

**TOWN**  
Story  
time at the  
library  
Page 16

**SPORTS**  
Fall  
leagues  
set  
Page 15

Dedicated to Improving the Quality of Life in the Communities We Serve

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

AUGUST 24, 2023

www.wilbrahamhampdentimes.turley.com

## Hampden Historical Society showcases Academy Hall

By Dalton Zbierski  
Editor  
dzbierski@turley.com

HAMPDEN -- Historic Academy Hall on Main Street was open to the public on Aug. 19, courtesy of the Hampden Historical Society.

"We want people to see all the interesting things we have up here and the things that we do. Hopefully, people still donate Hampden memorabilia to us. That's our job to preserve it," Historical Society President Linda Kravitz said.

Home of the Historical Society, the building dates to 1850, when a group of concerned citizens formed the South Wilbraham Educational Society and pushed for the construction of the building to serve as a school for the community's youths.

Academy Hall's Grecian style was popular at the time, and the building's pillars are still visible today. The building served Hampden as a school for about three decades before becoming home of the town offices and host to various civil activities such as town meetings, dances and Scout and Grange meetings.

The building operated as a library for a time, and the Catholic Mass was temporarily celebrated there as well. In 1913, the building was used again as a school after the town's elementary school burned down.



Academy Hall was open to residents on Aug. 19.

Turley photos by Dalton Zbierski

In 1932, the Town House opened across the street, and Academy Hall saw a decline in use before falling into disrepair. Fortunately, the Historical Society was founded in 1965, and the group raised money and organized volunteer labor to restore the building.

Last Saturday, Academy Hall was asked to open its doors alongside historic museums in Longmeadow, East Longmeadow, Wilbraham and nearby Somers, CT. In preparation for the special open house, volunteers put displays up on the building's main floor, cleaned the cellar of cobwebs and invited residents to check out the town museum, located upstairs.

Kravitz spoke of an interaction that made her day. A young couple with a baby explained that they had just bought the house "Mother West Wind used to live in right up the street."

"Old Mother West Wind" is a children's book written by Thornton W. Burgess in 1910.

"So, we showed her different pictures and the dress. I said, 'It's a nice home to bring up your children in.' We told them stuff they didn't even know when they bought the house. It was so exciting to these people; I was happy to hear that," Kravitz said.

Kravitz emphasized that "each item has a story."

Please see **HAMPDEN**, page 13

## Selectmen recognize Officer Harris with Life Saving Award



Turley photo by Kristin Rivers

(L to R) Police Chief Ed Lennon, Board of Selectmen Chairman Theresa Goodrich, Officer Mark Harris, Vice Chairman Sue Bunnell and Clerk Michael Squindo take a group photo after Harris received the Life Saving Award at the Aug. 21 Board of Selectmen meeting.

## Also, appointments to the Board of Fire Commissioners

By Kristin Rivers  
Staff Writer  
krivers@turley.com

WILBRAHAM -- The Board of Selectmen recognized Officer Mark Harris on Aug. 21 with the Life Saving Award for his response to a water rescue call.

Harris recounted the July 14 rescue, which involved an inflatable raft at a kayak launch area on Red Bridge Road.

"Someone called because they saw someone going on a raft and given the dangerous area, they called us. I responded, I was the first on the scene and I saw two people in an inflatable raft. As I got down there, I basically saw that they started drifting off into the strong current where

Please see **HARRIS**, page 13

## Residents show off cars during Knights of Columbus Car Show

The event took place at Wilbraham's Fountain Park

By Kristin Rivers  
Staff Writer  
krivers@turley.com

WILBRAHAM -- Residents stopped by Fountain Park from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. on Aug. 19 for the Knights of Columbus Car Show.

The event, co-sponsored by the Knights of Columbus 10195 at St. Cecelia's Parish and Body Works Unlimited Inc., featured 200 classic and modern cars.

The proceeds will go towards charities the organization supports, including Community Survival Center, Clearway Clinic, Coats for Kids, the Gray House and many more.

Additionally, there were vendors including Friends of the Wilbraham Senior Center, K and H Jewelry, the Wilbraham Junior Women's Club, the Catholic Women's Club and Iron Duke Brewing, with volunteers from St. Cecilia's Parish and the Knights of Columbus



Turley photos by Kristin Rivers

Steve Andwood shows off his 1928 Ford Model A remade with Halloween-themed décor—including a skeleton in the passenger seat—during the Knights of Columbus 10195 Car Show at Fountain Park.

serving food, drinks and bringing in the cars.

Ed Spear from the Knights of Columbus chaired the event, crediting Tony Bordoni of Body Works Unlimited Inc. for his support and explaining it's a fundraiser for the organization, featuring 17 different classes of cars.

"We have hot rods, we have rat rods, we have Corvettes, we have Chevys, Camaros, trucks," Spear said.

Bordoni added other classes including import cars, Mustangs, Fords, muscle cars and exotics.

Please see **CARS**, page 9

## Hampden BOS express strong opposition to Senate Bill S. 34

Bill is “an act to modernize funding for community media programming”

By Dalton Zbierski  
Editor  
dzbierski@turley.com

HAMPDEN -- Pinned by Craig Rivest, the Board of Selectmen delivered a letter to State Sen. Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow) to express opposition to Senate Bill S.34, “An Act to modernize funding for community media programming.”

“While the intention behind the bill to support local community access programming is commendable, we believe there are significant concerns that need to be addressed before this bill can be considered a viable solution,” the letter reads.

Rivest noted during the Aug. 7 meeting of the board that the bill is an attempt by the state to regulate the commercial sale of streaming entertainment services to individuals and businesses in the commonwealth. The revenue would be put towards funding community access programming.

“The bill is going to initiate a 5% gross annual revenue derived in Mass from any streaming services. So, any streaming service is bound to pay 5% of their gross annual revenue that they sold

in Mass,” Rivest said. “So, that means one of two things. Either streaming operators, Netflix, Hulu, YouTube, Fubo, (are) going to pass that fee down to its customers because it’s going to be new or they’re just not going to operate in Massachusetts.”

The state would have no authority to regulate streaming operators’ rates.

The letter voices concerns that if the fee is passed on to customers, it would create an uneven playing field that favors cable TV providers by indirectly making streaming services, or even the use of multiple streaming services, more expensive.

Rivest questioned what towns such as Hampden that lack community programming will do. He also noted that community programming via cable access is becoming somewhat obsolete, as more residents “cut the cord” and make the transition to entirely streaming-based entertainment.

“Community access programming is seeing a decline in funding due to a decline in consumers,” Rivest said. “If there’s a decline in consumers who are purchasing cable TV, then why are we going to be artificially inflating the programming for people who aren’t watching it? Why are they going to charge a fee for someone like me who doesn’t have cable to watch a streaming service, but I can’t watch these community programs because I

don’t have cable tv?”

The letter to Oliveira notes that it is essential to consider the “broader context of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century’s technological advancements and the need for an open and free internet.”

It said that the bill does not align with those principles.

“Instead, it appears to force consumers into either paying additional fees for programming they neither have nor want or compelling them to opt for a cable TV service they may not desire, simply because it has become the ‘cheaper’ option due to taxation. Thus, making it harder for small communities such as Hampden, who are looking to build out their own fiber optic infrastructure as a reliable and competitive service for all residents,” the letter reads.

Ultimately, the letter urges Oliveira to reconsider the provisions of the bill and take into account potential negative consequences to consumers, competition and equitable access to modern communication services.

“It is essential to find a balanced approach that supports community media programming while fostering innovation, competition, and consumer choice in the digital age,” it reads.

The letter was approved on Aug. 14 and signed by each member of the Board of Selectmen, Rivest, Don Davenport and Chair John Flynn.

## The Wilbraham Friends of the Library Annual Art Exhibit Call to Artists

WILBRAHAM — The Wilbraham Friends of the Library will present their Annual Art Exhibit, taking place at the Brooks Room of the Wilbraham Public Library from Oct. 2 to Oct. 29 with a reception for artists, Friends and the public, Saturday, Oct. 14 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Artists will be able to sell additional unframed pieces at the reception. The library is located at 25 Crane Park Drive, Wilbraham.

The show is open for various art media, and Chairman Mary Bandoueres is now welcoming artist’s applications. Respond early at wplartshow@gmail.com to

insure your spot. Entry deadline is September 22.

The event is free and open to the public. This show is always popular and many of the artists will have pieces for sale.

The show is sponsored by the Wilbraham Friends of the Library which was established in 1973. The Friends of the Library fund programs for children, teens, and adults, as well as the library’s popular Museum Pass program, furnishings, and other library equipment.

For more information, contact the Friends at friends@wilbrahamlibrary.org.

## ‘Halfway to St. Patrick’s Day’ Grab & Go Dinner

HAMPDEN – Join the Hampden Senior Center on Allen Street as it celebrates its “Halfway to St. Patrick’s Day” Grab & Go Dinner on Sunday, Sept. 17. Pick up is from 2-2:30 p.m.

Pick a delicious Gran & Go meal of Corned Beef and Cabbage complete with Rye Bread and Dessert.

All proceeds from this

event will benefit the Senior Center Building Fund.

All are welcome. \$10 per meal. Pre-registration and payment required. Call 566-5588.

The senior center thanks its generous sponsors: Byron Keenan Funeral Home & Cremation Tribute Center, Brodeur-Campbell Fence Company and Monson Savings Bank.

*Celebrating Over  
20 Years of Dance!*

*The Dance Studio*

**Classes Start  
Sept. 11th!**

**Classes for Toddler  
through Adult**

*Classical Ballet,  
Jazz, Tap,  
Musical Theater Dance,  
Modern/Contemporary,  
Pre-dance,  
Ballet Fairy Tales,  
Combo Classes,  
Street Hip-Hop,  
Break Dance and Funk,  
Competition &  
Performance Team  
Toddler Class*

**REGISTER NOW FOR FALL CLASSES!**

**OPEN HOUSE Thursday, September 7th 5-7pm**

**In person registration every Tuesday 5-7pm**

*Family and Multi-class Discount  
1 hour classes, 90 minute recitals  
Professional Adult College Educated Instructors*



**Adult Fitness & Dance  
Classes as low as  
\$5 per class when you  
pre-register monthly  
or \$10 for drop-ins.**

**We Offer  
Birthday Parties  
& Studio Rentals**

**WHERE DANCE IS FOR EVERYONE!**

**35 Post Office Park, Wilbraham 596-0121 • REGISTER ONLINE! www.thedancestudio.co**



Turley photo by Kristin Rivers

Wilbraham Selectmen 1: (L to R) George Fontaine, chairperson of the Senior Center Building Committee, Paula Dubord, director of Elder Affairs at the Wilbraham Senior Center, Board of Selectmen Clerk Michael Squindo, Maria Cacela, vice president of the Friends of the Wilbraham Senior Center, Matt Villamaino, president of the Friends of the Wilbraham Senior Center, Chairman Theresa Goodrich and Vice Chairman Sue Bunnell pose for a photo with the check the Friends presented to the Town of Wilbraham at the Aug. 21 Board of Selectmen meeting.

## Board of Selectmen receives updates on Senior Center Capital Campaign

Also, discussed overgrowth issue on Stony Hill Road

By Kristin Rivers  
Staff Writer  
krivers@turley.com

WILBRAHAM -- The Board of Selectmen received an update from the Friends of the Wilbraham Senior Center on Aug. 21 on the fundraising efforts for the new senior center.

Matt Villamaino, president of the Friends of the Wilbraham Senior Center, was joined by Vice President Maria Cacela for the update.

Villamaino shared how the Friends secured a \$50,000 earmark from the state to partially pay for a generator and \$233,000 through various fundraisers held by the Friends since 2010 including dine-outs, craft fairs and more.

Additionally, they connected with State Rep. Angelo Puppolo (D-Springfield) and State Sen. Jacob Oliveira (D-Ludlow) to get the town an earmark for the state budget.

"The town was just notified recently that we are getting \$100,000, so that's significant," Villamaino said.

Villamaino then provided an overview of where funding stands.

"Back in April, I reported the capital campaign raised \$147,000 in cash and pledges and today -- as of this morning -- we're up to \$301,000, so when you add it all together we're at \$684,000," Villamaino said.

Villamaino then presented the board with a check for \$58,565 to the town, representing a deposit of one-third for fixtures and furniture for the new senior center.

He then recognized the many sponsors who contributed to the campaign, adding a list of all the sponsors will be published next month.

"I want to thank hundreds of people who have already donated. There are some very generous people in our town, regardless of the dollar amount that was given, many people stepped up," Villamaino said.

Cacela and Villamaino then provided information on the upcoming Bushels of Fun Fest on Aug. 27 from 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. at Fern Valley Farms.

"Just want to plug it and let everybody know if you're available to come out and respond and support," Cacela said.

Next, Town Administrator Nick Breault presented a topic during the Town Administrator's Report that was not on the agenda.

The item concerned a property on Stony Hill Road with vegetation overgrowth affecting the sightlines, leading to a visit from the police department and questions on how the

town can address the issue as it's on private property.

Breault said he plans to seek more counsel on how to move forward.

Wendy Rout thanked Breault for his updates on the issue, wondering about the corner visibility and the bylaws.

"There is this blurb on the town website about if the tree warden becomes aware of a tree that is a potential danger to the general public but is on private property, does he have any authority and it says 'yes.' If the tree warden feels that the town's right of way is in danger, he has the authority to arrange for the removal of the tree at the town's expense. So, that's another avenue we were hoping might have some potential," Rout said.

Ellen Bartolomei, a teacher at Stony Hill Elementary School, explained the tree is in the resident's front lawn in pieces and she is concerned about families who walk their children to school on that street.

"Due to the age of the trees and the bushes and the time that has passed, it is now a very scary thing to turn left out of that street going towards Boston Road," Bartolomei said. "I have serious concerns that there will be some kind of fatality or serious injury if this is not addressed in some way."

Chairman Theresa Goodrich said the item will be on the agenda every single week moving forward as the discussion continues to find an answer to the issue.



PHONE

413.283.8393  
Fax: 413.289.1977  
Subscriptions: 413.283.8393

EMAIL

Advertising Sales  
Jocelyn Walker  
jwalker@turley.com

Editor

Dalton Zbierski  
dzbierski@turley.com

Subscriptions

\$45 per year pre-paid  
(\$50 out of state)

WEB

www.wilbrahamhampdentimes.  
turley.com

@ Wilbraham-Hampden Times

The Wilbraham-Hampden Times  
is published by  
Turley Publications, Inc. • www.turley.com

# HAMPDEN SEPTIC

WE'RE STILL TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS!

Time To Get  
Your Septic  
Pumped,  
Call To  
Book Now!



WE ARE A LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED BUSINESS

Pumping • Installation • Title 5 Inspections • Perc Tests  
SEWER PUMP REPAIRS • FULLY INSURED • FAMILY OWNED  
Evening & Weekend Appointments Available!

Evening & Weekend  
Appointments Available!

566-2916

## THE BEST FRESH LOCALLY GROWN

SUPPORT OUR LOCAL FARMERS!



### Local Field Grown TOMATOES!

Red, Ripe, Delicious  
Cherry, Grape & Plum Tomatoes Too!

### Locally Grown BUTTER & SUGAR SWEET CORN

Picked Fresh Every Day!



### Locally Grown BLUEBERRIES

Blackberries & Red Raspberries  
Green Peppers, Eggplant & Cabbage  
New Crop Paula Red Apples

### BOARS HEAD DELI SPECIALS

8/23- 8/29

BH Maple Honey Ham ..... \$10.99/lb

BH Lacey Swiss Cheese ..... \$10.99/lb

### Gourmet Deli Sandwiches

Summer Salads ~ Entrees To Take Out!

Cookies, Muffins, Pies and Desserts

### Perennial Specials for Late Summer

### Autumn Joy Sedum

\$9.99 One Gallon Pots

(Reg. Price \$12.99)

### HARDY ASTERS

Two Gallon Pots \$14.99

(Reg. Price \$19.99)

Garmine Red & Woods Purple and Pink  
Late Blooming ~ Pollinator Favorites

### House Plant Specials

### REX BEGONIAS

\$8.99 4" Pot (Reg. Price \$12.99)

Exotic Colors with Pattern Leaves

Pet Friendly ~ Easy Care

### "Dorm Room" Miniatures

2" Pots \$5.99

Pink Splash, Peperomia, Ferns, Palm & More  
Colorful Ceramic Pots

In Honor of National Banana Split Day

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25TH

\$5.00 BANANA SPLITS

ONE DAY ONLY

Elsie's Creamery

The Best Homemade Ice Cream

ALWAYS FRESH AT



631 CENTER ST., Route 21, Mass Tpke Exit 54  
LUDLOW • 589-7071 • www.randallsfarm.net

OPEN EVERY DAY 7AM - 8PM

Find us on facebook and YouTube

HISTORICAL WILBRAHAM

# Things have changed since 1923

A look at Wilbraham from a century ago

By Charles F. Bennett  
Times Editor Emeritus

While looking through Wilbraham's Annual Report of 1923, it made me realize how many changes our town has seen over the last 100 years. The annual reports of yesteryear were a far cry from our current ones like those that were distributed at the May Annual Town Meeting in the Minnechaug Auditorium this year.

But some expenses that every town must report haven't changed, from announcing the salaries of the Selectmen to how much money town law enforcement officers earn. From the listing of the details used to operate the public schools to each and every item on the Town Warrant in a specific old-fashioned style of language.

Here is a sample of the introduction to this year's warrant:

*"In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of Wilbraham, who are qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs to meet at Minnechaug Regional High School (PRECINCTS A, B, C, & D) in said Wilbraham on Saturday, the 20th day of May, 2023, when the polls will be open between the hours of 8:30 AM and 6:30 PM, then and there to act on the following: To give their votes to the election of officers on one ballot for the following Town Officers: 1 Selectman for 3 years, 1 Assessor for 3 years, 2 Regional School Committee members for 3 years, 1 Cemetery Commissioner for 3 years, 1 Water Commissioner for 3 years, 2 Library Trustees for 3 years, 1 Planning Board Member for 5 years, 1 Wilbraham Housing Authority for 5 years.*

The following is an excerpt from the 1923 Town Report:

*To choose a Town Clerk and Treasurer, one Selectman for three years, who shall be Overseer of the Poor, one Assessor for three years, five Constables, one Auditor for the ensuing year one School Committee for three years, Collector of Taxes for the ensuing year, one Library*

*Trustee for three years, one Tree Warden for the ensuing year, one Cemetery Commissioner for three years, all on one ballot. Also all other Town Officers.*

**Evanore Beebe**

Just as in the modern age, 1923 had its own cast of town characters and leaders who always seemed to gain attention, whether at town meetings, Wilbraham Grange Fairs or church events. Just like today's locals who attend St. Patrick's Day dinners at St. Cecilia's, the Farmers Markets or hang out at the Route 20 Bar and Grill.

They brought to mind earlier "Historical Wilbraham" columns that we have written about a cast of characters from a century ago like Evanore O. Beebe, Fred Green and Henry Edson.

Evanore Beebe was chairman of the 1923 School Committee. Fred Green was an assessor and became a popular selectman and Henry Edson of the Glendale section was an assessor, tree warden, cemetery commissioner and town historian.

Just like in present day when a continual stream of the same controversial people rise to speak at town meetings, the popular Beebe butted heads with her fellow 150th Wilbraham Anniversary Celebration Committee member Chauncey Peck, who was the author of the town's second history book "History of Wilbraham 1763-1913. Edson used to say that Peck, who served in the U. S. Cavalry with George Armstrong Custer at the Battle of Gettysburg, lived in the center of town, was the town moderator and owned prosperous real estate in the Center Village, was a "fussbudget" and liked things his own way.

Evanore Olds Beebe was born in 1858 in Wisconsin and came to Wilbraham to be near her family. She never married. She was a noted antiquarian and was very active in town. Her name shows up all over Wilbraham Town reports.

Beebe was elected to the Wilbraham School Committee in 1906 and served until 1914. She was the first woman in Wilbraham to serve as chairman of the School Committee according to the website "Her Hat Was in the Ring!". She was also well known beyond Wilbraham townsfolk for being a friend of the famous horror writer H. P. Lovecraft who



Miss Evanore O. Beebe, center, was a leading light of the town in 1923. (Chauncey Peck "History of Wilbraham", 1913)

wrote "The Dunwich Horror" modeled after Wilbraham. "The Dunwich Horror" is believed to be Lovecraft's most famous short story. It is set in the farm community of Wilbraham disguised as "the domed hills of the upper Miskatonic Valley".

**The Guest Log**

How did Lovecraft learn about Wilbraham? In the summer of 1928, according to biographers, he stayed with Miss Evanore Beebe at her farmhouse, which she called "Maplehurst" because of the stately maple trees that use to line the Monson Road farm close to the town line. Lovecraft shared a friendship with Beebe and the fiction writer, journalist, editor Edith Dowe Minitier whom he knew from Boston literary circles. They were both members of The Hub Club. Everyone called her Mrs. Minitier; there is no record of her having a husband in town records.

Minitier's signature appears a few lines down from Lovecraft's in Beebe's 1928 guest log. (There are seven signatures and an entry called "The Cooker Party" on the July 4 page suggesting that Beebe hosted a patriotic Fourth of July party that day.)

Maplehurst, which some say is haunted, is now owned by longtime town resident Denny Smith who is in possession of the guest log that Beebe kept of all her callers who visited Maplehurst. A few years back Denny showed me Lovecraft's concise signature that appears on the page containing the date of the Fourth of July, 1928.

Beebe died at age 77 in 1935 and is buried in Glendale Cem-

etry within yelling distance of her beloved Maplehurst.

**School Committee**

As for Beebe's activity on the School Committee, a reading between the lines of the 1923 Annual Report reveals that Beebe was a hands-on committee member. She had a net budget of \$40,156 to work with and she reported on the smallest of details. For example, after she and her fellow committee members each received a \$50 yearly salary, she was reimbursed \$4.30 for postage and use of her telephone.

She made sure the Superintendent of Schools, F. A. Wheeler, received a 1923 salary of \$990 plus \$28 for incidentals, and \$150 for travel. The truant officers needed to be paid, Ed MacDowell \$59 and Berthelemi Herbert \$25. The highest paid teacher, Mrs. Helen M. Burroughs was paid \$1,141. Attention to detail was important to Beebe who said Sacketts Type-writer Exchange in Springfield was paid \$4.55 for cards and letters.

**Fred Green**

Of all the leaders of the town of Wilbraham, from Deacon Nathaniel Warriner and Town Crier Anson Soule in olden days to the current Selectboard, one of the most influential was Fred W. Green who died Feb. 16, 1938 at the age of 79. He is buried in Woodland Dell Cemetery.

When he was in his 40's he transported Wilbraham Academy students in his stagecoach to the Boston & Albany Railroad Station in North Wilbraham where the students would catch the train east or west.

Green was the epitome of a "town father", a go-to guy who served as a tax collector, assessor, selectman, postmaster and all while being a registered Democrat in a Republican town. One of the few people at the time from the Democratic party to hold office in Wilbraham's history. Green was appointed postmaster by the Democratic administration of President Grover Cleveland.

In 1923 when both Green and Henry Edson were the town

what property was to be taxed. Green was the veteran assessor and was a mentor to the younger Edson. A look at their report shows that Wilbraham was still a small town back then with 13,183 taxable acres of land.

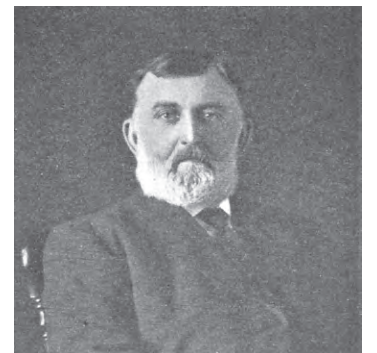
They counted 491 dwellings, 137 horses, 383 cows, 25 sheep, 300 pigs and a whopping 10,130 chickens and turkeys.

The assessors' job in those days was to report appropriations for various town expenses. A quick sample: \$8,225 was spent on highways and bridges, \$520 for soldier's relief, \$2,444 for streetlights, \$1,000 for the library and \$750 for Glendale School toilets to replace the outhouse.

**Henry Edson**

Besides being an assessor Henry Edson was a cemetery commissioner and the forest warden.

He reported several projects at Adams Cemetery such as, "The Adams cemetery stone table of Lieutenant Merrick has been moved to a new foundation." And, "Two copper screens have been put in the receiving tomb. The soldiers' graves have been reseeded and improvements have been made by owners of several lots. Owing to scarcity of labor only the new portion of the cemetery was mowed." Three



Fred Green was an assessor in 1923. (Times file photo)

cemetery commissions, Edson, B. B. Green and C. M. Calkins, were reimbursed \$31.85 for expenses.

As forest warden Edson reported, "We have had only two

Please see **HISTORY**, page 19

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

USDA INSP. BONELESS CENTER CUT PORK LOIN CHOP or ROAST..... <b>\$2.77</b> lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF STRIP LOIN STEAKS..... <b>\$7.77</b> lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF SHOULDER LONDON BROIL..... <b>\$4.55</b> lb
USDA INSP. TWIN PAK PORK SPARE RIBS..... <b>\$2.19</b> lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF WHOLE EYE ROUND..... <b>\$3.99</b> lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS & SKINLESS CHICKEN TENDERLOIN TRAY PAK..... <b>\$1.79</b> lb
USDA INSP. FRESH COUNTRY STYLE PORK RIBS..... <b>\$1.99</b> lb	USDA INSP. FRESH GROUND FRESH DAILY 80% LEAN GROUND BEEF..... <b>\$3.79</b> 7 LB BAG	USDA INSP. FRESH WHOLE CHICKEN TRAY PAK..... <b>\$1.49</b> lb
SLICED IN OUR DELI WUNDERBAR BOLOGNA..... <b>\$3.33</b> lb	USDA INSP. STORE MADE ITALIAN MARINATED 1/2 CHICKEN..... <b>\$2.49</b> lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN SALMON PORTION SKIN ON..... <b>\$5.99</b> lb
USDA INSP. FRESH PORK BUTT..... <b>\$2.02</b> lb	USDA INSP. STORE MADE KOREAN BBQ MARINATED BONELESS PORK BUTT STRIPS... <b>\$2.99</b> lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN IQF COOKED SHRIMP 51/60 CT, 2 LB BAG... <b>\$9.99</b> ea

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

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

SALE DATES: 8/24/23-8/30/23 BUY DIRECT FOR SAVINGS • SELECTION • SERVICE We reserve the right to limit quantities.

**ROBERTS ROOFS**  
SPECIALIZING IN  
Slate • Copper • Architectural Shingles • Gutters  
Historical Restoration • Flat Roofing  
Snow Removal  
Snow/Ice Damage Repair  
Tel. 413-283-4395  
Cell 413-237-9434  
www.RobertsRoofsInc.com Trusted Name Since 1982

**CENTER STREET AUTO PARTS OF CHICOPEE, INC.**

We will pay you top dollar for your car AND we will pick it up! Call us for a price!

- Top-Of-The-Line Auto Salvaging Services
- First-Rate Used Auto Parts
- Top-Grade Auto Body Parts
- Sell Your Old or Used Car to Us

"Serving all of Western Mass." **\$\$\$ Money on the Spot for All Vehicles**

**centerstreetautoparts.com**  
651 Center St., Chicopee 413-733-2778

# Heartbreak at the Town House

Selectmen vote to euthanize Hampden dog, Tiger

By Dalton Zbierski  
Editor  
dzbierski@turley.com

HAMPDEN — The Nelson family left the Town House heartbroken on Monday after the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to have their dog Tiger euthanized.

The family has 10 days to appeal the decision and was encouraged by the board to do so. The board was extremely hesitant to make the decision, which occurred after 45 minutes of dialogue, as a continuance of last Monday's hearing.

Tiger was deemed a dangerous dog on March 8, 2021, following several incidents, and she caused a disturbance that police were called to on Aug. 2.

"It's a tough situation for all of us. There's really no easy way to go about it," Selectman Craig Rivest said. "The what ifs are the ones that keep me up at night. If something were to happen and I had to explain to somebody we didn't take action... I think (this decision) is for the betterment of the population. We have to look out for everybody."

Tiger is a mix between a boxer, lab and golden retriever, whose primary owner is Laura Nelson of South Road. Nelson got Tiger from a pound in Connecticut; the pound did not know the dog's history.

Last week, Nelson was called to the Board of Selectmen meeting after a complaint was made by her neighbor Teresa Majewski, also of South Road. On Aug. 2, Tiger entered Majewski's property, and Majewski, feeling threatened, fled to her neighbor Karla Laramée's house, also on South Road.

When Laramée drove Majewski home, Tiger was still on Majewski's property, kicking up dust, circling the car and allegedly behaving viciously. Laramée recalled the situation for the board on Aug. 21.

"That Tiger dog was out there barking, going crazy," Laramée said, noting she called 911. "I think if she could have gotten in my car, the dog would have ripped my face apart. That's the way it was being. I wouldn't say that for nothing because I love animals and have always had animals, but I've never felt so scared."

In 2021, Tiger attacked Majewski's smaller dog Rudy, "pulling out his neck in the process of killing him," Majewski



South Road neighbors Karla Laramée and Teresa Majewski fear for their life because of Tiger the dog. Photo: via Zoom

said on Aug. 17; Rudy survived the encounter.

The attack occurred after several unofficial incidents in which the dog escaped its property, Animal Control Officer Shelley Sears confirmed last week. Following the hearing on March 8, 2021, Nelson promised to keep Tiger humanely restrained, confined to her premises and securely and humanely muzzled when removed from the residence, among other stipulations.

After the Aug. 2 incident, the board questioned if Nelson could guarantee that Tiger would not leave her property again. On Aug. 17, the board gave the Nelson family one week to present a solution, otherwise the dog could be euthanized.

Nelson's mother noted that the family developed a plan, which included taking action to make sure Tiger could no longer escape the slider that she got past on Aug. 2 after a family member left it open as well as other preventative measures.

"We did some research online and we have purchased a quarter-inch steel mesh that we're going to reinforce the screening with and the two doors," she said. "The two doors that exit from the porch; we're installing safety locks that lock behind you when you exit. You can get back in with a key code or a key, but they automatically shut behind you."

Nelson added another component of the plan, which would be the installation of a fence six feet in height. To prevent digging, Nelson said rubber mats would be put under the fence.

Nelson expressed that she could keep the dog out of trouble if given the opportunity.

"I'm happy having her with me. She's come a long way. She's really well trained with me. She listens to everything.

I can tell her, 'Stay, sit, heels down, roll over,'" she said. "People come over the house. She loves children; she loves kids. She's become very friendly... She's our family pet. We love her. She loves us."

Nelson said it is her hope that she can own Tiger while Majewski lives without fear. Majewski responded that she's been in fear for four years because of Tiger.

"I saw her rip apart Rudy's throat. Rudy is in a fortress. He can't even go out on the porch. I have to close the kitchen door. He goes potty, I stand there with a pitchfork, he goes back in," Majewski said. "I can't take that chance anymore. It could be next week, it could be next year, it could be three years from now.

But do you know something? Tomorrow, the next day, I've still got to be on my toes 24/7. I don't know when (Tiger's) going to get out."

Unpleased with Nelson's response and the direction the meeting appeared to be heading, Majewski got up suddenly and left early for the second consecutive week, claiming she was "tired of (the Nelsons') lies."

The meeting continued, as the board asked Sears to offer her professional



(L to R) Craig Rivest, Chair John Flynn and Donald Davenport, the Board of Selectmen, were forced to make a tough decision during Monday's meeting. Photo: via Zoom

opinion. Sears said she spoke with "Boston" earlier in the day, which emphasized the importance of public safety.

The board asked Sears if she fears Tiger. Sears relayed what occurred when she recently visited the Nelson house to examine the kennel.

"Unfortunately, Tiger was loose. She came at me, and I jumped in the kennel and slammed the door... So, yes, I'm afraid of it," Sears said.

Ultimately, Rivest asked Sears if Tiger presents a public safety risk. Her response led to the hearing's ultimate vote.

"Yeah, because there's always that one time something could happen. That's the whole problem. The one time. There could be (a public safety risk)," she said.

Selectman Don Davenport motioned to have the dog euthanized. He did so with a heavy heart.

"To euthanize a dog is not what I would ever want to do,"

he said. "I've had to put down many of my own animals. I'm very concerned about this situation. Obviously, (Tiger) has caused great fear amongst your neighbors."

The board repeatedly urged the Nelson family to appeal the decision. Flynn expressed his sorrow to the Nelson family.

"I cannot tell you how sorry we are to do this. This has never been done in my time," he said.

Nelson's mother guaranteed that the family would appeal the decision. She let the board know how she felt before leaving the room.

"It's wrong what you're doing. It's wrong. I understand everything that's happened here, but it's wrong to take a life. It's just not right," she said.

It wasn't made clear what the next step will be. Tiger could be impounded, although it appeared the town would not be held liable if the dog isn't impounded.

Sears said the appeal process could be a lengthy one.

Family Owned Since 1985

## T.J. BARK MULCH INC.

Visit [TJBarkMulch.com](http://TJBarkMulch.com) for Coupons

**18 Different All Organic Double Ground Premium Mulches**  
Pine • Spruce • Hemlock • Cedar • Red, Black & Brown  
Playground • Forest Blend • Topsoil • Seasoned Firewood Find us on Facebook.

**NOW CARRYING DECORATIVE STONE**

We are a mulch manufacturer, not a reseller of other people's products. This means no middleman, and you save on the best product around. Come visit us on the web for great deals!

**413-569-2400** | 25 Sam West Road, Southwick, MA | **860-654-1975**

## RICHARD R. GREEN

*Insurance Agency, Inc.*

- AUTO • HOME • BUSINESS • LIFE
- Great Locations • Registry Service
- Quotes Gladly Given • We Make Housecalls

**Please Visit Our Website For an Auto, Homeowners, or Life Insurance Quotes**

**Two Locations:**

**128 Main St.  
Monson, MA  
267-3495**

**32 Somers Rd.  
Hampden, MA  
566-0028**

Fax: 413-267-3496  
Email: [richardgreenins@gmail.com](mailto:richardgreenins@gmail.com)  
[www.richardgreeninsurance.com](http://www.richardgreeninsurance.com)

## VIEWPOINTS



### When should my wife claim Social Security?

Dear Rusty

My wife will be 65 next year, and her full retirement age is 66 years plus 10 months.

Can she collect 50% of my Social Security benefit at her full retirement age and then get her own higher personal amount at age 70? Her own amount at her full retirement age is \$1,100 per month but her age 70 amount is \$1,800. My Social Security is \$2,300. Suggestions welcome.

Signed: My Wife's Helper

Dear Helper

Your wife cannot separate her spousal benefit from her personal Social Security retirement benefit – whenever she claims she will be automatically deemed to be filing for both

her own benefit and her spousal entitlement. Thus, she cannot claim her spousal benefit first at her Full Retirement Age and defer claiming her own SS retirement benefit until she is 70.

When your wife should claim is, essentially, a decision which should consider the urgency of her need for the money, her life expectancy, whether she will be eligible for a spouse benefit from you and whether she is working.

If your wife claims before her Full Retirement Age and is working, she'll be subject to Social Security's "earnings test" which limits how much she can earn before some SS benefits are taken away. Social Security's earnings test goes away at FRA.

Average life expectancy for a woman your wife's age is about 87. If your current \$2,300 benefit is a result of you taking your Social Security at your full retirement age or earlier, then your wife will receive a small "spousal boost" from you.

If she claims at her Full Retirement Age, your wife's total Social Security payment will be 50% of the amount you were entitled to at your FRA and that will be her permanent amount, except for annual COLA increases.

However, from what you've shared, your wife's age 70 amount is considerably more than her maximum spousal benefit so, if her life expectancy is long, that suggests she may wish to consider waiting until age 70 to claim

her own maximum benefit. By doing so, your wife will get more in cumulative lifetime benefits if she achieves average life expectancy.

The unknown factor is your life expectancy because, as your widow, your wife will be entitled to 100% of the amount you were receiving at your death, instead of the smaller amount she is receiving on her own or as your spouse. If life expectancy is long for both of you, then your wife maximizing her own benefit by waiting until age 70 to claim is a prudent choice. But if your, or your wife's, life expectancy is shorter, then your wife claiming at her Full Retirement Age would be a better decision.

*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](http://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at [ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org).*

Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.



Orange-crowned warbler

I received an email this week from an Oakham resident, who saw a couple of warblers at Muddy Pond in Oakham. He said they were very vocal and "chirping." He said at first he thought they were Tennessee warblers, but then he noticed more gray on their head and neck. They may have been orange-crowned warblers.

The orange-crowned warbler is about five inches long and looks similar to the Tennessee warbler. A distinguishing feature is the orange-crowned has yellow under tail coverts and the Tennessee, white.

Drab is a term used to describe the orange-crowned warbler and is best identified by its lack of field marks. The orange crown patch is seldom vis-

ible as these warblers flutter about in the trees. It has dull olive-green upper parts and pale olive-yellow underneath. In addition to the yellow under tail coverts it has faint streaking on the sides of the breast.

The female lays three to six cream colored eggs in a nest of bark strips and grasses, placed either on the ground or in a shrub. They eat insects and berries and inhabit dense thickets, forest edges and brushy fields. Their song is a high-pitched chipping trill, which trails off at the end. The call is a metallic "chet."

#### Wild turkeys and poults

I had to stop to let a flock of three adult hens and over 12 poults cross a road recently. As they made their way across the road, I tried to get an accurate count. However, the young turkeys moved quickly and often went behind another poults or a hen. This was the second time I saw the flock in the same general area.

#### Loon census

On July 15, the Loon Preservation Committee of New Hampshire held their annual loon census. In their newsletter they said, "During the Loon Census, a total of 440 volunteers took to 121 lakes across New Hampshire to count loons. In total, they documented 431 adult loons, 56 loon chicks, and 2 immature loons. This census coverage represents roughly 1/3 of the lakes that LPC biologists monitor annually, and as such, our final population numbers for the season will likely be higher."

#### Loon fact

After the hatch of their first chick, adult loons often remove the membrane from the

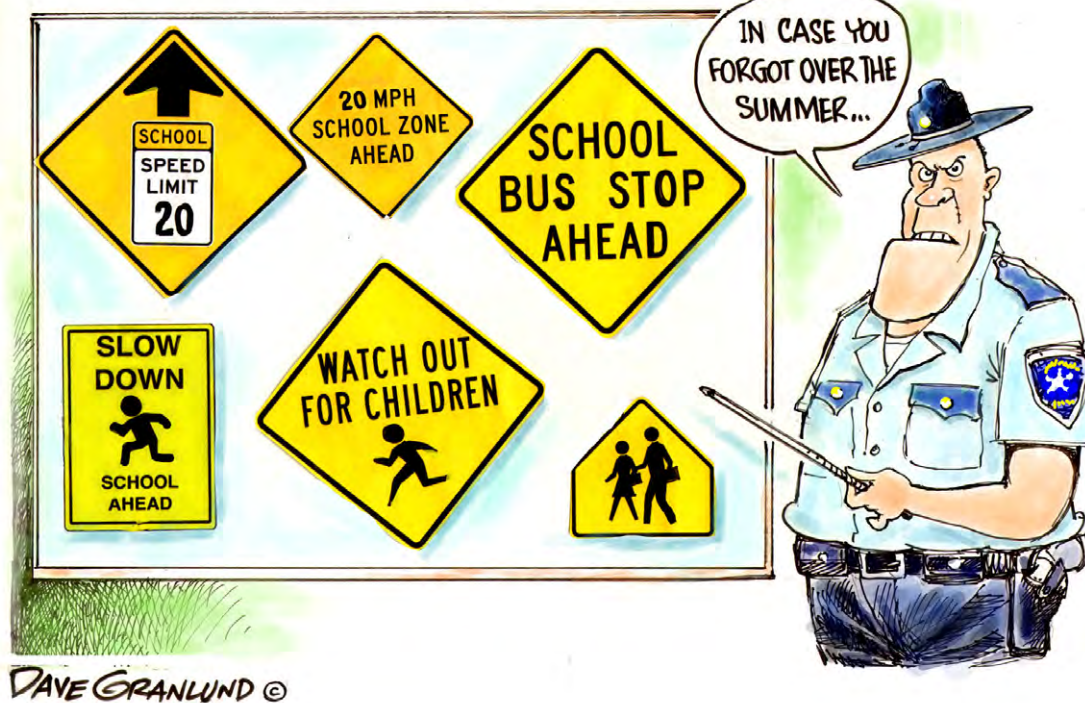
first hatched egg and any attached large pieces of eggshell from their nest. This behavior has been widely documented here in New Hampshire, both on LPC's Live Loon Cams and by wildlife photographers, as well as by biologists in the field.

In a recent newsletter from LPC an article said, "The removal of eggshell fragments from loon nests may occur in part due to the asynchronous hatch of the two chicks. Until the second chick hatches, the loons brood their first chick on and around the nest. While they may take it into the water for brief swims or to feed it, the first chick ends up spending a lot of time on the nest while the family waits for the hatch of the second chick."

The article continued, "Loon eggs and newly-hatched loon chicks are brown in color, and as such, they blend in with their surroundings on the nest. The egg membrane and the inside of eggshells, in contrast, are a creamy white color. That makes them much more conspicuous and, if left on the nest, could increase the chance of nest predation. Therefore, it is believed that in removing egg membranes and large eggshell pieces from the nest, adult loons may be protecting their chick and the second egg from being easily noticed by predators."

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](mailto:mybackyard88@aol.com) or [edowner@turley.com](mailto:edowner@turley.com) or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

### Back to school refresher course ... for drivers ...



Support the local businesses that support your local newspaper.

Let them know you saw their ad in the

Wilbraham Hampden Times

## The Wilbraham-Hampden TIMES TEAM



EDITOR  
Dalton Zbierski  
[dzbierski@turley.com](mailto:dzbierski@turley.com)



ADVERTISING SALES  
Jocelyn Walker  
[jwalker@turley.com](mailto:jwalker@turley.com)



SPORTS EDITOR  
Greg Scibelli  
[sports@turley.com](mailto:sports@turley.com)



STAFF WRITER  
Kristin Rivers  
[krivers@turley.com](mailto:krivers@turley.com)

The Wilbraham-Hampden Times is published every Thursday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977.



@Wilbraham-Hampden Times

#### WEB

[www.wilbrahamhampdentimes.turley.com](http://www.wilbrahamhampdentimes.turley.com)

PATRICK H. TURLEY  
CEO

KEITH TURLEY  
President

DEANNA SLOAT  
Graphics Manager

Turley Publications, Inc.  
[www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)

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

## Editorial Policy

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

#### Correction Policy

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

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

# Wilbraham Public Library: Congrats to the following children for their reading accomplishments

WILBRAHAM — The Wilbraham Public Library congratulates the following children, pre-K through entering fifth-grade, for reading at least 21 days this summer and receiving a free book of their choice and prizes as part of the Children's Department's summer reading program.

Congrats!  
Brandon, Andrew Griguoli, Kayla Shea, John Hart, Owen Alves, Adeline Alves, Leo Langone, Malachi Gonzalez, William Gonzales, Lydia Gonzales, Claire O'Connor, Patrick O'Connor, Bailey Gomez, James Gomez, Isabelle Fischman, Maeve McDonald, Sam McDonald, Ann Shumway, Ben Schoen, Charlotte Fraley, Avery Fraley, Violet Chiarizio, Juliette Chiarizio, Macy Feit, Caelan Butler, Cillian Butler, Caleb Smolnik, Parker Majka, Paisley Majka, Grace Stebbins, Ellie Kim, Ryan Fol, Natalie Fol, Levi Green, Harrison Musiak, Emmanuel Jiles, Weston Gumlaw, Grayson Gumlaw, Benjamin Olson, Charles Olson, Chase Iverson, Lark Iverson, Benjamin Lodigiani, Anna Lodigiani, Will Lodigiani, Mia Mason, Nora Considine, Grayson Considine, Charlotte Roberge, Izzy Gumlaw, Giuliana Shores, William Gregory, Shallan Gregory, Jack Brannigan, Ben Brannigan, Margaret Brannigan, Abigail Bernard, Declan Hourihan, Katelyn Pessolano, Madison Pessolano, Emma Pessolano, James Oh, Lauren Kurowski, Samuel Davis, Addie Davis, Kinsley Davis, Marshall Smith, Catherine Cochran, Mary Cochran, Owen Grenier, Elliot Grenier, Linnea Coletta, Hazel Coletta, Ellis Nelson, Ophelia Hunter, Hailey Lapointe-Manning, Ella Lapointe-Manning, Anthony Jutz, Ben Munn, Sam Munn, Jake Munn, William Laporte, Noah Barry, Hudson Barry, Mila Assaf, Tamaryn MacDonald, Nathan Zimmer, William Cafferata, Emmy Cafferata, Yvonne Carignan, Griffin Decker, Jameson Farrell, Brayden Farrell, Willem Gloss, Xander Alexik, Carys Alexik, Alex Nunlist, Audrey Corridan, Julian Girsakis, Mackenzie Girsakis, Callan Weber, Zoe Houser, Nina Jensen, Cole Jensen, Andrew Griguoli, Kayla Shea, John Hart, Owen Alves, Adeline Alves, Leo Langone, Malachi Gonzalez, William Gonzales, Lydia Gonzales, Claire O'Connor, Patrick O'Connor, Bailey Gomez, James Gomez, Isabelle Fischman, Maeve McDonald, Sam McDonald, Ann Shumway, Ben Schoen, Charlotte Fraley, Avery Fraley, Violet Chiarizio, Juliette Chiarizio, Juliette Chiarizio, Macy Feit, Caelan Butler, Cillian Butler, Caleb Smolnik, Parker Majka, Paisley Majka, Grace Stebbins, Ellie Kim, Ryan Fol, Natalie Fol, Levi Green, Harrison Musiak,

no, Madison Pessolano, Emma Pessolano, James

Oh, Lauren Kurowski, Samuel Davis, Addie Davis, Kinsley Davis, Marshall Smith, Catherine Cochran, Mary Cochran, Owen Grenier, Elliot Grenier, Linnea Coletta, Hazel Coletta, Ellis Nelson, Ophelia Hunter, Hailey Lapointe-Manning, Ella Lapointe-Manning, Anthony Jutz, Ben Munn, Sam Munn, Jake Munn, William Laporte, Noah Barry, Hudson Barry, Mila Assaf, Tamaryn MacDonald, Nathan Zimmer, William Cafferata, Emmy Cafferata, Yvonne Carignan, Griffin Decker, Jameson Farrell, Brayden Farrell, Willem Gloss, Xander Alexik, Carys Alexik, Alex Nunlist, Audrey Corridan, Julian Girsakis, Mackenzie Girsakis, Callan Weber, Zoe Houser, Nina Jensen, Cole Jensen, Andrew Griguoli, Kayla Shea, John Hart, Owen Alves, Adeline Alves, Leo Langone, Malachi Gonzalez, William Gonzales, Lydia Gonzales, Claire O'Connor, Patrick O'Connor, Bailey Gomez, James Gomez, Isabelle Fischman, Maeve McDonald, Sam McDonald, Ann Shumway, Ben Schoen, Charlotte Fraley, Avery Fraley, Violet Chiarizio, Juliette Chiarizio, Juliette Chiarizio, Macy Feit, Caelan Butler, Cillian Butler, Caleb Smolnik, Parker Majka, Paisley Majka, Grace Stebbins, Ellie Kim, Ryan Fol, Natalie Fol, Levi Green, Harrison Musiak,



Courtesy of WPL

Emmanuel Jiles, Weston Gumlaw, Grayson Gumlaw, Benjamin Olson, Charles Olson, Chase Iverson, Lark Iverson, Benjamin Lodigiani, Anna Lodigiani, Will Lodigiani, Mia Mason, Nora Considine, Grayson Considine, Charlotte Roberge, Izzy Gumlaw, Giuliana Shores, William Gregory, Shallan Gregory, Jack Brannigan, Ben Brannigan, Margaret Brannigan, Abigail Bernard, Declan Hourihan, Katelyn Pessolano, Madison Pessolano, Emma Pessolano, James Oh, Lauren Kurowski, Samuel Davis, Addie Davis, Kinsley Davis, Marshall Smith, Catherine Cochran, Mary Cochran, Owen Grenier, Elliot Grenier, Linnea Coletta, Hazel Coletta, Ellis Nelson, Ophelia Hunter, Nathan Wertheim, Hailey Lapointe-Manning, Ella Lapointe-Manning, Anthony Jutz, Ben Munn, Sam Munn, Jake Munn, William Laporte,

Noah Barry, Hudson Barry, Mila Assaf, Tamaryn MacDonald, Nathan Zimmer, William Cafferata, Emmy Cafferata, Yvonne Carignan, Griffin Decker, Jameson Farrell, Brayden Farrell, Willem Gloss, Xander Alexik, Carys Alexik, Alex Nunlist, Audrey Corridan, Julian Girsakis, Mackenzie Girsakis, Callan Weber, Zoe Houser, Nina Jensen, Cole Jensen, Evelyn Frias, Oliver Frias, Maddie Macdonald, Hudson Bui, Shey Bui, Ryleigh McDonald, Logan McDonald, Emma Althen, Andrew Althen, Declan Lenahan, Brooks Lenahan, Callen Lenahan, Tyler Cloutier, Chase Cloutier, Isaac Kerr, Titus Kerr, Joe Boucher, Emma Griffith, Avery Dufault, Winnie Sears, Quincy Hodges, Salem Hodges, Callen Coffey, Lydia Abel, Liam Abel, JJ Abel, Jonathan Abel, Rebecca Banker, Michael Verteramo, Ella

Verteramo, Hayley Gomes, John Stebenne, Joseph Stebenne, Abigail Aubrey, Zoe Nelson, Connor Devine, Sean Griffith, Harry Patterson, Makenna Roy, Zoe Harrigan, Ivy Harrigan, Lily Harrigan, Jake Appleby, Ethan Appleby, Evelyn Magill,

Maeve Magill, Emma Magill, Emerson Falvey, Eva Kellogg, Sofia Gonzalez, Maximo MacDonald, Gabriel Levesque, Summer Saleh, Riley Dupre, Zoey Dupre, Thomas Dupre, Caitlin Mastroianni, Sarah Mastroianni, Emily Salema, Cameron Salema, Olivia Salema, Averie Chouinard, Corbin Chouinard, Briar Dean, Sammy Dean, Max Stevenson, Samuel Stevenson,

Teddy Newman, Thea Newman, Colton Bailey, Luca Betancourt, Dominick Wanzer, Chloe Soriano, Lea Soriano, Cassidy Verteramo, Carter Verteramo, Cardin Conway, Emerson Conway, Cole Britton, Rosalind Michel, Emerson Couture, Rylee Balicki, Zoe Balicki, Mary Cate Babbs, Evangeline Perkins, Franklin Perkins, Luciana Camerota, Camellia Camerota, Molly Baskin, Colin Paige, Ryan Paige, Anna Hoey, Kailey Staffier, Nathan Staffier, Vincent Lauziere, Sydney Hyder, Sonny Strycharz, Bennett Cutler, Avery Swain, Lincoln Swain, Amyr Ly, Hakym Ly, Lawrence Ni, Lydia Rayder, Mary Rayder.

## HOMETOWN SPOTLIGHT

WILBRAHAM-HAMPDEN TIMES

**30 Minute Express Massage \$50.00**

**MASSAGE THERAPIST**  
**Lisa Bernardini, LMT**  
*Healing Hands*  
*Now Accepting New Clients*



*Massage...*  
*Good for Your Body & Mind!*

As a Breast Cancer survivor, massage can improve overall health and well-being. Massage also treats a wide range of health conditions including acute and chronic pain, anxiety, and depression. Massage is not a luxury. It is a way of life.

*Looking forward to helping you feel better.*

2703 Boston Road, Wilbraham, MA 01095  
**(413) 222-2147**  
[lisabernardini.amtamembers.com](http://lisabernardini.amtamembers.com)



**Affordable Waste Solutions**  
Your Hometown Provider for Rolloff and Front Load Dumpster Service



**413-244-1943**  
A portion of every rental is donated to Breast Cancer Research

**POST Computer Systems**  
Repairs • Upgrades  
New & Used Equipment • Trade-ins  
**Where Technology Has Met It's Match**

Expert support beyond the sale for small businesses, home offices, family systems, mobile professionals and everyone in between is what separates POST from all the rest.

2785 Boston Road, Wilbraham, MA 01095  
**413-596-5177 • www.pocosys.com**

**Park Cleaners, Inc.**  
Your Hometown Dry Cleaners  
Family owned and operated since 1935  
**GET TO KNOW OUR GREAT SERVICE**

Ask about special pricing for first responders

*"We get stains out like it never happened."*

**15% OFF DRY CLEANING when you pre-pay!**

262 Allen St., Springfield Mon.-Fri. 8am-6pm, Sat. 8am-3pm Sun. 9am-2pm  
464 Main St., Wilbraham Mon.-Fri. 8am-4pm, Sat. 9am-1pm Sun. closed  
2 Convenient Locations  
413-736-5476 • [parkcleaners413.com](http://parkcleaners413.com)

**MASSAGE THERAPIST**  
**Lisa Bernardini, LMT**  
2703 Boston Road  
Wilbraham, MA 01095  
**(413) 222-2147**  
*Now Accepting New Clients*  
[lisabernardini.amtamembers.com](http://lisabernardini.amtamembers.com) *Healing Hands*



# Booster Club discussion creates more questions for School Committee

By Kristin Rivers  
Staff Writer  
krivers@turley.com

WILBRAHAM -- The School Committee discussed the latest updates on the Minnechaug Regional High School Booster Club on Aug. 17, leading to more questions about addressing the issue.

To recap: on July 20, two representatives from the Booster Club met with the School Committee in response to concerns from residents about the booster club, including money raised by the hockey team that was unaccounted for.

Additionally, Ron DeCurzio presented his resignation as booster club president and that the entire board had, also, resigned on May 11, citing a need for new ideas.

Superintendent Dr. John Provost explained he and School Committee Chair Michal Boudreau met with DeCurzio and Mike Flynn earlier that week to discuss plans for moving forward.

"At that time, they shared with us that it was their opinion and the opinion of the board that it was time for a change, and so they had decided to exercise the option under their bylaws of dissolving. In which case, the funds that they have on account would revert to the Athletic Department," Provost said.

Provost said how the athletic boosters in the past 30 years "have raised a tremendous amount of money for the Athletic Department" and thanked them for their efforts on behalf of the district.

Additionally, he said DeCurzio explained he was "committed to helping with the transition."

"So, if a new board is seated or a new iteration of this club is created, he would be happy to work on making sure that there is a smooth transition of power to new leadership," Provost said.

Also, clarification that Turf at Chaug "is a separate organiza-

tion" from the booster club.

"Those who are involved in the Turf at Chaug effort – which in many cases are many of the same people from the boosters – they want to remain engaged with that to get some final things done, with the athletic field particularly, new scoreboards and new entrance way," Provost said.

William Bontempi asked why he was not included in the meeting as DeCurzio had requested he be there.

Boudreau responded that the committee "was just looking to figure out the next steps for the booster club and how they were able to move forward."

"There was no reason, nothing that was being hid from anyone," Boudreau said.

Bontempi said after talking with DeCurzio and several others in the community about the booster club, the School Committee "needs to take a step forward on this."

"I know that there are still some outstanding things in the investigation, but I do not want to chew up the same dirt that we did 30 years ago. Dissolving the booster club is the wrong way to go," Bontempi said.

Bontempi thanked Provost for his earlier comments about the booster club's impact on the community, adding how their work "is largely done behind the scenes."

"I think that it's a shame that it got this far, and I think it's even worse that we as a committee have not taken a stance to defend the people on that board who have worked so hard for so many years to provide for so many students. I'm mortified by it," Bontempi said. "I think it is incumbent on us to do what we can to make sure that the booster club not only survives but moving forward thrives and does what it is that it was set out to do and that is to provide equity for all supports across the district."

When Secretary/Clerk Sean Kennedy said he "doesn't remember anyone saying they

wanted to dissolve the boosters," Boudreau provided the following clarification.

"I don't believe it's to eliminate the booster club. It's because according to their bylaws, they need a seated board. So, they recommended dissolving and then having a new board," Boudreau said.

Michael Tirabassi asked after reading the bylaws "if there was no opportunity for a new board to be seated?"

"Do they see dissolution as the only way forward? I mean, they have a number of members. Is it possible for them to reach out to their members to see if there are people who are interested in being evaluated to be on the board?" Tirabassi said.

Provost said, "Dissolution isn't inevitable or the only option available" and the existing board "could pick new members to replace them."

"It's been represented to me that the existing members are basically just ready for a change and don't want to take that second process," Provost said.

Bontempi, Tirabassi and Kennedy then asked about transferring the funds to the Athletic Department. Earlier, Sherrill Caruana had asked about the amount, with Provost explaining he thought "it was approximately \$200,000."

Aaron Osborne, assistant superintendent of Finance, Operations and Human Resources, explained the funds would need to be received "in the form of a gift" to the School Committee and then accepted.

"I think the School Committee could direct those funds to go into the Athletic Revolving Account and that would be used to support the athletic program. We could talk about ways that you could do that. The real challenge is we don't have an avenue for doing the kind of fundraising that the booster club does," Osborne said.

Osborne added they also "cannot hold parent money" and

the concerns around accountability, liability and tax bases.

"So you want an organization that has a 501c3 and maintains a 501c3 status," Osborne said.

Tirabassi said the consensus is "everyone sees that there really has to be a booster club," asking if the funds could be safeguarded while the new club is formed.

Osborne said he would have to talk to their auditor, the state and their attorney about that option.

Bontempi clarified he wanted to be present at the July 20 meeting to ask DeCurzio and Flynn those questions and implore them to keep the booster club going.

Bontempi also has a long-standing relationship with DeCurzio.

"Because this will become a mess. If we accept all of those funds as a donation to the Athletic Department and then you try to reform the boosters, I think you're going to face a really, really steep uphill battle," Bontempi said.

During public input, Diane Diehl suggested "it would be great" for DeCurzio and Flynn to un-resign for one day a week to help rebuild the booster club.

"I am willing--and there are others in the community--that are willing to step up and work on the transition and create a board and move forward and begin to rewrite the bylaws and, also, to start fundraising," Diehl said.

Diehl stressed again "There are people in the community that are willing to step up."

"We need a booster club. There's no denying that we need a booster club and there are many in the community that are willing to do that," Diehl said. "I do agree with many of the sentiments that the boosters over the years have done a lot for the community, but as of late, the communication and the transparency have just not been there and that's fundamentally what we are looking for and there are parents that are willing to be involved."

Principal Stephen Hale also

weighed in, explaining how football begins the next day and all other sports that coming Monday, with teams advised not to fundraise "because we have no method of collecting those funds or monitoring those funds."

"If the money were returned to the Athletic Department and all club spirit groups were zero dollars, we would now be faced with a situation where all 31 teams would want to fundraise at a feverish level to try and get their accounts back up to what they were," Hale said.

It was also later clarified DeCurzio was unwilling to stay on to elect a new board and recommended the booster club be dissolved after some confusion during the discussion.

Hale added this scenario "would be an oversaturation" in the community's fundraising and could also affect others including class fundraisers, club fundraisers and more.

"There's a lot of implications for Steven (Burndrett) and I to manage, and I know that time is of the essence because, again, football starts tomorrow," Hale said.

The discussion concluded when Bontempi suggested, with the committee's permission, reaching out to DeCurzio and Flynn to "get a little bit more information before we start talking about dissolving and transferring."

"I think going forward, the most important thing is that if we are going to ask Ron or any member of the board to do that that we need to make it crystal clear that we will have it back because I don't think anybody is lining up to be a member of the booster club board, seeing what's transpired in the last three months," Bontempi said.

Kennedy exercised caution on the next steps.

"We'll be meeting with council about this at a point in the future and we can decide all these things on how we approach it at that meeting rather than, you know, go and talk to them. You just need to be careful with the legal aspects of it," Kennedy said.

## Live Greek music, dancing Market place, beer garden

JOIN US SEPTEMBER 8, 9 & 10 AT  
**GLENDI 2023**  
GREEK CULTURAL CENTER | 22 ST. GEORGE ROAD



From 91N Exit 7A & 7B From 91S Exit 8

GLENDI ACCEPTS ALL MAJOR CREDIT AND DEBIT CARDS

Best homemade Greek food

**Support  
the local  
businesses  
that support  
your local  
newspaper.**

Let them know  
you saw their  
ad in the  
**Wilbraham  
Hampden  
Times**





Residents check out the new and classic cars on display during the Knights of Columbus 10195 Car Show at Fountain Park on Aug. 19.



Douglas Galanek stands beside his 1955 Chrysler Windsor Newport, one of many new and classic cars on display, during the Knights of Columbus 10195 Car Show at Fountain Park.



A 1940 Dodge Business Coupe was one of many classic cars on display for residents during the Knights of Columbus 10195 Car Show at Fountain Park.



A classic 1950s Chevy with a drive-in tray displayed outside the driver's side was one of many classic cars on display during the Knights of Columbus 10195 Car Show at Fountain Park.



Two Chevrolet Apache trucks were some of the many classic cars that residents got to check out during the Knights of Columbus 10195 Car Show at Fountain Park.

**CARS** from page 1

"So, there's a little of everything out there," Bordoni said.

Bordoni appreciated the weather encouraging people to bring out their cars.

"So when we have a car show and it's nice weather, it gives an excuse to dig it out of the garage," Bordoni said. "It's a really nice venue to come out and enjoy the car too, you know, and drive it."

Bishop William Byrne from the Catholic Diocese of Springfield opened the event by blessing the cars, sharing he enjoyed seeing people having fun and supporting the Knights of Columbus.

"I do anything that I can to support the good work that they do and it's not just a good work but also a fun one at the same time," Byrne said. "So, they do so much good and this just brings people together to celebrate something we all know and

love."

Douglas Galanek showed off his 1955 Chrysler Windsor Newport at the event, explaining he heard about it through an advertisement and wanted to support the local charities.

Galanek also enjoys connecting with people at car shows and hearing their stories.

"I love talking to people and seeing them and answering questions. Just sharing some knowledge and people share their knowledge with me too, you know, what they remember," Galanek said. "Grandparents had the car or something like that or a car like it. It's nice to hear the stories and stuff like that."

Galanek shared one story about filling up a 1955 Oldsmobile one day and meeting a man who recognized the vehicle.

"He almost was in tears, and he says, 'I went on my honeymoon in this car.' So

it brought him back a lot of good memories, and that's touching to hear stuff like that," Galanek said.

Galanek stressed the importance of supporting local charities through events like the car show.

"I like supporting local charities because it's hard for them to get money right now and it's good to support them. They do a lot of local work," Galanek said.

Galanek also encouraged residents to enjoy the car show.

"Enjoy the cars. Ask questions, talk to the owners because it's great to talk with people," Galanek said.

Spear hoped everyone enjoyed the car show and will check out the Knights of Columbus.



A resident checks out a 1962 Corvette during the Knights of Columbus 10195 Car Show at Fountain Park.

"Every third Tuesday we have a meeting at St. Cecelia's at 6:30 p.m. if anybody would like to come down and join us and see what we're about. We're all about volunteering and giving back to the community," Spear said.

To learn more, visit [kofcwilbraham.com](http://kofcwilbraham.com) or visit their Facebook page @ [KnightsofColumbus10195](https://www.facebook.com/KnightsofColumbus10195).

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

**S.G. Racette Plumbing & Heating**  
 Innovative Heating, Plumbing & Cooling Solutions  
 Steve@Sgracetteplumbing.com  
 Sgracetteplumbing.com  
 Southwick, MA  
 (Voice or text) 413-786-6764  
 4 Generations of Quality & Trust  
 MA Master 12192  
 CT P-1 0277797

**DON'T HAVE ENOUGH JUNK FOR A DUMPSTER? GIVE US A CALL!**  
**BOB ROBILLARDS RUBBISH REMOVAL**  
 Family owned and operated since 1950  
**537-5090**

**LOCAL KETONE PROMOTER**  
 Call For Information  
**413-813-2391**  
 Leave Message  
 Check Out Facebook at **Denise Dubowski**  
 Save Up To 25% OFF Retail Prices

**ROZELL'S LANDSCAPING & Bobcat Service**  
 413-636-5957  
 • Overgrown property?  
 • Excavator Services • Extreme Brush Cutting!  
 • Shrub, Stump, Tree Removal • Lawn/Arborvitae Installed  
 • Loam, Stone, Mulch, Sand • Storm Clean-up • Small Demo • Insured  
**JOSH ROZELL 413.636.5957**

# A COMMUNITY GALLERY



This is a 1959 Chevy Pickup at The Wilbraham Knights of Columbus Car Show at Fountain Park on Saturday, Aug. 19. Photo submitted by Wilbraham resident Peter Camyre



A beautiful AMX arrives at The Wilbraham Knights of Columbus Car Show at Fountain Park on Saturday, Aug. 19. Photo submitted by Wilbraham resident Peter Camyre



John Farrington, who submitted this photo, captured this shot of a Great Blue Heron in the field behind the Wilbraham Soccer Club earlier this month. He said it was flying out of the wetlands back there.



Roy Brown submitted this photo of a black bear that strolled up his driveway on Chilson Road one sunny afternoon in May, then took a dip in the fishpond.

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

# WILBRAHAM



Youth Services Librarian of the Hampden Public Library, Kate Rumpalik, submitted these photos off Storytime on Aug. 15. The guest visitor was Melanie Patterson, a first grade teacher from Green Meadows, who came over to do an all ages Storytime. On Aug. 24, the library has a special Kindergarten Only Storytime for friends that are starting Kindergarten this fall. The weekly preschool Storytime will start again On Sept. 5 at 11 a.m.



THIS PAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU

NOW IN OUR NEW LOCATION AT THE WILBRAHAM



### Upcoming Workshops:

September 15 & 16... 8-5 p.m. both days

September 19... 6-9:30 p.m.

Paint & Create with Estelle

October 20 & 21... 8-5 p.m. both days

Crotoberfest Event

November 17 & 18... 8-5 p.m. both days

# WILBRAHAM HAMPDEN

**Community Bulletin Board**

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

---

We will pick one each week to run here free of charge,  
please keep it to less than 50 words.  
Please send to [dzberski@turley.com](mailto:dzberski@turley.com)



### Epic Experience Down Under

The Women's World Cup Soccer Games captivated fans worldwide. One young fan, Travis Ludbrook (formerly of Wilbraham, now residing in Umina, NSW Australia) and his age eight and under soccer team were at the heart of World Cup Fever! Their soccer team was chosen to be player escorts for team France on Aug. 2. From caps to sneakers, Travis and his mates were outfitted with practice uniforms for the afternoon rehearsals and formal uniforms for the game that night. It was an epic experience when they walked out for the national anthems onto the Sydney Olympic Stadium field along with teams France and Panama. Among the 40,000 plus cheering fans were Travis's Mom and Dad, Carly and Sean Ludbrook and brothers, Cooper and Dylan. Travis was happy to share his experience and photos with grandparents, David and Phyllis Ervin of Wilbraham. This opportunity was one these young soccer fans will always remember! Good on 'ya Mates! Photo and caption submitted by Phyllis Ervin of Wilbraham



AS A COMMUNITY SERVICE BY:

WILBRAHAM SHOPS - BOSTON ROAD • WILBRAHAM

**Upcoming Events:**  
**Holiday Open House & Customer Appreciation Sale:**  
 December 1, 2 & 3 10 a .m. - 4 p.m.  
*Come Get Your Ho, Ho, Ho On!*

## MARY'S CREATIVE SPACE

2341 Boston Road, Suite B110, Wilbraham, MA 01095  
**Phone: (413) 279-1160**  
 E-mail: [marypcm2020@gmail.com](mailto:marypcm2020@gmail.com)

Place your online order here: <https://www.creativememories.com/cm/marypajak>



Photo courtesy Dakin Humane Society

Dakin staff member evaluates one of the cats rescued from Berkshire County.

## Dakin Humane Society rescues more than 40 cats/kittens from hoarding cases

SPRINGFIELD — Dakin Humane Society has participated in rescue efforts involving two separate hoarding cases in the past week and has taken over 40 cats and kittens into its care. The felines are being medically and - in some cases - behaviorally evaluated, with several newborn kittens and mothers being placed in foster homes. Many are available for adoption, with more becoming available in the days and weeks ahead.

On Tuesday, Aug. 1, the organization traveled to a one-bedroom apartment in Berkshire County that contained more than 80 cats and brought several felines back to provide care and place for adoption.

The following Saturday, Aug. 5, Dakin assisted a Hampden County animal control team with the intake of over 30 cats and kittens, several of them Siamese and Ragdoll breeds, and returned with 21 cats to treat and make available for adoption at Dakin.

According to Dakin's Executive Director Meg Talbert, "It's very unusual that

Dakin responded to two hoarding cases just days apart, but it's a vital part of our mission to answer the needs of our community. Cats that come from these circumstances tend to be very shy and are typically not confident or social around people for what may be just an initial period, or for their entire lives. They're perfectly happy to have a home with a cat companion or two. They're very special animals, and we're hoping that people will open their hearts and homes to them."

Talbert noted that the cats and kittens will be spayed or neutered prior to being made available for adoption.

Due to the large number of cats taken in between the two rescues, Dakin has created an online form to collect contact information and other data from prospective adopters of these felines. All Dakin pets available for adoption, including the cats and kittens recently rescued and ready to be rehomed, can be seen here. Several of the recently rescued cats have reduced adoption fees.

## Springfield Technical High School, Every Class Reunion Sept. 23



Photo: Tech Class Reunion

Standing in front of Tech High on Elliot Street, committee members for the September 23 Every Class Tech Reunion (L to R) Mike Borecki '72, Dawn Duncan '71, Matt Villamaino '67, Paul Montefusco '69, Joan Learned '56, Walter LaBroad '47, and Margaret McCormick '74. Submitted photo by Matt Villamaino

SPRINGFIELD -- The spirit and comradery of Springfield's Tech High School is alive and well, as they gear up for another exciting reunion on Saturday, Sept. 23 at the Elks Lodge #61 at 440 Tiffany St. from 3-8 p.m. The reunion is open to ALL TECH CLASSES.

An outside barbecue will be held rain or shine under the lodge's pavilion and will include hot dogs, hamburgers, pulled pork, salads, vegan options, dessert and more. Cash bar. Free parking and handicap accessible.

A fun-filled afternoon will include DJ and dancing, cornhole and bocce games, raffles and time to reminisce with friends over the years and make new friends as well.

According to committee chair Mike Borecki, "Tech High was a great school, and many lifelong friendships were forged back then. It's our dream for everyone to have fun and to keep the Tech Spirit tradition alive for many years to come.

Seating is limited and tickets are \$25 each. All are on a first come, first served basis. Open seating. For tickets call Mike Borecki '72 at 413-351-6572, Margaret McCormick '74 at 413-531-4763, Dawn Duncan '71 413-896-3930, or Matt Villamaino '67 at 413-896-2206

Located on Elliot Street in Springfield, MA Technical High School was founded in 1906 and closed in 1986.

## State Auditor launches impact analysis of transportation and delivery network companies on state funds and programs

BOSTON – On July 31, the Office of the State Auditor Diana DiZoglio announced that it will conduct an analysis of the impacts that transportation network companies and deliv-

ery network companies have on state benefit programs and the use of taxpayer dollars.

Recent figures show over 200,000 independent contractors working in Massachusetts'

rideshare and food delivery companies. These companies treat workers as independent contractors. In doing so workers are denied overtime pay, unemployment insurance, or work-

ers' compensation – among other benefits that workers considered as employees are generally entitled to.

"Our office will review and analyze the impact TNC and DNC companies have on our state unemployment insurance and workers' compensation systems," DiZoglio said.

The law in Massachusetts (MGL c. 149, section 148B) requires a three-prong test— as stated in law, to be an independent contractor, all three requirements must be met:

1. The individual is free from control and direction in connection with the performance of the service, both under his contract for the performance of service and in fact; and
2. The service is performed outside the usual course of the business of the employer; and,
3. The individual is customarily engaged in an independently established trade, occupation, profession, or business of the same nature as that involved in the service performed.

"Our unemployment and workers' compensation systems are already stretched," DiZoglio said. "This continues to put a burden on businesses and taxpayers alike, while reducing the benefits available for people in need."

Recently, New Jersey successfully reviewed TNC and DNCs classification of workers as independent contractors and the wide-ranging effects of these decisions. The OSA aims to similarly provide taxpayers with an impact analysis that will shine a light on tax responsibilities, workers' safety, best practices, and potential inequities across state systems to help ensure greater accountability and transparency.

The OSA's analysis coincides with ongoing litigation by the Attorney General seeking a declaratory judgment that would require rideshare companies to comply with state wage and labor laws covering independent contractors.

### LAND FOR SALE

<b>Hardwick</b>	1.86 & 2 acre lots	\$55,000 each
<b>Hardwick</b>	4A 600' frtg	\$79,900
<b>Monson</b>	½ A town util	\$63,900
<b>Monson</b>	28+ acres (poss. Lots)	\$259,900
<b>New Braintree</b>	4+A(Septic Des.)	\$56,000
<b>New Salem</b>	5.8 acres	\$94,900
<b>N. Brookfield</b>	5+ acres	\$49,900
<b>Sturbridge</b>	11+ acres Town Util	\$149,900
<b>Sturbridge</b>	11+ acres Waterfrt	Call for details
<b>Ware</b>	11+ Acres (perc)	\$65,000
<b>Warren</b>	4.5+Acres (perc)	\$31,500
<b>Warren</b>	22+ acres (perc)	\$89,900

Many of the lots have perc tests, some have septic designs.

**CALL FOR DETAILS AND LOCATIONS.**

Have a parcel to sell? I do have buyers waiting.



**WARE:** Set on 4+ acres multi use brick building set just outside of town. Some rental income, 3 phase power, overhead doors. \$375,000. Call for details or private tour. Don't miss this opportunity if you need more space for your company at an affordable price.



Contact  
**Sue Como**  
413-531-9098

[www.BuyRiteHome.com](http://www.BuyRiteHome.com)

# Join the fun – at the Bushels of Fun Fest!

WILBRAHAM -- Are you feeling FESTive? The Friends of Wilbraham Seniors are excited to be bringing "Bushels of Fun Fest" to the surrounding communities on Aug. 27 at Fern Valley Farms, 758 Main St., Wilbraham across from Rice Fruit Farm. This one-day event is sure to be a fantastic celebration of music by "One Was Johnny" and "DRB" Bands.

Over 20 crafters from around the region and local farms will be selling their fresh picked produce. Food Trucks will offer sweet and savory delights, and

Fieldcrest Brewing Company will be serving their "Made in Wilbraham" Craft Beer! Batch Ice Cream will also be on hand!

Fest goers can browse and buy many handmade products including unique carvings, art, jewelry and more! There will be three opportunities to test your skills at the Cornhole Tournaments- and maybe take home a trophy. Take your shot at the Disc Golf contest or learn all about the many Community Partners...maybe even get a relaxing chair massage or partake in the standing yoga session! A

raffle will offer chances to win a \$500 Lotto Scratch Ticket Basket and a Sports themed Raffle with prizes from a signed Boston Bruins puck to a one-year family membership to Scantic Valley YMCA, to Swag basket from Springfield Thunderbirds, and two- hour long Massages!

There's also a contest to guess the number of apples in our bushels of apples.

To service Veterans, our local Veterans agent Jered Sasen will be present with the Mobile Veterans Center to provide Veterans with immediate on-site services.

If you know a Veteran, pass along the info!

Children can enjoy lawn games, crafts, face painting, temporary tattoos, sit for storytime, get a free book to take home, take a ride on the farm tractor or hop on the 1930 Firetruck for a picture! Also, look around for the Springfield Thunderbirds BOOMER, or the Fest mascot "Applelonia", they'll be ready for photo ops!

This event runs from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., on the over 80 Acre Fern Valley Farms. The fest is held rain or shine, and you can

bring your lawn chairs or blankets. Coolers or backpacks are not allowed. There will be a \$5 parking donation. Proceeds from this event will help fund programs, services & support the new Senior Center.

Bushels of Fun Fest is a community event with Fun for everyone. For more information check out their website [BushelsOfFunFest.com](http://BushelsOfFunFest.com) or call either Maria Cacula 413-250-1928 or Chuck Pelouze 413-596 5089.

## HARRIS from page 1

the two currents come together," Harris said.

As Harris encouraged the man to come back in, he fell overboard, and his leg wrapped around a makeshift anchor with weights, and he was pulled underwater.

"I had to take all of my stuff on, jump in and help him get himself untangled. Me, him and his female companion, we swam the raft to the side out of the current where we awaited responding units and the fire department to kind of extricate out of there," Harris said.

After the Board presented the award to Harris, Police Chief Ed Lennon then presented him with

a plaque.

"It's in recognition of the courageous and life-saving actions at the scene of a water rescue on July 14, 2023, in Wilbraham. You put yourself in harm's way to save another human life with dedication and courage," Lennon said.

Next, David Ervin interviewed for the Board of Fire Commissioner role, explaining Gary Petzold told him about resigning from the role a couple months earlier and suggested he "would be a good candidate."

"Gary and I were on the call department together for many years, way back in the 70s and we've had multiple conversations over the years about the fire service, which when you're

on the fire service, it's something you never forget, and I would like to do that for the town," Ervin said.

When Sue Bunnell asked Ervin about his connections with the fire department, he said he kept in touch with Petzold.

"We've been friends for 50 years and we've had multiple conversations. I made friends with a lot of the firefighters, who are all retired now and with the chief," Ervin said.

Michael Squindo asked Ervin about his understanding of what the role would be.

Ervin responded, "It's an advisory board."

"The way I understand it, the chief comes to us and puts some ideas out and we do them or

tweak them a little bit and help with the budget, capital. I have experienced that when I was a Cemetery Commissioner for 16 years, so I understand that process," Ervin said. "Also, if any citizens come to the fire commissioner, you would pass that information on."

After the interview, the Board appointed Carolyn Brennan for a term beginning Aug. 7, 2023, and ending on June 30, 2024, and Ervin for a term beginning Aug. 7, 2023, and ending on June 30, 2026.

Lastly, Stephanie Zelazo, director of Community Relations of Orchard Valley of Wilbraham, presented the Dementia Friendly Wilbraham Initiative.

Grace Barone, executive di-

rector of the East of the River Town Chamber of Commerce, explained the initiative will help residents better understand the behaviors around dementia and offer support through seminars and engaging with the community.

The kickoff event for the initiative will take place on Sept. 27 at the Country Club of Wilbraham.

"It's a beautiful town and it's so warming and welcoming, and we have all these wonderful activities, and we want to make sure that everyone is able to enjoy them," Barone said.

Support from the Board was approved 3-0.



Academy Hall's museum was open last Saturday.



Nancy Ayers showcases her logbook in Academy Hall while accessioning.



Historical Society members Don Kravitz and Willy D'Angelo in Academy Hall on Aug. 19.



A glimpse of what Academy Hall in Hampden has to offer.



Turley photos by Dalton Zbiernski

## HAMPDEN from page 1

Perhaps, her favorite item is a wreath on the wall that is made entirely of human hair.

"Well, girls ask, 'How could they do that?' Well, they brushed their hair, and they didn't have tv or phones or anything so what did they do? They crocheted their hair into little flowers. It's amazing. There are so many different little stories," she said.

Kravitz added that the Historical Society is looking for a carpenter to enhance the accessibility of the building's stairs.

Nancy Ayers is the curator of the museum in Academy Hall. She said that most of her time in the building is spent accessioning or recording the addition of new items to the museum's expansive collection.

"Whenever an item is donated, it goes into an accession book. This is probably the sixth book so there's many more," she

said, holding a log. "All I do is write in whatever the donation was. If I know who donated something, I put that in too. I put a little information but not a ton. Some things require more information than others. I like to work on the accessioning because we can't put things away uniquely until we have them in the book and accounted for and also have sent thank you notes."

Willy D'Angelo, a longtime member of the Historical Society, had a great

time last Saturday, showcasing Academy Hall's basement, which features a school carriage that is more than a century old.

D'Angelo noted that Academy Hall is a fun place to visit.

"It's an incredible collection. We get stuff from a lot of people that have a lot of history in town," he said. "We encourage people to check it out because it's their history here in Hampden and there's so much of it. When they come here, we see smiles."

## EDUCATION

# Legislators hope to head off more attempts to ban books

By Michael Harrison  
Correspondent

LUDLOW — A proposal that could have created a book banning policy in local school libraries may have stalled last spring, but a pair of state legislators with shared roots have introduced a bill intended to stay ahead of any future attempts.

The legislation, SD.2679, titled “An Act protecting against attempts to ban, remove, or restrict library access to materials,” was referred to the Joint Committee on Rules on July 6. Its sponsors, Sen. Jake Oliveira and Rep. Aaron Saunders, both said they are confident it will proceed on a track that will lead to an eventual public hearing.

“The situation in Ludlow was unfortunate to say the least, but we shouldn’t have to wait for the next time opponents of First Amendment freedoms attack another one of our towns,” Saunders said.

“The real value of this library protection bill is that it is a proactive measure that will provide our public libraries with a measure of protection against book banning efforts.”

According to Oliveira, “I’ve found attempts to put in place policies that could lead to book bans growing across the country for some time, but once it arrived here in Ludlow, I knew it was time to take immediate action.”

Last spring, after prior public discussions over the appropriateness of certain books in Ludlow schools, School Committeeman Joao Dias made a motion during a meeting to enact a new policy that could have removed a pair of young adult novels — “Crank” by Ellen Hopkins and “Looking For Alaska” by John Green — and possibly dozens of other titles from school libraries.

The motion did not receive a second and never came to a vote.

Neither Dias nor any other Ludlow School Committee member responded to a group email sent to all of their official accounts seeking comment. Committee member and Secretary Jeffrey Stratton, reached by text, declined to comment. Committee Vice Chair Sarah F. Bowler did not respond to a text. Ludlow Superintendent of Schools Frank Tiano did not respond to a voice message left on his extension at the district office.

During discussions earlier this year, Dias said he modeled his policy proposal on one he read about online when it was enacted by the Central Bucks School District in Pennsylvania. That policy has since been challenged in a federal lawsuit filed by the ACLU.

“These attempts, like the proposed Ludlow School Committee policy ripped off the internet from a school district in Pennsylvania, could censor age-appropriate materials because of a political or xenophobic viewpoint,” Oliveira said.



Jake Oliveira



Aaron Saunders



Turley Photo by Michael Harrison

Copies of “Crank” by Ellen Hopkins and “Looking For Alaska” by John Green borrowed from shelves at Hubbard Memorial Library last week. Those are two of the books that could have been removed from Ludlow school libraries if a proposed policy was approved last spring.

“What’s happening in our public schools could easily happen in our public libraries. I am proud to partner with Rep. Aaron Saunders to protect our libraries from these attempts to censor books. It’s a strong bill that I’m incredibly proud to sponsor. I’m prepared to champion it until we get the results needed to protect our literature and free thought from extremists pushing a fringe political agenda.”

The two legislators behind SD.2679 are Ludlow natives. Oliveira still resides there while Saunders resettled his family in Belchertown. Both said they want to head off any statewide movement toward censorship in school and public libraries.

Oliveira, who served 12 years on the Ludlow School Committee before he was elected as a state representative in 2020, also has a background in higher education, serving as assistant executive officer of the Massachusetts State Universities Council of Presidents. Saunders is a former Ludlow Select Board member, former chief of staff to state Sen. Gale Candaras and is a co-founder of Loophole Brewing. He also served on the staff of former U.S. Senator John Kerry.

Oliveira, who was first elected to the School Committee in 2009, said he recalls past discussions over books.

“During my time on the committee, removal of books in school libraries started to bubble up in Ludlow when national politicians began making this a wedge issue,” he said.

“When a challenge to certain books in a school library was brought to the attention of the school committee, we followed our district politics and formed a review committee with parents, teachers, administrators and librarians to review the challenged books. I sat on that committee and read personally the challenged material and shared it widely with friends with children and the committee determined unanimously that most materials were age-appropriate.”

Oliveira said his background in education “certainly informs my position, but this goes far beyond education.”

The bill he filed with Saunders “focuses on our public libraries,” he said.

“I have been working with colleagues in the legislature on other legislation focused on our pub-

lic-school libraries. This legislation is needed across the commonwealth because it’s about protecting not only our students’ education but also free thought, freedom of expression, diversity and marginalized communities that the proponents of the proposed book bans can’t accept.”

Both said they have received positive feedback from constituents and fellow legislators.

“The book banning effort in Ludlow was a wake-up call to ensure that the Legislature is doing everything it should to protect our public libraries,” Saunders said.

“The bill Senator Oliveira and I filed will help provide those protections.”

According to Oliveira, “Since these aggressive attempts to put in place narrow-minded policies have been proposed, I have received messages of concern from parents, students, teachers, community members and colleagues from across the state. I have received an overwhelmingly positive response from constituents and from members of the State Library Board of Commissioners. They want to see books kept on the shelves at our public libraries and schools.”

He added that, “Book bans are nothing new. They are ways to suppress free thought and have been employed by Communist China, the Soviet Union, and Nazi Germany.”

Kristin Santos, youth services assistant at Hubbard Memorial Library, said she’s aware of the proposal the school committee ultimately did not vote on and the controversy over “Crank” and “Looking For Alaska,” which she said have been increasingly checked out by local adults.

“People do come into the library to check out books that are being questioned to see what’s going on inside and decide for themselves if they are appropriate for their own children,” Santos said.

The mother of a local middle school student herself, “I didn’t read ‘Crank’ — I listened to ‘Crank’ because I didn’t have a lot of time to sit down and read the novel, but I listened to it to make my own decisions on the book,” Santos said.

“You can read a part of a book but that doesn’t mean you understand the whole book. I need, by myself, to make those decisions for my child.”

She declined to share her personal opinion of the book.

## CAMPUS NOTES

### Grace Coopee makes Curry College Spring 2023 Dean’s List

MILTON — Curry College congratulates Grace Coopee of Hampden, who was named to the Spring 2023 Dean’s List.



## This Week in Rec

Andrea Rust, Administrative Assistant

As all of our summer camps and programs have come 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 did an amazing job ensuring it was a fun, safe, and memorable summer!

In the next few weeks, soccer, field hockey, and flag football will be starting. Registration is still open for Falcon Volleyball, Fall Tennis, and the Softball Skill Builder through August 27th. Don’t miss out!! Stars of Tomorrow Dance Program and Competitive Baseball (12U and 14U divisions) registration ends Sept. 3. 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 29th 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 begins Aug. 29. Daily pickleball at Memorial School Gym 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.

*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.*

**Our advertisers make  
this publication  
possible.**

*Let them know you  
saw their ad in the*

**Wilbraham  
Hampden Times**

# SPORTS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | [www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)

SEND US YOUR SPORTS SUBMISSIONS

[www.sports.turley.com](http://www.sports.turley.com)

## Fall leagues get update by PVIAC

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
[gscibelli@turley.com](mailto:gscibelli@turley.com)

The fall preseason has started this week, and with it, alignments for fall leagues have been updated. Full realignment typically takes place every four years, but has happened more frequently due to the pandemic and the introduction of the new state tournament.

In Western Massachusetts, due to the geographic diversity throughout the region, the Pioneer Valley Interscholastic Athletic Association makes leagues based on the competitiveness of a school in a given sport, some-

times regardless of what division they play in at the state level for tournament.

For example, in the updated Kurty-Fielding Division for girls soccer, South Hadley, a Division 4 and smaller school, is in a crowded league with larger schools like Agawam, Wahconah, Chicopee Comprehensive, and Pittsfield.

The Central League features one of the top teams in Western Mass. once again. Monson is a part of the league, along now with Palmer, which has had a couple of very successful leagues. Chicopee, Southwick, and Granby are also a part of the league, along with larger schools

in Amherst and Northampton. Northampton was defeated by Monson in an independent game last year.

Ware joins the Pioneer North League and will now meet twice this year with Easthampton, St. Mary's, Frontier, Mahar, and even Holyoke.

Holyoke was dropped from the Central League after a couple of disappointing years.

The top league in the region is the Coombs League, and features Minnechaug, Belchertown, East Longmeadow, Longmeadow, Ludlow, West Springfield, and Westfield.

In boys soccer, there are not a lot of big changes, though the

Churchill League, which features Agawam, Westfield, and Pope Francis, and Pittsfield, will add Hampshire Regional and Mt. Greylock of Williamstown.

Dropped the Holley League is Chicopee Comprehensive. Chicopee, Holyoke, and Monson are also a part of that league along with SICS and Northampton. South Hadley will be part of the Moriarty League, and will once again matchup with Frontier, Easthampton, and Mahar. Southwick and Lenox will also be in the league this year.

Granby is part of the Schmid League this year, and Ware is a crowded Bi-County League that features eight teams.

Pathfinder, which now co-ops with Palmer, is in the Tri-County League again this year.

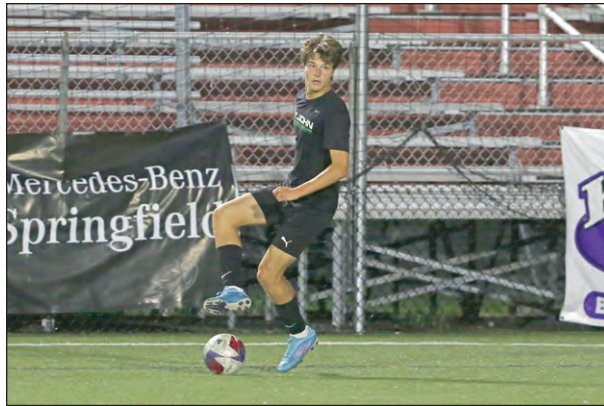
Football leagues did not see any major changes. The AA still features the same six teams, including Minnechaug and Holyoke. Agawam is part of the Suburban South, and South Hadley, Ludlow, and Chicopee are in the Suburban North again this season.

Belchertown will compete in the Intercounty South, and Palmer and Ware are part of the Intercounty North along with Greenfield, Mahar, Athol, and Franklin Tech. Pathfinder remains in the Tri-County.

## St. John's captures men's title



Aiden Casinghino takes a shot.



Jed Theilman settles a ball.



Cam Rigney, of Wilbraham, dribbles up the field.

By Tim Peterson  
*Sports Correspondent*

LUDLOW—Aiden Casinghino was a senior captain of the Tantasqua Regional boys varsity soccer team in 2018. Braylon Casinghino was a senior captain of the Warriors soccer team a year ago.

The brothers had never been teammates on the same soccer team until this summer.

The duo helped the top-seeded St. John Heating & Cooling celebrate an exciting 2-1 victory over the second-seeded Villa FC in the men's championship match of the prestigious Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League held at historic Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow, last Saturday night.

"Because I'm a few years older than my brother, we never played on the same soccer team in high school," said Aiden Casinghino, who also played soccer at Springfield College. "Winning the men's championship title is fantastic, especially having the opportunity to play on the same soccer team with Braylon. We fought very hard for

Please see **MEN**, page 17



St. John's took home the PVSSL Men's Championship this year.

## Bonsignore Rolls To 13th Career Thompson Win

THOMPSON – Justin Bonsignore hadn't won at Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park since 2019, but Wednesday night, he reminded everyone on the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour why he leads all active drivers with wins at the oval.

Bonsignore's Kenneth Massa Motorsports team sent him off pit road first after a pit stop around halfway, then Bonsignore held off the charges of Doug Coby, then Ron Silk through multiple restarts to score his 13th career Thompson

win. The victory tied Bonsignore for second all-time in Thompson wins with Ted Christopher, only trailing Mike Stefanik, with 15.

The victory was also Bonsignore's third of the 2023 season (Riverhead, Loudon) and his 10th top-five finish in 11 races this season.

"After we won seven out of eight here, then the runs we started having were a bit frustrating for us," Bonsignore said of Thompson. "The car was really good. We missed it a little bit, too tight

on the first set of tires, but on the second set, it fired off so well. This is a really big confidence booster. This is my favorite track – and to bounce back like this and to lead half the race... it was a total team effort to win this one."

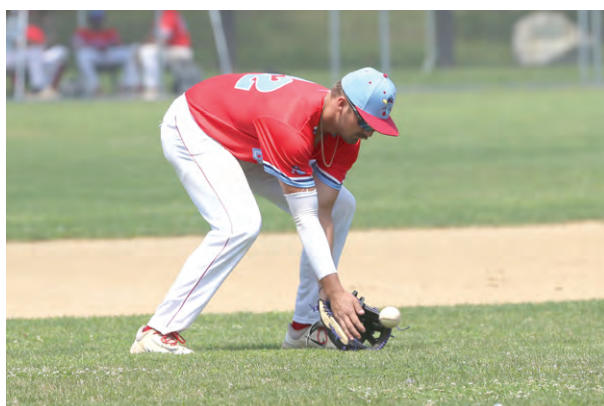
Bonsignore and the Kenneth Massa Motorsports team will be heading to Langley Speedway in Virginia for the next NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour race on Saturday, Aug. 26.



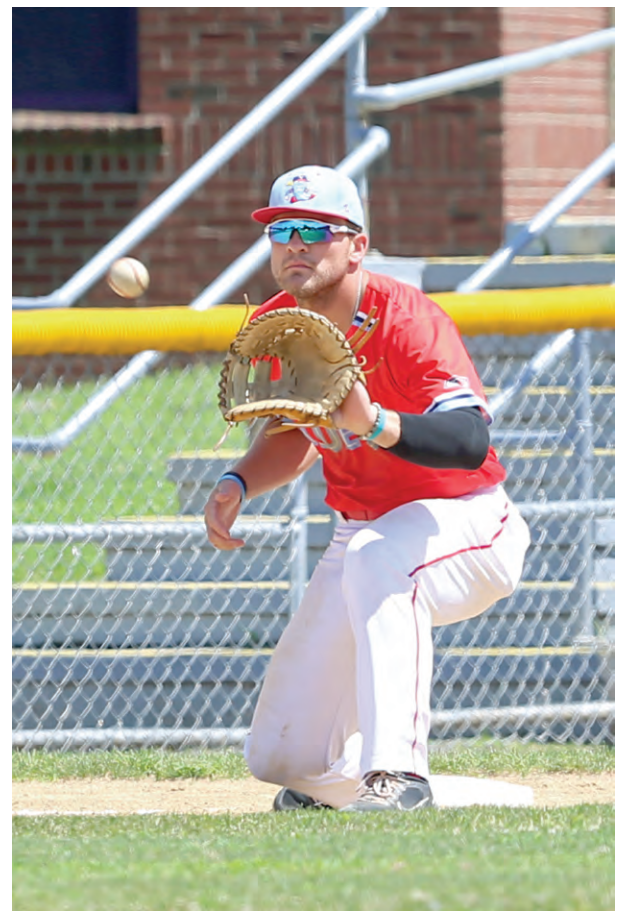
Justin Bonsignore picked up his first Thompson Speedway in four years last week. Submitted photo



Michael Zarillo prepares to catch a ball on a steal attempt.



Zach Ketterman fields a grounder.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com  
Matthew Bergevin gets the out at first.

# Blue Sox season ends in opening round

HOLYOKE – Earlier this month, the Valley Blue Sox won their division and went after the New England Collegiate Baseball League championship. The Blue Sox won back-to-back titles in 2017 and 2018, but have not gotten back there since.

Unfortunately, history would repeat as the Blue Sox were defeated by the Bristol Blues two games to one in a best-of-three series.

The Valley Blue Sox season has come to an end after falling to the Bristol Blues 10-3. After winning the first game of the quarterfinals series, the Blue Sox were shutout in game two and defeated in game three at home, allowing Bristol to advance to the semifinals.

The Blues piled on the scoring early, putting up six runs in the first three innings. An RBI groundout in the first, a throwing error and RBI single in the second, and a sacrifice fly and RBI single in the third allowed the Blues to take the lead 6-0.

Dillon Ryan started the game for the Blue Sox, pitching three innings allowing six runs and striking out two batters.

Joe Dooley took over for Ryan in the top of the fourth, pitching four innings allowing four runs with one strikeout.

Bristol added a run in the top of fifth following an RBI double, another in the sixth off an RBI double, and two more in the seventh after a sacrifice fly and RBI groundout to go up 10-0.

The Blue Sox put a run on the board in the bottom of the seventh after Jeff Pierantoni hit an RBI single to score Matt Bergevin.

Brendan Yagesh relieved Dooley in the top of the eighth, pitching a scoreless frame with three strikeouts.

Valley added two more runs in the bottom of the eighth following an RBI single from Michael Zarillo to score CJ Willis and Bergevin.

2023 All-Star Michael Weidinger got

the ninth for the Blue Sox, striking out two batters during his clean inning.

# HONOR ROLL

Spring Season

PVIAC ALL-STARS

ALL STARS

## MINNECHAUG

### BASEBALL

- Bryce Barlow
- Owen Gasteyer
- Jack Straut
- Luke McGrath

### SOFTBALL

- Mackenzie Blair
- Amy Dunklee

### BOYS LACROSSE

- Charlie Hartin
- Matt Wurszt
- Isaiah Kozub
- David Noel

### GIRLS LACROSSE

- Jayne Cerasuolo
- Alexa Patrakis
- Kaelin Cerasuolo
- Vivian Tranghese

### GIRLS TENNIS

- Norah Dumala
- Ellie Gaudreau
- Lilli DiGrande

Minnechaug boys track HUNTER CORTHELL DIVISION 3 STATE CHAMPION JAVELIN



MINNECHAUG BOYS LACROSSE WESTERN MASS. CLASS A RUNNER-UP

MINNECHAUG GIRLS LACROSSE WESTERN MASS. CLASS A RUNNER-UP

MINNECHAUG GIRLS TENNIS WESTERN MASS. CLASS A RUNNER-UP

MINNECHAUG BOYS VOLLEYBALL WESTERN MASS. CLASS B RUNNER-UP

# Work hard, play hard!

Congratulations to all athletes for their accomplishments!



# Monson Savings

Your Bank Forever







Nick Bellak sends a pass away.



Mike Lima, of Ludlow, sends a free kick across the field.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com  
Mason Perham kicks the ball away for Villa FC

**MEN** from page 15

the entire 80 minutes.”

St. John Heating & Cooling (10-1 regular season record), who was previously known as Griffin’s Café, lost to the Lusitano Red, 1-0, in last year’s finals. They also captured the men’s title in 2016 and 2019.

“We’ve been able to win the summer league title every three years. There wasn’t a summer league season in 2020 because of COVID,” said St. John Heating & Cooling co-coach Jon Remillard, who’s from Palmer. “We have some younger guys on this year’s team who worked very hard. It feels great to win another title.”

Remillard shared the coaching duties with Jaime Prickett, who lives in South Hadley.

Following this year’s championship match, Aiden Casinghino received the MVP award.

“Winning the championship game means a little bit more to me than receiving the MVP award,” he said. “The MVP award should go to the entire team because everyone has worked very hard this summer. The championship cup trophy is the only one that matters.”

While Aiden Casinghino is a midfielder, his younger brother was the St. John Heating & Cooling starting goalie.

Braylon Casinghino will be a goalie for the Western New England University men’s soccer team in the fall. He was in the spotlight throughout the entire second half of the championship match.

“It has been a lot of fun playing on the same soccer team with Aiden,” Braylon Casinghino said. “Watching him receive

the M.V.P. award was awesome. He just put us on our backs and got the job done. We came out firing on all cylinders in tonight’s game.”

The Western New England University men’s soccer coach is Devin O’Neill. His two sons, Sean and Shay are listed on the St. John Heating & Cooling roster, but they didn’t play in the championship match. The O’Neill’s were outstanding soccer players at Belchertown High School.

Aiden and Braylon Casinghino, who live in Brimfield, are really looking forward to being teammates with their younger brother, Cole, next summer.

Cole Casinghino is entering his senior season as a member of the Tantasqua boys’ varsity soccer team, which is coached by Matt Guertin.

“We’re hoping Cole will be joining our summer league soccer team next year,” said Aiden Casinghino, who has been playing in the PVSSL for the past five years. “It has been a lot of fun playing in this soccer league.

At the start of the summer league season, Braylon Casinghino replaced Mark Tiffany, who’s also from Belchertown, as the St. John Heating & Cooling starting goalie.

Villa FC (9-0-2 regular season record) posted a 4-0 shutout victory over St. John Heating & Cooling at the beginning of the summer league regular season.

“I only missed two games during the regular season and our loss against Villa was one of

them,” Braylon Casinghino said. “I think it would’ve been a little bit different outcome if I had been there.”

Troy and Matt Remillard were also key members of the St. John Heating & Cooling soccer team.

All three of the Remillard’s were outstanding soccer players at Palmer High School.

It didn’t take St. John Heating & Cooling very long to score a goal in the finals.

During the fifth minute of the opening half, Byron Peabody, who also graduated from Palmer High School, fired a rebound shot into the lower left corner of the net past Villa goalie Mike Tranghese, who played soccer at Monson High School, giving St. John Heating & Cooling a 1-0 lead.

Ten minutes later, they took a 2-0 lead following a goal by Jed Theilman, who’s from Amherst. Aiden Casinghino was credited with

the assist.

Villa FC cut the deficit in half following a goal by Deandrae Brown, which was assisted by Anthony Basile.

Brown played college soccer at UConn a couple of years ago.

Villa FC had six corner kicks and several other scoring chances during the second half, but Braylon Casinghino managed to hold onto the one goal lead for St. John Heating & Cooling.

“Braylon is a tall goalie,”

said Jon Remillard, who has been playing in the adult soccer league since 2010. “The players on the opposing team are afraid of him and I’m very glad that he was a member of our team this summer. I hope he has a good year at Western New England. He’s a very good goalie. We do have several brothers playing for our team this year, which made it a lot of fun.”

## NECBL announces all-league selections

**SOUTH HADLEY** — The New England Collegiate Baseball League (NECBL) is proud to announce the 2023 All-NECBL teams. The honors were voted on by all 13 on-field managers of NECBL franchises. Only regular season statistics and performances were taken into consideration during the selection process.

The list includes 47 players across three teams: the All-NECBL First Team, the All-NECBL Second Team and the All-NECBL Honorable Mention Team. Each is composed of one player at each non-outfield position (C, 1B, 2B, SS, 3B), three outfielders, one designated hitter, three starting pitchers, two relief pitchers and one closer. In the case of ties, some positions may include additional honorees.

Making the second team was Valley Blue Sox DH A.J. Guerrero.

Guerrero led the Blue Sox in hits (42), RBIs (23), finished second in runs (21), third in batting average (.298)

and led the league in doubles (11) in 141 at-bats. His best performance of the season came on July 26 when he went 2-for-3 with two doubles, two RBIs and two runs scored, leading Valley to an 8-3 victory.



**Tell Us What You Think**

Share your thoughts and suggestions with our staff and your fellow readers. **Participate in our opinion pages, or contact us anytime with your feedback!**

**Wilbraham-Hampden**  
**TIMES**  
*Your Community Newspaper*

 [www.wilbrahamhampdentimes.turley.com](http://www.wilbrahamhampdentimes.turley.com)  
tyler@turley.com • 413.283.8393

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13						14			15		
16				17				18			
19				20				21			
			22				23			24	
25	26	27		28			29		30		
31			32		33		34			35	
36				37		38			39		40
	41				42			43		44	
			45				46		47		48
49	50		51			52			53		
54		55			56				57	58	59
60					61				62		
63					64			65			
66					67			68			

- |   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| <p><b>CLUES ACROSS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Russian painter</li> <li>6. Very fast jet</li> <li>9. Philippine municipality</li> <li>13. Intestinal</li> <li>14. Small freshwater fish</li> <li>15. Algerian coastal city</li> <li>16. Vomit</li> <li>17. Famed astronomer</li> <li>18. Ghanaian currency</li> <li>19. Improved the condition of</li> <li>21. Int'l association of interpreters</li> <li>22. Infections</li> <li>23. Dish made with lentils</li> <li>24. Thou</li> <li>25. Former CIA</li> <li>28. Unit used to compare power levels</li> <li>29. Members of Pueblo people</li> <li>31. Myanmar monetary units</li> <li>33. Polished</li> <li>36. Signed a contract</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>38. Nothing</li> <li>41. Neural structures</li> <li>44. Thick piece of something</li> <li>45. Slang for trucks with trailers</li> <li>46. Longing</li> <li>48. Senior officer</li> <li>49. Levels of frequency</li> <li>51. Bird's beak</li> <li>52. Move rapidly downwards</li> <li>54. Koran chapters</li> <li>56. Stretches out</li> <li>60. Top of the human body</li> <li>61. A Chinese temple and Indian town are two</li> <li>62. Fertility god</li> <li>63. Sea eagle</li> <li>64. Dry</li> <li>65. Zodiac sign</li> <li>66. "Horizon Call of the Mountain" character</li> <li>67. Have the ability to</li> <li>68. Take somewhere</li> </ul> | <p><b>CLUES DOWN</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "Iron Man" actress Leslie</li> <li>2. Wings</li> <li>3. Adjust the spacing</li> <li>4. They're usually locked</li> <li>5. Atomic #43</li> <li>6. Wise individuals</li> <li>7. Horse mackerel</li> <li>8. Pearl Jam's debut album</li> <li>9. Confines</li> <li>10. Colorless crystalline compound</li> <li>11. Unsatisfactorily</li> <li>12. Plant of the parsley family</li> <li>14. Determines time</li> <li>17. Causes the birth of</li> <li>20. Small ornament on a watch chain</li> <li>21. Richly decorated cloth tapestry</li> <li>23. Vito Corleone was one</li> <li>25. Igbo musical instrument</li> <li>26. Put in harmony</li> <li>27. Japanese alcoholic drinks</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>29. Tinseltown</li> <li>30. Closes tightly</li> <li>32. Songs sung to one's lover</li> <li>34. One thousandth of an inch</li> <li>35. Small drink of whiskey</li> <li>37. Political divisions in ancient Greece</li> <li>40. Helps little firms</li> <li>42. Baby's eating accessory</li> <li>43. Very long periods of time</li> <li>47. Small block of wood</li> <li>49. Town in Surrey, England</li> <li>50. Enquiry</li> <li>52. Murdered</li> <li>53. Bura-...: Chadic language</li> <li>55. Crater on Mars</li> <li>56. Mammal genus</li> <li>57. Sock</li> <li>58. Make</li> <li>59. Stony waste matter</li> <li>61. Partner to cheese</li> <li>65. Pound</li> </ul> |
|---|--|---|---|

# Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

## FOR SALE

### ESTATE SALE

**ESTATE SALE** 284 LOWER HAMPDEN ROAD MONSON MA 8/25 & 8/26 8:00-4:00 ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES, FURNITURE, JEWELRY, BOOKS, CD'S LOTS OF ELECTRONICS, HOUSEHOLD ITEMS, 7000 WATT TROY BILT GENERATOR

## FIREWOOD

**FIREWOOD**  
Fresh cut & split \$200.00  
Seasoned cut & split \$300.00  
All hardwood.  
Tree length available  
\*Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & volumes **guaranteed!!** New England Forest Products **(413)477-0083**

**FIREWOOD FOR SALE!!!!** SEASONED HARDWOOD ONLY \$200.00 PER CORD PICKED UP IN BELCHERTOWN! LIMITED DELIVERY AVAILABLE FOR FEE. CONTACT **(413)977-4021**

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

**!!!!SEASONED!!!!** Over a cord guaranteed. Cut, Split, Prompt delivery. Call D & D Cordwood **(413)348-4326**.

## AUTO

**CASH FOR JUNK AND REPAIRABLE CARS**  
**FREE TOWING FAST SERVICE CASH PAID AS IS CALL OR TEXT 413-219-6839**

## WANTED

### WANTED TO BUY

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

## JUNK REMOVAL

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

## JUNK REMOVAL

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

**Classified Advertising DEADLINES**  
QUABBIN & SUBURBAN FRIDAY AT NOON | HILLTOWNS MONDAY AT NOON

## SERVICES



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



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

**BILODEAU AND SON ROOFING.** Established 1976. New re-roofs and repairs. Gutter cleanings and repairs. Licensed/ insured. Call **(413)967-6679**

**CHAIR SEAT WEAVING & refinishing** - cane, fiber rush & splint - Classroom instructor, 20+ years experience. Call Walt at **(413)289-6670** for estimate.

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

## SERVICES

### HOME IMPROVEMENT

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

HOME REPAIR & REMODELING for all your interior & exterior needs. Carpentry, woodworking, porches, patios, windows, doors, painting, drywall, siding, landscaping, clean-outs. Competitive pricing. References. Please call Brendan **(413)687-5552**

## LANDSCAPING

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

**\*\*ALL SEASON\*\*** Specializing in shrub trimming, pruning, design, deliveries, loader, backhoe, insured. Professional. Please call Bob **(413)537-5789 (413)538-7954.**

**S&S LANDSCAPING** Residential and Commercial  
Yard clean ups, lawn mowing, lawn repair, fertilizing, mulch, stone, hedge trimming, planting.  
Free estimates, Fully licensed and insured.  
You'll like us mower  
**413-240-1992**

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

## SERVICES

### MASONRY

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

## PAINTING

**PAINTING & MORE**  
Interior painting and small exterior jobs. Chores and odd jobs too! Professional and reliable. No job too small. Servicing the Wilbraham area. Call Tom, **339-832-5682.**

**WE DO LLC** Painting interior, exterior and drywall repair. We treat your home like our own homes. Fully licensed and insured. Call WE DO today for a free estimate ask for Mac **(413)344-6883**

## PLUMBING

**GREG LAFONTAIN PLUMBING & HEATING** Lic #19196 Repairs & Replacement of fixtures, water heater installations, steam/HW boiler replacement. Kitchen & Bath remodeling. 30 years experience. Fully insured. \$10 Gift Card With Work Performed. Call Greg **(413)592-1505**

## RUBBISH REMOVAL

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

## SERVICES

### TREE WORK

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

## STUMP GRINDING

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



**SAW STUMP GRINDING** Call for a Free Estimate, Veteran Owned, Fully Insured **413-213-5470**

## TUNE-UPS

**SNOWBLOWER & LAWNMOWER TUNE UP & REPAIR A&M TUNE-UPS**  
Push Lawnmowers, Riding Mowers and Small Engine Repair.  
Work done at your home.  
Call Mike **(413) 348-7967**

## REAL ESTATE

### FOR RENT

**\$900 LUDLOW.** Utilities included. Quiet, cozy, 1 bedroom, 1 full bath w/ small kitchen/living room. Easy access to Mass Pike, parking, laundry on-site. No smoking, no pets. **413-543-3062.**



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

**TWO BEDROOM APT.,** Bristol State Apts., 181 State Street, Ludlow. Central heat, AC. Includes stove, refrigerator, washer/dryer hookups. No smoking. No pets. **413-315-0368.**

## FOR RENT

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.  
This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

# FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 DEADLINES: QUABBIN & SUBURBAN - FRIDAY AT NOON HILLTOWNS - MONDAY AT NOON  
or call: 413-283-8393

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

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

QUABBIN & SUBURBAN - FRIDAY AT NOON  
HILLTOWNS - MONDAY AT NOON

**Quabbin Village Hills**  
Circulation: 50,500

**Suburban Residential**  
Circulation: 59,000

**Hilltowns**  
Circulation: 9,800

Buy the Quabbin Village Hills or the Suburban Residential ZONE for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word. Add \$10 for a second Zone or add \$15 to run in ALL THREE ZONES.

First ZONE base price \_\_\_\_\_ Includes additional words  
Add a second ZONE **\$10.00**  
Add a third ZONE **\$5.00**  
Subtotal \_\_\_\_\_  
x Number of Weeks \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Run my ad in the following ZONE(s):  
 Quabbin  
 Suburban  
 Hilltowns

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

HISTORY from page 4

fires this year, both near East Wilbraham. One was caused by a locomotive, the other by a criminally neglected camp-fire."

But he was pessimistic about the future of the forests. "Imported tree diseases seem likely to destroy our forests," he wrote.

The chestnut blight had ruined the larger portion of the local woodland, and then the white pine disease very seriously threatened what native white pine the town had left, and it halted reforestation.

The 1923 national and state campaigns against the pine disease had started more promptly than in the case of chestnut blight that was wiping out those trees.

Outside World

What was going on in the world while Wilbraham inhabited 1923? Hearings were held in Washington about the Teapot Dome Scandal. Hitler's coup d'état (The Beer Hall Putsch) in Munich fails. U. S. President Warren G. Harding died and was succeeded by Calvin Coolidge who had been the mayor of Northampton. The Nobel Prize for Literature was won by William Butler Yeats. George Gershwin wrote "Rhapsody in Blue".

Source: "The Timetables of History" by Bernard Grun, a Touchstone Book published by Simon & Schuster. Chauncey Peck who wrote "The History of Wilbraham, 1731, 1763-1913

Editor Emeritus Charlie Bennett is a member of the Historic Commission and a trustee of the Wilbraham Atheneum Society. Readers can contact him with comments or ideas for the column at cbennett4765@charter.net.

Upcoming adult programming at the Wilbraham Public Library

WILBRAHAM – The following events will occur in the coming weeks at the Wilbraham Public Library at Crane Park Drive.

Wilbraham library's Classics Book Club to tackle "Middlemarch"

The Classics Book Club at the Wilbraham library will be discussing George Eliot's masterpiece, "Middlemarch", on Wednesday, Aug. 23 at 6 p.m. in the Brooks Room. "Middlemarch" is about life in an English village in the 1830s, and the stories of the village's memorable characters intersect throughout. Readers can pick up a copy of the classic for Sept. 27: "The Grapes of Wrath", by John Steinbeck.

History Book Club to End the Summer with "Freedom Summer"

The American History Book Club will be talking about what happened in Mississippi during the civil rights movement in 1964. Bruce Watson's

book, "Freedom Summer: The Savage Season That Made Mississippi Burn and Made America a Democracy", covers the violence that voting registers faced from Southern racists and the KKK in the summer of 1964. Freedom Summer also conveys the courage and persistence of black and white volunteers who tried to get America to live up to its promise of equality. The discussion will take place in the Brooks Room at 6 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 28. The book for the next meeting, scheduled for Monday, Sept. 25, will be available: "Destiny of the Republic: A Tale of Madness, Medicine and the Murder of a President", by Candace Millard.

Cookbook Book Club Going Meatless in September

The Cookbook Book Club at the Wilbraham library will meet on Monday, Sept. 11 in the Brooks Room at 6:30 pm to share vegetarian dishes from the book "Vegan Vegetarian Omnivore: Dinner for Everyone at the Table", by Anna Thomas.

With dishes inspired by the vibrant produce of farmers' markets and private gardens, Vegan Vegetarian Omnivore shows us how to navigate a world of change and bring all our friends and family together at one big, generous table.

Important Political Music

Bring your lawn chairs to the library for an important outdoor concert given by singer-songwriter and jazz musician Pamela Means on Tuesday, Sept. 13 at 6 p.m. Pamela's political music has been compared to a cross between Suzanne Vega and Jimi Hendrix. Even Neil Young has given her positive reviews. Her performance should be both entertaining and informative, and it comes at an important time. Register for this event on the library website: www.wilbrahamlibrary.org.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Wilbraham Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

Community Newspaper EDITOR WANTED

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

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

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

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

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

Qualifications should include:

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

Please send resume and writing examples to:

Eileen Kennedy, Executive Editor
24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069
or email directly to
ekennedy@turley.com

Summer spurs increased rate of lawn mower injuries

American Family Care physician offers tips to safely navigate your lawn

SPRINGFIELD -- The hum of lawn mowers is a common sound of summer, making it easy to forget that these machines can cause serious harm if proper safety protocol isn't followed. In fact, approximately 80,000 lawn mower accidents occur annually in the United States, including over 6,300 among children under the age of 18. The medical experts at American Family Care, with locations in Springfield and West Springfield, are reminding local residents to use caution when operating this equipment.

"While mowing the lawn is a routine chore for many, lawn mowers can be dangerous and using them improperly can lead to devastating consequences," said Dr. Andrew Koslow, associate medical director of AFC for Massachusetts. "A lawn mower blade is extremely sharp and revolves rapidly, making it easy for someone to get critically hurt in the blink of an eye."

The most common lawn mower-related accidents are linked to cuts, often caused by debris that is kicked out from under the mower. Injuries also happen when replacing mower blades or removing debris from the blades, touching a hot surface on the mower or falling on a slippery surface while mowing.

"The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that children be at least 12 years old to safely operate a walk-behind mower, and 16 to operate a riding mower," said Koslow. "However, parents should consider the individual child's coordination, maturity level and good judgment."

Koslow offered the following safety tips to help prevent lawn mower injuries:

Wear sturdy, closed-toe shoes, rather than flip-flops or sandals.

Cover your eyes with goggles or sunglasses.

Opt for long pants to protect your legs from flying debris.

Before mowing, walk the lawn and pick up large sticks, stones or other items that could jam the mower or become a projectile.

Turn the mower completely off before removing debris from blades.

If doing repairs or maintenance, disconnect the spark plug first. Normally this is done by removing the rubber boot that connects the spark plug to the wire and turning it around, so the back of the boot faces the spark plug.

Never stick anything into the blade area while the lawn mower is powered on.

Avoid touching the area around the mower's engine until it has time to cool down.

Minor abrasions and burns can be cared for at home but seek medical care for more serious burns or cuts that may require stitches. Amputations, deep cuts, eye injuries or severe burns require prompt emergency care.

The medical providers at AFC Springfield and AFC West Springfield offer convenient, walk-in care seven days a week for patients of all ages. Services include urgent care for illnesses, sprains and strains; stitches for minor cuts and lacerations; diagnostic rapid tests and antigen tests for COVID-19; physicals and on-site x-rays.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Sale of Motor Vehicle

This ad is pursuant to MA Gen. Law Ch.255, Sec. 39A as of August 25, 2023 the following motor vehicle will be for sale to satisfy a garage keepers lien:
Vehicle: 2000 Volkswagen Beetle
VIN: 3VWBC21C84M12804
COLOR: Yellow
LKO: Madeline Cortez
112 Lyons St
Indian Orchard MA 01151
R & S Assoc. Inc.
Wilbraham MA 01095
413-596-4374
08/10, 08/17, 08/24/2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to MA Gen. Law Ch.255, Sec. 39A as of September 8, 2023 the following motor vehicle will be

for sale to satisfy a garage keepers lien:
E-Ton Moped
VIN: RFZ5BB0C95A003037
Color: Black
LKO: Unknown
R & S Assoc. Inc.
Wilbraham MA 01095
413-596-4374
08/24, 08/31, 09/07/2023

FY24 MULTI-TOWN INVITATION TO BID ROCK SALT FOR SNOW & ICE CONTROL

Sealed bids for Sodium Chloride (Rock Salt), for the purpose of snow and ice control, will be received by the Director of Facilities & Operations Department of the Hampden-Wilbraham Regional School District at the office of the

Superintendent of Schools, 621 Main Street, Wilbraham, MA 01095, until Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 10:00 AM, at which time they will be opened and read aloud. Bids received after the above stated time and date will be rejected. Towns included in this Multi-Town Bid are as follows: Agawam, Brimfield, East Longmeadow, Hampden, Holland, Ludlow, Monson, Palmer, Wales, Ware, Warren, Wilbraham, and the Hampden-Wilbraham Regional School District. Bid specifications and other bid related information is available Monday through Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M., excluding holidays, at the office of the Superintendent of Schools, 621 Main Street, Wilbraham, MA 01095, located at Minnechaug Regional High School, and

on the HWRSD website, www.hwrso.org, beginning Tuesday, August 22, 2023. No Specs will be Faxed. Envelope to be marked:

"MULTI-TOWN BID: ROCK SALT FOR SNOW & ICE CONTROL - FY24"

The Director may reject any and all bids or waive defects in same in the best interest of the towns.

This procurement shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Uniform Procurement Act, M.G.L. Chapter 30B, Section 5, and those provisions are hereby Incorporated by reference into this Invitation for Bid.

Michael Messier
Director of Facilities & Operations
Hampden-Wilbraham Regional School District
08/24/2023





Word search grid containing letters in a grid format.

**NEW ENGLAND'S  
FASTEST  
GROWING  
APPLIANCE  
RETAILER!**

# Manny's Appliances

**SAVE NOW  
DURING OUR  
LABOR DAY  
SALE!**

## MANNY'S IS TEAMING UP WITH GE TO BRING YOU THE LOWEST PRICES OF THE SUMMER ON GE'S MOST INNOVATIVE APPLIANCES!

<b>WAS \$4,516</b> <b>BUY ALL 4 FOR \$2,946</b>	<b>21.8 CU FT COUNT- ER-DEPTH SIDE BY SIDE REFRIGERATOR WITH ICE AND WATER DISPENSER</b> <small>MODEL# GZS22IYNFS</small> <b>REG \$2099</b>	<b>WAS \$6,976</b> <b>BUY ALL 4 FOR \$4,126</b>	<b>22.1 CU FT COUNT- ER-DEPTH FRENCH DOOR REFRIGERATOR WITH TURBO COOL &amp; FREEZE</b> <small>MODEL# GYE22GYNFS</small> <b>REG \$ 3499</b>
 <b>GE APPLIANCES</b>	<b>5.3 CU FT ELECTRIC CON- VECTION RANGE WITH 12/9 INCH DUAL ELEMENT</b> <small>MODEL# JB655YKFS</small> <b>REG \$1099</b>	 <b>GE APPLIANCES</b>	<b>5.3 CU FT SLIDE-IN ELECTRIC CONVECTION RANGE WITH AIR-FRY AND BUILT IN WI-FI</b> <small>MODEL# JS760SPSS</small> <b>REG \$1949</b>
	<b>1.7 CU FT 1000 WATT OVER THE RANGE SENSOR MICROWAVE</b> <small>MODEL# JVM6175YKFS</small> <b>REG \$489</b>		<b>1.9 CU FT OVER THE RANGE SENSOR MICROWAVE WITH 400 CFM VENT SYSTEM</b> <small>MODEL# JVM7195SKSS</small> <b>REG \$529</b>
	<b>TOP CONTROL POCKET HANDLE DISHWASHER WITH SANITIZE CYCLE AND DRY BOOST</b> <small>MODEL# GDP630PYRFS</small> <b>REG \$829</b>		<b>TOP CONTROL 45 dBA 3 RACK DISHWASHER WITH STAINLESS INTERIOR</b> <small>MODEL# GDT670SYVFS</small> <b>REG \$999</b>



**REG \$999**  
**\$749**

**REG \$999**  
**\$749**

**Profile**

GE PROFILE 5.4 CU FT WASHER WITH SMART WASH TECHNOLOGY AND FLEX DISPENSE MODEL# PTW700BSTWS  
GE PROFILE 7.4 CU FT SMART ELECTRIC DRYER WITH SANITIZE CYCLE AND SENSOR DRY MODEL# PTD700BSTWS




**REG \$1049**  
**\$799**

**REG \$1049**  
**\$799**

**GE APPLIANCES**

GE 4.8 CU FT FRONT LOAD WASHER WITH ULTRA FRESH VENT SYSTEM WITH ODOR BLOCK MODEL# GFWS50SNWW  
GE 7.8 CU FT FRONT LOAD ELECTRIC DRYER WITH SENSOR DRY AND SANITIZE CYCLE MODEL# GFD55SESNWW



**50% MORE**  
Energy Efficient Drying  
with Variable Heat Pump

**REG \$2899**  
**\$2399**

**Profile**

GE PROFILE 4.8 CU FT ULTRAFAST WASHER/DRYER COMBO WITH VENTLESS HEAT PUMP TECHNOLOGY MODEL# PF097HSPVDS



**REG \$1799**  
**\$1099**

**GE APPLIANCES**

GE 25 CU FT FAMILY SIZE SIDE BY SIDE REFRIGERATOR WITH ICE AND WATER DISPENSER MODEL# GSS256YPFS



**REG \$2099**  
**\$1299**

**GE APPLIANCES**

GE 24.8 CU FT BOTTOM FREEZER DRAWER REFRIGERATOR WITH FACTORY INSTALLED ICEMAKER MODEL# GDE25EYKFS



**GE APPLIANCES**

**GE 5.3 CU FT ELECTRIC CONVECTION RANGE WITH AIR-FRY MODEL# JB735SPSS REG \$1099**

**GE 5.0 CU FT GAS CONVECTION RANGE WITH AIR-FRY MODEL# JGB735SPSS REG \$1199**

**YOUR CHOICE ELECTRIC OR GAS  
NOW \$749**



**GE APPLIANCES**

**GE 6.6 TOTAL CU FT ELECTRIC DOUBLE OVEN CONVECTION RANGE WITH AIR-FRY MODEL# JBS86SPSS REG \$1549**

**GE 6.8 TOTAL CU FT GAS DOUBLE OVEN CONVECTION RANGE WITH AIR-FRY MODEL# JGB86SPSS REG \$1699**

**YOUR CHOICE ELECTRIC OR GAS  
NOW \$1099**



**GE APPLIANCES**

**GE TOP CONTROL DISHWASHER WITH SANITIZE CYCLE AND DRY BOOST MODEL# GDT550PYRFS REG \$729 \$429**



**GE APPLIANCES**

**GE TOP CONTROL POCKET HANDLE DISHWASHER WITH STAINLESS INTERIOR WITH 3RD RACK MODEL# GDP670SYVFS REG \$999 \$629**



**Profile**

**GE PROFILE TOP CONTROL POCKET HANDLE DISHWASHER WITH STAINLESS INTERIOR AND 3RD RACK MODEL# PDP715SYVFS REG \$1149 \$799**



**REG \$2399**  
**\$1499**

**GE APPLIANCES**

GE 27 CU FT FRENCH DOOR REFRIGERATOR IN FINGERPRINT RESISTANT STAINLESS FINISH MODEL# GNE27JYMF5



**REG \$3299**  
**\$1899**

**GE APPLIANCES**

GE ENERGY STAR 27.7 FULL SIZE FRENCH DOOR REFRIGERATOR WITH EXTERNAL ICE AND WATER DISPENSER MODEL# GFE286YNFS

**SALE DATES  
8/24-9/13**

**VISIT US ON THE WEB AT MANNYSTV.COM**



**NOW WITH 10 CONVENIENT LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU**

**Wilbraham**  
413-543-2467  
**Westfield**  
413-485-7152

**Hadley**  
413-585-8544  
**Greenfield**  
413-772-0113

**Leominster**  
978-710-0762  
**Framingham MA**  
508-626-2321

**Sutton MA**  
774-808-7240  
**Keene NH**  
603-363-4100

**Claremont NH**  
603-287-8689  
**Canton CT**  
860-693-6337