

# QUABOAG CURRENT

**EAST BROOKFIELD**  
Meet the candidates Page 2

**BROOKFIELD**  
Operation Clean Sweep Page 2

**W BROOKFIELD**  
Radio club meeting Page 3

Volume 19, Number 21

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

Friday, April 24, 2026



Sisters Anabelle Ickler and Aimee Ickler represented a youth softball organization.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY ZACHARIAS FRAGKIADAKIS

## Voters approve cruiser, dump truck at STM

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis  
Staff Writer  
zachf@turley.com

**NORTH BROOKFIELD** – The Town of North Brookfield held a special town meeting last Friday at the North Brookfield Elementary School, with a warrant of 29 articles, including transfers for a police cruiser and a dump truck.

The police cruiser motion was \$70,000 to be transferred from free cash to the Police cruiser capital overlay account, and the dump truck was a transfer of \$128,417 from free cash to the Highway capital overlay account. Both of these transfers were approved by voters.

Snow and ice articles The first article of the night approved the transfer of about \$2,500 from the snow and ice sand and snow account to the snow and ice diesel expense account.

Article 2 approved the transfer of about \$1,600 from the snow and ice sand and snow account

to the snow and ice salary account; article 3 approved the transfer of about \$12,700 from free cash to the snow and ice salary account; article 4 approved the transfer of about \$61,500 from free cash to the snow and ice vehicle supplies and repairs account; and article 5 approved the transfer of about \$51,900 from free cash to the snow and ice salt account.

### Free cash transfers

Article 7 approved the transfer of \$14,500 from free cash to the Police computer expense account.

Article 9 approved the transfer of \$25,000 from free cash to the Finance Committee reserve account.

Article 10 approved the transfer of about \$4,500 from free cash to the Selectmen other salary account.

Article 11 approved the transfer of about \$832 from free cash to Police

**N BROOKFIELD**  
PAGE 3

## New Braintree held community showcase

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis  
Staff Writer  
zachf@turley.com

**NEW BRAINTREE** – A community showcase was held at the Town Hall this on April 12, where town boards

and organizations had the opportunity to showcase what they are doing for the town.

Some of the town boards that had tables included the Historical Commission, Historical Soci-

ety, the 275th Anniversary Committee, and the Council on Aging. Some local organizations included the Tri-Parish Community Church, the Flower Society, the pickleball group, a girls softball group, and the East

Quabbin Land Trust.

Dan Hamilton, a member of the Historical Society showcased the Boston

**See COMMUNITY**  
**SHOWCAE**  
PAGE 5

## Road project discussed by Select Board

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis  
Staff Writer  
zachf@turley.com

**BROOKFIELD** – The Select Board discussed last Wednesday the ongoing project on Gay Road, and that the scope of work plus additional work being done on the road has caused the project to go \$200,000 over the projection.

Town Accountant Laurie Bartkus said the town received a \$1 million grant for the project, of which there is \$160,020 left.

The board discussed how to fund the overage, and Bartkus said the town has \$114,284 in residual COVID funds, which can be used. She said there is also just over \$100,000 each in road reconstruction and fair share accounts.

Bartkus suggested using the COVID funds first, which the board voted to approve. The board also voted to earmark the fair share accounts, and reevaluate at a later date.

### Lewis Field booster lighting

Eric and Sarah Hunt from the Brookfield Boosters baseball and softball program requested permission from the board to install lighting on Lewis Field, because they want to start a new spring and fall program, including night games.

They said they are privately funding the cost of the lights, meaning there will be no costs to the town, noting that they have raised \$25,000.

They said the Highway Department, zoning officials, and the electrical inspector have all been notified and approved the project.

Hunt said he is also utilizing local resources to lower costs, and is willing to do the project in phases, like installing poles, wires, and lights separately.

He said the lights are going to be LED plug-ins so they can be easily replaced, and cost only \$500-\$600 a year to run. The select board authorized the lighting project.

### Appointment

The board appointed Bruce Clarke as a Water Commissioner, with an unexpired term.

### COLA adjustment

The board discussed how they should budget for the Cost of Living Adjustment for this year, and that the federal increase is 2.8%. Bartkus said many towns are sticking to the 2.8% increase and only reducing it to 2.5% if they find they cannot afford it.

The board voted to budget for a 2.8% increase.

### Budget freezes

Bartkus said technology was significantly under budgeted for fiscal year 2026 by a previous town administrator, as it was under budgeted by \$30,000. She said there was also a surprise 20% increase in health insurance for the town, and a \$10,000 increase in general insurance.

**BROOKFIELD** PAGE 9



Quaboag Regional Theater and 21st CCLC presented "The Lion King Jr." this past weekend. The young Lion King was held up high on stage with Simba, Nala, Rafiki and Zazu looking on.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY RYAN DRAGO

## Quaboag Theater performed 'THE LION KING JR.'

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

**WARREN** – The cast of "The Lion King Jr." brought the "Circle of Life" to the Quaboag stage this past weekend.

This production was based off the Broadway

production as well as some influence from the timeless Disney film. "The Lion King Jr" was directed by James Joinville with Christine Taylor as Assistant Director.

Several students had the opportunity to be Blocking Directors and Choreographers for the show and both Joinville and Taylor agreed

they have worked so hard to make this show possible. The cast gave the crew of Juniors and Seniors a round of applause for their hard work and leadership.

"We're proud of all of you," Joinville said.

The show began with the grand entrance with the ensemble singing and dancing

to "The Circle of Life". There were zebras, giraffes, monkeys, elephants, wildebeests, and lions awaiting the presentation of the next King of Pride Rock.

Rafiki was played by Quaboag sophomore Natalia Veliz-Baldizon. She entered the stage singing and dancing

**LION KING JR.** PAGE 6

## Town departments outlined budget projections

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis  
Staff Writer  
zachf@turley.com

**WEST BROOKFIELD** – The town held an informational session on April 13, the second in a series of three informational sessions to educate residents on town finances, ahead of the town election on May 5.

The election ballot has two possible override questions, one for a \$1.1 million override, the other for a \$1.6 million override. According to the Town Administrator's page on the town website, each question is separate and needs a majority vote to pass.

According to the informational post, the \$1.6

million override provides level funding to the town's services and the Quaboag Regional School District, and the \$1.1 million override provides level funding to the town's services, but less funding for the school district.

Town Administrator Theresa Cofske started the session by explaining the gaps

in town finances are getting bigger, and the town has historically used free cash to fund various services, but described using free cash as a "band-aid," and that it is no longer working.

Cofske said the town has a "huge deficit," and that

**W BROOKFIELD**  
PAGE 10

# - community -



SUBMITTED PHOTO

## Quaboag Regional hosted first responders luncheon

WARREN – As a way of saying thank you for helping keep students, staff, and schools safe, Quaboag Regional Middle High School held a first responders luncheon.

Members of the Warren and West Brookfield Police, Fire and EMS attend-

ed. Parents of Quaboag students who are also first responders attended and members of the Citizens Emergency Response Team or CERT.

Students in Joe Salvatore's civics classes and Stephanie Beauregard's classes put on the event

with support from Superintendent Stephen Duff and sponsorship from Hannaford Supermarket. Students also made "thank you" place mats and Barbara Fellmeth's students made thank you cards that many of the first responders took home with them.

After the lunch, Duff thanked and recognized the first responders to all the students in the high school cafeteria lunches to a round of applause.

Several of the first responders who attended were once Quaboag students in the "Fire and EMS

Academy" at the school and now have joined the local departments.

Quaboag Regional is grateful for the local first responders and the close working and supportive relationship they share together which helps keep school's safe.

## Library hosts 'Meet the Candidates' night April 27

EAST BROOKFIELD – Candidates seeking election or write-in candidates seeking election for the town office on Tuesday, May 12 are welcome to attend a Meet the Candidates night on Monday, April 27 from 5:30-7 p.m. at the East Brookfield Public Library, 122 Connie Mack Drive.

Each candidate will have 5 minutes to talk and answer questions. Please contact Carolann with any questions.

## Warren's Candidate Night will be April 30

WARREN – A Candidate Night will be held for the town of Warren on Thursday, April 30 from 6:30-8 p.m. in the Quaboag Regional Middle High School auditorium, 284 Old West Brookfield Road.

All candidates running for the available positions in the May 5 town election will have a chance to make a statement and answer questions. Audience members will be able to direct questions to a particular candidate through the moderator of the event.

This event is being hosted by Quaboag Regional Middle High School and Joe Salvatore's honors civics class.

## Operation Clean Sweep to be held on April 25

BROOKFIELD – The Brookfield Community Club is excited to announce the 10th annual John T. O'Leary Memorial Operation Clean Sweep will be held in Brookfield on Saturday, April 25.

O'Leary single-handedly organized the town wide

cleanup for many years until his death. Pausing only during the pandemic, this is the 10th year since the event was named in his memory.

As part of Operation Clean Sweep, community members will celebrate Earth Day during the month of April. Earth Day's theme

this year is "Our Power, Our Planet."

Brookfield residents can once again participate in Operation Clean Sweep to help rid local streets and roads of the litter and trash thrown out of passing cars. Volunteers can sign up individually, as a family or with a group, to tackle a specific street on a day that works with their schedule on or around Saturday, April 25.

Operation Clean Sweep is coordinated by the Brookfield Community Club. Partners include the Brookfield Board of Health, the Town of Brookfield Highway Department, and Quaboag & Quacumquasit Lake Association.

Orange bags can be picked up at Tip Top Cop, Merrick Public Library or the Transfer Station on Tuesdays or Saturdays in April.

Bags will also be available on the Brookfield Town Common on Saturday, April 25 from 8-9 a.m.

When the bags are full, they can be dropped off at the Transfer Station before 3 p.m., or left on the side of the road the volunteer has been cleaning. Orange bags that are left roadside will be picked up by the Highway Department on Monday, April 27.

To sign up, visit <https://applecountryfair.com/events.html>.

## Towns to host voter registration day before elections

WARREN/WEST BROOKFIELD – Town Clerks of Warren (Laura J. Stockley) and West Brookfield (Klarisa Rose) announce that a Voter Registration will be held in their offices, on Friday, April 24, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. for the Annual Town Elections, which will be held on Tuesday, May 5.

*Are you having difficulty communicating with your partner, struggling with boundaries, and healthy relationships?*

**We invite you to join us Friday afternoons from 1-2:30 pm to explore these topics and more.**

This group will be held in zoom, is educational, confidential, and free.

Please contact **Pat James 413-726-8661**.



**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**

## ATTENTION NORTH BROOKFIELD Water Users HYDRANT FLUSHING

**MAY 4TH, 2026 – MAY 30TH, 2026**

The North Brookfield Water Department will be flushing water mains throughout town beginning Monday, May 4th through Saturday, May 30th, 2026. Flushing is performed between the hours of 7:30AM and 3:30PM.

The purpose of the flushing is to remove sediment buildup in the mains. The flushing may result in temporary discoloration of the water, caused by small particles dislodged during the flushing. This discoloration might stain your laundry, especially white materials.

If you would like additional information, please call the Water Department at (508) 867-0207.

## Christ Memorial Church tag sale is May 9

NORTH BROOKFIELD – A tag sale will be held at Christ Memorial Episcopal Church, 133 North Main St., on Saturday, May 9 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., rain or shine.

There will be plants (indoor and outdoor), puzzles, books, clothes, kids' stuff, kitchen and household items, treasures, and more. Name your own price.

Please use the Spring Street door should the weather force the tag sale inside.

**LOWER PRICES TO BOOST YOUR BUDGET!**

# INFLATION

**PRICES IN RED ARE AT OR BELOW LAST YEAR'S PRICES!**

<p>USDA INSP. FROZEN BONE-IN CENTER CUT PORK LOIN CHOPS..... <b>\$2.49</b> lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS PORK BUTT STRIP ..... <b>\$2.88</b> lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FRESH PORK SIRLOIN CUTLETS..... <b>\$2.19</b> lb</p> <p><b>SLICED IN OUR DELI</b></p> <p>USDA INSP. DOMESTIC HAM..... <b>\$3.99</b> lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. PROVOLONE CHEESE..... <b>\$4.44</b> lb</p> <p><b>SOUP'S ON!</b></p> <p>USDA INSP. FRESH GOAT MEAT ..... <b>\$6.99</b> lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FROZEN BEEF OXTAILS ..... <b>\$9.99</b> lb</p>	<p><b>PRICE BUSTERS</b></p> <p>USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN BEEF T'BONE or PORTERHOUSE STEAKS <b>\$10.99</b> lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN BEEF SHORT RIBS <b>\$8.77</b> lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. GROUND FRESH DAILY 80% LEAN GROUND BEEF 7 LB BAG <b>\$4.28</b> lb</p>	<p>USDA INSP. FRESH CHICKEN THIGHS 10 LB BAG..... <b>\$1.22</b> lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FRESH WHOLE CHICKEN TWIN PAK..... <b>\$1.59</b> lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FROZEN POPEYE'S PIEROGIES POTATO &amp; CHEESE or POTATO &amp; SOUR CREAM 13 OZ <b>\$2.49</b> ea</p> <p>USDA INSP. FROZEN COAST TO COAST KITCHEN MINI EMPANADAS PIZZA, HAM, CHEESE, CHEESEBURGER ..... <b>\$2.99</b> ea</p> <p>USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN SNOW CRAB CLUSTERS..... <b>\$9.99</b> lb</p>
--	--	--

**f 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](http://www.90meat.com)

We reserve the right to limit quantities.

SALE DATES: 4/23/26-4/29/26 BUY DIRECT FOR SAVINGS • SELECTION • SERVICE

**AMHERST RAILWAY SOCIETY**

*Operating Since 1965*

**1130 S Main Street  
Palmer, MA 01069  
(413) 267-4555**

*Sat., April 4th  
CLOSED*

*Sat., April 11th ~ 9am-1pm  
WORK DAY & KIDS ON TRACK*

*Sat., April 11th ~ 9am-noon  
SURPLUS EQUIPMENT SALE  
West Hartford, CT*

*Sat., April 18th & 25th ~ 9am-1pm  
WORK DAYS*

*Interested in more information  
[amherstrail.org](http://amherstrail.org)*

# - community -

## Amateur radio club meets on April 28

WEST BROOKFIELD – Local amateur radio operators and the public are invited to the next Quaboag Valley Amateur Radio Club meeting, Tuesday, April 28 at 6:30 p.m. at the West Brookfield Senior Center, 73 Central St.

This month's program features Greg, WA1JXR on the topic of Antenna Tuners; what they are, how they work, why you might need one, and how to use them.

Greg Algieri, WA1JXR, began his ham radio journey at the age of 15 in 1967 by asking his dad for a Gillette Blue Razor Blade

to make this first receiver, leading to amateur radio licenses, higher electronics education, and an entire career with Raytheon, where he worked in radio and antenna design. WA1JXR is active in his amateur radio community as a teacher of new and existing hams, restoring boat anchor vintage radios, getting on the air, and as the Trustee of the WIBIM repeater in Paxton.

All are welcome to attend. For more information about the club, upcoming events, or licensing opportunities, visit www.QVARC.com.

## St. Aloysius celebrates 10th year with chicken BBQ fundraiser

HARDWICK – St. Aloysius Catholic School in Gilbertville is celebrating 10 years. Please join them on Saturday, June 6 at St. Mary's Church Hall in Ware, from 1-4 p.m., for a chicken barbecue, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council #183. There will be a DJ, all

sorts of fun for the kids, basket raffles, a 50/50 and more. Tickets are \$25 for a chicken dinner or \$5 for a hot dog and chips.

Purchase tickets by calling the school at 413-477-1268 or by reaching out to Megan Morrison by phone or text 978-751-1211.



Eighth grade students in Joe Salvatore's civics classes had a visit from Hardwick-New Braintree Chief of Police Kevin Landine.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

## Quaboag students learned about their rights

WARREN – Quaboag Regional Middle School eighth grade students in Joe Salvatore's civics classes are learning about the "Bill of Rights" and how these rights protect them in their everyday lives.

To help them understand their rights and interactions with police, the Chief of Police for the Hardwick-New Braintree Police Department, Kevin Landine, came in for a class visit.

Landine spoke to the stu-

dents about the 4th Amendment – protection against unreasonable searches and seizures, due process and the Miranda Rights.

Landine presented the students with several scenarios and then had the students

explain if the police actions were legal based on their knowledge of their rights. Students also asked many thoughtful questions and learned about the role of the local police in protecting our communities and our rights.

## St. Michael's benefit turkey dinner to be held May 15

STURBRIDGE – The Public House Historic Inn and Restaurant will host another of its community dinners on Monday, May 18, this time benefiting St. Michael Romanian Orthodox Church in Southbridge.

These dinners are part of the Public House's ongoing effort to support local organizations. A portion of each ticket sold will go directly to the church.

"We're grateful to be included in this program," said event organizer Spiro Thomo. "It's a simple way for people to come together, enjoy a good meal, and support the church at the same time."

Two seatings are available: 4:30-6 p.m. and 6:30-8

p.m. The buffet menu includes oven-roasted turkey, cornbread-sausage stuffing, mashed potatoes, butternut squash, and cranberry sauce.

Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$5 for children ages 4-11. All tickets must be purchased in advance-no sales at the door. The deadline is Friday, May 15.

For tickets or information, contact Spiro Thomo at 774-200-8043, or by email: spirothomo@gmail.com. Payment is by cash or check made payable to The Public House.

The mission of St. Michael Romanian Orthodox Church is to experience the grace of God and to share it with others.

## FrOST announces upcoming spring events

STURBRIDGE – The Friends of Sturbridge trails has released its list of free spring events for 2026.

Saturday, April 25 is Celebrate Trails Day, sponsored by the National Rails to Trails Org. FrOST is planning a hike on the Grand Trunk Trail starting at 9 a.m. from 9 River Road. Come join the friends to learn about the Grand Trunk Trail's history, and the plans for trail completion. This event is handicapped accessible, and child friendly, dogs on six foot leashes are allowed.

Monday April 27 at 7 p.m. is the annual town meeting. Please attend and exercise your right to vote on town budget and more.

Saturday and Sunday, May 9 and 10, FrOST will have an information booth at Old Sturbridge Village at their "move" weekend. This is part of a month-long event of OSV where they have invited area businesses and groups in the

focus area of Eat, Move, Work & Play, each week a focus. The display will include trail construction tools, and a xxx bike. OSV has an entrance fee.

Saturday, May 30 at 10 a.m. the "Yoga on the Trails" returns. Join Jen Songer for a short walk along the Arbutus trail to the field and enjoy an all-levels yoga session. Meet at the Leadmine trail parking lot, 10 Old Sturbridge Village Road. Bring your mat and a water bottle.

The Friends of Sturbridge trails can offer these events free of charge as they are a member supported 501 3c non-profit. Please consider joining them with your membership that starts at \$15.

Please visit FrOST at www.treksturbridge.org, click about Friends of Sturbridge trails.

While you are there check out the rest of the web page and events. Email FrOST at froststurbridge@gmail.com.

### N BROOKFIELD FROM PAGE 1

Department bills from the previous year.

Article 12 approved the transfer of \$10,000 from free cash to the Lashaway weed control expense account.

#### Stabilization transfers

Article 13 approved the transfer of \$100,000 from free cash to Capital Stabilization and article 14 approved the transfer of \$300,000 from free cash to General Stabilization.

#### Fire Department purchase

Article 15 approved the transfer of \$12,137 from Capital Improvement Stabilization to the Fire Department for the purchase of jaws of life accessories.

#### Other transfers

Article 16 approved the transfer of about \$1,250 from the assistant Animal Control salary to the Animal Control expense account.

Article 17 approved the transfer of \$2,000 from Animal Control salary to the Police purchase of service account.

Article 18 approved the transfer of \$12,700 from Police salary to Police chief salary.

Article 19 approved the transfer of \$500 from the election and census account to the dog licenses account.

Article 20 approved the transfer of \$3,000 from Assessors salary to revaluation expenses.

Article 21 approved the transfer of \$100 from the

Sewer assistant superintendent salary to the Sewer clerk salary. Article 22 approved the transfer of \$12,500 from the Sewer assistant superintendent salary to the Sewer operator 2 salary.

Article 23 approved the transfer of \$27,600 from the Sewer assistant superintendent salary to the Sewer expenses account.

Article 24 approved the transfer of \$21,000 from the Sewer assistant superintendent salary to the Sewer indirect costs account.

Article 25 approved the transfer of \$10,000 from the Sewer assistant superintendent salary to the Sewer health insurance account.

#### Water Department articles

Article 26 approved the transfer of \$5,816 from the water retained earnings account to the water other salary account, after a change of motion on the floor. The motion was originally to transfer the money to water other/miscellaneous wages.

Article 27 approved the transfer of \$20,000 from the water retained earnings account to the water system improvements account.

Article 28 approved the transfer of \$23,536 from the water retained earnings account to the water electricity account.

#### Prior year's bill

The final article approved the transfer of about \$294 from fiscal year 2026 Highway to the vehicle repair account to cover a prior year's bill.

## Solo/Duet poetry and music series ends on April 28

WEST BROOKFIELD – Solo/Duet, a poetry and music series at the Merrimack-Gilbert Public Library has been held on Tuesday evenings in April starting at 6 p.m.

Each evening featured poetry readings that bookend a set of chamber jazz music. This program is made possible by the West Brookfield Cultural Council as supported by the

Massachusetts Cultural Council, in celebration of National Poetry and National Jazz Month

The final performance will be held April 28 – a solo bass recital by Jerry Wilfong with poets Beth Sweeney and Stephen Campiglio.

Free and open to all. Please stop by or call the library at 508-867-1410 to reserve your seat.

### 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.

**STIHL**

**PARK SAW SHOP**

LOGGING • ARBORIST • SAFETY

1292 PARK ST. PALMER, MA 01069

1-800-232-6132 (413) 544-9027

Mon-Fri 6:30am-4pm • Sat 7am-Noon

Shipping Can Be Arranged

RENTALS AVAILABLE

**ROOF REJUVENATION**

Before you spend \$20,000+ on a full roof replacement, discover the soy-based treatment that can SAVE homeowners thousands.

Our eco-friendly rejuvenation treatment:

- Extends roof life by up to 15 years (with applications every 5 years).
- Restores flexibility to old, brittle shingles.
- Locks in granules and adds a fresh waterproof seal.
- Costs 90% less than a roof replacement.

Protect & maintain your biggest asset

- ROOF CLEANING & ROOF REJUVENATION
- HOUSE WASHING, DECKS & FENCES
- CONCRETE, POOL PATIOS
- GUTTER WHITENING
- CONDOS, APARTMENTS AND HOAS
- COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

508-308-2041 CALL FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

**Glenda's**

Saturday, April 25th  
7pm-11pm

**Caboodle**

EVERY FRIDAY  
**Karaoke**

EVERY SUNDAY  
**DARTS**  
LUCK OF THE DRAW  
5:30pm • All Welcome

Upcoming Events  
Saturday, May 2nd  
7pm-11pm  
**Uncle Country**

948 Main Street, Warren, MA • 413-436-8491

## - opinion -



By Ellenor Downer



**Red-breasted nuthatch**

Last Wednesday, April 8 while waiting at the bus stop for my grandson, I saw two red-breasted nuthatches in a small grove of pine trees near the road.

They were going up and down several pine trees most likely in search of insects. The red-breasted nuthatch is about 4.3 to 4.7 inches

long and exhibits the typical head-down nuthatch behavior of its larger cousin, the white-breasted nuthatch. Male and females are similar with a black eye stripe, white eyebrow and buff orange underparts. It has a blue-gray back.

They inhabit conifer forests and in winter may be found in other trees. They nest mostly in conifers such as spruce, fir, hemlock.

Both sexes excavate a nest cavity in a rotten stub or snag, usually five to 40 feet about the ground. Sticky pitch is smeared around the entrance of the nest hole possibly to prevent other

creatures from entering. Adults avoid getting stuck in the pitch by flying straight into the hole. Sometimes they are seen with pitch on their feathers.

The female lays five to six white, spotted eggs. The female incubates the eggs and the male brings food to her. Both parents feed the nestlings. Young nuthatches leave the nest about two to three weeks after hatching.

They have a soft, musical song used especially in courtship by the male. These nuthatches eat insects, spiders and seeds in summer. In winter they eat many seeds especially those of conifers.

**Nesting bluebirds**  
On Saturday, April 11 I received an email from a Hampden resident. She said, "Our bluebirds are back and have completed their nest. We are awaiting the first egg. I'm surprised they use mostly pine needles constructing the nest."

**Brimfield birds**  
A Brimfield resident said he saw a female brown-headed cowbird in his yard. He

said it was unusual as he usually sees the male before the female.

He said, "On Sunday I did a tour of local ponds. There was a pair of ring-necked ducks on Sherman Pond in Brimfield and several on a pond in Warren. Also in Warren I saw an osprey at the pond where they have nested for several years. I've been checking the pond since early March and this is the first sighting of an osprey this year. I hope its partner shows up soon."

He also said, in Warren, there was a bald eagle at a pond on New Reed Street. There has been one or two there frequently during March. A pair of eastern bluebirds was seen perched on two different trees with holes possibly suitable for a nest. I often see bluebirds using nesting boxes, but have never seen them using a natural cavity. I'll keep checking to see if they nest in either tree."

**Non-bird sighting**  
The Brimfield resident reported a non-bird sighting.

He said "while driving out of the driveway yesterday I saw a small frog hopping off of the driveway. Probably a spring peeper. I'll have to check a nearby small pond in the woods nearby to see if there are peepers there. The frog could have been a pickerel frog, we see those every year in the yard. They come in three sizes; small, medium and large. I try to be careful when I mow or weed whack to avoid them."

**Raven**  
My granddaughter while walking her dogs on Saturday, April 11 heard the croaking sound of a raven. It startled both the dogs and her.

*People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005. The Palmer office has a new phone system and I will be getting an extension where messages may be left. I will publish the number as soon as it is set up.*

## - letters to editor -

### Resident shares concerns about utility rate increases

To the Editor, Massachusetts residents need to look beyond the "rate hike" headlines and investigate D.P.U. 26-50.

National Grid is not just asking for more money; they are petitioning for a "Performance-Based Ratemaking" (PBR) plan.

If approved, this formula allows the company to raise our rates annually without a public hearing. This "blank check" is being used to fund massive infrastructure projects, like the A1/B2 Transmission Rebuild, which will replace our historic landscape with 110-foot steel towers designed for high-voltage industrial capacity far beyond what our local homes require.

Furthermore, as a community, we must demand transparency regarding the

"Stardust Solutions" atmospheric trials beginning this month. While marketed as "climate help," these proprietary reflective particles create a "Ghost Sun" effect that impacts our health and mood. When combined with the high-voltage grid expansion, we are looking at a fundamental change to our environment and our biology without public consent.

The DPU has opened an investigation into Docket 26-50. I urge every neighbor to email dpu.efiling@mass.gov before the April 30 deadline.

Do not let "confidential industrial load" projects be built in our backyard while we are forced to pay for the privilege.

Sincerely,  
Angela Marie Cusson  
West Brookfield

### Gratitude for a community that shows up for pets

Dear Editor, On behalf of everyone at Second Chance Animal Services, I want to extend our heartfelt thanks to the incredible community that made our 27th Annual Auction Gala such a success.

This special evening is always more than a fundraiser. It is an example of what is possible when people come together to help pets and the people who love them.

We are so grateful to everyone who attended, bid in our online auction, volunteered their time, and donated items to make the event so meaningful and fun.

We are especially thankful for the generous support of our sponsors, including Herlihy Insurance, Tito's Handmade Vodka, Andrea Castinetti, Joe Campisi, MWI, Cornerstone Bank, Davis Advertising, Embie Industries, Harvard Pilgrim

Health Care, and Idexx. Their commitment to our mission helps ensure that pets in our community have access to the care they need.

Because of this collective support, Second Chance can continue providing affordable veterinary care, pet food assistance, and adoption services to more than 64,000 pets each year. Every ticket purchased, every item donated, and every bid placed helps keep pets healthy and with the families who love them.

We are so fortunate to be part of a community that shows up in such a compassionate and generous way. Thank you for helping us create more second chances.

Sincerely,  
Lindsay Doray  
Chief Development Officer  
Second Chance Animal Services

### Grassroots Central Mass hosts skill share and seed swap

To the Editor: The time is right to join Grassroots Central Mass in a skill share and seed swap. It will be held on Sunday, April 26 at 1:30 p.m. in the gazebo on the Southbridge Common rain or shine.

Join us for an afternoon skill sharing event, a kickoff for our newly formed skills sharing group, and watch for announcements about our monthly skills share, alternating between Southbridge and Brookfield loca-

tions. On April 26, bring your extra seeds (if you have any), your questions and knowledge, and learn about starting seeds in a container or in the ground. Learn about garden upcycling and gardening on a budget along with your neighbors and community.

Please RSVP to sherry-zitter@icloud.com by April 23.

Sherry Zitter  
Brookfield

## In honor of Mother Earth

This week, we celebrate Earth Day. Lots of towns host bulk waste days or a town-wide clean up as ways to note the day.

While most of us garden with great intentions such as beautifying our yards or producing home grown vegetables, it is important to note that the gardening/greenhouse industry hasn't always been what you'd call "earth-friendly." From mountains of plastic pots not rotting away in our landfills to stony after story of chemical misuse, we inadvertently hurt the very source of our pleasure.

So, in honor of Earth Day, read from the archives eight easy things we can do as gardeners to tread a bit more lightly on 'ole Mother.

#### Feed the soil, not the plant

Have your soil tested and ask for organic recommendations to correct nutrient deficiencies. Replenishing your garden with amendments like rock phosphate and greensand will help to create long-lasting nutrient storehouses.

Healthy soil will produce plants that are less prone to insect and disease problems.

#### Start a compost pile

Layer your vegetable and yard waste, keep it moist and give it a turn. After a short time it will decompose, leaving behind a great source of organic matter.

bought their plants in and use them to grow next years crop.

If not, maybe you could reuse them to start some home-grown seedlings and recycle the rest. An even better solution for earth conscious growers would be to replace plastic with fiber (stronger than peat and made from recycled materials to boot).

#### Use least toxic measures to control bugs and other garden thugs

Beer to trap slugs, and baking soda for black spot – the list of remedies to fight garden maladies is numerous and not always a stretch of the imagination. If you must choose a chemical option follow the manufacturer's recommendations. Assuming that more is better is outdated and dangerous thinking!

Mix one part well-rotted compost or manure to five parts water and allow it to sit for a week or more. Strain before foliar feeding your plants.

#### Shop Mom and Pop

Buying local, directly from the grower usually means a knowledgeable sales team! Form relationships and learn from their expertise.

Ask them to carry organic seeds, potting soils and pest control options.

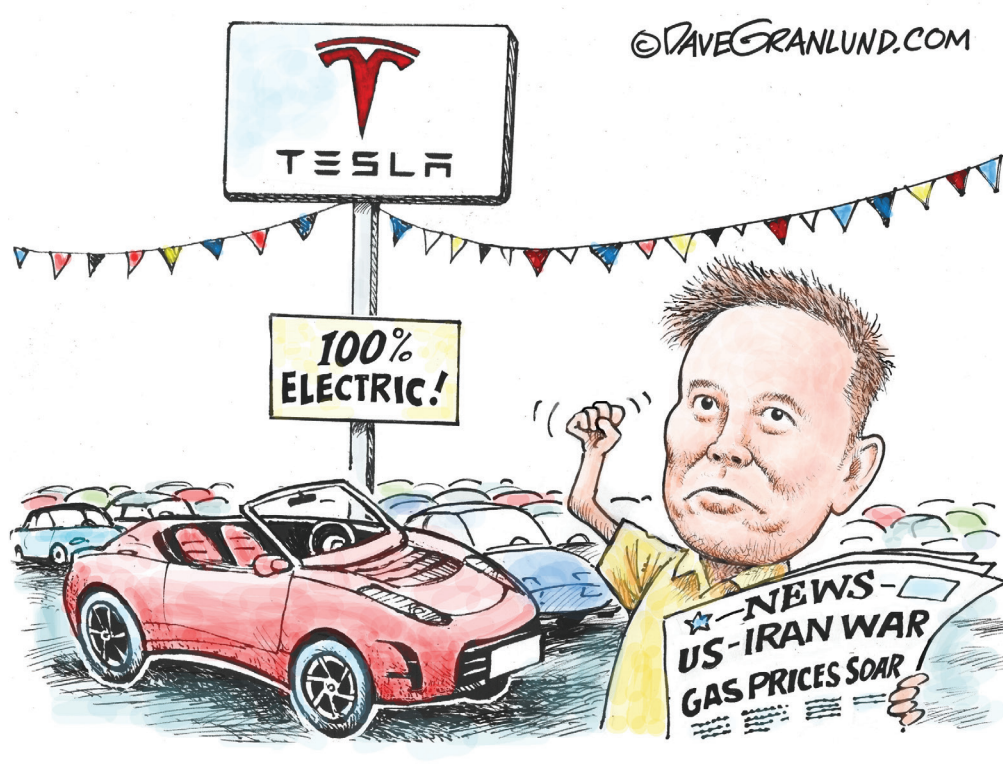
#### Reduce, reuse, recycle!

I first became familiar with this catch phrase back in 1990, when Earth Day celebrations went global. In the context of plastic pots and other containers used to grow or move plants, I'd like to think that the local Mom and Pop shop would take back the pots you



by Roberta McQuaid

See **BACKYARD** PAGE 10



**QUABOAG CURRENT**

**We Want to Hear From You**

**EDITOR**  
Paula Ouimette  
pouimette@turley.com

**ADVERTISING SALES**  
Dan Flynn  
dflynn@turley.com

**SPORTS EDITOR**  
Greg Scibelli  
sports@turley.com

THE QUABOAG CURRENT (USPS# 10860) is published every Friday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977. Periodical Postage Prices are Paid at Palmer, MA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069.

**WEB**  
quaboagcurrent.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.

### OPINION PAGE/ LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length, and guest columns between 500 and 800 words. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require that the person submitting the opinion also include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, or defamation of character.

**Send opinions to:**  
Letters to the Editor, 80 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082 OR e-mail to pouimette@turley.com. Deadline for submission is Monday at noon for the following week's edition.

**Our advertisers make this publication possible.**

Let them know you saw their ad in the Quaboag Current

# - community -



East Quabbin Land Trust, Executive Director Cynthia Henshaw and President Judith Jones attended the community showcase in New Braintree.



The town's 275th Committee was represented by Jessica Bennett and Joe Chenevert.



Tom Clough posed with a pickleball racket as part of the pickleball organization that plays in the Town Hall.

### COMMUNITY SHOWCASE FROM PAGE 1

Post Cane, which he said was given to 400-500 towns and historically given to the oldest resident of that town, and that many towns are now bringing that tradition back. The 275th Anniversary Committee gave out flyers showcasing their planned events, including a Patriotic Kickoff event on July 5, where the Air Force Heritage of America Band will play, Old Home Day on Oct. 3, and the New Year's Eve Gala on Dec. 31.

Deb Morrisson with the Flower Society showed off some of the crafts the group makes, and said they even go on trips.



Members of the Tri-Parish Community Church are shown from left to right, Minister Duncan Wasburn, Mary Alice Pollard and Tammi Chisholm.



The display table of the Flower Society included some crafts the group members have made, and pictures of some locations they have visited.



The Historical Society had a display table with town memorabilia.



The Boston Post Cane as presented by the Historical Society.



### Nobody dreams of having multiple sclerosis

Some dreams are universal: hitting a ball over the Green Monster; winning the World Series with a grand slam in the bottom of the ninth inning. Finding out you have MS is not one of them.

Multiple sclerosis is a devastating disease of the central nervous system where the body's immune system attacks the insulation surrounding the nerves. It strikes adults in the prime of life - and changes lives forever.

To help make the dream of ending MS come true, call 1-800-FIGHT MS or visit us online at [nationalmssociety.org](http://nationalmssociety.org).



**DON'T BUY UNTIL YOU SEE US!**

# Spring SALE! GAS GRILL SALE!

**HUGE KITCHEN PACKAGE & LAUNDRY REBATES**

- 32" HD Smart TV.....\$99.99 (Regularly \$149.99)
- 43" Smart TV.....\$199.99 (Regularly \$249.99)
- 50" HDTV Television...\$229.99 (Regularly \$269.99)
- 55" 4K HDTV Television...\$249.99 (Regularly \$349.99)
- 65" HDTV Television...\$329.99 (Regularly \$599.99)
- 75" HDTV.....\$499.99 (Regularly \$699.99)

**MATTRESS SALE!**

**TWIN: \$199** (REGULARLY \$299)

**FULL: \$269** (REGULARLY \$499)

**QUEEN: \$299** (REGULARLY \$599)

**PRE-SEASON SAVINGS! A/C's**  
Great Selection!

**BIKE SALE!**  
1000's IN STOCK!  
E-BIKES IN STOCK!  
WE REPAIR BIKES!  
SPRING BIKE TUNE-UP: \$49.99!

DELUXE AIR FRY GAS RANGE Reg. \$699.99 <b>\$749.99</b>	FRIGIDAIRE DISHWASHER Reg. \$399.99 <b>\$299.99</b>	21 CUBIC FOOT FREEZER Reg. \$999.99 <b>\$799.99</b>	G.E. 27 CU. FT. FRENCH DOOR REFRIGERATOR Reg. \$1999.99 <b>\$1399.99</b>	5 CU. FT. CHEST FREEZER Reg. \$299.99 <b>\$189.99</b>	AMANA WASHER OR DRYER Reg. \$599.99 <b>\$489.99</b>
FRIGIDAIRE 18 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR Reg. \$699.99 <b>\$599.99</b>	FAMOUS MAKER OVER THE STOVE MICROWAVE Reg. \$249.99 <b>\$229.99</b>	LG #3400 WASHER & DRYER Front Load, Reg. \$1599.99 <b>\$1399.99</b>	MAYTAG DELUXE WASHER OR DRYER Reg. \$699.99 <b>\$549.99</b>	WHIRLPOOL SIDE BY SIDE Reg. \$1499.99 <b>\$1199.99</b>	<p>WE INSTALL TELEVISIONS, MICROWAVES &amp; DISHWASHERS!</p> <p><b>2025</b> THE OFFICIAL COMMUNITY'S CHOICE AWARDS Best of Central Mass</p>

**INSTANT FINANCING UP TO \$10,000!**

VISA   MasterCard   AMERICAN EXPRESS   DISCOVER

# WHITCO

Store Hours: Mon. thru Fri: 10am-8:30pm • Sat: 9am-8pm • Sun: 12 Noon-7pm

**140 MAIN STREET, SPENCER, MA**  
**508.885.9343**  
**SEE WHITCOSALES.COM**  
**FOR 100's OF DEALS!**

# - community -



The cast and ensemble of "The Lion King Jr." sang "Circle of Life". Payton Schreier (left) as Sarabi, and Karl Prosser as Mufasa during the presentation of Simba.



Karl Prosser (left) as Mufasa spoke to Young Simba, played by Ceres Martino.



Kai Menard as Scar during the musical number "Be Prepared".

## LION KING FROM PAGE 1

joyed learning the African language for the show and portraying Rafiki.

Kai Menard gave an unforgettable performance as the evil Scar. Throughout the play, Menard executed the antagonistic role well and was stone cold mean.

The performance of "Be Prepared" was done well with amazing lighting, which added more evil to Scar's performance. The performance featured the ensemble as an army of hyenas, including Shenzi, Banzai and Ed, played by Annabelle Bloom, Kennah Martino and Rolando Galvan.

Young Simba was played by Ceres Martino, a seventh grader at Quaboag. In her role, she performed in the musical number "I



Ellie LeClair as Nala and Ceres Martino (Young Simba) are shown alongside the ensemble during the performance of "I Just Can't Wait to Be King".

Just Can't Wait to Be King" alongside Ellie LeClair as Young Nala and Emery Faubert as Zazu.

Making his theater debut in "The Lion King Jr." was Simone Grutti as adult Simba.

Grutti as Simba arrived on stage during the amazing performance of "Hakuna Matata" alongside Jessica Waddell as Timon, and Caden Charron as Pumbaa. Charron also got to do Pumbaa's hilarious solo of

"When I was a Young Wart-hog".

Karl Prosser played Mufasa and Payton Schreier played Sarabi and first took the stage during the introduction of Simba and the performance of "Circle of Life". Abigail Landine played adult Nala in the show and was excited to be a part of a show that is based on a movie she grew up loving.

The performance of "The Lion King Jr." brought back memories of those who grew up watching the Lion King when they were children. It is a timeless story that can be performed on screen and in theater.



The dreaded hyenas from left, Banzai played by Kennah Martino, Ed by Rolando Galvan and Shenzi by Annabelle Bloom.



The introduction of Adult Simba, played by Simone Grutti, who was making his theater debut.



Zazu, played by Emery Faubert (center), confronted Young Simba and Young Nala before they're approached by danger.

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

### CLUES ACROSS

- Egyptian bull-god
- Romanian monetary unit
- Will Ferrell holiday film
- "It Ain't Half Hot Mum" actor
- Error-related negativity
- Volcanic crater
- Boston Herald columnist Margery
- True market value
- Italian term for exchange rate
- Informal loan clubs
- Men's fashion accessory
- Children's craft supply
- Extra benefits
- In an early way
- A judge has one
- Soviet Socialist Republic

### CLUES DOWN

- Bridge building degree
- Expression of sorrow or pity
- Large, stocky lizard
- Romanian river
- Communication
- Stoats
- Showcases
- Bird of prey
- King of Thebes
- Cleaving tool
- Large African antelope
- Three are particularly notable
- Meet one's needs
- C. European river
- Dictator
- Indicates how much out of 100 (abbr.)
- The 17th letter of the Greek alphabet
- Consume food

### CLUES ACROSS

- One-time president of Republic of Korea
- Woman (French)
- Scrape a surface
- Green vegetable
- Pacific Standard Time
- Capital of Brazilian city
- Paddle
- Cause to become insane
- Drier and flakier
- Mimic
- ESPN personality
- Kimes
- One who moves slowly
- Secret political clique
- Behind the stern of a ship
- Supernatural force
- Sanctuary
- Swiss river
- Grayish white
- Engrave by coating
- North Carolina university
- Midway between south and southeast



Jessica Waddell as Timon, left, and Caden Charron as Pumbaa during the performance of "Hakuna Matata".



Young Simba was trapped during the stampede of wildebeests.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY RYAN DRAGO

# SPORTS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

SEND US YOUR SPORTS SUBMISSIONS

## Warriors get late surge to beat Orioles

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

BELCHERTOWN—The non-league girls' lacrosse match-up between the Tantasqua Lady Warriors and the Belchertown Lady Orioles was a tightly contested affair until the middle of the third quarter.

With the score tied, 7-7, the Lady Warriors outscored the Lady Orioles, 8-1, over the final 18 minutes of the contest leading to a 15-8 road victory last Friday afternoon.

"I thought my team played very well, especially during the second half,"

said Tantasqua head coach Heather Egan. "We lost a tough game yesterday and it feels very good to enter the vacation week with a victory."

Tantasqua (5-4), who aren't scheduled to play any games during the April vacation week, suffered an 8-3 road loss against Northbridge High School twenty-four hours earlier.

The Lady Warriors have now won five of the last six meetings against Belchertown, which includes a 15-7 home win a year ago.

The only time that the Lady Orioles (5-3), celebrated a win in the series was a

14-9 victory on their home grass field two years ago.

"We did win at Chicopee High School (19-9) yesterday," said Belchertown head coach Jarrod Lemke. "This has always been a tough match-up game. They're just a fundamentally sound team."

Belchertown, who never held the lead against Tantasqua, is scheduled to play two home games this week.

The Lady Warriors, who play their home matches on a turf field, played their second game on a grass field this spring. They posted a 21-9 win at Notre Dame of Worcester on April 14.

"We've practiced on grass to get ready for our two grass games," Egan said. "It's a lot slower game on grass."

The duo of senior Tess Alexander and sophomore Maeve O'Neil combined to score eight of the Lady Warriors 15 goals in the only meeting of the regular season against the Lady Orioles.

O'Neil scored five goals, which tied her career high. She was also credited with an assist.

"I'm playing with a lot more confidence so far this season," said O'Neil, who's a second-year varsity player. "I'm also one of the leaders

on the field."

O'Neil's older sister, Kaydie, is a first year member of the Wheaton College women's lacrosse team.

Alexander also recorded a hat-trick with three goals and three assists.

"Both of them have been our leaders offensively so far this season," Egan said. "They always make good decisions and are always in the right places on the field."

Alexander, who holds the school record for career assists, is one of the remaining Tantasqua players who lost to Belchertown in 2024.

"It definitely feels a lot better than the last time we

played a game on this field," said Alexander, who's planning to play both soccer and lacrosse at Framingham State University. "I really enjoy assisting a little more than I do scoring a goal."

Senior Fiona Knott, who's the Lady Warriors starting goalie, will be playing lacrosse at Bridgewater State University, which is Egan's alma mater.

"We'll have three players playing college lacrosse next year," Egan said. "It's always nice to see your players go on and play a sport at the next level."

See WARRIORS PAGE 8

## Tough start for Pathfinder baseball



Brody Wetnicka winds back for a pitch.

PALMER – Last Monday afternoon, Pathfinder baseball fell to 0-5 on the season with a 15-1 loss against visiting St. Mary's. The Saints scored 10 times in the first inning to pace win. Pathfinder just managed two hits, including a Brody Wetnicka RBI hit. The Pioneers are now 0-6 on the season.



Emerson Boronski catches a pop fly.



Jake Kokoski catches a strike.



Zack Smith hits a grounder into play.

## Pioneers still searching for first win

PALMER – Last Thursday afternoon, Pathfinder fell to host Palmer 8-3 at Palmer High School. For Pathfinder, Taylor Thornton and Addison Doktor had two hits each. Doktor drove in two of Pathfinder's runs. Hannah Roy, Kylee Lukas and Amhia McElreavy had three hits each. Jaclyn Swiatowski had three RBI. Jill Holbrook pitched a complete game, allowing three runs and eight hits, striking out five. The Pioneers are 0-7 while Palmer improved to 2-5 for the year.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY MADDOX BAER  
Ellisyn Gelinas pulls back for the throw.



Taylor Thornton sets to swing.



Taylor Thornton throws a strike over home plate.

## Thunderbirds defeat Wolf Pack, await playoff opponent

SPRINGFIELD - The Springfield Thunderbirds (32-32-6-2) overcame another hard charge from the Hartford Wolf Pack (26-38-5-3) to emerge with a 4-3 win on Saturday night before a sellout crowd of 6,793 inside the Mass-Mutual Center.

After a disheartening third period on Friday, the T-Birds came out with a clear purpose to their game in the opening 20 minutes, outpacing Hartford on the shot board, 18-4. Despite that disparity, it took until the 14:14 mark and the club's 16th shot of the pe-

riod to find the back of the net. Dillon Dube did just that, deflecting an Alek Kaskimaki shot past Calum Tung's glove to make it a 1-0 lead for Springfield.

Dube's work was not done, either, as the veteran forward cranked a one-timer through Tung at 19:07 off a pass into the high slot from Calle Rosen, giving him 20 goals in just 46 games this season and joining Chris Wagner and Kaskimaki as 20-goal scorers for this season's T-Birds squad.

Juraj Pekarcik helped buoy the lead further when

he stole a puck from two defenders and quickly chipped a forehand shot past Tung at 5:45 of the second to make it a 3-0 lead for the home team.

However, for a second straight night, the Wolf Pack refused to go away quietly, as Brendan Brisson's second goal in two nights got Hartford on the board at 7:56 of the second. Then Aidan Thompson stole a puck off the right wing wall and quickly funneled a forehand shot through Will Cranley on

See T-BIRDS PAGE 8



Addison Doktor winds back for a swing.




Ellisyn Gelinas pressures the runner.

# - community -

[@turleysports](#) [www.turleysports.com](http://www.turleysports.com) [facebook.com/turleysports](https://facebook.com/turleysports)

## Turleysports

### Athlete of the Month



**NAME:** Liam McGrath  
**SCHOOL:** Quaboag

In McGrath's opening start of the season earlier this month against Quabbin, he had 13 strikeouts in almost five innings of work.

To nominate someone for Athlete of the Week, contact Managing Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at 413-283-8393 ext. 258 or send an e-mail to [gscibelli@turley.com](mailto:gscibelli@turley.com).

## Railers get win in penultimate game

WORCESTER – For the Railers' loyal fans, the 2025-26 hockey season has gone from being "wait till next year" to "we can't wait for next year."

The home team increased its winning streak to five games with a wonderful 3-2 overtime victory over the Adirondack Thunder Saturday night. Drew Callin, assisted by Anthony, got the winner at 4:05 of OT.

The game went into extra minutes thanks to a late goal by the Thunder.

MacAuley Carson and Max Dorrington had the other Railers goals, both in the first period. Dylan Wendt and Grant Loven scored for the Thunder. Loven's goal came with only 2:09 left in regulation and just six seconds after a delay of game penalty on Adam Samuelsson had expired.

The Railers got ahead early on Carson's goal at 4:41 of the first period. He received a neat pass from Riley Piercey along the left boards and beat Thunder goaltender Tyler Brennan along the ice from about 20 feet out. It was Carson's seventh goal of the season and third in the last five games after he endured an 11-game drought.



Adirondack, though, carried no momentum into overtime. The Railers outshot the visitors, 4-0, in the fourth period. At times it looked like Worcester was playing with a two-man advantage.

The winning goal came via a short pass from Anthony to Drew in close. The older Callin had a tap-in, although a minute earlier he had missed what looked like a gimme from in close on a similar play.

The goal was Drew Callin's 25th of the season. He is merely the fifth Railers player to reach that plateau and has two of Worcester's eight overtime goals this year.

"We love that OT," he said, adding, "We came into the weekend knowing it was the last weekend and we wanted to go out the right way. We wanted to get the first one and do it again (Sunday)."

Parker Gahagen was the winning goaltender with another great performance. He made 23 saves to improve his record to 20-11-1. Gahagen is only the second individual Railers goalie with a 20-win season. Mitch Gillam won 20-plus in the team's first two years as members of the ECHL.

It is Gahagen's second personal 20-win year as pro, at least with the same team. He was 20-10-3 with the Florida Everblades when they won the Kelly Cup in 21-22. Gahagen has been beyond good at the DCU Center. He is 10-4-0 at home with a 1.96 goals-against average and .930 saves percentage.

Worcester retained its 1-0 lead for about 14 minutes. Dorrington made it a 2-0 game at 18:26 His goal came on a bad angle shot from the right of the net with Gleb Veremyev and Adam Samuelsson picking up assists. The goal was Dorrington's seventh and he has four in the last five games.

The Railers kept Adirondack off the scoreboard for more than half of the second period but Wendt got his team a goal at 10:41. It was a very nice play all around as Thunder defenseman Connor Hutchison slid a diagonal pass from the left point to Wendt between the circles.

He re-directed it over Gahagen's glove into the top corner.

Worcester nearly regained its two-goal lead shortly after that as Lincoln Hatten had the puck and some space about 25 feet out but was denied by Brennan.

Adirondack's tying goal came from in close, set up by a shot from Kevin O'Neil.

**MOULTON**  
Insurance Agency | A TruCardio Business

HOME – AUTO – BUSINESS – LIFE

## CONGRATULATIONS ATHLETE!

**Very Competitive Rates • Experienced Professional Staff**  
**99% Claim Satisfaction Rate • On-site Registry Processing**

143 West Street Ware, MA 01082 | 45 North Main Street Belchertown, MA 01007


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

413-967-3327 **Safety Insurance**  
AUTO • HOME • BUSINESS

## Follow Turley Sports on Instagram

Turley Publications sports department has recently joined Instagram. You can find our account by searching "turleysports." We will regularly feature samples of photos that you will see in our publications on a weekly basis. Please follow and share with your friends and loved ones. We will be featuring photos from all 11 of our sports sections, but as always, you can see all the photos that appear by subscribing to your local paper or picking up a copy in your community.

# Send Us Your Community Summer Events



Turley Publications will print your Summer event **FREE OF CHARGE** in our Summer Fest Supplement which will be published June 3, 2026. Total circulation of 85,000 which reaches over 200,000 readers in the Pioneer Valley. **Event Should Be Non-Profit & Open to the Public**

**FREE Calendar Listings Reaching over 200,000 Readers in the Pioneer Valley**

Event Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date/Time \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Description \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Cost \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name & phone number for more information \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Please specify if you would like your name and number printed in the paper.*

**Deadline for Calendar submissions is May 6.**

**MAIL YOUR LISTING INFORMATION TO: Turley Publications, Attn: Jamie Joslyn, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069 or email\* them to: [jamie@turley.com](mailto:jamie@turley.com)**

**\*Be sure to indicate "Summer Event" in the subject line of your email.**

**WARRIORS FROM PAGE 7**

Knott made several key saves, especially during the opening half, which helped the Lady Warriors keep the lead. She gave her thoughts on following in her coaches' footsteps.

"I decided to go to Bridgewater because it was a good fit for me," Knott said. "I think it's cool that I'll be following in my coaches' footsteps. I'm excited to play college lacrosse. We were able to score a bunch of goals in today's game, which took a lot of the pressure off me."

Freshman Liza Alexander scored two goals and sophomore Liv Kearns added another goal during the final four minutes of the third period, which helped the Lady Warriors build an 11-7 lead entering the final twelve minutes of the match.

The trio of junior Bryn Carey, junior Liana McCarthy, and senior Abbie Wotten also chipped in with goals for the visiting team from Fiskdale.

The only other senior listed on the Tantasqua girl's lacrosse roster is Ella Kearns, who's a starting defender.

Belchertown senior goalie Emma Almeida, who didn't play in the home game versus Tantasqua, is planning to play lacrosse at Elms College.

Freshman Vivienza Haggerty made her first career

home start in goal for the Lady Orioles.

"Vivienza played well in her first home game," Lemke said. "Because Emma is a senior, I just want Vivienza to get some experience this year. They're probably going to split playing time."

Junior Lia Pikul posted a hat-trick for the Lady Orioles. Her third goal of the game tied the score for the final time at 7-7 with six minutes left in the third quarter.

Junior's Lily Tellier and Aubrey McCain both scored two goals for the Lady Orioles.

Junior Maddy Philpott added a goal and two assists for the home team.

**T-BIRDS FROM PAGE 7**

the stick side to cut it to 3-2 at 12:48 of the period.

From there on, though, the T-Birds' rookie netminder was monstrous, as Cranley would make 37 saves by the time his night was done.

Just 33 seconds after Thompson's goal, Springfield got a much-needed response when Hugh McGing put a shot off a defenseman's stick and past Tung's shoulder, giving the T-Birds a two-goal cushion heading into the third.

Controversy made an appearance 3:46 into the third

when Brisson poked a puck, along with Cranley's pad, across the line on a power play to make it a 4-3 game. The T-Birds argued heavily, but the officials stayed with the goal call on the ice, and the margin was down to one heading down the stretch.

McGing appeared to have Springfield's fifth goal of the night moments later, but after video replay, he was deemed to have kicked the puck over the line, so the 4-3 score was upheld.

Despite a furious push of 36 shots over the final 40 minutes of play, the Wolf Pack wound up finishing one goal short.

By virtue of their win and Hershey's regulation loss to the Islanders, Springfield now awaits the final outcome of the Bears' Sunday contest with the Rochester Americans to determine who their first-round opponent will be.

If Rochester defeats the Bears, Springfield will secure the 5-seed and face the Bridgeport Islanders, who locked in the 4-seed with their win over Hershey on Saturday.

If the Bears defeat the Americans, Springfield will be the 6-seed and face the Charlotte Checkers, the 3-seed who would host all three games of the best-of-three series.

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

**\$12.50 Each**



**Digital Photos**

TURLEY PUBLICATIONS, INC.

Purchase a photo that recently ran in one of our publications. Go to [newspapers.turley.com/photo-request](http://newspapers.turley.com/photo-request)

# - community -

## N BROOKFIELD FROM PAGE 1

She said she keeps a buffer of \$50,000-\$60,000 to pay for events like this, but that buffer is depleted now. She said the town needs “every penny” for reserve fund transfers, and the Highway Department is going to need money, noting the new fiscal year is only two and a half months away.

She said any unneeded expenses need to be frozen, as the reserve fund is nearly empty.

Select Board member Beth Coughlin noted that communication should be had with the department heads to help them understand this is not their fault. The board ultimately decided that any purchase of over \$500 should be brought to the board for approval.

## Bell tower

Coughlin said she has gotten one quote and one firm “no” quote for the bell tower. She requested permission from Chair Sarah Campbell to accept the lowest bid pending legal considerations. The request was accepted in a motion.

## Town administrator discussion

Coughlin presented a draft charge for the town administrator search committee, which was adopted. The board voted to create a job posting for both interim and full time town administrator as well.

## Environmental Certifying Officer

The board designated Executive Assistant Karen Trainor as the Community Development Block Grant Environmental Certifying Officer.

## New Braintree Police Log

During the weeks of March 24-April 6, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 28 building/property checks, 37 directed/area patrols, 15 radar assignments, four traffic controls, nine emergency 911 calls, two safety hazards, five citizen assists, one assist other agency, one utility issue, one motor vehicle investigation, one scam, one motor vehicle accident, four animal calls and 15 motor vehicle stops in the town of New Braintree.

### Tuesday, March 24

9:50 a.m. Safety Hazard, Hardwick Road, Services Rendered  
6:09 p.m. Assist Citizen, West Road, Served in Hand

### Wednesday, March 25

10:05 a.m. Utility Issues,

Hardwick Road, Dispatch Handled

11:42 a.m. Assist Citizen, Sibley Road, Dispatch Handled

5:07 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hardwick Road, Citation issued

### Thursday, March 26

4:42 a.m. Motor Vehicle Crash, Gilbertville Road, Officer Handled

2:53 p.m. Scam, Skivira Lane, Report Taken

### Friday, March 27

6:36 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Ravine Road, Written Warning

7:40 a.m. Safety Hazard, Barre Road, Referred to Other Agency

7:50 a.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Gilbertville Road, Vehicle Towed

11:26 a.m. Assist Citi-

zen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

5:44 p.m. Assist Citizen, McKay Road, Spoken To

8:08 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Sibley Road, Transported to Hospital

### Saturday, March 28

11:13 a.m. 911 Animal Call, Ravine Road, Officer Handled

Monday, March 30  
8:45 p.m. 911 Misdial, Unitas Road, Spoken To

### Tuesday, March 31

2:50 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, West Brookfield Road, Patient Refusal

### Wednesday, April 1

8:13 a.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

12:49 p.m. 911 Medical

Emergency, West Brookfield Road, Transported to Hospital

### Thursday, April 2

9:44 p.m. 911 Animal Call, Utley Road, Referred to Other Agency

### Friday, April 3

8:30 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Gilbertville Road, Negative Contact

5:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Ravine Road, Written Warning

### Saturday, April 4

10:44 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Ravine Road, Transported to Hospital

### Sunday, April 5

2:57 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, West Brookfield Road, Services Rendered



# Quaboag Hills

## CHIP GENERAL BODY MEETING

Open to the General Public!

Join us to review progress, hear updates, and discuss next steps for the CHIP initiative.

FOOD AND DRINKS WILL BE PROVIDED!

**MAY 1, 2026**  
**10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

**E2E Center,  
79 Main St.,  
Ware, MA 01082**

**RSVP BY  
APRIL 24**

Scan QR Code or Use Link:  
<https://forms.gle/Bq8VtsUvLs2yan8V6> to Register



## CONTACT US

413-807-0901  
sblake@townofware.com

## - legals -

### TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L Chapter 40A, Section 5 Adoption or change of zoning ordinances or by-laws, the West Brookfield Planning Board will open a public hearing on **Monday, May 11th, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.** in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 2 East Main Street.

The following amendment will be considered:

Amend the West Brookfield Zoning Bylaws by deleting language pertaining to minor site plan classifications in Section 5. Special Requirements.

Copies of the proposed amendment are available at the Office of the Town Clerk and on the Town webpage under "Planning Board": <https://www.wbrookfield.com/>.

The Board invites all interested parties to attend and offer comments on the proposed zoning amendment.

Timothy Morrell, Chairperson  
04/24, 05/01/2026

### Town of Brookfield Notice of Public Hearing Petition for Joint or Identical Pole Locations

The Select Board will hold a Public Hearing on the petition of NATIONAL GRID on **Wednesday, May 6th, 2026 at 7: 05 PM** in the Police Station Meet-

ing Room, 7 Prouty Street, Brookfield, MA 01506 on the following matter:

NATIONAL GRID requests permission to locate poles, wires, and fixtures, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, along and across the following public way:

**National Grid to install 1 JO Pole on Quaboag St. National Grid to install JO mid span Pole on Quaboag St. near the intersection of South Maple St. Install P150 and 15' anchor approximately 56' southeast of existing P1.**

No.# 31198603

All interested parties are requested to provide written or verbal comments on the petition to the Select Board at [selectmen@brookfieldma.us](mailto:selectmen@brookfieldma.us) prior to, or at the **Public Hearing on Wednesday, May 6, 2026 at 7:05 p.m.** 04/24/2026

### Town of Brookfield Notice of Public Hearing Petition for Pole and Wire Locations

The Select Board will hold a Public Hearing on the petition of NATIONAL GRID on **Wednesday, May 6th, 2026 at 7:15 PM** in the Police Station Meeting Room, 7 Prouty Street Brookfield, MA 01506 on the following matter:

NATIONAL GRID requests permission to locate poles, wires, and fixtures, including the necessary sustaining and protecting

fixtures, along and across the following public way:

**National Grid to install 1 SO Pole on Quaboag St. National Grid to install SO Pole P65 approximately 70' northwest of existing P19 Shore Road.**

No. # 31198603

All interested parties are requested to provide written or verbal comments on the petition to the Select Board at [selectmen@brookfieldma.us](mailto:selectmen@brookfieldma.us) prior to, or at the **Public Hearing on Wednesday, May 6, 2026 at 7:15 p.m.** 04/24/2026

### LEGAL NOTICE:

**Town Of West Brookfield Conservation Commission**  
Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30A, 18-25, as amended by Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2009, The Wetlands Protection Act, the West Brookfield Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **WEDNESDAY, May 6, 2026 at 6:00 pm** in the first floor meeting room, West Brookfield Town Hall, 2 East Main Street.

**6:00 – Public Hearing:**  
**RDA** – 184 West Main Street – Copper Lantern - Brush Clearing along river

**NOI** – 142 Wickaboag Valley Road – Johnson – Accessory Use Construction

**NOI** – 380 West Main Street – Raymakers Construction – Staging area  
04/24/2026

## - community -

### W BROOKFIELD FROM PAGE 1

additional cuts are "imminent."

### Police Department

Police Chief Nathan Hagglund gave a presentation on what the Police Department's services would look like with a reduced budget. He said the department is requesting a budget about 2.5% higher than last year.

He said the town currently provides 24/7 police coverage, and two officers on the evening shift. Hagglund explained that the department also provides coverage for town events like the Memorial Day parade, Halloween and White Christmas celebrations.

He said that with a reduced budget, there would not be around the clock coverage, as there would be certain eight-hour periods throughout the month where there are no officers covering the town, and they would have to rely on mutual aid from other towns, or the Massachusetts State Police Barracks in Brookfield, which only staff one trooper per two districts they cover. He explained that one trooper may be in Holden at the time of the call, and have a long drive to West Brookfield to respond.

Hagglund explained that with a reduced budget, there is less funding for overtime, which usually costs nearly \$60,000 a year, which is how officers are paid for covering town events. He said because of this, there would not be any coverage for town events, except for the Memorial Day parade this year.

He said that administrative duties, such as freedom of information act requests, and licenses to carry are done by an executive assistant who works 30-hour weeks. He said with a reduced budget, she would only be able to work eight-hour weeks, resulting in delays, and that officers will have to take time out of their day to do those duties.

### Fire Department

Fire Chief Thomas Bessette said the department currently has a part-time chief (Bessette) who works 19-hour weeks, along with 14 on-call members. He said other than emergency services, the department

also conducts inspections and permitting, and covers town events such as the asparagus festival and bonfire.

Bessette said the operating budget this year is about 6% higher than last year, and the request for fiscal year 2027 is about 7% less than their budget this year. He said the cuts are coming from salaries, and various other line items where the department could find room for deferrals.

Bessette said some of the impacts of a reduced budget could be holding off maintenance, testing and purchases.

### Highway Department

Highway Superintendent Jim Daley said the tree warden budget has been cut 44%, and there is a backlog of trees that need to be taken down. He said he is being asked to cut the Highway budget by 10%, which would affect vehicle maintenance, and cut the hours of the administrative assistant from 40 to 24 a week.

He said the administrative assistant helps with grants and reimbursements. Daley said the drop off center would have to be closed on Wednesdays.

He said the department was down three plow drivers this past winter, and a contractor who was hired to do private roads would be eliminated with a reduced budget. Daley said the town road maintenance budget could be cut from \$75,000 to \$50,000, and a budget for private roads would be cut to zero from \$10,000.

### Town Clerk

Cofske said the Town Clerk's office would be open for three days instead of four with a reduced budget, and the position who completes dog licenses would be eliminated. She also said the recreation's budget is only \$1,500, and there would be no lifeguards at the town beach, and the budget will only cover trash and portable toilets.

### Library

Library Director, Amy Agro, explained some of the reduced budget impacts for the Merriam Gilbert Public Library. She said there are various state certifications that decide what the budget has to look like, such as the Municipal Appropriation Requirement and the min-

imum standards of service.

She said the appropriation requirement has to be at least an average of the previous three year's budgets, and that under the reduced budget the library would not meet this requirement.

She said there is a MAR waiver that can only last five consecutive years, and must show proof of attempted improvement, so the library can avoid losing certification. She said that staying certified is important because materials from certified libraries are not loaned to citizens who come from towns with non-certified libraries.

She said the library has to spend about 20% of its budget on materials, and the MAR for this year is \$217,600, but the proposed MAR value on a reduced budget is about \$203,000.

She said the departmental budget (expenses, not including salaries) for FY 26 was about \$74,200, and the requested budget this year is about \$58,700, a decrease of nearly 21%. She said the biggest cuts were from books and materials, a 33% decrease, and computer and office supplies, with a decrease of about 20%. Professional development would be cut 75%, but the budget for FY 26 was only \$200, and the request for FY 27 is \$50.

She said there is a possibility of decreased programming at the library this year, and prioritization of popular titles, and less prioritization on audio-books.

### Senior Center

Senior Center Director Kelly Hitt said if the override failed, the Senior Center would be closed on Fridays, and if there are deeper cuts, it would be closed on Tuesdays as well, which would affect much of the programming the center offers.

The Friday closures would shift Zumba, pitch, bridge, and the walking groups to other days. Coffee hour, blood pressure clinic, and the hearing clinic would also be affected, Hitt said.

She said if the center is also closed on Tuesdays, tai chi, dunkin divas, and the busy bees would be shifted to other days, and explained they would likely lose instructors.

## Asparagus chowder at First Congregational Church

WEST BROOKFIELD – On Saturday, May 16 during the town of West Brookfield's Asparagus, Heritage and Flower Festival on the town common, (10 a.m.-3 p.m.), the First Congregational

Church, UCC, 36 North Main St., will offer their famous asparagus chowder from their Chowder Tent located on the church lawn.

Hot chowder by the cup, cold chowder by the quart to

take home, yummy brownies and cold drinks will be available from 10 a.m. until it runs out. Inside and outside dining is available. Call the church for more information at 508-867-7078.

# Job Connection

HELPING YOU FIND HELP

## School Nutrition Team Member Openings IN MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL

Part time, multiple shifts available,  
Monday-Friday  
Great schedule & benefits  
\$18-\$20/hr

Contact info:  
[schoolmeals@qrsd.org](mailto:schoolmeals@qrsd.org)  
can apply via email inquiry  
**978-355-4668x8512**

Accepting paper applications at  
**872 South St. Barre, MA 01005**



think  
**OUTSIDE**  
of the  
**BIG BOX**  
SUPPORT  
COMMUNITY  
BUSINESSES

### TOWN OF WARE JOB OPENINGS

#### ► Part-Time Administrative Assistant

Part-time Administrative Assistant in the Treasurer/Collector's Office. Duties and responsibilities include but are not limited to performing a variety of administrative and financial support functions for the Collector's Office, including processing payments, issuing receipts, preparing and reconciling daily deposits, and maintaining records. Provides customer service by responding to inquiries and resolving account issues. Part-time, non-benefited, non-union, \$22.80-\$23.49 per hour, 18 hours per week.

#### ► Assistant Treasurer/Collector

Assistant Treasurer/Collector. Duties and responsibilities include but are not limited to a variety of accounting and administrative functions to assist the Treasurer/Collector in all financial operations of the office. The Assistant provides skilled accounting and computer banking support, including billing and collection activities, account reconciliation, cash management, reporting, and research, as well as other municipal procedures and functions as required. Full-time, benefited, union position, \$25.53-\$26.29 per hour, 35 hours per week

#### ► Equipment Operator/Truck Driver

Equipment Operator/Truck Driver in the Department of Public Works. Duties and responsibilities include but are not limited to Operating various types of motorized vehicles, trucks, dump trucks, sweepers, excavators, snow and ice removal equipment and other miscellaneous equipment, such as loaders, mowers, and chippers; Participating in emergency operations including but not limited to snowplowing, road sanding, snow and ice removal, hazardous materials mitigation, and natural disasters; Assisting with preparation of trucks and other equipment for different seasonal jobs including repairing and maintaining sanders and snow plows; Repairing roadways, sidewalks, pavements, and other surface areas and drainage structures, including excavating trenches, and chain saw operation. Full-time, 40 hours per week average, union position, \$23.32-\$25.26. Applicants are required to have a Class B CDL License with Air Brake endorsement endorsements.

For full job descriptions visit- <https://www.townofware.com/> Interested applicants please send resume to: Human Resources Department, Town of Ware, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082 or e-mail [resumes@townofware.com](mailto:resumes@townofware.com). AA/EOE

### BACKYARD FROM PAGE 4

#### Extend the harvest

Do you know how far most fruits and vegetables have to travel to reach the local supermarket? Probably far more than the average American travels in a year's time. Frustrated? Then read up on various methods of extending the use of your

own garden bounty past the growing season.

This could mean growing a few veggies like winter squash, onions or garlic – all of which store well. It could also mean trying your hand at freezing or drying some of your produce for use in the off-season.

Few of us can feed ourselves entirely, but whatever we can grow offsets the rest.

*Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 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](mailto:pouimette@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.*



## FIVE ISLANDS

Georgetown, Maine  
2 Bedrooms, 2 Bathroom  
Washer/Dryer, Fully Equipped  
• Walk to Five Islands Wharf and Ledgewood Preserve Beach  
• Close to Reid State Park

\$1200/week

**207-607-9333**



# 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

## MISCELLANEOUS

**ST. JUDE THANK YOU FOR** answering my prayers. **P.F.**

### TAG SALE

**MULTI-FAMILY TAG SALE.**  
MAY 2 AND MAY 3, 9AM-3PM.  
63 Charon Terrace, South Hadley.

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

### 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.

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

## ELECTRICIAN

I offer good quality electrical work, no project too small. Service upgrades, pools, trustworthy, dependable & insured.  
Master Elec. #20773A.  
Text/call Luis 413-218-3301.

**ZEN ELECTRIC COMPANY LLC**  
Fully licensed and insured; Master Electrician on staff. Call for all your electrical needs. No job too small. Senior citizen and Veteran Discount. A veteran owned company. MA License #8101A1.  
Call John at (413)206-6509

## HOME IMPROVEMENT

Handyman Services  
**Walker Home Improvement**  
Licensed & Insured  
Finish Carpentry • Framing • Drywall • Painting • & more!  
(413) 687-5552

## SERVICES

### HOME IMPROVEMENT SPECIALIST

Decks, porches, repair service, roofing and siding contractor.  
Tim 413-563-2229. Licensed/insured.  
35 year construction supervisor.

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

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

## LANDSCAPING

**A+ ROZELL'S LANDSCAPING & BOBCAT SERVICE**  
Excavator Services  
Overgrown property?  
Extreme Brush Cutting!  
Shrub, Stump, Tree Removal  
Lawn/Arboretum 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.

**DAVE MAZ LANDSCAPING**  
Lawn mowing, Spring thru Fall clean-ups, mulching, pruning. Serving parts of Hampden and Hampshire counties.  
Call 413-536-3697.

## SERVICES

**MATT GUERTIN LANDSCAPING**  
Landscape Design and Installation  
Paver Patios, Walkways  
For more services visit  
mattguertinlandscaping.com  
Call or text 413-266-9975  
Insured - Commercial - Residential

## LAWN & GARDEN

"**RANDY and RICKY Spring Cleanup, Call Paul Amherst**"

## 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.

## PLUMBING

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

## PRESSURE WASHING

**HOT WATER PRESSURE WASHING.**  
We use brushes and state of the art equipment. We remove grime and mold from homes, patios, fences, walkways, all decks, concrete & driveways. Senior Discounts. For free estimates call Bill (413)519-9800.

## RUBBISH REMOVAL

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

**BUY LOCALLY**  
support our community!

## 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.

**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

**H & H TREE SERVICE** All phases of tree care. Call Dave 413-668-6560 day/night.

## TUNE-UPS

### LAWNMOWER TUNE UP & REPAIR

**A&M TUNE-UPS**  
Push Lawnmowers, Riding Mowers and Small Engine Repair.  
Work done at your home.  
FREE PICKUP OF UNWANTED LAWN EQUIPMENT  
Call Mike (413) 348-7967

## STUMP GRINDING

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

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

## AUTO

### CAMPERS

**2011 KEYSTONE MONTANA MOUNTAINEER MODEL RKD** LENGTH 33', 2 SLIDE-OUTS, REAR KITCHEN, SLEEPS 4, LOTS OF STORAGE. \$8000. BRIMFIELD (413)374-1880

## PETS

**GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPS.** Champion Czech and Belgian bloodlines. 30 years experience. 3M, 2F. Ready, w/shots. Now \$1,200. 413-218-2321

## CLASSIFIED DEADLINES FRIDAY AT NOON

## HELP WANTED

The Town Oakham is seeking an experienced **LABORER/TRUCK DRIVER** to join the Highway department. Pay rate is \$26.26 - \$28.28/hr depending on experience.

For a full job description and job application please visit: [ma-oakham.civicplus.com](mailto:ma-oakham.civicplus.com) / 216/Highway-Department or email [admin@oakham-ma.gov](mailto:admin@oakham-ma.gov)

## REAL ESTATE

### FOR RENT



**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.

### 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.

## Advertise your HOME IMPROVEMENT SERVICES

in our classifieds.  
**WE GET RESULTS!**  
Call 413-283-8393



**STAY ON TOP OF IT ALL!**  
Subscribe Today!

**Turley Publications, Inc.**  
12 HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS  
413.283.8393  
[www.turley.com](http://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  
or call: 413-283-8393

DEADLINES: FRIDAY AT NOON

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

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

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

**Hilltowns**  
Circulation: 9,800

**Suburban Residential**  
Circulation: 59,000

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

**GREAT VALUE!**  
ALL 3 ZONES NOW FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!  
Make checks payable to Turley Publications

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

# - community -

## EQLT holds geocache outdoor scavenger hunt

**HARDWICK** – The East Quabbin Land Trust, 120 Ridge Road, will hold an outdoor geocache scavenger hunt between Saturday, April 18 and Sunday, May 3.

Participants search for five geocaches (boxes) on EQLT properties using GPS coordinates on their phones. Players collect one item from each geocache, one item per registration.

On May 3, players bring their items to the reveal party and play a game, competing against other scavenger hunt participants.

Each registration is \$20. Youth under 14 are free. To register for the event, people should visit <https://crm.nonprofiteasy.com/8133/Pages/Events/#/Details/14855/>.

At the reveal party on Sunday, May 3 at 2 p.m. at the EQLT office participants will open their geocache envelopes and play a scrabble game to crown winner. There is a prize for the winner.

For more information, people may visit <https://eqlt.org/geocache-scavenger-hunt/>.

## Free admission for children in April at OSV

**STURBRIDGE** – As spring arrives in New England, Old Sturbridge Village invites families to celebrate the season with a special offer: kids receive free general daytime admission throughout April.

During this month-long offer, up to two children, age 17 or younger, will be admitted free with each adult full-price general daytime admission ticket.

With warmer weather, children eager to get outside, and the nation approaching its 250th anniversary, it's the perfect time to step into New England's largest living history museum.

Visitors will experience

life in early New England through hands-on activities, outdoor games, masterful storytelling, and encounters with heritage-breed farm animals, including playful lambs, cows, and the hard-working oxen that once powered local farms.

The Village will also feature farmers preparing fields for planting, potters shaping clay, blacksmiths forging tools, households cooking over open hearths, and costumed interpreters sharing stories from the Revolutionary era and the nation's early years.

During April vacation weeks (April 15 -19 and April 22 - 26), families can

take part in Family Field Days, a series of 19th-century-inspired games, competitions, and feats of skill, including tug-of-war, jump rope challenges, scavenger hunts, and "trap, bat, and ball" (baseball, 1830s style).

"It's been an especially long winter, and I think families are ready to get outside again," said Jim Donahue, President and CEO of Old Sturbridge Village. "With kids visiting free in April, it's a great chance for families to come out, enjoy the fresh air, and spend a day exploring the Village."

### Ticket details

The offer applies to gen-

eral daytime admission only and does not include field trips or special ticketed events. To maximize savings, visitors are encouraged to purchase tickets online in advance for an additional \$3 discount compared to door prices.

Visitors must use code: KID26 at check out. Full details and tickets are available at [osv.org/event/kids-free-april](http://osv.org/event/kids-free-april).

Old Sturbridge Village is open Wednesday–Sunday, 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m., April 1–30.

See the full schedule of upcoming events on Old Sturbridge Village's calendar.

# Your BUYLINE CONNECTION

**DON'T BUY 'TIL YOU SEE US!!!!**  
**PRE-SEASON A/C SALE!!!**  
**GIANT APPLIANCE REBATES!!!**  
**MATTRESS SALE!!!**  
**BIKES, E-BIKES!!!**  
**WE REPAIR BIKES!!!**  
**SEE AD INSIDE!**

**12 MONTHS 0% FINANCING**  
**WHITCO**  
 140 Main St., Spencer  
[www.whitcosales.com](http://www.whitcosales.com)  
**508-885-9343**  
 Open: Mon.-Fri. 10am-8:30pm, Sat. 9am-8pm, Sun. 12pm-7pm

**JUST LISTED - MONSON, MA**  
 Well-maintained 3-unit mixed-use property on a high-visibility corner lot in Wales. This unique opportunity features a 1-bedroom unit with a long-term tenant at will, a vacant 2-bedroom unit, and an established post office with a long-term lease, offering a diverse and stable income stream. Set on .45 acres with ample off-street parking. The building is in great condition and offers a convenient location with easy access to surrounding towns and local amenities. Ideal for investors or owner-occupants seeking flexibility and long-term value. Located in the Tantasqua School District! Available for \$450,000.

**YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS**  
 We Do More So You Will Make More!!!  
**exp REALTY**  
 Michelle Terry Broker  
 130 W. Main Street  
 Spenser, MA 01562  
[michelleterryteam.com](http://michelleterryteam.com)  
**GIVE US A CALL TODAY! 508-202-0008**

**The Optical Shop**  
 at Kelly & Velazquez Eye Center  
 "The Finest Quality at Reasonable Prices"

**The Most Advanced Lens Designs Available**  
 Frames to Fit Any Budget  
 Large Selection of Designer Frames For All Ages  
**SUNGLASSES**  
 Maui Jim • Ray Ban

1504 N. Main St., Palmer, MA 413-283-3511  
 362 Sewall St., Ludlow, MA 413-589-1806  
 Expert guidance in selecting the right frame with the best fit & lenses for every lifestyle.

**WHERE EVERYONE GOES FOR THEIR PIECE OF THE EARTH!**  
**LANDSCAPE STONE**  
 White • Blue • Purple • Red  
 Lt Gray • Dark Gray • Beige • Rip Rap  
**SCREENED LOAM STORED IN BUILDING**  
 Construction Stone • Title V & Presby Septic Sand  
 Concrete Sand • Chicken Coop Sand • Utility Sand  
 Pool Liner Sand • Stone Dust • Silt • Crushed Gravel  
 Crushed Asphalt • Crushed Concrete • Cold Patch  
**Homeowner Friendly • No Minimums**  
**PICK-UP OR CALL TO SCHEDULE YOUR DELIVERY TODAY!**  
**Bond**  
 98 North Spencer Rd., Spencer  
[bondsandgravel.com](http://bondsandgravel.com)  
**508-885-6100**  
**508-885-2480**  
 Sand, Gravel & Asphalt

**Are you ready to buy or sell?**  
**Lisa Caron Realtor®**  
 Broker, Owner GRI, ABR, SRS, RENE, C2EX, SRES, MRP, PSA, LMC, CDPE, E-PRO  
 Call today to get started!  
**508.341.8299**

**Flint Signs**  
 149 Broad St., Barre, MA  
 Tel. 978-355-3080  
[www.FlintSigns.com](http://www.FlintSigns.com)  
**Quality Handcrafted Signs Since 1973**

**MS + NN PAINTING AND HOME MAINTENANCE**  
**INTERIOR/EXTERIOR Home Painting & Maintenance**  
 Residential/Commercial – Deck Specialists  
**NO JOB IS TOO SMALL – FREE ESTIMATES**  
 Fully Insured – HIC License Holders  
 81 Jackson Lane, Barre, MA 01005  
**774-321-4509**  
**Mmguzman.2011@yahoo.com**

**Adventure tours of Warren**  
 Share the Adventure with us!  
**Boothbay Harbor Vacation**

June 9-12 4-Day Boothbay Harbor Vacation .....\$899  
 June 27.....Lake George Cruise & Lunch .....\$185  
 July 11.....Provincetown by Fast Ferry.....\$220  
 July 19.....8-Day Bermuda & Halifax Cruise.....from \$1699  
 Aug 30.....8-Day Nova Scotia Cruise .....from \$1699

**Share the Adventure with us soon!**  
 For further information call Randall at (413) 436-5357 or email [adventuretours@att.net](mailto:adventuretours@att.net) or go to [www.adventuretoursofwarren.com](http://www.adventuretoursofwarren.com)

**CHECK OUT ALL THE**  
**Turley Publications**  
**www.turley.com**

**JARS Café & Bakery**  
 23 Summer Street North Brookfield MA 01535  
 In-House Fresh Bakery  
 All Occasion Cake  
 Cupcakes and Cookies  
 See website for specials [JARSCafe.com](http://JARSCafe.com)  
 Future Events  
 Contact us to plan your next private event.  
**508-637-1577**

**TEA FOR TWO**  
 1st Sunday Every Month  
 Reservations Required

**508-637-1577**  
**OPEN NOW 7 DAY A WEEK!**  
 8am-2pm Mon-Fri  
 8am-3pm Sat. & Sun.

**BRING IN ENTIRE AD FOR \$5 OFF**  
 with \$10 minimum purchase.

**Parents, Grandparents & Friends SPECIAL!**  
**Congratulate YOUR Graduate**  
 Class of **2026**  
 We are offering a great deal for you to **CELEBRATE YOUR GRADUATE** in your community graduation issue. Submit a photo and a brief message.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION MAY 29th**  
**EMAIL YOUR AD TO: [dflynn@turley.com](mailto:dflynn@turley.com)**

**SPECIAL! \$55.00**

**MAIL YOUR AD WITH PAYMENT TO:**  
**Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069**  
 Pay by check or credit card: Checks Payable to Turley Publications, Credit Cards be sure to include: Paper, Name, Address, Phone, Credit Card Number, Exp. Date & CVV

**2x3 Black & White Grad Ad**

Congratulations Karly Smith!  
 We are so very proud of you and your accomplishments. Good luck at Springfield College!

**Love, Mom & Dad**