

DINOFEST roars back to life

By Ben Hernandez
Staff Writer

GRANBY – DinoFest is back. The beloved one-day festival will be taking place on Church of Christ Congregational land on Sept. 12 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Festivities taking place across the one acre campus will include craft vendors, food trucks, live music and a myriad of fan favorite contests. Proceeds will benefit the local church.

DinoFest is being run this year in memory of Joey A. Barnoski, the man who coined the festival's name and son of event organizer and

DinoFest Grand Pohbah Dennis Doucette. A festival enthusiast, Joey suggested the name due to Granby's famous ties to the prolific dinosaur fossils found throughout the area.

"DinoFest is an arts, crafts and music festival," said Doucette. "It's an old-school kind of festival. We have a pie eating contest, a pie baking contest, a what we call a 'dino dance' where the kids dress up in dinosaur costumes and



Festival mascot Zippy advertises for local non-profit food scarcity organization Neighbors Helping Neighbors Inc.

they dance to a couple of tunes."

The town tradition contains a lot of action in a small amount of space. The festival has been growing at a constant clip to the point where a previous event became a "traffic hazard" for the town of Granby. The energetic Doucette stated though he was pleased at the

event's exponential growth, he acknowledged the need to downscale.

"I couldn't have asked for better advertising," Doucette said. "That was wonderful. But we figured we'd scale back because it was turning into a problem.

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Beloved festival mascot Zippy poses with festival attendees.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Granby taps new leaders

By Melina Bourdeau
Correspondent

GRANBY – Selectboard members appointed a new town accountant and Council on Aging Director, endorsed a state financial review and advanced a long-running dispute over the Winehouse's permits during its July 19 meeting in Town Hall.

The board voted to bring back a longtime financial hand as part-time town accountant, hire an experienced Council on Aging leader from Hadley, invite the state Department of Revenue to scrutinize Granby's books and send unresolved Winehouse permitting questions to the Planning Board for site plan review.

Martin appointed part-time town accountant

Town Administrator Ron Aponte recommended former administrator Christopher Martin as Granby's next town accountant, saying Martin's deep familiarity with the town's finances made him an obvious choice.

"Frankly, if we had a nationwide search, I doubt we'd find someone more qualified than Mr. Martin to act as our town accountant," Aponte told the board.

Martin, who is retired, will serve in a part-time role because of post-retirement limits on public-sector work.

Aponte noted that Martin "can only work 1,200 hours without jeopardizing and impacting his retirement income," adding that Martin

Please see **LEADERS**, page 8

Hot car safety: Making sure nothing is left behind

By Quinn Suomala
Correspondent

One of the largest heat-related safety threats of the summer is hot cars.

In 2025 there were 31 children who died nationwide due to being left in a car during the summer heat. So far in 2026, there have already been 12.

It is crucial to maintain awareness of how quickly

a car's internal temperature can rise in the heat.

"It could reach up to 120 degrees and north of that within five to ten minutes of sitting in the sun," Agawam's Deputy Fire Chief Frank Matuszczak said.

Due to these dangerous temperatures, if a person sees a child or an animal within a car in the heat and they are unsure if the car is

running or not, they need to call 911 immediately.

"It is a true emergency at that point," Matuszczak said.

Children's internal body temperatures rise faster than adults, making it even more dangerous for them to be left in a hot car.

Heatstroke begins when a person's internal body temperature reaches 104 degrees. Death occurs at a

body temperature of 107 or higher.

With car temperatures reaching over 120 degrees, these dangerous internal temperatures can happen quickly.

Matuszczak advises people to never leave children or pets in the car in the heat, even if they think it will be

Please see **HOT CAR**, page 8



Pickleball enthusiasts gather for awards events at annual BBQ

BELCHERTOWN – On Sunday, July 19, 35 Belchertown Pickleball Community (BPC) Pickleball enthusiasts assembled for a celebratory annual barbeque at the home of Denise Smith.

The enthusiasts celebrated the "75 Honors Club Golden Paddle award" recipients of the past and handed out the 2026 award to another person honored in the five year history of

the award.

The first recipient in 2022 was Bonnie Strickland on the occasion of her 86th birthday. A once renowned tennis player, she applied her skills playing pickleball, perfecting a "dink shot" on the pickleball court that matched her expertise on the tennis court.

In 2023 the Golden Paddle was awarded to Dusty Miller. She and Dorothy Cresswell were the

first to introduce pickleball to the Belchertown Recreation Dept. To date they continue to offer beginner and novice classes.

Jim Barry joined the 75 Honors Club in 2024 for his contributions as an advocate for financing the courts and fencing which resulted in the 4 courts now located in

Please see **PICKLEBALL**, page 7



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Top photo, great day for the BPC Annual Awards event. Above, Debbie Wood, left, enjoys the event, which was hosted by Denise Smith, of Belchertown.

Water bans proposed

By Ben Hernandez
Staff Writer

BELCHERTOWN – The Belchertown Select Board gathered on July 20 for an update on the ongoing town water ban. Delta Front Water District Superintendent Kevin Williams, District Chairman Gary Brougham and Commissioner Ted Bock were in attendance to provide an update and to inform the public on what the Water District was.

"The district was created in 1928," Brougham said. "I believe it was the first official legislative act. I may be off a year or two. There's actually a physical boundary on all sides of what was included in the original creation of the district."

Brougham explained the district is governed by a series of "bylaws" maintained by district residents in an organization similar to town bylaws. Water districts are organized town sections which allow for town-sourced water, which doesn't "necessarily include private wells." He also informed the Select Board the district has the power to sell water outside of the district but are not allowed to charge nor spend money outside of the district.

"Now, that was an old bylaw that's been kind of overlooked a number of times," Brougham said. "In the case of the schools, for example, the Chestnut Hill School was originally connected to the state school water system when it was built."

Brougham called the previous water system in question "very unreliable" and "very poor quality water." He stated it was this condition which inspired them to "do something" about it in 1995. In the wake of "multiple outages," the former superin-

Please see **WATER BAN**, page 8

Local business offers to match community donations for return of fireworks

BELCHERTOWN – The Town of Belchertown is preparing for the return of community fireworks on Sept. 24, the centerpiece of its America250 Semiquincentennial celebration, held alongside the Belchertown Fair. A new matching-donation opportunity from a local business is helping build momentum toward the event.

Window World of Western Mass. has offered to match community donations to the fireworks fund, dollar for dollar, up to \$12,000. The matching opportunity means that every gift made between now and the event will effectively double in impact, helping the community reach its fundraising goal.

“Belchertown has always been more than the place where we do business — it’s home. My family and I have built our lives here, and we’re grateful to be part of a community that has supported us for so many years. The Belchertown Fair has long been a tradition that brings families, friends, and neigh-

bors together, and the fireworks have always been one of the highlights. That’s why my family and I are proud to match donations to help bring the fireworks back this September. We hope our commitment encourages others to join us so this cherished tradition can continue creating memories for families throughout our community,” said Tim Drost, Owner, Window World of Western Mass.

Several community sponsors have already stepped forward to help fund the display, including Hulmes Transportation, Easthampton Savings Bank, and Country Bank, along with other generous local donors.

“Community sponsors like these are what make an event like this possible,” said Kyle Thibeault, Recreation Director. “This night is about so much more than fireworks — it’s tied to the Belchertown Fair and to our town’s celebration of America’s 250th anniversary. Having local businesses and residents invest in that means the whole commu-

nity gets to be part of something memorable together.” Businesses interested in becoming a fireworks sponsor, across three sponsorship levels, are encouraged to contact Kyle Thibeault, Recreation Director, at KThibeault@belchertown.org or 413-323-0419.



2026 voting by mail postcards

BELCHERTOWN – All Massachusetts voters have the option to vote early by mail in all 2026 elections, with no excuse required.

Forty-five days before each statewide election, the Secretary of the Commonwealth will send a pre-addressed, postage pre-paid Vote by Mail application to every registered voter before each statewide election. This mailing is required by state law and is going out the week of July 5, 2026.

You won’t be sent an application if you’ve already applied to vote by mail for the upcoming elections.

You can use this application to request a ballot

for the next statewide election, or for all remaining elections this year. Simply mark your selections, sign the application, and drop it in the mail or the drop box here at Town Hall at 2 Jabish St., Belchertown.

For primaries only: If you are not registered in a party, you must include which party’s ballot you would like to receive, Democrat or Republican.

The deadline to request a ballot for the Sept. 1 State Primary is Tuesday, Aug. 25 at 5 p.m.

Please contact the Town Clerk’s office at 413-323-2081 or email clerk@belchertown.org, with any questions or concerns.

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Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce online auction through July 24

BELCHERTOWN – The Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce will host its inaugural Online Auction Fundraiser from July 13 to 24, featuring original artwork, VIP sports experiences, local getaways, and one-of-a-kind opportunities from across the region. Every bid supports the Amherst Area Chamber’s work to strengthen local businesses, build community connections, and advance a more vibrant, resilient, and inclusive regional economy. The Chamber aims to engage 300 bidders and raise \$5,000 to sustain this programming and mission.

Sponsored by Belchertown-based Window World of Western Mass, the auction will showcase items that highlight the creativity, culture, and community spirit of the region and seven towns served by the Chamber:

Amherst, Belchertown, Hadley, Leverett, Pelham, Shutesbury and Sunderland.

“There is something for everyone in this first online auction supporting the work of the Amherst Area Chamber. We purposefully designed the auction to highlight the creativity, culture and natural surroundings of our area. We have something special here and we are celebrating it,” said Jennifer Faulkner, Board Member of the Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce and Belchertown resident and business owner.

Local businesses, artists, and community partners from across the region have contributed unique offerings to the auction, designed to inspire participation and excitement. Featured items include a glass planet by renowned artist Josh

Simpson, skincare services from Grace Aesthetics, a full-moon paddle tour experience with Adventure East, writing time in Emily Dickinson’s own creative space, an expert-guided tour of Lake Wallace, and the opportunity to name a newborn calf at Barstow’s Longview Farm.

The auction coincides with the Chamber’s 23rd Annual Golf Tournament, taking place Friday, July 17 at Cold Spring Country Club in Belchertown. As the featured nonprofit of the event, Friends of Lake Wallace will be highlighted during the tournament for their work to create an accessible sensory trail in Belchertown.

Bidding opens Monday, July 13, and closes Friday, July 24, at 12 noon. To view the auction and place a bid, visit bidcase.com/amherstareaauction.

Friends of Clapp Memorial Library holding \$1 sale

BELCHERTOWN – On Saturday, Aug. 22 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., there will be a one day only sale of jigsaw puzzles, DVDs, CDs and vinyl records in the Activity Room of the Belchertown Clapp Memorial Library. All items will be only \$1 each. Cash only (no credit cards or Venmo).

There are hundreds of puzzles from 300 to 1000+ pieces and so many DVDs and CDs, we didn’t count them. If you are a fan of vinyl records, we have several boxes filled with some great hits.

So many of you have expressed regrets about

not having a book sale this year. The Trustees and the Friends of CML are working diligently on the basement renovations, with the plan to start having book sales again in 2027.

In October we will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Friends of the Clapp Memorial Library. Plans are underway to have a smaller version “Like New” book sale in the Activity Room at that time. More information will be forthcoming as the date comes closer.

So mark your calendar for our special \$1 sale on Aug. 22.

2026 Fair Committee partners with FairEntry

BELCHERTOWN – The Belchertown Fair Committee is excited to announce the launch of FairEntry; an online portal for accepting Exhibit Hall entries. Beginning with the 2026 Fair, anyone interested in exhibiting is encouraged to visit belchertown.fairentry.com. On the Welcome page is a link to a video detailing the registration process. Please note, even though there is a “Payment Page”, there are no fees for exhibiting in the Hall. Families can set up one account for all members exhibiting. If there are still questions, please send an email to belchertownfair@gmail.com.



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Wine house issue continues to be litigated by town boards

By Ben Hernandez
Staff Writer

GRANBY – The Granby Select Board gathered to hear complaints and allegations against the local wine house.

“If you recall, approximately two to three meetings ago, the board was presented with a packet of concerns and complaints regarding the wine house,” Town Administrator Ron Aponte said. “At the direction of the Select Board, I reached out to Attorney Costa, who was obviously very familiar with this particular case and issue, and had him review the packet.”

Attorney Costa is a special municipal counsel for the town in regards to regulatory and zoning issues within Granby. He served as a consultant regarding allegations lodged against the wine house, one outstanding allegation being against the wine house not having a site plan approved by the Planning Board. Aponte quoted the attorney’s verdict and stated, if the Board wished, he could

“reach out to the Planning Board” regarding the attorney’s opinion, as the complainant didn’t agree with the conclusion.

“In essence, he had indicated that all the issues that were brought up had been adjudicated by the appropriate authority,” Aponte said as he summarized the report. “Be it at the local level, the state level or the federal level. In his expert opinion, those matters were closed.”

Town Clerk Jeffery Lawson questioned the if the missing site plan would be an issue “this late in the game” and wondered if the issue would have to go through the Planning Board to determine if the complaint was merited.

“Obviously, we really don’t have any authority over the site plan,” Aponte said as they reiterated the outstanding concern would be up to the Planning Board’s discretion. He also mentioned this potential concern was the “one box that needs to be checked.”

Local resident Jay Joyce also quoted from bylaw

“We are going to allow this to go on as is and we will get with the Planning Commission and also with Attorney Costa if activities at the wine house will need to cease and desist until the Planning Board comes to a conclusion. We will make that decision down the road.”

– Select Board Chair David Labonte

6.360 from the audience, which states the building cannot be licensed any permits until the site plan has been completed. Select Board Chair David Labonte addressed the concern and stated they were “dealing with council” and were told to move forward with site plan processing.

“We are going to allow this to go on as is and we will get with the Planning Commission and also with Attorney Costa if activities at the wine house will need to cease and desist until the Planning Board comes to a conclusion,” Labonte said. “We will make that decision down the road.”

The chair concluded

until the Board had enough information to make a conclusion regarding the missing site plan’s ability to affect legal operations, they wouldn’t be able to make an informed decision without input from the Planning Board. Labonte also took the opportunity to thank Joyce for the input and stated the Board would also “dig into that.”

Due to this outstanding circumstances, Lawson made a motion to forward this concern to the Planning Board and to “put this in their hands.” The motion passed with unanimous support and will be pending further updates as of this writing.

Granby library announces August activities

GRANBY – The library announced the following activities for August:

Yoga Demystified
Saturday, Aug. 1 at 11 a.m.
Join Laurie of Laurie Cameron Studio in Granby for an introduction to Yoga! Bring your own mat or use one of ours.

Sci-Fi and Fantasy Book Club
Thursday, Aug. 6 at 5 p.m.
Join our discussions on the first Thursday of every month! The Raven Scholar by Antonia Hodgson for August. Copies are available now.

Adult Book Group
Thursday, Aug. 13 at 6 p.m.
The book group will be discussing My Friends by Fredrik Backman. Grab a copy and join us!

Tabletop Games Club
Saturday, Aug. 15
from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
The Granby Library Tabletop Games Club invites players of all ages 8 and up to gather and enjoy a variety of board, card, dice, tile, and other in-person tabletop

games in a welcoming, social environment.

Knitting Group
Every Wednesday afternoon at 2pm
Bring your latest project and join us for conversation, tips and tricks.

Friends of the Granby Library Meeting
Thursday, Aug. 20 at 4:30 p.m.
Did you know that the Friends sponsor our events? Join us for a meeting and see what’s new.

Revolution in Their Words
Thursday, Aug. 27 at 5:30 p.m.
Join us for a unique thematic exploration of the American Revolution through the voices of the people who lived it. Hosted by Denise Kindschi Gosselin, PhD and the Massachusetts Daughters of the American Revolution, Betty Allen Chapter.

Adult Summer Reading – Plant a Seed, Read!
Ends Aug. 21
Get your tickets in by Aug. 21 to win great prizes.

Lions Club Car Show set for Aug. 8

BELCHERTOWN – The Belchertown Lions Club will be returning to the Belchertown Town Common on Aug. 8 (rain date: Aug. 9) for its 3rd Annual Memorial Car Show...and it promises to be even bigger and better than ever.

We will continue with our custom-made laser-engraved slate trophy plaques with leather hanging straps—no two the same. We hope that your ride will take home one of our very unique Top 20, four specialties, or the Best in Show presentations.

Burgers, dogs, meatball grinders, fries, and canned soft drinks are available—along with a raffle table and a 50/50 raffle.

All vehicles are welcomed (with specialty awards for best motorcycle,

truck, paint, and engine.)

Spectators get free admission! Participant parking on the grass: \$20

No pre-registration (So please don’t be a victim of online pre-show registration scams.)

Registration begins at 9 a.m. at 28 Park St. on the Town Common. Judging continues until 1 p.m.—followed immediately by the raffle drawings and the awarding of trophies.

All proceeds will go to local charities including Veterans’ Affairs, Senior Center, fuel assistance, Girl Scouts, Scouting America, high school scholarships, food pantries, etc.

More information and possible rain date updates can be found at <https://www.belchertownlionsclub.com/car-show.htm>

Granby Free Public Library set for fall book sale

GRANBY – Book lovers. Bargain Hunters. The Friends of the Granby Free Public Library will host their annual Month-Long Fall Book Sale during the month of September in the Community Room of the Library. You will be able to choose from a large assortment of used and

like-new hardcover, paperback books, teen books and children’s books, along with a selection of CDs, DVDs, video games and audiobooks. The sale will run during regular library hours from Sept. 1 to 30.

Starting Aug. 1, the Library will be accepting donations of hardcover and

paperback books, DVDs, music CDs, playable video games, and audiobooks in good condition acceptable for resale. The library does not accept donations of: Textbooks, encyclopedias, dictionaries, thesauri, Reader’s Digest books, or books with smoke, mold, mildew, or water dam-

age. Donations are accepted at the library during open hours.

Please do not leave donated books outside the library or in our book return. Donations accepted until Aug. 27. Thank you for your support! The library is located at 297 E State St in Granby MA 01033.

Chicopee St. work ahead

GRANBY – Road resurfacing on Chicopee St. between School St. and Carver St. Work will commence the week of Aug. 18. Please seek alternate routes if possible. Roadway detours and/or closures are anticipated. Residents may experience short-term inconvenience/ delays due to construction operations.

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Upcoming Programs and Events

What's going on at the Library? Check it out!

For General Audiences: Summer Reading Program

Now through Aug. 15

There's still time to participate in our Summer Reading Program! This year's theme is "Plant a Seed...Read!" We have programs for kids ages 0-12, teens ages 12-18, and adults age 18 and up. Keep track of what you read, take part in exciting challenges, attend special summer programs, and earn chances to win great prizes! For more information and to sign up, stop by the library or visit our website: clapplibrary.org.

Plant Swap

Tuesday, Aug. 18, 6-7 p.m.
Bring a plant (or not!) to the library and swap it for a new one. This program takes place on the library lawn each month on the third Tuesday from May to September. This program is funded by the Belchertown & Around Plant Swap.

Friends' Puzzle, DVD and CD Sale

Saturday, Aug. 22, 8 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Library Activity Room
The Friends of Clapp Memorial Library are holding a one day sale featuring assorted puzzles, DVDs, and CDs! Everything is \$1, cash only. The Friends are not collecting items for this sale. Unfortunately, storage space for donated items is still unavailable.

For Adults: What "YA" Readin'? Book Group

Thursday, Aug. 6, 7-8 p.m.

Select Board Meeting room at the Town Hall

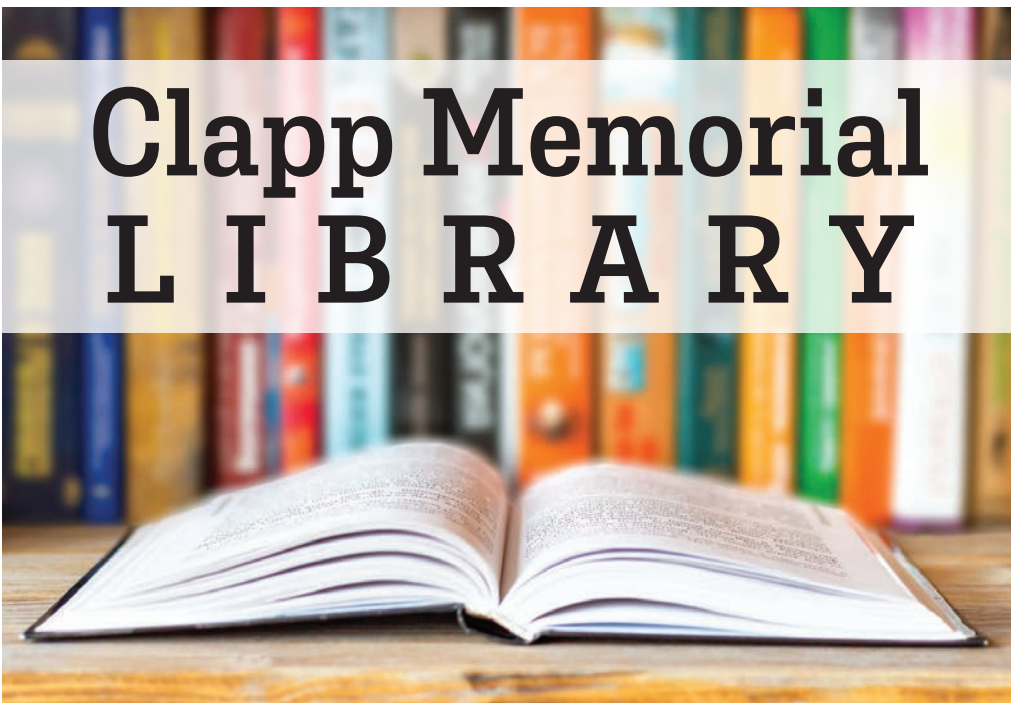
The library's What "YA" Readin'? Book Group, a group for adults who read Young Adult books, will meet Thursday, Aug 6th in the Select Board Meeting room at the Town Hall to discuss The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas. Copies of the book are available for checkout at the circulation desk. New members are welcome!

RPG Night

Tuesday, Aug. 11, 6-8 p.m.
Break out your dice and join us for a monthly game! Our current RPG campaign, Vaesen: The Lost Mountain Saga & Other Tales, is a dark Gothic setting steeped in Nordic folklore and the old myths of Scandinavia! Dive into mysteries where old struggles against the new, and myths come alive. No experience necessary, email tmannino@cwmars.org to join. Our next campaign is Discworld! Previous campaigns include Spelljammer (Dungeons & Dragons) and Ghostbusters: a Frightfully Cheerful Roleplaying Game!

Wednesday Whodunits Book Club

Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2-3 p.m.
Belchertown Town Hall
Select Board Meeting Room
Our Mystery Book Club meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 2 p.m. Join us for a lively discussion of this month's book: Vera Wong's Guide to Snooping (on a Dead Man) by Jesse Q. Sutanto. Copies of the book are available for check out at the circulation desk. If you are interested please leave your name and phone number at the circulation desk, or email mmarszalek@cwmars.org. New members welcome!



For Teens: Teen Crafternoon: Upcycled Planters

Monday, Aug. 3, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.
Rain Date: Friday, Aug. 7, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.
Teens ages 12-18 are invited to the library to upcycle tea tins into planters to celebrate the 2026 Teen Summer Reading Program theme, "Plant a Seed, Read"! This program will take place Monday, August 3rd on the front lawn of the library. This program is drop-in; teens can come by any time over the hour to create their planter as supplies last. This program is funded by the Friends of the Clapp Memorial Library and thanks to the generosity of our community spider plant donors.

Teen Summer Reading Shirt Tie-Dye!

Monday, Aug. 10, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.
Rain Date: Friday, Aug. 14, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Teens ages 12-18 are invited to celebrate the end of the Teen Summer Reading Program by tie-dyeing their Summer Reading shirts! This program will take place Monday, August 10th on the front lawn of the library. This program is drop-in; teens can come by any time over the hour to tie-dye as supplies last. Teens are asked to bring their own, pre-washed shirt to tie-dye. Extra shirts will be extremely limited. This program is funded by the Friends of the Clapp Memorial Library.

For Children: Carrie Ferguson and The Grumpytime Club

Wednesday, Aug. 5, 6-7p.m.
Put on your dancing shoes and come sing and dance with us! The Grumpytime Club offers children and families welcoming and inclusive messages about accepting feelings, celebrating differences, and loving ourselves exactly as we are. This event will take place on the library

Lawn or in Town Hall if it rains. Part of the library's "Plant a Seed, Read!" summer reading program. Funded in part by the Belchertown Cultural Council, a local agency funded by Mass Cultural Council, a state agency; Friends of Clapp Memorial Library, and library sponsors.

Roller Skating Party

Thursday, Aug. 6, 6-8 p.m.
Interskate 91 in Wilbraham
Come have fun skating with your friends at a private party just for Belchertown readers! Pick up your FREE tickets at the Library. Tickets admit a child or teen and their family. Bring your own skates or rent a pair for \$5. Part of our "Plant a Seed...Read!" summer reading program.

Live Animal show with Joys of Nature

Friday, Aug. 7, 2 Sessions: 10 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Join us on Friday, Aug. 7 as Joys of Nature present Amazing Animals: Surviving

Life in the Wild. Ever wonder how a creature tracks down its dinner, or how a simple plant can keep an entire habitat alive? Come find out! Join us for an action-packed, hands-on program where science comes to life. Discover the fascinating secrets of animal diets, the power of plants, and meet animals up close! Registration is required. Ages 3 to 11. To register, visit our website: clapplibrary.org, or call 413-323-0417. Part of the library's "Plant a Seed, Read!" summer reading program. Funded by the Friends of the Clapp Memorial Library and our Community Sponsors.

Yo-Yos, Music & More with Ooch

Wednesday, Aug. 12, 6-7p.m.
Enjoy This family show for all ages! Brett "Ooch" Outchucunis is a professional entertainer, motivator, dancer and DJ rolled into one! This show is full of fun and exciting yo-yo tricks, awesome music and lots more! Bring chairs and blankets for the Library's front lawn, or Town Hall in case of rain. No registration required, but children should be signed up for our Summer Reading Program.

Clapp Memorial Library

*19 South Main Street
Belchertown, MA 01007
Phone: 413-323-0417
Website: clapplibrary.org*

HOURS:

*Monday 9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Tuesday 9:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Wednesday 9:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Friday 9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.*

Blood drive to honor lost infant continues

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

LUDLOW – In 2024, the unthinkable happened for the Robillard and Goncalves families experienced an unthinkable tragedy when infant Chase Goncalves lost his life from bacterial meningitis.

Lindsay Robillard, Chase's mother, has worked to honor her son's memory, starting a blood drive last year to help others. She is pleased to announced their next blood drive, which began on Tuesday, July 28, and will run through Aug.

12. However, she notes that a person can help outside of those dates.

"Giving blood anytime during the year is Chase's memory is deeply appreciated," Robillard said.

She shared the following information about this year's hard drive, and hopes people will be able to participate.

"This year we will honor Chase by holding a blood drive at the Kraft Family Blood Donor Center at 35 Binney St, Jimmy Fund Building, Floor 1 in Boston, MA," Robillard said. "Those who wish to donate should call 617-632-3206 or email

sbobbie@bwh.harvard.edu to schedule an appointment."

Robillard said both her and Chase received life-saving blood transfusions during their medical journeys.

Chase passed away in August 2024 from bacterial meningitis.

"Chase was pure love and pure joy from the minute he was born," Robillard said. "He brought us immense peace. His illness was completely unexpected. Chase was fully immunized, healthy and breastfed his entire life. He was a beau-

tiful baby who loved to be outside in nature and loved to be in the arms of those who loved him. We lost our future with him and his brother Jack lost his best friend. Losing Chase has tested our ability to live in this world without him. We were so connected to him and we continue to maintain our connection to him. We visit and spend time with him often at the cemetery and express our love for him by keeping flowers and mementos at his gravesite. It

Please see **BLOOD DRIVE**, page 7



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Chase Goncalves lost his life from bacterial meningitis.

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12U team captures JLS title



SUBMITTED PHOTO

GRANBY – Congratulations to the J.S.L. 12U Division Champions. This championship team includes Gavin Marion, Gavin Gallery, Reid Papineau, Ivan Dusza, Luke Boone, Thomas Curran, Quinn Dufault, Isaac Shewmaker, Cam Damours, London Shepard, Sam Lacasse, and Bradley Krupski. Congratulations to all the players on an outstanding season and a well-earned championship.

Current Belchertown board, commission vacancies

BELCHERTOWN – The Belchertown Select Board is looking for citizens interested in sharing their expertise by serving on a Town Board/Committee. If you have time and are interested in getting involved in your Town's activities, please submit a letter of interest to: The Office of the Select Board and Town Manager, The Finnerty House, One South Main Street, P.O. Box 670, Belchertown, MA 01007 or by email to selectboard@belchertown.org (unless otherwise indicated below). You may also submit a volunteer form on our website: <https://www.belchertown.org/374/Volunteer>

All vacancies are posted until filled.

The Town wishes to fill the following vacancies:

Agricultural Commission:
The Town wishes to fill one (1) associate member seat on the Agricultural Commission. This commission promotes agricultural-based economic opportunities; preserves, revitalizes and sustains the Belchertown agricultural industries, and encourages the pursuit of agriculture as a career opportunity and lifestyle.

Conservation Commission:
The Town of Belchertown is currently seeking to fill a vacancy on the Conservation Commission. The Commission is a volunteer board that reviews projects that fall under jurisdiction of the Wetlands Protection Act and local Bylaw. The position requires attending meetings every second and fourth Monday of the month, a basic comprehension of the local, state, and federal wetlands regulations, and occasional site visits. Qualified candidates have also demonstrated an interest, expertise, or experience in environmental protection. Commissioners must also have a willingness to attend training sessions, gain the relevant knowledge

in a timely fashion, remain current, and generally make the necessary time commitment. If interested, please send a letter of interest to the Conservation Department at conservation@belchertown.org. Any questions call the office at 413-323-0405.

There are also two vacancies for associate members, who although are not voting members, they can gain knowledge and experience and could be elevated to a voting member in the future

Belchertown Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force:

The Town of Belchertown is accepting letters of interest to fill two (2) vacancies on the Belchertown Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force. The focus of the Task Force is to develop a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement for the Select Board to review and to consider adopting, to seek out opportunities to acknowledge and/or celebrate the diversity within our own community and to welcome the whole community to join in, and to offer suggestions on how the town addresses specific or potential acts of violence, including hate speech, should such acts arise in our community, region, or state. Efforts should be made to include voices from the community or communities that are directly affected. Partnership opportunities with surrounding towns to strengthen regional or state efforts might also be explored. This is a seven (7) member committee to include: A representative from law enforcement, a representative from Town Hall, and five (5) community members representing diversity in one or more of the following areas: Racial and ethnic backgrounds, Social positions with respect to gender identity and sexual orientation, social positions with respect to disability, and Age groups and prior vocational experiences. All are encouraged

to apply. Deadline: Posted until filled.

Energy and Sustainability Committee:

The Town wishes to fill a full member vacancy on the Energy and Sustainability Committee. Its purpose is to develop and recommend sound energy and sustainability programs and policies for the Town. Energy relates to the fuel choices we make for buildings, vehicles, and industry. Sustainability means meeting our own needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Visit their webpage at www.belchertown.org.

Finance Committee:

Belchertown is looking for a volunteer to fill an anticipated vacancy on the Town Finance Committee. The Finance Committee consists of five members, each with a three-year term. The primary duties of the Committee are to advise and make recommendations for the Annual Town Meeting and any Special Town Meeting regarding the budget and other areas of finance. Members are required to attend regularly scheduled public meetings and any special meetings as needed.

Memorial Committee:

The Town wishes to fill a vacancy on the Memorial Committee. This com-

mittee ensures placement, care and maintenance to all town memorials and monuments on property owned or maintained by the Town of Belchertown.

Scholarship Committee:

The Town wishes to fill the Home Schooling Representative seat on the Scholarship Committee. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please submit a letter of interest.

Taxation Aid Committee:

The Town is looking to fill one (1) anticipated vacancy on the Taxation Aid Committee. This is a one-year appointed volunteer position which will consist of the Chair of the Board of Assessors, the Treasurer/Collector, and three residents from Town with the purpose of defraying the real estate taxes of elderly and disabled persons of low income and which shall be funded by voluntary donations made by taxpayers through an earmark on their real estate and motor vehicle excise tax bills.

Zoning Board of Appeals:
The Town wishes to fill two (2) openings for associate member seats on the Zoning Board of Appeals. The ZBA is responsible for hearing and deciding on applications for Special Permits, Variances and Appeals from decisions of the Zoning Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector.



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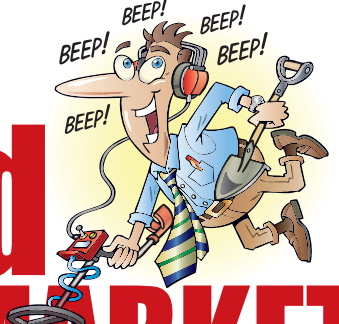
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OPINION

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor

I was cheated; I delayed claiming SS but didn't get my full benefits

Dear Rusty:

I'm 70 now and took my Social Security benefits at age 68.

Social Security would not allow me to take all my increased percentage earned by waiting until age 68 to claim. My local Social Security office said I would get an increased amount but not my full age 68 amount because it was "not an option;" they said I could take it only the way "they said." That's our illegal government.

Signed: Feeling Cheated

Dear Feeling Cheated:

Regarding your comment that SS "would not allow" you to take all of your "increased percentage," I assume you are referring to a Social Security rule which applies whenever benefits are claimed after full retirement age (FRA) but before age 70. That rule says that the Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs), which are earned when someone delays claiming until after their Social Security full retirement age, are applied only in January of each year. What that means is that whenever benefits are claimed mid-year after FRA but before age 70, only the DRCs earned through the end of the previous year are immediately applied, and any additional DRCs earned during the current year are not applied until January of the following year. The only exception to that rule is if someone applies for benefits to begin in the month they turn 70 (or after) when all earned DRCs are applied immediately.

So, if you applied for your benefits to begin when you turned age 68 mid-year in 2024 (but before the end of that year), you would initially only get DRCs earned through the end of the previous year (through December 2023), and the DRCs earned in 2024 wouldn't have been credited to you until January 2025. Which means you now actually do get your full per-

centage of delayed retirement credits earned by waiting until age 68 to claim, but you did not get them all until January 2025. Essentially, those extra benefits earned from the beginning of 2024 to the month your SS benefits started were delayed until the beginning of the following year.

We run into this complexity fairly often here at our AMAC Social Security Advisory Service, which is why we counsel those who contact us about waiting longer to claim are aware of this rather obscure rule. Not to defend your local SS office, but they are required to pay benefits according to the established Social Security law. Thus, they were required to inform you that paying you the full age 68 benefits effective immediately when you applied was not an option. It wasn't personal; they were just following the rules.

I know this explanation doesn't dissuade you from "feeling cheated," but I hope understanding how SS works in this case assures you it wasn't personal - SSA applies the same rules to all beneficiaries.

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.

in my BACKYARD

By Ellenor Downer

Belchertown resident shared this photo of a glossy ibis he took at Lake Wallace.

The glossy ibis is a medium-sized wading bird, 18.9 to 26 inches long, with compact body, long neck, long legs and long, curved bill.

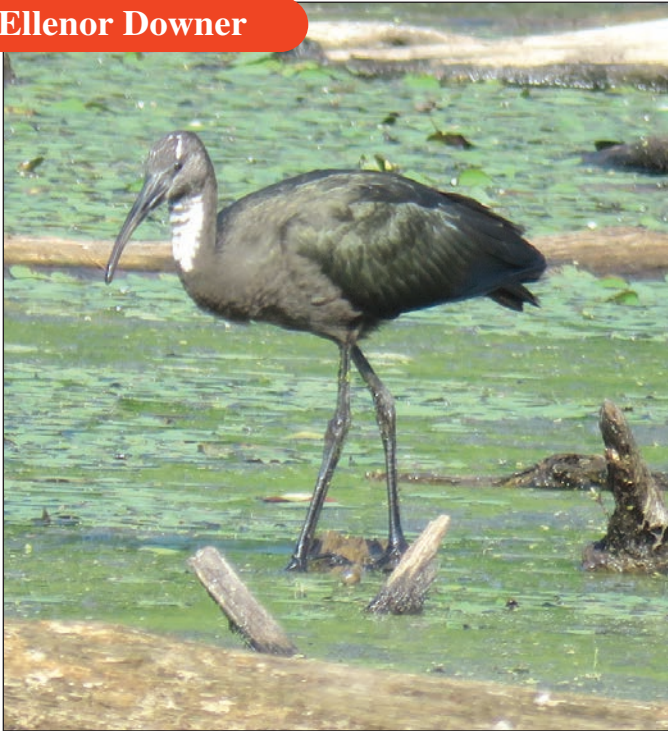
The plumage appears dark, almost blackish, at a distance or in poor light. Up close, the body is maroon with wing coverts showing a metallic green, bronze and violet tones.

Juveniles are a duller brown color with some white streaking on their neck

Glossy Ibis occur in flocks, both at nesting colonies and when foraging. They typically feed by lowering the bill into water, mud or soil, to feel for prey.

In addition to consuming animal matter, plants may constitute a major portion of their diet during some seasons.

They frequent almost any wetland environment with



Juvenile glossy ibis.

PHOTO BY DOUG MOORE

shallow water or exposed mud and also readily feed in farm fields or open areas where soils are moist.

They inhabit shallow freshwater wetlands as well



The joys of harvest season

It's been a fun week in the garden! I love it when the harvest starts to roll in.

This week I picked broccoli, kale, green beans and zucchini. I also replanted a few crops in hopes of a second harvest prior to the first frost.

Read on to hear about my adventures.

You may remember my column from a few weeks back, where I was having a hard time getting "into it" this year. I guess like building any relationship, the more time you spend, the more time you may want to spend as things start to progress and go well. Anyway, I am happy with my garden again and it feels good to spend time out there. Back to the harvest.

I enjoy harvesting broccoli. It's always fun to see just how big you can get the heads to grow before they want to flower.

The first one I cut was maybe six inches in diameter. Not bad, but the second one was closer to nine inches.

More heads will be ready in the coming weeks. After that I will be harvesting side shoots.

This year, cabbage moths were kept at bay by using a tightly woven bug netting draped over the plants and supported by wire hoops and secured at the base by old wooden planks or stones. So far so good; no worms of any kind in the water left over after steaming.

Kale is broccoli's cousin

and is subject to the same pests. Because of that I also grow it under the netting.

I've been harvesting the kale for well over a month and we already have several bags of it in the freezer. I am starting to rethink my use of plastic baggies, but for now the leaves are washed, patted dry then ripped into pieces and stuffed into baggies pushing out as much air as possible. When my husband makes his vegetable juices and stews, all he does is empty the contents into his creation.

I noticed that the older leaves of the kale were starting to have a yellow cast, so I got out the organic granular fertilizer and gave the plants a sprinkle and a good watering. Hopefully that will reinvigorate the plants for picking well into the fall.

My bush bean seeds got planted late; well after Memorial Day. The harvest is just starting. I will be sure to pick often to keep the plants producing.

I have been saving my own bean seeds for a few years now. It's easy, just harvest the dry pods of "the ones that got away." Make sure they are crispy dry.

Break open the seed pods and store the seeds with a

packet of desiccant (usually in a bottle of vitamins or with leather shoes) in a jar. If you are growing open pollinated or heirloom, non-hybrid varieties you will reliably get the same variety back again. They don't cross pollinate with neighbor beans.

This week I was happy to harvest four zucchinis with more coming. It's funny that already I see freebies at the end of driveways on my commute. I truly hope I have an abundance.

To avoid "boat-sized" squash, pick them small, say six to eight inches long. The seed cavity won't be too big that way and you will encourage the plant to keep producing.

No doubt the vine borer will do in my early sowing soon enough, but never fear, I have sown additional seeds under cover to hopefully have a later harvest once this one expires. I try and keep them covered until the plants bloom, at which time the cover needs to be removed so that the flowers can be pollinated and fruit can form.

I hope you are enjoying the start of the harvest season as much as I am.

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.

Turley Publications Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters to the editor should be 350 words or less in length. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require letter writers to include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous or contain unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, defamation of character and offensive language. All unknown or alleged facts and quotations offered by the author need to cite credible, unbiased sources. Send letters to: Sentinel, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 or via email to sentinel@turley.com. The deadline for submissions is Friday at 5 p.m.

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.

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forward and legs straight behind it. The glossy ibis does not call often, but may make murmuring sounds while foraging.

During the breeding season, glossy ibises will court one another by preening and touching bills. Males and females will work together to build a large nest.

Nesting in tight colonies, glossy ibis nests are often no more than 2 feet away from each other. The female will lay three to four eggs and incubate them for 20-22 days.

Glossy ibises can be found across the globe. Their range has greatly expanded in the 20th century in North America.

This species has gone from a rare and local Florida species to regularly breeding as far north as Maine and occasionally along the east coast of Canada. The first Massachusetts nests were found at coastal sites in 1974.

The oldest recorded glossy ibis was at least 21 years old

and lived in Virginia between 1971 and 1992.

Sutton birds

Recently, my brother and sister-in-law hosted a pool party. My brother, Ted, puts out grape jelly for the Baltimore orioles and a nectar feeder for the ruby-throated hummingbirds on his deck.

Birds included male and female ruby-throated hummingbirds for the nectar feeder. Baltimore orioles, red-bellied woodpecker, downy woodpecker and a scarlet tanager came to the deck.

They also have a pond that abuts their backyard. They have a pair of mute swans on the pond. They raised a family for several years in a row.

Great blue heron

I often see a great blue heron wading in Long Pond in Rutland. Every time I drive along Route 122 by the pond, I look for the heron.

People may report a bird sighting by emailing edowne@turley.com or calling or texting 774-262-5882.

Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley 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.

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ly 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.

PICKLEBALL from page 1

Belchertown. Jim insisted on handwriting thank you notes to all the donors who helped to create our wonderful facilities.

The 2025 award was given to one of our great founders and facilitators, Larry Davis, who sadly passed away December 29, 2025. His family accepted the Golden Paddle on his behalf at a BPC memorial event in March of this year. Larry will always be remembered for his enthusiasm on the courts and his advocacy and being one of BPC's initial instructors. He was known for exclaiming "the net is your friend" when a good shot favored his opponent.

According to Wilbur Quirk, tournament organizer and long time BPC enthusiast: "This prestigious award is given annually to one individual who exemplifies continuous dedication to the Belchertown Pickleball Community." Wilbur further addressed the gathering by sharing "All of us have so many friends because of the pickleball community. You are all wonderful. I have become friends with this one woman (pointing at Debbie) who has done so much for our pickleball community. You can't believe the hours she has spent. It's just great."

Debbie has served on the Leadership Team since the birth of the Belchertown Pickleball.

Wilbur then congrat-



Debbie Wood displays the Golden Paddle individual award and the legacy paddle.

ulated Debbie Wood as the 2026 recipient of the "75 Honors Club Golden Paddle." Debbie gracefully accepted the Golden Paddle and expressed her appreciation for the many friends and supporters she has made since first learning about pickleball in 2017. She then expressed her gratitude to Denise Smith for hosting this annual event at her lovely estate.

Members of the BPC are known for welcoming many people from around the area who come to play, learn to play, and just have fun and good times in Belchertown. All would not be as good if not for the Recreation Department, Selectboard, Community Preservation Committee, local sponsors and many other great people who have made BPC into what it is today.

BLOOD DRIVE from page 4

is a way to continue to "parent" Chase. Talking about Chase and doing acts of kindness in his honor help us to remain close to him. He will always be a part of our family. Our grief and period of 'grieving' will never end. We will continue to love and miss him every second of every day. A loss this profound upends your entire world. Parents are not supposed to bury their children and this out-of-order death is destabilizing. Our grief is an expression of our love. By holding this blood drive we hope to honor and keep his memory alive while also providing life-saving blood donations. We ask those who are unable to donate in Boston to consider donating at a local Red Cross, as hospital blood supplies are generally at a critical low in the summer months."

Robillard hopes to continue to honor his memory through the drive and is grateful to all those who help honor his memory through donations.



His family now holds a blood drive to help others and honor the child's memory.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampshire Division
Docket No.
HS26P0407EA
Estate of:
Mark Allen Charest
Also Known As:
Mark A. Charest
Date of Death: May 15, 2026
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by

Petition of Petitioner **Darlene E. Charest of Granby, MA.** Darlene E. Charest of Granby, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to no-

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

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Send Us Your Community Autumn Events

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

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Event Should Be Non-Profit & Open to the Public

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in the Pioneer Valley!!

Deadline for Calendar submissions is August 19.

MAIL YOUR LISTING INFORMATION TO: Turley Publications, Attn: Jamie Joslyn, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069 or email* them to: jamie@turley.com *Be sure to indicate "Summer Event" in the subject line of your email.

Event Name _____

Date/Time _____

Location _____

Description _____

Cost _____

Contact name & phone number for more information _____

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

DINOFE**ST** from page 1

We were turning into a mini Woodstock.”

The event will feature musical talent from Soular Eclipse, a rock and roll band set to play crowd-pleasing tunes intended to keep “the mood of the festival going.” Antique cars and trucks will also feature on the grounds, in addition to around 50 craft vendors all packed within the one acre campus.

“This is a craft fair,” Doucette said. “And the music is the music. I do have an open mic, so anybody in the audience can come up and sing or do acts.”

Yo-yo artists, local comedians, magicians and poets have also graced the DinoFest stage in the past; a testament to how varied interests and talents are within the region. In addition to live music and craft vendors, the fan-favorite Dino Dash and Dance event is set to make its return this year as well. Participants make their own dinosaur costumes with cardboard, duct tape and other supplies provided by festival staff, followed by a costumed race about 100 feet long in length and a dance contest.

“They’re all kinds of goofy-looking costumes,” Doucette said as he recollected notable costumes. “One girl took an egg crate, cut up all the little cups and kind of glued them in her hair. This one girl, I think her parents were professional marinette makers and she came



This year’s festivities are in memory of Joey A. Barnoski, the son of event organizer Dennis Doucette.

in with a costume that when you move her fingers, the costume’s fingers moved... what a costume, man. It was above and beyond.”

Plans are in the works to move the festival down to Dufrense Park to meet up with current demand. A couple of years ago, DinoFest pulled 118 craft vendors to the campus grounds, a figure Doucette believes will only increase in coming years. The goal remains the same as

previous years; offer a spotlight to local artists and give them an opportunity to show their wares, as well as a place for residents to enjoy themselves.

““This place is just hugs and smiles,”” Doucette said as he recalled past feedback from a local resident. “It was great. So that stuck as our motto. I try to run it like a family reunion where everybody is welcome to do their thing.”

HOT CAR from page 1

a quick trip. Sometimes even a five minute trip can result in heat related injury or even death.

When getting out of the car, always do a sweep to ensure no one is left in the back seat. Over 50% of pediatric vehicular heatstroke deaths are the result of a parent or caregiver forgetting the child in the car.

The National Highway Safety Administration recommends leaving an important item in the backseat with a child to serve as a reminder to look in the back.

It is also important to teach children that cars and vehicles

are not play areas and to leave car keys out of their reach.

This will help prevent children from accidentally locking themselves in a vehicle when their caregiver is not paying attention.

Many modern cars are made to be more air tight to help retain air conditioning or heating in all weathers. While this has a benefit, it also means they hold heat in the summer for longer than many older models.

“If you are going somewhere, you should leave [your kid] at home, if you can, or take the child with you,” Matuszczak said.

With the hot tempera-

tures cars can reach, it is also important to be conscientious as a person gets into a hot car.

Many modern cars have ways of lowering the windows using a key fob, which Matuszczak recommends using to help lower internal temperatures before getting inside the car.

This is especially important as metal surfaces, such as seatbelts, can reach temperatures over 180 degrees, which can result in burns.

If a person’s car does not have the ability to lower the windows using the key fob, it will be best for them to open the car doors for a few minutes before getting inside.

WATER BAN from page 1

tendent and him decided to install a pipe run to rectify the problem.

“Superintendent Byard and I talked and he said ‘we’ve got to do something.’ I said ‘if you fund the money for the pipe, I’ll have the DPW install it.’ And we did,” Brougham said. “We extended the line from Statler Street all the way down to Chestnut Hill Center.”

Brougham clarified some schools couldn’t be serviced and mentioned the new high school was one of the buildings who couldn’t be serviced by the water line, as it was “outside of the district.” Due to the bylaws prohibiting water district expansion, there was only so much the Delta Front could do to help the town despite their willingness to help.

“Technically, the Belchertown State School property is outside of the district,” Brougham said. “So, operating within the confines of the bylaws that we have and being flexible and recognizing the town’s development needs, we try to work with the town to

improve wherever we can and promote that development.”

According to the Water District, the town has 1,378 connections legal within the current boundaries. They mentioned Cold Spring Road and the new homes located on Chauncey Road were all designated to be “on private water.” Dana Woods properties and Hickory Hills were designated to be on public water.

The original district boundary winds through the north through Allen Road, cutting over to the nearby railroad tracks going south “right around Javersbrook Middle School (verify)” before going down Aldrich Road to Jensen and back up Javersbrook “up to Route 202 back to Allen Road.”

Due to the current boundaries, a significant portion of Belchertown is not covered. The district could be extended but the question would have to go through legislature. Bock called the situation “a toss up” as the expanded territory would come with more oversight and regulation, as well as additional legislation to cover the expansion.

LEADERS from page 1

“feels though he could do the job in 1,200 hours.”

Selectboard Chair David Labonte and member Mark Bail both said they were comfortable with the recommendation. Bail moved to appoint Martin as town accountant, and the board approved the appointment unanimously, pending contract finalization.

Hannigan chosen to lead Council on Aging

The board also filled a key human services role, appointing Lauren Hannigan as Council on Aging director, effective after contract negotiations.

Aponte said a three-member screening committee, himself, Police Chief Kevin O’Grady and Council on Aging Advisory Board Chair Barbara Hauschild, interviewed three candidates and unanimously recom-

mended Hannigan.

Board members opted to rely on that process rather than conduct their own interviews.

Bail outlined Hannigan’s résumé in open session, saying she “has been outreach transportation coordinator at the Hadley Council on Aging since 2018” and previously worked in health-related roles in New Jersey. He added that she “has a master’s degree” and that she went to the University of Massachusetts earning a master’s in public health and certificate in health education, with a 4.0 GPA.

Bail then moved “that we appoint Lauren Hannigan as Council on Aging Director pending successful contract negotiations,” a motion that passed unanimously.

State financial review expected in October

Earlier in the meeting, Aponte briefed the board on an upcoming financial review by the Department of Revenue’s Division of Local Services.

He said he had spoken at length with state official Zach Blake and that the engagement is expected to last “two to three months from beginning of the engagement until the report is actually then given to the town.”

“We can control what happens outside the Water District more if it stays outside the Water District,” Bock said. “The more we expand our boundaries, the more we’re required to provide. That just opens up a lot of different things.”

a costume that when you move her fingers, the costume’s fingers moved...what a costume, man. It was above and beyond.”

Plans are in the works to move the festival down to Dufrense Park to meet up with current demand. A couple of years ago, DinoFest pulled 118 craft vendors to the campus grounds, a figure Doucette believes will only increase in coming years. The goal remains the same as previous years; offer a spotlight to local artists and give them an opportunity to show their wares, as well as a place for residents to enjoy themselves.

““This place is just hugs and smiles,”” Doucette said as he recalled past feedback from a local resident. “It was great. So that stuck as our motto. I try to run it like a family reunion where everybody is welcome to do their thing.”

The review will focus on Granby’s financial operations and involve a cross-section of town leadership.

“They like to speak to a lot of the obviously the financial resources of the town. So, town administrator, accountant, treasurer, Finance Committee, select board members,” Aponte said. He added that the state team is “very flexible,” willing to hold in-person meetings with finance staff and remote sessions with the Selectboard and Finance Committee to accommodate schedules.

The work is expected to start “probably mid-October,” which Aponte said aligns well with the timing of the new accountant’s arrival and will allow Martin to “concentrate on the new stuff, so to speak.”

Aponte called the state service “a home run,” noting that “it’s free of charge” and that a similar review he experienced in Belchertown produced “a longer list of 10 to 12 suggestions, reasons for those suggestions,” leaving it to the Selectboard to decide which to implement.

Selectboard members voiced no objections, effectively greenlighting the review.

Granby library set for fall book sale

GRANBY – Book lovers. Bargain Hunters. The Friends of the Granby Free Public Library will host their annual Month-Long Fall Book Sale during the month of September in the Community Room of the Library. You will be able to choose from a large assortment of used and like-new hardcover, paperback books, teen books and children’s books, along with a selection of CDs, DVDs, video games and audiobooks. The sale will run during regular library hours from Sept. 1 to 30.

Starting Aug. 1, the Library will be accepting donations of hardcover and

paperback books, DVDs, music CDs, playable video games, and audiobooks in good condition acceptable for resale. The library does not accept donations of: Textbooks, encyclopedias, dictionaries, thesauri, Reader’s Digest books, or books with smoke, mold, mildew, or water damage. Donations are accepted at the library during open hours. Please do not leave donated books outside the library or in our book return. Donations accepted until Aug. 27. Thank you for your support! The library is located at 297 E State St in Granby MA 01033.

Grange Fair book program

WARE – The Ware Grange Fair program books are here. Plan your exhibits by checking out the categories of exhibits in the fair program book. Books are available online at ware-grange.org or to receive a book by mail call 413-284-1135 or email ware-grange164@gmail.com.

Exhibitors may enter in a variety of categories including vegetables, fruits, eggs, cut flowers, baked goods, fancywork, arts and crafts, and photography. Plan your exhibits now for the fair which takes place Aug. 28 and 29. See the Ware Grange website for schedule and details.

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Martine Worrall-Turgeon guides the ball near midfield



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY
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Rachel McKenna, of Granby, dribbles near the sideline.



Ally Fleury heads up the field.

Shean Smith sends a free kick away.

Here for Beer earns first-round bye

SOUTH HADLEY – Here for Beer, a women's soccer team in the Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League featuring women from all over the region, has continued to have successful summer campaigns.

They have earned the No. 1 seed in this year's playoffs. With that, they have a first-round bye to the semi-finals.

If they get past their semi-final opponent, they would play in the finals on Friday, July 31 at Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow.

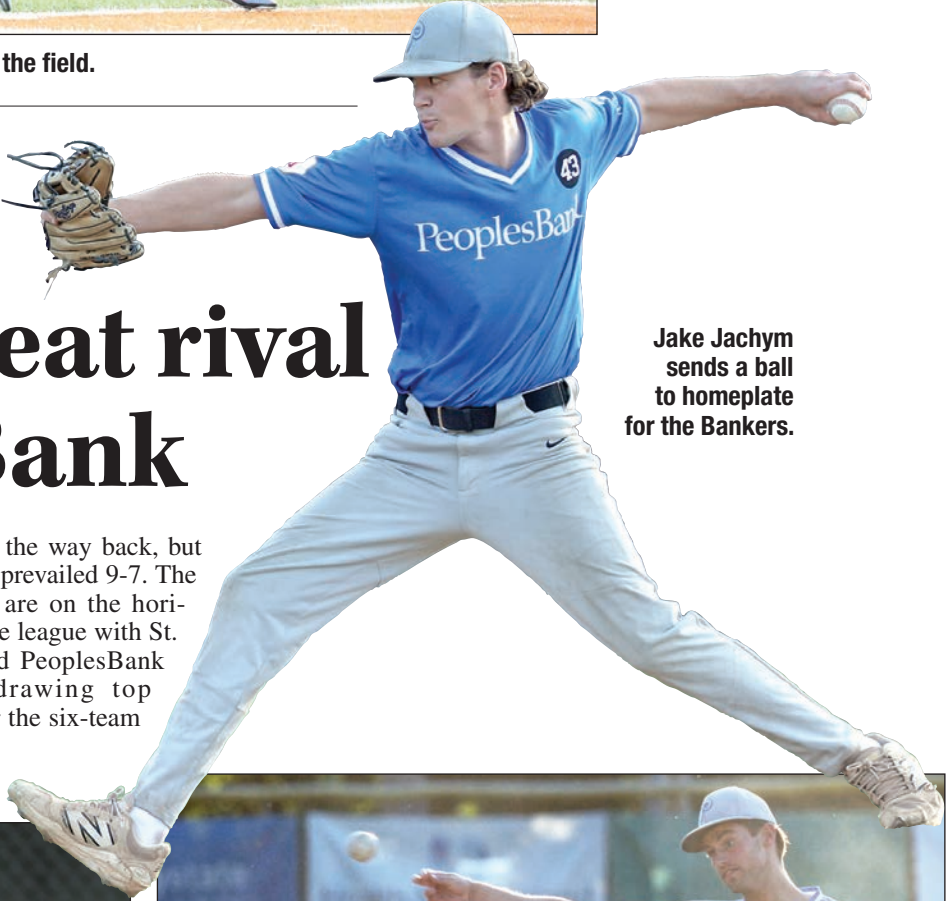
Saints beat rival PeoplesBank

HOLYOKE – Last Thursday night, the pennant race stepped up with rivals PeoplesBank and St. Joe's matching up at Mackenzie Stadium. While PeoplesBank trailed early in the game, they nearly

came all the way back, but St. Joe's prevailed 9-7. The playoffs are on the horizon in the league with St. Joe's and PeoplesBank likely drawing top seeds for the six-team playoffs.



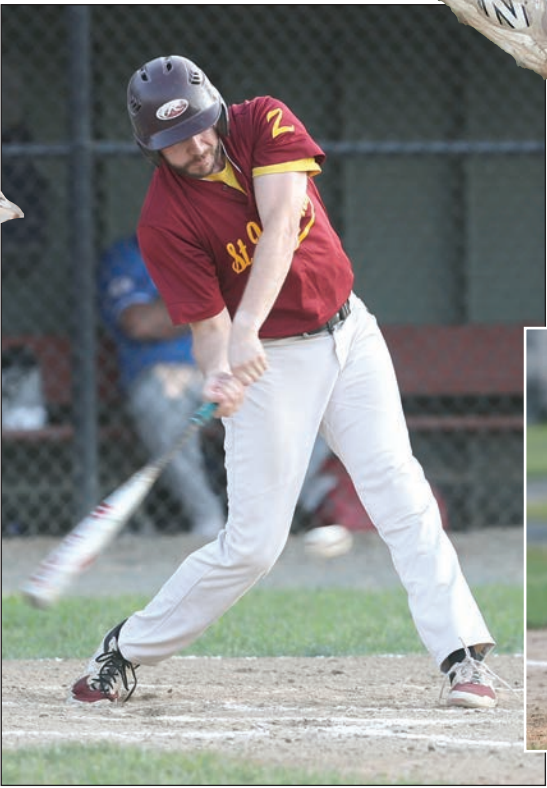
Tre Yesu, of Monson, fires home for St. Joe's.



Jake Jachym sends a ball to homeplate for the Bankers.



Seth Adams swings for the fences.



Brandon Magni connects.

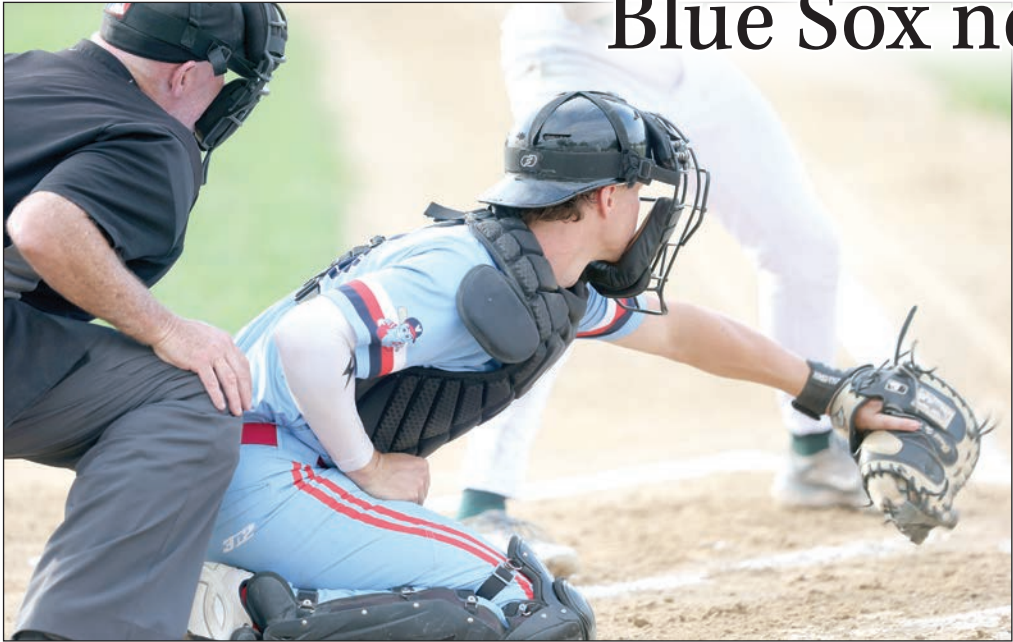


TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY
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Joe DeMichele makes a catch at first.



Dave Clark sends a throw to first for PeoplesBank.

Blue Sox nearing end of regular season



Joshua Toole frames up a pitch.

HOLYOKE – The Valley Blue Sox went 1-for-2 in a doubleheader against the Mystic Schooners on Saturday. Entering Saturday's doubleheader against the Schooners (22-17) Valley sat at 16-18-1, sixth in the South Division and outside the playoff picture, trailing both Danbury and Bristol for one of the division's postseason spots. The Blue Sox (17-19-1) responded with a convincing 10-3 victory in Game 2 to split the twin bill and remain in the postseason hunt.

Mystic struck first in the first game and opened the inning when Bryce Detwiler

lifted a sacrifice fly to right field after consecutive singles from Jack Harley and Anthony Belisario put runners on the corners.

The Schooners added another run in the fourth as Chris Walsh lined a two-out single before Adam Troch followed with an RBI double down the left-field line, giving Mystic a 2-0 advantage. Valley answered immediately in the bottom half; however, Chris Cancel launched a solo home run to left field to cut the deficit in half.

Andrew Oppenheimer kept the Blue Sox within striking distance throughout his six-inning start, allowing

three runs, only two earned, while striking out four. But Mystic manufactured what proved to be the decisive run in the sixth after a hit batter, a walk and a Valley error loaded the bases. Walsh singled to center to score Detwiler and extend the lead to 3-1.

Valley mounted one final rally in the seventh. Chris Carson doubled to center before pinch-hitter Alex Hill delivered an RBI single to trim the deficit to one. With the tying run aboard, Mystic closer MJ Bollinger recorded the final two outs to pre-

Please see **SOX**, page 10

SPORTS

SOX from page 9

serve the 3-2 victory. Despite matching the Schooners with seven hits, the Blue Sox came up just short.

The Blue Sox wasted little time putting the loss behind them in the nightcap.

Nick Tomasetto ignited the offense with a solo home run in the first inning before Michael Iannazzo added a sacrifice fly later in the frame to give Valley a 2-0 lead. Tomasetto drove in another run with an RBI single in the second, and after Mystic answered with one of its own, Valley broke the game open in the third.

Nick Spaventa blasted a solo home run to cen-

ter before Chris Carson added an RBI single. A wild pitch later scored Michael Iannazzo to cap a three-run inning and extend the Blue Sox's lead to 6-1. Valley continued to add insurance the rest of the way, highlighted by Tomasetto's two-run single in the fifth, an RBI single from Iannazzo in the sixth and Nico Soul's sacrifice fly in the seventh. The Blue Sox finished with 10 runs on 14 hits.

Earlier, Carson was named an NECBL All-Star, and the outfielder backed up the honor with another productive performance. Carson finished the doubleheader 3-for-7 with a double, an RBI and two runs scored,

helping pace a Valley lineup that received contributions throughout the order. Tomasetto led the way by going 3-for-5 with a home run and four RBIs, while Iannazzo collected two hits and two RBIs. Spaventa also homered as the Blue Sox salvaged the split.

Four Valley pitchers combined to secure the Game 2 victory. Lukas Jachens started before Niall Todd earned the win with two scoreless innings in relief. Jon Shields and Jason Pinsonnault closed out the final three innings as the Blue Sox improved to 17-19-1, keeping themselves alive in the NECBL playoff race entering the final week of the regular season.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY
WWW.SWEETDOGPOTOS.COM

Above, Nick Tomasetto looks to turn a double play during recent action last week at Mackenzie Stadium. Below, Trey Spees swings and makes contact.



Right, Estaban Garcia has his eyes on the ball as he swings.



Nico Soul fields the ball in the outfield.

New exhibit dedicated to Stephen Curry

SPRINGFIELD – On Friday July 24, the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame made history by launching its newest exhibition dedicated entirely to 12-time NBA All-Star, two-time MVP, Olympic gold medalist, four-time NBA champion, and the undisputed greatest shooter of all time: Stephen Curry.

This project represents the first time in the Hall's nearly 75-year history that a current, active player will be honored with a dedicated feature experience.

Developed as the next iteration of the Hall of Fame's acclaimed gallery, "The Vault," the immersive exhibit titled Stephen Curry: Beyond the Arc goes far beyond Curry's legendary on-court accolades. Created in direct partnership with Curry's Thirty Ink business team, the exhibit is designed to explore his multifaceted legacy as a basketball icon, entrepreneur, philanthropist, and family man.

Visitors can expect a captivating, curated journey through Curry's life and career, featuring:

- Exclusive Memorabilia: Rare game-worn gear, championship artifacts, and Olympic ephemera
- Rare Footage: Archival video tracing his journey from an overlooked college prospect to a global superstar.
- First-Hand Storytelling: Immersive audio and video components that capture the emotion and heart of a true champion.

The Stephen Curry: Beyond the Arc experience promises to be an unparalleled attraction, offering fans an intimate look at a superstar of basketball - and a superstar of life.

The exhibit was scheduled to open to the public July 24 at the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Massachusetts

Thunderbirds Community Caravan has two more dates

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds will continue to be a busy presence in the Greater Springfield community throughout the off-season, as the team is happy to

announce its summer event calendar.

The T-Birds Community Caravan, with support from MassMutual, will host two more dates of fun throughout the summer months:

Friday, July 31 at Basketball Hall of Fame,
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

- Kids dressed in T-Birds gear receive free admission to the Hall of Fame museum; parents will receive dis-

counted admission

- Benefiting Foundation for TJO Animals - fans are encouraged to bring dry/wet dog and cat food for donation; everyone who donates will be entered to win four T-Birds game tickets & T-Birds prize pack

Saturday, August 22 at Amelia Park Arena (Westfield),
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

- Caravan will coincide with T-Birds Street Hockey Tournament (9 a.m. to 2 p.m.)
- Ages 9-12; games to be played 3-on-3
- Registration includes one ticket to Opening Night + T-shirt for each player
- Public ice skating inside Amelia Park Arena (skate rental available)

Additionally, the Thunderbirds are proud to collaborate with the Springfield Hockey Heritage Society to be part of the Heritage Society's annual HockeyDay on Saturday, July 25 from 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Better Living Center at the Big E. The annual event will kick off a celebration of 100 Years of Hockey in Springfield, dating back to the original Springfield Indians of the Canadian-American Hockey League in 1926.

Numerous past Springfield Indians, Kings, and Falcons are scheduled to appear as part of the celebration, which is open to the public. Tickets are available now by clicking here.



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Location: Oxford High School
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- Boys & Girls Grades 4th-6th 5:15 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. (3rd grade can try out with 4th grade)
- Boys & Girls Grades 7th & 8th 6:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.
- Boys & Girls Grades 9th-12th 7:45 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Tryout # 2: Thursday, August 6, 2026

Location: North Brookfield High School
10 New School Dr., North Brookfield, MA

- Boys & Girls Grades 4th-6th 5:15 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. (3rd grade can try out with 4th grade)
- Boys & Girls Grades 7th & 8th 6:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.
- Boys & Girls Grades 9th-12th 7:45 p.m. - 8 p.m.

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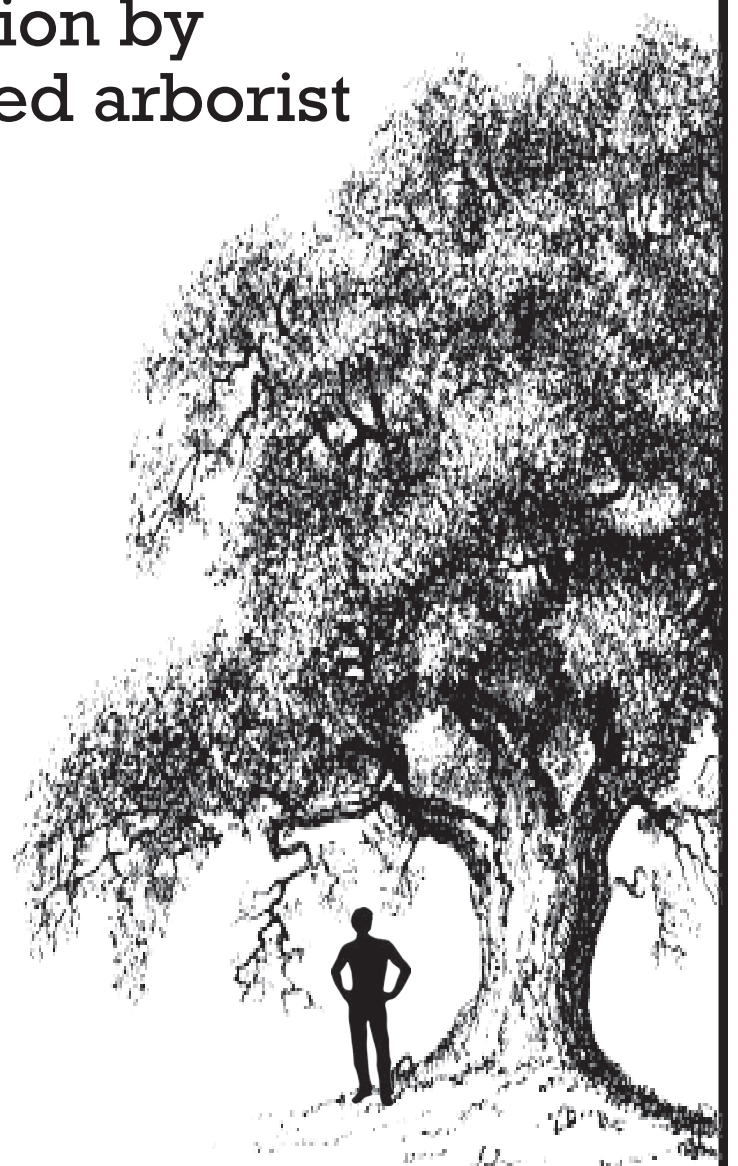


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■ PUBLIC SAFETY

Belchertown Police Log

Editor's note: The following are brief explanations of select entries in the Belchertown Police log and arrests for the weeks of July 3, through July 9. The information was provided by a member of the police department based on the review of the detailed log summary. This feature is designed to provide context and explanation to some of the calls police respond to every day.

ARRESTS/SUMMONS

Sunday, July 12
12:20 a.m. — A 20-year-old Belchertown male was issued a summons for operating under the influence of alcohol, negligent operator of a motor vehicle and an equipment violation. An officer responded to State Street for a report of a single vehicle crash. At first, the officer couldn't locate the vehicle but then found tracks. The vehicle fell down a ravine. The vehicle was found on its side. Belchertown Fire paramedics responded to the scene. The driver became responsive, there was an odor of alcohol coming from the person. They had slurred speech and bloodshot eyes. Belchertown Fire paramedics extricated the person from the vehicle. They indicated there were other people in the car. The Belchertown Fire drone and K-9 Journey conducted a search. The drone was deployed and it was determined no one else was in the vehicle. It was found that driving east on State Street, the driver lost control, went onto shoulder struck a mailbox, drove back onto State Street, went into the westbound lane, onto the shoulder, struck an embankment and left the roadway. The vehicle came to rest in a swamp. A guide-wire for utility pole was severed during the accident. Upon removal of the car, it was determined the tires were bald. The person was transported to the hospital.

Tuesday, July 14
6:39 a.m. — A 22-year-old Amherst woman was issued a summons for operating with a revoked registration, uninsured motor vehicle and unregistered motor vehicle. An officer on patrol running radar on Bay Road saw a vehicle, ran its plate and it came back as revoked due to insurance cancellation. They caught up and stopped the vehicle. A tow company was requested. They provided and Texas driver's license and were told they needed to apply for Massachusetts license. A tow company removed the vehicle and the plates were seized.

Wednesday, July 15
Josue A. Marquez, 43, of 34 South Street, Three Rivers, was arrested on charges of a number plate violation and a subsequent offense of operating without a license. An officer monitoring traffic on North Main Street saw a vehicle with no registration plate. They couldn't produce their license. The officer checked the registry, and it showed the registration was suspended. They were arrested for suspended license. The car was towed.

Thursday, July 16
8:42 p.m. — Hector L. Montanez, Jr., 34, of 28 Pembroke Circle, Springfield, was arrested on

charges of operating under the influence of alcohol, operating with a suspended license and a marked lanes violation. An officer responded to Jackson Street at George Hannum Road for a report of a vehicle off the roadway. The officer met the person who reported the matter, they didn't see the operator but said they may be impaired. The vehicle was found 20 to 30 yards from the intersection of Jackson Street and George Hannum Road. The vehicle was running. The operator said they were going to Springfield and swerved to avoid another vehicle that crossed over the double lines. The vehicle went into the tall grass where they were stuck. There were containers of alcohol in the vehicle, they had slurred speech. They declined transport. A field sobriety test given. They were arrested and charged accordingly.

Friday, July 17
11:45 a.m. — Sean Scott Hicks, 54, of 179 Orchard Road, Belchertown, was arrested on a warrant. They want to the residence, and the person was transported to court.
9:40 p.m. — A 31-year-old Belchertown male was issued a summons on charges of assault and battery. An officer responded to a disturbance between family members. It was determined a person had a cut on their nose. The Belchertown fire paramedics were contacted. There was camera footage of the matter. The were transported to the station and the person was treated on scene and declined transport.

ACCIDENTS/INCIDENTS
Friday, July 10
12:25 p.m. — An officer responded to an accident on George Hannum Road. A vehicle traveling north on George Hannum Road was struck by a second vehicle. The second vehicle was stopped at a stop sign on Greenwich Road then pulled out into the intersection. Both vehicles were damaged and towed from the scene. Three people were transported to the hospital.
7:22 p.m. — An officer took a report of vandalism to a motor vehicle. A vehicle left at a property, was supposed to be removed by a tow truck and it was missing a driver's side door. The matter was a civil matter.
8:16 p.m. — An officer responded to a disturbance involving a person who was aggressive and destructive. Belchertown Fire was requested and it was a residence. The situation was deescalated and peace was restored.

Saturday, July 11
1:10 p.m. — An officer spoke with a person regarding a broken car window. It was found broken and it was unoccupied at the time of the damage. The officer was told that a landscaper caused a rock to strike and break the window. There were dents that were not there prior to the incident. The officer contacted the company and spoke with the person who caused the damage. Arrangements were made to have the vehicle repaired. The matter was documented.
4:40 p.m. — An officer responded to a residence for a report of an unknown masked person standing in the bathtub in the residence. Belchertown Fire and an officer responded to the scene. Upon their arrival, the officer could hear dogs

barking. The doors were locked and the officer could see through the door. A woman was on the floor in the doorway in the middle of the house waving at the officers. It was evidence she couldn't reach the doors. The emergency responders checked to see if it was open and then all were locked. They also checked with the neighbors to see if they had a key and they did not. There was a report of a person being in the house and due to the fact, the person was on the floor, Belchertown Fire forced entry into the residence. The person was on new medication and was confused. They were transported to the hospital.
6:27 p.m. — An officer responded to residence for a wellbeing check for a report of a person who wanted to harm themselves.
7:01 p.m. — An officer and Belchertown Fire paramedics responded to a residence for a person who needed transportation.

Sunday, July 12
5:01 a.m. — An officer responded to an accident. A motorcycle was traveling south on Franklin Street struck a deer, lost control of the vehicle and then crashed. The operator sustained injuries and was transported to the hospital. The motorcycle was towed from the scene.
4:39 p.m. — An officer responded to a group home for a person, under the influence of an unknown substance, was being aggressive towards staff members. It was reported the person left the residence and took off in the field area by a house. There was concern for the person's wellbeing and being under the influence. Other corresponding units were requested. Massachusetts State troopers also responded to assist with the person. A trach was initiated with K-9s. Belchertown Fire responded with the drone and the state police airwing was contacted for their response. The person was located and transported to the hospital.

Monday, July 13
10:53 a.m. — An officer spoke with a person about a past hit and run on July 11. The person said they were parked at a Federal Street business when it was struck by another vehicle. They tried to confront the other driver, but they pulled out and left the scene. The officer was going to get video of the incident. Follow up to be completed.
6:27 p.m. — An officer responded to a main street for an accident. op of mv1 said south when mv2 struck their vehicle. struck pass rear door of mv1, mv2 said mv1 was far away and then wasn't enough room. Mv2 said they realized struck the vehicle. no injuries and no tows.
9:20 p.m. — An officer responded to a 911 call that was determined to be a domestic disturbance between two people. It was a verbal argument only.
Tuesday, July 14
9:01 a.m. — An officer responded to an accident on Amherst Road. A vehicle went off the roadway and struck a mailbox. The operator said they slid on something while going on Amherst Road. There was damage to the hood and driver's side. The officer put down that the person left the scene and called to report the incident 45 minutes later.
9:09 a.m. — An officer spoke

with a person in the lobby about a terminated person at their workplace was harassing them in an unwanted nature. They wanted it documented. They were advised to block the number.
12:51 p.m. — A request for wellbeing check for person who was on the ground at a North Main Street business and needed help. They found and identified the person. They have special needs and tripped and fell. The fire department was called to evaluate the person. They refused transport to the hospital. They were transported home.
4:33 p.m. — An officer responded to a group home for a report of a person who was unable to care for themselves. They responded to the group home they were intoxicated. They fled on foot. The drone Amherst police's K-9 responded and located in the woods off a side trail. They were found and transported to the hospital.
8:40 p.m. — An officer responded to a domestic incident that was determined to be a verbal argument. Massachusetts State Police assisted in the matter.

Wednesday, July 15
11:40 a.m. — An officer and Belchertown Fire paramedics responded for a report of a person who was making threats to harm themselves. The department clinician assisted with the matter.
2:57 p.m. — An officer responded to Bay Road and Federal Street for an accident. A vehicle stopped at a stop sign on Federal Street was struck by a second vehicle behind it. No tows were needed and no injuries were reported.
5:21 p.m. — An officer responded to a wellbeing check. There were concerns about a person. They were transported to the hospital for an evaluation.

Thursday, July 16
11:38 a.m. — An officer responded to an accident on West Street and South Street. A vehicle stopped at a stop sign and backed up after seeing a second vehicle wasn't going to make a turn. The two vehicles collided. No tows were needed and no injuries were reported.
12:10 p.m. — An officer responded to assist Belchertown fire paramedics who was having mental health issues. They were transported to the hospital.

Friday, July 17
7:29 p.m. — An officer went to residence to serve suspense notice for firearms, and they collected the person's firearms and ammunition.

Saturday, July 18
7:24 p.m. — An officer responded to a business for a report of a disturbance, they were intoxicated and being aggressive to women. They locked the doors so they couldn't get back in. officers met up with the person upon their arrival. They became aggressive to the person and other patrols. A relative was contacted to pick up the person and the incident was only a verbal incident.
8:17 p.m. — An officer responded to a motor vehicle crash on Bay Road. Amherst Fire responded with mutual aid. The vehicle was traveling west on Bay Road when it exited the roadway into deep sand then into thick thicket of shrub and trees. There was major damage to the vehicle and there was airbag deployment. There was recent rain

and fog at the time of the incident. The person was transported to the hospital. The vehicle was towed.

Sunday, July 19
4:30 p.m. — An officer responded to a report of a disturbance. It was reported they were intoxicated and acting aggressively and throwing paint. An ambulance was requested to the scene. The person was agitated upon getting into the ambulance. They started yelling they wanted to leave. They were transported to the hospital.
11 a.m. — An officer did a wellbeing check for a person who wasn't answering their phone. The person said they had not heard from them. They could hear dogs barking at the residence and there was no answer initially for officers. They checked on the person, and they said they were okay.

Monday, July 20
1:19 p.m. — An officer responded to Chauncey walker road resident said there were tools taken from the shed in the past two weeks. The matter is under investigation.

Tuesday, July 21
8:53 a.m. — An officer responded to a residence and serving a section 35 warrant.
5:09 p.m. — An officer responded to an accident on South Street. The operator of the vehicle said they swerved to avoid another vehicle. The vehicle then hydroplaned into the guard rail. There were no injuries and the vehicle drove from the scene.
6:53 p.m. — An officer responded to an accident on Jabish Street. The operator said their foot got caught on the accelerator. The vehicle struck two mailboxes. No tows were needed and no injuries were reported.

Wednesday, July 22
9:28 a.m. — An officer spoke with a person who made an abandoned 911 call then came to the station to report a minor two vehicle crash in front of the police station. A vehicle stopped for a person crossing the crosswalk was struck by a second vehicle in the rear. No tows were needed and no injuries were reported.

1:15 p.m. — A person came to the lobby to report the title for their vehicle was missing. The officer did an ID verification to get a new title through the registry.
8:38 p.m. — An officer and Belchertown Fire responded to Maple Street for a vehicle on fire in vicinity of the residence. The person got their vehicle back from a repair shop and didn't have any problems with it. Later, a relative noticed smoke, then saw the vehicle on fire. Belchertown Fire extinguished it.

Thursday, July 23
3:04 p.m. — An officer spoke with a resident who got text from a sender claiming to be with their bank told them had charges on card that were illegitimate. The person doesn't have an account with the bank. Then on Tuesday, someone claiming to be from the FDIC contacted someone happened to the bank account and then from bank might be comprising the account then was told needed to withdrawal from the account and put in ATM in Springfield. They did so and realized it was fraud. Advised ways to protect identity and get into contact with the bank.

4:46 p.m. — An officer responded to an accident on State Street and Eskett Street. A vehicle traveling south on State Street near the intersection of Eskett Street, the vehicle struck a deer then came to rest in a parking lot. AAA towed the vehicle. No injuries were reported.
5:14 p.m. — An officer took a report of assault, and it was previously reported incident.
10:55 p.m. — An officer conducted a wellbeing check for a report of a disabled motor vehicle. The person wanted it towed but were having a mental health crisis. They were transported to the hospital.

Granby Police Log

Editor's Note: The Granby Police Department responded to 207 calls for the week of July 17, through July 23. Those arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. The Granby Police Department provides all information.

Saturday, July 18
6:27 p.m. — While on patrol, an officer observed a vehicle traveling at a high-rate speed. Radar confirmed the vehicle was traveling at 50 MPH in a posted 35 MPH zone. The vehicle was stopped and the operator was issued a civil citation for speed.
7:09 p.m. — A motorist came to the station to report an accident that occurred last night near the Cumberland Farms entrance on Route 202. There were no injuries.

Monday, July 20
6:04 p.m. — While on patrol, an officer observed a vehicle pass another vehicle in a no passing zone. Radar confirmed that the vehicle was traveling at 55 MPH in a posted 35 MPH zone. The vehicle was stopped and the operator was issued a civil citation for speeding.

Tuesday, July 21
9:12 a.m. — A resident reported that someone stole their trash barrels. A report was completed.

Wednesday, July 22
7:35 a.m. — A resident reported that two dirt bikes were stolen during the night. A report was completed. While on patrol, an officer observed a vehicle passing another vehicle in a no passing zone. Radar confirmed that the vehicle was traveling at 62 MPH in a posted 35 MPH zone. The vehicle was stopped and the operator was issued a civil citation and a passing violation.

Thursday, July 23
1:31 p.m. — While on patrol, an officer observed a vehicle passing another vehicle in a no passing zone. Radar confirmed that the vehicle was traveling at 62 MPH in a posted 35 MPH zone. The vehicle was stopped and the operator was issued a civil citation and a passing violation.
8:40 p.m. — While on patrol, an officer observed a motorcycle traveling at a high rate of speed. Radar confirmed that the motorcycle was traveling at 55 MPH in a posted 35 MPH zone. The motorcycle was stopped and it was discovered that the operator did not have a motorcycle license and the registration was expired. The operator was issued a criminal citation for speeding, unlicensed operation and an expired registration.



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