. Alben's class brought in recycled materials from the outdoors to build their 3D models. To help the class present to other classes, they wrote on index cards too, so they wouldn't have

to read their essays. These students worked very hard to create their projects and in the end they were truly amazing.

We interviewed Mrs. Alben, the teacher for Room 1 to find out what she thought about the Native American unit they were studying. This is what she said: "I think the unit allowed us to explore different cultures and time periods, and I loved that for our students." After interviewing the kids in the classroom, the study showed seventeen out of twenty one students liked it. They said, "It was fun to build models." "It

showed how the Native Americans lived, which is very different from now," one student said. Another said that the project "Was a good way to show what we know," and "A good way to learn while having fun."

The students used readers to read about Native Americans and workbooks to answer questions and do essays on how the Native Americans survived. When they started the projects they read about how Native Americans survived in nature and different chapters about different tribes, the tribe's surroundings, how

they got food, water, and most of their daily life. The 5th graders at Soule Road School enjoyed learning about the unique daily life of all the Native American tribes and learning how they survived in nature.

In just about a month, they were able to build their projects creating a 3D replication of one of three things learned about, write their essays explaining what the object did and how it was helpful. Last but not least, they present their projects to multiple classes explaining and showing what they learned.

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A COMMUNITY GALLERY

Junior Falcon Tennis wraps up summer program



Submitted photo and caption Erin Carroll

The Summer Junior Falcon Tennis Program run through the Wilbraham Parks and Recreation Department ended their summer program with their 2nd Annual Parent/Child Tennis Jamboree. So much fun was had throughout the summer and this was a great way to end the program!

Life in & **WILBRAHAM**
Readers are encouraged to send in medium to high resolution photos for this page by e-mail to 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.

WPD thanks Deputy Fire Chief Peter Nothe

Photo courtesy of Wilbraham Police Department

The Wilbraham Police Department congratulated Deputy Fire Chief Peter Nothe on his retirement from the fire department after 37 years of service to Wilbraham. The police department shared in their Aug. 9 Facebook post that Nothe "will be missed."



Teen Soap Making Workshop at Wilbraham Public Library!



Deputy Fire Chief Peter Nothe on last day with WFD



Photos courtesy of Wilbraham Fire Department

The Wilbraham Fire Department shared photos of Deputy Fire Chief Peter Nothe with his family and taking his final ride on Ladder One during his last day with the fire department on Aug. 9. The fire department wished Nothe a long and happy retirement after 37 years of service with a retirement celebration at the department, covered by the Times in our Aug. 15 edition.



Teens took part in a soap marking workshop at the Wilbraham Public Library and everyone went home with their own unique soap creations.

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Submitted photos Rachel Hapgood on July 25. It was a full house

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Hampden Memorial Park Summer Program concludes another season



The Hampden Memorial Park Summer Program staff wrapped up this year's six-week summer program on Aug. 16, receiving praise from Dan Blanchard, director of Parks & Rec, for a great job.

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Students get "Ready for Kindergarten" at Hampden library

By Hannah Yeasley
Correspondent

HAMPDEN - Incoming kindergarteners gathered at the library on Aug. 14 to get a sneak-peek of some activities they'll be doing in school.

The Ready for Kindergarten event was hosted by Pathways for Parents, a program designed to offer extra support for families.

Pathways for Parents is a non-profit organization sponsored by state grants, allowing families to get this support for free. Their main support comes from the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care, with the Coordinated Family and Community Engagement

(CFCE) grant.

Jennifer Bilodeau ran the event and is the Parent Child Plus Program Coordinator with Pathways and is, also, an early learning specialist with the CFCE program that covers towns in the area.

She travels to Ludlow, Agawam, Southwick, Longmeadow and East Longmeadow, as well as Granville and Tolland hosting Ready for Kindergarten and similar events all throughout the summer.

"While many of our programs are education related, our goal is to support parents and families with anything they may need," Bilodeau said. "We host preparation-oriented events like this in the summertime, and during the school year also

Please see **KINDERGARTEN**, page 13

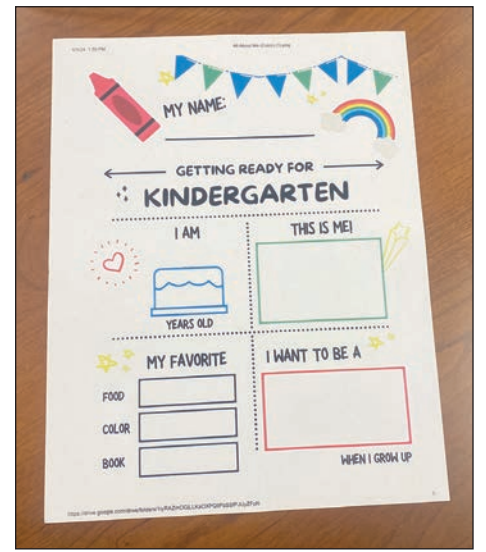


Turley photos by Hannah Yeasley

Sonny (left) and Joel (right) complete their ten frame sticker counting activity.



Amelia is coloring her Mat Man and using stickers as extra decoration!



A close up of the first sheet the participants filled out: "About Me" page.



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KINDERGARTEN from page 12

provide extra resources to help with specific curriculum.”

Bilodeau works alongside Kate Rumprik, the library’s youth services librarian, during the summer reading program to provide additional support for that as well.

The Ready for Kindergarten event started with Bilodeau—“Miss Jenn”—reading a book called “All Shapes Matter,” a story about acceptance and collaboration. Each participant received a bag full of materials that they’ll need for kindergarten, like a copy of “All Shapes Matter,” activity books, pencils, scissors and Play-Doh.

In each bag as well for the parents was a resource checklist packet which included a teacher expectation list so parents would make sure their kindergartener could zip their own coat, open their own backpack, and similar independent actions that aren’t school supplies and can easily slip the mind.

“Teachers want to make sure that your students can get into their lunchboxes on their own, open snacks on their own, and things like that,” Bilodeau said. “A lot of parents are so focused just on materials, these other things can sometimes go overlooked.”

After bags were handed out, participants and their adult chaperones gathered around a table to fill out a kindergarten “About Me” paper. They used the materials they got in the bag to fill out the paper, and then worked together with pre-cut shapes to build the same school bus as the shapes in “All Shapes Matter.”

Once the school bus was done, each participant could choose from several activities laid out and work on them independently while Bilodeau circled the room to answer any questions.

The activities reflected some of the mixed-medium learning they’ll be doing during the school year: coloring, cutting



The participants and their adult chaperones listen to the book and participate in questions (like how many sides does a triangle have?)



The group members fill out the “About Me” page.

and gluing, and using Play-Doh, stickers and craft pom-poms to practice counting.

One participant, Joel, will be attending kindergarten at Washington Elementary School in Springfield. He was accompanied by his grandmother and his little sister.

When asked what his favorite activity was of the day, he said the ten frame match number, where he was using stickers to count to a specified number.

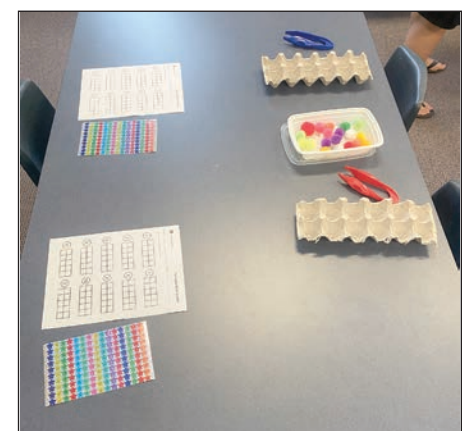
“I like stickers,” he said.

Another participant, Amelia, will be attending Green Meadows Elementary School. She was brought by her mother, Sara Mawla, who says that events like this are helpful for both her and Amelia.

“She’s my only child, so knowing what both of us should expect is nice,” Mawla said.

Another incoming Green Meadows attendee is Sonny, who was brought by his grandmother, while an early bird, Harley, also joined the activities even though he will not be attending kindergarten until next year.

For more information about Pathways for Parents and the programs they offer, visit pathways4parents.wordpress.com.



Turley photos by Hannah Yeasley
Two different activities to help with counting; one involved stickers and the other involved pom-poms.

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64					65						66			
67					68						69			

CLUES ACROSS

1. Mongolian city __ Bator
5. Coconut palms
10. Rounded knob
14. Japanese city
15. Type of sandwiches
16. A type of shape
17. Son of Shem
18. French modernist painter
19. Grandmother
20. Mammary gland of female cattle
22. Hill or rocky peak
23. Secret political clique
24. Songs to one’s beloved
27. “Boardwalk Empire” actress Gretchen
30. Father
31. Chinese philosophical principle
32. Restrict the number or amount of
35. Combined into a single entity
37. Brother or sister
38. Evil spirit

39. Materials in the earth’s crust
40. Partner to cheese
41. Of the sun
42. Baseball great Ty
43. After B
44. Place to relax on the beach
45. Folk singer DiFranco
46. Partly digested food
47. Small dog breed
48. Japanese honorific
49. Salts
52. Beard moss genus
55. Mountain pass
56. Type of sword
60. Albanian language
61. Metric weight unit
63. Italian Seaport
64. Longtime late night host
65. Extremely angry
66. Wading bird
67. Days in mid-month
68. Omitted from printed matter
69. Upper body part

CLUES DOWN

1. Two-toed sloth
2. Cooking ingredient
3. Iranian city
4. Accuses
5. Corrie
6. Delivered a speech
7. Collection of sacred books
8. Theatrical
9. Very fast airplane
10. Arm bones
11. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
12. __ fide: legit
13. Gemstone
21. Counsels
23. Corporate bigwig
25. Cool!
26. Touch lightly
27. Small Milky Way constellation
28. Satirical website
29. Border lines
32. Soft drinks
33. Capital of Guam
34. Six-membered ring (chemistry)
36. Bar bill
37. Car mechanics group
38. Notable Bill Murray character
40. Health care for the aged
41. Gurus
43. A passage with access only at one end
44. Reduce
46. Spy organization
47. The upper surface of the mouth
49. Plants of the lily family
50. Type of reef
51. Oral polio vaccine developer
52. Mottled citrus fruit
53. Lose
54. Former Brazilian NBAer
57. Baseball great Ruth
58. __ Clapton, musician
59. Chance
61. Spanish soldier
62. CNN’s founder

Events & announcements schedule

Here's Your Chance to be a BIG WINNER!

WILBRAHAM - Feeling Lucky? The Friends of Wilbraham Seniors have again kicked off their popular fundraiser held throughout last summer. Just imagine- YOU could win a whopping \$500 basket of MA. Lotto Scratch Tickets!!

Raffle tickets can be purchased at various times throughout July and August. Look for their fabulous Lotto Tower. So, drop by the new Senior Center, behind the Wilbraham Town Hall on

Springfield Street on Tuesday and Wednesdays between 9 a.m. to Noon or stop by the Farmers Market, in front of United Church on Main Street between open hours of 2 to 6 p.m. every Wednesday.

Tickets could also be printed from their website: friendsofwilbrahamseniors.org and mailed in with your check to:

Friends of Wilbraham Seniors, 40 Post Office Park, #747, Wilbraham, MA 01095 or just stick your envelope with filled out raffle tickets and payment into their drop box located in the front lobby near the reception desk and save yourself a stamp.

Ticket prices range from one for \$5.00, three for \$10, seven for \$20 or the best buy, 25 chances for \$50. Yes, a great way for family, friends, or co-workers to pitch in and share the winnings. All tickets need to be in by August 24, 2024. The drawing will take place on the front patio of the Wilbraham Senior Center, at 3 p.m. You do not need to be present to win. Proceeds from this fundraiser will go towards new programs and services which can now be offered at new Wilbraham Senior Center.

Dee Mitchell Co-Chair
Chuck Pelouze Co-Chair

Wilbraham Hiking Club August Hikes

WILBRAHAM - The Wilbraham Hiking Club has six hikes planned for August:
Aug. 25 - McDonald Nature Preserve, Wilbraham

Aug. 31- Hike, lunch, and optional Stargazing at Arunah Hill Days in Cummington

More information about these hikes can be found on the club's TeamReach pages, or write to wilbrahamhiking@gmail.com.

Minnechaug Class of 1974 50th Reunion!

WILBRAHAM - The Reunion Planning Committee for Minechaug Regional High School of 1974 is pleased to announce their 50th Class Reunion will be celebrated the weekend of September 12-15, 2024. Activities are planned on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday to reunite and reminisce with classmates after 50 years! Join us for food and fun while getting reacquainted. The main event will be on Saturday Sept. 14, 2024 at The Starting Gate at Great Horse Country Club in Hampden. Other activities include a Meet & Greet and Sunday Brunch. Don't miss it! For further information contact Karen Wahlberg at mrhclassof74@gmail.com and follow us on Facebook - Minnechaug RHS Class of 1974.

Water Customer Notice from the Water Dept.

Metallic-Tasting Algae in Reservoir

WILBRAHAM - Starting in mid-July, an algae bloom occurred in the Quabbin reservoir. While the presence of low levels of algae (naturally occurring microscopic plants) is a sign of a healthy reservoir, this particular bloom consists of Chryso-sphaerella algae, which leaves a metallic taste to tap water. While this algae bloom presents a nuisance taste and odor condition, the water remains safe to drink. In the meantime, chilling water in the refrigerator and/or adding lemon is the easiest way to improve the taste.

The bloom is being monitored by Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and MWRA three days per week. Staff are collecting samples in the reser-

voir, performing microscopic analyses, and identifying and counting the algae concentrations. MWRA is also communicating with each of the Chicopee Valley Aqueduct communities several times per week. In addition, water quality is monitored continuously with on-line analyzers immediately before and after treatment at the Brutsch Water Treatment Facility, as well as further downstream.

This Chryso-sphaerella bloom occurred starting around July 17. Chryso-sphaerella is a golden brown algae of the Chrysophyte family. For more information about Quabbin Reservoir and water quality is available at MWRA.com.

Buddy Walk of Western Mass takes place Oct. 5

WESTFIELD - 25 years ago, two local mothers, Laurie Isham of Hampden and Sue Devillier of Agawam, bonded over a common experience: both had young daughters with Down syndrome. Their friendship blossomed as they navigated the new unknowns of raising their daughters. As they supported one another, they recognized the need for a local support group for individuals with Down syndrome and their families. This gave birth to the Down Syndrome Resource Group of Western Massachusetts. Initially serving about twenty families, the group is now more than 200 strong, but the mission still remains the same: to discover and embrace the potential of individuals with Down syndrome.

The Down Syndrome Resource Group of Western Mass. (DSRG) is run entirely by volunteers with a passion for supporting and creating community for individuals with Down syndrome and their families. From birth to adulthood, the DSRG have offerings for everyone:

- the First Call program for newborns
- playgroups for toddlers and school age children
- social groups for teens/adults
- social events for families
- Scholarships for recreation and education

presentations on cutting edge research, and more..

This community is vital to our members as attested to by Teresa (parent): "I have attended Picnics, Buddy Walks, informational seminars and playdates.... But what I love most about the DSRG is the network of parents who support each other...with advice, referrals and words of encouragement."

As we celebrate our 25 years of community, connection and support, we invite you to join us at the Buddy Walk of Western MA on Saturday, October 5, 2024 at Stanley Park in Westfield, MA. The Buddy Walk is a wonderful family-friendly community awareness event. Hundreds of family and friends come together to celebrate our loved ones with Down syndrome, enjoy some food and dancing, and take a stroll through the community. The Buddy Walk is also our major fundraiser for the year.

We are excited to share some of the ways that you can join our Buddy Walk family to create a better tomorrow:

Become a Buddy Walk Sponsor- We offer many ways to recognize your contribution to the Buddy Walk.

Become an in-kind Donor- Donate a raffle item-

Create a Team- round up your family, friends and coworkers, create a team and join us for the walk.

Volunteer- your help is always appreciated.

To learn more, please visit our website: <https://www.downsyndromewm.com>

We look forward to your participation and support in making this year's Buddy Walk a memorable and impactful event. Together, we can make a difference in our community. #BestBuddyWalkYet!

Theatre Guild of Hampden seeking directors

HAMPDEN - The Theatre Guild of Hampden is looking for directors for our 2024-2025 season.

For more information, call Mark Giza at 413-204-5333.

Hampden Historical Society hosts Open House

By Noelle Hisgen
Correspondent

HAMPDEN - On Aug. 17, the Hampden Historical Society hosted their part of the annual "History on the Go! On the Road to Revolution" Five-Town Historical Museum Tour from Noon to 2 p.m.

The event was an open house for historical museums in Hampden, East Longmeadow, Longmeadow, Enfield and Wilbraham, with the theme "On the Road to Revolution," as the towns celebrated the year as it was the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution.

The Society's part of the tour was held at the Museum at Academy Hall. It is a Grecian Pillared building constructed in 1850 as a school.

Nineteen leading citizens, known as the South Wilbraham Education Society, financed the project because they were concerned for the higher education of their young people.

After the school closed in 1879, Academy Hall started to be used for town meetings, Catholic masses, a town library, Kick-a-poo Indian shows, Grange meetings, dances, scout meetings, town offices and the Highway Department.

As time passed, it became evident that the building was in dire need of repairs, and some people suggested that Academy Hall should be demolished. But, a group



From the left, Volunteers Christina Millot and Don Krawiec and Linda Krawiec, president of the Hampden Historical Society, stand before an old 1850s presidential debate banner.

of Hampden Citizens formed the Hampden Historical Society and pressed for "restoration not demolition."

A plan was organized to bring the community together to do it. It took eight years of volunteer effort, labor, and fund-

raising. The Restoration dedication took place in 1976 as Hampden's part in celebration of the nation's 200th birthday.

Hampden families and friends have generously donated numerous Hampden-related artifacts, including diaries,



A vintage mailbox is displayed inside Academy Hall, home of the Hampden Historical Society, on Main Street in Hampden.

photographs, paintings, maps, furniture, quilts, clothing and other memorabilia to the museum.

The museum was filled with stunning donations of historical memorabilia. From historical clothing to an old carriage, the

Please see **HISTORICAL**, page 19

SPORTS

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Falcons take home summer title

WILBRAHAM – The Wilbraham Falcons captured the 7-8 championship on Sunday, Aug. 11. The Falcons won their final game in the Spec Pond Summer Basketball League after an excellent season. The season concluded at the outdoor courts at Spec Pond Recreation area.



The Falcons won the 7-8 championship at Spec Pond.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



Noah Metzger drives toward the hoop.



Cohen Nelson shoots in traffic.



Owen Knox drives to get by the opposing defense.



James Gallagher lets a three-point attempt away.

Locals help lead Western Mass. to bronze

WALTHAM – The Western Mass. representative in the Bay State Games for girls soccer captured the bronze last month. Here is a look at a couple of their matchups during the games.

In the bronze medal game, West won 3-0 over Coastal. West had an early lead on Coastal and was able to hold it throughout the game. The three goals that solidified the bronze medal for West were made by Katie Gilhooly (Chicopee, Chicopee Comp HS), Fallon Clancy (Belchertown, Belchertown HS), and Maya Teller (Belchertown, Belchertown HS).

During the tourney, West scored a win over Central 4-0. In the matchup, Despite Cen-

tral taking some beautiful shots, the goalkeeper for West, Chloe Laizer (West Springfield, West Springfield HS) wouldn't let any past her. Kylie Marino (East Longmeadow, East Longmeadow HS), Allison Fleury (South Hadley, South Hadley HS), Gilhooly, and Clancy all made goals that ultimately led to their win.

In an early round game, West beat Coastal 5-1. Fleury had a great game with two assists and one goal. Both Brianna Ribeiro (Belchertown, Belchertown HS) and Megan McGrath (North Adams, Dury HS) had two goals. For Coastal, Savannah Parker (Lunenburg, Lunenburg HS) made the goal in their fight against West.

Pioneers, Mutiny wrap up great seasons

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW – The soccer aficionados from Ludlow and the surrounding communities had a lot of fun watching the New England Mutiny and the Western Mass. Pioneers play their home matches at Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow this summer.

"You really never know how things are going to go prior to the start of the regular season," said Joe Ferrara during a recent interview. "Both teams had a great season."

Ferrara has several different titles, and he doesn't have very much free time during the soccer season.

He's the commissioner of the United Women's Soccer

League and is the owner and Managing Director of the Mutiny, who have been playing their home matches at the 106 year old soccer stadium in Ludlow since 2019. He's also the General Manager of the Pioneers, who were founded in 1998.

Another person who didn't have very much free time this summer is Federico Molinari, who has been the Pioneers head coach for more than ten years. He was also the head coach of the Mutiny for the first time.

"I've watched Federico coach the Pioneers for the past several years, and he has a passion for the game of soccer," Ferrara said. "He's one of the best soccer coaches that I've seen particularly on gamedays.



The Pioneers made it to the second round of the playoffs this season.

Please see **SOCCER**, page 16

Candlepin League News: Summer Edition

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

EAST BROOKFIELD – The summer league on Wednesday nights at Bogey Lanes has now completed with a champion crowned.

After a successful final week of league, Team Seven snuck into first place and ended the summer league with a record of 76-36. The Rolling Stones, who held on to first place for several weeks, fell to second place with a record of 71-41.

Team Nine finished in third place with a record of 66-46. Team Swish finished in fourth place with a record of 58-54. Clock Barn is in fifth place at 57-55. Split Smashers and Straight Shooters tied for sixth place

with both teams having a record of 56-56.

Gutter Snipes finished in eighth at 46-66, Gutter Dolls in ninth at 42-70 and Gutter Fingers finished in tenth at 32-80.

One of the final matches featured Straight Shooters bowling against Rolling Stones. In game one, Straight Shooters won by a score of 449-439. Phil Clough of Straight Shooters started off with a 113.

In game two, Straight Shooters won again by a score of 456-451. Clough almost matched his first game but scored 112. In game three, Straight Shooters swept Rolling Stones with a third consecutive win 484-422. Final score was 1389-1312 in favor of Straight Shooters.

Team Nine bowled against Gutter Fingers in the final week. In game one, Team Nine won 456-447. In game two, Gut-

ter Fingers won 489-465. Two members scored well over 100 to win game two. In game three, Gutter Fingers won the last game 454-433.

Gutter Fingers won total pinfall, 1370-1354.

Team Seven, in pursuit of the #1 seed, bowled against the Split Smashers. In game one, Team Seven defeated Split Smashers, 484-455. Tim Brayton of Team Seven started off with a 135.

In game two, Team Seven won again by a score of 458-441. Ethan Levy of Team Seven had the highest score on his team with a 114.

In game three, Team Seven won the last game 471-449 for a three-game sweep. Nate Fontaine of Split Smashers finished with a 134. Team Seven won total pinfall

by a final score of 1413-1345.

Clock Barn bowled against Team Swish. In game one, Clock Barn won by a score of 439-423. In game two, Clock Barn scored 439 again and won game two against Team Swish who bowled 418. In game three, Team Swish won the last game 448-441.

Clock Barn won total pinfall by a final score of 1319-1289.

Gutter Snipes bowled against Gutter Dolls. In game one, Gutter Snipes won 438-411. In game two, Gutter Snipes won 426-414. In game three, Gutter Dolls won the last game 441-426. Gutter Snipes won total pinfall by a final score of 1290-1266.

Individual prizes and team prizes will be awarded during the league's fun night on Aug. 21.

Locals help lead Western Mass. to bronze

WALTHAM – The Western Mass. representative in the Bay State Games for girls soccer captured the bronze last month. Here is a look at a couple of their matchups during the games.

In the bronze medal game, West won 3-0 over Coastal. West had an early lead on Coastal and was able to hold it throughout the game. The three goals that solidified the bronze medal for West were made by Katie Gilhooly (Chicopee, Chicopee Comp HS), Fallon Clancy (Belchertown, Belchertown HS), and Maya Tellier (Belchertown, Belchertown HS).

During the tourney, West scored a win over Central 4-0. In the matchup, Despite Central taking some beautiful

shots, the goalkeeper for West, Chloe Laizer (West Springfield, West Springfield HS) wouldn't let any past her. Kylie Marino (East Longmeadow, East Longmeadow HS), Allison Fleury (South Hadley, South Hadley HS), Gilhooly, and Clancy all made goals that ultimately led to their win.

In an early round game, West beat Coastal 5-1. Fleury had a great game with two assists and one goal. Both Brianna Ribeiro (Belchertown, Belchertown HS) and Megan McGrath (North Adams, Dury HS) had two goals. For Coastal, Savannah Parker (Lunenburg, Lunenburg HS) made the goal in their fight against West.

Bonsignore grabs second-place finish

THOMPSON, CT – The NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour returned to Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park on Wednesday night for the Thompson 150. Justin Bonsignore and the Kenneth Massa Motorsports team prepared a strong No. 51 Phoenix Communications Inc. entry, and Bonsignore came away with a strong second-place finish.

Bonsignore qualified third for the Thompson 150, then fell to fourth on the initial stint of the race. On the next restart, Bonsignore took second spot away, and never relinquished the position on the track again. After a pit stop, Bonsignore chased the back bumper of eventual winner Patrick Emerling for the remainder of the distance.

The runner-up finish was Bonsignore's eighth top-five of the season in the first 10 races. He also took the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour points lead heading for the final six races of the year.

"Patrick's car was really good," Bonsignore said. "Track position would have been nice if I could have got the lead on the restart, but we had a great car. I got stuck in lapped traffic a bit in the final 10 laps and the tires just kind of gave out there at the end. It's getting towards the late summer and it's good to start putting some strong runs together with great speed like we've had the last few weeks. We will move onto Oswego and try to go win the Classic."



Mamadi Jiana, a Chicopee High graduate, played with the Pioneers this summer.

SOCCER from page 15

He always makes the right tactical adjustments. He also runs a very good training session. I've received tremendous feedback from the players on both sides about him. I'm hoping that Federico can coach both teams again next year."

The Mutiny finished the 2024 regular season with a perfect 8-0 record, while the Pioneers posted an 11-2-1 record.

The Mutiny began the U.W.S. playoffs with a 2-1 home win over Steel City FC on July 12. Two days later, they celebrated an exciting 1-0 victory against Sporting CT in the East Conference championship match. It was their final home match of the season.

The following weekend, the Mutiny played in the U.W.S. National semifinals and championship match, which were held at All-High Stadium in Buffalo, New York.

The Mutiny didn't have very much trouble dispatching the Michigan Jaguars, who captured the U.W.S. Nationals title a year ago, in the semifinals. The final score of that match was 5-0.

"We performed very well in the semifinals," Ferrara said. "We were able to score a couple of early goals, which took the pressure off of us."

On that same night, Molinari and the Pioneers players were in Virginia playing Lionsbridge FC in a USL-Two playoff match. Unfortunately, the Pioneers season came to an end following a 2-1 loss.

Alec Hughes, who's a post-grad stu-



Alexis Legowski, of South Hadley, was a regular in the Mutiny's lineup this season.

dent listed on the UMass men's soccer team, led the Pioneers this summer with 17 goals. He's the USL-Two Golden Boot winner and was also named as the Player of the Year. He'll most likely be drafted by an MLS team next year.

"Alec has really improved a lot in the two years that he's been playing for the Mutiny," Ferrara said. "He was a key player for us this year. I'm hoping he signs with a Pro team next year."

Scott Testori, who plays college soccer at UConn, chipped in with 12 goals. Jared Smith led the way with nine assists.

One of the Pioneers local players was Mamadi Jiani, who graduated from Chicopee High School. He scored four goals this season.

The Pioneers assistant coaches are Dennis Gomes, Jay Willis, and Thomas Duben.

Molinari, along with Duben, coached the Mutiny in the championship match the following night.

The Mutiny, who played in the U.W.S. finals for the first time, faced the Santa Clarita Blue Heat, who lost to the Jaguar in the 2023 championship match.

The score was tied 1-1 at the end of the first 45 minutes.

Mila Dillard, who lives in Chicopee and is a sophomore on the Pope Francis girls' soccer team, netted the Mutiny's goal during the 43rd minute. It was assisted by South Hadley's Alexis Legowski.

The Mutiny took a 2-1 lead 25 minutes into the second following a goal by Chioma Okafor, which was also assisted by

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Legowski, who played college soccer at Northeastern University.

Okafor was one of the UConn women's soccer players listed on the Mutiny roster.

The Blue Heat scored the equalizer late in the second half and they wound up winning the title, 6-5, in a penalty shootout.

Following the championship match, Legowski, who signed with a professional team in Poland, was selected as the MVP of the U.W.S. National Tournament finals. The M.V.P. award was the trophy of a Buffalo.

"Alexis is now playing for a pro team in Poland, which is awesome," Ferrara said. "She played very well in the tournament and was selected as the M.V.P. of the championship game."

Legowski and Dillard were two of the players from Western Mass. listed on the Mutiny roster. The other local players were Maddie Theriault (Palmer), Hope Santaniello (Agawam), Sam Breton (Chicopee) Avery Klingensmith (Belchertown), Chandler Pedolzky (Westfield), and Emma Pedolzky (Westfield).

"I always want the best local high school soccer players to play for the Mutiny," Ferrara said. "It builds excitement and fanfare within the local community. The local players have been the core of our team during the past several years."

Santaniello, who plays college soccer at UMass-Lowell, is the only remaining Mutiny player from the 2019 squad.

Okafor, who's from Blantyre, Malawi, is listed as a junior on the UConn wom-



Hope Santaniello, of Agawam, performs during the Mutiny's conference final.

en's soccer roster. Several of her college teammates also played for the Mutiny this summer.

The UConn women's soccer coach is Margaret Rodriguez, who's a former Mutiny player.

Carey (Dorn) O'Brien, who's currently the associate head coach at UConn, played for the team when they were known as the Springfield Sirens.

"Margaret and Carey played soccer for me, and we've built a very good relationship over the years," Ferrara said. "We're allowed to have five players from a Division 1 school on our soccer roster. We are going to try our best to get the best players from UConn to play for us again next year. I'm looking forward to going to watch the UConn women's soccer team play this fall."

Okafor is only a junior, but she'll most likely be playing for a professional soccer team next year.

Cat Berry, who plays soccer at the University of South Carolina, only played in a couple of matches for the Mutiny at the beginning of the regular season, but she was also a fan favorite.

Before heading back to Ludlow from Buffalo, the Mutiny players and coaches visited Niagara Falls.

"The long bus ride home gave us the chance to reflect on the outstanding season," Ferrara said. "When we got back to the stadium, nobody wanted to say goodbye because they knew it would be their last time together as a team. It was a fantastic season."

Residents gather to play Mahjong at senior center

By Hannah Yeasley
Correspondent

WILBRAHAM - A group gathered in the upstairs game room of the senior center on Aug. 12 to play Mahjong, a tiled table-top game.

The group gathers every week at 12:30 p.m. and usually play until about 3:30 p.m.

It is free to attend, and many attendees have their own Mahjong sets, although that is not required in order to join.

Mahjong—while incredibly fun—is not the easiest of games to learn. The function of the game is most similar to rummy, with extra steps and suits that don't match traditional cards.

One attendee and coach, Chris Chamberlain-Puffer, has been playing since 2015.

"It can take months to learn, but it's so much fun even during the learning process," Chamberlain-Puffer said.

Alongside Chamberlain-Puffer sat Liz Crivelli, who has been playing for just

as long and is also a willing and helpful coach.

Crivelli learned at the same time and from the same people as Chamberlain-Puffer and shares the same sentiment.

"People play differently depending on where they learned and who they learned it from," Crivelli said. "The basic game play is the same, but sometimes little details like set up and how the tiles are placed in the middle are different."

Mahjong is typically played in groups of four, although a couple of tables had just three. A felt cloth is placed on the table in order to help mute the tiles as they get moved around, mixed up and placed back in the middle of the table.

Each player gets a platform to prop tiles up on, to make it easier to move them around without other players seeing them.

Also, each player also has a card with possible combinations that win "Mahjong". The cards change each year and are sent out to those who request one every April from the National Mah Jongg League.

There are several categories of tiles in Mahjong: Cracks, Dots, and Bams—short for bamboo—are the main suits. There are four of each number one through nine and each suit has a corresponding color of dragon, of which there are four of each. Red goes with Cracks, White goes with Dots and Green goes with Bams.

Then, there are Flowers and Winds. There are four of each of the four winds, North, East, South and West, and there are eight total flowers. The deck also has eight Jokers, which are used as wild cards for any set of three or more tiles.

Before the game begins, tiles are placed face down in the middle of the table and each player grabs 21 tiles to make what are called "stacks"; they are also called "ladders" or "houses." These stacks go on the table right inside each platform in seven groups of three.

Then, each player grabs thirteen tiles to flip facing them on their platform. One person, decided at the beginning with a set of dice, grabs fourteen and is called "East", just so they have an extra tile to discard in order to start the game.

Thirteen tiles are the number each player should have at the beginning and end of each turn. Players grab one stack to exchange three tiles at a time in order to decide which Mahjong combination they are going for.

Once each player is finished with their stacks, East discards a tile to begin the game. Discarded tiles go in the same place the stacks were but face up for all players to see. Any player can claim a discard, but only if it completes one part of their set (for example, if a player needs three red dragons, they must have at least two before claiming a discarded red dragon).

Play continues like this until someone has Mahjong.

Sometimes, players get Mahjong before the game begins, like Crivelli did one round.

Other players, like event regular May Palin, win five times in a row.

"I like to win," Palin said. "This doesn't always happen, but I can't lie and say I'm not happy about it!"

For those who would like to get a head start on learning how to play, check out the next Mahjong get-together or visit myjongg.net for step-by-step instructions.



One group of three Mah Jongg players—and fantastic teachers. Liz Crivelli (left), May Palin (upper right), and Chris Chamberlain-Puffer (lower right).



One group of three Mah Jongg players.



One group of four Mah Jongg players.



Turley photos by Hannah Yeasley
Once the game actually begins, each player discards one tile at a time on the other side of their platform. Any player can call that tile to add to their hand as long as it completes one segment of their combination.



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“Fall into Fun” Card & Game Party & Luncheon Sept. 26

WILBRAHAM - “Fall Into Fun” Card & Game Party & Luncheon sponsored by the Wilbraham Women’s Club will be held Thursday, Sept. 26, at the Saint Cecilia Parish Center, 42 Main St., Wilbraham. Check-in begins at 11:30 a.m. with a delicious lunch served at Noon. Bring friends and play any game of your choice (bridge, whist, canasta, dominoes, Scrabble, etc.). The donation is \$10 and there will also be a raffle for cash prizes. The profit is used for the club’s scholarships and other charitable endeavors. For reservations, please call Sue Agnew, 596-9480.



Polish Plate Dinner to be held at Immaculate Conception Church

INDIAN ORCHARD - On Saturday, September 7, 2024 from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. is a Polish Plate Dinner with four Pierogi, one Golabek, Kielbasa, Kapusta and Rye Bread.

\$20 per plate---Eat In or Take Out--Frozen Polish Food Sale (Pierogi, Golabki, Kapusta)

Pierogi Available (Cabbage, Potato Cheese, Sweet Cheese or Blueberry) at Immaculate Conception Church Hall, 25 Parker St. Indian Orchard, MA

Tickets are available by calling: Maria Kowalski-413-222-6229, Irena Wurst-413-427-5846 or Maryla Bukowski- 413-427-9464.

Basket Raffle sponsored by Youth Group, Children of Mary and Polish School, tickets are one ticket for \$2 or three tickets for \$5. \$120 worth Lottery Tree sponsored by the Rosary Sodality for \$5 each ticket.

On Sunday, September 8, 2024 at 10:00 am a Solemn Holy Mass celebrated by J. E. Ks. Bp Robert Chrzaszcz--Auxiliary Bishop of Krakow, Poland and Bishop William Byrne--Bishop of Springfield commemorating the laying of the cornerstone of Immaculate Conception Church on September 5, 1904. The First Mass was celebrated on October 2, 1904 in the basement of the church.

SENIORS

Hampden Senior Center announces upcoming Fall Trips

HAMPDEN - The following senior trips are made available through the Hampden Senior Center. A minimum of 40 travelers are needed for any trip to run. All prices include a driver’s tip. Flyers are available at the senior center on Allen Street. Coach seat assigned as your \$20 deposit is received (unless otherwise not-

ed). Please write a separate check to Bobbi for each trip; note trip name in the check memo.

OCT 23, Wed - Fall Foliage Trip – American Heritage Museum in Hudson, MA; Lunch @ O’Connor’s Restaurant (menu choice on flyer) in Worcester; Wine

Tasting @ Hardwick Vineyard & Winery; \$135pp. Full Payment Deadline Oct 3.

NOV 11, Mon– Radio City Music Hall for Rockettes matinee Christmas Show, orchestra section 103, closest to lobby concessions & exits; coach, orchestra tickets, choices for lunch @ Carmine’s on W 44th St (Times Sq) \$263/pp. Full Pay-

ment Deadline Oct 6. WAIT LIST ONLY DEC 11, Wed - Aqua Turf Show “Deck the Halls Christmas” w Buddy Holly & Elvis (his 2nd cousin); Delicious Family-style Lunch; \$131pp. Full Payment Deadline Nov 20.

Questions call 413-566-8271 or email bobbijg2@charter.net.

Monthly Highlights for August at the Hampden Senior Center

HAMPDEN – The following programs will occur at the senior center on Allen Street in the coming weeks.

August Pop Up Boutique – It’s Time to Shop!

Whether you want to get an early start with your holiday shopping or you’re just looking for a bargain, you can shop the whole month of August right here, at the Hampden Senior Center!

Boutique Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Thursday, 9 a.m. to Noon

We are still accepting donations of new and gently used clothing & accessories, jewelry, shoes, home décor, household items, books, and puzzles. Due to space constraints, we are unable to accept large items. If you have any questions regarding donations, please call the Senior Center before bringing your items in. *All proceeds for sale will benefit the Hampden Senior Center Building Expansion Fund.*

Save the Date:

Friends of Hampden Senior Citizens Tag Sale, Saturday, Sept. 7 from 9 a.m. to Noon.

HELP US STOCK OUR SHELVES with Liquid Dishwashing Soap!

Thank you to those who donated disinfecting wipes last month. Every month we will target a different item to help fill our shelves to provide non-food items to SNAP recipients.

MOVIE SCHEDULE:

Mondays at 12:30 p.m.

8/26 - 13 Going on 30, PG-13, Comedy/Fantasy/Romance

Grab and Go Dinner

Friday, Aug. 30, pick up is 2 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Enjoy a delicious dinner of Sausage, Peppers & Onions Grinder, Pasta Salad, and Dessert

Cost is \$5 per person. Please call 566-5588 starting July 1st to order your dinner

Learn to Play the Recorder with Sue
Ongoing weekly classes, Mondays, 12:30 pm to 1:00 pm

Our Ukulele Instructor, Susan Mc Hand would like to share her love of play-

ing the Recorder.

Cost is \$3 per class for a half-hour lesson, paid to the instructor. Recorders can be purchased for \$10. Please let us know if you need to purchase an instrument when signing up for the class.

Please call 566-5588 to reserve your spot, and instrument if needed. Space is limited.

Learn to Play the Ukulele with Sue

Accepting new students.

All Ukulele students will meet:
Mondays, 1:15 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Any new Recorder or Ukulele students will meet:

Mondays, 2:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Cost is \$5 per class, paid to the instructor.

Starting in September, Sue will offer a 10-week session, from Sept. 9 through Nov. 25.

Cost is \$50 paid in full for the 10-week session and receive two free classes, or \$6.00 per class – call ahead for availability. Please call 566-5588 to reserve your spot. Space is limited.

“African Drumming” with Jason
Is taking a break in August and beginning a new 12-week session, from Sept. 6 through Nov. 22. Accepting New Students.

Fridays, 2:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.
Cost is \$60 paid in full for the 12-week session and receive two free classes, or \$6 per class – call ahead for availability. Please call 566-5588 to reserve your spot. Space is limited.

LET’S JAM!

We are looking to get a group of musically inclined people together to start a weekly jam session this Fall.

Let us know if you would be interested in joining a group in a casual, laid-back, but fun setting to share your talent with good company.

Please call 566-5588 so that we can start a list of anyone who would like to JAM! Let us know what your musical talent is.

D & R Summer Farm Share – PICK-UP is on:

Wednesdays, Aug. 28.
D & R FARM offers fresh produce weekly, 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.

New applications for Summer Farm Share are required.

Contact Wendy if you haven’t submitted your application.

Shares are limited. Please call Wendy at 566-5588 or email outreach@hampdenma.gov to sign up.

Please let us know if you need your shares delivered.

Save these dates:

Friday, Sept. 13 at 12:30 p.m.,
Beekeeper Sue Kendrick will be here to talk about beekeeping, honey and more!
Thursday, Sept. 19 at Noon,
Grandparents Luncheon followed by BINGO with Boomer and the Springfield Thunderbirds

Evening Programs in September:

Trees Downsize in Autumn...

YOU CAN TOO!!

Come and learn how to live an organized life that doesn’t involve constant maintenance with special guest:

Bonnie Borromeo Tomlinson on Tuesday, Sept. 10, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Bonnie is the author of:
STOP BUYING BINS & other blunt but practical advice from a home organizer

STOP PUSHING PERFECTION & just create a home you can actually keep neat

This program is FREE. Books will be available to purchase at no obligation.

Enjoy a glass of wine and light refreshments while you’re here. Please call 566-5588 to reserve your seat.

Space is limited. **Sponsored by Friends of Hampden Senior Citizens.**

Intro Class for “African Drumming” with Jason

Don’t miss out on this amazing opportunity to be part of something new and invigorating, discovering great benefits for the body and soul!

Tuesday, Sept. 17, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

This introductory class is FREE. Please call 566-5588 to reserve your spot.

We have a limited number of drums. Preference will be given to new students on a first come, first serve basis for the use of a drum. All are welcome to observe. If you have a drum, please feel free to bring

your own, but still call to reserve your spot. Space is limited.

Sponsored by Friends of Hampden Senior Citizens

Ready to start feeling better? Needing a clearer mind and body? Come and join us for a

Crystal Bowl Sound Healing Meditation, led by Chantal.

Tuesday, Sept. 24, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Past and recent participants stated they experienced:

Increased energy and overall sense of relaxation; Release of pain and tension; Increased focus and ability to concentrate; Deep sleep and feeling well-rested upon rising; And much, much more!

No prior knowledge of meditation is needed! Just sit or lay down, enjoy, and R-E-L-A-X!

Chantal is co-owner and manager of Nirvana Spa and Wellness in Somers, Connecticut.

Please bring a yoga mat or zero-gravity chair if you have one, a pillow, a blanket, and a water bottle.

The cost of this program is \$10 per person. Please call 566-5588 to reserve your spot. Space is limited

All Levels Yoga with Lisa Zizza

5-week session

Thursdays, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., beginning Sept. 19 through Oct. 24.

Please bring a yoga mat and a water bottle. Dress comfortably and stay hydrated!

Cost is \$25 paid in full for the 5-week session and receive one free class, or

\$6 per class - call ahead for availability. Please call 566-5588 to reserve your spot. Space is limited.

Basic Beginner Drawing with Joyce Belliveau

3-week session

Thursdays, 6 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., beginning Sept. 26 through Oct. 10.

Come and discover your inner artistic abilities.

All supplies will be provided. Bring yourself and enjoy!

Cost is \$20 paid in full for the 3-week session.

Please call 566-5588 to reserve your spot. Space is limited.

TROT from page 1

der the radar. People are largely unaware of what goes on and how much of what is done--like the work that Tom was doing and the work that this researcher from UConn is doing--their goal is to improve lives and to help people who suffer," Julian said. "He felt very, very strongly not only about his own commitment to research, but to the community at large should have a greater commitment to research. This is why we want to support it. We want to bring awareness to the necessity and importance of scientific research. If people are going to benefit from better treatments and better medications and earlier identification of problems and earlier intervention to get help for the problems they have, we have to support research."

Julian hopes participants take away from the event that "part of what defined Tom's life was his determination, was his commitment, was his kindness and his desire to help."

"Hopefully, when given the opportunity, people will take advantage and pay it forward, do something for someone else. I think Tom would be really pleased if everybody involved or who knew about the event took an opportunity to do something kind for somebody else," Julian said.

Julian wants the community to know the event "is an opportunity for them to come out and show their support for people like Tom who are affected by these diseases."

"To support research, to improve lives and ease suffering and pain for people and to just kind of come together to support each other," Julian said. "Times have been difficult, I think, for a lot of people and when an opportunity comes along to be together, to be united over issues like this, it's something that you just don't want to miss."

After sharing the greatest lessons she learned from her son was about being kinder and a deeper understanding of honoring all different types of people and how everyone's life has value, her message was this.

"I can't say enough good about the folks in Wilbraham. They've really been there for us and it's made a really difficult situation a little easier to navigate," Julian said. "We'll never forget the kindness we've been shown."

To learn more, visit the Trot for Tom Facebook page.

SCHOOL from page 1

The biggest concern this past school year focused on speeding, with Jacques reminding drivers to obey the crosswalks, especially when kids are crossing the street.

Also, watch for students on bikes.

"Be cognizant of that now that the kids are out," Jacques said. "That's a big one."

Jacques's number one safety tip for parents would be to teach their children to watch for traffic when crossing the streets, walking on the sidewalks and riding their bikes.

"Yes, the drivers need to be careful and pay attention, but it's always good to side on caution yourself too to look and make sure," Jacques said. "If they are riding their bikes to school or anything like that to wear their helmets and have the bikes all with the reflectors, whatever they need."

Another tip is making everyone gets on their schedules to ensure everyone gets to their destinations on time.

"Get up, get on time, leave for school on time so you're not rushing around and either speeding or disobeying other traffic laws to get to school," Jacques said. "Give yourself time."

For the kids, to also be mindful of others and their safety.

"Share the road, share the sidewalks, be cognizant of what you're doing and everyone working together and making sure everything's smooth," Jacques said.

Regarding the phones, Jacques advised leaving them in the bag or pocket, paying attention to the road and not texting and driving.

"Leave it separate when you're traveling to and from school," Jacques said.

Looking ahead, Jacques shared he looks forward to being at Green Meadows during the first day to greet the students, with plans to be there eight hours a week.

"I look forward to working with the new kids and reconnecting with the other ones because I didn't see too many (during the summer)," Jacques said.

Jacques wishes everyone a happy school year.

"Share the roads, take that extra second and have a good, safe back to school!" Jacques said.

In case of emergency, call 911 or the police station at 413-566-8011.

This Week in Rec

Wilbraham Parks & Recreation

Andrea Rust
Administrative Clerk

WILBRAHAM - As our summer camps and programs are coming to end, we would like to thank all of our dedicated summer staff. WPRD employs over 40 seasonal staff in the summer including camp counselors, lifeguards, concession and admission staff, park staff, and summer basketball scorekeepers. We also work with several contracted programs and their staff. It has been an exceptional summer and we appreciate all of their hard work and dedication to the children and families in Wilbraham and surrounding towns. The staff continues to do an amazing job ensuring that everyone has a fun, safe, and memorable summer!

As the fall season quickly approaches, registration is still open for several of our programs including Falcon Volleyball, Fall Tennis, Cross Country, Competi-

tive Baseball, and the Stars of Tomorrow Dance Program. Soccer and Field Hockey registration has closed and practices will start the week of Aug. 26. We hope to see you this fall in a program or on the fields!

Even though fall registrations have not ended, we are also looking towards our winter program registration beginning soon. Suburban Basketball (Grades 5-8) registration begins August 27th and Recreational Basketball (Grades K-8) starts in mid-September. Be on the lookout for more information on the ART-Venture program as well.

For adults, we have several opportunities to improve and practice your pickleball game. Throughout the fall, lessons for beginners and advanced players will be available as well as tournaments. Registration for the first session of lessons are now open and the programs begin September 8th. Daily pickleball at Memorial School Gym



Turley photo by Dalton Zbierski

is also available Monday through Sunday. Additionally, stay active outdoors with the Wilbraham Hiking Club. Hikes in town and in surrounding areas are available weekly and registration is available on Team Reach.

NOTE: Please remember to visit WilbrahamRec.com often to find out more information on all of our programs and to register. You can also like our Facebook page, Wilbraham Parks and Recreation Department, as we update regularly with pictures and important information.

PUBLIC NOTICES

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD24P1651EA
Estate of:
Ronald F. Charest
Date of Death: 01/10/2024
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**
To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Keith Charest of Orange, 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: **Keith Charest of Orange, 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 09/03/2024.**

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 unsupervised 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: August 06, 2024
Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
08/22/2024

HISTORICAL from page 14

museum was full of objects that brought Hampden to where it is today. Every room in the museum was packed with donated objects that were connected to Hampden, including an old carriage that brought students to the museum which used to be a high school, and a presidential parade banner from 1840.

Linda Krawiec, the president of the Historical Society, spoke about the event and the Historical Society as a whole.

"Lots of people that live in this town come to me on Memorial Day and say: 'This is amazing. I've never been here and go by it daily on my way home.' So we would like them to know that if they find something old they could donate it. If it's something that their family gave from their great-grandparents, it's of great historical value and they should know that the town keeps these things," Krawiec said.

Along with Krawiec, two volunteers, Christina Millot and Don Krawiec, were also at the museum, helping organize everything for the day.

When the museum is open, Millot and Krawiec invite people in and help support them as best as they can.

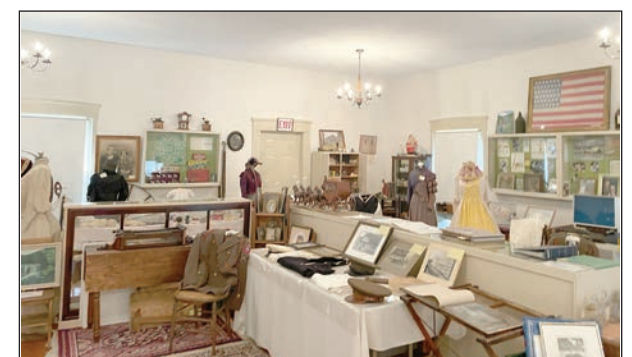
"Today is important because there are four other museums open on a tour and it's good that it's part of the 250th anniversary of the revolution. So, it's important to be here and learn a little about the history of our country," Millot said.

Krawiec also said this.

"It also is good to bring more people to each one of the five museums. If one is open, then you got the other four and hopefully, it will draw people to each one of the five, so that's our hope for the day," Krawiec said.

Hampden's contribution to the Five-Town Historical Society Museum Tour is extremely important due to its vast amount of history that dates back hundreds of years, and its museum will continue to home hundreds

of historical artifacts that connect to the town for years to come.



Turley photos by Noelle Hisgen

The second floor of Academy Hall is filled with historical artifacts during the 5-Town Historical Museum Tour on Aug. 17.



Shelves are lined with Hampden-related memorabilia.

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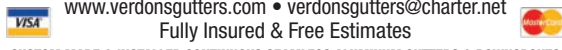
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