

TOWN Reminder

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Cruise Night returns on Fridays

By Ben Hernandez
Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY – Cruise Nights in Buttery Brook Park are in full swing. The time honored car nights take place every Friday between 5 and 7:30 p.m. and have been a feature in the park for more than 25 years. The event is run by the Friends of Buttery Brook Park, an all-volunteer organization dedicated to fundraising local amenities within the park.

“I’ve always loved the muscle cars and antique cars,” said Friends of Buttery Brook Park Co-Chair David Bernier as he spoke on his personal lifelong interest in cars and the wider car community. “It’s a great way to meet new people, make new friends.”

Bernier started participating in cruise nights himself when his son was two years old to “look at the cars.” He began to volunteer about 10 years ago and hasn’t stopped since. From there, Bernier rose up the ranks as he grew

further into the community. “I’ve started off as selling 50/50 tickets and I became one of the judges,” Bernier said. “I assisted with judging and it just progressed from there...I got onto the board of directors probably four years ago, five years ago. So I’ve been actively involved with it.”

Cruise night themes center around make, model and age, with specific nights such as Mustang or Corvette nights being featured. Cars are judged by different categories, such as best late model, the cleanest car and the most original cars. Bernier says he enjoys talking with the presenters as a judge.

“You get to talk to these guys,” Bernier said. “When you’re doing a judging, they are more than happy to share with you what they’ve done to the car and things like that.”

Featured cars comprise a wide variety of makes and models, with some very in-

Please see **CRUISE**, page 10



Classic vehicles are showcased in tandem with more modern rides.

Turley photos by Ben Hernandez

Select Board targets outdated website, orders overhaul of online comments

By Melina Bourdeau
Correspondent

GRANBY – The selectboard acknowledged that the town’s website has fallen behind residents’ needs, launching a push to clean up outdated pages, train department heads and strengthen how the town communicates online about public business.

At a recent meeting, members and staff described the site as stale and sometimes hard to navigate and agreed Town Administrator Bernard Lynch should return with a concrete plan. That plan is expected to include outside help to overhaul content, clear expectations for department heads, and better

use of online tools to keep residents informed about everything from agendas to construction projects.

Selectboard member Mark Bail said the issue was brought to him both by residents and the town’s Communications Committee, which had reviewed the site and “were a little disappointed in how little progress we’ve made” on updates. He told colleagues a resident had been “frustrated with the website this week” and urged the board to treat the problem as more than a minor housekeeping matter.

Bail proposed hiring Jenny Hedjamowitz, who helped build and maintain the Granby Public Schools

site, to bring the town pages up to date and easier to use. He argued that the work goes beyond simple clerical updates and should be handled by someone with experience.

Lynch agreed that the core problem is not just design, but stale information that undermines the site’s usefulness.

“Content is a key to any website... even if it was the best design website in the world, if the content’s out of date, then it’s no good for you,” Lynch said.

He outlined a two-step approach: first, a “catch up” phase to correct inaccurate and missing information. Then an ongoing system so the site doesn’t fall behind

again. A central part of the plan will be shifting more responsibility onto department leaders. The town’s vendor, MuniBit, already allows each department to manage its own pages, but that has not been used consistently.

Lynch said the goal should be to have “department heads... maintain their own presence on the website,” with the town’s IT resources and outside help focused on structure and training rather than day-to-day postings.

Bail and Lynch also raised ethics questions about hiring Hedjamowitz, who already works in the school su-

Please see **BOARD**, page 10

Mount Holyoke College transfers liquor license

By Ben Hernandez
Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY – The South Hadley Select Board heard a petition for the transfer of Mount Holyoke College’s liquor license. Attorney Tyler Hensler was present to speak on the request and discussed how it differed from a traditional line item.

“This is more of a restructuring, reorganization on campus of the entities that hold the liquor license,” Hensler said. “It’s being transferred from the Willits Hollowell Center Inc, which is a subsidiary nonprofit of the college to the college itself, the trustees of Mount Holyoke.”

Hensler went on to explain the transfer was for liability and insurance purposes and informed the Select Board the manager on record would be Mike McKenna, a person Hensler commented was one who he believed the board was familiar with. McKenna is the current general manager of the Willets Hollowell Conference Center.

“We’re very, very glad to have him because he knows the ins and outs of that building and the operations,” Hensler said.

Hensler explained the reason for the transfer in greater detail. He outlined two additional requests

Please see **LICENSE**, page 9



Turley photos by Ben Hernandez

Singers encourage the audience to participate in a rousing rendition of “Country Roads.”

Dan Kane Singers perform at Dufrense Park

By Ben Hernandez
Correspondent

GRANBY – The pleasant weather was just right for the open concert hosted in Dufrense Park by the Dan Kane Singers. The cast offered an assortment of songs sourced from traditional folk songs at the gazebo, performing popular music from the 50s and

60s, classic Sinatra songs and modern day musicals. The cast came from all walks of life, from retired teachers to students still enrolled in primary school.

The Dan Kane Singers are a staple in the Granby community. Keyboardist, organist and group coordinator Dan Kane is a retired Special Education teacher who worked in

the Westfield Public School system for 34 years. A current choral teacher for both St. Stanislaus School in Chicopee MA and St. Mary’s School in Westfield, Kane recruits volunteer singers from the greater area to perform free concerts for the public and even performed for Pres-

Please see **SINGERS**, page 3

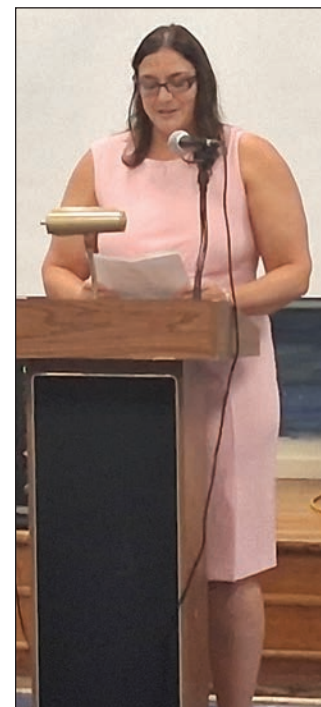
Cold Spring School under new management

By Ben Hernandez
Correspondent

BELCHERTOWN – Cold Spring School’s doors will shutter on July 1, sent off by a warm reception from former teachers and students. The preschool and kindergarten building will be transferred to Pathfinder Tech next month, prompting the end of the building’s 72 years of early childhood education. Interim principal Jennifer Pelletier stated the transition was due to a number of factors; low student enrollment, the building’s age and lack of funding.

“The district was allowed the time through the override last year to plan, to reorganize and adjust grade spans in different buildings,” Pelletier said. “So for next year, the students that would come to Cold Spring will be at Swift River with grades one and two.”

As a result of the new students, third graders currently attending Swift River will find themselves moving to Chestnut Hill. Sixth graders attending Chestnut Hill will be transferred to Jabish Brook.



Turley photos by Ben Hernandez

Interim Principal Jill Pelletier conducts the commemoration ceremony as visitors shuffle in.

“At that point it was not known whether the new middle school project was going to be approved or not,” Pelletier said as she discussed the new student reshuffling in

the district. Pelletier became the school’s interim principal last year, during a time where the building’s future was unknown. The project to build a new middle school didn’t pass, which prompted the town to “consider what was needed in terms of support.” She commented the restructure made sense when looking at current state curriculum frameworks.

“There’s often the K to two band and then three to five. Middle school’s often six, seven and eight,” Pelletier said. “So we’re really kind of aligning and following that.”

She believed the current school ethos will remain in town as Cold Spring’s existing educators get redistributed and mentioned the change will “help support educators in kind of doing similar work.” She also stated the reorganization would help educators build off each other’s strengths and allow for further collaboration. Pelletier herself will be moving to Swift River once Pathfinder Tech takes over the building in July.

Please see **SCHOOL**, page 5

McKinstry Farms to acquire local Sapowsky Farm

By Ben Hernandez
Correspondent

GRANBY – The beloved local Sapowsky farms has been acquired by fellow family owned operation McKinstry Farms. Farmer William McKinstry spoke at length about family history and the importance of tradition within farming. He stated the acquisition was a way to preserve the beloved local farm, as the current generation of Sapowsky children “weren’t really interested in the farm.”

“Steve and Tammy worked very hard to build up their business,” McKinstry said. “They didn’t want to see it just sit idle. It was a good decision for both of us, you know?”

McKinstry spoke at length about the combined family history and mentioned his father and the Sapowsky patriarch were close. He mentioned how close Granby was to their central Chicopee operations and how they were already helping each other’s estates.

“They were just getting started and whatnot,” McKinstry said as he reminisced on when the Sapowsky business got started. “My dad gave them a lot of advice to what to do and what not to do. And now it’s the other way around. Steve’s helping my son.”

The McKinstry farm specializes in sweet corn, a crop which McKinstry reported has four different types. The Sapowsky farm also sells

sweet corn and strawberries, which he defined as their specialization. The farmer intended to continue the proud tradition and stressed this acquisition would not change anything in their business model.

“We definitely want to continue what Steve and Tammy have built up their business,” McKinstry said. “We’d like to have a good strawberry crowd and following, so we want to keep that going.”

He discussed how important it was to meet current customer expectations and spoke on how much of local farming success was reliant on local markets. Much of the business requires the farms to maintain regional markets, which in turn relies on loyal repeat customers. McKinstry also discussed his desire to further expand production into the Boston markets.

“My son has expanded the wholesale now,” McKinstry said. “So, he goes to Boston, you know? He just re-sends the truck every week.”

McKinstry also mentioned the acquisition was a bit more of a formality than anything, as the two families have been working close together for at least five years. He stated his family farm was already renting property from their area and pointed out they were always looking for more land.



Both Sapowsky Farms and their roadside stand is under new management.

Turley photos by Ben Hernandez



McKinstry Market Garden has combined branding with the roadside stand to signify the merger.

“We’re just trying to grow, you know,” McKinstry said as he discussed his future plans and also mentioned they introduced a new crop to help with the farm’s expansion ambitions. “We’re doing a lot of winter squash.”

McKinstry identified the crop as essential to their eastward expansion efforts due to the vegetable’s overall resilience and longer shelf life. He stated the crop was easy to store in the wintertime, so long as it’s kept heated around 58 degrees.

“It’s good income in the winter for us,” McKinstry

said. “It’s a hardy crop.”

The Sapowsky family, however, isn’t completely out of operation. McKinstry mentioned Tammy Sapowsky would still work on the farm as a morning manager, as well as “doing the bacon” on the premises. He stated the move would allow her to reduce her overall responsibilities, a decision he said made her happy.

“She doesn’t have all the responsibility of everything now,” McKinstry said. “She can just devote more time to her customers and baking and she’s enjoying life a lot

more.”

Steve will continue to help out as well, though the recent shoulder reconstruction surgery may affect his ability to contribute. McKinstry reiterated his whole goal in this acquisition was to help out on the family and to continue to uphold the farm’s proud legacy within the community.

“The transition’s been very smooth,” McKinstry said. “They’re happy – they seem happy and willing and don’t have the burdens on their shoulders...they want to see us succeed too, you know?”

Council on Aging wins 2026 AARP Community Challenge Grant

SOUTH HADLEY – The South Hadley Council on Aging has been selected to receive a 2026 AARP Community Challenge grant to launch a Peer Technology Mentor Program at the South Hadley Senior Center. The \$9,620 Flagship grant will train five, tech-savvy, senior volunteers to provide one-on-one technology help and group classes to fellow older adults, roughly tripling the center’s tech-support capacity and serving more than 200 residents a year.

South Hadley is one of 750 grantees chosen from more than 5,100 applications nationwide. This year AARP is investing \$8.3 million across all 50 states, Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, the largest number of Community Challenge grants in the

program’s 10-year history.

Peer Mentors will receive structured training on teaching techniques for older learners, session documentation, classroom setup and more. The grant also funds new iPads for the center’s lending program, as well as a device library of phones, tablets, smartwatches and streaming media devices for Peer Mentors to demonstrate to members in-class.

“We are honored and excited to be selected as 2026 AARP Community Challenge grantees. As demand for technology help at our senior center continues to grow, this funding allows us to support even more community members in learning to use technology safely and confidently in their daily lives.” Andy Rogers, Human Services Director.

Town hosting Beaver Management Presentation and Walk on June 27

BELCHERTOWN – Residents are invited to a free, all-ages presentation and walk about beaver management on Saturday, June 27, from 1 to 3 p.m., beginning at the Belchertown Recreation Department, 66 State Street.

The Beaver Institute will give a presentation at the Recreation Department, after which the group will walk to the Lake Wallace spillway at Foley Field to see a “beaver deceiver” flow device in action. The device, also known as a Pond Leveler, allows the town to manage water levels while letting beavers remain in place. A table will be set up lakeside with pond critters, giving attendees a chance to explore local biodiversity and aquatic macroinvertebrate biomonitoring.

Beavers play a vital role in flood control, water reten-

tion and infiltration, and habitat biodiversity. The event offers families a fun, hands-on look at how these complex animals shape the local landscape and how the town coexists with them.

The presentation and walk are made possible through Massachusetts Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program funding for the culvert replacement project on Warren Wright Road over Hop Brook.

The walk to the spillway is approximately one-third of a mile. Anyone arriving after the group has departed the Recreation Department can meet them at the Lake Wallace spillway at Foley Field.

For more information about this program please call or email Belchertown Department of Public Works at 413-323-0415 or lleduc@belchertown.org.

Planning for Quabbin Days underway

BELCHERTOWN – The Friends of Quabbin are encouraging municipalities, historical societies, museums, libraries, conservation organizations, arts groups, farms, businesses, and community organizations throughout the Quabbin Region to begin planning for Quabbin Days 2026 scheduled for Oct. 9 to 12 (www.QuabbinDays.org).

Quabbin Days is a regional initiative, coordinated by the Friends, to encourage residents and visitors to explore the twelve communities of the Quabbin Region through a variety of local events, programs, exhibits, tours, performances, outdoor activities, and community gatherings.

“We know that many organizations begin planning their fall schedules months in advance,” said Ed Comeau of the Friends of Quabbin. “We want to give everyone enough lead time to consider how they would like to participate and to explore opportunities to work together.”

The inaugural Quabbin

Days celebration in 2025 brought together organizations from across the region and demonstrated the value of a shared regional effort through historical programs, museum exhibits, art shows, living-history demonstrations, and much more.

Participation can take many forms. Organizations may create new programs specifically for Quabbin Days or designate existing activities taking place during the October holiday weekend as part of the celebration. Event information will be added to the Quabbin Days website as plans are finalized, and events can be submitted for the calendar at www.QuabbinDays.org/contact.

A key component of the initiative is the Quabbin Trail, a self-guided route connecting the twelve watershed communities. By linking attractions, historic sites, museums, natural areas, farms, and local businesses, the trail encourages visitors to explore the region while supporting individual communities and organizations.

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High school student and singer Pierce belts out a Frank Sinatra tune.

Granby residents lined up for a free musical performance at the park.

SINGERS from page 1

ident Bill Clinton in Washington DC. The yearly summer concert is a big hit with the Granby community, with many flocking to the June 16 concerts.

The organization raises funds for the local community, with donated proceedings helping fund the Friends of Granby's Elderly and the local senior center. Standout performances were high school student Pierce's rendition of Frank Sinatra's "Fly Me to the Moon" and "Margaritaville" from Jimmy Buffet, elementary school student Lyla Grace's version of "Popular" from the hit musical Wicked and hauntingly beautiful performances from resident blind singer AJ.

Additional features were renditions of "Man! I Feel Like a Woman" from women's singing troupe the Pearls and rousing patriotic versions of the US Marine Corps theme, "America the Beautiful" and "Country Roads" by John Denver.



Local singer AJ wows the crowd with haunting melodies.



The concert featured a myriad of local talent.

St. Francis seeks donations for upcoming tag sale

BELCHERTOWN – The St Francis Parish Giant Tag Sale team invites the community to make donations to this annual event on Aug. 22. The team will gratefully accept most donated items.

As you begin sorting, please be aware that the following donated items will be appreciated: bed and table linens, new dust-free candles, craft items, hardware, kitchenware, luggage, backpacks, handbags, children's clothes up to size 2T only, children's books, small working appliances, working lamps, toys, pictures, frames, holiday decorations, hand tools, yard tools, jewelry, shoes, boots, sporting goods, baby gear, small but not-upholstered furniture, knick-knacks, and collectibles. The team politely requests that donors clear all donated items of storage dust, bugs, mold, and critter residue.

Unfortunately, the following items cannot be accepted: partially used dusty candles, any clothing larger than size 2T, cookbooks or non-children books, bed pillows, baby cribs,

car seats, computers, monitors, 8-track or cassette or VHS tapes, skis, exercise bikes, treadmills, gas grills, propane tanks, hazardous materials, mattresses, clothes hangers, medical equipment, bed pillows, and any large furniture items.

The proceeds from this annual effort are earmarked for the parish's Living Our Faith, Building Our Future Capital Campaign in support of the much-needed building of the proposed St. Francis of Assisi Parish Center on the grounds of the Jabish Street campus.

This year, the Tag Sale Team will only accept donations for a ten-day period – Aug. 7 to 16 only. Donations will be accepted Monday to Saturday from 9 am to 7 pm with Sunday donations only accepted noon to 5 p.m. Please do not leave donations outside the Pine Room door when a team member is not there to receive them.

The team is grateful for the continuing, generous support of our Belchertown community.

Granby Lions sponsoring bus trip

GRANBY – The Granby Lions Club will be sponsoring a bus trip to Boston on Tuesday, July 14, 2026. The chartered bus will be leaving the East Meadow School Parking Lot at 8 a.m. and dropping us off in the Seaport District at approximately 10 a.m.

Come help us celebrate the 250th anniversary of the United States at SailBoston 2026, an international maritime event that brings tall ships and

naval vessels from around the world to Boston Harbor. You will be on your own to visit the ships and the bus will depart Boston at 4 p.m.

The cost per person is \$75. Please make your checks payable to the Granby Lions Club, and mail to Granby Lions Club, c/o Jim Pietras, 280 East State St, Granby, MA. 01033. Questions – email Jim at jpietas@comcast.net



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Opinion

SOCIAL SECURITY

Matters

By Russell Gloor

Why don't they just create individual Social Security accounts?

Dear Rusty:

Regarding Social Security's financial issues, three people contributing to Social Security for every one beneficiary sounds to me like a surplus.

If they had given workers their own accounts, similar to a 401k, where they could manage their own money, it would have worked out more favorably for retirees. President George W Bush suggested these changes, but it was shot down by Congress.

The average worker now pays a 6.2% Social Security tax. If the government had bumped it up to say 7%, I don't believe that me or anyone else would have cried too hard.

There are ways of correcting this before the SS reserves are depleted and, hopefully, Congress will address Social Security's financing soon.

Signed: Skeptical Senior

Dear Skeptical:

Believe it or not, putting SS contributions from payroll taxes into separate individual accounts is not really a good idea.

For information, most people get back all payroll taxes they contributed to Social Security within about five years of receiving SS benefits. Even with decent public market returns, some individual separate accounts would eventually run out of money, causing some to lose Social Security benefits before they die, meaning they would likely live in poverty.

People are now collecting benefits on average for decades and the current SS format means that even those who contribute only a small amount will collect benefits no matter how long they live. Remember, the primary purpose of the SS program is to reduce poverty in America.

FYI, President Bush's plan had opposition in the 2005 Congress largely because of the cost to

transition to that plan and the fear that investments in the public markets subjected individual retirement savings to unacceptable risk.

In any case, few have since advocated investing Social Security funds in the public financial markets because of the risks and the political backlash. And adding a small amount to the FICA/SECA payroll tax rate only somewhat mitigates the problem; it doesn't completely solve it. I'm afraid that Social Security's financial issues are more complex than that and can't be fully solved by a small increase in SS payroll taxes.

You are right Congress can and, we are confident, will address this and hopefully soon. For its part, the Association of Mature American Citizens and the AMAC Foundation have been evaluating this issue for years and have developed a Social Security reform plan for Congress to consider.

And we are actively promoting our reform plan in Washington, D.C. Please know that we share your concerns about the future of Social Security and will continue to work hard to ensure the program is here for many generations.

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

Kohlrabi - The first Garden Lady question of the summer

A reader of 'In the Garden' wrote in with this question for the Garden Lady: "Can you tell me why my kohlrabi did not make a bulb? I have grown them all my life and enjoyed them shredded like coleslaw or cooked with a white sauce. I also know I can use the leaves in stir fry. Thanks for any advice you might have."

While I am not highly experienced when it comes to kohlrabi culture, I applied a few basic gardening principles to come up with some ideas as to why you are having issues with bulb development, some within your control and others left up to Mother Nature.

Kohlrabi is a member of the cabbage family, a cruciferous vegetable. Think cabbage, broccoli, kale, Brussels's sprouts, etc.

The swollen stem is considered the "bulb" but it does not grow below ground. Picture the heart of cabbage or the stem of broccoli swollen to look like a flying saucer of sorts.

As our reader mentioned, they are great in coleslaw and they keep a long time. Like other members of this family, they are considered highly nutritious.

Let's start with fertility. For the biggest, bulbous stem, think less nitrogen and more potassium and phosphorus.

I'm curious if you fertilized with high nitrogen sources, such as composted manure, blood meal or fish

have signaled the crop to bolt without ever forming a bulb.

Are your plants tall and spindly, or are they otherwise well developed? If you installed transplants, perhaps the trouble started even before the plants even made their way into your garden. Just another thought!

The second weather related issue is moisture. Mother

Nature has not been generous in the rain department. Sometimes when droughty conditions are followed by bouts of deep soaking, the would-be bulbous stems can crack or get fibrous before actually bulbing up.

Since we have had less rain that what would be ideal, providing consistent moisture is key.

Although I am not 100% certain why you are having issues this year, I hope that you do give kohlrabi another try. Maybe it was just an off year.

Typically we gardeners are an optimistic lot and our motto is "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again." That, I know we will.

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



by Roberta McQuaid



OPINION PAGE/ LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the Editor have a maximum of 350 words. We require writers to include their name, address and phone number in order for our office to authenticate authorship prior to publication. Addresses and phone numbers are not published.

Unsigned or anonymous letters will NOT be published.

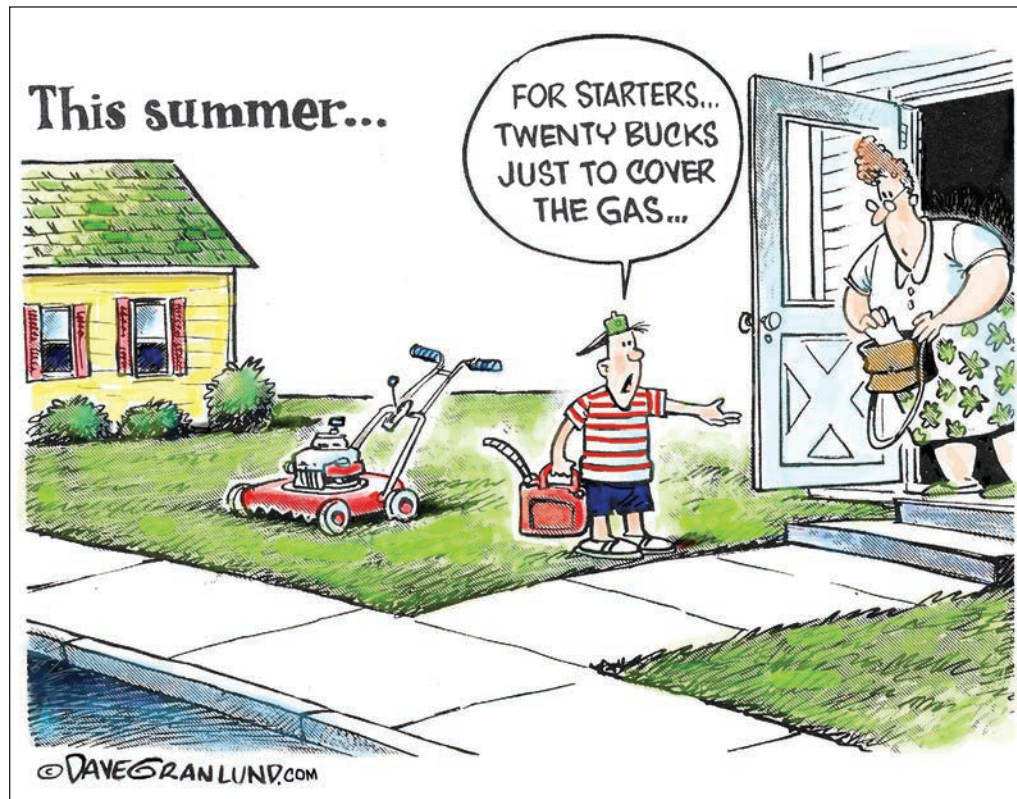
We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions. Libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks or defamation of character are not allowed. Deadline for submissions is Wednesday at noon.

Please email (preferred) letters to townreminder@turley.com. Mailed letters can be sent to Town Reminder, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

Turley Election Policy

This newspaper will print free self-submitted statements of candidacy only four weeks or more out from the election. All candidates running in both contested and uncontested races are asked to submit their statements to the editor to include only biographical and campaign platform details. Total word count for statements is limited to between 300-500 words maximum. Please include a photo. We will not publish any statements of candidacy inside the four weeks from election threshold. To publish any other campaign publicity during the race, please contact our advertising representatives. We also do not allow personal attacks against other candidates or political parties in statements of candidacy, nor do we publish for free any information about key endorsements or political fundraisers.

Letters to the editor of no more than 250 words from supporters endorsing specific candidates or discussing campaign issues are limited to three total per author during the election season. No election letters will appear in the final edition before the election. We reserve the right to edit all statements of candidacy and letters to the editor to meet our guidelines.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

South Hadley School Department out of touch with reality

Dear Editor:

In a June 11 article in the Chicopee/Holyoke Herald entitled "Committee Approves Using Free Cash to Fund Three Positions" it states that they approved the expenditures of \$300,000 in free cash in order to fund 4 new positions. Have they lost their collective minds? The Town South Hadley is in a financial crisis and they want to spend money which the Town really doesn't have. Instead of cutting positions like they should be doing, they want to add staff positions in times of declining enrollments which have taken place at least over the last 7-10 years. The audacity of

the School Superintendent to ask for these new positions is unbelievable. Didn't she get the memo from South Hadley voters that they are sick of paying high taxes and voted resoundingly to vote down a recent override proposal for 6 & 9 million dollars? One of the positions she wants to put in is that of a Vocational Director at the high school at a salary that would approach if not exceed \$100,000/year. For what; to oversee three Chapter 74 vocational programs which include Culinary Arts, Carpentry, and Criminal Justice? That is completely outrageous! Town officials including the Town Administrator, the School

Board and the Selectboard seem to want to keep "business as usual" and preserve the status quo. Where are all the cuts that were supposed to happen to balance the budget? The answer is they don't exist. The Town is slated to vote on another override proposal of \$2.4 million in September. I urge all South Hadley voters to vote no on any future override proposal. It's time for this town to finally live within its means. If in fact the next override gets voted down by voters, maybe, just maybe, Town officials will get the message and make the necessary cuts to balance future budgets.

Michael J. Wozniak

Crafters wanted for St. Nicholas Fair

LUDLOW – Crafters Wanted for the Rosary Sodality's St. Nicholas Craft Fair and Raffle on Saturday, Nov. 14, 2026, at Christ the King Church located at 41 Warsaw Ave-

nue in Ludlow from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The cost is a non-refundable \$40. fee for an 8-ft table, which will be provided by the church.

To reserve a table or for

more information contact Debbie Martell at 413-547-8739 or Lorraine Bernier at 413-519-7658.

Light refreshments will be available.

80th Anniversary of B-17 crash on Mount Tom

HOLYOKE – The 80th anniversary of the July 9, 1946, crash of a B-17 that killed all 25 aboard will be held at the crash site on Saturday, July 11, at 10 a.m.

The flight, enroute to New York from Greenland, was to stop at Westover Field in Chicopee as the port of entry into the United States before continuing on to its final destination.

For nearly three decades, the community has gathered annually at the crash site to honor their memory and ensure that their service and sacrifice are never forgotten.

While making the approach to Westover on a dark, rainy night, the plane struck the 1200-foot mountain about 300 feet below the summit. After tearing through trees, the B-17 hit a rocky outcrop causing the aircraft to disintegrate and starting an intense fire that burned for much of the

night.

Several people who were at the Mountain Park amusement park at the base of Mt. Tom that night climbed up toward the accident site via an old cable railway roadbed but could not get close due to the heat of the fires. In the morning, rescue crews found the bodies of the young men among the wreckage in the scarred and charred landscape. All were killed on impact.

The crash was, at the time, the worst air disaster in New England's history and the single largest loss of Coast Guard life outside of a maritime accident.

This year's ceremony marks not only the 80th anniversary of the tragedy but also the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the Mt. Tom Memorial, which has become a place of reflection, education, and gratitude for generations of visitors.

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SCHOOL from page 1

“You always thought of the school for the little, little kids. Now we’re going to have big, huge kids here,” said former educator Liz Rogers. Rogers was the personal special education teacher for one student, a unique position which had her follow her pupil through the entirety of the Belchertown primary education system. She commented the school’s future “could have been a lot worse.”

The closure was commemorated with a small ceremony on June 18, which started at 5:30pm and continued until 8pm. Light refreshments of cookies, water and lemonade were served during the open house and closing ceremony. The ceremony offered opportunities to share memories, reconnect with old colleagues, a plethora of photos which showcased the building’s history. Attendees also painted hands and left their prints on the prepared bulletin boards, a symbolic way to show the mark they left on the school.

Featured speakers included former superintendent Richard Fazasis, former Cold Spring student Ava Switlowski, interim principal Jill Pelletier and current superintendent

Brian Cameron. Each speaker reflected on their time at the school and offered heartfelt farewells with no small amount of tears. Though the doors have closed on Cold Spring as an early childhood education building, some remain hopeful for the school’s future.

“I think I’m happy that they kept it,” Rogers said as she referred to Pathfinder Tech’s bid to buy the location. “And not, you know, burn it down.”



Former teachers and students leave their literal mark on the school’s bulletin boards.



Current preschool students also leave behind memories and handprints.



Cold Spring School’s banner hangs over the former cafeteria.

Turley photos by Ben Hernandez

Know Your Town Annual Meeting

SOUTH HADLEY – Residents braved the tornado warnings and torrential rains to attend the Know Your Town Annual Meeting at the Main Public Library. Luscious appetizers, main dishes and desserts populated filled buffet tables in a communal display of ingenious offerings.

The buffet opened at 5:30pm, a prelude to the business meeting which began at 6:15pm. Martha Terry opened the meeting with a community welcome address, a summary of the 2025 to 2026 year and the required annual treasury report. Terry led the assembly in a moment of silence for the recent passing of former Know Your Town President Eleanor Klepacki, an organizational cornerstone and staple in town government.

Douglas and Linda Young were recognized as the Know Your Town Citizens of the Year in absentia. Robert Judge was thanked for service as committee chair for the awards proceedings. Lucia Foley was recognized for their prompt and efficient contributions to the Know Your Town website, accessible at knowyourtown.org.

Joan Rosner presented the Know Your Town scholarship award and spoke on the absent recipient’s Brady Denniston accomplishments. The scholarship, presented in memory of member Ann Battersby, is an annual award given to a South Hadley High School senior who has demonstrated outstanding dedication to community volunteer work with plans for higher education.

State Senator Jacob Oliveira braved the drive from the State House in Boston to help present the gigantic certification of commendation for Dennison alongside State Representative Homar Gomez. Keynote speakers Emily Boddy and Susan Sullivan from Re-Connect Western Mass spoke on the urgent importance of implementing a statewide opening to closing bell cell phone free policy in schools. This proposal is currently awaiting verdict at the State House after passing in both chambers. The floor opened for thoughtful audience comments and questions for the speakers.



State Senator Jacob Oliveira and State Representative Homar Gomez congratulate in absentia Know Your Town scholarship awardee recipient Brady Denniston.



Emily Brody and Susan Sullivan speak on the importance of their proposed Opening to Closing Bells No Cell Phone Policy.

Know Your Town will resume in September. A special thanks is extended to all attendees for the speedy, spotless cleanup of the Community Room. If you would like to be informed about future events, join the KYT mailing list by emailing MarthaTerry25@gmail.com.

South Hadley Public Library
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JULY EVENTS

The Summer Program is here for all ages. Come on down and plant a seedread! Sign up online or at the Library

Ground Up: The History of Grains
Wed., July 1st at 6

Come learn about the history of Grains from ancient to modern varieties. This program will surprise and inspire you. Andrea and Christian Stanley founded Valley Malt in 2010 and in 2018, expanded into flour milling with Ground Up, to support local farms.

Where Do Our Vegetables Come From? A Master Gardener Program
Wed., July 8 at 6

Join Master Gardener Bonnie Power to Discover the fascinating origins of everyday vegetables, from heirloom tomatoes to sweet onions, and learn how people shaped the foods we eat today.

Winter Ecology and Horticulture
Wed., July 15 at 6

Join horticulturist Erik Vegeto horticulturist, educator, and owner of Earth Gardeners, an ecological gardening business based in Western MA. Learn how plants survive winter, identify dormant species, prune, protect plants, manage pests, and care for tools while preparing your landscape for spring.

Puzzle Race
Sat., July 18th at 10

Five Teams can sign up to compete to try to complete the puzzle. Each team will have an identical puzzle. When done the puzzle can be kept by a team member. Please note that there are to be no aids used or assistance from non-team members. The puzzles must be done by team members only. Sign up is required and available on the South Hadley Public Website.

America is Wild! With Local Author Brad Timm
Wed., July 22 at 6

FOR ALL AGES!! Wildlife ecologist and author Brad Timm for a coast-to-coast journey through America’s wildlife and plants. Inspired by America is Wild! this engaging presentation features fascinating animals, plants, and surprising facts from every state.

Growing Wild with Conservation’s Rebekah Cornell
Wed., July 29 at 6

As part of the Growing Wild Initiative to increase pollinator species across the community. Small backyard efforts make a big difference across greenway connections. Learn how to get started, tips for success, and changes you’ll see in your yard by changing the habitat.

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Aldenville Legion falls to East Springfield

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

CHICOPEE—Since opening the Legion baseball season with a victory at Westfield Post 124, and a road tie versus Sheffield Post 340, Aldenville (Chicopee) Post 337 hasn't experienced very much success on the diamond.

Aldenville was trailing undefeated East Springfield Post 420, 2-1, entering the third inning of last Wednesday's game at historic Szot Park. Post 337 (1-3-1) wound up losing their third game in a row, as East Springfield (4-0) pulled away with the help of three unearned runs in the fourth inning, and four more runs in the sixth leading to a 9-2 victory.

"We were right with them early in the game," said Aldenville manager Nate Carillon. "I thought Alex (Savlick) pitched very well in his first

Legion start of the season, but we didn't help him out defensively. We just need to start playing a little bit better."

Savlick, who graduated from Minnechaug Regional on June 11, allowed five runs (two earned) on eight base hits. The righthander also recorded four strikeouts and issued only one walk.

Righty Matt Butler gave up four runs on three hits in the sixth inning, as East Springfield batted around.

Savlick managed to retire the side in order during the top of the first inning.

East Springfield began the second inning with back-to-back singles from third baseman Eduardo Villafane and shortstop Noah Sierra. Second baseman Javier Pena drove home the game's first run with a groundball to Al-

Please see **ALDENVILLE**, page 7



Michael Letellier fields a throw to first.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Mutiny suffers loss to Crusaders

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—Following three straight 2-1 road losses, the New England Mutiny were looking to celebrate a home victory versus the Hudson Valley Crusaders.

The Mutiny managed to take a 1-0 lead before the Crusaders responded with four unanswered goals leading to a 4-2 victory in a USL W League match held at Lusitano Stadium, last Saturday night.

"This is a very challenging league," said Avery Klingensmith, who was an outstanding soccer player at Belchertown High School. "We've had several games this season where we had taken an early lead and wound up losing, which is a little bit frustrating. Protecting a lead is something that we need to work on. We really wanted to win tonight's game."

The Mutiny (1-5-2) are first-year members of the USL W League. Their only victory came at home against AC Connecticut, 5-0, on May 30. They lost two close road matches against Hudson Valley, 2-0, and 2-1.

The Crusaders (5-2-2), along with Hartford Athletic and Vermont Green FC, are

trying to finish the regular season in first place in the Northeast Division. Only the first place team earns a berth in the league playoffs.

Klingensmith, who wrapped up her collegiate soccer career at American University in Washington D.C. last fall, is planning to join a professional soccer team in Greece at the end of the summer.

"I'm really looking forward to starting my professional soccer career in a different country," Klingensmith said. "It's going to be a different type of experience for me."

Hope Santiniello, who's from Agawam, has been a member of the Mutiny since 2019. She played in her first home match of the 2026 season against the Crusaders.

"The atmosphere at this stadium is always amazing," said Santiniello, who was a starting defender for the first time in last Saturday's match. "It's always been a pleasure playing for this team."

Just like Klingensmith, Santiniello is seeking an op-



Monson's Tennessee Murphy advances up the field.

portunity to play soccer at the professional level. She's hoping to join a women's team in Florida.

Another local player listed on the Mutiny roster is Tennessee Murphy, who began her high school soccer career at Monson High School before transferring to the Loomis Chaffee School in Connecticut. She'll be a freshman on the Bucknell University women's soccer team in the fall.

"Being a member of this soccer team is preparing me

Please see **MUTINY**, page 7



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Kayleigh Lukasik heads up the field for the Mutiny.



Chloe Laizer corrals the ball.

Pioneers battle to draw with Boston Bolts

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—After 21 days away from historic Lusitano Stadium, the Western Mass. Pioneers returned home last Friday night for an intra-state showdown with the Boston Bolts.

The Pioneers faithful supporters had plenty to celebrate early in the match, as the home side stormed out to a 2-0 advantage in the 24th minute.

The Bolts responded with a goal late in the first half. They struck again 15 minutes into the second half and the USL League Two matchup ended in a 2-2 draw in front of a large crowd.

"We held a 2-1 halftime lead," said Pioneers head coach Federico Molinari. "We didn't play very well in the second half. This is a very disappointing result for us."

Both teams entered the match with a total of 14 goals.

The Pioneers (5-1-2), who have allowed 10 goals, are currently sitting in third place in the Northeast Division table behind NEC and Vermont Green FC.

The top two finishers in the division will automatically qualify for the league playoffs.

The Pioneers, who went 2-0-1 in their previous three matches on the road, have qualified for the league playoffs each year since joining USL League Two in 2019.

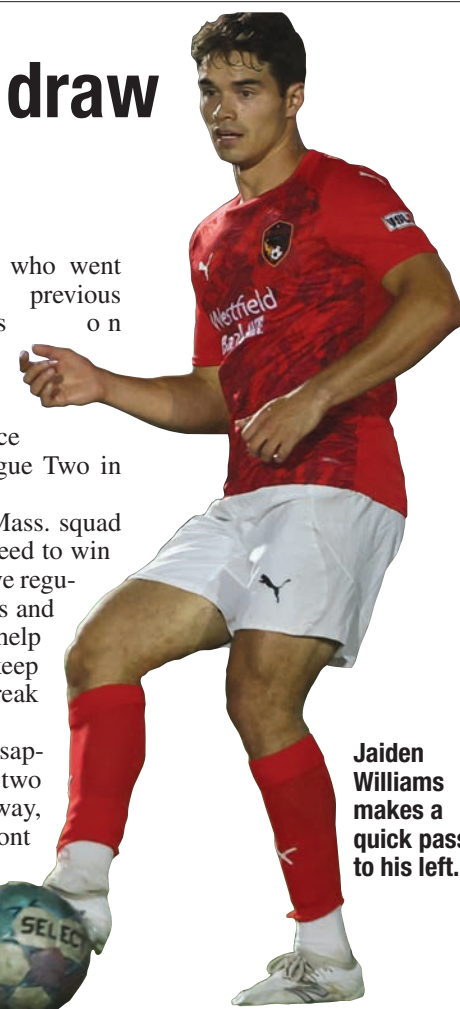
The Western Mass. squad will most likely need to win their remaining five regular season matches and get a little bit of help along the way to keep the playoff streak alive.

"It's very disappointing letting a two goal lead slip away, especially in front of our fans," said Felipe De Andrade, who scored the Pioneers second goal.

"We're going to continue to improve and keep fighting the rest of the season."

De Andrade, who's from Westborough, played for the Bolts, which only won three matches a year ago.

"Western Mass has always been a very strong team," he said. "I just wanted a new challenge this year. The atmosphere here is amazing and it's a privilege



Jaiden Williams makes a quick pass to his left.

to be a member of this squad. I wouldn't change anything."

De Andrade, who was a member of the New England Revolution Academy soccer team in high school, began his collegiate career at UMAss Boston. He'll be joining the men's soccer team at Bryant University, which competes at the Division 1 level, this fall.

Please see **PIONEERS**, page 7



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Fernando Garcia eyes a teammate up the field.



Yigit Kilic looks to play the ball off his body.

ALDENVILLE from page 6

denville first baseman Michael Letellier.

East Springfield took a 2-0 lead when left fielder Seth Tyrrell blasted a triple to deep left field with two outs.

The home team loaded the bases in the bottom half of the frame.

Right fielder Noah Carillon drew a leadoff walk against East Springfield righty Edwar Fernandez. Then Salvick was safe at first base following a fielding error by the third baseman. **Aiden Robinson** followed by hitting a groundball a single into left field. After the next hitter struck out, Letellier drew a walk forcing home a run which sliced Aldenville's deficit in half.

"After they took the lead, it was nice to see us score a run in the bottom half of the inning," Nate Carillon said. "We were able to put a little bit of pressure on them."

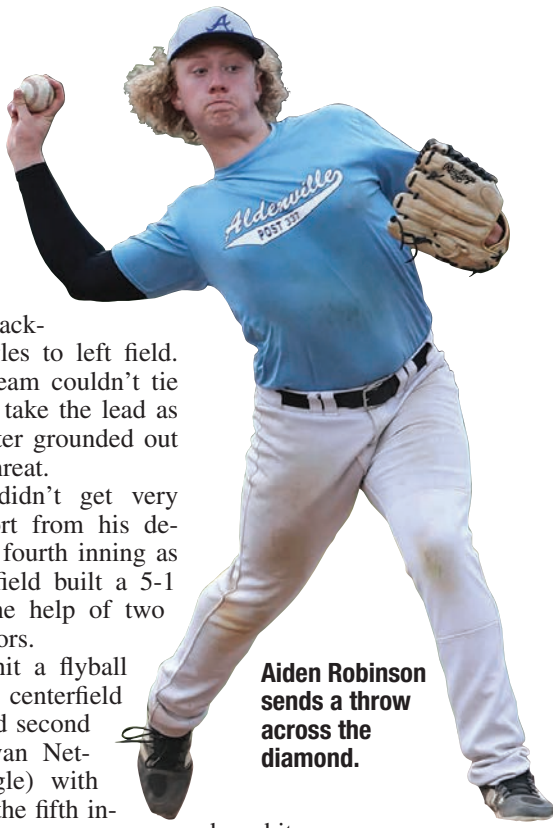
Fernandez escaped the bases loaded jam with a strikeout and flyball out.

With two outs in the following inning, Noah Carillon (2-for-3) and Salvick (3-for-3) had back-to-back singles to left field. The home team couldn't tie the score or take the lead as the next batter grounded out ending the threat.

Savlick didn't get very much support from his defense in the fourth inning as East Springfield built a 5-1 lead with the help of two throwing errors.

Savlick hit a flyball single into centerfield which scored second baseman Ryan Netkovick (single) with two outs in the fifth inning.

Any hopes Aldenville might have had of making a comeback ended in the sixth inning when East Springfield scored four more runs on four



Aiden Robinson sends a throw across the diamond.

base hits. Aldenville will be looking to even the season series against East Springfield on July 6 at Springfield Central.



Ryan Netkovick sends a throw away.



Justin Rivera makes a catch in center.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



Hope Santaniello, of Agawam, sends a long kick away.



Maevae Staunton overtakes an opponent.

MUTINY from page 6

for the college level," Murphy said. "I'm counting down the days until I leave for college. I'm looking forward to the challenge."

Murphy is scheduled to leave for Pennsylvania on July 27.

The Mutiny took a 1-0 lead less than ten minutes into the opening half.

Hudson Valley goalie Brianna McDonald attempted to clear the ball, but it went directly to Mila Dillard, who put a shot into the open net for an unassisted goal.

Dillard, who lives in Chiswick, is going to be a senior on the Pope Francis girls' varsity soccer team, which is

coached by her father, Brent. She has verbally committed to playing soccer at the University of Kentucky a year from now.

The Crusaders tied the score during the 18th minute of the opening half with Joy Okonye putting a header into the left corner of the net past Mutiny goalie Chloe Laizer.

About six minutes later, a goal from Emmanuella Frimpomaa gave the visiting team the lead for first time.

The Crusaders were then given a penalty kick following a foul in the box.

Okonye took the shot, which deflected off the right post.

With five minutes remaining in the first half, Laizer

made an outstanding save on a breakaway shot from Frimpomaa, which kept the score at 2-1 a little bit longer.

The Crusaders did take a 3-1 lead when Marta Carrasco Mesa headed the ball into the net following a corner kick.

Frimpomaa scored her second goal of the match 30 seconds into the second half, which pretty much sealed the Crusaders victory.

At the end of regulation, Trinity Clark scored a goal for the home team.

The Mutiny were scheduled to play a road match against AC Connecticut on Tuesday night before wrapping up the season against Vermont Green at Lusitano Stadium at 6pm on Saturday night.

PIONEERS from page 6

The Pioneers had a couple of scoring chances during the first ten minutes of the contest.

Bolts goalie William Synnestvedt made his first save on a header from Martin Echarren six minutes into the first half. A minute later, Echarren, who plays soccer at the University of Charleston, lined a shot towards the goal, but Synnestvedt (2 saves) made the diving save knocking the ball over the end line resulting in a corner kick.

The Pioneers broke the ice during the 21st minute.

The scoring play began with Alfred Baafi delivering a crossing pass in the box to Echarren, who put a header into the right corner of the net.

Three minutes later, De Andrade fired a shot into the back of the net after receiving a pass from Echarren.

The Bolts (3-4-2) cut their deficit in half when Connor Gibson scored on a header in the 37th minute.

Nikolaj Bertelsen was the Pioneers starting goalie for the first time this season. He replaced Ben Alexander, who suffered an injury in a 1-0 win over the Conn. Rush two nights earlier.

"Ben suffered a head injury the other night and he had to get stitches," Molinari said. "He'll probably be out a couple of games."

During the 60th minute, Xavier Tanyi lined a shot from about 25 yards out into the net tying the score at 2-2.

The Pioneers had a couple of chances to retake the lead during the last 30 minutes, but the score didn't change on the scoreboard.

Western Mass. defender Riley Priddy was given a straight red card from referee Luis Reis after pulling down a Bolts player just outside the top of the box in stoppage time. The free kick taken from Rainer Osselmann-Chai deflected off a Western Mass. defender and the home team salvaged a tie.

A tie is better than a loss, but it wasn't what the Pioneers fans were hoping for.

The Pioneers are scheduled to face the Bolts for the second time this season at Brandeis University on June 30.



Santiago Blasco fights to keep the ball.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



Alfred Baafi dribbles up the field.



Thomas Wadas clears the ball away.



Avery Klingensmith, of Belchertown, tries to get control of the loose ball.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

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FOR RENT



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



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

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Legal Notices

TOWN OF GRANBY LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC HEARING

The Select Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday July 6, 2026 at 5:31 PM at the Senior Center Building located at 10-B West State Street, Granby, MA to grant permission to Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a NATIONAL GRID to locate poles, wires, and fixtures, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, along and across the following public way:

1. **Kendall Street** - National Grid to install 1 SO pole on Kendall Street beginning at a point approximately 2,900 feet west of the centerline of the intersection

of Chicopee St & Kendall St. National Grid will be installing new utility pole # 23-50 Kendall St for AMI FAN (Automated Metering Infrastructure Field Area Network) initiative. Location approximately as shown on plan.

2. **West Street** - National Grid to relocate 1 SO pole on West Street beginning at a point approximately 720 feet west of the centerline of the intersection of Crescent St. Relocating Pole #17 from the south side of West St., to the north side to fix clearance issue service wire going to 76 West St. Service wire is currently too close to the roof. Location approximately as shown on plan.

Wherefore it prays that after due notice and hearing as provided by law, it be granted a location for and permission to erect and maintain poles and wires, together with such sustaining and protecting fixtures as it may find necessary, said poles to be erected substantially in accordance with the plan filed herewith marked — Kendall Street - Granby, Massachusetts. No. 31251806 & West Street - Granby, Massachusetts. No. 31315692

Also, for permission to lay and maintain underground laterals, cables, and wires in the above or intersecting public ways for the purpose of making connections with such poles and buildings as each of said petitioners may desire for distributing purposes. Your petitioner agrees to re-

serve space for one cross-arm at a suitable point on each of said poles for the fire, police, telephone, and telegraph signal wires belonging to the municipality and used by it exclusively for municipal purposes.

Copies of proposed Plans-31251806-Kendall St & 31315692-West St Granby MA are available in the Board of Selectmen's Office 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 9 a.m. - 12 noon on Friday located at 10-B West State Street, Senior Center Building, 2nd Floor.

Granby Selectboard
David Labonte
Mark Bail
Jeffrey Lawson
06/26/2026

Donation made at Aaron's Race



Submitted photo

The Belchertown Lions Club would like to thank the many folks who visited its food wagon during the recent Aaron's Race 2026 held on the Town Common and in the Old Town Hall. All of our proceeds (and then some) allowed our club's treasurer, Frank Cowdrey, to present this check for \$1,000 to coordinator Heather Twining, which will be used to promote awareness through education regarding teen suicide prevention. Next up on our food service schedule will be our Meatball Sub Sale on July 18, and then our 3rd Annual Cruisin' the Common Memorial Car Show on Aug. 8.

Tykes Tuesday returns to Holyoke Mall starting July 7

HOLYOKE – Summer is just around the corner and that means Tykes Tuesday is back for free family fun at Holyoke Mall Tuesday mornings from July 7 through Aug. 18.

Tykes Tuesday features seven weeks of free family activities and exclusive discounts on Tuesdays starting at 11 a.m. on the lower level in Macy's Court. The kids' program is free, open to the public, and is best suited for

children ages 12 and under.

Tykes Tuesday Schedule:
July 7: The Science of Suds with CT Science Center
July 14: Piti Theatre's Story Wizards (3:00pm-4:00pm)
July 21: Celebrate Christmas in July with Mrs. Claus, Face Painting and More

July 27: Sing and Learn with Something Royal Party Co. & Pickleball 101 Class for Kids 7+ (at Pickleball Kingdom)

August 4: Wildlife on Wheels with Forest Park Zoo
August 11: Kimberly's Pocket Circus
August 18: Nature Time with Mass Audubon and Face Painting with Clowntique

Please note the time change for the event on July 14. Families are encouraged to pre-register at <https://www.holyokemall.com/tykes-tuesday-2026/>. Registration is required for the Pickleball 101

class and is for children 7 and older. The event that week will be held inside and in the common area outside of Pickleball Kingdom, on the lower level, near JCPenney.

More information about Holyoke Mall stores, restaurants, and entertainment venues, can be found at [Holyokemall.com](https://www.holyokemall.com). Follow and share your stories at the center on Facebook and Instagram.

LICENSE from page 1

which came alongside the transfer, a change of category and a section 12 on-premises license. The goal for both was to re-categorize from a club license to a hotel license, a description which McKenna identified as "more accurately fits the operations of this property."

"This is pure housekeeping," Hensler said. "The physical location is not changing. The license is staying in the exact same footprint."

The current categorization caused issues in reporting the physical mailing address with the Alcohol Beverages Control Commission, a situation which has compounded problems in the past with registra-

tion reporting.

"Basically, they wanted to know where to send the mail," Hensler said. "The ABCC, you know, wants the physical location in their records of the actual licensed premises, which we totally understand."

Hensler reported since they were already changing owners, it made sense to do the rest of the necessary housekeeping as well, since they already "have the hood popped" on the case. He stated the new licensing address would reside at 26 Park Street, which was filed in tandem with the additional asks.

"I'd like to first thank you for giving us the time and your office for helping us get this application ready," Hensler said. "It's a bit confusing."

Resident Joel Prough asked during the public hearing if the license transfer and category change would come with any additional costs, which Executive Assistant to Administration Kristin Maher informed would not result in any additional fees. She also added the change would not cause any additional impacts aside from different categorization for the purposes of accounting.

Select Board member Renee Sweeney proposed a motion to allow the liquor license transfer and re-categorization to the location on Park Street, which passed unanimously when brought to Select Board voting. As of this writing, the new license owners are the trustees of Mount Holyoke.



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Holyoke's Annual PrideFEST returns June 27

HOLYOKE – PrideFEST, featuring live music, drag performers, local art, food, and community will be celebrated Saturday, June 27, from 12 to 6 p.m. at Veterans Park.

The day-long celebration of LGBTQIA+ pride and vis-

ibility will be headlined by RuPaul's Drag Race star Joslyn Fox.

The Holyoke Pride After Party — the official closing celebration of Holyoke PrideFEST 2026 — will run from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. with a 21+ outdoor party outside

Fame in downtown Holyoke, 386 Dwight Street. The After Party will keep the energy going with music, drag, cash bar, food trucks, and dancing to music provided by DJ's Transcendence and Jay Alexander.

Community Band set to begin rehearsals

BELCHERTOWN – The Belchertown Community Band wants you to join them for their 40th Anniversary Season. It doesn't matter what town you are from, what instrument you play or your skill level, you are invited to be part of this celebratory season. Rehearsals start June

23 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Belchertown High School. From the parking lot, go into the left door and walk down the hall that is slightly to the left.

There is no fee to participate, but you can anticipate a wonderful experience of playing music and making

new friends. If you can't come June 23, come June 25, same time, same place. You will be part of 4 concerts performed on the Belchertown Common on Thursdays in July and August. So brush off that instrument and come enjoy music again

Read the Town Reminder online at www.townreminder.turley.com

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CLUES ACROSS

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| 1. Nocturnal S. American rodent | 43. Messenger ribonucleic acid | 35. Front part of a quadruped |
| 5. Requesting | 44. ___ Clapton, musician | 36. Locate |
| 11. Give temporarily | 45. Ancient Greek sophist | 37. Pitching statistic |
| 12. Excitedness | 49. Largest English dictionary (abbr.) | 38. __, myself and I |
| 16. Armed Forces branch | 50. Singer Hansard | 40. City in Utah |
| 17. Actor Harris | 51. A way to disentangle | 41. They play in the trenches |
| 18. Middle Eastern capital | 53. Atomic #93 | 42. "Can't Touch This" rapper ___ Hammer |
| 19. Air hostesses | 54. Manifesting approval | 44. Type of tree |
| 24. Partner to "Pa" | 56. Indigo bush | 45. Performers |
| 25. Percussion instrument | 58. Former AL MVP Vaughn | 46. Slang for mistake |
| 26. Popular computers | 59. Off-Broadway theater award | 47. More open |
| 27. Reduce light | 60. Fencers | 48. Most slick |
| 28. Asian mountain range | 63. Small Eurasian deer (pl.) | 50. Needles |
| 29. Every one of two or more | 64. Relating to passerine birds | 51. University of Dayton |
| 30. Absence of difficulty | 65. Arrange systematically | 52. Atomic #11 |
| 31. A public announcement of a proposed marriage | | 54. Large fish of the mackerel family |
| 33. Whittles | | 55. Not any |
| 34. Impact | | 57. ___ and behold |
| 38. Serviceman | | 61. Popular sports highlight show (abbr.) |
| 39. A French river | | 62. "The Great Lakes State" |
| 40. Prehistoric people | | |

CLUES DOWN

- | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Colorless fluid | 2. Of a main artery | 3. Political action committee |
| 2. Of a main artery | 3. Photographer's tool | 34. Snack food |
| 3. Photographer's tool | 4. Blues Traveler hit "But | |

Zonta Club offering weekly fun golf day

BELCHERTOWN – link are at www.ZontaQV.org/golf. Questions can be directed to Mary Knight at 413-219-8260.

Your support directly funds scholarships and grants that empower women and girls to overcome challenges and achieve their full potential. We're working to end child marriage, domestic violence, and human trafficking, while also supporting climate justice, education equality, and women in decision-making positions.

Registration starts at 7:30 a.m., with a shotgun starts at 8:30 a.m. Registration form and

BOARD from page 1

perintendent's office. Lynch said the town may have to designate her role as a special municipal employee or classify the work as a consulting contract to comply with state conflict-of-interest law.

"We probably would have to name her as a special municipal employee... or (maybe) we could (hire her) as a consultant," Lynch told the board, adding that he would check with counsel and the finance director before bringing back a recommendation.

Board members did not take a formal vote but agreed Lynch should speak with Hedjamowitz about scope, hours and rate, consult Finance Director Chris Martin about funding and coordinate with MuniBit on training op-

tions. Lynch said he expects to report back as early as the next meeting.

The website debate quickly broadened into questions about how Granby communicates overall.

Lynch said he plans to work more closely with Communications Committee chair Tobias Wilson on both the town site and social media, including how to handle archiving requirements for public records.

Bail, who has pushed for a stronger communications strategy, said committee members have the technical skills but need clearer direction from the board.

Separately, officials agreed that some existing reports should be more visible online. When the board re-

viewed a monthly construction update for the West Street building renovation, Select Board chair David Labonte asked that it be posted so residents can follow the project without attending meetings.

"Could you actually scan this, and... put it on the website?" Labonte said, referring to the project manager's progress report.

Police Chief Kevin O'Grady supported that move, noting the document is already public and would likely answer many questions about budget and schedule.

For now, Lynch has what he called "marching orders" to:

- Identify money in the budget to pay for cleanup work on the site.
- Determine whether Hed-

jamowitz can be hired under ethics rules and on what terms.

Work with MuniBit to schedule training so department heads can update their own sections.

Coordinate with the Communications Committee on website structure and responsible use of social media.

Board members emphasized they are not looking to build a flashy site, but a functional one that residents can rely on for accurate, current information about town government.

While no deadlines were set, Lynch said he expects to return with options in the coming weeks, setting the stage for what could be Granby's most significant communications overhaul in years.



Live music accompanies the competition.

Turley photos by Ben Hernandez

CRUISE from page 1

teresting submissions to the event. Benier recalled an Impala with a blower sticking out of the hood and one very unique contribution which has become an infrequent staple of the cruise nights.

"There is a gentleman that brings a fire truck," Benier said. "He brings an antique fire truck that is fully operational."

"One of my goals coming into this was to really kind of understand what the Friends do and then help broaden the scope of what we do," said organization President Kim Prough. She mentioned she got involved with the Friends six years ago as a way to build pickleball courts in town. Prough handles much of the marketing and fundraising with the help of an

extensive volunteer staff.

"The Friends hadn't done a lot of fundraising in the past and was primarily focused on what was originally the cruise nights," Prough said. She mentioned the idea to add live music to the traditional cruise nights was an idea by Group Treasurer Steve Lackowitz formulated about three years ago.

"We started with, like, maybe three bands and then last year we did, like, maybe 10 bands," Prough said. "So this year, in total, we have 20 concerts that we're doing, all free to the public. Our goal is really to help support the town and keep Buttery Brook Park a really beautiful and amazing resource; for not just South Hadley but the surrounding communities."



Buttery Brook Park hosts Cruise Nights on Friday nights, which include a variety of cars and free music.



Muscle cars take the stage.



Motorcycles are also displayed on cruise nights.

Send Us Your Autumn Event Information

Turley Publications will print your Autumn event **FREE OF CHARGE** in our **Autumn Fest Supplement** which will be published **September 9, 2026.**

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Deadline for Calendar submissions is August 19.

Community Autumn Events

Event Should Be Non-Profit & Open to the Public

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Location _____

Description _____

Cost _____

Contact name & phone number for more information _____

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