



COMMUNITY

Rotary Global Grant

Page 16



SPORTS

Football gets big win over West Side

Page 11

TIMES

PRSRT STD
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 PALMER, MA
 PERMIT NO. 22

ECR-WSS
 LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER

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

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

OCTOBER 8, 2026

www.wilbrahamhampdentimes.turley.com



The Homecoming King Robert Garczynski and Homecoming Queen Elizabeth Scanlon with the Minnechaug Regional High School cheerleaders and football players in a group photo.

King and Queen crowned at event

By Kristin Rivers
 Editor
 krivers@turley.com

WILBRAHAM - Robert Garczynski and Elizabeth Scanlon have been crowned

this year's Homecoming King and Queen during the Senior Homecoming event at Hampden Post Acute on Oct. 2.

The event at the subacute rehabilitation and nursing facility featured musical entertainment, refreshments served by the staff at Hampden Post Acute and the crowning of a "king" and "queen" of the celebration. The Minnechaug

Regional High School cheerleaders and football players also stopped by to celebrate and get the attendees in the homecoming spirit with cheers.

Garczynski was humbled to be crowned Homecoming King, thanking his fellow residents and the staff for the honor.

"The only thing I want to

say is, I don't know what I did for this, but I really appreciate it. Thank you, thank you very much," Garczynski said.

Scanlon said she was "very flattered" to be chosen as Homecoming Queen.

"Thank you all and you're all wonderful. I'm glad you

Please see **HOMECOMING**, page 8

Board discusses reported property issue concerns

By Ben Hernandez
 Staff Writer

WILBRAHAM – The Select Board gathered on Sept. 28 to discuss reported property issues with Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Officer Tom Kennedy, Ryan Paxton, health director for the Eastern Hampden Public Health Services and the fire and police chief.

The discussion focused on ongoing matters concerning certain properties in town.

One of those properties was 10 Opal Street, with concerns arose due to an illegal camper parked on the premises combined with reports of junk being scattered about the yard.

4 Monson Rd. was, also, another property concerning an illegal camper as well presented during the discussion.

Kennedy began the discussion regarding Opal Street.

"I did drive by 10 Opal Street earlier this week and did not see any camper on site," Kennedy said.

Lennon elaborated from there.

"So, the only issue with that property right now is, since they moved the camper, it appears they took most of their junk and just piled

it in the backyard," Lennon said. "May or may not be any violations..."

Lennon offered to give the owner a call on Sept. 29 to determine what to do with the junk.

"I think he will, so we'll just follow up on it on that, but that's the only issue outstanding," Lennon said.

Kennedy provided additional information and clarified the Wilbraham zoning bylaws for residents, which stated by law, campers themselves aren't allowed "on personal property or private property at all for any extended period of stay" for occupation purposes.

"For any stay, really," Kennedy said. "You can park it there. You just can't hook it up and use it."

According to Paxton, such arrangements are called temporary housing which, by town definition, doesn't meet the minimum standards for human habitation.

"For example, it doesn't have a permanent source of electricity, permanent source of water, it's not connected to a sewer or a sanitary system," Paxton said. "So, temporary housing is allowed for periods

Please see **PROPERTY ISSUES**, page 3

Three Hampden Police Dept. officers receive commendation letters

By Kristin Rivers
 Editor
 krivers@turley.com

HAMPDEN - Three police officers received commendation letters from Police Chief Dan Bruno during the Selectboard's Sept. 28 meeting.

The officers are Reserve Ofc. Christopher Driscoll, Ofc. Tarwin Seega and Ofc. Sean Auclair.

Bruno shared how Driscoll and Seega responded to a call at 7 a.m.—during the beginning of their shifts—on March 15 involving a single-vehicle crash on Somers

Road near Martin Farm.

"The vehicle had heavy damage; the airbags were deployed. Ofc. Driscoll identified a 19-year-old operator who was the sole occupant of that vehicle, and he began his investigation of that crash," Bruno said. "During your interaction, you became aware of inconsistencies in the story provided by the operator, communicated your intent to conduct an inventory search of the vehicle pursuant to department policy and located numerous empty liquor bottles in the vehicle."

Please see **LETTERS**, page 9



From the left, Selectboard Member Erik Vanderleeden, Selectboard Chair John Flynn, Reserve Ofc. Christopher Driscoll, Ofc. Tarwin Seega, Police Chief Dan Bruno, Selectboard Member Don Davenport and Ofc. Sean Auclair in a group photo.



Teens get to work on their pumpkins.

Turley photo by Kristin Rivers

Hampden library gets Halloween-ready

Pumpkin decorating event held recently

By Kristin Rivers
 Editor
 krivers@turley.com

HAMPDEN - The library got Halloween-ready as we welcome a new month with

a Mini Pumpkin Decorating event on Oct. 3.

The event took place in the Sheila R. Flynn Teen Center, where teens painted and decorated their own mini pumpkins.

It made for scary, creative fun with Halloween just a few weeks away.

More teen events are com-

ing throughout the month, including a Teen Crafternoon on Saturday, Oct. 17 at Noon and the ever-popular Teen Halloween Party on Friday, Oct. 30 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Registration is required for the Halloween Party.

Please see **PUMPKINS**, page 9

Theatre Guild of Hampden to present 'Gypsy: The Musical'



Aubrey Vargas as Louise/Gypsy Rose Lee with pink feathers and peeking behind the curtain.

By Kristin Rivers
 Editor
 krivers@turley.com

HAMPDEN - The Theatre Guild of Hampden will be presenting their upcoming production of "Gypsy: The Musical."

Gypsy tells the story of the dreams and efforts of one hungry, powerhouse of a woman to get her two daughters into show business. Gypsy is loosely based on the 1957 memoir of famous striptease artist Gypsy Rose Lee, entitled "Gypsy: Memoirs of America's Most Celebrated Stripper."

The memoir and the musical focus on the story of Gypsy Rose Lee's mother, Rose, and earned Rose a place in the theatrical and literary

Please see **GYPSEY**, page 4

■

COMMUNITY

Massachusetts School Building Authority conducts site review of middle school

WILBRAHAM — The Hampden-Wilbraham Regional School Committee is pleased to share that the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) conducted a site review, known as a Senior Study visit, at Wilbraham Middle School on September 16, 2026, following the district's submission of a Statement of Interest (SOI) to the MSBA Core Program. Established as a quasi-independent state authority, the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) oversees and supports capital improvement projects throughout Commonwealth public schools. The MSBA reimburses school districts for between 31 and 80 percent of eligible school construction or renovation project costs, depending on a number of factors, including community income, property wealth, and the district's proportion of low income students.

Following joint deliber-

ations and backed by formal letters of support from both the Wilbraham Select Board and the Hampden Select-board, the School Committee voted to withdraw Wilbraham Middle School from the MSBA Accelerated Repair Program, which is primarily for the repair and/or replacement of roofs, windows/doors, and/or boilers in an otherwise structurally sound facility, in favor of applying to the Core Program, which is primarily for projects beyond the scope of the Accelerated Repair Program, including extensive repairs, renovations, addition/renovations, and new school construction. Local leaders and committee members agreed that limited door and window replacements under the repair program would not resolve the school's broader infrastructure, safety, and space challenges, necessitating a comprehensive, long-term building solution.

During the Senior Study visit, an MSBA team—including staff and a technical consultant with expertise in school facilities and educational programming—met with district representatives, reviewed the conditions identified in the district's SOI, and toured Wilbraham Middle School. The review considered facility, enrollment, and programmatic conditions at the school.

The Senior Study visit is part of the MSBA's due-diligence process for submitted SOIs. It is not an invitation into the MSBA's Eligibility Period, approval of a school building project, or a commitment of MSBA funding. The visit enables MSBA staff to better understand the issues identified by the district and to inform future decisions regarding potential invitations into the MSBA Core Program. Following site visits across the state, MSBA staff evaluate

and compare reviewed applications to determine relative urgency and facility needs within the state's annual program funding cap. Recommendations will then be submitted to the MSBA Board of Directors, who will vote in December on which communities to formally invite into the MSBA Eligibility Period. Should the district receive an invitation into the Eligibility Period, a collaborative phase will commence featuring an in-depth feasibility study alongside the assessment of potential design alternatives. Prior to finalizing any construction proposals, local voters will make the ultimate decision through community funding votes. The district will continue to keep the community informed as the MSBA review proceeds. The submitted SOI and related facilities information are available at <https://rb.gy/c9ozjc>.

Hampden Theatre Guild is holding auditions for ‘Barefoot in the Park’

HAMPDEN — “Barefoot in the Park” by Neil Simon is a romantic comedy about the chaotic first days of marriage for a young couple with opposite personalities.

Auditions will be held on Oct. 27 and 28 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. at the Hampden Town Hall, the former Thornton Burgess School, 85 Wilbraham Rd., Hampden, MA.

Synopsis:
Corie and Paul Bratter are a newlywed couple. For their first home, they live in an apartment on the top floor of a brownstone in New York City. Corie is optimistic about their future together, while Paul, the more anxious and grounded half of the couple, worries about the various flaws in the apartment, such as a hole in the skylight, their leaky closet, and the lack of a bathtub. Shortly after moving in, Corie attempts to set her mother up with their eccentric neighbor Mr. Velasco. During the course of four days, the couple learns to live together while facing the usual daily ups-and-downs. Corie wants Paul to become more easy-going; for example, to run “barefoot in the park”.

All roles open.

Corie Bratter: (20's-early 30's) A vibrant, romantic, and adventurous free spirit who loves spontaneity.

Paul Bratter: (25-early 30's) Corie's new husband, a conservative, cautious, and straight-laced lawyer.

Ethel Banks: (45-early 60's) Corie's proper, traditional, and widowed mother.

Victor Velasco: (50-65) The eccentric, bohemian attic neighbor who lives upstairs.

Telephone Repairman: (40-60's) A weary man who struggles with the apartment's fifth-floor climb.

If you have questions, please contact Margie Secora at 310-210-6705.

Election letters must be received by Oct. 16

The Wilbraham-Hampden Times welcomes readers to participate in this year's state election by writing letters to the editor for publication.

Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to The Wilbraham-Hampden Times, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to krivers@turley.com by noon on Friday, Oct. 16 to be published in the Thursday, Oct. 22 edition. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

Letter writers need to provide their name and the town they reside in.

Please include a daytime telephone number (for verification purposes only) when submitting your letter. Your phone number will not be printed.

Wilbraham in-person early voting hours announced

WILBRAHAM - The State Election is being held on Tuesday, November 3, 2026 at Minnechaug Regional High School, 621 Main St.

Registered voters in Massachusetts have the opportunity to cast their ballot in-person before the State Election. In-person early voting for Wilbraham registered voters is being held at the Wilbraham Town Hall, 240 Springfield Street, on the following dates and times: Hours of Early Voting:

- Saturday, Oct. 17 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Monday, Oct. 19 thru Friday, Oct. 23, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Oct. 24 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Monday, Oct. 26 thru Friday, Oct. 30 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Note: The ballot is two pages, the first page is double sided.

For more information visit our website at Wilbraham-ma.gov or contact the Wilbraham Town Clerk's Office with any questions. (413) 596-2800 x200 or Clerks@Wilbraham-ma.gov.

Polish Plate Dinner set for Oct. 17

INDIAN ORCHARD – A Polish Plate Dinner (four Pierogi, one Golabek, Kielbasa, Kapusta and Rye Bread) will be held at Immaculate Conception Church 25 Parker St. Indian Orchard, Ma on Saturday, Oct. 17 from 1 to 5 p.m.

Eat in or Take Out.

Tickets at \$25 per plate are available by calling one of the following:

Maria Kowalski at 413-222-6229, Irena Wurszt at 413-427-5846 or the parish office 413-543-3627 or email: iccmoffice@gmail.com.

Frozen Polish Food Sale
Golabki (3/\$12)
Kapusta Large \$12
Pierogi (Doz \$15)
Available pierogi: Cabbage, Potato & Cheese, Sweet Cheese, and Blueberries.

Sale to benefit repairs of the front stairs of the church.

THINKING ABOUT
BUYING OR SELLING?

HELPFUL
INFO

TEXT “GUIDE” TO
866-583-4640



WANT TO LEARN MORE
ABOUT A CAREER
WITH LANDMARK?

TEXT “CAREER”
TO 866-583-4640



WE'RE LOCAL
WE'RE GLOBAL

CAREER IN REAL ESTATE?

Call Us or Visit [Landmark RE.com](http://LandmarkRE.com)
and Click on Careers

HIRING ASSOCIATES
FOR OFFICES IN:
Wilbraham, East Longmeadow,
Monson, and Springfield



Dawn Rodgers
478-2605



Nick Ferrara
386-4523



Kathy Esser
348-3803



Sue Rheame
478-0671



Zoe Czapliski
519-9224



Dot Lortie
478-1940



Linda Alston
246-8616



Sandy Wegrzyn
519-1056



Eileen O'Sullivan
505-9244



John Moltenbrey
427-5176



Shari Lokey
218-8811



Luci Giguere
575-2837



Ann Paquette
626-6871



Maria D'Angelantonio
575-2898



Ann Marie Martin
206-1161



Art Ferrara
348-5827



Alyssa Rhodes
896-9269

Put Our Team To Work For You. 4 Local Offices - Global Network

CALL US FOR DETAILS ON ANY OF THESE PROPERTIES

SINGLE FAMILY LISTINGS			
STATUS	ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION	LIST PRICE
NEW	LOT 604 Grandview Ave., Ludlow	6 room, 3 bed, 2f, 0h bath Ranch	\$625,000
NEW	793 Allen St, Springfield	7 room, 3 bed, 1f, 1h bath Colonial	\$349,900
ACT	511 Michael Sears Rd., Belchertown	8 room, 4 bed, 1f, 1h bath Split Entry	\$435,900
ACT	28 River Park Dr., Hampden	8 room, 3 bed, 2f, 0h bath Colonial	\$399,900
ACT	950 Glendale, Wilbraham	9 room, 4 bed, 2f, 1h bath Cape	\$1,950,000
PCG	208 Main St., Wilbraham	6 room, 3 bed, 2f, 1h bath Cape	\$504,900
EXT	118 Berkshire Ave., Southwick	5 room, 3 bed, 2f, 1h bath Contemporary	\$824,900
UAG	133 Cottonwood Ln., Agawam	6 room, 3 bed, 2f, 1h bath Contemporary	\$469,900
UAG	70 Crestwood Chicopee	6 room, 3 bed, 2f, 0h bath Ranch	\$299,900
UAG	53 Hampden Rd., East Longmeadow	5 room, 3 bed, 3f, 1h bath Ranch	\$450,000
UAG	817 Somers Rd., East Longmeadow	7 room, 3 bed, 1f, 0h bath Ranch	\$520,000
UAG	39 Higher St., Ludlow	6 room, 3 bed, 1f, 0h bath Ranch	\$375,000
UAG	420 Lower Hampden Rd., Monson	9 room, 4 bed, 2f, 0h bath Gambrel/Dutch	\$495,000
UAG	1030 Pine St., Palmer	9 room, 4 bed, 2f, 0h bath Victorian	\$424,900
UAG	433 Gifford St., Springfield	6 room, 3 bed, 1f, 0h bath Cape	\$250,000
UAG	89 Kane Brothers Cir., Westfield	10 room, 4 bed, 2f 1h bath Colonial	\$639,900
UAG	10 Mountianview St., Wilbraham	6 room, 4 bed, 2f 0h bath Cape	\$389,900

CONDOMINIUM LISTINGS

ACT	385 Worthington St. U:2F, Springfield	4 room, 2 bed, 1f, 0h bath Garden	\$244,900
UAG	371 Nassau Dr U:371, Springfield	5 room, 2 bed, 1f, 1h bath Townhouse	\$259,000

MULTI FAMILY LISTINGS

PCG	33 Kenwood Ter., Springfield	2 unit, 10 total rooms, 8 total bedrooms	\$385,000
		2 Family - 2 Units Up/Down	
UAG	2 Green St., Palmer	8 unit, 32 total rooms, 16 total bedrooms	5-9 Family \$929,000
UAG	117-119 Groveland St., Springfield	2 unit, 12 total rooms, 6 totalbedrooms	2 Family \$369,900

COMMERCIAL LISTINGS

UAG	2 Green St., Palmer	5472 SqFt 5+ Residential Building	\$929,000
-----	---------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------

Search LandmarkRE.com For All Listings In Western MA

Easy Property Search at LandmarkRE.com

Follow us on facebook.com/LandmarkLortie and instagram.com/landmarkrealtorsma

Ask Us For A Highest Price Analysis On Your Home
Relocation Across The Country or Around The World

Sales Positions Available – Licensing Course
Market Leader -Serving Our Communities Since 1987



MLT Volunteer Trail Maintenance Hike this Fall

HAMPDEN - Mark your calendars! The Minnechaug Land Trust trail maintenance team is happy to announce maintenance hikes in Hampden this Fall 2026.

We will have a Goat Rock Fall Maintenance Hike on Saturday Oct. 10, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Our second fall maintenance hike takes place on Saturday Oct. 10, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Goat Rock Conservation Area. Many hikers in Hampden and the surrounding towns know and love Goat Rock and its



trails. Due to the popularity of Goat Rock and its trail system, we will need volunteers to help with various tasks, including trash pickup, clearing weeds and brush from the three overlook vistas along the

trails, and maintaining trail edges and boundaries.

Please meet us at the trailhead in the Memorial Park parking lot on Oct. 10 at 9:30 a.m. Memorial Park is located at 495 Main Street, Hampden. Volunteers are welcome to meet up with us on the trails anytime between 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. A digital copy of the trail map can be found on our website, www.Minnechaug-LandTrust.org/goat-rock-trail/ or searching Goat Rock Trail on the Alltrails App..

Come enjoy stellar views of the Valley while working to-

gether to preserve and enhance two of our favorite places to explore. Thank you for your support. Without you, our lovely trail systems, serene woodlands, and iconic views would not exist. Sturdy shoes, clothes that can get dirty, gloves, water, bug spray, and a backpack are recommended; other tools will be provided. Both of our hikes are weather dependent and will be cancelled in the event of rain. Questions can be emailed to jenn.bagge@gmail.com or Charlie Thompson at tcharles344@gmail.com.

PROPERTY ISSUES

from page 1

up to 90 days with written Board of Health consent. But in this case, it was an occupied camper that had not had any sort of permission from the Board of Health to be occupied and they were living in it for a period that was, I would guess, longer than 90 days. It was probably about that that we were aware of it."

Select Board Chair Marc Ducey asked this question.

"So, let me back up for a minute," Ducey said. "So, somebody owns a camper. They're having work done to their house. They can't go into the camper and hook it up to their electricity?"

Kennedy provided some clarification.

"You are allowed to use temporary housing, which could possibly be a camper if it gets approved for items like that. Like if you have a fire or something happened in your house and it's no longer habitable. Then you are allowed to," Kennedy said.

When Kennedy said he was unsure regarding going to the Board of Health, Paxton added this thought.

"From our perspective, you should because the housing code says that you need that permission to occupy temporary housing," Paxton said. "I would say that in terms of practice, we are not looking for campers that people are residing in..."

"It could just be a couple nights. I mean, you never know, right? It seems a little bit over the top to me, but okay," Ducey said. "That's what the law says."

On 4 Monson Rd., Paxton said the complaint was received from one of the neighbors.

"They stated that somebody was living in a camper that is on that property," Paxton said. "Very similar issue where the camper doesn't meet the housing code and therefore cannot be a permanent residence, and we visited the property twice. The property owner was kind enough to let us inspect the interior of the camper and we were kind of able to speak with the property owner about what's going on there."

He added the situation "was a little bit different" as someone was "intermittently staying in the camper because they're assisting the property owner with childcare, I believe."

"We haven't done any code enforcement on it at this time, because as I was mentioning before, there's kind of a discretionary aspect to all this and it doesn't seem like they're staying there for long

periods of time, but rather several days at a time," Paxton said. "So, I was hoping to get some direction from the Board of Health or the Select Board regarding whether or not you'd like us to continue with code enforcement there."

Paxton noted the more gray areas of this situation with meeting the law enforcement code, but emphasized "in this case, there is someone residing in a camper that doesn't mean the standards of the housing code for periods of time."

Select Board Clerk Michael Squindo asked this.

"Other than potentially this noted variance from various bodies, is this something that's addressed anywhere else? Like do we have flexibility on this or is this very strictly state-regulated and without a variance for a purpose?" Squindo said.

Paxton replied that "it's been difficult for me to ascertain the exact time periods that someone's staying there."

"Therefore, it would be really hard to do an enforcement case against it," Paxton said.

"Enforcement aside for a minute...to Marc's original

point, can we say five days is permissible and six days isn't? I'm picking arbitrary numbers, but I mean is that something that the board can do as either a policy or regulation or is that really something where we're only empowered to create variances for a fire?" Squindo said.

Paxton said the Board of Health "could give permission to occupy temporary housing, at least, as far as the housing code goes."

"I can't speak to the building codes purview over it, but the Board of Health could give them permission because it's a period of less than 90 days to occupy that," Paxton said.

"For any reason?" Squindo said.

"Yes," Paxton said.

On the 90 days consecutively question, Paxton said how it's "not substantially addressed in the housing code" and how "it's up to interpretation a bit."

"I would say that it's not intended for someone to stay somewhere for 89 days and then leave for a day and come back and restart that time period. Again, it's not addressed or very laid out in the housing

code. It's a very short section of the housing code that essentially says occupancy can be up to 90 days with Board of Health permission," Paxton said.

After Paxton noted other possible scenarios, Ducey said, "to me, I find this incredibly overbearing in large part."

"I do think there's some good reason for it, but in this case, to me, that's overbearing. If somebody's staying there to help out with some childcare or whatever the situation is for a few nights a week, that seems perfectly normal to me," Ducey said.

Paxton agreed and said he did not see a health issue nor witness any conditions he was concerned about in terms of the sanitary code.

On Squindo's question on state guidance, Kennedy said he would have to look into this further and learn more.

After further discussion, the board agreed to have Kennedy and Paxton use their best judgment on the situation and if there are further concerns, residents could also come to the Select Board too.

THE BEST FRESH
FOR FALL FUN!

Randall's Best Ever Scarecrow Contest



October 17th & 18th
\$3,000 In Cash Prizes

Every Entry Receives A Gift

**YOUTH & ADULT
FIVE WINNING CATEGORIES**

**Best Overall, Most Traditional,
Scariest, Most Creative & Funniest**

TWENTY CASH PRIZES PLUS TEN CHARITY MATCHES!

Bring Your Entry To The Greenhouse By End Of Day

~ SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17TH ~

October Fall Fun Weekends! In The Garden Center

Saturdays, Sundays & Columbus Day
11AM – 4PM



Scarecrow Workshops

Make Your Own Scarecrow

We Provide All The Materials

"Make It Here" Or Buy A Kit To Make At Home

Pumpkin Decorating Workshop

We Provide The Pumpkins & Decorations

"Make It Here" Or Buy A Kit To Make At Home



Free Family Fun!

**Chuck The Chicken • Mini Hay Maze
"Funny Bone" Game • Bean Bag Toss
Duck Racing & MORE!**

Beautiful HARDY MUMS In Fabulous Fall Colors

Pumpkins, Pumpkins, Specialty Pumpkins!



**GOURDS,
STRAW BALES,
CORN STALKS**

Witches. Ghosts. Spiders & Scarecrows!

FALL FLAVORS LOCAL MAC & CORTLAND APPLES



5 lb Tote Bags \$5.99



APPLE CIDER DONUTS
Fresh Sweet Cider
Fresh Baked Pumpkin Pies
Pumpkin Muffins • Pumpkin Beer

Elsie's Creamery

The Best Homemade Ice Cream

Open Window Service

Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays & Columbus Day

Last Day October 18th



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](#)

OLD POST ROAD ORCHESTRA

presents a free, family-friendly performance

REVOLUTIONS THROUGH MUSIC

Jean Sibelius • Pyotr Tchaikovsky • Sergei Prokofiev

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16
7:30 PM

First Congregational Church of Monson

5 High St, Monson, MA 01057

Alexandria Black
Conductor

www.opro.org | facebook.com/old-post-road-orchestra

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.

	H	A	R	D				S	A	M	P				
S	E	R	I	E	S			J	U	L	I	E	T		
P	R	O	B	L	E	M		P	E	R	I	N	E	A	
I	O	U		I	N	O	P	E	R	A	T	I	V	E	
V	I	S	E		E	N	A	T	E			B	E	L	
	C	A	R	L		O	R	E	M			D	U	D	
		L	O	O	T		A	R	I	S	E	S			
			D	R	Y	S		S	A	N	G				
		P	E	E	R	E	D		D	O	R	R			
	P	O	D			O	N	U	S		T	E	E	S	
E	R	R				S	A	M	A	S		E	L	E	A
D	E	C	A	P	I	T	A	T	E	D			I	N	N
A	S	I	N	I	N	E			E	E	R	I	E	S	T
M	E	N	A	C	E					S	A	L	V	E	S
	T	E	S	T							B	L	E	D	

■

COMMUNITY

Support group for grandparents raising grandchildren

WILBRAHAM - Rick's Place will offer a four-week support group this fall for grandparents who are raising grandchildren following the death of a parent or caregiver. The Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Impacted by a Death Support Group is designed to provide a supportive space for grandparents navigating the unique challenges that can arise when a family experiences the loss of a parent or caregiver. In addition to supporting a child or teen, grandparents may be coping with their own grief while adjusting to new responsibilities and changes within the family. The group will provide opportunities for grandparents to connect with others who understand their experience, share stories and resources, and build a supportive community. Sessions will include

coffee, conversation, and time for participants to learn from and support one another. The group will meet Mondays, Oct. 19, Oct. 26, Nov. 2, and Nov. 9, from 10:30 a.m. to Noon at Rick's Place, 35 Post Office Park, Wilbraham, MA. Participants are asked to commit to attending all four sessions. There is no cost to participate, but pre-registration is required by Oct. 13. To register or learn more, contact Rick's Place at 413-279-2010 or visit www.ricks-placema.org. Rick's Place provides free, peer-based grief support for children, teens, and families following the death of someone significant. Through connection, shared experiences, and opportunities to express grief, Rick's Place helps ensure that no child, teen, or family has to grieve alone.

Book launch and author talk with Suzanne Strempek Shea

HAMPDEN – The library will be hosting a book launch and author talk with Suzanne Strempek Shea on Saturday, Oct. 10 at 11:30 a.m. Join us to see Suzanne Strempek Shea talk about her new book, "Compositions: A Memoir in 42 Essays by 1 Kid on her 8 Years in Catholic School, Handed in 60 Years Late."

In this extraordinary memoir, Suzanne writes about her early years in a close-knit 60's and 70's Polish-American community of Three Rivers and Palmer, MA. Books will be available for purchase. Polish-themed refreshments will also be provided by the Friends of the Hampden Free Public Library. There will also be a non-perishable food drive taking place before, during and after the talk where donations will be collected in whichever community the author is in at the time and will support a food pantry.

WFOL Clothing and Household Textile Drive to benefit all

WILBRAHAM - Wilbraham Friends of the Library (WFOL), a non-profit committed to raising funds for the Wilbraham Public Library, is holding a clothing and textile drive on Saturday, Oct. 17 from 8 a.m. to Noon. During back-to-school season, remember the WFOL as you sort through your kids closets and drawers. And don't stop there... clean out that linen closet and the old dresser in the guest room. Bag up all the extra clothing and textiles that are just clogging up your home. Clothing, shoes, purses, sheets & blankets, curtains - give them a new lease on life! The Friends will receive a per pound payment for these items which will go directly to the library for programs, museum passes, equipment, and other needed items. The donated items will be given a second life with new owners - at an affordable price - instead of adding to the already overwhelming landfill situation. Join us with your clothing drive donations on Oct. 17, learn more about the Friends, and receive a coupon for a free book at our Annual Book Sale which is scheduled to take place in May 2027. For more information on the Wilbraham Friends of the Library visit them on the web at <http://wilbrahamlibrary.org/friends.asp>, on Facebook or via email at wfol.info@gmail.com.

GYPSY from page 1

canon as the quintessential, archetypal "Stage Mother." The musical features songs that have become standards of the musical theatre canon, including "Some People," "Let Me Entertain You," "Rose's Turn," and the show-stopping "Everything's Coming Up Roses." Gypsy is famous for helping launch lyricist Stephen Sondheim's career, and features a book by Arthur Laurents that is widely considered to be one of the classic examples of a traditional "book musical." At the heart of the musical is the gregarious Rose, whose journey made critic Frank Rich call Gypsy, "Broadway's own brassy, unlikely answer to King Lear." Show dates are Oct. 16, 17, 18, 23, 24 and 25 at the Hampden Town Hall. Showtimes are Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday Matinees at 2 p.m. To purchase your tickets, visit theatreguildofhampden.org. Heath Verrill is playing Herbie, the love interest of Rose, crediting his fellow cast members in "The Wisdom of Eve" for encouraging him to audition for "Gypsy." "They said, 'Oh, you would be so good in this! You should audition for it,' and I said, 'Okay, all right.' I didn't know anything about it, but I auditioned for it and I was lucky enough to get it," Verrill said. "And I always love working with Mark, so any time the Theatre Guild does something I'm like, 'Okay, I want to get in on that.'" Besides praising Director Mark Giza, Verrill also praised the music director, choreographer and the cast. "I think the big thing is the musical talent in this show," Verrill said. "These are singers that are out there. Anna and Austin and the lady who plays Louise, they just have phenomenal voices. It's a little intimidating but also inspiring." Verrill enjoys his character's arc too. "He starts out as this really nice guy who just does anything for Rose because he's in love with her and she says she's going to marry him and every time she's about to marry him, something else comes up. So, she's stringing him along just to be her agent," Verrill said. "So, it's a lot of fun. Doing these intimate scenes with each other and interacting with her kids who she's kind of using him to book shows and then by the end, the nice guy—he's fed up and had enough and he walks out. So, it's this wonderful arc of kind of happy-go-lucky nice guy to just bitter and angry and defeated at the world and just says, 'Nope, this is not going to happen.' So, it's nice to play that range. So you get to be a good guy, a little bit of a bad guy and everything in-between." Aubrey Vargas plays Louise/Gypsy Rose Lee, sharing that this is her first time working with the Theatre Guild of Hampden. She previously did other productions with the Opera House Players in Enfield and Exit 7 in Ludlow. This was also her first time doing a production in a couple of years. "A good friend of mine was already in the cast and he



Turley photo by Kristin Rivers
From the left, Heath Verrill as Herbie, Anna Giza as Mama Rose and Aubrey Vargas as Louise/Gypsy Rose Lee during rehearsal on Sept. 28.

reached out to me and that's how I got involved. It was really nice to have somebody that you already know, especially going into a new theatre company. It's nice to kind of have a little lifeline in there," Vargas said. Vargas added she's always been interested in theatre, having done it since she was 9 years old. "I'm from a very theatrical family, whether it was enjoying the musicals or was performing in them. My sister and I were always like those show kids, which was kind of funny coming into 'Gypsy' because Rose and her two daughters, Rose is like this show mother and then her two daughters, Louise and June, are the pride and joy of her life but she wants them to be performers so bad," Vargas said. "So, it's cool coming from a two-daughter performer household and stepping into the show as kind of being in the same realm." Her advice for anyone who took a break from theatre and would like to return was this. "It's never too late and it doesn't matter whether you've taken off a few months or maybe it's been 10 years, maybe it's been 20 years, maybe you just came off a show. It's never too late to do something that you really want to do and it'll come back to you like riding a bike," Vargas said. Anna Giza plays Mama Rose, a role she explained was an opportunity to step out of her comfort zone. "Mama is a very determined woman who really wanted to be in show business herself, but she was born too soon and started too late, as they say, in the show. So, she pushes first her youngest daughter, June, and when June is no longer there, she ends up pushing her other daughter, Louise, into show business," Giza said. Giza emphasized the opportunity local and community theater can give people to attend a show. "So many people don't have an opportunity to go to Broadway or it's too costly for people to go to a lot of professional theater, so this gives them a chance to see musicals and other productions at a much more reasonable price," Giza said. "And there are very talented people in this area, so the shows are good." She's also enjoyed working with the cast, especially because of the variety of ages. "There are a lot of young people in the production, so that's always fun and just getting their perspective on things. In this show, in particular, we got very young children in it too. So, just watching their talent develop is fantastic," Giza said. Also, emphasized there's a role for everyone. "There's something for you to do. Maybe you start off in the chorus, a small part, and then you realize, 'Hey, maybe I can do this' and you start moving on to other things. Or if being on stage is really not your thing, there's plenty of availability for help backstage and just selling tickets. Anything," Giza said. "It's a nice way to get out, meet people and just have a good time." Mark Giza explained this is the third time he's directed "Gypsy," having done it 16 years ago and it, also, was the very first show that he directed when he was 23 years old. This cast has 30 people and ranges in age from eight years old to people in their 70s. Also, features a six-piece orchestra with trumpets, trombones, violins, drums and

more. "I love the show. It's probably my favorite musical of all time. It's a really good story, it's fantastic music that everybody knows. People who have heard these songs over the years many times you don't know where that's song from: 'Oh, this is from Gypsy.' It's great characters and it's a lot about relationships. There's a strong thing about mothers and daughters and maybe favoring one over the other and then realize that the one you're not favoring is the one that cares about you the most," Giza said. "It's funny, it's very dramatic in the second act. I think you'll be surprised if you've never seen Gypsy on stage. My leads, they're brilliant, they're really really smart, we work well together and have a good time." Giza shared his longtime connection to the show began back when he was 14 years old with the Storowton Music Theater in West Springfield. "National tours of shows with huge stars would start there and then maybe move to Broadway or go on a national tour, and I saw Angela Lansbury play Mama Rose in 'Gypsy' when I was 14. I remember just being blown away by the performance. It was just so incredible," Giza said. Giza encourages the community to come out and enjoy the show. "Come and support it. It's a good night to just go sit and laugh and cry a little bit and just enjoy great music and really great actors," Giza said.

TROMBLEY

WEALTH MANAGEMENT

NOW AT

2022 Boston Rd.
Wilbraham, MA

Helping clients live their best financial life since 1965

Accomplished, Friendly and Professional

Minimum required

trombleywealth.com

413-596-6992

Securities offered through LPL Financial. Member FINRA/SIPC. Advisory services offered through Trombley Wealth Management, a registered investment advisor and separate entity from LPL Financial.

TOP DOLLAR PAID
CARS, TRUCKS & SUVs

GOOD OR JUNK

“WE COME WITH THE CASH”

Nate (413) 636-2929

D AND M AUTO

1422 Park St.

Palmer, MA 01069

FOR SALE

1458 N MAIN ST
PALMER, MA 01069

\$315,000

PRIME COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITY
EXCELLENT VISIBILITY ON N MAIN STREET

1,568 Sq. Ft.
Above Grade

Unfinished Basement
(Additional Storage / Potential)

2 Bathroom
Fully Remodeled

On-Site Parking

VCI Zoning
Commercial Use

New Laminate
Flooring

Sold As-Is

0.11 Acres
Lot Size

PRIME COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITY
EXCELLENT VISIBILITY ON N MAIN STREET

Ideal for an owner-occupier, investor, or business looking to establish a presence in a convenient Palmer location.

PARAS DOSHI

REAL ESTATE SALESPERSON
MA#9588212

347-572-1711

413-536-7232

paras@lionsheadre.com

LION'S HEAD CAPITAL GROUP, LLC

REAL ESTATE & DEVELOPMENT

1267 Northampton Street, Suite 2
Holyoke, MA 01040



- Tree Removal
- Structural Pruning
- Crane Service
- Storm Damage
- Stump Grinding
- Lot Clearing

Give us a call today
for your free estimate and
tree evaluation by
a ISA certified arborist

DL&G TREE

413-478-4212
dlandgtree.com



INSURED AND CERTIFIED

VIEWPOINTS

SOCIAL SECURITY
Matters
By Russell Gloor

When will Congress repay social security money taken years ago?

Dear Rusty:
I seem to remember that Congress borrowed a total of 4 trillion dollars from SS back in the 1980s and 1990s. When will this be repaid with interest?
Signed: Concerned Senior

Dear Concerned Senior:
I'm afraid your recollection is not correct – no politicians (Congress or Presidents) have ever taken money from the Social Security Trust Funds – not in the 1980s, nor 1990s, not ever.

Congress and Presidents are prevented by law from using Social Security money for any purpose other than paying SS benefits to beneficiaries and for paying the operating costs of administering the program.

Some significant changes to the Social Security program were, indeed, made in the years you mention, but those changes essentially saved Social Security from defaulting on monthly SS payment obligations.

In 1983, Congress and President Reagan enacted some income tax on received SS benefits for those with higher incomes and which added to Social Security's revenue, thus avoiding a benefit cut.

Then in 1993, Congress and President Clinton expanded that legislation to increase the taxation of received Social Security benefits to provide additional SS revenue.

What you may be remembering is the political rhetoric from those days, which opined that Congress had stolen, squandered or borrowed (and should repay) Social Security money used for other purposes.

And that rhetoric originated because of the way received SS revenue from payroll FICA tax is invested.

Social Security revenue, when received, is immediately invested in special-issue government bonds, which pay interest (just like normal government "T-bills").

The difference is that these SS bonds are redeemable, with interest, upon demand and as needed by SSA to pay monthly benefits. This means that SS gets additional interest income from these investments accounting for about \$69 billion in extra SS income in 2025.

Some folks, however, feel that because the U.S. Treasury gets the actual cash received for those SS investments, that the money is used by the Treasury for other purposes. Which is, of course, true – just as the government uses all income received from all revenue sources to pay for government programs.

So, rather than viewing those SS bonds as investments, some view them as "money borrowed" and sometimes call the bonds "worthless IOUs." This,

of course, is not at all the case, because every dollar invested in those special issue government bonds has been (and still is) used only for valid Social Security purposes and results in extra SS revenue from interest.

Nevertheless, those accusations were prevalent in the 1980s and 1990s when the changes to tax SS benefits were enacted. Indeed, we still regularly hear and refute similar rhetoric these days in our capacity as Social Security Advisors.

We've written many articles on this topic, all of which are available at the AMAC Foundation's two main websites at www.amacfoundation.org, and www.SocialSecurityReport.org.

To answer your specific question "when will this (money) be repaid with interest?" The answer is - there is nothing to repay. All monies ever received for Social Security purposes have been invested in special interest-bearing government bonds, which are redeemed (with interest paid) weekly as needed to pay Social Security benefits to those who have earned and are entitled to them.

These bonds are secured by the "full faith and credit of the U.S. government," a financial designation which is globally considered to be "exceptionally low risk."

FYI, the SS Trust Fund reserves held about \$2.5 trillion in investments as of the end of 2025, down from about \$2.9 trillion in 2020. The Trust Fund total is now being regularly depleted because incoming SS revenue has not been sufficient to pay 100% of SS benefit obligations since 2021, so Trust Fund reserves are now being used to pay full benefits.

And therein lies the crux of the Social Security solvency issue, which is why the program so urgently needs Congressional reform before the SS reserves in the Trust Funds run dry in 2032, after which everyone would see a cut in their monthly SS benefits. Congress must enact SS reform now.

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

Garden scurrying

The forecast of a September nor'easter certainly had everyone scurrying about.

Instead of running to the grocery store for necessities, I headed straight to the garden to tidy up a few things. With visions of air-borne pots, soggy containers of compost and ruined produce dancing in my head I got right to work.

First to check off my list was digging up the potatoes. The stems had died down on two of my three rows over two weeks ago and I didn't want the spuds sitting in impending mud when they could be curing somewhere safe and sound.

Speaking of curing, it is important to be intentional with this step, so that your potatoes will be edible well into the winter months. Curing potatoes properly will help to prevent rot, premature sprouting, and toxic greening of the skin and flesh.

By waiting a week or more after the plant has died before digging up the tubers, the skins will thicken and be less prone to injury during harvest. Once they are dug, a week spent in a cool and totally dark space will further firm their skin and change sugars to starch, completing the ripening process.

Never wash potatoes prior to storage! Gently brush off dirt and store in a single layer in the darkness at 55-60 degrees.

Darkness will prevent greening, which renders potatoes inedible. Use any pitch-

forked or shovel- marked spuds first, as damage to the skin will invite rot.

Once the potatoes were out of the ground, I applied a two-three inch layer of composted manure and lime to the plot, then worked it in to the soil.

I won't be planting potatoes there next year other wise I would have stayed away from both amendments.

After that, I got to task number two, planting a cover crop in the empty ground. I figured with rain coming over the course of three days it would be off to a great start. In the big garden, where I can use my tiller, I sow winter rye.

It will start growing now, hold the soil in place over the winter, then, as spring ensues, it will grow tall and go to seed. Typically you mow it down or incorporate it into the soil before it gets too big.

Winter rye adds so much organic matter to the garden. Be sure to give the grass time to break down before planting into it; chopping it up/in about three weeks to a month before planting is a good plan.

Another thing that occurred to me while I was sowing the rye was seed saving. I purposely left what was left of my first sowing of green beans to go to seed.



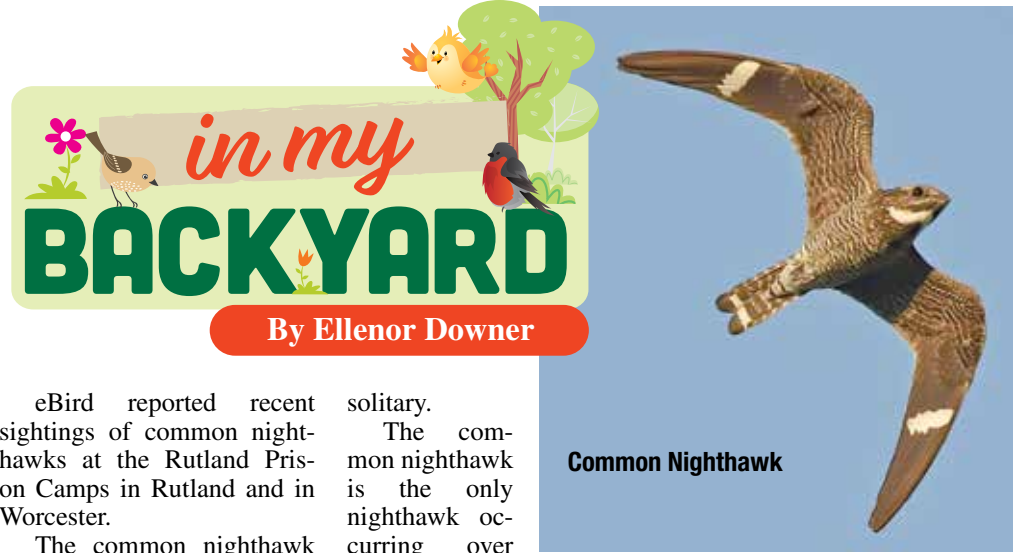
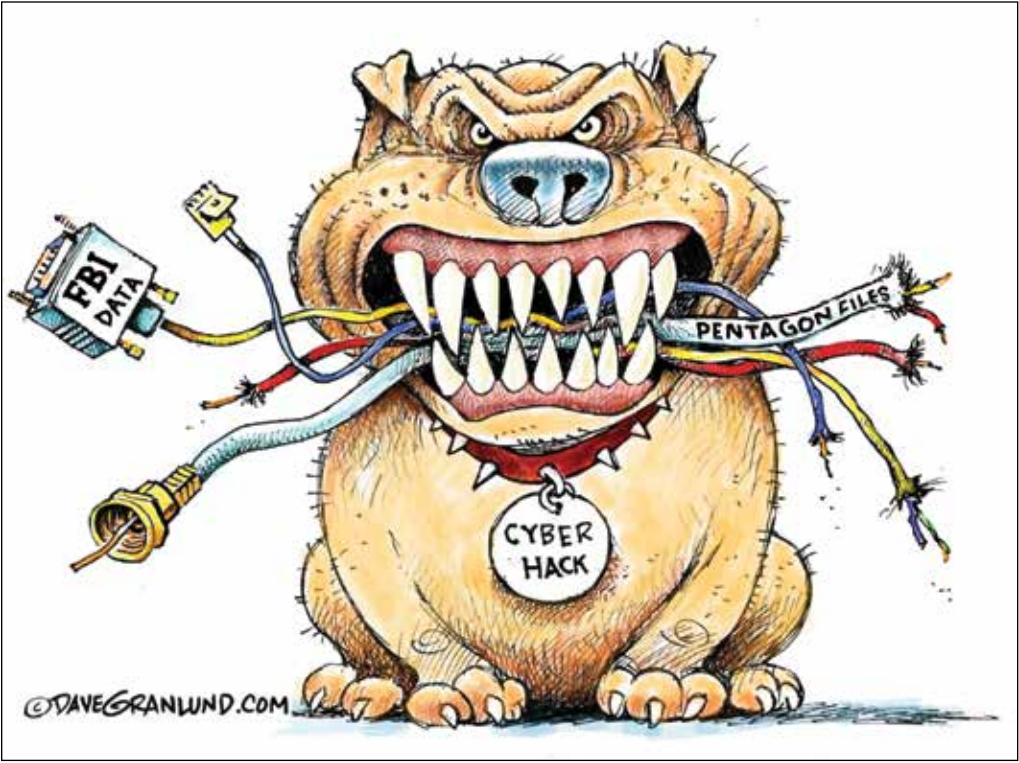
I harvested all of the dried pods and will shuck them later, once I am sure that they are fully dry.

Finally, a bit of housekeeping to finish out my scurrying around. I collected my black plastic mulch, row covers and insects netting. I will hose off the black plastic, cinch up holes in the netting, and assess what I can salvage of my aging row covers .

I've smartened up and finally labeled what I use for what crop. For example, my number of cantaloupe/watermelon hills will likely remain the same, so reusing the same plastic mulch in that spot next year is a good plan.

With the storm behind us now, I can go back to a less frantic approach to garden clean up. Enjoy the fall foliage as you embark on your own work.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 34 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.



Common Nighthawk

eBird reported recent sightings of common nighthawks at the Rutland Prison Camps in Rutland and in Worcester.

The common nighthawk is a medium sized (8.7 to 9.8 inches long) nocturnal bird of the nightjar family found in both the Americas. It is typically dark colored: gray, black or brown with intricate patterns providing camouflage and making them difficult to spot during daytime.

They are mostly observed in flight. The slender body, long wings (wing span 20 to 24 inches) and white wing patches on the wings make them easy to identify. Although they have a small beak, there mouth is large. They have noticeable barring on their sides and abdomen and short legs.

Its life span is about four to five years. The males of this species may roost together, but the bird is primarily

solitary.

The common nighthawk is the only nighthawk occurring over the majority of northern North America. During migration common nighthawks may travel 1,600 to 4,200 miles, one of North America's longer migrations.

They migrate by day or night in loose flocks, frequently numbering in the thousands. An aerial insectivore, the migrants will feed en route and congregate in marshes, rivers and lake-shores.

The best time to see them during migration is in late afternoon into the evening.

During flight, their vocalization is a nasal "peent" or "beernt." Peak vocalizations are reported 30 to 45 minutes after sunset. The male makes a croaking "auk auk auk"

in the presence of a female during courtship.

Night time feeding is rare. The most common insects in their diets are butterflies and moths. They actively avoid eating flies.

Artificial light sources such as parking lots attracts them in an effort to forage for insects enticed by the light. They even fly extremely low over the surface of water to drink.

Nighthawks preferred breeding and nesting habitat is forested regions with rocky outcrops, clearings, burned areas or spots with small patches of sand gravel.

Please see **BACKYARD**, page 9

The Wilbraham-Hampden

TIMES

We Want to Hear From You

EDITOR
Kristin Rivers
krivers@turley.com

ADVERTISING SALES
Jordan Conrad
jconrad@turley.com

SPORTS EDITOR
Greg Scibelli
sports@turley.com

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

WEB

wilbrahamhampden
times.turley.com

PHONE

(413) 283-8393

ADDRESS

24 Water Street
Palmer, MA 01069

Turley Publications, Inc.

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 krivers@turley.com. The deadline for submissions is Thursday 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 800-824-8458 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.

Election letters to the editor welcome

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

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

Campaign news
As part of its election coverage, the newspaper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers.
Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in Wilbraham-Hampden Times.



Life in &

Readers are encouraged to send in medium to high resolution photos for this page by e-mail to krivers@turley.com or mail to TIMES, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

WILBRAHAM HAMPDEN

Wilbraham Women's Club Summer Fun



Submitted photos and caption Susan Rigney

Christina's House is a transitional education program with a mission to educate, embrace, and encourage women and their children who are homeless or near homeless through the love of Jesus Christ. Our vision is to provide our program participants with life skills and education so they can become self-sufficient as they transition from homelessness to permanent and stable living environments.

Wilbraham Women's Club actively during the year collects clothing and needed supplies for this wonderful organization. At the end of the year we give a donation so that the mothers and their children can spend a day at Quassy Amusement and Water Park. Quassy Amusement Park on Lake Quassapaug is one of the best amusement parks and waterparks in CT. With activities for everyone, the thrills never end.



Submitted photos and caption Cheryl Spinks

Rep. Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr. presents citation to Scented Garden recognizing owner Sandy Polom's 7th Anniversary



Representative Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr. recently stopped by The Scented Garden Gift Shoppe to congratulate Owner Sandy Polom on her 7th Anniversary and presented her with an official citation from the Massachusetts House of Representatives to mark the special occasion. Representative Puppolo is a long-time supporter of small, local businesses and often recognizes them and their contributions to the communities they serve.



Pictured are Rep. Puppolo and Sandy Polom.

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 krivers@turley.com

Pumpkin Painting

at the Hampden Senior Center



Submitted photos and caption Tina Doran

Free Pumpkin Painting with Louise took place at the Hampden Senior Center on Oct. 2 from 10 a.m. to Noon. It was sponsored by Bilton's Mountainside Orchard. A Free Paper Pumpkin Craft with Sandy took place on Tuesday, Oct. 6 from 10 a.m. to Noon as well.



THIS PAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU AS A COMMUNITY SERVICE BY:

Find a Home You'll Fall For!

Heidi Pafumi

Realtor®

Heidip413@gmail.com

Licensed MA & CT

TEAM 413

OF COLDWELL BANKER REALTY

(413)

687-4339

COLDWELL BANKER

136 Dwight Road

Longmeadow, MA

HOMECOMING
from page 1

got to enjoy this party and let's not forget the girls who took care of us to do this. Once again, Kim, Doris, Josie and Alyssa," Scanlon said. "And then we have to thank the girls and boys from Minnechaug, they're adorable, and all the staff that work here."

Lily Celetti, one of the cheerleaders, and Drew Lang, a member of the football team, were excited to come by for the celebration.

Lang was honored to crown Scanlon as Homecoming Queen when the team and cheerleaders arrived.

"That made me super happy to be here and see all the excitement on these people's faces," Lang said.

Celetti shared that this was her second time taking part in the homecoming event.

"I did this here last year and I was super thrilled and excited to see the impact I could make on the individuals' here, and so I was really glad that I got the opportunity to come back here this year and do it again," Celetti said.

Celetti and Lang also enjoyed making the residents' day during their visit.

"Seeing the people's faces and how the light we kind of shine on them and them getting an insight back on what the football and cheerleaders are doing today," Celetti said.

"Like Lily said, I really like making people smile and see them happy. That makes my day and it's a good thing to do," Lang said.

The teens also emphasized the opportunity to get out into the community and connect with the residents in Wilbraham.

"I think it really shows that we really still do care about the sport and other people and individuals in the community and that we still want to raise probably—not even awareness—but just an insight on what cheer and football are like," Celetti said.

"It definitely shows that we do care and that our programs aren't really just building athletes. It's building people that can genuinely help our community in the future," Lang said.

Kim Russo, activities director at Hampden Post Acute, explained special events like this happen throughout the year, with more to come.

"They just like to give the residents the best experience that they can have in senior living and the residents are always happy to come to our

parties here," Russo said.

Russo said she was happy to see the residents come out for the Senior Homecoming and shared how the Minnechaug kids were brought in.

"That was a little correlation between myself and Jasmine, our HR director. We have students that come in and do like—we call them interns but they're not really interns—but they're high school students that come in from Minnechaug and they help out around the building in various departments," Russo said. "Like some of them will come in and help us out in activities with little things. Some of them will just visit with the residents. It's a great program that Minnechaug offers and Jasmine and myself have both reached out to the athletic director to see if we could get some football players and cheerleaders because that was the direction this needed to go."

For Russo, she enjoyed the smiles at the event, later adding that working with the residents fulfills her most.

"Everything. I just love seeing the residents happy and seeing them smile. I've been an activities director for quite a few years now and that's why I do what I do, because their world is small compared to ours. So, we try to bring in as many fun events and memorable moments to them as we can," Russo said.

Her message to Garczynski and Scanlon was this.

"Stay sassy. They're both really good, really with it residents. Elizabeth spends a lot of time with us, in particular. We were always getting her into our little shenanigans," Russo said. "Robert's a little more of a kind of a mellow-er personality, but he loves to help us. He organized our whole library for us in the activities room and sometimes he'll come down and help us



The Minnechaug Regional High School football players and cheerleaders pose for a group photo as they get ready to make their entrance for the Senior Homecoming event.



Kathleen and George Murphy were among the attendees.



The Minnechaug Regional High School cheerleaders conduct their cheer.



The staff serve the refreshments.



The musical entertainment brought in a lively atmosphere for the attendees.



Turley photos by Kristin Rivers
The Hampden Post Acute team in a group photo with some fall festive-themed colors and trees.

ROZELL'S
LANDSCAPING
& Bobcat Service
"COMPANION SERVICE" CUTTING
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

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

RICHARD R. GREEN
Insurance Agency, Inc.

www.richardgreeninsurance.com
Fax: 413-267-3496
Email: richardgreenins@gmail.com

- 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 • 267-3495

32 Somers Rd., Hampden • 566-0028

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

Emergency Service Available
(413) 374-1322

566-2916



A progression of colorful dots on the pumpkin.

PUMPKINS from page 1

The Halloween Party will have pizza, a costume contest, Halloween games, candy, music and more. The costume categories are Most Original, Funniest, Best Homemade, Scariest and Judge’s Choice. For more upcoming events, check out hampden-library.org/events and may this photospread inspire you to get creative and paint your own pumpkins this fall season.



Turley photos by Kristin Rivers
The completed pumpkin painted as a strawberry.



To create the perfect pumpkin painted as a strawberry, it requires all the colors.

Monson Savings Bank expands commitment to fighting hunger

MONSON – Monson Savings Bank is proud to announce its Together for Food Security Campaign, a month-long initiative taking place throughout October 2026 to support local organizations working to address food insecurity and bring greater awareness to hunger-related needs in the communities the Bank serves. Food insecurity continues to affect individuals and families throughout the region, and local organizations play an important role in connecting neighbors with food and essential resources. Throughout October, Monson Savings Bank will build upon its ongoing food security efforts through charitable giving, community food drives, employee volunteerism and partnerships with organizations working every day to serve those in need. “At Monson Savings Bank, we believe strong communities are built when neighbors support one another,” said Dan Moriarty, President and CEO of Monson Savings Bank. “Food

insecurity impacts people of all ages and backgrounds, and through our Together for Food Security Campaign, we are committed to working alongside our community partners to help ensure individuals and families have access to the resources they need.” The campaign’s objective is to increase support for organizations serving individuals and families experiencing food insecurity while raising awareness of hunger-related challenges throughout Western Massachusetts. **Community Food Drive** Throughout October, all Monson Savings Bank locations will serve as collection sites for food donations benefiting local organizations. Community members can join the effort by donating nonperishable food items at any Monson Savings Bank branch throughout October. In addition to collecting food donations, Monson Savings Bank will contribute \$1,000 to each food drive part-

ner organization to support food-related needs.

- Monson Branch: Monson Community Cupboard
- Wilbraham Branch: Wilbraham Public Library Community Food Pantry
- Hampden Branch: Springfield Open Pantry through the Mayflower Marathon
- Ware Branch: Ware Jubilee Food Cupboard at Trinity Episcopal Church
- East Longmeadow Branch: East Longmeadow Food Pantry

 Monson Savings Bank employees will also participate in an internal food collection at the Loan & Operations Center benefiting Educare Springfield’s Gratis Table. **Community Investments** Building on the Bank’s longstanding support of organizations addressing hunger, Monson Savings Bank is expanding its contributions. In addition to the \$1,000 donations to each of the six

Please see **HUNGER**, page 13

LETTERS from page 1

Bruno said Driscoll “further observed” the operator had rearranged items in the backseat of the vehicle and restarted the driver’s seat. “With a heightened sense of awareness, you asked the operator to remove his hands from his jacket pockets, to which he refused. He then removed one hand and an additional full container of alcohol that he had concealed inside his jacket was recovered,” Bruno said. “The operator again refused to remove his other hand and you were able to physically detain him, removing his hand from his jacket. At that time, you then located a fully-loaded cocked revolver concealed in the suspect’s waistband, which he had been securing with his concealed hand.” He added that after Driscoll discovered the firearm, he placed the operator under arrest for multiple vehicle infractions “to include operating under the influence of alcohol, negligent operation of a vehicle, unlicensed possession of a firearm, ammunition and being a minor in possession of alcohol.” “It was further discovered that the suspect had open cases pending and previous dangerous weapons charges. The suspect was transported for booking, citations issued, a criminal arrest completed and the suspect was held until arraignment in the Palmer Court on the following day,” Bruno said. “Ofc. Seega and Driscoll, this incident presented a significant risk to yourselves and the public and I take great pride in commending you on your diligence, awareness and efforts that you took to peacefully contain the situation while detaining a known dangerous individual. The inherent

danger presented cannot be overstated and the actions you took protected this community, the suspect and yourselves. Please accept this commendation on behalf of a grateful department and a copy of this will be placed in your personnel files.” Bruno said the suspect is currently facing the charges from Hampden and multiple other charges and cases out of Springfield currently for other dangerous weapons charges. “So, our incident was in March and, of course, once released, he then continued on his path. So, we’re awaiting the results of that and hopeful we get a conviction on some of the charges,” Bruno said. When Selectboard Chair John Flynn asked if the driver was a local, Bruno replied no and that he was from a neighboring town. Flynn then praised Driscoll and Seega. “This is no surprise to the board because we have a force that does this 100% of the time. It’s what we expect and we’re grateful that it happens. Tarwin, I know it would come from you, but a reserve guy, Ofc. Driscoll, thank you so much,” Flynn said. “That’s why when the chief brings people like that in front of the board, we look at the resume and we see this is somebody we want in Hampden. So, thank you very much. Again, Tarwin, we expect and know that’s going to happen with you every time. But, you worked as a team on it and that’s the key right there. You, in danger, you knew you had a guy to back you up right there.” Seega agreed. “That is the great thing about this town is that we have support from the town and I work with officers that are highly trained and capa-

ble of handling these types of situations,” Seega said. “I’m very appreciative of everybody that I work with and they’re all amazing and the town’s support, I appreciate it.” Bruno also emphasized the efforts of the town’s reserve officers. “Chris is a reserve officer here, but he’s a fully-certified officer who has a lot of hours in, a lot of experience and it just shows that our reserves are also up to speed and up to the task. So, we appreciate it,” Bruno said. Auclair’s honor came from his assistance on a call in May to a fire, with Monson Police Chief Nick Gasperini having also sent him a letter of commendation. “So, this happened on

May 19, 2026. Ofc. Auclair assisted at the scene of a structure fire in Monson, which was just over the town line. In fact, I think the reports came in that it was in Hampden, and when he got to the scene—one of the first on scene—they realized this was a house just over the town line. So, it was going to be a mutual aid thing, but at first, the 911 call said it was in Hampden,” Bruno said. Bruno explained the structure fire was at a multi-family home and Auclair had provided assistance “to a seriously burned occupant and carried him to safety while rendering medical aid.” “As you assisted this subject and the Monson police and fire departments, another resident who was emotionally

distressed began to interfere with officers, creating a further risk to himself and others. You conducted yourself with composure and assisted in securing the individual while maintaining scene safety,” Bruno said. “Upon my arrival to the scene, which involved personnel of multiple jurisdictions, I observed firsthand the challenging conditions, the location, communications issues—because nobody’s radios or cell phones worked in this particular spot, it was in the shadow—it was evident to myself and others on scene that you remained professional, calm and contributed to the overall success of the operation.” He added, based upon Auclair’s actions and his own observations at the scene,

Chief Gasperini of the Monson Police Department forwarded me a letter of thanks to you and this department for your actions that evening.” “In part, this reads, ‘Ofc. Auclair conducted himself with exceptional composure and professionalism under very challenging circumstances.’ I echo these sentiments and your conduct reflects highly upon this agency and community. It is with gratitude and respect that I commend you for your actions that evening and, again, this will be placed in your personnel file,” Bruno said. Bruno then shook the hands of his officers as the Selectboard also thanked them.

BACKYARD from page 6

The female lays six to seven eggs on a bare rock, gravel or even in lichens. Both male and female feed the young are by regurgitation usually before sunrise and after sunset. The male also feeds the female during nesting. **Sandhill crane** After writing about sandhill cranes, in the most recent bird column, I saw a sandhill crane in a field in Hardwick near the New Braintree line by the Ware River. On my return, I saw a crane in a different location of the same field. I was not sure it was the same one or a different one.

Flocking Canada geese In my travels, I saw several flocks of Canada geese. There was a small flock in New Braintree and a larger flock in a harvested corn field in Spencer. The large flock were migrating south for the winter. I’m not sure if the smaller group summered here or not. **Wild turkeys** Wild turkeys are a familiar sight. This week I saw a hen turkey with her slightly smaller poults on a lawn in Barre. Last week I saw a small flock of Tom turkeys. People may report a bird sighting by emailing edowner@turley.com or calling or texting 774-262-5882.



Wilbraham Dental Associates, LLC



LUDLOW & WILBRAHAM
EYE ASSOCIATES
DR. KASIA BABINSKI

Our
Offices
Are

MOVING
to a New Location

Brand
New
Space,
Same
Great
Service

JUST DOWN
THE ROAD!

2632 Boston Road
Wilbraham, MA 01095

COMING THIS FALL!



Contact information
remains the same

WILBRAHAM DENTAL ASSOC.
Phone: 413-279-2016
Email: info@wilbrahamdentalassociates.com
Website: www.wilbrahamdentalassociates.com

LUDLOW & WILBRAHAM EYE ASSOC.
Dr. Kasia Babinski
Phone: 413-583-3600
Email: info@ludloweyeassociates.com
Website: www.ludlowandwilbrahameye.com

Financed by



Rotary Club joins in Global Grant...



The Wilbraham-Hampden Rotary club joined with 26 other clubs for a check presentation to aid a village in Guatemala with a water, sanitation and hygiene project at a recent meeting. (photo submitted)

Rotary Club reaches out to Guatemala

WILBRAHAM/HAMPDEN - The Wilbraham-Hampden Rotary Club has reached out to a village in Guatemala with its collaboration with other clubs in District 7890 to bring aid to needy people in Central America.

The club has joined with 26 other district clubs in Massachusetts and Connecticut that will bring fresh drinking water, sanitation facilities and hygiene training to a needy Mayan community in Guatemala.

temala. Including matching funds from The Rotary Foundation and those contributed to ALDEA, the Cooperating Partner NGO, a total of \$204,605 was raised. Adding this amount to the funds raised during the previous 19 years brings the total to \$2,257,791.

These funds will pay for the materials needed to complete a gravity fed water system with gray water filters, vented pit latrines, improved fuel-efficient vented stoves for the 120 families (1,499 people) who live in the rural community of El Rosario, Guatemala. All labor will

be provided by the men and women in the village. This project continues the goal of Rotary International to have every Rotary Club support an international water and sanitation project every year.

Ann Marie Ottoson, president of the Wilbraham-Hampden Rotary Club said in a statement, "By working together, pooling their resources, and obtaining Global Grants with matching funds from The Rotary Foundation, our local club has been successful in helping the local Guatemala village with the El Rosario Hygiene Project in Tecpan, Guatemala.

In Guatemala over 50 percent of children suffer from chronic malnutrition. "This Rotary Global Grant project will help address some of the basic causes of poor health and will help the villagers address basic sanitation – water systems, gray-water filters and latrines – to help prevent the constant illnesses that afflict the population, particularly children," commented Ottoson.

For more information about the Wilbraham-Hampden Rotary Club call Brad Sperry at 413-537-4171.



Pope Francis Preparatory School students earn Military Scholarships

SPRINGFIELD — Pope Francis Preparatory School 2026 graduates Aidan O'Neill of Monson and Joseph Slattery of Hampden have each earned highly competitive four-year military scholarships, recognizing their exceptional leadership, academic achievement, athletic excellence, and commitment to service.

Together, the two students have earned scholarship awards valued at nearly half a million dollars and have committed to serving their country for a minimum of four to six years following college graduation.

O'Neill was awarded both a Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) Marine Option Scholarship and a Call to Duty Scholarship. Slattery received an Air Force ROTC High School Scholarship Program (AFROTC HSSP) Scholarship and the Patriot Scholarship.

These scholarships are among the most competitive military scholarship programs in the nation. Fewer than 500 scholarships are awarded annually nationwide for both the Marine Corps and Air Force ROTC programs. Applicants compete against outstanding students from high schools across the country, as well

as eligible active-duty service members.

O'Neill was one of only 94 applicants selected for a Marine Option NROTC scholarship in the Eastern Region, which encompasses 14 states from Maine to West Virginia. The Air Force ROTC High School Scholarship Program maintains an approximate selection rate of just 5 percent.

Friends since seventh grade, O'Neill and Slattery have demonstrated a longstanding commitment to leadership and service. Both achieved officer leadership rank as Second Lieutenants in the Civil Air Patrol, U.S. Air Force Auxiliary, serving with the Connecticut Wing's 103rd Composite Squadron.

The two students also represented Pope Francis Preparatory School at the 2025 American Legion Boys State Leadership Program held at Stonehill College, where both participated in leadership and citizenship training seminar for high school juniors.

Beyond their military and leadership accomplishments, O'Neill and Slattery have been active participants in varsity athletics, including soccer, cross country, alpine skiing, and track

Please see **SCHOLARSHIPS**, page 13

Who Goes There reveal Oct. 16

WILBRAHAM - Join the Friends of Wilbraham Seniors on Friday, Oct. 16 for the "Who Goes There" Premiere Reveal, a paranormal fundraiser unveiling three area investigations of paranormal activity uncovered by presenter Rob Goff Sr.,

Director and Founder of Agawam Paranormal and his team along with our three raffle winners from our May 1 fundraiser.

This event will be held at the Wilbraham Senior Center, 250 Springfield St., Wilbraham; presentation from 6:30 to 8:30; VIP seating \$15 pp and General Admission \$5 pp. (VIP seating will include early admission; a private group session with the paranormal team; hands on experience with paranormal equipment and reserved seating at the 'Reveal')

As an added attraction, A RAFFLE availing one winner and a guest from the VIP and General Admission group, an opportunity to participate in a final investigation at the Old Meeting House, Main Street, Wilbraham.

Local author Dave Bourcier will be selling and signing his latest book, "Wilbraham...A Journey Through History."

For more details, visit the Friends of Wilbraham Seniors website friendsofwilbraham-seniors.org or stop by the Wilbraham Senior Center for the flyer.

tion with the paranormal team; hands on experience with paranormal equipment and reserved seating at the 'Reveal')

As an added attraction, A RAFFLE availing one winner and a guest from the VIP and General Admission group, an opportunity to participate in a final investigation at the Old Meeting House, Main Street, Wilbraham.

Local author Dave Bourcier will be selling and signing his latest book, "Wilbraham...A Journey Through History."

For more details, visit the Friends of Wilbraham Seniors website friendsofwilbraham-seniors.org or stop by the Wilbraham Senior Center for the flyer.

Wilbraham Public Library to host Maria Puppulo Oct. 14

WILBRAHAM – In celebration of 'National Breast Cancer Awareness Month', Wilbraham Public Library will host author Maria Puppulo on Oct. 14 at 6:30 p.m., to speak about her recent book, "If You've Been There, Then You Know: My Breast Cancer Journey of Self Discovery." Puppulo will share how she maintained her faith, sense of humor and a positive attitude during her battle with cancer

in hopes of inspiring others who may face a similar diagnosis. Puppulo aims to inspire others to forge ahead with strength, courage and self-discovery which lead to more days of happiness and fulfillment.

For this book discussion light refreshments will be served and inspiring giveaways offered for a limited number of attendees. The author will have books available for purchase.

wilbrahamhampdentimes.turley.com



VETERANS DAY SALUTE

The Wilbraham-Hampden Times
~ November 5, 2026 ~

The Wilbraham-Hampden Times will be saluting our local veterans (from all wars and branches, including honoring deceased veterans), reservists, active duty U.S. Military members.

Please submit a photo of your veteran with his or her name, rank, branch of military and hometown by email to jamie@turley.com or drop off a photo to **The Wilbraham-Hampden Times, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069**

All photos will be returned.

Please submit your photo no later than Monday, October 27, 2026.

There is no cost to submit a photo. No photos will be accepted after deadline.

Start your smile journey today!
Scan to book a complimentary consult.



75 Post Office Park
Wilbraham
413-675-7570
www.mypoportho.com



Dr. Ana Serrenho
100% locally owned and operated
NO REFERRAL NEEDED



Professional - Reliable - Fully Insured

Tree Trimming and Removal
Emergency Tree Work • Stump Grinding
Crane Service • Firewood Delivery

All Major Credit Cards Accepted
100% Financing Available

162 Sturbridge Road, Brimfield, MA 01010
508-641-5249 • office@robinsontreeservice.net
www.robinsontreeservice.net

sports@turley.com

@turleysports

facebook.com/turleysports

SPORTS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION

SEND US YOUR SPORTS SUBMISSIONS

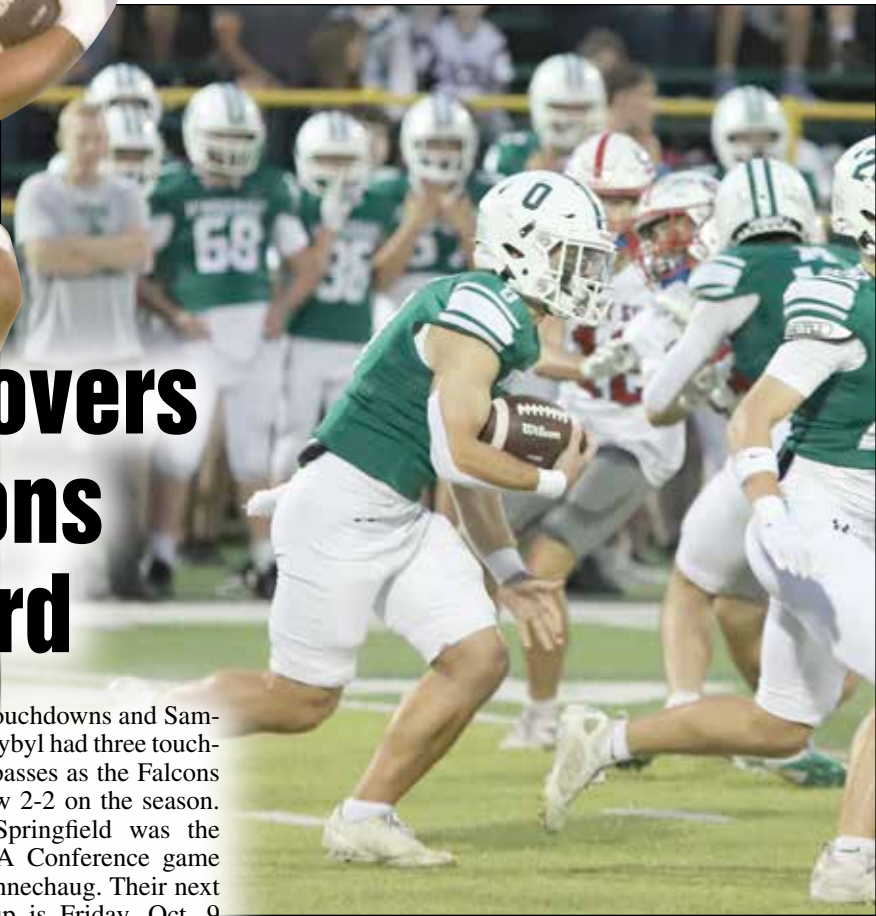
www.sports.turley.com

Cameron Lowe takes off on a long carry.

Early turnovers help Falcons even record

WILBRAHAM – Last Thursday night, the Minnechaug Regional High School football team took advantage of a couple of early mistakes to build a very big halftime lead, and rode it to a 46-14 win over West Springfield High School. Dylan Bean ran for

three touchdowns and Samuel Przybyl had three touchdown passes as the Falcons are now 2-2 on the season. West Springfield was the first AA Conference game for Minnechaug. Their next matchup is Friday, Oct. 9 against East Longmeadow at 7 p.m.



Aiden Bean approaches a crowd of blockers on a rush for the Falcons.



Noah Metzger makes a block.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli



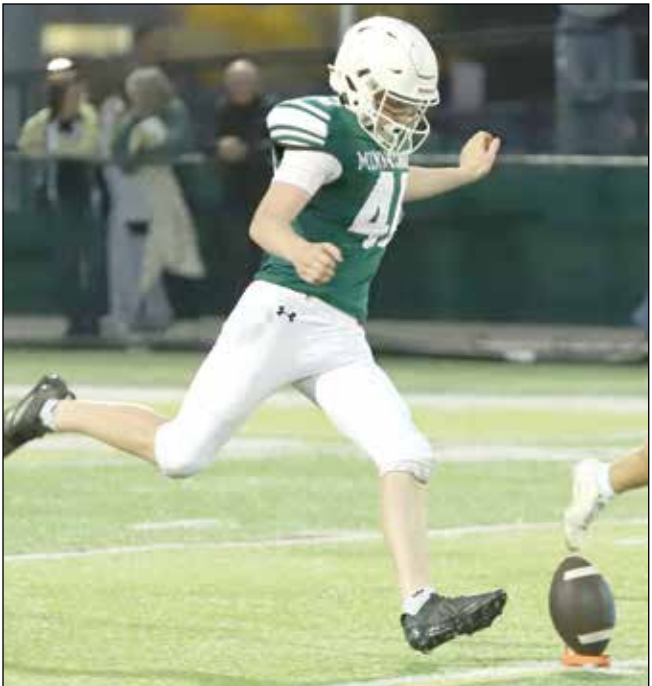
Samuel Przybyl takes a snap.



Tucker Derosia holds off a West Springfield lineman.



Liam Metzger makes a big tackle.



Dillon Noonan kicks off in the first quarter.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Jenahia Monet makes a bump to start a play.



Addison Baldyga makes a block attempt.



Haley Powers sends a serve away.



Mallory Grono successful blocks a Longmeadow spike attempt.

Falcons suffer loss

WILBRAHAM – Last Friday night ended a tough week for Minnechaug Regional High School girls volleyball. The Falcons were swept 3-0 by Longmeadow. Minnechaug suffered losses against Amherst and Enfield last week as well. The Falcons are just 3-8 on the season and

are in need of some wins in order to have a chance to qualify for the state tournament. The Falcons faced Agawam and Chicopee earlier this week and are next in action on Monday at 12:30 p.m. against Shrewsbury High School.



Jocelyn Zanetti gets the backwards hit toward the net.



Leah Croteau socks a spike home.

Falcons now 9-1 after Tantasqua Regional victory

WILBRAHAM – In a close match last Thursday afternoon, Minnechaug Regional High School golf narrowly got by Tantasqua Regional 150-152. Logan Thomas had Minnechaug's low score of 36. Seth Beebe had a 37 and Tommy Hutcheson had a 39 in the win. The Falcons would also defeat South Hadley last week 149-189 and are now out to a 9-1 record in the fall season with the tournament around the corner.

Minnechaug's only loss this season was on Sept. 14 against Longmeadow. The Falcons have a rematch scheduled for earlier this week with the Lancers. Coming up, Minnechaug faces Belchertown on the road at 3 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 9.

SPORTS

Lowinski-Loh dominates Rafferty late model showdown

THOMPSON, CT — Following plus/minus qualifying handicap, Manny Dias and Thompson Speedway point leader Matt Lowinski-Loh led the Late Model field to green for the 50-lap Eden Rafferty Showdown. Shawn Kekacs brought out the first caution coming to the green flag, loose off turn four and taking Justin Hall hard into the frontstretch wall across the line. Back under green it was all Matt Lowinski-Loh at the front of the pack as fans watched Woody Pitkat back behind the wheel of the Hartwell Motorsports #91CT on Sept. 17.

Pikat was relegated to last in the lineup after mechanical issues parked his primary ride and the team turned to their backup mount and was battling for third against Dias by the halfway point. Sophomore

campaigner Jarod Roy called out the second caution with 29 laps complete after spinning in turn four to re-rack the field. The restart had little effect on Lowinski-Loh's hold on the field as he took down the \$3,000 Eden Rafferty winner's bonus ahead of Jacob 'Rowdy' Burns and Woody Pitkat.

The Crown Vics started Wednesday's feature racing action with Ethan Williams quickly taking over the top spot from polesitter Ty Mello. Mello battled back on the outside of Alex Quarterly in his Crown Vic debut with Quarterly mastering the outside groove early. Quarterly took over the top spot on lap 8 as Williams grew looser on exit in turns two and four. Alex Quarterly would nail down the win in his first ever Crown Vic venture followed

by Ethan Williams who held off Chase Curtis for second at the line.

Al Stone III and Mike Vicens brought the Street Stocks down to the green flag for their 20-lap showdown on Eden Rafferty night. Stone put the power down on the outside groove to lead the way as Vicens fell under attack by Ryan Lineham, Jarrod Soucy and Ryan Waterman. Lineham powered under Stone for the turn three crossover and took the lead on lap 8 as the field stretched to a single-file line to chase him down. With time running out, Ryan Lineham took down win number three on the season followed across the line by Al Stone III and Jarrod Soucy.

The Thompson Sunoco Modifieds were led to green by Rob Schultz and Nate Pytko under the initial

green flag with 40-laps on the board. Danny Cates and point leader Keith Rocco quickly launched to the front with Todd Owen making his way under Pytko to take third. Rocco made the turn-three crossover under Cates to lead lap 6 with their intense battle only allowing Owen to join in the fight as the three ran nose-to-tail. Owen made his way under Cates in turn two to run second on lap 10 and followed Rocco for a chance at the top spot.

Paul Arcari brought out the lap 14 caution with his spin to the turn two grass, cooling the battle between Rocco and Owen just for a moment. Owen was next to use the turn three slide-job, taking the lead on lap 24 after contact with Rocco took away the momentum from the #09. Rocco settled back

in and tried for the dive on lap 30 but stalled side-by-side back at the line. From then on the two veterans put on a master-class at the front with Rocco strong in turns one and two but Owen with the advantage in turns three and four. In the end it was Keith Rocco at the line ahead of Todd Owen with Danny Cates holding on for third ahead of Pytko.

Todd Douillard kept the early edge at the front of what would become a melee 20-lap feature for the SK Light Modifieds with Austin Goff and Leo Nunes following behind. Lap six brought contact between John O'Sullivan and point leader Kevin Davis with Davis piling into the turn one wall to end his day early after trying to fight through the pack. After another caution that ended the day for rookie Milania Shilosky, Austin Goff

took control at the front and survived two green-white-checker restarts to take the win over Dylan Houghton and Douillard at the line.

Thompson Speedway is ready to rumble the Quiet Corner of Connecticut for the grand-daddy of them all for the 64th Sunoco World Series of Speedway Racing from Friday, October 9 through Sunday, October 11. All Thompson Speedway track champions will be crowned along with special visits from the Monaco Modified Tri-Track Series, Modified Racing Series, New England Supermodified Series, NEMA, Pro Trucks, R&R Street Stocks and Pro-4 Modifieds along with the championship event for the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour on Sunday!

Thunderbirds jump out to quick 2-0 start

PROVIDENCE, R.I. - The Springfield Thunderbirds (2-0-0-0) rode yet another terrific goaltending performance to a 2-0 blanking of the Providence Bruins (0-2-0-0) on Sunday inside Amica Mutual Pavilion.

Neither team could generate much of anything at the offensive end of the rink in the opening 20 minutes, as the two clubs combined for just eight attempts on net, making life easy for Providence goalie Simon Zajicek and Springfield goalie Will Cranley.

Power plays continued to be a struggle for both clubs as well, with four combined efforts thwarted in the opening period. The T-Birds finally got their first taste of man-advantage success at 17:59 of the second when T.J. Tynan dropped a pass to Alek Kaskimaki in the right circle. Zajicek made the stop, but kicked the rebound right onto the waiting stick of Justin Carboneau, and the 19-year-old fired home his second goal of the weekend to make it 1-0.

That would prove to be all the cushion that Cranley would need in his first start

of the season. Providence had thrown just 12 shots on net in the first two periods, but added a dozen more in the third period, with Cranley coming up with answers to each, including a calm glove save on a dangerous rush chance from Dans Locmelis.

Zajicek kept things close himself, as he made the best save of the day to stonewall Dylan Peterson early in the third from point-blank range.

In the end, though, Springfield's suffocating penalty kill and steady hand in net proved too much for the Bruins to overcome, with Otto Stenberg adding an empty-netter for good measure at 18:33 of the third to round out the scoring. Cranley's masterful night finished with 24 saves, earning the second-year netminder his first career AHL shutout.

Now 2-0 to start a season for the first time since 2021, the T-Birds ride that momentum back to Springfield to open their home slate on Saturday, Oct. 10 against the Laval Rocket for a 6:05 p.m. puck drop on MGM Springfield Opening Night, featuring the Community Bank Pregame Block Party from 3 to 5 p.m. at The Landing.

Habitat Family Fun Fest ventures to Ludlow Oct. 17

Free community event features food, music, local vendors, and plenty of family fun

LUDLOW - Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity (GSHFH) is counting down the days until its second annual Habitat Family Fun Fest, happening noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 17, at Vanished Valley Brewing Co., 782 Center St., Ludlow. Admission is free.

The family-friendly community event will bring together food, music, entertainment, local vendors, and community organizations for an afternoon of fun while raising awareness and support for Greater Springfield Habitat's work throughout Hampden County.

This year's growing lineup already includes the Bella Borinquen food truck, a DJ, Stompin' Boots, and Peruvian performer Etienne Perley, who will share the sounds of the pan pipes. Guests can also browse and shop from numer-

ous vendors and connect with several community partners. There is still space if others would like to join us.

"Habitat Family Fun Fest is really about bringing people together," said Aimee Giroux, executive director of Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity. "You can come out, enjoy some great food and entertainment, support local vendors, meet organizations doing good work in our community, and learn a little more about Habitat along the way."

Habitat Family Fun Fest

builds on the success of GSHFH's inaugural event in 2025, which welcomed roughly 150 attendees and raised approximately \$16,000 to support the organization's mission.

Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity partners with local families to build and preserve safe, affordable homes while providing opportunities for volunteers, businesses, and community members to help strengthen neighborhoods throughout Hampden County.

For event information and updates, visit habitatspringfield.org/fun-fest.

Carved in Stone: Early Gravestone Art & Symbolism

Afternoon includes a guided walking tour of Adams Cemetery

WILBRAHAM — The Old Meeting House Museum will host a presentation and guided cemetery walk with local historian and author Derek Strahan on Sunday, Oct. 18, from 2 to 5 p.m.

The presentation begins at 2:30 p.m. at Wilbraham & Monson Academy Library. New England's gravestones changed dramatically between the 17th and early 19th centuries, moving from

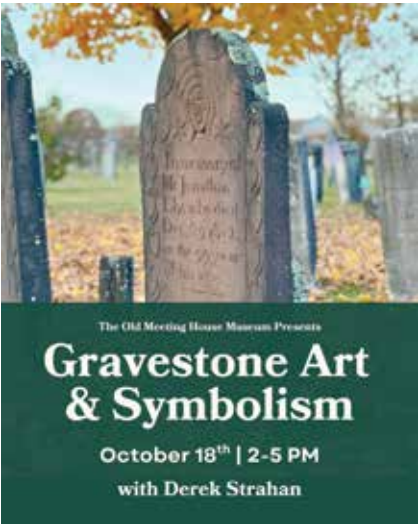
the winged skulls of the Puritan era to cherubs and, after the Revolution, neoclassical willows and urns that reflected changing attitudes toward death and memory. Strahan's presentation traces that evolution, examines how carving styles varied across New England, and introduces the local stonecutters behind the work.

Following the presen-

tation, Strahan will lead a guided walking tour of Adams Cemetery, Wilbraham's oldest burial ground, offering attendees a chance to see the symbolism discussed in the program in person.

"Derek was such a hit with our visitors that bringing him back was an easy decision," said Lindsey Bourcier, Marketing Director of the Old Meeting House Museum. "These stones are right here in our own backyard, and Derek helps you see them in a completely new way."

The program is free and open to all. Comfortable walking shoes are recommended for the cemetery portion of the afternoon.



Railers begin training camp

WORCESTER – The first week of Worcester Railers Training Camp at the DCU Center is closed to the public. The first week of practice culminates in two preseason games, including one at the Fidelity Bank Worcester Ice Center on Saturday, Oct. 10 7:05 p.m. Fans can secure their \$5 tickets for the event here.

For the full schedule, check below:

Thursday 10/8 – 11:40 a.m. – Fidelity Bank Worcester Ice Center

Friday 10/9 (PRESEASON GAME) – 7 p.m. @ Harold Al-

fond Forum (Biddeford, ME)

Saturday 10/10 (PRESEASON GAME) – 7 p.m. @ Fidelity Bank Worcester Ice Center (Lamacchia Realty Rink, Worcester, MA)

The Worcester Railers HC 2026-27 Opening Weekend at the DCU Center is Saturday, Oct. 17 and Sunday, Oct. 18 vs. the Maine Mariners and Trois-Rivières Lions. Get access to games this season, exclusive events and additional benefits by calling the Railers front office at 774-436-6904 or by visiting RailersHC.com.

Knights sponsor benefit dinner to support Community Survival Center

WILBRAHAM - The Wilbraham Knights of Columbus Council 10195 will sponsor a major fundraising benefit dinner to support the Community Survival Center in Indian Orchard.

The Survival Center helps feed and cloth over 400 individuals each month in Wilbraham, Hampden, Ludlow,

Indian Orchard and 16 Acres. According to Executive Director, Cristal Turcotte, this year is particularly impacted by continued high inflation and cuts in SNAP benefits. "Our shelves are very bare" according to Turcotte, "and with the holidays fast approaching we are asking for assistance to please help us

support those in need."

The benefit dinner will be held Saturday Oct. 17 at 5 p.m. at Saint Cecilia Parish Center, 42 Main Street, Wilbraham and will feature a delicious homemade chicken parm and pasta Italian dinner complete with salad, bread, coffee and cannoli's. The event will include nu-

merous raffles and musical entertainment with sing-alongs and strolling violinist. Tickets are limited and cost \$20. They may be purchased by contacting George Reich at ticketskoc10195@gmail.com or may be picked up at after Mass in the St. Cecilia rotunda starting on September 26

Evening Book Discussion at the Wilbraham Library

WILBRAHAM - The Evening Book Discussion will be discussing Outwitting History by Aaron Lansky on Wednesday, Oct. 21 at 7 p.m.

The group meets on the third Wednesday of every month and is facilitated by Assistant Director Mary Bell. Newcomers are always welcome, and no sign ups are necessary. Read the book prior to the meeting, and enjoy a fun hour discussing the story with other book lovers.

Outwitting History details Aaron Lansky's quest to save

Yiddish literature, and the various people he comes into contact with as he does so. It began as a passion project and a way of preserving his heritage, and eventually became the starting point for the Yiddish Book Center in Amherst, which Lansky founded.

Copies of the book are available at the library's front desk. For more information contact Mary Bell at 413-596-6141 or email mbell@wilbrahamlibrary.org.

LOWER PRICES TO BOOST YOUR BUDGET!

INFLATION

PRICE BUSTERS

USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN PORK LOIN LOIN END or RIB END ROAST.....

\$1.99 lb

USDA INSP. FRESH PORK SPARE RIBS TWIN PAK.,

\$2.49 lb

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS CENTER CUT PORK LOIN CHOPS or ROAST

\$2.96 lb

SLICED IN OUR DELI

USDA INSP. PASTRAMI.....

\$6.99 lb

USDA INSP. SWISS CHEESE.....

\$4.44 lb

TAILGATE SPECIALS

NATHAN'S ALL BEEF HOT DOGS 12 OZ.,

2/\$5

USDA INSP. STOREMADE TERIYAKI MARINATED CHICKEN TENDERLOINS....

\$2.99 lb

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TENDERLOINS CUT FREE

\$11.99 lb

USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN BEEF SHORT RIBS

\$8.59 lb

USDA INSP. GROUND FRESH DAILY 80% LEAN GROUND BEEF

\$4.28 lb

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS & SKINLESS CHICKEN TENDERLOIN 10 LB BAG.,

\$1.85 lb

USDA INSP. FROZEN WHOLE CHICKEN.....

99¢ lb

USDA INSP. FROZEN PILLSBURY GRANDS CINNAMON ROLLS 30.5 OZ BAG....

\$2.49 ea

USDA INSP. FROZEN SAVORY SEAS PANKO BREADED SHRIMP 2 LB BAG.....

\$15.99 ea

USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN BLUE SEA SWIMMING BLUE CRAB RAW 2 LB BOX.....

\$12.99 ea

90 Meat Outlet

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

90 Avocado St. Springfield 413-737-1288 www.90meat.com We reserve the right to limit quantities.

SALE DATES: 10/8/26-10/14/26

BUY DIRECT FOR SAVINGS • SELECTION • SERVICE

Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

FOR SALE

FIREWOOD

FIREWOOD

Fresh cut & split \$240.00
Seasoned cut & split \$375.00
All hardwood.
Tree length available

*Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & volumes **guaranteed!!** New England Forest Products **(413)477-0083**

MORE HEAT LESS WOOD.

Central Boiler Classic Edge HDX Outdoor Wood Furnace. EPA Certified. Titanium Stainless Steel. \$2K Tax Credit.
Call **(508)882-0178**

SEASONED FIREWOOD (1.5-2 YRS) STORED INSIDE OFF THE GROUND.

Cut, split, free delivery within 10 miles. \$350 per cord.
Call **413-218-3918**.

MISCELLANEOUS

4 NOKIAN STUDDED SNOW TIRES, 195/65/15, used 3 months. Paid \$170 each, will sell for \$100 each. **413-230-9653 leave message.**

TAG SALE

SAT. & SUN., OCT. 10-11. 9am-3pm.
99 Ferry Street, South Hadley
Household items, tools, something for everyone.

WANTED

WANTED! CASH for:

- Machinist tools, power tools & Snap on.
- Electronics & Audio Equipment.
- Sports Cards.
- 70s/80s/90s Toys.
- Antiques & Collectibles.

Much, much more!

Call/Text Sam **413-531-5381**

WANTED TO BUY

ALL ANTIQUES AND OLD STUFF WANTED.

BUYING Bottles, Cocks, 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

WANTED

ALWAYS BUYING ALL ANTIQUES:

Musical instruments, guitars, horns, keyboards, vintage electronics, jewelry, coins, watches, military cameras, sports memorabilia, art, sterling, signs, automotive, hunting, advertising, radios, ham radio equipment, audio equipment, toys, one item or entire estate.

Call Paul 413-206-8688

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.
Fully insured.
Call Pete 413-433-0356.

A Call We Haul FAST REMOVAL

Junk, Appliance, Cleanouts.
We load it & take it.
413-531-1936
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

SERVICES

 **A B Hauling and Removal Service**

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.**

SERVICES

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

ELECTRICIAN

PJ's Electrical MASTER ELECTRICIAN
• *Licensed & Insured* •

Providing safe, reliable electrical services for residential and commercial projects.

NOW OFFERING FREE CONSULTATIONS.
Call today to schedule your appointment.
(413) 366-1703
(Lic. #24046-A)

GAGNON ELECTRIC

All types of electrical work. Fully insured. All work fully guaranteed. Free estimates. Lic. #14960A. **413-533-8867**

HOME IMPROVEMENT

CHAMELEON PAINTING & REMODELING
INTERIOR/EXTERIOR
Remodeling & Deck Specialists
Residential/Commercial
Fully Insured • Free Estimates
413-351-1147

HOME IMPROVEMENTS. REMODELING

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

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Handyman Services

Walker Home Improvement

Licensed & Insured

Finish Carpentry • Framing • Drywall • Painting • & more!

(413) 687-5552

SERVICES

HOME IMPROVEMENT SPECIALIST

Haley Remodeling offering financing. Windows, siding, granite counters, heat & ac mini splits, composite & pressure treated decks. **413-563-2229, Tim.**

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.**

LAND CLEARING

HENRY'S TREE SERVICE LLC
Clearing and forestry mulching for lot clearing, perimeter clearing, 1-5+ acres & stumping. Certified & Fully Insured. Free Estimates. Over 30 Years Experience. *Offering Senior Citizen & Military Discounts*
Call 413-279-1050

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

PRO PAINTING

Low, low prices. All phases interior, exterior painting and wallpapering. Also minor carpentry. **413-310-5099.**

RUBBISH REMOVAL

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

Find archives of this local newspaper at www.newspapers.turley.com

SERVICES

TREE WORK

AAA-TROM'S TREE SERVICE PROFESSIONAL SERVICE. Residential removal of trees. Free estimates/fully insured W/Workman's Comp. Remove them before the wind takes them down. Cordwood, stump grinding. Call **413-283-6374/cell 413-237-9881.**

AFFORDABLE STUMP GRINDING

Fast, dependable service. Free estimates. Fully insured. Call Joe Sablack **413-436-9821, Cell 413-537-7994**

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**

HENRY'S TREE SERVICE LLC

Tree Removal-Tree Trimming
Storm Damage-Structure Pruning
Forestry Mowing
Certified & Fully Insured.
Free Estimates
Over 30 Years Experience
Offering Senior Citizen & Military Discounts
Call **413-279-1050**

STUMP GRINDING

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

Henry's Tree Service LLC

We do what others don't.
We grind stumps of any size, provide cleanup and add loam and seed.
Certified & Fully Insured.
Free Estimates
Over 30 Years Experience
Offering Senior Citizen & Military Discounts
Call 413-279-1050

AUTO CAMPERS

2011 KEYSTONE MONTANA MOUNTAINEER MODEL RKD LENGTH 33' 2 SLIDE-OUTS, REAR KITCHEN, SLEEPS 4. LOTS OF STORAGE. \$7000. BRIMFIELD **(413)374-1880**

PETS

GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPS. Champion Czech and Belgian bloodlines, 2M, 1F. 30 years experience. Available 9/25/2026. \$1,200. Taking deposits now. **413-218-2321**

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

FRIDAY AT NOON

HELP WANTED

We seek an energetic, enthusiastic, and well-organized person for the position of **OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR/ CLERICAL PART-TIME.**

This is a part-time position of 20 to 25 hours per week at \$680, depending on Workload. Need to be detail-oriented, possess good customer service skills, some cash & items handling skills. *Apply Email: www.hunn@outlook.com*

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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.

QUAINT WEST BROOKFIELD BROOKHAVEN LAKE

by babbling brook, I-shaped 2bdm. ranch, 2/full baths, finished basement, walkout slider, enclosed front porch, beach rights. Enjoy nature trails, very quiet private area. \$3000/monthly rental fee. Bernice Stone **774-262-6667.**

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.



Post your job openings in our classifieds.

WE GET RESULTS!

Call **1-413-283-8393**



STAY ON TOP OF IT ALL!

Subscribe Today!

Turley Publications, Inc.
12 HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS
413.283.8393
www.turley.com
24 Water Street
Palmer, MA 01069

FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069

DEADLINES: FRIDAY AT NOON

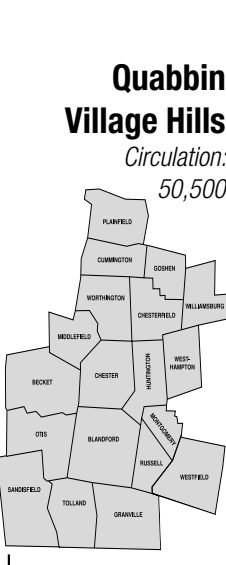
or call: 413-283-8393

CATEGORY:

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

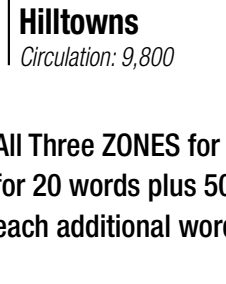
Quabbin Village Hills

Circulation: 50,500



Hilltowns

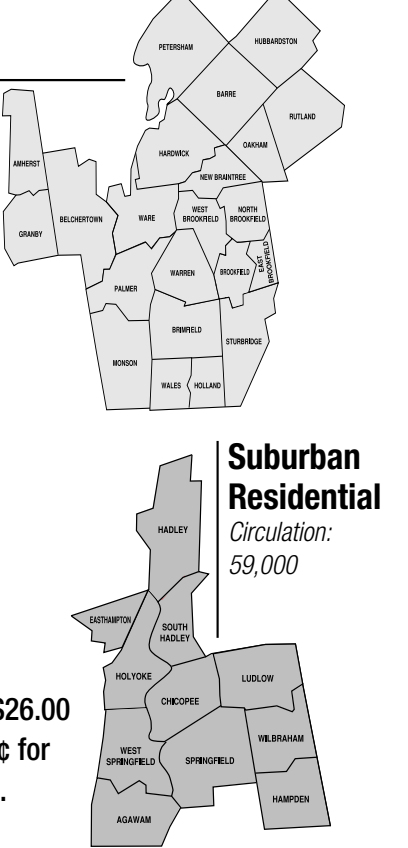
Circulation: 9,800



All Three ZONES for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word.

Suburban Residential

Circulation: 59,000



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: _____

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

GREAT VALUE!

ALL 3 ZONES NOW FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!

Make checks payable to Turley Publications

PUBLIC NOTICES

Hampden Conservation Notice of Public Hearing
In accordance with the Wetland Protection Act, Chapter 131, section 40, a Public Hearing will be held by the Hampden Conservation Commission on **October 21, 2026, at the Hampden Town Hall (85 Wilbraham Rd.) Hampden, MA at 6:00pm.** This is for a Notice of Intent filed by John Matthews. The property is located at 28 North Monson Rd. It is for construction of an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU). The proposed work is in the Buffer Zone to a BVW and is subject to review by the Commission and MA DEP pursuant to the Ma. Wetland Protection Act and accompanying regulations (WPA 310 CMR 10.00) and the Town of Hampden Wetland By-Law and Regulations. The hearing will be held in the selectboard meeting room. For more information contact Conservation@hampdenma.gov 10/08/2026

Hampden Zoning Board of Appeals Notice of Public Hearing
The Hampden Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, October 27, 2026 at 6 PM** in the Town Hall, 85 Wilbraham Road, Hampden, MA, for those interested in the petition of owner Sarah Dudley for a Special Permit or Variance for the side setback under Section 7.2.4 of the Zoning Bylaw for the construction of a home to be located on Parcel #28-029-000 Burleigh Road. The petition and related materials are on file in the Town Clerk's Office and may be viewed during normal business hours.

For the Board,
L. Jed Berliner, Chair
10/08, 10/15/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Division Docket No. HD26P2032EA Estate of: Patricia Francis Gagnon Date of Death: June 18, 2026 INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE
To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Paul F Greene of Cross, SC** a Will has been admitted to informal probate.
Paul F Greene of Cross, SC has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without** surety on the bond.
The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not

required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
10/08/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court Docket No. HD26P2072EA Estate of: Robert Fay Miller, Jr. Also known as: Robert F Miller, Robert F Miller, Jr., Robert Miller Date of Death: 02/06/2025 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Toby A Haley of Palmer, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
The Petitioner requests that **Toby A Haley of Palmer, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **With Personal Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/04/2026.** This is **NOT** a hearing date, but a **deadline** by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within **thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.**
UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A **Personal Representative**

appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. **Claudine T. Stoudemire**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: September 28, 2026
Rosemary A Saccomani, Register of Probate
10/08/2026

SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES
This ad is pursuant to MA Gen. Law Ch.255, Sec. 39A as of October 9, 2026 the following motor vehicles will be for sale to satisfy a garage keepers lien:
Vehicle: 2007 Subaru Outback VIN#: 4S4BP61C977322293 LKO: Karen Francis 1134 Worcester St Indian Orchard MA 01151
Vehicle: 2017 Toyota Yaris VIN#: JN1BJ1CW5MW447280 LKO: Samuel Dunham 156 Jeffrey Rd Springfield MA 01119

Wilbraham-Hampden Times
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries. One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place. The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice (with a word limit of up to 500 words) and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

Vehicle: 2024 Toyota Corolla VIN: JTDBDMHEXR3008932 LKO: Suleyman Kocaoglu 182 Howard St Ludlow MA 01056
Lien Holder: Toyota Motor Credit
PO Box 30203
College Station TX 77845
Vehicle: 2011 Honda Accord VIN: 1HGCP2F75BA016704 LKO: Aissatou Youssouf Gueys 401 Power Rd Pawtucket RI 02860
Vehicle: 2014 Chevy Equinox VIN: 2GNALAEK0E6218784 LKO: Katherine Galanis 152 Wilson St Ludlow MA 01056

R & S Assoc. Inc
PO Box 543
Wilbraham MA 01095
413-596-4374
09/24, 10/01, 10/08/2026

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT HAMPDEN, Div. Probate & Family Court Dept. HD26E0041PP
To Steven Thomas of Wilbraham, Hampden County; and all other persons interested.
A petition has been presented to said Court by Rosemarie Thomas, of East Longmeadow, Hampden County, representing

that they hold as joint tenants in an undivided part or share of land lying in Wilbraham, in the County of Hampden, setting forth that they desire that all of said land may be sold at private sale or public auction for not less than Five Hundred Sixteen Thousand and Eight Hundred Dollars (\$516,800.00), and praying that partition may be made of all the land aforesaid according to law, and to that end that a commissioner be appointed to make such partition and be ordered to make sale and conveyance of all, or any part of said land which the Court finds cannot be advantageously divided either at private sale or public auction, and be ordered

to distribute the net proceeds thereof after full adjudication of the equitable claims contained in said petition and supplemental memorandum filed with the Court.
If you desire to object thereto, you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Springfield before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the **tenth day of November 2026**, the return day of this citation.
Witness, **Claudine T. Stoudemire**, Esquire, First Justice of said Court, this 10th day of September 2026.
Rosemary A. Saccomani, Register
10/01, 10/08, 10/15/2026

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

1 Email all notices to notices@turley.com
2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Friday at 3 p.m.
visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

Find your MARKET IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

413.283.8393 • classifieds@turley.com
24 Water St., Palmer • 80 Main St., Ware

LOUDLOW MEMORIAL COMPANY INC.
Celebrating over 60 Years in Business ~ The Trusz Family
❖ Benches ❖ Statues ❖ Monuments ❖ Custom Design Work
❖ Plot Maintenance ❖ Bronze Plaques ❖ Cleaning ❖ Markers ❖ Vases
❖ On-Site Lettering ❖ Restorations ❖ Cemetery Signage ❖ Granite Signs

201 East Street, Ludlow, MA 01056
www.ludlowmemorialcompany.com ❖ 413-589-7564

Job Connection
HELPING YOU FIND HELP

Job Connection HELPING YOU FIND HELP	TOWN OF HARDWICK YOUTH CENTER JOB DESCRIPTION Hardwick Youth Center is seeking for a friendly, personable, and energetic individual to assist in the day-to-day operations of the youth center. The position involves supervising and assisting youth in various activities, including sports, arts, and social events. The ideal candidate should be a minimum of 18 years old, have a valid driver's license, and be able to work flexible hours. Compensation is \$15.00 per hour. Please send your resume and cover letter to: hr@townofhardwick.com
TOWN OF HARDWICK HIGHWAY WORKING FOREMAN Seeking qualified applicants for Highway Working Foreman. Must have 5+ years of experience in highway construction, including knowledge of traffic control, safety, and equipment operation. Salary: \$28.00 per hour. Please send resume to: hr@townofhardwick.com	Health Director Full-Time The Town of Hardwick is seeking a Health Director to oversee the town's public health services. The position involves managing the health department, coordinating with local health agencies, and ensuring compliance with state and federal regulations. The ideal candidate should have a Master's degree in Public Health or a related field, and at least 5 years of experience in a similar role. Salary: \$45,000 per year. Please send resume to: hr@townofhardwick.com
TOWN OF HARDWICK HELP WANTED The town of Hardwick is seeking qualified candidates to perform high-level secretarial, clerical, and administrative work assisting the Town Administrator and Select Board. This is a part-time 19 hours per week position. For full job description, go to www.townofhardwick.com . Qualified applicants should send cover letter and resume to: ad@townofhardwick.com or send to PO Box 575, Gilmerville, MA 01037.	DRIVE FOR THE QUADRANGLE CONNECTOR Quadrangle Connect is seeking experienced drivers for its delivery fleet. Drivers will be responsible for delivering packages to customers in the Greater Boston area. Requirements include a valid driver's license, a clean driving record, and the ability to lift and move boxes. Compensation is \$18.00 per hour. Please send resume to: hr@quadrangleconnect.com

CLUES ACROSS
1. Difficult
5. Coarsely ground corn
9. A group of similar things ordered one after another
11. Loved Romeo
13. Something to solve
15. Pelvic areas
16. Informal debt instrument
17. Ineffective
19. A device attached to a workbench
21. Related on the mother's side
22. "Fresh Prince of ___ Air"
23. Astronomer Sagan
25. C. Utah city
26. Turkey
27. Informal terms for money

CLUES DOWN
1. Brave
2. A state of excitement
3. Jest at
4. Sandwich store
5. Chapter of the Koran
6. Dismounted from a horse
7. Small vehicle
8. Irked
9. A disreputable man
10. Monetary unit of Samoa
11. A list of woes
12. Weight unit
14. Alone, single
15. Broadway legend
18. Monetary unit of Serbia
20. Worn by exposure to the weather
24. A body of traditions

CLUES ACROSS
29. Awakens
31. Those who favored Prohibition
33. Blabbed
34. Looked through
36. Rhode Island rebellion
38. A type of "cast"
39. One's duty
41. Where golfers begin
43. Make a mistake
44. Semitic Sun god
46. Ancient Greek City
48. Removed someone's head
52. A place to stay
53. Unwise
54. Most unnatural
56. "Dennis" is a notable one
57. Ointments
58. Examination
59. Leaked fluid

CLUES DOWN
26. Students seek one
28. Hydrophilic amino acid
30. Nasal mucus
32. Branch of U.S. Congress
34. Swinish
35. Russian assembly
37. Grant an exemption to
38. Set up in advance
40. Satisfy
42. Felt
43. Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls
45. Witnesses
47. Strong insects
49. Gasteyer and de Armas are two
50. One of an ancient people inhabiting Scotland
51. Cheerless
55. Unhealthy

Job Connection
HELPING YOU FIND HELP

If you have job postings to fill, get them the exposure they need.

Join us in highlighting what positions you have available in our Job Connection!

Each week this available jobs section will run in your community newspapers.

5.25" x 4"
\$150 for three papers
\$40 for each additional paper

5.25" x 8"
\$300 for three papers
\$80 for each additional paper

10.75" x 8"
\$600 for three papers
\$160 for each additional paper

10.75" x 15.75"
\$1,200 for three papers
\$320 for each additional paper

Choice of any three papers
Buy two weeks,
get the third week FREE

Turley Publications, Inc.
12 Weekly Newspapers Serving The Local Communities
Agawam Advertiser News • Barre Gazette • Chicopee Register • Country Journal
The Journal Register • Quabog Current • The Register • Sentinel
The Holyoke Sun • Town Reminder • Ware River News • The Wilbraham-Hampden Times
www.turley.com

Contact Jordan at jconrad@turley.com or 413.283.8393



HOMETOWN

▪ EXTERIORS ▪

Bring the Great Outdoors, Indoors.

Your porch should be a sanctuary, not a struggle with the elements. At **Hometown Exteriors**, we specialize in transforming 3-season rooms with the innovative **Expanse™ by Porchwerx**.

This one-of-a-kind design features **dual retractable top and bottom screens**, giving you amazing, uncluttered views of your surroundings. Whether you're enjoying a quiet morning coffee or a family sunset, the Expanse™ system allows the brilliance of nature to take center stage while keeping your living space comfortable and protected.



expanse
by porchwerx
a whole new way to porch

LOCAL.

FAMILY-OWNED.

IN-HOUSE CRAFTSMEN.

OUR FAMILY OF COMPANIES



OF WESTERN MASS



THE KITCHEN & BATH CO.
DESIGN BUILD LIVE



HOMETOWN
▪ EXTERIORS ▪



GOGREEN
HOME PERFORMANCE
FOAM • FIBERGLASS • CELLULOSE

BELCHERTOWN ▪ WESTFIELD ▪ ADAMS