

TOWN Reminder

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Serving the town of South Hadley

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Residents gather in a group photo to celebrate both the pickleball community and town unity. Photo Credit to Friends of Buttery Brook Park

More pickleball courts added to area

By Ben Hernandez
bhernandez@turley.com

SOUTH HADLEY – The inaugural serve was performed at the new Buttery Brook Park pickleball courts on June 28. 150 eager residents flocked to the grand opening, and included hamburgers, hot dogs, drinks and other refreshments. The event was kicked off with a two-hour Learn-to-Play clinic, which served as an introduction for people new to the game. According to figures provided by Friends of Buttery Brook Park President Kim

Prough, 45 people were in attendance to learn the game. “All volunteers were very helpful and full of knowledge,” said participant Dave Labonte. Retired South Hadley High School physical education teacher and active pickleball advocate Ron Bullough also attended and was honored for his local contributions to the sport by offering the court its first official serve. The retired teacher learned of pickleball in the 1970s during a PE convention in Boston, which in-

spired him to bring it back to South Hadley. Organizing the first competitive tournaments within the region, Bullough is considered the “godfather of pickleball” for the town. During the event, Prough thanked the numerous invaluable volunteers who made the event possible. She offered gratitude to those involved in raising

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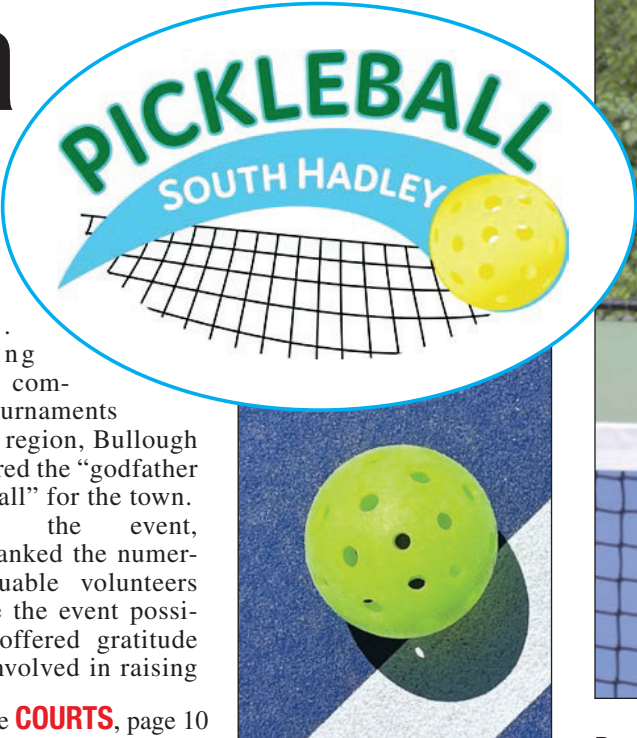


Photo Credit to Friends of Buttery Brook Park
Ron Bullough offers the court its first official serve.



Turley photos by Ben Hernandez
The first annual Granby Vendor Fair attracted numerous local businesses looking to network and expand their enterprises.

Cindy's Drive-In hosts first-ever vendor fair

By Ben Hernandez
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GRANBY – The first-year fair hosted by Cindy's Drive-In attracted a myriad of different businesses, who gathered in the green behind the iconic Granby ice cream and hamburger joint to showcase their wares and connect with fellow entrepreneurs. The assortment of different backgrounds provided a unique perspective on the town's economy, each with different stories. “We saw Cindy's Drive-In post on the Facebook page and we signed up to be a vendor,” said Kyle Gordon of Agawam based Junk Hog Junk Removal, which has been in operation for about six months. He stated vendor fairs like these were “very important” to local startups and were essential to getting the word out. “Any time we do an event

like this, we generally get a good surge of business for the following few weeks to a month,” Gordon said. “It's definitely a good way to get the word out there and meet the community.” Serial entrepreneur Robyn Miller, who represented event rental company Ladybug Party Rentals at the event, stated the fair was a great way to meet new people. With

a background in molecular biology and biochemistry, Miller's current day job as the head of a digital marketing company illustrated how the fair attracted so many people from different walks of life. Miller stated the company was entering its “third season” and provided a myriad of different services. From

Please see **FAIR**, page 9



New business owner Amanda Rodriguez expresses gratitude for a growing supportive customer base.

Chicken-keeping rules endorsed

By Walter Hamilton
Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY – A years-long effort to streamline and clarify town farming bylaws has cleared a contentious hurdle, when the Planning Board backed provisions that address concerns of residents who love and keep backyard chickens. On June 22, during its latest multi-session hearing on proposed bylaws, the board debated and tentatively approved changes governing agricultural uses in residen-

tial zones. The draft bylaws contain definitions of language, and use and dimensional regulations. Under a current draft of proposed Agricultural Uses Accessory to Residential Use, (Chapter 255, Section 25), residents in zoning districts RA1, and RA2 are allowed backyard chicken “enclosures” for “small flocks” that may or may not include a shelter. Such structures could not be higher than 10 feet. “Small flocks are defined by the bylaw as limited to one chicken “to each 500 square

feet of lot area but in no case more than 12 such units (chickens) on any lot.” Attending the June 22 hearing, backyard chickens' advocate Ashley Crawley, owner of a home at 14 Hunter Terrace on a quarter-acre lot in the RA2 zone, questioned the need to provide a 25-foot setback “from any lot line” for chicken coops or enclosures. Such chicken structures must not be closer than 25 feet from any residences for

Please see **RULES**, page 9

Granby Board of Health raises concerns over compliance issues

By Melina Bourdeau
Correspondent

GRANBY – Health officials raised concerns over food-waste composting and small-scale food operations last week, pressing Red Fire Farm and the Chateau Harmony Food Shed to meet state wastewater, sanitation and nuisance standards amid complaints of odors, rodents and regulatory gray areas. Members wrestled with how to support local agriculture and grassroots food businesses while enforcing state public health codes. Red Fire Farm's partnership with a commercial banana composting venture and its unfinished market building on Taylor Street drew extended

scrutiny, as did the Chateau Harmony Food Shed's effort to operate a stationary food stand at 185 West State Street. Officials signaled they are open to creative uses but said wastewater, plumbing and food safety rules leave little room for compromise. Red Fire Farm's hosting of Banana Compost, a private food-scrap hauler that builds large compost windrows on the farm's Taylor Street land, dominated one of the meeting's longest segments. Board members described a balancing act between diverting organics from landfills and responding to residents' complaints about odor and rats. Board of Health member Mael Walkowiak reported

visiting the piles from the street, where they were actively decomposing. He said the first time he went out, the rows “were steaming and working real hard. It smelled, the way I would describe it's ketonic, kind of like ammonia, like people that have bad diabetes, and they go into decay.” After the Department of Environmental Protection inspection and corrective work, including more wood chips and turning, Walkowiak told colleagues the material smelled “like fresh mulch” and that he could not find burrows around the piles. DEP's Western Massachusetts solid waste chief,

Please see **BOARD**, page 10

Library announces upcoming July news and activities

SOUTH HADLEY – Welcome to summer. We’re excited with all the programs we’ll be offering as part of our summer schedule. Between South Hadley Public and Gaylord Memorial libraries there is just about something going on every day. Be sure to check out our online calendar for current and upcoming events. Library programming is offered for all ages, at no charge, and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Adult Programs at SHPL

This July, the South Hadley Public Library’s Adult Summer Program invites you to “Plant a Seed... Read” with a month of fascinating programs exploring gardening, history, ecology, and wildlife. All programs are on Wednesday evenings unless otherwise noted. From “The History of Grains” with Valley Malt’s Ground Up on Wednesday, July 1 at 6:00 to discovering “The Origins of Everyday Vegetables” with Master Gardener Bonnie Power on Wednesday, July 9 at 6:00 to Winter Ecology and Horticulture with horticulturist Erik Vegeto on Wednesday, July 15 at 6:00. There’s something for every curious mind. Join us for a fun Puzzle Race on Saturday, July 18 at 10:00 (online registration required), then travel coast-to-coast with local author and wildlife ecologist Brad Timm, with “America is Wild!” on Wednesday, July 22 at 6:00. We finish the month learning how to support pollinators and local habitats with Rebekah Cornell, Conservation Administrator presenting “The Growing Wild Initiative” on Wednesday, July 29 at 6:00. Be sure to pick up a Surprise Summer Bingo Card—complete a line and earn a special seed paper bookmark (which you can plant and grow). Don’t forget to sign up for the Adult Summer Program for a chance to win one of four prizes: a \$50

Big Y Grocery Gift Card, \$50 Big Y Gas Gift Card, or one of two \$25 Odyssey Bookstore Gift Cards.

Looking for a summer book club? The Hello Sunshine Book Club meets at 6:30 on the first Wednesday of each month. July’s selection is Happy Place by Emily Henry. Our Between the Covers Romance Book Club meets on Tuesday, July 14 at 3:00 to discuss The Stolen Life of Colette Marceau by Kristen Harmel. Haven’t read these books? Pick up copies of upcoming discussion titles for both the library and senior center book clubs at the library.

Continuing adult programs include:

- South Hadley Chess Club next meeting Saturday, August 1 at 3:30
- Spanish Conversation Circle on Saturday, August 15 at 10:30
- Tuesday Night Knitters each Tuesday at 6:00
- Gatehouse Writers Group, online each Friday at 10:00

Online Author Programs (click each program for more information)

- Small Towns and Big Secrets: In Conversation with Bestselling Author Karin Slaughter, International and New York Times Bestselling Author of Pretty Girls, the Will Trent series, and The Good Daughter. Tuesday, July 14 at 7:00
- Migrant Heart: The Hidden Cost of the American Dream and Healing Through Storytelling with Reyna Grande, Award-Winning and Bestselling Author of The Distance Between Us and A Dream Called Home. Thursday, July 16 at 2:00
- The Power of Connection: Creating Lasting Friendships in an Increasingly Lonely World with Dr.

Marisa Franco, Psychologist, Professor, and New York Times Bestselling Author, Tuesday, July 28 at 2:00

Children’s Programs at SHPL

Our summer reading program is in full swing! It’s not too late to be a “cool bean” and sign up. Read any book of your choice, in any format, just 20 minutes a day to complete your log and earn a prize! Special “Plant A Seed, Read” programs this month include a Breezy Seeds Engineering Challenge for kids ages 6-10 on Saturday, July 25 at 10:30, Escape from the Terrible Thicket for ages 8-11 on Monday, July 27 at 3:00, and Storyteller Diane Edgecomb on Thursday, July 30 at 3:00.

Lego & Games happens most Monday & Wednesday afternoons at 3:00, but there are also two arts & crafts programs this month: Food Collage on Wednesday, July 15 at 3:00 and Caterpillars & Butterflies on Wednesday, July 29 at 3:00. Pajama Storytime meets every Monday evening at 6:30, Rhyme Time on Tuesdays at 10:30, and Story Time on Wednesdays at 10:30 (plus a special Boston Bruins storytime with mascot Blades on Wednesday, July 29 at 11:00.

Please note: Playgroup moves from Thursdays to Mondays at 10:00 starting July 6, and Baby Lapsit Storytime moves from Fridays to Thursdays at 10:00 starting July 16. Don’t forget that Japanese Storytime is Tuesday, July 7 at 4:00, Kids Graphic Novel Book Club is Thursday, July 9 at 4:00, Pride Club and Read to A Dog are both Tuesday, July 14 at 4:00.

Lastly, a beloved summer tradition returns: Book Bingo will be held on Thursdays at 2:00 (July 2, 9, 16, and 23). All ages are welcome to play and win books!

Teen Programs at SHPL

This month for Teens (ages 11 through 19) we have a lot of great offerings! YA Book Tasting will happen Wednesday, July 8 from 3:30-5:00. This month’s Crafternoon takes place Wednesday, July 15 from 4:00-5:00. We will be making buttons. No sign up is needed. Night Craft will be happening on Tuesday, July 28 from 6:30-7:30. We will be making Tile Fire Art. None of these programs require signing up unless you would like an email reminder.

Our monthly gaming sessions will be happening on Tuesday, July 7 & 14 for Xbox X and Wednesday, July 1 for Switch. All gaming sessions start at 3:30 and run until 5:00. No sign up is needed.

Snackternoon will be on Thursday, July 23 from 4:00-5:00. Please sign up so we can have enough supplies for all teen participants.

With Summer Reading in full swing we have some bonus Teen Programs this month. There will be PopTart Tasting on Monday, July 13 from 4:00-5:00. Please sign up. This month also starts our new Teen Drama Club which will take place on Thursday, July 16 from 3:30-4:30 and Thursday, July 30 from 3:30-4:30. On Monday, July 20 from 3:30-4:30 we’ll be planting Mini Herb Gardens. No sign up needed.

This month also brings a new Teen Escape Room on Monday, July 27 from 4:30-5:30. Please sign up.

Our monthly Teen Takeaways continue to be available. This month features Twirling Ladybug Craft. Sign up once and get a new Teen Takeaway every month. We also have our latest Booktrovert pick: Mooncakes by Wendy Xu. There are no in-person meet ups, just enjoy the book on your own time. Copies are

available in the Teen Room for check out.

Any questions please email Bethany.

Gaylord Memorial Library

Enjoy the good weather by dropping in to play some Cornhole on the back lawn, Thursdays, July 9 & 30 from 4:00-7:30. All ages welcome!

Join us to Make Your Own Wildflower Seed Bookmark on Thursday, July 16 from 6:00 to 8:00. We’ll make recycled paper pulp and add seeds so that we can plant our bookmarks when we’re done using them. Ages 10+.

For kids we have our usual Story Times (Fridays at 10:30). LEGO Club meets Thursdays, July 2, 16 & 30 from 3:00 to 6:00 and we have Drop-In Crafts Thursday, July 9 & 23 from 3:00 to 6:00.

We also have Summer Reading Program events with Mass Audubon educator Kelly Walbert on Friday, July 24 at 2:00 when we’ll have Nature Craft Gel Painting where kids will make their own prints with nature-themed objects. On Friday, July 31 at 10:30 we have Totally Turtle Time with a visit from a box turtle and lots of cool turtle facts.

Granby Police

Editor’s Note: The Granby Police Department responded to 104 calls for the week of June 19, through June 25. Those arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. The Granby Police Department provides all information.

Monday, June 22

12:41 p.m. – A resident called to report that they received a call from Walmart Credit stating there was a problem with her account. They hung up on them and did not give them any information

1:26 p.m. – A resident reported receiving a text message stating that that they have to appear in district court tomorrow. The message didn’t say what court. They were advised it is a scam and to delete and block.

Tuesday, June 23

8:06 a.m. – A motorist reported striking a guardrail. Granby Police and Fire responded. There were no injuries. There was extensive damage to the guardrail.

10:39 a.m. – A motorist reported striking a deer. There were no injuries. leaking.

Wednesday, June 24

9:34 a.m. – A motorist reported a two-car accident with no injuries.

Thursday, June 25

3:44 p.m. – Several callers reported a 2-car accident. Granby Police and Fire responded. Belchertown Fire and South Hadley Fire were called for mutual aid. Five people were transported to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.



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SOCIAL SECURITY

Matters

By Russell Gloor

When should my wife claim Social Security?

Dear Rusty:

We could use guidance on optimum dates for my spouse to begin taking Social Security.

She doesn't have enough work credits on her own, so she will be using mine for spousal benefits. I was born in 1955, and I now get \$3,886 in monthly SS benefits.

My wife was born in 1961. We currently receive about \$50,000 per year in royalties and VA disability payments that will stop upon my death.

So, with that in mind, can you suggest optimum dates for my wife to claim, based on my projected death in early 2027 or early 2030? My wife is very healthy and will likely live beyond 2040.

Of course no one can predict their own passing; these are just random dates I came up with based on probabilities with my health issues.

Signed: Planning Ahead

Dear Planning Ahead:

Life expectancy and financial need are primary factors for your wife to consider at this point, plus whether she is now working. Her Full Retirement Age for Social Security purposes is age 67 and, if she takes her spouse benefit before that, the monthly amount will be reduced by about 8.3% for each year early, and she will also be subject to Social Security's Annual Earning Test, which limits how much she can earn from working prior to reaching her FRA.

Statistically, your wife's life expectancy is about 87 that's average longevity for a woman your wife's current age. Even though she isn't eligible for her own SS retirement benefits, she can still get a spousal benefit while you are both living and will get an even higher surviving spouse benefit when you die.

That's because her spousal benefit while both living will be based on 50% of your Full Re-

tirement Age entitlement, but your wife's surviving spouse benefits when you die will be based upon 100% of the benefit you were receiving at your death.

Generally, if you believe you will pass within the next few years and your wife isn't working, her best option would be to claim her regular spouse benefit now.

Although she will initially get less than 50% of your FRA entitlement, that amount will be replaced automatically by her higher survivor benefit when you pass. Depending on her age when you pass, she will get the full \$3,886 monthly amount you are receiving at your death plus any COLA yet to be awarded.

If that happens before she reaches her full retirement age, her monthly survivor amount will be actuarially reduced based upon how far before her FRA it is claimed. Generally, the survivor benefit reduction will be about 4.75% for each full year claimed early about .396% for each month early.

So, to a large degree, your wife's options for spouse and survivor benefits are based on your expected longevity. If you have reason to believe you will pass within the next few years, then your wife should probably claim her spousal benefit now while you are both living.

Because she is a bit shy of 65 years old, her initial SS spouse benefit will be reduced she'll get about 42% of your FRA benefit amount, instead of the 50% she would get if she claimed at age 67.

She can collect that amount until you die, at which time she will receive her survivor's benefit as your widow. If she has reached age 67 when that happens, your wife's benefit will become the same as yours was when you died,

Please see **SECURITY**, page 5

Reminiscing brings butterflies to mind

My husband and I were sitting on the porch reminiscing.

To be honest I felt a bit melancholy. Where has time gone?

With empty nesting feeling like it's right around the corner, it's easy to drift back in time and wish just for a moment that the kids were little again.

Boy, did we read lots of books. I remember one of the girls' favorites was "Butterfly Count" by Sneed B. Collard III.

In honor of "days gone by," enjoy this column right out of the archives

The basic premise of the book highlights the North American Butterfly Association's Fourth of July butterfly count with a simple story of a mother and daughter counting butterflies at a prairie restoration site named after the girl's great great-grandmother Nora Belle.

When Nora traveled west as a child, "regal fritillaries by the thousands danced over the bluestem grasses, setting the prairie afire with butterfly wings" yet today they are gone, "their prairie homes are farms and houses now." The story ends with mother and daughter finding the rare butterfly in an undisturbed area of the preserve, the tiny cemetery in which her great great-grandparents are buried.

Reading the book got me thinking about what we could do as gardeners to encourage healthy butterfly populations. According to the North American Butterfly Association it isn't enough to simply choose specific flowering "nectar" plants to attract butterflies, we must also choose plants that will feed caterpillars- that way we are providing for the

entire life cycle of the insect.

Some of the best nectar plants for our area include native wildflowers such as bone-set, Joe-pye-weed, milkweed, black-eyed Susan and purple coneflower. Other common wildflowers like hawkweed,

Line a shallow hole in the garden with a trash bag, fill it with stones and add water. Dew will collect on the rocks in the morning and slide down the cracks.

Butterflies can land on the rocks and sip water from the crevices. Put a narrow band of sand around your pond and this area will serve double-duty as a "puddling station," a place for male butterflies to imbibe salts and minerals in preparation for mating.

Another important feature in a butterfly garden is a basking station. To be able to fly, these solar powered creatures must warm up.

In fact, Mikula reports that their flight muscles must achieve 83 degrees before lift-off!

Light colored stepping stones placed about the garden will reflect the sun, allowing the insects upper and lower wing surfaces to heat up at the same time.

After researching this article I realize just how little I know about butterflies. Luckily, some of the plants mentioned above already grow on my property, and butterflies often frequent the premises.

For more information on or to participate in the North American Butterfly Association's butterfly count consult their website at www.naba.org.

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.



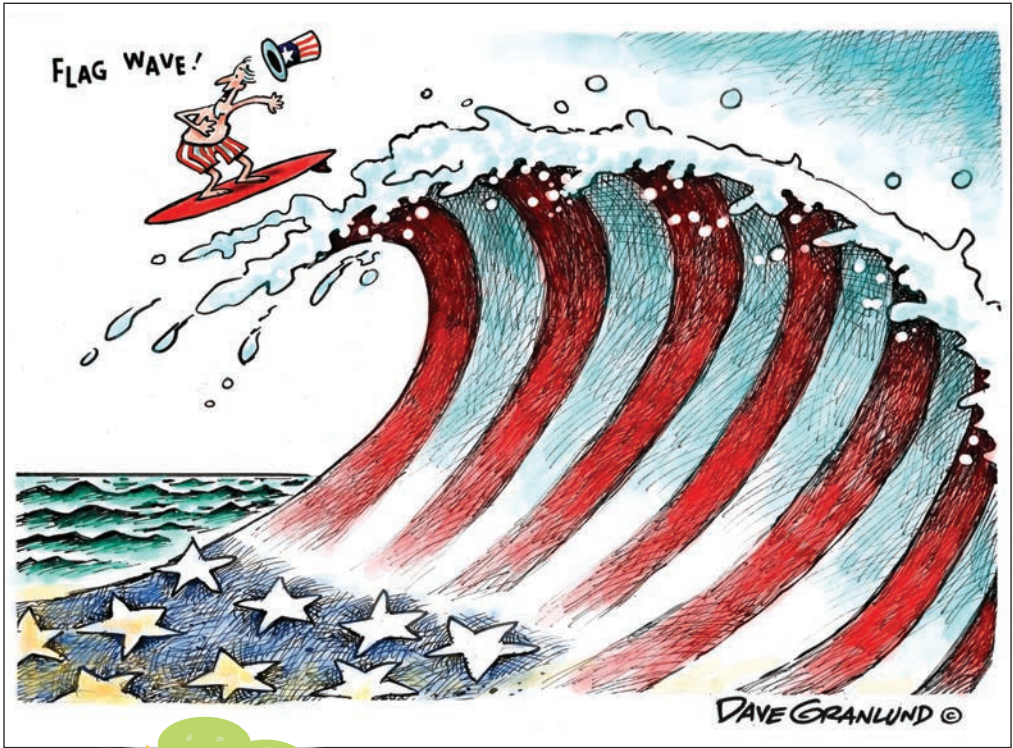
ox-eye daisy and Queen Anne's Lace make good nectar plants as well.

Top caterpillar food plants for our region include carrot, dill, parsley, fennel, milkweed, nasturtium and verben-

na. The largest number of butterfly species will be drawn to our yards if we imitate how plants grow in the wild. To do so, we should install a diverse mixture of trees, shrubs, perennial and annual flowers and herbs that bloom throughout the growing season.

Trees such as aspens, willows, poplars, and wild cherry make great host plants for caterpillars. In addition, they give butterflies shelter from the wind, protection from predators and spots to roost at night.

A good habitat should also include some form of water source that will provide butterflies with additional moisture when dew and rain are scarce. "The Family Butterfly Book" by Rick Mikula (Storey Publishing, \$29.95) offers a fun project to make with your kids called a waterless pond.



John Kunhardt of Belchertown took this photo of a northern yellow warbler near Lake Wallace in Belchertown.

Northern yellow warblers are small, evenly proportioned songbirds with medium-length tails and rounded heads. They are 4.7 to 5.1 inches long. For a warbler, the straight, thin bill is relatively large.

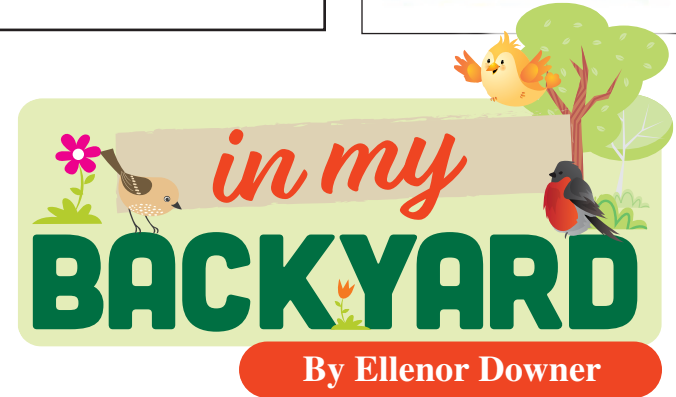
Northern yellow warblers are uniformly yellow birds. Males are a bright, egg-yolk yellow with reddish streaks on the underparts. Females are also yellow but appear slightly duller.

Both sexes flash yellow patches in the tail. The face is unmarked, accentuating the large black eye.

People may look for these warblers near the tops of tall shrubs and small trees.

They forage restlessly, with quick hops along small branches and twigs to glean caterpillars and other insects. Males sing their sweet, whistled songs from high perches.

Northern yellow warblers breed in shrubby thickets and woods, particularly along watercourses and in wetlands. Common trees include willows, alders and cottonwoods across North America



In winter these warblers inhabit a variety of wooded habitats including mangroves, deciduous forests and tropical evergreen forests, as well as gardens, town plazas, second growth, brushy pastures, hedgerows, agricultural lands and plantations.

Their song sounds like "sweet-sweet-sweet, I'm so sweet."

Yellow warblers usually build their nests in shrubs or small trees, typically 3 to 10 feet above the ground. The nest is often placed in dense foliage, making it difficult for predators to spot.

They commonly select willows, alders or other shrubs near water. The surrounding leaves provide camouflage and protection from harsh weather.

A typical yellow warbler

clutch contains about three to five pale greenish or bluish white eggs with small brown or gray speckles.

The female incubates the eggs for roughly 11 to 12 days, rarely leaving the nest except to feed. Once the chicks hatch, both parents help feed them.

Feeding mealworms
After seeing a pair of bluebirds, I started putting out mealworms on the picnic table every day. I figured black bears would not bother with mealworms.

I was right and the birds ate them up quickly. Yes, the bluebirds came for the mealworms, but so did two catbirds and a male robin.

The other day the pair of catbirds landed on the table as I spread out the mealworms. I've noticed them check the



Photo by John Kunhardt
Northern yellow warbler

table for mealworms before I put them out.

Red-shouldered hawk
A woman in Montgomery reported a red-shouldered hawk in her yard. It's one of the most distinctively marked common hawks with barred reddish-peachy underparts and a strongly banded tail.

Wild turkey encounter
My daughter, Paula, was walking her dog, JoJo on the rail trail in Gilbertville along the river. A hen turkey was hidden on the side of the trail. She states, "When JoJo and I ran by, she flew up. One of the babies panicked and started running after mom flew off, which caused mom to charge at us making a bunch

of noise."

She states, "JoJo and I sprinted a good 20 feet before she decided we weren't a threat anymore."

She continues, "But this was definitely the closes encounter we've ever had. JoJo now ranks turkeys in the 'scary' category along with Canada geese."

Brimfield birds
A Brimfield resident emailed, "A pair of yellow-bellied sapsuckers spent a few days visiting a native

dogwood tree in the yard awhile back. And we have seen a few warblers, a common yellowthroat checked me out when I was working in the garden yesterday. We have at least two male hummingbirds visiting the yard and feeders and at least one female."

He stated, "I saw a female rose-breasted grosbeak collecting nesting material so I'm going to look for a nest. Several years ago I found a grosbeak nest near our shed."

Osprey
The Brimfield resident stated in his email, "The Osprey nest in Warren looks

Please see **BACKYARD**, page 5

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.

TOWN Reminder

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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.

Town advises residents to stay cool during extreme heat

SOUTH HADLEY – As summer approaches, now is the time to prepare your home and your family for extreme heat. High temperatures can quickly make indoor spaces unsafe, especially during power outages, when systems for cooling and cleaning indoor air may stop working. Planning ahead can help protect your health and maintain good indoor air quality.

Keep your home cool and your air clean

Extreme heat can cause dangerous illnesses such as heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Indoor temperatures can rise rapidly, especially in homes without air conditioning or during a power outage.

A few simple steps can make a big difference:

If you do not have air conditioning:

- Plan in advance where you can go to stay cool during extreme heat—public cooling centers, libraries, malls, or community centers may provide relief.
- Use ventilation and shading to help moderate indoor temperatures:
- Cover sun-exposed windows with blinds, curtains, or outdoor shading devices (e.g., exterior awnings or louvers) to keep indoor temperatures down.
- When outdoor air is cooler than indoor air, open windows to cool the indoor air.

Otherwise, keep windows closed to maintain cooler indoor conditions.

If you have air conditioning:

- Make sure your unit is cleaned and serviced before hot weather arrives. Regular maintenance helps your system work efficiently when you need it most.
- Position fans to exhaust hot air from rooms or draw in cooler air. Do not use an electric fan in a closed room or for cooling when the room temperature is in the mid-90s or higher. When it is that hot, electric fans are just moving very hot air across your skin, which will not prevent heat-related illness.

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the \$3,986, plus any COLA since awarded.

And she will collect that higher SS survivor benefit for the remainder of her life which, from what you’ve shared, would likely be about 20+ years. Assuming her life expectancy is at least average, that is how your wife would get the most cumulative Social Security benefits over her lifetime.

As you have said, no one can predict how long they will live, but from the information you’ve provided, I expect that the above would likely be your wife’s best Social Security strategy. And, for the record, I admire you exploring your wife’s options in advance. I hope this answers your question, but rest assured we are always

here if you need any further information.

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.

BACKYARD from page 4

like the chicks have hatched based on the behavior of an adult at the nest yesterday. In the past it is usually mid June before I see chicks in the nest. When they are very young osprey chicks mostly lay down in the nest waiting to be fed.”

He reported four great blue heron nests at the pond I visit in Warren where the Ospreys nest.

Bird count

The Brimfield resident also stated, “The Allen Bird Club of Springfield does a spring bird count each year in mid May. We use the Christmas Bird Count count circle,

I have covered Ludlow since 1989. I only managed 50 species this year, partly because my hearing isn’t what it used to be.”

He stated, “I did manage to find a Tennessee and Parula warbler, about a dozen yellow-rumped warblers, two common loons, one each solitary and spotted sandpiper and a black-billed cuckoo. I hadn’t seen a cuckoo in a few years.”

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.

Zonta Club offering fun golf day

BELCHERTOWN – Join members of the Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley on Sept. 12 for a fun day on the links at Cold Spring Country Club in Belchertown and be a champion for women and girls. The \$120 registration includes golf, cart, pastries/coffee, snacks, box lunch, beverages, prizes and more. If you aren’t a golfer, you can donate a raffle prize or sponsor a hole.

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

Registration form and 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.

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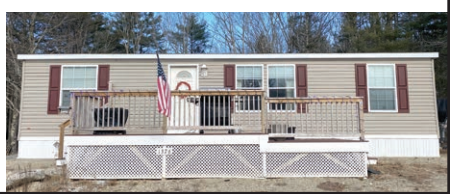
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E Ink's \$10,000 donation put funding for the new Pickleball courts over the top. Left to right: Kim Prough of the Friends of Buttery Brook Park and Wayne Ashworth and Laura Buchanan from E Ink.

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Aldenville Legion scores shutout over Monson

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

PALMER-- The final American Legion baseball game of the regular season at historic Legion Field in Palmer was a vintage pitcher's duel.

Aldenville (Chicopee) Post 337, who only had nine players available for the road game, snapped its four-game losing streak by edging

Monson Post 241, 1-0, last Wednesday night.

"We battled the entire game," said Matt Sutton, who was the winning pitcher for Aldenville. "I focused on staying calm on the mound, pitch to pitch, and this is a huge win for us."

Aldenville had a 2-4-1 record following the shutout victory, while Monson fell to 2-4.

The two squads were

scheduled to face each other for the second time this summer at St. Joe's Park in Thorn-dike on Wednesday night.

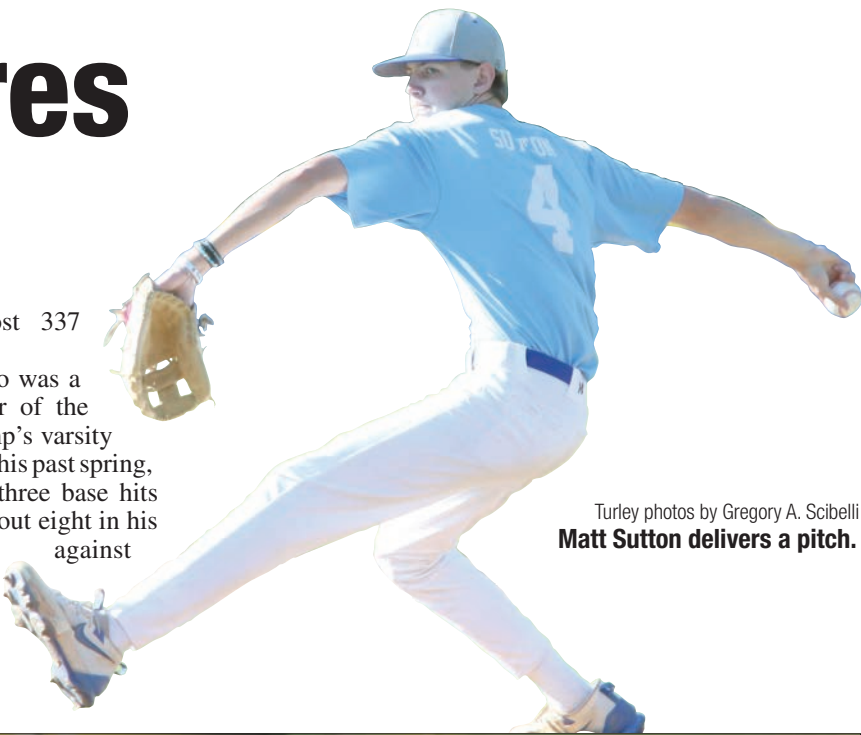
Monson is also scheduled to face Longmeadow Post 175 in another home game at St. Joe's Park on Thursday night, and West Springfield Post 207 at Veteran's Field in Monson on Monday night.

Last Wednesday's contest marked Sutton's first career victory as a member of the

Aldenville Post 337 baseball team.

Sutton, who was a junior member of the Chicopee Comp's varsity baseball team this past spring, gave up only three base hits while striking out eight in his performance against Monson.

Please see **LEGION**, page 7



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Matt Sutton delivers a pitch.



Ryan Netkovick fields a grounder.



Michael Letellier makes a catch at first on a grounder.

Mutiny shut out by Vermont Green FC

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW— Even though the New England Mutiny had already been eliminated from the USL W playoffs, they still had a chance to influence the race for first place in the Northeast Division entering the regular-season finale.

Had the Mutiny pulled off an upset victory against Vermont Green FC, the Hudson Valley Crusaders would have finished at the top of the Northeast Division table.

However, it was Vermont Green FC players and their rowdy supporters doing all the celebrating following a 3-0 shutout win over the Mutiny at Lusitano Stadium last Saturday night.

"We wanted to play the spoiler role in today's match," said New England Mutiny midfielder Avery Klingensmith, who's from Belchertown. "We were hoping to make the playoffs in our first season playing in this league, but it's always a lot of fun trying to impact another team's season."

Vermont Green FC captured the inaugural USL W League Northeast title with a



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Brigid Moore winds up for a free kick.

6-0-4 overall record.

They're scheduled to host the Eastern Conference playoffs this weekend

One of the Vermont Green's ties came at Lusitano Stadium against the Mutiny (1-1) on May 26.

Vermont Green squeaked out a 2-1 home win in the second meeting between the two squads at the beginning of June.

The Mutiny finished their season with a 2-6-2 overall

record.

"We lost a couple of close games this season," Klingensmith said. "We also had a lot of new players, and it

Please see **MUTINY**, page 7



Addyson Earl tries to outrun an opponent.



was a
r e -
Avery Klingensmith is closely pressured by an opponent.

Playoffs hopes still alive after Pioneers shutout

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—Had the Western Mass. Pioneers failed to secure a victory in last Friday night's match against AC Connecticut, their playoff hopes would have vanished for the first time since they entered USL League Two in 2019.

The Pioneers kept their postseason dreams alive a little bit longer thanks to a hard-earned 1-0 shutout win at Lusitano Stadium.

"We didn't get the result that we wanted in our last match on Tuesday night, and we had a tie here last week," said Pioneers assistant coach Tomas Duben. "It was very important for us to get the three points and the win in tonight's game. We're still battling for a postseason berth."

Duben took over the head coaching duties from longtime Pioneers head coach Federico Molinari, who spent last week-end coaching a Western United Pioneers U-16 girls' team at a tournament in Virginia.

Since 2024, Duben has a 3-0-1 record as the Pioneers interim head coach.

"My playing career ended a couple of years ago because of a knee injury," he said. "I really enjoyed playing for this soccer team. I'm very grateful that Federico gave me this coaching opportunity and I'm still learning."

The Pioneers improved to 6-2-2 (20 points) following the home shutout victory, solidifying their hold on third place in the Northeast Division. They trail first place Vermont Green FC (10-0-1, 31 points) and second place NEC (10-1-1, 30 points). Only the top two teams in the Northeast Division qualify for the league playoffs.

Western Mass. finished at the top of the Northeast table in both 2019 and 2021. They

made it all the way to the National Semifinals in 2021. They've finished in second place during the past four seasons.

Between 2010 and 2018, the Pioneers only qualified for the USL PDL playoffs once.

AC Connecticut (1-10-0) had several scoring chances during the first twenty five minutes of the opening half, but Pioneers goalie Ben Alexander made the saves which kept the match scoreless.

"Ben played very well in tonight's match," Duben said. "The defense also gave him a lot of support back there."

Alexander returned to action after missing a couple of games due to an injury.

It was the Pioneers' fourth 1-0 win of the regular season. They also played a scoreless draw in a road match against Black Rock FC at the beginning of June.

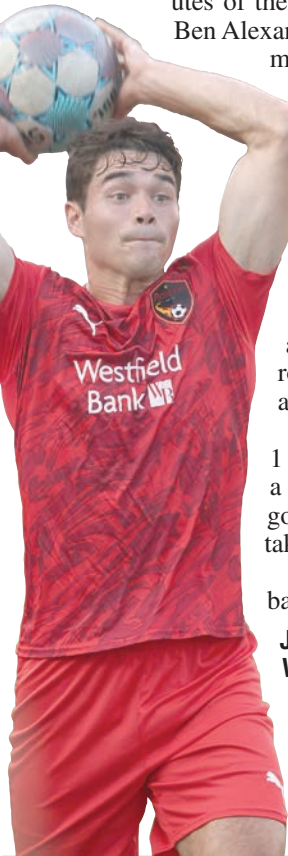
The Pioneers, who have a 3-1-1 home record, took advantage of a mistake made by AC Connecticut goalie Asger Hemmer-Hansen to take a 1-0 late in the first half.

Alfred Baafi put a shot into the back of the net giving the Pioneers a 1-0 lead at the end of the first half.

"The goalie attempted to clear the ball, but I stole

Jaiden Williams goes for the throw-in.

Please see **PIONEERS**, page 7



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Matiwos Rumley goes to meet the ball.

LEGION from page 6

The righthander issued four walks and hit a pair of batters in six innings. He threw a total of 102 pitches.

“I thought Matt pitched a great game,” said Aldenville manager Nate Carillon. “We’ve been mostly using him as a relief pitcher so far this season. He stepped up in tonight’s game.”

Sutton, who earned a save in Aldenville’s season opening road victory against Westfield Post 124, made his second start of the Legion season. His first start came against Northampton Post 28, which was a home loss a couple of weeks ago.

Memphis Huertas, who’s normally Aldenville’s start-

ing catcher, didn’t attend last Wednesday’s game at Legion Field. Noah Carillon, who’s Nate’s younger brother, strapped on the catcher’s gear for just the second time during his Legion career.

“Noah used to be a catcher in little league. He also caught a Legion game at North Adams last year,” Nate Carillon said. “He played very well back there.”

Noah Carillon made a diving catch on a foul pop-up in the first inning and threw out a runner trying to steal third base in the third inning.

“It was Noah’s first time as a starting catcher and he did a great job behind the plate,” Sutton said. “I’m very proud of him.”

Monson righthander Brayden Mega, graduated

from Pathfinder Tech in 2025 and is currently a member of the Monroe University baseball team, also pitched very well. He went the distance in his start against Aldenville, allowing a run on two hits with four walks and nine strikeouts.

“It was another outstanding performance by Brayden,” said Monson manager Steve Tripp. “He only had two hits and a couple of walks. We’ve just been struggling offensively. We had guys on base in every inning and couldn’t score a run.”

Aldenville centerfielder Justin Rivera led off the top of the first inning with a line-drive single to the gap in right center. Rivera advanced to second base following a fielding error. After the next two

struck out and grounded out, Noah Carillon drew a walk extending the inning.

Mega escaped the jam with a pop-up caught by shortstop Matt Santos, who recently received the Karl Oliveira Memorial Scholarship Award.

Then Mega retired the next ten Post 337 batters.

Meanwhile, Monson left six runners on base, including five in scoring position, during the first five innings.

With two outs in the bottom of the second, Monson second baseman Grayson Griswold, who singled to left leading off the frame, was tagged out by Carillon trying to steal home.

Two innings later, Monson first baseman Liam McGrath hit a leadoff single and

left fielder Josiel Ortiz was safe at first base with two outs following a throwing error. Ortiz stole second before Sutton ended the threat with a strikeout.

Aldenville leftfielder Adam Ozga lined a single into left field before being thrown out trying to steal second base by Monson catcher Kyle Kaczuwka.

The visitors would then break the scoreless deadlock with a run in the following frame without the benefit of a base hit.

Rivera drew a one-out walk before stealing both second and third. Shortstop Charlie Maxwell also walked, putting runners at the corners. Then Ryan Netkovick, who was Aldenville’s starting second

baseman, hit a ground ball to Santos. His throw to the plate was dropped and Rivera scored what turned out to be the only run of the ballgame.

Then Carillon was walked intentionally, which loaded the bases.

Mega managed to get out of the jam with a strikeout and a ground ball out.

Monson had an opportunity to tie the score in the bottom half of the frame, but they had a runner tagged out by Sutton trying to score on a passed ball.

Maxwell relieved Sutton before the start of the seventh inning. The righty issued an one-out walk to Dayne Shanley before retiring the next two batters to earn the save.

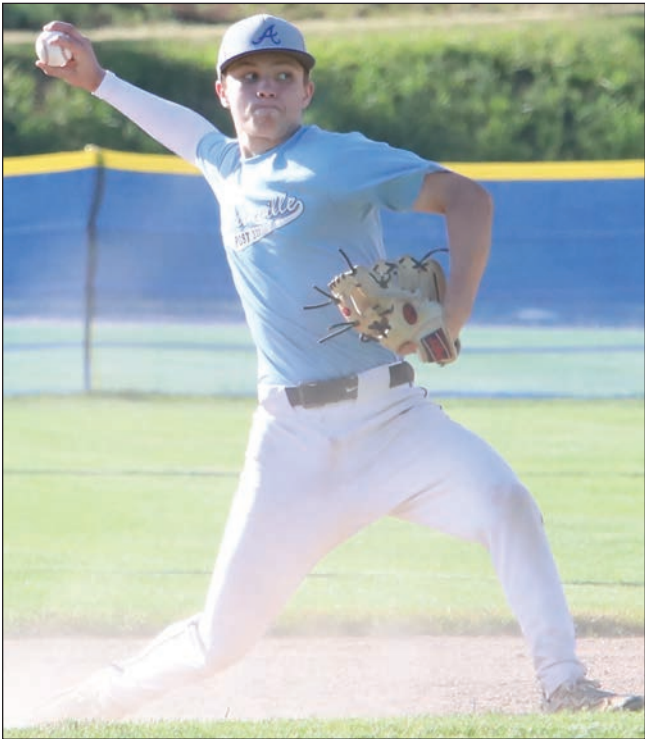


Adam Ozga takes a swing.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli



Noah Carillon frames a low pitch.



Charlie Maxwell makes a throw to first base.

MUTINY from page 6

building year for us. We always tried to do our best in every game.”

Kate Howarth and Megan Cunningham made their first starts of the season in last Saturday’s match.

“I played with both of them in the past and it was a lot of fun having them back on the field again today,” Klingensmith said. “They’re a big part of this organization.”

Howarth, who also played for the Orlando Pride of the National Women’s Soccer League, is the Mutiny’s all-time leading goalscorer and point-scorer.

Klingensmith is also one of the Mutiny’s veteran players. She joined the squad after graduating from Belchertown High School in 2022.

“It has been a great journey playing for this team,” said Klingensmith, who graduated from American University in May. “I only live about 15 minutes away and this place is very special to me. I’m hoping to play for this soccer team again next year.”

Klingensmith is planning to play for a professional soccer team in Greece beginning in August.

The other players from Western Mass. listed on the Mutiny roster are Mila Dillard (Chicopee), Hope Santiniello (Agawam), and Tennessee Murphy (Monson). None of those players played in the final match of the regular season.

During the opening half of last Saturday’s match, the Mutiny had two free kicks, but both attempts were saved by Vermont Green goalie Olivia Shippee.

The visitors from Burlington took a 1-0 lead during the 28th minute following a goal from Georgina Clark.

Emily Mara, who assisted on Clark’s goal, booted the ball into the net three minutes later.

The score remained 2-0 until the 73rd minute when Lauren DeGroot netted another goal for Vermont Green.



Goalie Chloe Lazier sends a free kick away.



Trinity Clark collects a pass.

PIONEERS from page 6

it away from him,” said Baafi, who scored his third goal of the season. “Then I put a shot into the wide open net, which felt really good. We’re still hoping to make the playoffs”

Baafi, who’s from Techiman, Ghana, is a first-year member of the Pioneers.

“The atmosphere at this stadium is always outstanding,” he said. “We get plenty of support at our home games.”

Baafi is also a member of the men’s soccer team at High Point University in High Point, North Carolina.

Two years ago, Baafi was a member of the Seacoast United Phantoms, which captured the USL-League Two National Championship title.

“It was an amazing feeling after my team won the championship game two years ago,” said Baafi, who’s going to be a senior in the fall. “I just needed a change and decided to play for the Pioneers this year. I’m also hoping to be drafted by a MLS team.”

The Pioneers had an opportunity to score another goal at the start of the second half.

Martin Echarren sent a pass into the box to Juan Galindrez, whose shot attempt skipped wide of the goal.

The Western Mass. squad also had several more chances to score, but the score remained 1-0.

The Pioneers are scheduled to host Black Rock FC at 7:30pm on Friday night.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
William Fauth watches his pass move away.



Martin Echarren looks up the field.

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CHICKENS FOR SALE. Barred Rocks, Reds, Australorp, Hybred. All large brown New England type layers. \$20 each/6 for \$100. **413-218-2321**

HELP WANTED

Town Administrator
Town of Russell, MA

The Town of Russell seeks a **Town Administrator** with strong communication and collaborative skills to oversee and manage day-to-day operations for our Town. Russell is a small rural community (pop. 1643) in the Southern Hilltown's of the Pioneer Valley region in Hampden County. Led by a three-member Select Board, and Open Town Meeting form of government, the Town relies on the Town Administrator to be responsible for the oversight and management of daily operations of the Town.

Responsibilities include scheduling, developing and implementing town projects, assisting with the preparation of budgets, coordinating with various town boards and committees, supervising and coordinating overall operations of Town government and managing day-to-day affairs under the general direction of the Select Board. The Town Administrator will support the Select Board, ensure compliance with all applicable laws and regulations, interface with government agencies and the public and manage municipal operations for the Town. Attendance at certain evening meetings is required.

Candidates should have knowledge and competence in municipal finance and budgeting, project management, human resource/personnel administration, Massachusetts municipal law, and intergovernmental and community relations.

The successful candidate should possess five (5) years of municipal management and leadership experience, or similar responsibilities in a public or government agency. A degree in public administration or a related field is preferred. An equivalent combination of education, training and experience which demonstrates possession of the required knowledge, skills and abilities may also be considered.

This is a full-time position with benefits. Starting salary range of \$70,000 – \$85,000 commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Submit resume and cover letter as a pdf attachment to **nboersig@townofrussell.us**
Applications must be received by July 16, 2026.
The Town of Russell is an equal opportunity employer.

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

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FAIR from page 1

bounce houses, water slides and onsite coordinated children activities, such as canvas paintings, Ladybug Party Rentals is what Miller described as a “labor of love.”

“I love science,” Miller said as she held up a bottle of essential oils for emphasis. “This is the closest thing that I can get to sharing my molecular background.”

Miller reported vendor fairs were a “vital” aspect of their marketing as a small business. She mentioned marketing and networking were just as important to

growing a business than the products and services offered, as booth presence provided a certain level of natural advertising. As children painted in the background with provided canvases and paint materials, she offered gratitude for her growing community support.

“I am so grateful for the people that I get to meet in our community,” Miller said. “It’s so wonderful to work with children and help them express their creativity and just give them an outlet to come paint and have fun.”

Amanda Rodriguez, founder of Playful & Pol-

ished, described the event as a “super community vibe.” She started her own earring making business back in February, inspired by the lost of her own earring. Rodriguez expressed the best part of running her own company was the amount of validation and appreciation received by her customers.

“This is my third show that I’ve done and I enjoy it,” Rodriguez said. “I like meeting people. I love when people just say ‘these are so cute.’ So, being validated in that way and having people appreciate what I’ve made is really exciting.”

RULES from page 1

humans if the bylaws are enacted.

Those residents who currently have permits for chickens are “grandfathered” under current bylaws.

Planning Director Anne Capra, who devised the proposed 255-25 bylaw draft, said in previous hearings that this provision was recommended by the Board of Health in line with that board’s responsibilities for public health.

The same issue had arisen at previous hearings. Capra said she had asked the health department to defend its 25-foot setback rule, and send a representative to the most recent hearing. A Board of Health member attended, but Capra said she would prefer that Director Sharon Hart could best present the case for the 25-foot setback rule.

She also said Hart could also best defend the health department’s advice to ban roosters from all residential and commercial zones to help eliminate noise complaints.

The draft bylaw for agricultural uses in residential zones also included the following provisions:

- The keeping of livestock is banned in all residential zones except horses and ponies for personal use on parcels larger than two acres.

The draft law sets limits on setbacks, fencing and provides for health issues. Lot size would limit horse and pony numbers, but not foals.

- Keeping personal pets are allowed, but commercial purposes for them are not.
- Yard space for exercise is required, but fences are not.

Ownership of wild and exotic birds, fish, reptiles and amphibians are governed by state regulations.

- The keeping of any livestock or pets is subject to regulations and licensing requirements.
- Greenhouses are allowed in all residential zones, but not for business purposes. Lighting must not affect abutting properties.

Land zoned for purely agricultural purposes are exempt from local zoning restrictions under “Right to Farm” state law (Chapter 40A, Section 3).

At a June 8 board meeting, Capra detailed a section of the town bylaw pertaining to commercial agricultural uses that are not covered by the state law.

They include:

- activities that charge a fee for agricultural activities designed to market farm products and bring the public to a farm related business, farm stand or store.
- commercial greenhouses with Site Plan Review.
- parking, building height, setbacks, equipment and illuminations will be considered.
- special events, such as U-pick fruits and vegetables and U-cut Christmas trees, petting zoos, temporary farmers’ markets, hayrides, demonstrations and tours are protected.

The draft also includes a

section that allows outdoor recreation facilities in an agricultural district with a Special Permit.

Capra used as an example a mini-golf course at McCray’s Farm on Alvord Street as the only such enterprise in town. The town Recreation Committee was not interested in taking on the subject of outdoor recreational facilities, so it would remain in the zoning bylaws, she said.

Farm stands are exempt from local laws under state law. However, limitations on location, size, merchandise, setbacks, parking, hours, and lighting would remain in the local law.

A public hearing on the proposed revisions is scheduled for Sept. 14. It would then be brought to a Town Meeting vote in November.

In other matters, the board accepted the resignation of Planning Board member Rob Watchilla, who said he has accepted a new job as Planning Director for the town of Wellesley and will be relocating to that area. A replacement will be named by the Selectboard to temporarily fill the position until the annual Town Election next May.

Also, Anthony’s Dance Club on New Ludlow Road was granted a one-year permit extension of its Special Permit to operate. The club’s permit was renewed in June 2025 and was allowed one-year extensions if a number of issues brought to the board have been successfully addressed.



Kyle Gordon advertises his company, Junk Hog Junk Removal. Turley photos by Ben Hernandez



Serial entrepreneur Robyn Miller represents her latest enterprise, Ladybug Party Rentals.



Evan from unique fitness studio HotWorx smiles for the camera.

Turley Publications is looking for an outgoing, energetic person interested in selling advertising for our community newspapers plus more! The right candidate will assume an established territory with a portfolio of customers.

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Legal Notices

**Town of Granby
Massachusetts
Conservation Commission**

The Granby Conservation Commission will hold Public Hearings pursuant to the Wetland Protection Act (MGL Chapter 131, Section 40) on **Tuesday, July 14, 2026** to be held at 1 Library Lane-Old Carnegie Library-Top Floor to consider the following:

1. **7:30 PM**-NOI-filed by Jill Phoenix, applicant, Marlene Morin, Owner, for a proposed construction of a single-family dwelling partially within the 100’ buffer to a bordering vegetated wetland including an onsite septic system, well, driveway

and associated grading (Closet work proposed 3’ from BVW) at 294-2 Amherst Street and known as map 10C-9 in the Town of Granby.

2. **7:30 PM**-NOI-filed by Dan’s Construction Services to see whether the work depicted on plan(s) referenced is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act with regards to School Street and know as Lot 13.11 in the Town of Granby.

Members of the public can attend virtually by phone at +1 (312) 757-3121 using **Access Code:** 282-289-421or by visiting <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/282289421>.

Anyone wishing information

and/or to be heard on this matter should appear at the time and place designated. The complete materials (including text and maps) relative to the “NOI” and RDA are available for inspection during regular business hours at the Selectmen’s Office located in the Granby Senior Center Building, 2nd Floor, 10-B West State Street. Additionally, copies of the application may be inspected on the Conservation Commission’s web page at www.granby-ma.gov.

William Shaheen, Chair
Granby Conservation Commission

07/03/2026

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CLUES ACROSS

1. __ chat

5. Statue near the Pyramids

11. A process to change the look

14. Herb

15. Think about excessively

18. Bass vocal part

19. Supreme Allied Cmdr. of NATO

21. A major division of geological time

23. New Zealand parrot

24. Cognitive contents

28. Lump of yarn

29. Atomic #109

30. Let go of

32. Indian title of respect

33. Whereabouts unknown

35. Electronic data processing

36. Drivers’ licenses count

39. Snake-like fishes

41. They precede C

42. Popular personal computers

44. Intermediate community stage in ecological succession

46. Wings

47. Indicates position

49. Pleasantly smooth or soft

52. Jeweled headdress

56. In slow tempo

58. __ Falls

60. Reassertions

62. Eras

63. Hyphen

3. Opinion or belief

4. Sheep in their second year

5. Intensities of sound

6. Indicates support for

7. Expression of laughter

8. OJ trial judge

9. Pointed ends of pens

10. True bugs genus

12. Lawyers argue theirs

13. Body parts

16. Closes tightly

17. World Heritage site in Nigeria

20. Islamic calendar month

22. Commercial

25. “Westworld” actor Harris

26. They __

27. Religious guilds

29. Woman (French)

31. Parts per billion (abbr.)

34. Brew

36. Spiritual leader

37. Indigo bush

38. Burn with a hot liquid

40. Older citizen

43. Scad fish genus

45. Morning

48. Line passing through the center (abbr.)

50. Double S-shaped curve

51. Small, thin person

53. Older

54. Mars crater

55. Humanities

57. Word element meaning ear

58. To the __ degree

59. Residue

61. It cools your home

Granby Lions sponsoring upcoming Boston 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 jpietras@comcast.net

BOARD from page 1

Dan Hall, had already ordered changes. Reading from the agency’s directive, Board Chair William Shaheen said Red Fire Farm must “retain a qualified pest control consultant to inspect the facility and take those steps that are necessary to ensure the successful management of vectors.” Board members questioned how any rodent-control program might affect both finished compost and groundwater.

Member Lee Lelonde warned that if rodenticide is used, “that chemical is going to be directly introduced into the compost that is going to preclude any type of organic compost being used from that product going forward.” He added that leaching could “end up poisoning the nearby streams and kill the fish.” Animal Control Officer Kim Bernier-Goldsmith suggested some farms avoid chemicals by using trained dogs. “A lot of farms will hire people that have dogs to come in and kill the rats... so

it’s no chemicals on the property,” she said. The board also probed whether a commercial composting business taking residential scrap buckets, including meat, dairy and fish, is a “normal agricultural operation” protected under state law or a distinct commercial use that can be regulated as a potential public nuisance. Shaheen said the town may need new rules, even if they prove unpopular. “We’re here to serve the public and the public good, and we’re kind of commanded by our position to do this, which we don’t like to do,” he said.

cluded their stationary food stand must meet full restaurant-level standards if it is to serve prepared food. Jamie Iannaccone told the board, “The Board of Health, Tom Quinlan and the plumbing inspector have made it outrageously difficult, if not impossible, to comply with all of the regulations that...I can’t even begin to add up how much it would cost us.” The central issue was how to dispose of wastewater. Jamie Iannaccone proposed catching sink water in containers and carrying it by hand into the Chateau building to dump in a toilet. Shaheen rejected that outright. “You would propose to collect the wastewater from under the sink, hand carry it across the parking lot into the Chateau... That’s unacceptable. You cannot deal with wastewater that way in this day and age, in the year 2026 unfortunately,” he said. Officials said the stand would need, at minimum, an under-sink grease trap, an exterior concrete grease trap and a piped connection to the property’s septic tank, plus a sink large enough for the largest pot and a separate slop sink. Lelonde emphasized that these are state requirements, not local preferences. “State of Massachusetts has several minimal codes, which have to be abided by... there’s no room for the town of Granby or any other town to circumvent state minimum codes,” he said. Marilyn Iannaccone said the couple did not anticipate such extensive upgrades because the unit had already operated elsewhere. “When we purchased this unit exactly as it was, it was operating outside in another town in Massachusetts, fully permitted, so we never considered that there would be anything more necessary,” she told the board. Shaheen urged them to consult Health Inspector Lynn Diniz about lower-impact options such as cold drinks and packaged snacks, that might fit the existing set-up, and to use the 2013 Food Code as their “guidebook going forward.” Both Red Fire Farm and Chateau Harmony left the meeting without final approvals but with clearer direction.

COURTS from page 1

the funds required to create the four new courts and spoke on the overwhelming support she received from this completed project. “The total cost to build all eight courts over the past five years was over \$300,000,” Prough said. “Less than \$20,000 came from the town. The majority of the project was funded by donations and by fundraisers held by pickleball volunteers. Not only do we have a wonderful community of players, we have a very generous community as well.” A potluck dinner was served following the ribbon cutting. Live music was performed by band TJ and the Peepers.



Eager residents return a serve on the courts prior to the opening ceremonies.



Former High School Physical Education teacher and pickleball trailblazer Ron Bullough cuts the ceremonial ribbon to commemorate the opening of the new courts.

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.**

Total circulation of 85,000 reaching over 200,000 readers in the Pioneer Valley.

Deadline for Calendar submissions is August 19.

Community Autumn Events

Event Should Be Non-Profit & Open to the Public

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

Event Name

Date/Time

Location

Description

Cost

Contact name & phone number for more information

MAIL YOUR LISTING INFORMATION TO:
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or email* them to: jamie@turley.com
***Be sure to indicate “Autumn Event” in the subject line of your email.**