

# QUABOAG CURRENT

**NORTH BROOKFIELD**  
Church tag sale page

Page 2

**EAST BROOKFIELD**  
Candidate's night

Page 3

**STURBRIDGE**  
All-Region Art Show

Page 8

Volume 19, Number 23

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

Friday, May 8, 2026

## America's Forgotten Conflict

Renowned author presents lecture on King Philip's War

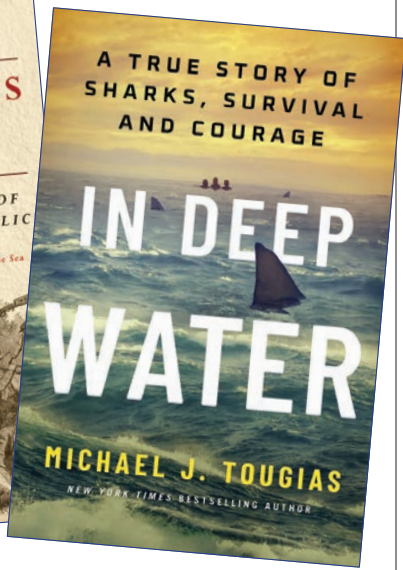
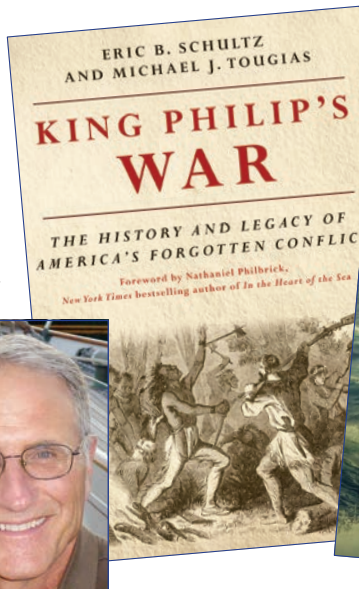
By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

WEST BROOKFIELD – New York Times Bestselling Author Michael J. Tougias will present a free slide lecture about King Philip's War at the West Brookfield Senior Center, 73 Central St., on Sunday, May 24 at 1 p.m.

This lecture is sponsored by the Quaboag Historical Society.

Named after "King Philip," who was also known as Metacomb, a Wampanoag chief, the war was fought between the colonies and many of the Native American tribes from 1675-1676.

"Per capita basis, it had the highest casualty rate of any war America was involved in," Tougias said.



Michael J. Tougias

"It was a major, major event."

One of the most brutal battles that occurred during King Philip's War took place at a Native American village along the Ware River, in the area now known as the Winnimuset Wildlife Management Area, near the Hardwick/New Braintree line.

"The action there is

known as Wheeler's Surprise," Tougias said.

Captain Thomas Wheeler was instructed to go and meet with the local Nipmuck tribe and force them to sign a peace treaty, where he was met with an ambush.

"Wheeler was shot off his horse, but rescued by his son and taken back to

See AUTHOR PAGE 9

## May Festival celebrates arrival of spring

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Spring has arrived as the annual May Festival took place this past weekend.

This annual event was made possible by the Friends of the Haston Free Public Library. Members of the Friends of the Haston Free Public Library were present during this year's May Festival and were excited to have it back after last year's festival was cancelled by weather.

Ann Kidd and Ellen Smith of the Friends of the Haston Free Public Library describe the May Festival as a community event used to celebrate spring. The May Festival started around 2010 after a town-wide reading program was put together by the library.

With workshops being held, the Friends came to a



TURLEY PHOTO BY RYAN DRAGO

Raphael, left, and Micha'el Kittredge of MK Prints attended the May Festival this past weekend to sell 3D printed products.

decision that they "needed to have some sort of culminating activity." Therefore, the May Festival was born into an exciting event to celebrate spring.

Despite the unfortunate cancellation of the May Festival last year, Kidd and

Smith shared they got more sign-ups this year for the festival.

"This is a community event," Smith said. "A celebration of spring."

The theme for the May

See FESTIVAL PAGE 5

## Resident discusses permit with BOH

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis  
Staff Writer  
zachf@turley.com

BROOKFIELD – The Board of Health met with resident Shelby Hill who is planning on opening a new coffee shop in town.

At the April 29 meeting, Hill brought along an engineer who is working with her to make sure the property is compliant with all health code requirements.

Hill said the coffee shop will be called Willow Beans, and it will be a "low impact" business. She said the main service at the shop will be take-out, with disposable utensils, so that they will not have to install a three basin sink, which is required if there is silverware and plates that are reusable.

She said they are planning on minimal in-house prepa-

See PERMIT PAGE 10



Bonnie & Clyde robbed the bank as they're on the run from the law. See more photos on page 6.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY RYAN DRAGO

## 'BONNIE & CLYDE' steal the stage

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The Theatre Guild of North Brookfield will offer two more performances of "Bonnie & Clyde: The Musical", on Saturday, May 9 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday,

May 10 at 2 p.m. in the auditorium of North Brookfield Elementary School.

The show brought music and history together as this musical tells the story of the notorious criminal couple,

Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow. The music in the show consists of a blend of blues, gospel, and rockabilly and really captured the love and sorrow these characters endure.

For tickets and information, visit theatre-guildofnorthbrookfield.com and select "Buy Tickets Now" under "Bonnie and Clyde: The Musical Tickets".

## Voters OK trails project, water/sewer upgrades

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

STURBRIDGE – Moderator Leigh Darin welcomed voters to the town's 289th annual town meeting on April 27 and gave a brief history of this important form of government.

In honor of the nation's 250th anniversary of its independence, the Massachusetts Moderators Association provided background about town meeting. Darin also provided information from resident Walter Hersee's book, "To Defend All That Is Dear".

Darin said in 1774, the British passed an act that banned town meetings, which was taken as a "direct assault" on the liberties of Massachusetts' residents.

"The meetings acted as they do today; a place where neighbors deliberated until a common will was reached," she said.

Nearly 60 towns in the commonwealth debated the notion of independence in 1776, and some issued declarations on their own.

"Including our town of Sturbridge," Darin said.

On June 27, 1776, the town of Sturbridge held a special town meeting and from the minutes of that meeting, it is known that the residents voted on one question: "Whether, to the honorable congress, for the safety of the colonies, declare themselves independent of the kingdom of Great Britain, the inhabitants of this town

See VOTERS PAGE 9

## Board of Selectmen hear presentation about FY 27 water rates

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis  
Staff Writer  
zachf@turley.com

EAST BROOKFIELD – The Board of Selectmen presented information on water rates for fiscal year 2027, which starts on July 1.

Board member Robert Button made a spreadsheet on all of the debts the town has to repay for

various projects including work on Route 9, water treatment plant design, and water storage.

At the April 27 meeting, Button said the total money borrowed for these projects came out to 24 million, and that the town has received \$5.4 million dollars in principal forgiveness on the loans and grants. Button said the debt service on the loans was \$776,000 in FY 26,

and is set to increase by \$345,000 starting in July.

There are five loans on the debt service, according to the presentation, with the larger ones lasting up to 30 years, and two shorter-term loans to end by FY 29. He said the larger loans have level principal, but the interest will vary, but he also said the next three fiscal years will be the highest the town will be paying in debt services.

The board discussed the rates, and how the base rate has to be adjusted for debt service. One resident said every household should be covering the debt service. Another asked what would happen if the base rate was not enough to cover the debt services. Board members explained if that happens, water users in higher tiers will have to pay more.

One resident said the

board should have contacted the office of Richard Neal to inquire about federal aid, which could have reduced the rates. Button said federal aid usually only happens if there is new construction, and all of the construction projects are over now.

The board also got questions about adjusting the tiers, or forcing large businesses like the school

See RATES PAGE 9

# Listening sessions highlight areas of growth

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

**NORTH BROOKFIELD** – Superintendent Timothy McCormick said he held six listening sessions with staff to find ways to improve the school district.

He said during the listening sessions, staff could talk freely, or write down their ideas.

At the April 27 School Committee meeting, McCormick said the suggestions compiled from the staff feedback fell into several categories including programmatic opportunities, student experience and culture, opportunities and partnerships and structures and systems.

“I had more than 75 different post-it notes...and we identified themes based on those thoughts,” he said. “This is the starting point for this next part of the process.”

He said staff frequently brought up the need for “more diverse and engaging learning opportunities,” such as personal finance, psychology, as well as more art and Advanced Placement classes.

McCormick said a student survey will be sent out to determine interest in launching one or two new electives at the high school for the next school year, based on enrollment and interest.

He said they currently have an internship program for seniors, but they can improve it by creating other opportunities such as Early College, or internships with police, fire and EMS.

McCormick said the high school has a successful career fair each year, and he would like to expand it to include a monthly career speaker series.

“Those are some things we continue to look at and talk about,” he said.

In terms of student belonging and school culture, the students feel supported overall, he said. He said he wants to expand clubs, and continue to include the student voice in decision-making, and celebrate student success.

McCormick said the dai-

ly schedule has changed several times the past few years and he would like to see it stay consistent.

He said he wants the school district to continue to hold students accountable and have high expectations for their success.

“This is a starting point,” he said. “This will guide us to our next steps, our next conversation with additional stakeholders.”

McCormick said he will send out emails to school district families and invite them to a similar listening session like the one he held with the staff.

#### Budget update

McCormick spoke about the proposed fiscal year 2027 budget, which he presented to the Finance Committee on April 14.

“We’re in very good space right now as a school district,” he said. “We’re going into the next fiscal year without making any cuts to either personnel or programs...we are at a very good place for the students of our school district.”

McCormick said this is based on 100% Net School Spending; and that the school district is not getting extra money from the town right now.

“We’re getting kind of the bare minimum and we’re still able to make it work,” he said.

McCormick said the School Committee will need to hold a budget hearing prior to the annual town meeting.

#### Administrators’ reports

High School Principal Brian Beck said over 120 families attended parent/teacher conferences recently.

He said the National Honor Society’s Damian Sarrette Memorial Food Drive was held in honor of the late teacher to restock the school’s food pantry. The NHS and the National Junior Honor Society will hold its induction on May 6.

Beck said the sixth grade students attended Outdoor Classroom and they received “a number of compliments regarding the behavior and interactions” of the students.

The Class of 2027 will

hold its prom on May 7 at the Publick House.

Elementary School Principal Arthur Murphy said the PTO helped organized a March Madness food drive to stock the school’s food pantry.

“It was inspiring to see our school community come together and make a positive difference,” he said.

Winners were able to “pie” staff and administrators in the face during an assembly.

Director of Student Services Dr. Michael Baldassarre said planning is beginning for the extended school day program, to continue learning through the summer vacation.

“It’s one of the great equalizers in special education,” he said. “That our children have the opportunity to continue learning through the summer.”

He said they are working with special education families to determine which students will be attending the extended school day program.

Baldassarre said the Nurturing Emotional Support and Teaching program for students with social emotional and behavior health learning challenges has grown from one student to three.

“We do the program because it’s the right thing to do for our kids,” he said. “To keep them close to home...and really participate in the school...and continue to learn and grow in their community.”

Baldassarre said keeping these students in the school district also reduces the cost of transportation and out-of-district tuition. He said they will continue staff training over the summer to continue to grow the NEST program, and possibly open it up to neighboring communities.

McCormick said students from neighboring communities could attend the NEST program as early as next year.

#### Restraint policy

School Committee member Tim Canada said the policy subcommittee reviewed revisions to the restraint policy. He said the goal is to eliminate re-

straints in nearly every circumstance.

McCormick said 18 staff members have been trained in Therapeutic Crisis Intervention System de-escalation techniques.

The new policy talks about the shift to eliminate the use of time-out rooms and to focus on de-escalation of a student in crisis. He said the students receive this crisis support while in the classroom.

McCormick said restraints are used only when “extremely necessary.”

“We want to emphasize de-escalation first before we ever go hands-on,” McCormick said. “I think we’ve done a fantastic job of really making that a purposeful shift.”

The School Committee will vote on the revisions to the restraint policy at its next meeting.

#### Superintendent’s report

McCormick said he attended a legislative breakfast with other school districts in the area.

“This again was an opportunity for us to talk to our state reps., our state senators, about kind of where we’re at in this part of the state,” he said.

McCormick said there was discussion about Chapter 70 and Rural School funding, and how changes to the formula needs to be made.

“There’s a real urgency now to get some changes made,” McCormick said.

McCormick said himself and other staff attended the One8 Applied Learning kick-off meeting. The One8 Foundation has supported several projects in the school district through grant funding.

McCormick said he has been discussing Early College exploration with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

“What we’re trying to do...is how can North Brookfield bring in a program where we give our students early college credit access,” he said. “Some students want AP classes, some students also want to kind of dip their toe into college and see what’s it’s like.”

He said the school district should be able to con-

nect with local colleges such as Quinsigamond Community College. He said the Early College designation process could take a year or two to complete.

“I’m excited about this opportunity for our kids,” McCormick said.

#### Student Council report

Student Council representative Noah Gillette spoke about Spirit Week events that occurred prior to April vacation, including themed days and a lip sync competition. He said the Student Council spring conference was held at Medfield High School.

The Student Council Executive Board election will be held on May 4 to elect board members for the 2026-2027 school year.

Class elections will be held late May or early June for rising seventh-12 graders and rising sixth graders will have elections in the fall.

Gillette said Teacher Appreciation Week will be held May 4-8.

“Each day we’ll be giving out gifts for the teachers and at the end of the week we’ll hold our teacher appreciation breakfast for all staff along with giving our staff their superlatives for the year,” he said.

Gillette said class day/field day will be held on June 5.

A lock-in for Student Council members is planned for June 18-19. He said Student Council members will participate in workshops and team building activities throughout the night.

Gillette said the Student Council is also looking to send a delegation of members to the national Vision Conference June 21-24.

He invited all community members to follow the Student Council on social media and attend meetings, which are typically held every other Monday in the high school kiva.

#### Washington D.C. trip

Margaret Hanson gave a presentation to the School Committee about the spring 2027 trip to Washington D.C. This trip is open to students in seventh-12 grade.

She said next year’s trip will include a tour of the nation’s capital, as well as a visit to Mount Vernon, the

national zoo and an aquarium. She said the trip will be five days instead of four.

“We can add things into the trip by doing that,” she said.

Hanson said the cost of the trip is based off of 38 participants, including students and parent chaperones. She said two staff members and a nurse will also attend.

“It’s definitely an exciting trip,” she said.

The School Committee voted to approve the trip.

#### Recognitions

McCormick thanked faculty, staff and community members at both schools for organizing and putting on the annual Earth Day celebration held prior to April vacation. He also thanked the Student Council for hosting the lip sync competition, which is a popular tradition at the high school.

“I just want to give out a shout-out to all those teachers and students who were part of that planning organization for those two very big and meaningful events,” McCormick said.

McCormick also recognized the Joe Holway of the facilities crew and custodians who worked to paint safety lines and crosswalks and spread mulch around the elementary school.

“Really making the whole entire district a very beautiful place for our kids to return, our teachers to return, today, on the first day back from vacation,” he said.

#### Last meeting

Canada said this was his last meeting as a member of the School Committee, as he did not seek re-election this term.

“It’s been an honor working here for six years,” he said. “I think this school has a lot to offer...the stuff that we’ve made happen on a shoestring budget is really impressive.”

Canada said he appreciates all of the efforts of the administration and the students for being engaged in the school district.

School Committee members Dan Riendeau and Maggie Woodward also did not seek re-election this term.

**Opening for the Season**  
**Wednesday, May 13**  
**DINE IN or TAKE-OUT**  
**Still 4 Corners**  
Route 122, Rutland  
508-886-6666 • www.stillfourcorners.com  
Open: Wed.-Sun. 11am-9pm; Closed Mon. & Tues.

**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.

**Circle of Song to hold spring concert**

BARRE – Circle of Song will complete its 25th anniversary season with an eclectic concert on Saturday, May 16 at the Town Hall, 2 Exchange St., at 7 p.m.

On the docket this concert are the following songs – “Down By the Riverside”, a traditional African-American spiritual, “No One is Alone from Into the Woods”, “The Promise of Living from The Tender Land”, “Les Miserables” medley from the musical of

the same name, “Make Our Garden Grow” from “Candide”, “Brightly Dawns Our Wedding Day” from the “Mikado”, “Solitude” by Duke Ellington, “Waltzing Matilda” traditional Australian, “Total Praise” by Richard Smallwood, “And Till There Was You” from “The Music Man”.

This is a free concert and refreshments will be served. For more information contact Julie Rawson at julie@mhof.net; 978-257-1192.

**Church tag sale on 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.

**ROBINSON TREE SERVICE LLC**

**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

**THE CENTERED PLACE**  
SINCE 1988

**Yoga & Meditation Classes**

Offering both onsite and online classes

Voted Best Yoga in the region by Town & Country Living Magazine

**YOGA FOR EVERY BODY**

Yoga leaves you more relaxed, centered, open and energized. Come experience this for yourself.

413 436 7374  
286 BRIDGE ST, WARREN MA  
WWW.THECENTEREDPLACE.COM

## School celebrates 10th year

**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.

# Candidate's night: Annual town election on May 12

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

**EAST BROOKFIELD** – The East Brookfield Public Library hosted its fifth candidate's night prior to the annual town election to be held on Tuesday, May 12.

Three candidates attended the April 27 event, introduced themselves and spoke about why they chose to run for office.

### Jennifer Trigiano

Jennifer Trigiano is seeking a seat on the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District Committee.

"I'm hoping I will have a really good impact there," she said.

Trigiano has lived in town for 12 years and has children

that attend the elementary school. For the past four years, she has been an active member of the People Interested in Education organization at the school, which provides essential supplies to the school in addition to volunteer work.

She also serves on the town's Playground Committee, which recently received a grant to update the town's Open Space and Recreation Plan.

"I've really become more involved with the community," she said.

### Amber Kowalczyk

Amber Kowalczyk has lived in East Brookfield since 2009, has two children, and she is running for a seat on the Select Board.

Kowalczyk first became involved in local govern-

ment during the town's water crisis, and that she worked hard to get the board to apply for and secure a water grant in the amount of \$500,000.

"That opened my eyes to a lot of roadblocks in town," she said.

Now, she said she "pretty much attends every Select Board meeting."

Kowalczyk said she looks to find answers and ways to address issues before making decisions.

"I'm very big on researching and finding solutions," she said.

Kowalczyk said she will work to get the town's website update, and create an official social media account. She will also work to improve transparency and ensure that residents know

when meetings are being held, and that they can find meeting minutes easily.

"I hope to have a working relationship with other committees," she said. "I'm always open to questions."

She also wants to work more with the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission and improve communication with state legislators.

### Leo Fayard

Leo Fayard has lived in town since 1980, where he and his wife raised their two sons. He is running for the position of Town Treasurer.

Fayard has previously served as the Assistant to the Treasurer, on the School Building Committee, Board of Selectmen and Parks & Recreation Committee. He is currently serving on the

Finance Committee.

"I've always had a strong desire and commitment to serve the town I call home," he said.

Fayard said he has formed a good working relationship with town officials and employees during his time in town hall and gained a lot of experience working with the treasurer during his time as assistant.

If elected, Fayard said he will focus on getting properties in tax title back on the tax roll.

"It's important to pursue and get them back on the tax roll," he said.

### Election information

The annual town election will be held on Tuesday, May 12 at Town Hall, 122 Connie Mack Drive, with polls open from 7 a.m.-8 p.m.

## Board of Selectmen heard about class action lawsuit

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis  
Staff Writer  
zachf@turley.com

**EAST BROOKFIELD** – Mark Carpentier, a member of the Finance Committee told the Board of Selectmen he attended a webinar produced by KP Law to discuss a potential class action lawsuit against the three largest manufacturers and lobbying organizations that have bought out smaller fire truck manufacturers.

This comes in the wake of the town approving the purchase of a new fire truck at a cost of over a million dollars, one which the fire chief said would have been about \$200,000 less last year.

At the board's April 27 meeting, he said there is no class action lawsuit yet, but work is being done on behalf of municipalities

across the country because of higher fire truck prices.

Carpentier said there is allegedly collusion among the top three manufacturers in regards to pricing and extended delivery times. He said lawyers are gathering information dating back to 2016, and trying to prove harm has been done to municipalities.

Carpentier said the firm working on this case is optimistic as they have had success in the past on similar cases.

"Let's take a shot," Carpentier said about the town putting their name into the potential lawsuit.

### Alexis contract

The board signed the contract with the Alexis Fire Equipment Company for the new truck approved at the special town meeting.

### Clam Box permit

The board signed an alcoholic beverages per-

mit for the Clam Box, to allow for alcohol to be served on the outdoor patio. The board said the Police Department, Fire Department, and Board of Health have already approved the request.

### Pole hearings

The board approved the placement of six joint-owned poles and one single-owned pole on Adams Road, four SO poles on Shore Road, and three JO poles on Podunk Road.

### Warrants

The board signed the warrants for the Annual Town Meeting until May 11, and also signed the warrant for the Annual Town Election on May 12.

## Senior Center lists May events

**NORTH BROOKFIELD** – The North Brookfield Senior Center, located at 29 Forest St., will offer the following events and activities during the month of May.

Activities include: Coffee and Games, Monday,

May 11 at 11 a.m.; Lunch and learn with Christy Mylott: Senior Options and Solutions on Tuesday, May 12 at 11 a.m. (catered lunch); Free Art Class, Thursdays, May 13 and 28 at 11 a.m.; Music Bingo on Monday, May 18 at 10

a.m.; Free Hearing Clinic on Tuesday, May 19, from 10 a.m.-noon by appointment; Free Drawing Class, Thursday, May 21 at 11 a.m.; and Medicare Help with Ed Spater, Thursday, May 28 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. by appointment.

## Plant, bake, craft, tag sale May 16-17

**HARDWICK** – The Tri-Parish Community Church is pleased to announce they will be holding their 20th Annual Plant, Bake Sale, Craft & Tag Sale on the Hardwick Common Saturday and Sunday, May 16 and 17 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. each day.

This popular East Quabbin area event will feature traditional, favorite, and connoisseur perennials, plus selected annuals, heirloom

vegetable plants, and herbs in time for spring planting.

There is a wonderful variety in plants offered through several local vendors including Stillman's Farm and Howe's Farm and Garden of New Braintree, Inishowen Farms of North Brookfield, and "home-grown lovelies" from private gardens. A delicious assortment of home-baked desserts and breads will also be sold.

The event is held rain or shine. All are welcome.

The Church is also seeking vendors for their annual Tag and Craft sale to coincide with the Plant and Bake Sale. Please reserve your space on the Hardwick Common early. Spaces will be offered for \$35 each.

Applications may be obtained by contacting Marguerite at: mcrevier1.mc@gmail.com or 413-477-6942.

## C4R hosts birding paddle on May 16

**BROOKFIELD** – Join C4R for a special Birding on the Quaboag paddle on Saturday, May 16 from 8:30-11 a.m.

The Quaboag Marsh offers a special habitat for spring birds. Participants will listen for and perhaps see the American Bittern.

Meet at the Route 148 state boat launch, then

park nearby. Limit is 15 paddlers.

RSVP required by emailing chicopeewater-shed@gmail.com.

C4R is also seeking volunteers to conduct water quality sampling at sites in Wilbraham and Palmer twice a month on Thursday mornings in June, July and August and once in September.

## Asparagus chowder returnsto FCC on May 16

**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.

## - public safety -

### New Braintree Police Log

*During the week of April 27-May 4, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 20 building/property checks, 26 directed area patrols, 14 radar assignments, two traffic controls, four emergency 911 calls, five citizen assists, two assist other agencies, one motor vehicle accident, one scam, three investigations, one motor vehicle investigation and 11 motor vehicle stops in the town of New Braintree.*

#### Monday, April 27

1:01 p.m. Investigation, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

1:03 p.m. Investigation, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

1:07 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Memorial Drive, Spoken To

1:23 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

#### Tuesday, April 28

6:34 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Sibley Road, Transported to Hospital

#### Wednesday, April 29

9:10 a.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

12:29 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

2:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Barre Road, Services Rendered

#### Thursday, April 30

7:20 a.m. Investigation, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

11:38 a.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

1:26 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

4:11 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Spoken To

#### Friday, May 1

7:17 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old Turnpike Road,

Written Warning 10:20 a.m. Scam, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

12:21 p.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Crash, Charles Lane Road, No Action Required


5:59 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Old Turnpike Road, Services Rendered

#### Saturday, May 2

9:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hardwick Road, Written Warning

#### Sunday, May 3

8:26 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital



**BELCHERTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAM 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR**

The Belchertown Public School District is now accepting applications for the following School Choice openings for the 2026-2027 school year:

Grade	Openings	Grade	Openings
Grade K	3	Grade 6	1
Grade 1	3	Grade 7	7
Grade 2	3	Grade 8	7
Grade 3	1	Grade 9	14
Grade 4	2	Grade 10	14
Grade 5	1		

The Belchertown Public Schools combine innovation and tradition to provide positive educational experiences for all of our students through quality programs, dynamic teaching and healthy relationships.

**The deadline for submitting a complete application is 4:00 p.m. on Friday, May 29, 2026.**

The selection of non-resident students for admission will be in the form of a random drawing when the number of requests exceeds the number of available spaces. There will be two drawings for this purpose. The first will take place on **May 29, 2026**, and in the event of unexpected additional openings, a second drawing will be conducted on **August 15, 2026**.

**The application and guidelines can be downloaded at [www.belchertownps.org](http://www.belchertownps.org) or picked up at 14 Maple St., Belchertown, MA 01007.**

### Highway Dept. Skilled Laborer / Truck Driver

The Town of New Braintree Highway Dept. is seeking qualified applicants for the immediate full-time position of Skilled Laborer / Truck Driver. Applicants must have a valid Massachusetts Driver's License, Class B (CDL) with DOT Medical Examination Certification and a Hoisting Engineer License Class 2B with DOT Medical Examination Certification. Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest and an employment application to: Highway Department, 110 West Brookfield Road, New Braintree MA 01531.

---

### Highway Dept. Seasonal Laborer

The Town of New Braintree is seeking a qualified candidate to perform seasonal work in the maintenance of town commons, roadways, grounds and cemeteries. Applicants must have a valid Massachusetts Driver's License (Class D). This is a seasonal position for 20 hours per week with a flexible schedule, May through October. Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest and employment application to: Highway Department, 110 West Brookfield Road, New Braintree MA 01531.

**For further information, please contact Richard Ayer, Highway Superintendent, at 508-867-2451, or via email at [Highway@newbraintree.gov](mailto:Highway@newbraintree.gov).**

A.A./E.O.E.

- opinion -

**SOCIAL SECURITY Matters**  
By Russell Gloor

**When will I get full credit for delaying my Social Security retirement?**

Dear Rusty:

The time is nearing that I want to move from my current Social Security survivor benefit to my own SS retirement benefit at 70 years of age.

I have been looking more deeply into the application of Delayed Retirement Credits and I have read that DRCs accumulated in the year that I turn 70, September 2026, will not be effective when I actually turn 70. Rather, those DRCs won't be paid until the following year. Can you verify that this is correct? I presume that if the DRC's are not applied at age 70, that they will be applied sometime after the first of the year and any increase will be paid retroactively.

Signed: Retiring Soon

Dear Retiring Soon:

The Delayed Retirement Credits you speak of have accumulated at the rate of 8% per year (.667% per month) since you reached your SS Full Retirement Age, which means that at age 70 your monthly SS benefit will be about 129% of the amount you were entitled to at your FRA of 66 years plus 4 months.

However, your understanding of how DRCs will work for you at age 70 is not correct. If you claim for your Social Security retirement benefits to begin in September 2026 (the month you turn 70) you will receive all DRCs, you have accumulated up to that point in time. In other words, you will get your full age 70 benefit amount immediately, including all DRCs earned until then, effective with your first SS retirement payment, which you will get in October 2026. What you

have likely read about is that DRCs work a bit differently for those who claim SS after their full retirement age, but before their 70th birthday month.

For those who claim mid-year but before age 70, only DRCs earned through the end of the preceding year are initially applied and DRCs earned during the current year are not paid until the following January. This results in a loss of some SS benefit between the time benefits start and the following January, because only the amount earned as of the end of the previous year are first paid, and the full number of DRCs earned during the current year are applied in January.

But, as is the case for you, when benefits are claimed to start in the month you reach 70 years of age, all DRCs earned up to the month of your 70th birthday are immediately applied. Congratulations on selecting a strategy which will maximize your monthly Social Security benefit.

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

**Garden Lady takes on spring bulb woes**

Debi, who gardens in Hardwick, reached out to the Garden Lady with concerns over her daffodils.

They didn't bloom well this year, and she wonders if they need fertilizer.

"Dear Garden Lady, sorry to bother you in this busy season but our daffodils aren't doing well. I'm guessing they need food. What would you suggest?"

I am happy to answer your question! There are typically four reasons why daffodils don't bloom.

Probably the first mistake gardeners make is removing the foliage too soon after the flowers go by. Foliage needs about six-eight weeks of ripening before it can be removed.

While it is still green, it is photosynthesizing and making energy for next year's flowers.

It can get unsightly as it starts to yellow and finally turn brown and dry up, but we must be patient.

It is ready when it comes off with a gentle tug. Some gardeners get strategic with nearby plants so that the eye moves away from the foliage and to another plant taking the stage in full bloom.

Another reason why daffodils may be stingy with their flowers is that the clumps are overgrown and need to be divided. Wait until the foliage has turned brown, then dig up the bulbs, pry them apart and replant them twice their width from one another and about two to three times their height deep.

I recommend using a pointed shovel, not a trowel. Sometimes they can be down deep and you want to make sure you get the bulb out intact.

Do this while the brown foliage is there so that you



by Roberta McQuaid

I sure hope one of these suggestions will help your daffodils regain their former glory!

Rose, who reads the column in the Ware River News, was concerned that a number of her hyacinths were broken off at ground level when just buds, and she wondered what or who could the culprit be.

"This is so disheartening, I don't want to even grow them any more."

I was astounded to hear this, because the same thing happened to me in one of my gardens at Old Sturbridge Village where I have a multi red, white and blue planting of hyacinths and tulips. Grooming last week yielded at least 10 hyacinth buds that looked as if they were but off at ground level.

Although the experts say rodents could be the cause, the cut was almost perfect, not gnawed in any way, plus hyacinths contain natural deterrents making them rodent proof, typically. I did cultivate the bed awhile back, my thought being that I may have cut a few of them off under ground.

As the stems elongated, they could have forced the bud above ground even though it was already dislodged, but the mystery remains. I'm sorry this happened, Rose, and I wish I had a definite answer for you, but at least know you are in good company with your hyacinth woes.

If anyone has any answers I would love to hear them!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 31 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to [pouimette@turley.com](mailto:pouimette@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

QUABOAG CURRENT

We Want to Hear From You

EDITOR  
Paula Ouimette  
[pouimette@turley.com](mailto:pouimette@turley.com)

ADVERTISING SALES  
Dan Flynn  
[dflynn@turley.com](mailto:dflynn@turley.com)

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

PHONE  
(413) 283-8393

ADDRESS  
24 Water Street  
Palmer, MA 01069

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

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

**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](mailto:pouimette@turley.com). Deadline for submission is Monday at noon for the following week's edition.

Quaboag Current  
**OBITUARY POLICY**

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

**Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: [obits@turley.com](mailto:obits@turley.com).

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

These yellow-rumped warblers, also known as Myrtle warblers, flitted around the edges of Lake Wallace in Belchertown, on April 22.

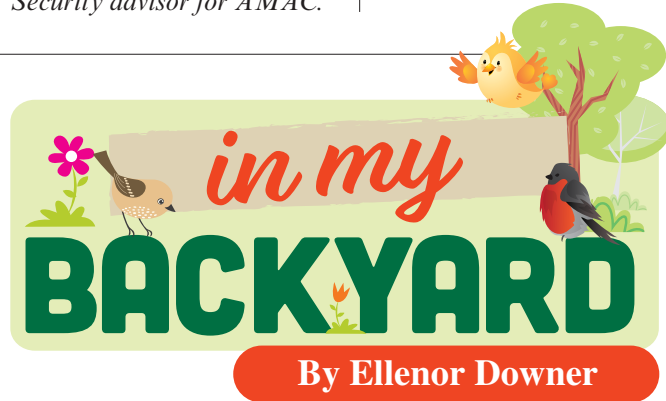
A Belchertown resident sent an email reporting he saw two yellow-rumped. He attached the above photos. The second photo a rear view of the warbler clearly shows the yellow rump of this aptly named warbler.

These warblers are about the size of black-capped chickadee and have a long bill and narrow tail

They are gray with yellow on their sides, a small patch on the head and of course, the large patch on the rump. They have white on wings, throat and underneath. They have black and white streaking on the breast. Males have a large black patch around the eye. The female is duller.

In summer, yellow-rumped warblers inhabit open coniferous forests and edges and not as often deciduous forests. They primarily feed on insects in the summer. On migration and winter they eat fruit and berries particularly bayberry and wax myrtle. Their song is a series of high-pitched notes often described as "chewy" or "chip-chip."

When males court females, they fluff their feathers, raise their wings and



the feathers of the crown and hop from perch to perch, chipping. They may also make display flights in which they glide back and forth or fly slowly with exaggerated wingbeats. The yellow-rumped Warbler's flight is agile and swift and the birds often call as they change direction.

The female builds the nest and sometimes uses material the male brings to her. The nest is a cup of twigs, pine needles, grasses and rootlets. The female also may use moose, horse and deer hair, moss and lichens. The nest takes about ten days to complete. She lays a clutch of one to six eggs speckled with brown or reddish gray.

**Bluebirds**

A Rutland couple say two bluebirds in their yard on April 25. They hope they will nest in the yard.

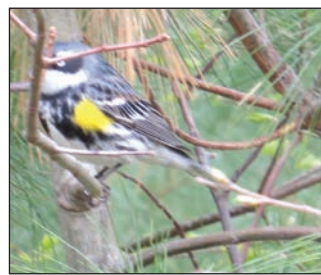
**Great blue heron**

I finally saw a great blue heron perched in a tree at the beaver pond, which abuts my hayfield. Every year, one or two are frequent visitors and even

nested there.

**Purple martins**

A purple martin watcher spotted the first purple martins in Massachusetts for 2026 in Rehoboth on April 4. The largest species of swallow in North America, they wintered in Brazil and flew 7,000 miles to the



This photo shows a side view and back view of a yellow-rumped warbler recently seen in Belchertown. PHOTOS BY DOUG MOORE

United States and Canada.

**Hummingbirds**

Soon the ruby-throated hummingbirds will be back. It is time to get out the nectar feeders. Instead of purchasing prepared nectar in powder or liquid form,

avoid the harmful dyes and boil a one to four ration of sugar to water. I preferred to mix small batches, ¼ cup white sugar to 1 cup water on a more frequent basis to avoid spoilage. It can be

See BIRDS PAGE 10



©DAVE GRANLUND.COM

**FESTIVAL FROM PAGE 1**

Festival was around reading, growing and eating. In other words, a festival centered around farms, food, gardens and learning.

The festival featured local foods, farms, nurseries, artists, artisans and crafters.

The Friends group kept busy by hosting children's activities, a free plant swap and had tote bags for sale. Door prizes were also available and were donated by the vendors of this year's May Festival.

The vendors were across the street from the library on the front lawn of the First Congregational Church.

One of the vendors was Night Owl by Bri, operated by Brianna Lamb. The name is inspired by Lamb's after midnight crafting.

Night Owl by Bri offers unique items such as handmade jewelry, needle felting products, and literary character earrings. These neatly crafted earrings feature adorable book characters such as Winnie the Pooh and Mr. Toad.

Lamb goes to the May Festival every year and has a little bit of everything to offer through her business, Night Owl by Bri.

The East Quabbin Land Trust was also at the May Festival highlighting their natural reserve locations throughout the area. There was also EQLT merchandise and maps available during the May Festival.

This year's May Festival also featured some young entrepreneurs. Michael Kittredge, age 12, is the founder of MK Prints. This creative business focuses on 3D printed items.

Kittredge alongside Raphael Kittredge were giving customers of the May Festival something unique to see at their booth.

Kittredge is enthusiastic about 3D products after receiving his first 3D printer last year. MK Prints was invited to do fairs at the Pine Acres Campground.

During the May Festival the North Brookfield Fire Department was holding an open house in celebration of their 175th anniversary. The Fire Department was cooking some hot dogs and hamburgers and shared some information about the department.

Giving the tour of the fire station is North Brookfield Firefighter Anne Adams, who is also the Emergency Management Director of North Brookfield. The town's Fire Department was established in 1878, which currently serves as the headquarters for the department. This building used to



Author Kevin Flanders is shown with copies of his books during the May Festival.



Sparky the Fire Dog visited the North Brookfield Fire Department, which celebrated its 175th anniversary.



The fire vehicles were parked outside the apparatus bay, which used to be the highway barn.

be the apparatus bay and at one point used to house horses. The project was made possible by a building committee to further expand the Fire Department, including an expansion of the parking lot.

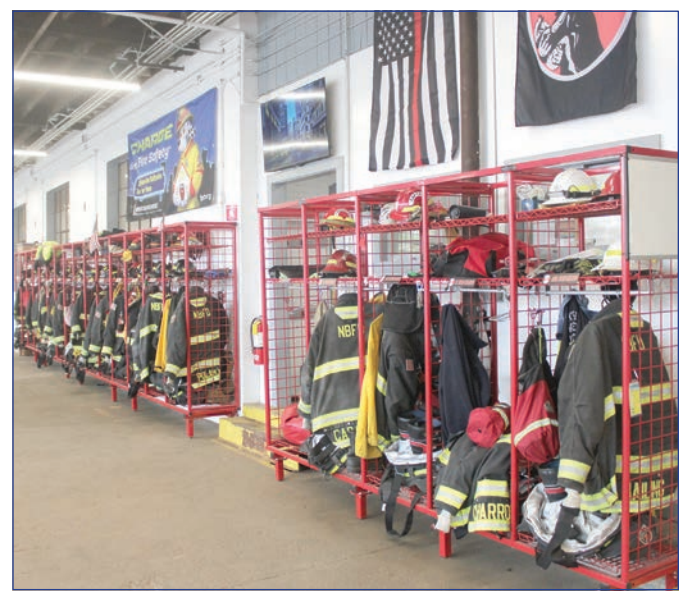
The old highway barn that used to house highway department equipment and vehicles would be acquired by the Fire Department and would become the new apparatus for the Fire Department's vehicles and gear. This project was done a few months ago and was a big benefit for the department as the old highway barn is next to the original fire station.

Hanging out with the Fire Department was Sparky the fire dog mascot. Sparky did a few dance moves and took pictures with some of the children who visited the fire station and spent the day exploring the May Festival.

All the vehicles were parked outside of the apparatus and were explored by visitors. The fire department also had junior firefighter helmets to give to the kids. Visitors got to dine inside the apparatus and play some fun games including cornhole.



The first thing you see when you walk into the old fire station, established in 1878, which is now the headquarters office. The sign reads, "All that remains of the first piece of Fire Apparatus purchased by No. Brookfield 1843".



Firefighter gear is placed inside the new apparatus bay for the North Brookfield Fire Department.



A plant swap was held in front of the Haston Free Public Library in North Brookfield.



Literary character earrings by Night Owl by Bri were for sale during the May Festival. Characters include Winnie the Pooh and Mr. Toad.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER



Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation & Quaboag Valley Business Assistance Corporation

**QV CDC IS HIRING!**

We are hiring for the following positions:

- Credit Assistant (25 - 30 hours per week)
- Accounting Assistant (30 - 40 hours per week)
- Loan Program Coordinator (40 hours per week)
- Community Specialist (35 hours per week)

For more information, please visit <https://qvcdc.org/employment>

The Quaboag Valley CDC/BAC is an equal opportunity employer, lender and provider and does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, family/parental status, national origin, race, religion, sex, gender identity (including expression), sexual orientation, marital status, income derived from public assistance programs, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

<b>LOWER PRICES TO BOOST YOUR BUDGET!</b>		<b>INFLATION PRICE BUSTERS</b>		<b>PRICES IN RED ARE AT OR BELOW LAST YEAR'S PRICES!</b>	
USDA INSP. BONELESS CENTER-CUT PORK LOIN CUT FREE	<b>\$1.99</b> lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN BEEF RIBEYE STEAKS CUT FREE	<b>\$9.89</b> lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN WHOLE TURKEYS	<b>\$1.66</b> lb
USDA INSP. FRESH COUNTRY STYLE PORK RIBS	<b>\$2.19</b> lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF SHOULDER LONDON BROIL	<b>\$6.99</b> lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN OVEN STUFFERS WHOLE CHICKENS	<b>99c</b> ea
USDA INSP. FRESH COOKS 1/2 SPIRAL HAM	<b>\$1.19</b> lb	USDA INSP. NATIONAL CASING HOT DOGS 2 1/2 LB BOX	<b>\$9.89</b> lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN JUMBO APPLE PIE LATTICE CRUST 5 LB	<b>\$7.99</b> ea
USDA INSP. WHOLE BONELESS KAYEM SMOKED BUDABALL PIT HAM	<b>\$3.69</b> lb	USDA INSP. STOREMADE ITALIAN MARINATED CHICKEN BREAST	<b>\$2.99</b> lb	USDA INSP. 90 MEAT'S BROOKIES BROWNIES 6 PAK	<b>\$2.99</b> ea
USDA INSP. FROZEN ST. LOUIS PORK RIB	<b>\$2.89</b> lb	USDA INSP. STOREMADE FROZEN HAMBURGER PATTIES 80% LEAN 20 CT BOX	<b>\$17.50</b> ea	USDA INSP. FROZEN CODINO'S STUFFED SHELLS WITH RICOTTA 48 OZ	<b>\$5.99</b> ea
		USDA INSP. STOREMADE FROZEN HAMBURGER PATTIES 80% LEAN 3 OZ	<b>\$2.29</b> ea	USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN BLUE SEA SHRIMP RING FULLY COOKED WITH SAUCE 2 LB	<b>\$17.99</b> ea
		<b>Happy Mother's Day</b>		<b>90 Meat Outlet</b> 90 Avocado St. Springfield 413-737-1288 www.90meat.com We reserve the right to limit quantities.	
HOURS: Mon. - Wed. 8-4 Thurs. 8-6 • Fri. 8-6 • Sat. 8-3 SALE DATES: 5/7-5/13/26 BUY DIRECT FOR SAVINGS • SELECTION • SERVICE					



The entire cast and crew of "Bonnie & Clyde: The Musical" stood on stage in the North Brookfield Elementary School auditorium.



Clyde, played by Jay Valencourt, behind bars after committing a serious crime.



The ensemble with their hands held high as they sing during "Bonnie & Clyde: The Musical".



Bonnie, Clyde, Buck, and Blanche in the middle of a gunfight with police. TURLEY PHOTOS BY RYAN DRAGO



Blanche, left, is shown trying to talk her husband Buck Barrow, played by Jack Gaudette, to not choose a life of crime.



Jack Gaudette, left, and Jay Valencourt as Buck and Clyde with guns in hands during their song.



The Theatre Guild of North Brookfield presented "Bonnie & Clyde: The Musical", which took to the stage last weekend. Shown are Sarah Priestley, left, as Bonnie Parker and Jay Valencourt as Clyde Barrow.



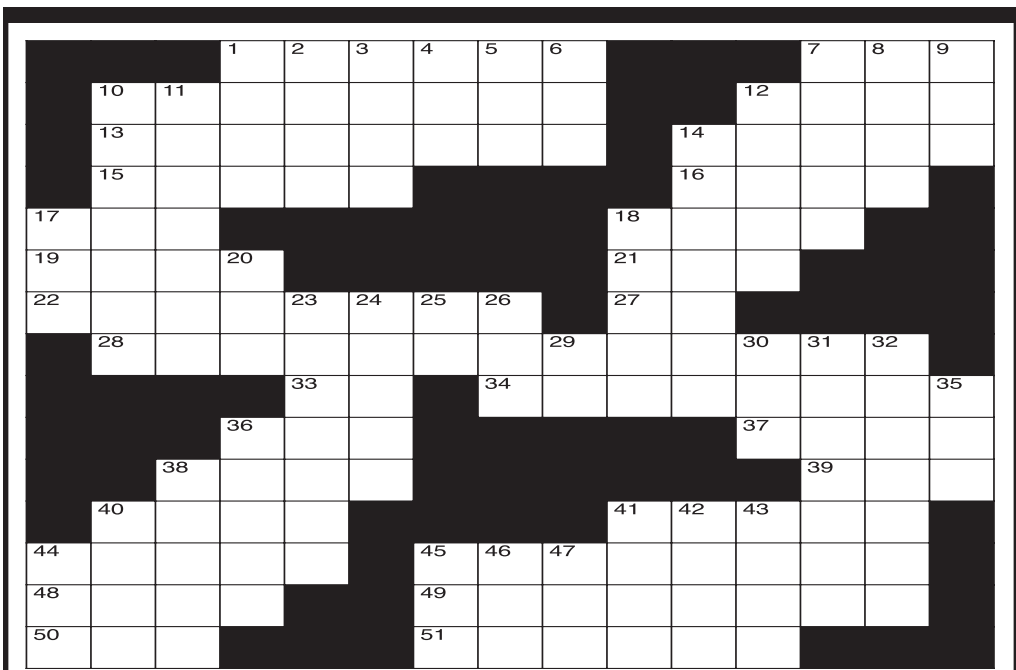
Jay Valencourt as Clyde, robbing his way during the ensemble's musical performance.



Missy King-McDonald as Trish visiting her husband in jail.



The police check in at Blanche's hair salon looking for Blanche's husband, Buck.



The ensemble performed with a preacher, played by Daniel Demars, singing in the back.



Clyde after gunning down a police officer with the ensemble looking on in fright.



Sarah Priestley as Bonnie Parker.



Aspen Packard as Detective Frank Hamer, who plans to capture Bonnie & Clyde, dead or alive.

**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Large dung beetle
- 7. Gambling game \_-lo
- 10. Further along
- 12. Type of tobacco
- 13. Looked for
- 14. Silk fabric
- 15. Computer method to solve equations
- 16. As fast as can be done (abbr.)
- 17. Tear
- 18. Breads
- 19. "Famous" cookie baker
- 21. Women's Army Corps
- 22. Front parts of an animal
- 27. It's causing quite a stir
- 28. Beloved March holiday

- 33. 12th letter of the Greek alphabet
- 34. More impudent
- 36. Indicates center
- 37. Young woman (French)
- 38. A cause of distress
- 39. Santa's helper
- 40. Hillside
- 41. Many wombs
- 44. Is afraid of
- 45. Popular baked goods ingredient
- 48. Popular computers
- 49. Conceiving of
- 50. Google certification (abbr.)
- 51. Sturdy

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Peruse quickly
- 2. Automobiles
- 3. Razorbill genus

- 4. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
- 5. Consumed
- 6. A place to sleep
- 7. Small seeds
- 8. Legendary law man Wyatt
- 9. Female sheep
- 10. Indigenous peoples of eastern Siberia
- 11. A place ships dock
- 12. Reciprocal of sine
- 14. Discomfort
- 17. British Air Aces
- 18. Exit sleep
- 20. Solar energetic particle
- 23. Plagues characterized by starvation
- 24. Short musical composition
- 25. Trauma center

- 26. Habitual twitching
- 29. A place where checks are exchanged (abbr.)
- 30. Decameter
- 31. Hinged surface in a wing
- 32. Shouting
- 35. Sports official
- 36. Volcanic craters
- 38. Supportive device
- 40. It's part of a rosary
- 41. Two-toed sloth
- 42. Body art
- 43. Let out
- 44. Foreign medical graduate
- 45. Nonprofit journalism organization (abbr.)
- 46. Couples say it
- 47. Bird's beak

# SPORTS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

SEND US YOUR SPORTS SUBMISSIONS

## Quaboag falls to neighbor Ware

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

WARREN – Just like during the last two seasons, senior righthander Brady Guimond was Ware’s starting pitcher in the annual meeting on the baseball diamond against the Quaboag Cougars, who are coached by his father, Brian.

Brady Guimond improved his record to a perfect 3-0 against the Cougars, as the Indians celebrated a 4-1 non-league road victory, last Tuesday afternoon.

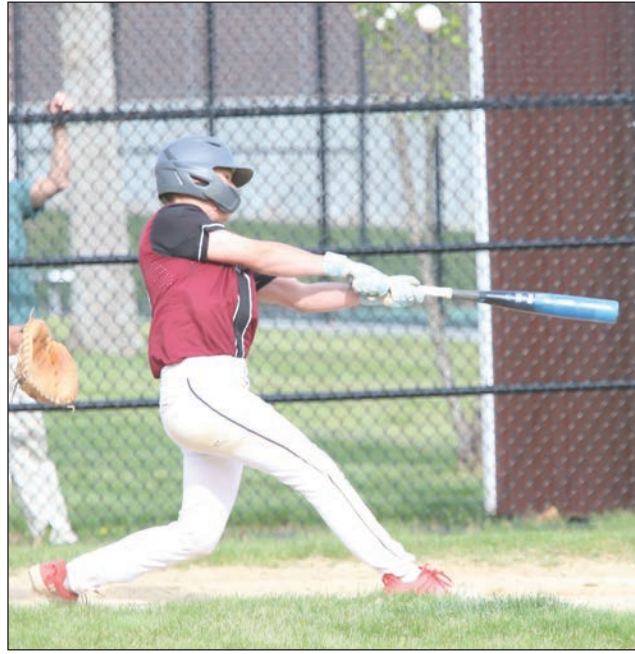
“It has always been a lot of fun playing against my father’s team,” said the younger Guimond. “Today’s game is a little more special for me because it was my final time playing against him.”

Brady Guimond and his teammates have won four of the past five games in the rivalry series.

“Brady is an outstanding pitcher, but it would’ve been nice if we could’ve beaten him at least once during the past couple of years,” Brian Guimond said. “We had our opportunities in today’s game, but we just made a couple of costly mistakes.”

Quaboag’s last victory on the diamond against Ware was a 5-0 shutout at home on May 15, 2022.

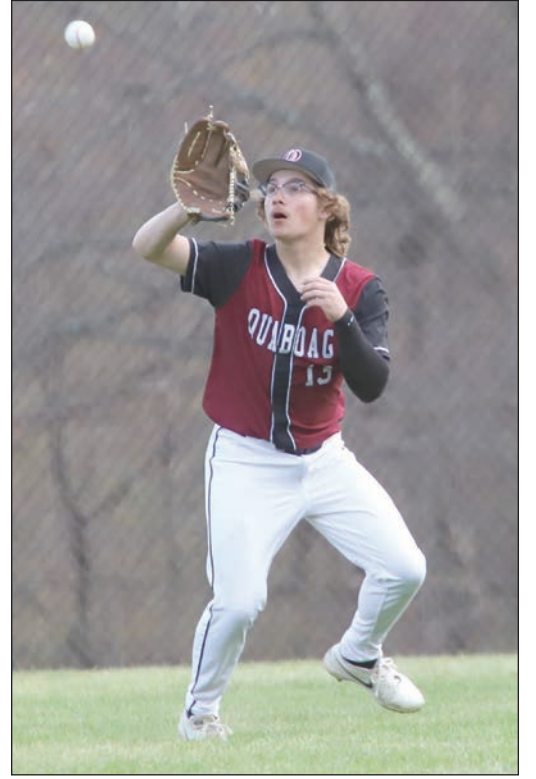
Brady Guimond was an eighth grader that season



Thomas Bellizzi fouls off a pitch.



Braiden Bradley swings and puts the ball in play.



Connor Burke makes the catch in right.

and he was a reserve player for the varsity team.

The following year, Guimond started at shortstop and the Indians posted an 8-3 victory at Memorial Field in Ware.

As a sophomore, Guimond was the starting pitcher against the Cougars for the first time at Polar Park in Worcester. The Indians squeaked out a 4-2 win at the homefield of the WooSox.

“My favorite game against Quaboag was when we beat them at Polar Park two years ago,” Brady Guimond said. “It was a lot of fun to play a baseball game at a minor league stadium.”

Guimond allowed two runs on eight hits in his start at Polar Park.

“Even though we lost the game, we played very well against Ware at Polar Park,” Brian Guimond said. “That was a fun baseball game.”

Brady Guimond also allowed only two base hits in last year’s game against Quaboag at Memorial Field, as the Indians coasted to a 10-0 victory in five innings.

See **BASEBALL**  
PAGE 8



Liam McGrath sends a pitch home.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

## Warriors pick up shutout win over Belchertown

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

FISKDALE – The Belchertown and Tantasqua varsity baseball teams have qualified for the Division 3 state tournament in each of the past four seasons.

As May began, both teams found themselves with records below .500, raising uncertainty about their ability to secure a spot in this year’s state tournament.

The Warriors celebrated a 6-0 non-league victory against the Orioles at Emrich Field, last Friday afternoon.

“We’re a young and inexperienced team this season, so this is a very big win for us,” said Tantasqua head coach Jon Leroux. “We began the season slowly. Our starting pitchers needed to learn how to consistently throw strikes. We’ve played very well this week, and I think we’re now heading in the right direction.”

The Warriors, who also defeated the Orioles the past two years, had 4-8 overall record following the only meeting of this season.

Tantasqua’s turnaround began at the beginning of last week. They were trailing Millbury, 7-2, before making a late comeback. They wound up losing that game by the final score of 7-6. Two days later, the Warriors outslugged Auburn, 16-13, in a road win.

“We made an outstand-

ing comeback against Millbury, but we came up one base hit short of winning the game,” added Leroux, who was drafted by the New York Mets in the 32nd round of the 2012 MLB draft. “We scored 16 runs the other day against Auburn, who’s a very good baseball team.”

The Orioles (4-7), who lost their fourth consecutive game, haven’t celebrated a victory since defeating Agawam, 5-1, at home on April 16.

One of the eight sophomores listed on the Warriors roster is righthander Jack Nichols, who was the winning pitcher against the Orioles.

Nichols, who’s a second-year varsity baseball player, pitched the first five innings, allowing no runs and two singles. He issued five walks and struck out two batters.

Belchertown senior second baseman Nathan Marino drew a four pitch walk leading off the game. He moved to second base on a perfect sacrifice bunt by senior left fielder Austin Raymer. Following a flyball out, Nichols picked off the runner at second base for the final out of the inning.

Nichols walked two more batters in the next inning, but the Orioles had a runner tagged out at the plate trying to score on a wild pitch, which ended the inning.

The Warriors responded by scoring three runs

See **WARRIORS**  
PAGE 8



Emily Forcier takes a swing.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Emily McNeaney makes solid contact.

## Pioneers suffer shutout loss

CHICOPEE – Last Friday afternoon, Pathfinder softball was shut out on the road by host Chicopee High School at Szot Park 12-0. The game ended in the fifth inning due to the mercy rule. Sam Prouty and Addison Doktor had hits for the Pioneers while Adeline Olbrich had three hits for the Pacers. Raelyn Loud pitched a five-inning shutout for the Pacers. Pathfinder fell to 1-10 for the season while Chicopee High is a perfect 13-0 on the season.



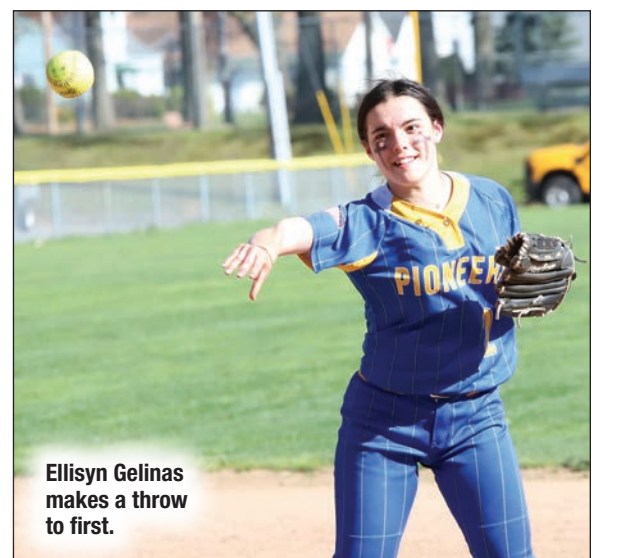
Addison Doktor sends a grounder to the infield.



Julieta Tweedell takes a lead off first base.



Taylor Thorton sends a pitch away.



Ellisyn Gelinas makes a throw to first.

## - sturbridge -

# Join America250 parade, festival to be held June 27

STURBRIDGE – The Sturbridge America250 Committee is moving forward with plans for a parade and festival on Saturday, June 27 – rain or shine.

The parade will step off from the Old Sturbridge Village Museum Education parking lot at 10:30 a.m. It will proceed on the OSV access road to Route 20, then to Route 131 and end at the Town Common.

Bill Emrich will emcee the parade. The parade will include marching

bands, entertainers, antique cars, floats made by local businesses, and area groups.

Bob Briere, recognized by many as the town's historian, is the parade Grand Marshall. Virginia Jalbert, the town's oldest resident at 101, is the guest of honor.

There is still time for businesses or groups to get involved – with a float, vintage car, or marchers. Children are invited to decorate their bikes or scooters and ride in the parade

(helmets are required and a parent/guardian must walk alongside their child throughout).

Anyone wishing to participate can email sturbridge250@gmail.com.

Following the parade there will be a Festival on the Common. This festival will include historical reenactors, entertainers, patriotic music, a reading of the Declaration of Independence, a cherry-pie eating contest and other participatory activities and food trucks.

# Tantasqua celebrates student talent at Annual All-Region Arts Show

FISKDALE – Tantasqua Regional School District's Annual All-Region Arts Show is coming up on Tuesday, May 13.

Showcasing the artwork of student artists from grades K-12 throughout the district, this community favorite event will be rounded out by musical performances from the high school band and choruses.

The art show will be held from 5-7 p.m. with the musical performances starting at 7 p.m.

The Annual All-Region Arts Show provides an opportunity for students from

all of the district's schools, including Brimfield Elementary, Brookfield Elementary, Burgess Elementary, Holland Elementary, Wales Elementary and the Tantasqua Regional Jr/Sr High Schools, to display their creative talent.

This year, the show will bring together an impressive array of 2D and 3D works combined with live musical performances by the senior high bands and choruses, offering a glimpse into the wide-ranging artistic talent cultivated across the district.

Among the evening's highlights are the senior

showcase celebrating artwork created by graduating seniors, immersive elementary art presentations, face painting, and fun activities for all ages, with raffles and prize drawings for Tantasqua Regional students attending the event.

The Tantasqua community and beyond are warmly invited to attend the Annual All-Region Arts Show and experience the remarkable talent of the district's students firsthand.

For more information, please contact Bryce French at 508-347-9301, extension 5010.

## - sports -

### WARRIORS FROM PAGE 7

in the bottom half of the second inning against senior righthander Canyon Charon, who pitched six innings.

Nichols hit a groundball to the shortstop leading off the frame and he wound up standing on second base following a throwing error. Nichols scored the game's first run when sophomore third baseman Paul Savage blasted a triple over the right

fielder's head. Senior catcher Ethan LaPlante hit another groundball to the third baseman. Savage got himself into a rundown between home and third. He was tagged out, but the umpire called interference on the play and Savage wound up scoring the Warriors second run. The other run crossed the plate when a pop-up hit by sophomore right fielder Evan LaFountain was mishandled by the Belchertown right fielder.

With two outs in the third

inning, Nichols, hit a flair single into rightfield before stealing second base. He scored following a single to right by Savage.

Nichols and Savage accounted for four of the Warriors' seven base hits.

Trailing 4-0, Belchertown had the potential tying run at the plate with two outs in the fifth.

Their rally began with senior catcher Joe Minnon reaching first base following a fielding error by the short-

stop. Then sophomore third baseman Alex Ryczek hit into a fielder's choice play. The inning continued with Marino lining a single to left and Raymer drawing a walk, which loaded the bases.

Nichols escaped the jam without allowing any runs when senior shortstop Ryan Gould flied out to right.

"A baseball game can change very quickly at this level," Leroux said. "If they get a hit in that inning, the score is 4-2 or 4-3 and we're

in a tight game. Jack did an outstanding job getting out of that jam."

Nichols traded places with Savage before the start of the sixth inning after delivering an RBI triple to right with two outs in the bottom of the fifth.

Savage, who has only pitched in relief this spring, retired six of the seven batters that he faced during the final two innings. He allowed a single to freshman centerfielder Max Matthews

(2-for-3) with one-out in the sixth.

LaFountain capped off the Warriors scoring with an infield hit which scored senior Gabe Lopez, who had doubled down the left field line, with two outs in the bottom of the sixth inning.

As the Warriors aim to maintain their strong performance as the regular season draws to a close, the Orioles are eager to change their fortunes.

### BASEBALL FROM PAGE 7

In his final appearance on the mound against the Cougars, Guimond allowed one run on five base hits. He recorded nine strikeouts and issued only two walks in the complete game performance.

"It was another outstanding pitching performance by Brady," said Ware interim varsity coach Shawn Clark. "He just kept dotting the corners the entire game. His curveball was also amazing. The defense made the plays behind him. We really wanted to win today's game."

Brian Guimond and Clark were teammates on the 1991 Ware baseball team, which defeated Frontier Regional in the Western Mass. Division 3 championship game.

"Shawn was the j.v. baseball coach at Ware High School for several years and I'm very glad that he had the opportunity to coach the varsity team this year," coach Guimond said. "He knows the game of baseball very well."

At the end of last week, the Indians (8-5) were the 12th ranked team in the Division 5 state tournament power rankings.

The Cougars (3-5), who are first year members of the Central Mass. Athletic Conference E Division were ranked 61st in the Division 4 power rankings. They'll most likely need to finish the regular season with a .500 or better record to qualify for the postseason tournament.

"I'm very glad that we moved into a new division," Brian Guimond said. "We're a small school and we had trouble competing

against the larger schools like Millbury, Uxbridge, Oxford, and Tantasqua. Ware is one of the best teams on our schedule and we lost to them 4-1."

It didn't take the Indians very long to take a 1-0 lead against junior righthander Liam McGrath, who's the Cougars ace

With one-out in the top of the first inning, senior centerfielder Troy Dufresne served a single into left field. He stole second and advanced to third base on a throwing error by the catcher. Dufresne, who had two of the Indians seven base hits, scored when senior catcher Kyle Kaczuwka hit an opposite field single to right.

McGrath tripled to the triangle in right center with two outs in the bottom half of the frame. Guimond left the tying run standing on third base following a strikeout.

Senior leftfielder Jack Gaudreau led off the top of the second with a flyball double to right before scoring on a groundball out by freshman third baseman Joe Cygan.

The Indians loaded the bases with two outs in the third inning, but McGrath got out of the jam with a groundout.

McGrath allowed four runs on nine base hits. He didn't receive very much support from the defense, who committed six errors behind him.

The Indians scored an unearned run in the fifth inning, and they left the bases loaded in the sixth.

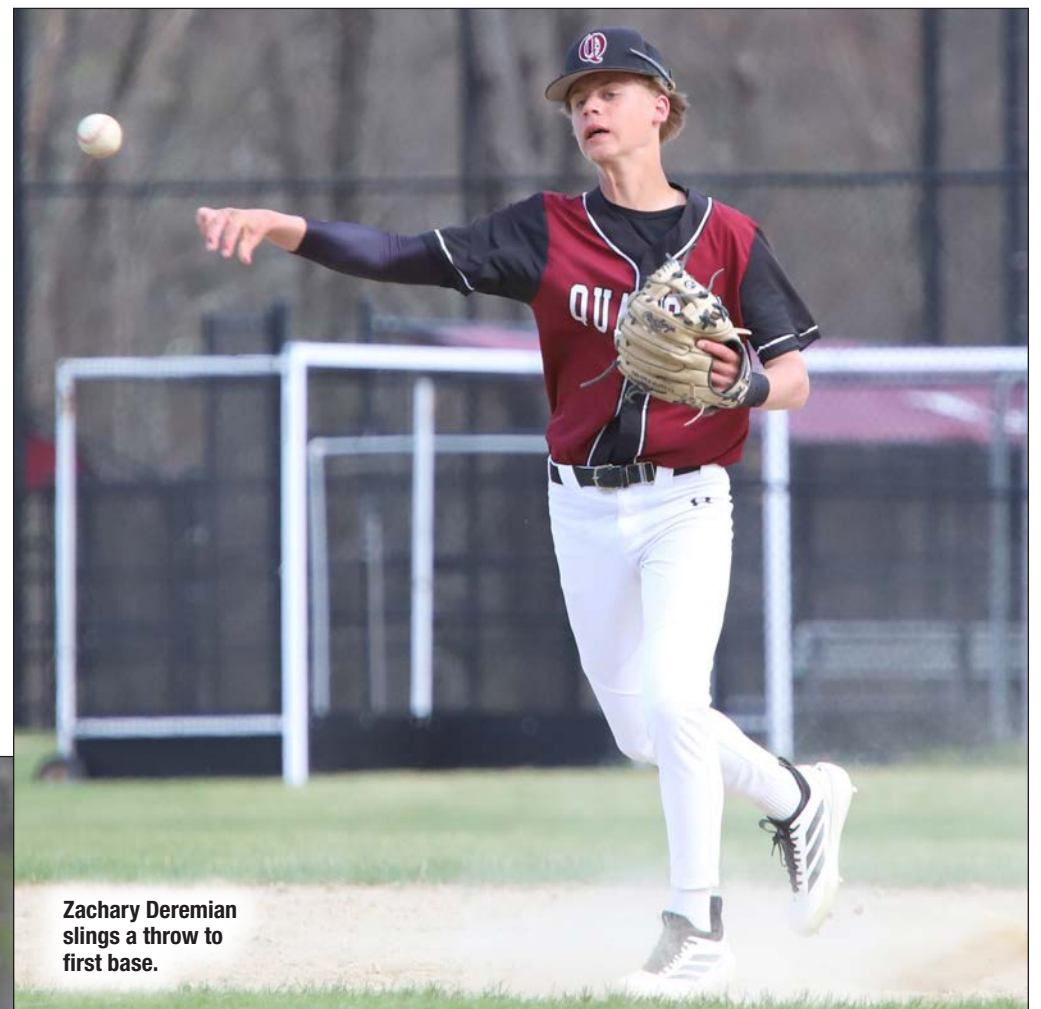
The Cougars ended their scoreless drought against Brady Guimond when

sophomore third baseman Connor Burgess grounded a single into left field scoring senior centerfielder Connor Burke(walk) with two outs in the sixth inning.

Just like in the second inning, Gaudreau led off the final frame with a double to right field before scoring on a wild pitch."

Junior catcher Braiden Bradley singled into left field leading off the bottom of the seventh. The next batter hit a line-drive caught by senior second baseman Brodie Koczur, who then tossed the ball to senior first baseman Alex Orszulak completing the double play.

Guimond then recorded his ninth strikeout for the final out of the ballgame.



Zachary Deremian slings a throw to first base.



Everette Tellerico sends a throw to first.



Connor Burgess makes an easy catch.

RILEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

*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.**

**AUTHOR FROM PAGE 1**

the garrison at Foster Hill Road in West Brookfield," he said. "He survived and wrote an account of it."

Tougas said after the ambush, the Native Americans followed Wheeler and his men back to the garrison and burned all of Brookfield down. He said they could not get the garrison to burn, because as noted in Wheeler's memoir, "God made it rain," and it wouldn't ignite.

Wheeler later died as a result of his injuries received during the battle of Brookfield.

Tougas has written two books about King Philip's War; "Until I Have No Country" and "King Philip's War: The History and Legacy of America's Forgotten Conflict", which he co-authored with Eric Schultz.

Growing up in Longmeadow, Tougas developed an interest in King Philip's War, and he learned a lot about it from his father, who was a history buff.

"Where I grew up there's a King Philip's stockade," he said. "Once you know a little bit, you just start craving more and more."

Tougas said meeting fellow author Schultz was a blessing and that they shared the same passion.

"He went to all the sites across New England," Tougas said.

King Philip's War is known as America's Forgotten Conflict, as it is something that few people know about.

"I've spoken at almost every town in Massachusetts. People don't know much about this war," Tougas said.

During the lecture on May 24, Tougas will share maps and show where the battles happened, and what they look like today. He said his lecture will be like watching a documentary and will captivate audience members of any age; even children.

"If people want to bring their kids, they're welcome as well," he said. "Kids are fascinated by it all."

Tougas has authored a total of 38 books over the course of his career, including "The Finest Hours", which was made into a Disney movie starring Chris Pine and Casey Affleck.

His latest book, "In Deep

Water: A Story of Sharks, Survival, and Courage" tells the story of three recreation fishermen whose boat sinks off New Orleans in the Gulf of Mexico.

"The Coast Guard gave them a 1% chance of ever being found," Tougas said. "All they had time to grab is a couple coolers to hang on to. They make a vow to stay together and not talk about why the boat sank."

Tougas said the fishermen thought they would be rescued within a few hours, but there were no other boats on the water.

"Instead of just surviving three hours, they have to survive 28 hours treading water through the night," he said.

The fishermen faced the elements, dehydration, jellyfish stings and a shark attack.

"They wanted the story to be told," Tougas said. "It's an absolute off-the-charts survival story and rescue too. They should not be alive."

For more information about Tougas and his books, visit www.michaeltougas.com.

**RATES FROM PAGE 1**

to come on to the town water supply. Board of Selectmen chair Andrew Lynch said the town likely has no right to force the school onto town water.

**Water rates**

At the May 4 Board of Selectmen's meeting, Button said that there will be changes in the bills to users of East Brookfield water, as there are multiple loans the town is paying off.

At the prior meeting, he said the base rate has to be increased to cover the debt repayment, and there are potential shifts to billing tiers, which depend on water usage.

The Quaboag Current was able to acquire the slideshow presentation, which Button showed during the meeting, to help explain the proposed options and the driving factors in these changes.

According to the spreadsheet, there are six sources of debt issuance: Water Main Route 9, Planning Grant, Design Water Treatment Plant, Design Water Main/

Storage, Water Tank/Main Upgrades and Water Treatment Plant. The Route 9 grant, water tank and main upgrades and water treatment plant bonds will all mature in the 2050s.

This means water users will be paying off these debts for about 30 years.

The planning grant will mature in 2034, the design for the water treatment plant bond will mature in 2029, and the design for the water main will mature at the beginning of this coming fiscal year, fiscal year 2027, according to the spreadsheet.

The result of the bond maturing in 2027 is an additional \$345,000 in debt repayment, which will bring the total debt to about \$1.1 million, and will increase the average quarterly cost per meter to \$634 in 2027 from \$491 in 2026.

As the years progress and more debt is paid as more bonds mature, the debt will start to even out significantly, according to the spreadsheet.

According to Button, there are three options: Reduced usage and base increase only, reduced usage with base and rate increase and adjusting tier limits with base and rate increases.

The first option increases the flat rate in FY 27 to \$1,900 a year, up from the 2026 rate of \$1,275 a year, but keeps the tiers the same. That equates to a flat rate of \$475/gallon in FY 27, up from \$300, later changed to \$325/gallon in FY 26

Option 2 increases the flat rate to \$1,700 a year in FY 27, and also adds a couple pennies to each subsequent tier (for example tier 2 would increase from \$0.058/gallon to \$0.075/gallon). Option two equates to a flat rate of \$425/gallon.

Option 3 increases the flat rate to \$1,600 a year and \$400/gallon, but estimates a higher usage per tier (for example tier 2 is estimated at 1 million gallon/quarter in option 3, but 660,000 gallon/quarter in options 1 and 2).

**VOTERS FROM PAGE 1**

will solemnly engage their lives and fortunes to support them in this measure."

Darin said on that day, the town voted for independence from Great Britain and committed to the Revolutionary War.

"We can be proud of that today, and take that spirit with us into the semiquincentennial events planned for later this spring," she said.

**Trail and bridge project**

Brandon Goodwin, chair of the Trails Committee, gave a presentation about article 6, which asked voters to approve funding for the 469A Main St. project that would construct a trail and bridge at 469A Main St. and connect the trail to the parking lot at 501 Main St.

"This project has been in the works since 2010 in town we've been talking about it, planning it, and we spent \$250,000 of grant money to design it. It's all engineered, ready to go," Goodwin said.

The project is part of the town's Master Plan and the Commercial Tourist Revitalization Plan.

"It's being thought about in different ways, not just from the Trails perspective," he said.

Goodwin said the bridge would connect trail users to 30 miles of trails in town. He said right now, the 30-mile trail system has 56,000 users a year, and more than 68,000 users across all trails town-wide.

The project would require \$1,545,000 from the Community Preservation Act's undesignated fund and \$700,000 from the Community Preservation Act's open space fund, for a total of \$2,245,000.

A similar article failed to pass at last year's annual town meeting as it did not reach the required two-thirds majority needed. The town has applied for a \$500,000 Mass Trails Grant this year, which if received, will reduce

the contribution of Community Preservation Act funds for this project.

"We are in a very good position this year for this funding," Goodwin said.

He said the town can also apply for the same grant next year to further reduce the cost and return that amount borrowed back to the town.

Goodwin said the Trails Committee is requesting approval for the full cost of the project from voters in order to move the project forward, in the event the grants are not received. He said the committee has been successful in receiving grants and has a strong track record of returning funds to the town.

Penny Dumas, chair of the Community Preservation Committee said the Sturbridge was one of the first towns to adopt the Community Preservation Act, which allows towns to put up to a 3% surcharge on taxes. She said the town voted to apply the maximum surcharge.

"The higher you have that you collect from your town, the more state funds you have," Dumas said. "Since we adopted the Community Preservation Act, we have collected \$5,698,342 from the state."

Dumas said the surcharge is not applied to homes valued at less than \$100,000.

She said first \$100,000 of a \$500,000-valued home is exempt from the surcharge.

She said for her home, she pays \$147 per year for the surcharge.

"For what you get for your money for that kind of an investment and what the state gives back, I don't think you could find any financial advisor that would say 'bad idea, lower your surcharge' or 'get rid of the act altogether,'" Dumas said.

Dumas said the Community Preservation Act money can be used to fund projects under four categories: historic, open space, community housing and recreation. Ten percent of the funds (each) must be applied to historic, open space and community housing and the remaining 70% can go toward any of the four categories.

"This is a key project we've been working on for 11 years," Dumas said of the trail and bridge project.

Article 6 passed with 127 in favor and 61 opposed.

Water and sewer articles

Voters approved several articles related to water and wastewater upgrades, including article 24 for a water analysis treatment study to design a new treatment plant to replace the current plant built that was built in 1982. The cost of the design

is \$350,000.

Article 25 asked voters to allocate \$300,000 for the design and construction to replace the water main on Cricket Drive Extension.

Article 26 approved the \$200,000 cost of the influent screen room upgrade design at the wastewater treatment plant; and article 27 approved \$1,555,000 for its construction.

Town Administrator Robin Grimm said these are projects that need to be completed due to the aging infrastructure.

"At this point, if we don't do them, the impact of not doing them will be greater than the cost of doing them," she said. "The water treatment plant is truly aging out at this point."

Grimm said it has taken a few years to get to this point to more forward with improvements. She said long-range capital planning will help balance the cost of these projects.

Department of Public Works Director Heather Blakeley said the department has completed a comprehensive asset management plan for both the water and wastewater treatment plants, which has prioritized what needs to be done.

"We are really trying to identify the most critical pieces

of equipment and target those for the first upgrades that you're seeing," she said.

**FY 27 budget**

Article 8 asked voters to take action on the fiscal year 2027 budget, as recommended by the Finance Committee, totaling \$46,128,466. This is a 4.1% increase over the prior year's budget.

The article passed with a vote of 159-16.

**All other ATM articles**

All other articles on the annual town meeting warrant passed, including article 32, which asked voters to amend the bylaws in Section 62-8 to reflect warrant deadlines related to the new date for town meeting.

The amendments also included updated language from "Board of Selectmen" to "Select Board."

**Special town meeting**

Following the annual town meeting, voters addressed nine articles on the special town meeting warrant.

Article 55 approved \$294,556 from free cash to cover the snow and ice removal deficit.

Article 57 approved the use of \$105,000 for repairs and painting for the wastewater treatment plant's clarifier #1. This article will supplement the \$300,000 previously authorized for borrowing for

this project based on updated project cost estimates.

Voters also approved additional funds for the Joshua Hyde Public Library's outdoor programming space and Americans with Disabilities Act accessible entries by \$130,000 with article 58.

As part of the fiscal year 2026 Capital Plan, \$110,000 was budgeted for expanding ADA program space and providing required ADA egress from the rear exits of the library. When the project was put out to bid, only one bid was received, which was significantly higher than the anticipated cost.

This brings the total amount requested for the project to \$240,000.

"This allows for outdoor programming space and ADA accessibility," Grimm said.

The current outdoor programming space and the town common do not meet ADA accessibility requirements.

Article 62 passed a temporary moratorium on battery energy storage systems.

The moratorium is intended to provide the town with time to develop and adopt appropriate zoning regulations specific to this rapidly evolving technology.

Voters took no action on articles 56 and 60.

**FOR RENT**

**Quabbin Estates**

41 Church Lane, Wheelwright, MA 01094

Accepting applications for wait list. The apartment features - w/w carpeting, kitchen appliances, maintenance coverage, laundry facilities. We specialize in Senior Housing and "Barrier Free" accessible units. Rent is \$810/mo. or 30% of income, whichever is lower. RD regulations. Handicap Accessible apartments when available.

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT  
413-477-6496  
TDD (800)439-2379



**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**



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

**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



Tom turkey

**BIRDS FROM PAGE 4**

stored in the refrigerator for about one week if making larger amounts.

**Tom turkeys**

In my travels, I spotted in three different locations Tom turkeys displaying their tail feathers for one or more hen turkeys. I noticed one Tom with two hens strutting about as the females kept on eating near him.

**Bird fact**

Annually, over 50 million Americans pur-

chased more than one billion pounds of bird seed and suet.

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.

**PERMIT FROM PAGE 1**

ration, but could make some baked goods, soups, and sandwiches on site, along with selling pre-made items from wholesale vendors.

Hill said the hours of operation are not completely set yet, but is thinking of 6 a.m. until 3 or 4 p.m. She said the shop would be open from Wednesday to Saturday. On the interior, she said there would be six-eight seats.

Hill and the engineer working on the project said they are planning on installing a grease trap, and that the sewer system has passed title V inspections. The engineer said that the whole property is 934 square feet but half of that is support systems like restrooms or preparation areas.

The engineer said their septic tank holds 1,500 square feet of water, and has a capacity of 511 gallons per day. He said restaurant requirements require a capacity of over a thousand gallons per day, and will be requesting a variance on that requirement.

Board of Health member Maureen Lepak said they need to go through the

Leicester Regional Public Health Coalition to start that process. She said they need to submit a design, notify abutters, get a food establishment permit, and finally the board will hold public hearings.

**Post Road Trading**

Bonnie Toomey, the owner of Post Road Trading came to the board with concerns regarding coffee sales. She said she wants to serve coffee at the establishment, but was told she needs a ServSafe certificate and a three-basin sink.

She said modern coffee machines do not require these sinks. She said the LHRPC said she is not allowed to serve coffee until those requirements are met.

"Has law not caught up with technology?" she said.

Lepak said the standards enforced by the town are the federal code of minimum standards, and the board cannot relax the rules.

**Wildberry**

Lea Moreau, owner of Wildberry Acres Farm said since the last time they met with the board, they situated their septic permit, and have

applied for a food truck permit, as they are partnering with Smashing Patties.

She said there have been some "points of conflict" regarding the food truck permit.

Moreau said the farm has a permitted kitchen, and it should be able to be used as a base of operations for Smashing Patties, but the health agents said it is not allowed. She said they had provided documentation for grease and drainwater disposal, along with the permit to the LHRPC.

She said they originally got approved for the operations, but later received a letter of non-compliance from the coalition. The owner of Smashing Patties said he is permitted in other towns in the region, like Southbridge and Brimfield.

The board said they would reach out to the Leicester coalition for an explanation.

**Reimbursement request**

The board accepted a reimbursement request from Kermit Eaton, who applied for PERC tests but no action has been done and he no longer wants to go

through with it.

**Spending controls**

The board acknowledged the Select Board's decision to temporarily freeze spending on non-essential purchases, as requested by the Town Accountant Laurie Bartkus.

**Transfer station**

The board discussed that bags at the transfer station are running out, and an order may need to be put in soon. They said it would cost \$1,028 for 26 cases of bags from the transfer expense or grant funds.

Lepak said this falls under necessary purchases, and does not apply to the temporary freeze. Lepak said they are usually ordered in June, and said she would go to the station and see if there is an uptick in usage, but said it should be fine to order them now.

**Beach testing contract**

Lepak said she reached out and got a quote for beach testing services. She said they test for E. Coli when the town beach is open, and it will open to the public on June 1. She said tests have to come back clear before a permit is given. The board signed the contract.

# - public notices -

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS LAKE MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

The Town of West Brookfield, MA in accordance with M.G.L. c 30B, which governs the procurement of supplies and services, hereby invites sealed proposals from qualified firms for "LAKE MANAGEMENT SERVICES" The requested managed services are for weed, algae management and related services commencing July 1, 2026 and terminating December 31, 2026.

Qualification and bid proposal forms are available beginning April 30, 2026 and may be obtained during regular business hours at:

Town Administrator's Office

West Brookfield Town Hall  
2 East Main Street,  
Floor Level B

West Brookfield, MA 01585  
Or, by request via email to

tcofske@wbrookfield.com.

Sealed proposals, clearly marked "LAKE MANAGEMENT SERVICES" must be received at the Town Administrator's Office, West Brookfield Town Hall, 2 East Main Street, West Brookfield, MA 01585 by **May 18, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.** All bids submitted must be in conformity with all pertinent statutes and regulations of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

A review panel for the services will make a recommendation to the Town Administrator for award of the contract.

The Town reserves the right

to reject any and all proposals, to waive any defects, informalities, and minor irregularities; and to award contracts or cancel this RFP.

Theresa A. Cofske  
Town Administrator  
05/01, 05/08/2026

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS MANAGED IT SERVICES**

The Town of West Brookfield, MA in accordance with M.G.L. c 30B, which governs the procurement of supplies and services, hereby invites sealed proposals from qualified firms for "MANAGED IT SERVICES" The requested managed IT services are for multiple Town Departments commencing July 1, 2026 and

terminating June 30, 2029.

Qualification and bid proposal forms are available beginning April 30, 2026, and may be obtained during regular business hours at:

Town Administrator's Office  
West Brookfield Town Hall  
2 East Main Street,  
Floor Level B

West Brookfield, MA 01585  
Monday -Thursday 8:00AM-400PM:

Or, by request via email to tcofske@wbrookfield.com.

Sealed proposals, clearly marked "MANAGED IT SERVICES" must be received at the Town Administrator's Office, West Brookfield Town Hall, 2 East Main Street, West Brookfield, MA 01585 by **May 18, 2026, at 11:00 AM.** All bids

submitted must be in conformity with all pertinent statutes and regulations of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

A review panel for the services will make a recommendation to the Town Administrator for award of the contract.

The Town reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, to waive any defects, informalities, and minor irregularities; and to award contracts or cancel this RFP

Theresa A. Cofske  
Town Administrator  
05/01, 05/08/2026

Projectdog 52 (revised 3-10-26)

**ADVERTISEMENT**

The West Brookfield Housing Authority, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from Contractors for the **Olde Village Place Elderly 667-01** Development for the West Brookfield Housing Authority in West Brookfield Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by **Hill Engineers, Architects, Planners, Inc.**

The Project consists of: **Replacing select concrete sidewalk sections, and hot mix asphalt driveways**

The work is estimated to cost **\$68,422.00**

Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.30 §39M & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §26 to 27H inclusive.

General Bids will be received until **2:00 p.m., Friday May 22, 2026** and publicly opened, forthwith.

This project is being Elec-

tronically Bid (E-Bid). All bids shall be prepared and submitted online at **Projectdog.com** and received no later than the date & time specified above. Hard copy bids will not be accepted by the Awarding Authority. For assistance, contact Projectdog, Inc. at 978.499.9014.

General bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than five (5%) of the greatest possible bid amount (considering all alternates) and made payable to the **West Brookfield Housing Authority.**

Bid Forms and Contract Documents will be available in electronic form and without cost or charge at **Projectdog.com**, project code **873973**, beginning **April 22, 2026.** Persons desiring hard copies of the documents shall be solely responsible for all printing costs.

The Contractor and all subcontractors (collectively referred to as "the Contractor") agree to strive to achieve minority and women workforce participation. The Workforce Participation benchmark is set at 6.9% for women and 15.3% for minorities. The Workforce benchmark percentages are a statutory requirement under MGL c. 149 §44A(2)(G).

The job site and/or existing building will be available for inspection between **1:00 P.M. and 2:00 P.M. on Wednesday, May 13, 2026.**

For an appointment call **Matthew Blanchard at 978-394-9009.**

05/08/2026

## EARLY DEADLINES

In observance of Memorial Day, there will be an **EARLY AD DEADLINE** To advertise, place your ad no later than **NOON Thursday, May 21**

- Thank you!

A TURLEY PUBLICATION  
www.turley.com

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

BIKE SALE!

1000's IN STOCK!

WE REPAIR BIKES!

SPRING BIKE TUNE-UP: \$49.99!

E-BIKES IN STOCK!

HUGE KITCHEN PACKAGE & LAUNDRY REBATES

END OF THE YEAR TV SALE!

2025 OFFICIAL COMMUNITY'S CHOICE AWARDS

43" Smart TV.....\$199.99  
Regularly \$249.9

50" HDTV Television..\$229.99  
Regularly \$269.99

65" HDTV Television..\$329.99  
Regularly \$599.99

75" HDTV.....\$499.99  
Regularly \$699.99

THE SPAGS OF SPENCER!

MATTRESS SALE!

TWIN: \$199 / FULL: \$269 / QUEEN: \$299  
(REG. \$299) (REG. \$499) (REG. \$599)

BETTER THAN ANY BIG BOX STORE!

DELUXE AIR FRY RANGE - Reg. \$699.99 ..... \$749

FRIGIDAIRE DISHWASHER - Reg. \$699.99 ..... \$299

21 CU. FT. FREEZER - Reg. \$999.99 ..... \$799

G.E. 27 CU. FT. FRENCH DOOR REFRIGERATOR Reg. \$1999.99 ..... \$1,399

5 CU. FT. CHEST FREEZER - Reg. \$699.99 ..... \$189

AMANA WASHER OR DRYER - Reg. \$599.99 ..... \$489.99

FRIGIDAIRE 18 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR - Reg. \$699.99 ..... \$599.99

FAMOUS MAKER OVER THE STOVE MICROWAVE - Reg. \$249.99 .... \$229.99

LG WASHER & DRYER - Front Load, Reg. \$1599.99 ..... \$1,399.99

MAYTAG DELUXE WASHER OR DRYER - Reg. \$699.99 ..... \$499.99

WHIRLPOOL SIDE BY SIDE - Reg. \$1,499.99 ..... \$1,049.99

GAS GRILL SALE!

PRE-SEASON SAVINGS!

Great Selection! A/C's

BIKE SALE!

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).

National Multiple Sclerosis Society

INSTANT FINANCING UP TO \$10,000!

# WHITCO

140 MAIN STREET, SPENCER, MA

508.885.9343

SEE WHITCOSALES.COM

FOR 100's OF DEALS!

140 MAIN STREET, SPENCER, MA

508.885.9343

SEE WHITCOSALES.COM

FOR 100's OF DEALS!

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

# Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

**FOR SALE**

**ESTATE SALE**

**HUGE ESTATE SALE DON'T MISS IT!**  
**2 Christopher Lane, Wilbraham Saturday, May 9 only, 9am-3pm**  
 Everything is priced to sell – and it all must go! Browse a wide variety of items including: extensive holiday decor, Beanie Babies, household items, furniture, Disney collectibles, New England sports memorabilia. Come early for the best selection!

**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**

**2022 LOADRITE BOAT TRAILER.**  
 Model C650-1T. Capacity 650 lbs. Used two seasons with canoe. Adjustable for conventional boat. Original owner, \$1500, 413-244-4520.

**SIT-IN KAYAK, Santee Hurricane 126.** \$300.00. Call 413-583-5278.

**WHEEL HORSE COLLECTORS:** 4 old models, 312-8 (2), C-81 Elctro 12. Call Eleanor 413-283-3540.

**TAG SALE**

**FRIDAY, MAY 8 AND SATURDAY, MAY 9, 8am-3pm.** Rain/shine.  
**63 Walker Rd., Wales.**  
 Antiques, furniture, plants, arts, rare finds.

**HUGE ESTATE SALE DON'T MISS IT!**  
**2 Christopher Lane, Wilbraham Saturday, May 9 only, 9am-3pm**  
 Everything is priced to sell – and it all must go! Browse a wide variety of items including: extensive holiday decor, Beanie Babies, household items, furniture, Disney collectibles, New England sports memorabilia. Come early for the best selection!

**WANTED**

**WANTED TO BUY**

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

**WANTED**

**ALWAYS BUYING ALL ANTIQUES:**  
 Musical instruments, guitars, horns, keyboards, vintage electronics, jewelry, coins, watches, military cameras, sports memorabilia, art, sterling, signs, automotive, hunting, advertising, radios, ham radio equipment, audio equipment, toys, one item or entire estate.  
 Call Paul 413-206-8688

**JUNK REMOVAL**

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

**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.

**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**

**LICENSED 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

**SERVICES**

**HOME IMPROVEMENT**

**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/Arborvitae 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.

**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

**HOME IMPROVEMENT**

**Handyman Services**

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

**SERVICES**

**LAWN & GARDEN**

**A.A.A. ROTOTILLING** Yes time to till gardens and flower beds too. Be safe grow your own. Call for appointment, fair and reasonable rates. Suburban residential only. 413-626-1927.

**"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**

**KEN'S PAINTING SERVICES.** Interior painting/staining, wallpaper removal, wall/ceiling resurfacing, cabinet painting. Quality workmanship, fully insured. Free estimates. Call 413-896-8264.

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

**PLUMBING**

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

**CLASSIFIED DEADLINES**  
**FRIDAY AT NOON**

**SERVICES**

**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

**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.

**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

**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

**HELP WANTED**

**LABORERS AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR**  
 Positions available with local work. Proper licenses required including OSHA compliance. Compensation will commensurate with experience. Transportation required.  
 Email: [bradwayconstruction@yahoo.com](mailto:bradwayconstruction@yahoo.com)  
 with your resume and for more information.

**SEEKING YOUNGSTER(S)** for assisting older couple with organizing/moving items for tag sale/clean-out. Computer skills a plus. Call Bob at Hilltown Animal Control, 413-374-8451.

**REAL ESTATE FOR RENT**

**EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY**

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

Post your job openings in our classifieds. **WE GET RESULTS!**  
 Call 1-413-283-8393

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 DEADLINES: FRIDAY AT NOON  
 or call: 413-283-8393

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Base Price \$26.00
21 Base Price \$28.50	22 Base Price \$27.00	23 Base Price \$27.50	24 Base Price \$25.00
25 Base Price \$28.50	26 Base Price \$28.00	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!**

# 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  
**508-885-9343**

Open: Mon.-Fri. 10am-8:30pm, Sat. 9am-8pm, Sun. 12pm-7pm

**POST ROAD REALTY**  
 BUYING OR SELLING... WE HAVE THE PERFECT FIT FOR YOU!  
 www.PostRoadRealty.com

**NEW LISTING!**  
 10 FOSTER ROAD  
 WEST BROOKFIELD  
 \$559,900

**OPEN HOUSE**  
 SATURDAY, MAY 9  
 11:00 to 12:30

**FEATURES:**  
 3 BEDS  
 2.50 BATHS  
 2 CAR GARAGE  
 BACK DECK  
 CENTRAL AIR  
 FULL BASEMENT

**Cassie Paolucci**  
**774-200-3523**

**NAPA REWARDS**  
 Join NAPA Rewards today for your chance to win a YETI® Rambler Travel Mug 35 oz.

Scan the QR code or visit <https://congrse.io/d/SswvEL> for more details.

**DO** Sign up for a NAPA Rewards account today.  
**EARN** Receive points for every purchase online or in store.  
**REDEEM** Receive Rewards each time you reach 100 points.

No purchase necessary. \*25 YETI® Rambler Travel Mugs will be given away. Must be 18+. Join NAPA Rewards for a chance to win and see official rules.

**NAPA AUTO PARTS® WARE-WEST BROOKFIELD**  
 175 West St., Ware 413-967-5121 • 967-3184  
 116 Federal St. (Rt. 9) Belchertown 413-323-7661 • 323-9296  
 117 West Main St., W. Brookfield • 508-867-9947

**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**  
 Sand, Gravel & Asphalt

98 North Spencer Rd., Spencer  
 bondsandandgravel.com  
**508-885-6100**  
**508-885-2480**

Are you ready to buy or sell?

**Lisa Caron Realtor®**  
 Broker, Owner GRI, ABR, SRS, RENE, C2EX, SRES, MRP, PSA, LMC, COPE, E-PRO

Call today to get started!  
**508.341.8299**

**Country Canine KENNELS**

**Boarding, Grooming, Daycare**

🐾 Boarding starting at \$40 a night  
 🐾 Daycare starting at \$26 a day

84 Greenwich Plains Road  
 Ware, MA 01082  
 (413) 277-0334 Office Phone  
 countrycaninekennels@gmail.com

**Flint Signs**  
 149 Broad St., Barre, MA  
 978-355-3080  
 www.FlintSigns.com

Hand Painted - Hand Carved - Gold Leaf - Custom Artwork

*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
Sept. 26...Pickity Place Lunch	\$130
March 1...12-Day Caribbean Cruise	Balcony \$2499

**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)

**JARS Café & Bakery**  
 23 Summer Street  
 North Brookfield  
 MA 01535

**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.

**BUYLINE CONNECTION**

**3 Ads for 1 Low Price!!!**

Ware River News, Barre Gazette & Quaboag Current  
 Over 16,000 copies • Prints every Thursday

Special Ad Size Pricing  
 3" x 1" ... only \$33  
 3" x 1.5" only \$48  
 3" x 2" ... only \$66  
 3" x 2.5" only \$82  
 3" x 3" ... only \$99

**FULL COLOR INCLUDED!**

Contact **Dan Flynn**  
 413-297-5886  
[dfflynn@turley.com](mailto:dfflynn@turley.com)

**HANNA'S ON MAIN**  
 91 Main Street  
 Ware, MA 01082  
 413-277-0009  
 www.hannasonmain.com

Mon & Tues Functions Only • Wed & Thurs 11:00 AM- 9PM  
 Fri & Sat 11:00 AM - 10pm • Sun 8AM - 9PM

**Complete Catering Services!**  
 Hot Foods • Cold Foods  
 Salads • Sandwich Trays

Graduations • Holidays • Anniversaries  
 Business Events  
 Birthdays • Retirements • Reunions

**www.hannasonmain.com**  
**413-277-0009**

**Function Room Available**

Mother's Day at Hanna's on Main

**TREAT MOM**  
*Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>*  
**MOM**  
 9am - 6pm

Treat Mom to a day out with her favorites, from morning favorites to evening specials

9am - 12pm  
 Full breakfast menu  
 Chef's Specials

12:30pm - 6pm  
 Full dinner menu  
 Mother's Day Dinner Specials

[hannasonmain.com](http://hannasonmain.com)

**Call to reserve your table**  
**413-277-0009**