

Country Journal

Devoted to the Needs of the Hilltowns

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Middlefield, Montgomery, Otis, Plainfield, Russell, Sandisfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg, Worthington

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HUNTINGTON

New police chief sworn in by town clerk

By Wendy Long
Correspondent

HUNTINGTON – The new Police Chief Brian Kowal was sworn in by Town Clerk Michelle Fieldstad-Booth in a ceremony that took place on Tuesday, July 1.

Kowal replaces the town's retiring police Chief Robert Garriepy, who served in that role for over 30 years. Present were Kowal's girlfriend Caitlin McCue, Select Board Chairman Roger Booth, Town Administrator Jennifer Peloquin, Garriepy and a friend from the Massachusetts State Police, Mike O'Neil.

The event entailed taking the oath of office, having his chief of police badge pinned and having photos taken for posterity. Kowal said that his focus so far has been the administrative transition from Garriepy. He's been working closely with Garriepy to learn the software programs and migrate log-ins and passwords to the new chief. He said he's also been learning some of the new duties and responsibilities, including financial monitoring and the License to Carry duty that is performed by police chiefs.

In Massachusetts, a License to Carry is required

NEW CHIEF, page 2



Town Clerk Michelle Fieldstad-Booth, right, swears in Huntington's new Police Chief Brian Kowal, in a ceremony held on July 1 at Stanton Hall.

Courtesy photo by Roger Booth

BLANDFORD

ConCom attends on site meeting

By Mary Kronholm
Correspondent

BLANDFORD – Over the July 4 weekend Town Administrator Cristina Ferrera learned that Blandford's Conservation Commission was notified of an on-site meeting scheduled for Thursday, July 10 on property owned by Housatonic Solar LLC, located on North Blandford Road.

This meeting included representatives from Blandford Storage LLC, owners, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, developers Tighe & Bond and a consultant. The on-site meeting was held to begin the process of obtaining a 401 Water Quality Certificate, which, according to Chairman of the Conservation Commission Dick Gates, is a state permit.

The Conservation Commission has been invited to attend this meeting to gather information and ensure transparency for Blandford residents. This meeting was by invitation only and not open to the public.

The reason for the on-site meeting was to determine the viability

of the site for a 50-megawatt Battery Energy Storage System owned by Blandford Storage, a subsidiary of Housatonic Solar LLC, out of Stamford, Connecticut. The proposed location is on the south side of North Blandford Road.

A Notice of Intent for permit application under the state's Wetlands Protection Act has been filed with the town's Conservation Commission as well as the MassDEP. The Notice of Intent will give the local and state agencies a complete and accurate description of the site: including the type and boundaries of resource areas under the Wetlands Protection Act and detail the proposed work including all measures and designs proposed to comply with Wetlands Protection Act regulations.

The Conservation Commission has hired Salvini Associates, wetlands scientists from Chester as an independent third-party reviewer to consider the process. SWAC Environmental Consultants from Amherst is also involved the process.

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SEE MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 9.

Huntington's Community Events Committee are Vicki Mayhew, John Knox and Lisa Lansing.

TOWN PICNIC CELEBRATES WITH FOOD AND MUSIC

RIGHT: Joann Kelton serves up water and lemonade at the Huntington Town Picnic, July 10.



RUSSELL/MONTGOMERY

Police Association donates to Westfield River Wildwater Races

By Wendy Long
Correspondent

The Russell-Montgomery Police Association donated \$400 to the Westfield River Wildwater Races last month, as a show of support for the positive working relationship between the police department and the Westfield River Race Committee.

Sergeant Andrew Beaulieu made the donation with Chief Kevin Hennessey's support. Thrilled to accept the donation was Westfield River Race Chairman Harry Rock. "Thank you to Chief Hennessey for his support of the races and for using all of their department resources to help ensure the races were well organized and safely run," Rock said.

According to Rock, improvements to race safety have been planned via a partnership between the race committee, Huntington Police, Russell Police, Massachusetts State Police (Russell Barracks) and



Submitted photo

Sergeant Andrew Beaulieu of the Russell-Montgomery Police Association presents Westfield River Race Chairman Harry Rock with a \$400 donation to support the continuation of the oldest, continuously running canoe race in the country.

local fire departments. An Incident Command Center is set up at the Russell Police Headquarters to coordinate any needed emergency response. Hilltown Community Ambulance has a dedicated ambulance posi-

tioned along the race course to quickly respond if necessary. Westfield Police Cadets are stationed along the river with kayakers posted near the portages.

DONATION, page 6



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HILLTOWNS

Art Center holds 'celebration of the arts'

BECKET – The Becket Arts Center, 7 Brooker Hill Road, announces "A Midsummer Celebration of the Arts" on Saturday, Aug. 2.

Rain date is Sunday, Aug. 3 from 4-6 p.m. This major fundraiser will feature speakers, music and art set against the backdrop of a beautiful private home. For tickets and more information, people may visit becketartscenter.org.



Turley Publications photo by Mary Kronholm

Bear spotted along Route 23

This youngish bear was crossing Route 23 just before Birch Hill Road on Monday, July 7 at about 2:30 p.m. It stopped, looked around, then finally continued across the road.

NEW CHIEF

from page 1

to possess or carry firearms, including handguns, rifles and shotguns. Residents must apply through their local police department, submit an application and fee and provide proof of completing a certified firearms safety course. LTCs must be renewed every six years, using the same process.

Kowal said he is also working closely with town officials to get caught up to speed on their expectations and priorities. His focus this summer will be two-fold: to try to get out and meet as many community members as he can and to prepare for the opening of school. He will meet with Gateway's new Superintendent once that person is hired. Kowal said he finds it exciting that both of them will be getting off the ground in the same year.

One project he'd like to investigate is looking into body-worn cameras for his officers. But for the most part, Kowal said learning the job and ensuring a smooth transition is the immediate priority.

Because he's moved up, there is a vacant position that he needs to fill. Former Chief Garriepy will return and step into the role of a Deputy Chief, but Kowal still needs to hire his own replacement.

Kowal has been a patrolman with the Huntington police department for most of the past six years. As such, he is already familiar with the fire, highway and ambulance crews, which gives him a head start.

He also served as a campus police officer at Westfield State University for the past 21 years. While at WSU he received two letters of commendation for his work as an Acting Sergeant and for being the officer in charge of dealing with an unruly crowd, which he was able to de-escalate. He started a "community policing" program at WSU, with an officer assigned to each residence



Courtesy photos by Roger Booth

Brian Kowal is pinned as Chief by his girlfriend, Caitlin McCue.



Changing of the Guard, new Chief of Police Brian Kowal, left, with the outgoing Chief, Robert Garriepy.

hall. Kowal was also a student at the time and realized that the commuting students were not assigned an officer, which he remedied. His biggest call on campus was an active shooter situation that turned out to be a

false alarm, but at the time required implementing the response plan. It was a good learning experience and he was able to provide input on steps that could be modified or added to the plan, as a result.

MassDOT lists I-90 roadwork

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation announces it will be performing overnight and daytime milling, paving and bridge repair operations on I-90 eastbound and westbound in the towns of Stockbridge, Becket, Montgomery, and Russell.

All work is weather dependent. In Stockbridge, milling and paving operations will be conducted on I-90 eastbound from mile marker 0.0 to mile marker 7.8 nightly from Sunday night, July 13 through Thursday night, July 18 from 7 p.m.-5:30 a.m.

The I-90 eastbound exit 3 on-ramp will be closed for

paving operations on Friday morning, July 18, from 1-3 a.m. Bridge repairs will be conducted on I-90 eastbound and westbound at mile marker 6.4 nightly now through Thursday night, July 18 from 7 p.m.-5:30 a.m.

In Becket, bridge painting will be conducted on I-90 eastbound and westbound at mile marker 18.4 nightly now through Thursday night, July 18 from 7 p.m.-5:30 a.m.

Appropriate signage and law enforcement details will be in place to guide drivers through the work area. Drivers traveling through the area should expect delays, reduce speed, and use cau-

tion. All scheduled work is weather dependent and subject to change without notice.

For more information on traffic conditions, travelers are encouraged to: Download the Mass511 mobile app or visit www.mass511.com to view live cameras, travel times, real time traffic conditions, and project information before setting out on the road. Users can subscribe to receive text and email alerts for traffic conditions. Dial 511 and select a route to hear real time conditions. Follow @MassDOT on X, formerly known as Twitter, to receive regular updates on road and traffic.

Clark Art Institute ends concert series July 30

WILLIAMSTOWN – The Clark Art Institute, 225 South St., closes its series of free outdoor concerts with thematic connections to the Ground/work 2025 exhibition with a performance by Cedric Watson on Wednesday, July 30 at 6 p.m/ on the reflecting pool lawn.

One of the brightest young talents to emerge in

Cajun, Creole and zydeco music over the last decade, Cedric Watson is a four-time Grammy-nominated fiddler, singer, accordionist and songwriter. Although he comes from a very different part of Texas than Ground/work 2025 artist Hugh Hayden, he underscores how traditional, folk and popular music in the United States is

interwoven with the history of Black America.

People are invited to bring a picnic and their own seating. Inclement weather moves events to the Manton Research Center auditorium. For accessibility questions, people may call 413-458-0524. For more information, people may visit clarkart.edu/events.

Gas prices drop one cent

Pump prices across much of the Northeast are down for a second straight week as regional supplies of gasoline swell to multi-year highs.

Weekly supply and demand data from the Energy Information Administration for the week ending June 27 show inventories of gasoline along the East Coast climbed by 900,000 barrels week over week, settling at 61.6 million barrels. That's a four-year high for late June and nearly five million barrels more in storage than this time last year.

Another factor driving lower gasoline prices is a sharp drop in gasoline demand. The EIA last week reported demand fell by a massive 1 million barrels a day to 8.64 million barrels a day, which came as a surprise to some market participants. The sharp falloff in demand could be influenced in part by fuel retailers filling their tanks two weeks ago ahead of expected July Fourth holiday price increases and subsequently opting to defer replenishing amid last week's price declines. Markets will closely watch this week's report from the agency to see how demand played out in the days leading up to July Fourth.

Oil prices, meanwhile, are relatively stable between \$65 to \$68 a barrel and could



trend lower in the coming weeks as all signs point to more global supply. As the United States continues production at a near-record clip, OPEC+ members agreed over the weekend to increase production in August by 548,000 barrels a day, 137,000 barrels a day more than expected.

"Historically, gasoline demand peaks for the year around the July Fourth holiday," said Mark Schieldrop, senior spokesperson for AAA Northeast. "Considering the dramatic swings in demand reported so far in June, more time is needed before the summer's overall trend is clear. For now, pump prices now sit more than 40 cents a gallon cheaper than this time last year and the gap could widen unless market conditions take a dramatic turn."

The average gas price in Massachusetts is down a penny from last week (\$3.07), averaging \$3.06 per gallon. Today's price is 7 cents higher than a month ago (\$2.99) and 44 cents lower than this day last year

(\$3.50). Massachusetts' average gas price is eight cents lower than the national average.

AAA Northeast's July 7 survey of fuel prices found the current national average down four cents from last week (\$3.18), averaging \$3.14 per gallon. Today's national average price is a penny higher than a month ago (\$3.13) and 36 cents lower than this day last year (\$3.50).

Today, Oklahoma and Mississippi have the lowest prices in the nation at \$2.69 each. California and Hawaii hold the highest prices in the nation this week at \$4.56 and \$4.47, respectively. Massachusetts holds the 25th place on the list of highest gas prices in the nation.

AAA Northeast is a not-for-profit auto club with offices in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, New Hampshire and New York, providing nearly 6.8 million local AAA members with travel, insurance, financial and auto-related services.

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HUNTINGTON

North Hall Arts Festival presents 'A Smaller Place'

HUNTINGTON – A staged reading of “A Smaller Place” was the founding presentation of the North Hall Arts Festival 40 years ago.

The play was subsequently performed at the Miniature Theatre of Chester (now The Chester Theatre) with Academy-Award winner Kim Hunter playing Muriel. She reprised this role in the film version of the play, “The Hiding Place,” alongside Hollywood veteran Timothy Bottoms.

The play, by Mitch Giannunzio, returns on Sunday, July 27 at 2 p.m. to the North Hall, 40 Searle Road, for a benefit performance. The cast includes Broadway’s “The Book of Mormon” star, P.J. Adzima and award-winning actress

and North Hall favorite, Ellen Barry. The event is directed and introduced by the play’s original Jack, Kenneth Tigar.

Jack and his mother Muriel, have a good relationship. Every few weeks he drops by and brings groceries and they catch up. But today, something doesn’t seem quite right; and as he and Muriel banter, a lot of things come out into the open, things they haven’t talked about in all these years. Veering back and forth between comedy and tragedy, Jack and Muriel find themselves in the midst of a life-altering conversation.

P.J. Adzuna is currently playing the role of Elder McKinley in “The Book of Mormon” on Broadway,

after appearing in both the Australian company and the National Tour. He is the host/creator of Stage Time, a weekly downtown variety show in residency on the lower east side.

Ellen Barry has appeared in nearly 100 classical and contemporary roles in New York City and at regional theatres including the WorkShop, Century Center, and White Horse (NYC); McCarter (NJ), New Century and Majestic (MA), Syracuse Stage (NY), Boarshead (MI), St. Michael’s (VT) and Southern Stage (LA). Other North Hall appearances over many years have included another one-woman show, The Infinite Variety of Shakespeare’s Women, and last summer’s Story Cafe

with fellow Northwestern University graduates Candace and Raye Birk.

All performances are free; donations are welcomed. Performances begin at 2 p.m. People should arrive early to get a good seat. Doors open about 1:30 p.m. People may visit the website at www.north-hallhuntington.org for program updates. North Hall is wheelchair accessible and air conditioned. The seven program series is sponsored by the Westfield Bank, Easthampton Savings Bank, the Massachusetts Cultural Council, and Cultural Councils of: Cummington, Huntington, Middlefield, Montgomery, Russell, Westhampton and Worthington.



Submitted photo

The Brian and Vicky Show will perform at Huntington’s Summer Concert Series on Thursday, July 24. Pictured are the duo Brian Chicoine and Vicky Turgeon.

The Brian and Vicky Show entertains on July 24

By Wendy Long
Correspondent

HUNTINGTON The Summer Concert Series will feature The Brian and Vicky Show on Thursday, July 24 from 6:30-8 p.m. in the gazebo at the intersection of Routes 20 and 112.

They offer a mix of favorite covers across all music genres. This is a free concert.

The Brian and Vicky Show is a self-described “unique fusion of creativity and interactivity starring Brian Chicoine and Vicky Turgeon. Known for playfully engaging the audience, the duo creates captivating moments that boldly defy conventional acoustic shows. Expect a different kind of live entertainment experience.”

The two are regulars at Maple Valley at the Silos in Hadley, the Whiskey Barrel in South Hadley and the Young Men’s Club in Hadley. They also perform throughout the region for benefit concerts and community groups. Vicky Turgeon solos frequently at the Riverside Pub in Agawam. The pair released their Duets Album in 2017.

This week’s bake sale

is provided by and will benefit, the Huntington Historical Society. People may stop by the historical society for a treat and ask about their latest project or learn more about their monthly open house held on the last Sunday of each month at the schoolhouse museum, located on the corner of Route 112 and Littleville Road.

In the event of rain, the performance will move indoors to Stanton Hall, which is air conditioned and wheelchair accessible.

Scheduled for the remainder of this summer’s series are The Hellcats on Thursday, July 31, The Hotshot Hillbillies on Thursday, Aug. 7, and Even It Up on Thursday, Aug. 14. The Honig Brothers will close the season on Thursday, Aug. 21.

Huntington’s Summer Music Series is sponsored by the Huntington Community Events Committee and supported by the Huntington Cultural Council. The HCC is a local agency funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

People should bring a lawn chair and leave their pets at home.

Nonprofit Center launches training series

GREAT BARRINGTON – In more than one survey, Berkshire nonprofit leaders indicated strong demand for training in Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging.

As a result, Nonprofit Center of the Berkshires is partnering with André Lynch and the Berkshire Equity Association to launch a training series that runs from September 2025 through April 2026.

The Agents of Change: Equity Academy includes six workshops, individual coaching to assist in achieving organizational goals and a culminating sharing and “Equity Activator” certificate

presentation.

The cost of the series is largely underwritten by The Barr Foundation, Berkshire Bank, Greylock Federal Credit Union, Guardian Life and Milltown Foundation. The cost per organization for up to three participating individuals is \$500. Some scholarships may be available based on financial need.

“This type of robust training is normally very expensive,” said NPC executive director Liana Toscanini. “By partnering with a group of local funders, we are able to offer a high-quality program that’s affordable for nonprofit organizations and

work alongside the Berkshire Equity Association as they pilot their framework for fostering equitable practices.”

The six workshops (three in-person and three virtual) address the following topics: DEI Fundamentals, recognizing and addressing microaggressions, unpacking organizational culture, serving diverse communities, measuring and communicating DEI impact, reflection and presentation.

Facilitators include André Lynch (DEIB consultant and coach and Vice Provost of Institutional Equity & Belonging at MCLA), Michael Obasohan

(M.Ed, Chief Diversity Officer for City of Pittsfield), and Sharron Frazier-McClain (Director of Community Engagement & DEIA at Barrington Stage Co.).

A maximum of 20 organizations will be chosen for this initial cohort. More information about the program and application process can be found online by visiting <https://npc-berkshires.org/workshops/agents-of-change-equity-academy/>. The Nonprofit Center of the Berkshires was founded in 2016 to help nonprofits connect, learn and grow.

Glasgow Lands Scottish Festival happens July 19

NORTHAMPTON – The 30th Annual Glasgow Lands Scottish Festival will be held Sunday, July 19 from 9 a.m.-8:30 p.m. at Look Park, 300 North Main St.

The event will be held rain or shine. Parking is free. Opening ceremonies are at 11:30 a.m. Tickets EW \$32, Children 6-12 \$5, Children under 6 free. Advance tickets on-line are \$29.

Look Park comes alive with Celtic Dancers, Highland pipers and drummers, a clan parade, sheep herding, Scottish dogs and other animals, wool spinners and weavers and lively Celtic

music. Celebrate Scottish heritage, real or coveted, with kilt-wearing, tree-tossing Scotsmen at the Highland athletic games and delight in plates piled high with scones, shortbread, bridies or meat pies. Over 30 pipe bands competing with 600 - 700 pipers and drummers marching in opening ceremonies.

This is the second largest Scottish Festival in New England, and the only one in Massachusetts.

They have been chosen to host the first ever EUSPBA Northeast Branch Amateur Drumming championships.

This family fun event includes children’s athletic games and a water spray park. Many clans and a genealogist will be present to assist in tracing Scottish ancestry. Vendors will be offering a variety of imports, Scottish and other foods. Listen to the beautiful Celtic harp music of the Pioneer Valley Harpers’ Guild. Learn about spinning and weaving from the Weavers’ Guild of Springfield. Relive history with the Historic Highlanders.

The Glasgow Lands Scottish Festival, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation.

For more information and schedules, people may visit the web site at www.glasgowlands.org or call 413-862-8095 or 413-862-4539.

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OPINION



My neighbor has a Cooper's hawk in his yard. Cooper's hawks are common woodland hawks and skilled fliers.

They will fly at high speed through cluttered tree canopies in pursuit of other birds. They may be seen at the forest edge or a field taking a few wingbeats followed by a glide.

Males are smaller than the females. They build the nest and supply nearly all the food to females and young during the nesting period.

During migration, ridge tops in both the East and West are great places to spot Cooper's hawks in large numbers. Coopers hawks perch upright and have a long, rounded tail with dark banding. The band at the end of the tail is white. They have a small, hooked beak.

Adults have a gray back, reddish barred chest and red eyes. They also have a black cap.

Cooper's hawks are similar to sharp-shinned hawks, but are larger. They inhabit deep forest to backyards.

Grape jelly warning
I received a link about the dangers of feeding grape jelly to hummingbirds from a Granby resident. The link said, "Bird experts are raising the alarm that a common practice done to attract some birds is actually killing hummingbirds. Raptor Education Group, Inc. said just this week they had three adult ruby-throated hummingbirds brought in covered in grape jelly. One had already died. The others are alive, but struggling."

The central Wisconsin nonprofit shared photos to raise awareness that grape jelly is a sticky danger for the delicate birds. They said, "It has become common practice for people to put out jelly for orioles. However, when it is this warm, the jelly melts and sticks in other bird's feathers and feet." The group recommends buying bird-safer jelly from a specialty store or feeding orange halves.

Brimfield bird report

I received an email recently from a Brimfield resident. He said, "It's been a different spring/summer in the yard this year. I didn't see the first Baltimore oriole until June when a male showed up at the bird bath and a few days later a female showed at the birdbath. In previous years we have had a couple of pairs in the yard. I offer jelly and oranges during migration and then just



Cooper's hawk

oranges later in the year. I've

only seen catbirds at the oranges, no orioles."

He saw a juvenile red-bellied woodpecker following an adult male around and begging for food recently. The catbirds are seen frequently and use the birdbath regularly. He has a couple pairs of rose-breasted grosbeaks as well. Several years ago, he saw 11 rose-breasted grosbeaks in the yard at the same time. He has not seen an indigo bunting this year. Although he saw great crested flycatchers and house wren earlier in the spring, they did not stay and use the nest boxes in his yard as they did last year.

Nesting osprey

He also said in his email, "In Warren last week I saw one osprey nestling in the nest on South

Street, but on a visit today there was no sighting of the chick, but an adult was perched on the nest."

Alarming statistic

He also said, "Unfortunately the reports that there are billions of fewer birds in the country now than there were in the 1970s is very evident to anyone who has watched birds since then. Very sad what we humans have done to the planet." He said, "On another depressing note, there are way fewer butterflies in the yard this year."

Phoebes

Every year Eastern phoebes return to nest in my yard. Recently, I saw a fledgling following an adult around begging for food.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100, emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.



DAVE GRANLUND © www.davegranlund.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A community lost

I was raised in farm country, in west Holyoke, also known as Ingleside.

Unfortunately some business men wanted to build a mall, so the farms had to go. That meant our land had to go also.

When I married and started a family, I wanted to raise them in the country. In 1976 we found land in Blandford and built our home. Our closest neighbor was a farmer. We became good friends. Soon we were like family. Our kids learned a lot about farming and work ethics. The farmer had a way so the kids wanted to help. If it became too much like work, they had a way of disappearing. The farmer would laugh and in his French accent would say "where they go?"

One day on my way home, as I drove by the farmers field. I saw my wife being pulled behind a tractor, riding on a potato planter making sure every potato spike had a seed potato on it. "City girl gone, new country girl born."

A few years pass by and the farmer had passed away. I miss him still. His son took over the farm, by then the old farmer had converted the potato field into a hay field and leased it out to another farmer. The son kept the lease going. Even I and a friend leased the hay field for three years. I had horses and he had horses and steers. It became really too much work for us.

We were both truck drivers, and working 12 to 15 hours a day at work, then working the field, we had to let the field go. The son kept the field in good condition so he could lease it to others. I had always loved the view of the open field, looking for deer or even seeing a bear with a cub or two. Geese were usually there in the spring.

Many years have past sense that time. The son of the farmer had retired. A new thing started growing in Blandford, "solar fields." Many acres of forest were clear cut, over two hundred acres so far. Now the BESS

Company wants to install one hundred and fifty ion Lithium batteries in wet land. Eversource Electric wants to expand their transformer array too double it's size.

We already have three high voltage solar fields in town. And there seems there are more to come. The son of the farmer has subdivided, so he can install a raised solar field over the hay field. I think this was the last straw, so to speak, neighbors are speaking out about this.

Friends and neighbors are saying enough with this solar stuff. Even if we don't own the farm land we have always enjoyed the view. Now some view the field as it will be another solar junk yard.

So say the neighbors and I think they are right to ask questions. The reason we have moved out here was for peace and quiet, and enjoy the beautiful country living. Now we are loosing that which we love and worked for.

Ted Cousineau
Blandford

Science is threatened

The Trump government has been slashing funding for a broad array of "wasteful" government programs in the name of "efficiency."

Among the victims are funding for research grants provided by the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, Environmental Protection Agency and others. With Congress's recent vote to drastically reduce general spending, Science is probably "under the radar" for most people, but the irrational, destructive behavior is affecting the advancement of medicine, technology and environmental science.

New technologies and achievements in medicine that we depend on have been developed by private businesses applying basic research discoveries funded

by those tax payer supported institutions. The future of Science in America and its world leadership are also threatened by the firing of scientists, among them climatologists that farmers and fishermen rely upon.

The elimination of support for the training of future scientists is especially troubling. It is already affecting students who were well on their way to becoming established I understand this need very well, because, as a graduate student, I was supported by grants awarded to my teachers. The love of discovery and experience I acquired in the process, led me to a research and teaching career.

It was also a valuable experience for the grad students in my department, who went on to make important contributions to environmen-

tal science, genetics and an understanding of the ecology of cholera.

Not only do these cuts negatively affect the advancement of science, but they have economic repercussions in communities surrounding institutions that receive funding. Those institutions provide benefits, such as jobs creation and support for small businesses, especially crucial in rural communities. Contrary to the claims of the Administration, the government expenditures are extremely efficient. According to an article in the July-August, 2025, issue of American Scientist, every dollar spent on research generates two dollars or more of indirect benefits to the community.

John Nelson Jr.
Plainfield

Corrections policy

If you notice a factual error in our pages, please let us know, so that we can set the record straight. Email information to countryjournal@turley.com, or call us

at 413-283-8393.

Corrections will be printed in the same section where the error originally occurred.

Country Journal welcomes Election letters to the editor

The Country Journal welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to The Country Journal, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to countryjournal@turley.com.

Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by **noon Friday** to be considered for the following Thursday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the

newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election. For more information, call 413-283-8393.

Campaign news

As part of its election coverage, the newspaper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor's

Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers.

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in The Country Journal.

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Letters to the editor should be 500 words or less in length. We require letter writers to include his or her name, 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.

Mail letter to Country Journal, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069 or mail your letter to: countryjournal@turley.com.



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OPINION

In the eye (or nose) of the beholder

So many things in life are a matter of preference, and there is no exception when it comes to likes and dislikes in the garden.

Take, for example, the hydrangea in my front yard that is truly a kaleidoscope of blues, purples and magenta. My husband prefers all blue hydrangea flowers, and would love if I would give the bush a watering of "Miracid" so that it will conform more to his liking.

But alas, I tend to enjoy the circusy feel, and will probably continue to let it do its thing without any help from me. Likewise, if you prefer the pink shades instead, you can use lime to make the soil more alkaline.

Do you ever wonder how this process works? It's a matter of making aluminum ions more readily available or not, and that process is pH dependent.

Another area where he and I tend to disagree is whether or not Bugbane, *Actaea* (formerly *Cimifuga racemosa*), deserves a place in our perennial border. The plant is really unique, in that it sends up loads of four-five foot tall white flower spikes, even in the shade.

It's a beefy plant once full grown. I consider it a

"specimen" like the Peony or Baptisia, where one will do the trick.

The flowers are blooming now and will continue to put on a show for a good few weeks.

So, you ask, what is the problem?

Simply put, it's the smell. The plant reeks. It's all for good, though, since the acrid smell lures flies to pollinate it!

My husband loathes the smell and has given it the not so nice nickname of "stinky flesh plant." I am not sure how he came up with that, but each year he is always pretty vocal about the stench when it is in bloom.

As a sidebar, the flies are doing their job, in turn making viable seeds. I know this for certain, since a few

of them have sprouted over the years. Welcome volunteers, at least as far as I am concerned!

What is the consensus on Hosta flowers? Should they stay or go? I used to be of the "go" camp until earlier this morning, in fact, when I saw a hummingbird frequenting the blossoms!

That changed my mind in a hurry. While it's true that Hostas are better known for their foliage which is often beautifully variegated, the light lilac flowers are pretty in their own right. A handful of pendulous bells hang from the tips of the stems that seem to float above the foliage.

Hostas are not very demanding and are best known for their use in a shady border. Most will burn if planted in the sun, although golden leaved varieties seem to fair better in

sunnier locales. In general, most varieties look great paired with Astilbe and Ferns.

I've mentioned the "take it or leave it" attitude in prior columns towards the smell of Marigolds. I am definitely a "take it" girl on this one. In fact, the fragrance, in and of itself, transports me back to the Grange Hall of my youth and their annual summer fair where I would, and still do enter the flowers in the "Cut Flower" category.

Both the larger doubled petal African and the smaller French types are represented. Besides looking good in the vase, Marigolds are said to repel aphids and other insects from neighboring plants, and supposedly even able to keep underground nematodes at bay.

Maybe they are worth the odor. Or maybe the fragrance? You be the judge.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 33 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.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Matters

By Russell Gloor



Why can't I get my Social Security payment plus my Railroad Pension from my ex-spouse?

Dear Rusty:
I have a question. I now get a Railroad Pension from my ex-husband. I did not know it was from the Social Security Administration. I want to collect my SS benefits and my Railroad pension. Can I do that? I do not understand why I cannot collect both. Please advise.

Thank you. Signed: Railroad Ex-spouse

Dear Railroad Ex-spouse:

Railroad pension benefits and Social Security benefits are fully coordinated – that is, your Railroad pension payment from your ex-spouse already includes your earned Social Security retirement benefit. That's because the two government agencies, Railroad Retirement Board and Social Security Administration work together and pay your benefits in one single payment, usually managed by the RRB if some of your benefit includes a railroad pension component. The RRB and SSA are two separate government agencies, but they fully coordinate benefits for beneficiaries.

This is exactly the same as if you were collecting regular SS ex-spouse benefits instead of RR benefits from your ex-husband; your personal SS retirement benefit is always paid first, and you receive an additional amount (a spousal boost) from your ex-husband. In your case, your "spousal boost" is the difference between your personally earned SS retirement benefit at your Full Retirement Age and half of your ex-husbands Tier I Railroad retirement benefit amount at his full retirement age. A railroad pension usually consists

of two pieces – a Tier I benefit and a Tier II benefit, with Tier I benefits being the equivalent of the pensioner's Social Security.

Your ex-spouse benefits under the RRB are handled the same way. The two agencies fully coordinate with each other, evaluate your SS entitlement, and then reduce the amount of your RRB Tier I ex-spouse benefit by your SS retirement amount and pay both amounts together. In this way, you only get one payment, consisting of both your earned SSA component and the RRB component. And whenever there is a railroad component, the RRB is usually responsible for making pension payments.

You may find the information at this RRB website helpful: https://rrb.gov/RB-9/Social_Security_Benefits and you can also contact your local RRB field office by accessing this link: <https://www.rrb.gov/Field-Office-Locator>.

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.

CON COM

from page 1

Soil borings were made at Thursday's meeting and new wetlands were identified.

The outcome of Thursday's meeting is that "everything is on hold" said Gates, because no one could really determine a location for a temporary road since new wetlands areas were identified. According to Gates, Tighe & Bond agreed and they will regroup and go back to the site with SWAC, mark the land better and look at the site again.

Everyone will be kept in the loop via email as

new developments become known and are available.

Gates said that the land in question is home to a mature hemlock forest which, if clear cut, will no longer remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. "We've (Conservation Commission) wrestled with this," he said referring to the potential loss of forestation as solar farms have applied for locations.

Gates, scheduled on the July 14 agenda for the Select Board, will give that Board an update on the meeting.

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to notices@turley.com
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Friday at 3 p.m.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

CUMMINGTON

Hampshire County 4-H Fair set to take place July 19

CUMMINGTON – The Hampshire County 4-H Fair will be on Saturday, July 19 at the Cummington Fairgrounds from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

The Hampshire County 4-H Fair showcases the achievements and skills 4-Hers and other youth have learned throughout the year. 4-H clubs and fairs support youth in developing the essential life skills of effective communication,

successful teamwork and thoughtful decision-making. 4-H also promotes healthy living and provides opportunities in citizenship education, leadership development and community service.

At the fair, youth will be sharing their projects from the 4-H year including rabbits, poultry, sheep, goats, working steers, dairy and beef cattle and arts and crafts in the exhibit hall.

The event is free to the public and includes exciting activities for children including the second annual "Touch-a-Truck" event, a demonstration from the Belchertown K-9 Unit and fun family scavenger hunt and crafts. For more information, people may email hampshire4hfair@gmail.com or visit the Hampshire Co 4-H Fair website.

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OTIS

Recreation Commission hold kid's obstacle challenge

OTIS – The Recreation Committee will hold a Kid's Obstacle Challenge on Sunday, Aug. 3 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Town Hall.

It will be held rain or shine.



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Call 413-354-7760 for information.

CHESTER

Hamilton Memorial Library announces upcoming events

CHESTER –The first two weeks of Summer Reading Program at Hamilton Memorial Library, 195 West Main St., have been a strumming success.

Thanks to the amazing generosity of local musicians Jack Waldheim and Chris Merenda and a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the library was able to get 14 ukuleles into the hands of some very excited children. This awesome program continues for a total of six weeks, so there's still plenty of fun ahead.

On Thursday, July 24

story time will be held at 11 a.m. for a fun time. Saturday, July 26 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. it's a town-wide scavenger hunt. This event is fun for all ages. People may stop by the library or call 413-354-7808 for all the details.

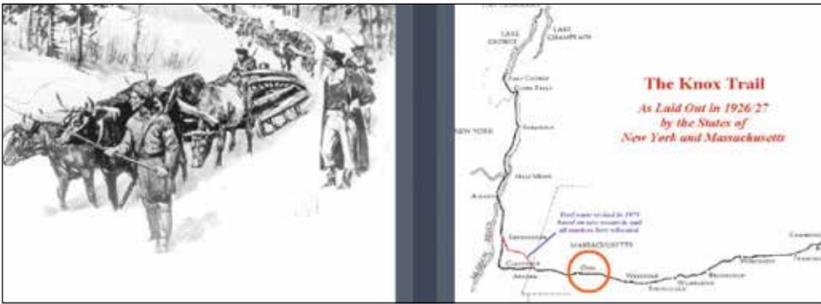
The library will be closed on Saturday, Aug. 2. People may visit chester.cwmars.org for updates, events and more summer fun.

Chris Merenda, teacher is shown with the ukulele class, which is part of the summer reading program at the Hamilton Memorial Library.



Submitted photo

MONTEREY



Submitted photo

This drawing shows a rendering of Colonel Henry Knox and his group transporting cannons from New York State to Boston. A map of the route is also included.

Historical groups present 'The Knox Trail' documentary

MONTEREY – The Otis Historical Commission and Otis Preservation Trust in collaboration with the Monterey Historical Society presents "The Knox Trail," a 12-minute documentary video tracing the history of the famous route on Thursday, Aug. 14 at 7 p.m. at the Monterey Public Library, 452 Main Road, Monterey.

To register to attend this event or for more information, people may visit www.otispreservationtrust.com or www.townofotisma.com. There is no charge to attend this event but pre-registration is required. Donations are welcome.

A discussion with the producers of the film, Jessica Provenz and Joshua Briggs alongside local historian Tom Ragusa, follows the video viewing. Admission is free, but registration is required.

The Henry Knox Trail, also known as the Knox

Cannon Trail, is a network of roads and paths tracing the route of Colonel Henry Knox's train of artillery from New York State to Boston, during the American Revolutionary War.

Knox was commissioned by the Continental Army commander George Washington in 1775 to transport 59 cannons from captured forts on Lake Champlain to the army camp outside Boston. Knox used sledges pulled by teams of oxen to haul the cannons, many weighing over a ton, crossing an icy Lake George in mid-winter. He traveled through rural New York and the snow covered Berkshire hill towns including Monterey and Otis, finally arriving to the aid of the Continental Army in January 1776.

Award winning creatives Joshua Briggs and Jessica Provenz produced the documentary video

highlighting the historical significance of the Knox Trail.

Otis Preservation Trust works with the Otis Historical Commission to organize and preserve the history and heritage of Otis for future generations by supporting efforts to preserve, restore, repurpose and educate about buildings, monuments, lands and memorabilia of Otis. OPT is a not-for-profit (501c3) organization operated for fundraising and educational purposes. This program is supported in part by a grant from the Otis Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, an agency of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The event is live, in-person and via Zoom on Thursday, Aug. 14 at 7 p.m. at the Monterey Public Library, 452 Main Road, Monterey.

PLAINFIELD

Plainfield church hosts concerts

PLAINFIELD – Boston-based vocal ensemble Blue Heron will present a new season of its celebrated summer series of chamber music at the classically beautiful and acoustically magnificent Plainfield Congregational Church, 356 West Main St., Rte. 116.

The 2025 program of four concerts on the four Mondays of August features two string quartets, a brass quintet and a medieval quartet of singers, harp fiddle and lute.

They are also offering a special concert in October, when world-renowned bassist Avery Sharpe will return to reprise his composition "I Am My Neighbor's Keeper."

The concerts are offered free of charge; they rely entirely on donations, which are gratefully accepted at the door or through the website by visiting www.plainfieldconcertsat7.org or call artistic director David Kramer at 413-464-2755.

On Monday, Aug. 4 at 7 p.m. Music from the Middle Ages with the

Boston-based vocal ensemble Blue Heron will present "A French Songbook, c. 1350-1470, from Machaut to Ockeghem." Singers Sophie Michaux and Jason McStoots along with Charles Weaver on lute and Scott Metcalfe on harp and fiddle will perform.

On Monday, Aug. 11 at 7 p.m. The Ying Quartet: Robin Scott and Janet Ying, violins; Phillip Ying, viola; David Ying, cello will entertain. They will perform Béla Bartók's String Quartet No. 2; Derek Bermel's Songs of Nameless Ancestors and Antonín Dvořák's String Quartet in F Major, Op. 96, "American."

On Monday, Aug. 18 at 7 p.m. The Verona Quartet: Jonathan Ong and Dorothy Ro, violins; Abigail Rojansky, viola; Jonathan Dorman, cello will entertain. They will perform Maurice Ravel's String Quartet in G Major; a suite of American jazz standards: Duke Ellington's "Cotton Club Stomp," Donald Heywood's "I'm Coming

Virginia," Bix Beiderbecke's "In the Dark," Vincent Youmans's "Tea for Two"; Dmitri Shostakovich's String Quartet No. 9.

On Monday, Aug. 25 at 7 p.m. The Hartford Symphony Orchestra Brass Quintet: John Charles Thomas and Alison Marseglia, trumpets; Barbara Hill, horn; Brian Diehl, trombone; Jarrod Briley, tuba. Victor Ewald's Quintet #3 and works of Reena Esmail, Gwyneth Walker and Eric Ewaz will perform.

On Friday, Oct. 3 at 7 p.m. Avery Sharpe Ensemble: Avery Sharpe will return with his double quartet (string quartet, double bass, piano, percussion, African drums) to reprise his composition "I Am My Neighbor's Keeper."

The church is handicapped accessible. This program is supported in part by grants from local cultural councils, which are supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Berkshire Lyric holds choral music camp

PITTSFIELD – Berkshire Lyric invites children ages 6 to 13 to sing with The Lyric Children's Chorus at their 2025 Summer Choral Music Camp.

The annual week-long camp will take place Monday, July 28 to Friday, Aug. 1 from 9 a.m.-noon at the Berkshire Music School on Wendell Avenue. Participants will sing, learn about music and have fun with the Lyric Children's Chorus as they look forward to their 2025-2026 season. The week is tuition free for current chorus members as well as children, who plan to

join the chorus in the fall and is supported by Berkshire Lyric.

The Lyric Children's Chorus is part of Berkshire Lyric's family of choruses and presents seven concerts throughout Berkshire County during the year. This past June they performed with the Berkshire Lyric Chorus at Tanglewood's Seiji Ozawa Hall. They also sing at several holiday concerts and present their own concert every spring. Their regular rehearsals take place on Saturday mornings at the Berkshire Music School and will begin on Saturday, Sept. 6 for the

new season. As a part of Berkshire Lyric's commitment to music education, the chorus is tuition free for all children.

The Choral Music Camp week in Pittsfield will be led by Jack Brown, Artistic Director of Berkshire Lyric and assisted by high school members of Lyric's Melodious Accord. Parents may register children at the school on Monday, July 28 at 9 a.m. For further information, people may visit BerkshireLyric.org or call 413-298-5365.

Colleges and universities list graduates

Dickinson College
Carlisle, Pennsylvania
Bachelor of Science cum laude in environmental science and Chinese
Ella Clarke-DeGrenier of Easthampton
Daughter of Chris Clarke and Aime DeGrenier of Easthampton

Eastern Connecticut State University
Willimantic, Connecticut
Bachelor of Science in health sciences
Maggie Rubeck of Easthampton

Tufts University
Medford
Bachelor of Arts in political science
Ruby McElhone Yates of Easthampton

DONATION

from page 1

In addition, four rescue kayakers are positioned with members of the Russell Fire Department at the Hill and Dale rapids, with throw ropes to pull in capsized paddlers. Emergency planning has been boosted in recent years with a dedicated radio frequency between the teams, set up by the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency, with the Zello Push to Talk app on the phones of volunteers, who aren't issued radios.

New this year: the Classic Race finish line in Woronoco had a triage station with a registered nurse to assess the physical condition of paddlers coming off of the river and to provide care if needed. The Russell Fire Department rescue truck was also staged at the finish line to immediately assist if needed.

Rock reported that there were no emergency medical incidents this year, although these precautions

were put into place based on experiences in previous years.

The Russell-Montgomery Police Association is a 501(c)(3) public charity associated with the Russell-Montgomery Police Department. The group raises funds that support local events. Fundraising activities include sales of commemorative patches and holding the Hot Rod for Heroes car show.

HAYDENVILLE

Indivisible Williamsburg host standout July 17

HAYDENVILLE – Indivisible Williamsburg is hosting a standout on Thursday, July 17 in front of the Town Offices at 141 Main St., in Haydenville from 4:30-6 p.m.

This is one of more than 1000 standouts nationwide

related to Good Trouble Lives On, goodtroubleliveson.org, in honor of the sixth anniversary of John Lewis's passing. The focus on the protest is protecting voting rights, human rights and democracy.

The event begins with

a rally in the green space behind the building off of Mountain Street.

Parking is limited so bike, bus, carpool, park at the lot to the east of the Brassworks, but not Dunkin please. This is a non-violent, respectful event.



Send Us Your Photos!

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Colleges and universities announces President's and Dean's list

Mount Wachusett Community College
Gardner • President's list
Megan Wilmot of Pittsfield

Dickinson College
Carlisle, Pennsylvania • Dean's list
Sofia Roawn Marie Getoff-Scanlon of Easthampton, senior Spanish and Portuguese and political science major

Fitchburg State University
Fitchburg • President's list
Owen T. Bonney of Pittsfield

Fitchburg State University
Fitchburg • Dean's list
Josiah C. Hylton of Pittsfield
Nevaeh L. Williams of Pittsfield
Benjamin K. Adams of Southampton
Damian F. Defalco of Worthington

Mount Wachusett Community College
Distinction list
Adam Liccardi of Pittsfield
Robert Smith of Pittsfield

Roger Williams University
Bristol, Rhode Island • Dean's list
Ava Cieplinski of Westfield
Dominic Monti of Westfield
Cat Moriarty of Chesterfield

Tufts University
Medford • Dean's list
Natalie Nicoletti of Williamsburg, Class of 2025

Wichita State University
Wichita, Kansas Dean's list
Alexander J. Tilton of Westhampton
Mount Wachusett Community College
Excellence list
Catherine Plaza of Florence



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MIDDLEFIELD



Submitted photos

A group of Middlefield residents prepared a breakfast on Saturday, June 28 at the Middlefield Town Hall.

Middlefield hosts relay race breakfast

MIDDLEFIELD – The Boston Symphony Orchestra musicians that perform in the summer at Tanglewood, ran their annual fund raising event for Days of Arts program.

They made their usual stop at the Middlefield Town Hall for rest and breakfast. The tradition began in 2013 after James Cook inquired into using the Middlefield Town Hall since the prior route was determined to be too congested. The back roads are used for BSO, family and friends to run the relay race from Symphony Hall in Boston to Tanglewood, running for 24 hours.

A group of dedicated residents of the town get up at dawn on the last Saturday of June to provide refreshments and moral support to the runners on their last legs of their journey.



Submitted photos

Middlefield prepare breakfast for the members of the Boston Symphony Orchestra who ran an annual relay race fundraising event.

Middlefield Fair takes place Aug. 8-10

MIDDLEFIELD – The Board of Directors for the Highland Agricultural Society hereby announce the 2025 Middlefield Fair will be held on Friday, Aug. 8 to Sunday, Aug. 10 at the Middlefield Fairgrounds, 7 Bell Road.

Hours are Friday from 4-10 p.m., Saturday from 8 a.m.-10 p.m. and Sunday from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. The entrance fee is \$10 for adults, \$5 for seniors 65 plus and veterans and children under 12 free. The Middlefield Fair is one of the oldest fairs in the country and preserves many of the traditions of the old time country fairs. The fair brings an opportunity for the community to come together and compete to be the best of the best in many categories while providing a learning opportunity for the younger generation.

People will find the exhibitors' hall full of entries from local hilltown residents in categories such as baking, canning, vegetables, quilting, needle work, photography and so much more. The old fashioned arts, crafts and cooking skills are alive and well in the hilltowns.

On Friday evening, the noise level goes up in this typically quiet hilltown community as the Ken Boisseau Memorial Diesel Truck Pulls are featured in our mechanical pull track. The fair also welcomes the Country Line Dancing Team from Stompin Boots to teach country line dancing to the crowd.

On Saturday, the gas powered trucks have their turn on the track. Also on schedule for Saturday are the oxen pulls which are located across the fairgrounds in the animal draw ring. At 2 p.m. connect with the other side

as internationally renowned psychic Medium, Lisa Lanno helps us reconnect with loved ones who have passed. Other activities and events include, A State Police K-9 Demo (based on availability) a kids zone full of children's activities, Balloon Ben 3-7 p.m., free Face Painting 1 p.m.-4 p.m. and the Middlefield Fair Car, Truck and Tractor Show at 11 a.m. The dining hall meal will be a Smorgasburg including Shepard' pie, bake beans, mac and cheese, pasta and sauce, veggie bake, potato salad, macaroni salad, Cole slaw, roll and beverage

On Sunday, the garden tractors are on the mechanical pull track and the horses are in the animal draw ring. The Cattle Show begins at 10:30 a.m. Live entertainment is also going strong on Sunday, with an amazing performance of skilled Fiddler's from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. They will also have Ben the Balloon Man from 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Free Face Painting from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Ray Guillemette is bringing his Ray of Elvis and King Country to entertain starting at 2 p.m. Also fair goers will see another great demonstration by the State Police K-9 Demonstration (Based on availability). The dining hall will feature a full, Thanksgiving style turkey dinner with all the fixings.

There will also be exhibits at the fair like our petting zoo and a reptile encounter from Bubba's Snakes and Reptiles. There will be free children's activities throughout the fair and the fair is welcoming back the Massachusetts National Guard with their amazing Obstacle Course and so much more. Each day ends with a free kids' raffle for

new bikes and helmets.

A visit to the Middlefield Fair isn't complete without a visit to the Exhibit Hall and our Museum. The Exhibit Hall features all of the contest winners in crafts, cooking, arts and produce. They are also showing off a new museum and art center they were able to purchase thanks to a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources. The museum contains collections of antique farming and cooking tools that give patrons a look back in time into the lives of farmers and their families over the past centuries.

There is a great selection of food at the fair. From traditional dinners, to traditional fair food such as fried dough, hot dogs, hamburgers, French fries, ice cream, sausage, corn dogs, popcorn, cotton candy, candy apples, kettle corn and apple fritters, there is surely something to satisfy fair goer's hunger. Sunday morning features the traditional all you can eat pancake breakfast with a choice plain or with Middlefield's famous blueberries if they desire.

They are also showcasing some amazing local vendors and their handmade wares. Middlefield Fair is an agricultural fair rooted in traditional country fair tradition. Holding traditional competitions in baking, cooking, canning, needlework, quilting and so much more. They have old fashioned oxen and horse pulls in addition to our more modern truck and tractor pulls. There is fun, food, and entertainment for all.

RUSSELL

Library offers 'not to miss' summer events

By Wendy Long
Correspondent

RUSSELL – The Russell Public Library, located on 162 Main St., offers some not to miss events.

The Boston Bruins Mascot 'Blades' will visit with readers at the library on Tuesday, July 22 at 11 a.m. Blades has selected 12 libraries throughout the Commonwealth to visit this summer, to encourage children to keep reading. Preregistration deadline was July 16. The Bruins' summer reading theme is, "When you read, you score" This program is run through their partnership with the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners and the Massachusetts Library System, which has been in

place since 2009. According to the Bruins' website, summer reading is an important part of preventing the "summer slide," a loss of academic progress that can occur over the summer with children and teens, who don't read when school is out of session. Research has shown that those, who take part in summer reading programs show an increase in vocabulary scores on standardized testing, as well as an increase in comprehension scores. According to their website, reading just four books over the summer can prevent "summer slide."

Wildlife on Wheels will visit the Russell Public Library later that week, on Friday, July 25 at 10 a.m. Run by the Zoo at Forest Park, WOW brings five animal ambassadors out

into the community for a 45-minute educational program. Ambassadors are selected on the day of the program, based on factors such as the zoo educator's background, weather and distance from the zoo to the site. The visit may include rabbits, hedgehogs, degus, guinea pigs, small lizards, snakes, turtles and tortoises, hissing cockroaches, chickens, ducks and parrots. This program is co-sponsored by the Hilltown Family Center, a program of Hilltown Community Health Centers, Inc. Questions may be addressed to Kate McKenney by emailing kmckenney@hchcweb.org or calling 413-299-5056. This program is funded by the Department of Early Education and Care.

Also, mark your calendar

for upcoming August events. A workshop called Animals in Your Community will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 5 from 1-2 p.m. Led by Jon Burns, attendees will go behind the library and explore Bradley Brook for signs of creatures large and small. This event is sponsored by Wild and Scenic Westfield River. Please wear shoes and clothing that can get wet, and bring bug repellent.

The summer reading program concludes on Tuesday, Aug. 12 with a celebration from 6-8 p.m. at the library. Yo Yo Master Eric Koloski and Friends will demonstrate yo yo tricks with audience participation. Children, teens and adults, who have read throughout the summer, will be entered for reading raffle prizes.

SOUTH WORTHINGTON

Sevenars Academy presents Springfield Chamber Players

S O U T H WORTHINGTON – Sevenars Academy, 15 Ireland St., just off Rte. 112 will host the Springfield Chamber Players Clarinet Quintet on Sunday, July 27 at 4 p.m.

Reservations are not required or taken. All are welcome on first-come-first-served basis. There is no required admission cost, however donations are welcome at the door by cash or check (\$20 per person is suggested to help defray expenses).

Their program includes Vaughan Williams, Borodin, Paul Chihara and Bernard Herrmann. The quintet members are all illustrious musicians, who share Springfield Symphony Orchestra history. Clarinetist Christopher Cullen is the SSO principal clarinet, having also been principal clarinetist with the New York City Opera National Company, the Berkshire Opera Orchestra and more. Violinist Masako Yanagita has been Concertmaster of the SSO for over 40 years and is also Concertmaster of the Queens (New York)

Symphony Orchestra and co-music director of Mohawk Trails Concerts.

Violinist Miho Matsuno, a member of the SSO Orchestra since 1992, has performed extensively at major concert venues throughout the US and abroad after receiving music degrees from Juilliard with Christine Dethier and Joseph Fuchs.

Violist Yuko Naito-Gotay, with the SSO since 2004, has appeared over the years with the New York City Opera Orchestra, Mostly Mozart Festival Orchestra, American Composers Orchestra, New York Pops, St. Louis Symphony Orchestra and in Broadway productions. Cellist Melissa Westgate has performed with the SSO, the Albany Symphony, the New Haven Symphony, the American Symphony, and others. She currently plays lead cello in the Broadway musical Hell's Kitchen by Alicia Keys.

For more information, people may visit www.springfieldsymphonymusicians.com/events/sevenars

Mennonites to hold Vacation Bible School

RUSSELL – Members of the Pioneer Valley Mennonite Church, 40 Huntington Road, will hold Vacation Bible School from

Monday, July 21 to Friday, July 25 from 7-8:15 p.m. at their church.

After Bible School, there will be an Old Time

Hymn Sing-a-long on Sunday evening July 27 at 5 p.m. at the White Church in Blandford. Immediately following the singing there

will be a pot luck dinner for everyone. For more information or questions, people may call 413-281-8705.

Housatonic River cleanup set to take place July 19

PITTSFIELD – Last month, Berkshire Environmental Action Team and the Housatonic Valley Association hosted the first West Branch Housatonic River cleanup of the season.

Participants relieved the river of hundreds of pounds of trash including a bike, a mattress, and multiple tires. This

work would not have been possible without the tireless effort of the volunteers.

After the success of the previous cleanup, BEAT and HVA are happy to announce the second cleanup on Saturday, July 19 from 9 a.m.-noon. Once again, volunteers are needed to make this event possible.

All wishing to participate will meet at Wahconah Park, 105 Wahconah St. on July 19 at 9 a.m. where they will receive all necessary materials and equipment before breaking out into smaller teams. Cleanup teams will disperse to designated areas to gather miscellaneous trash along the river. In some areas, canoes

will be used to transport trash back to shore, where the city of Pittsfield will remove all items.

Cleaning up the river is a wet and dirty process, so volunteers should dress accordingly. Old sneakers, waterproof boots or waders, old clothes, a hat, a full water bottle, and sunscreen are recom-

mended. There will be a limited amount of waders available to borrow. After the cleanup, a free lunch from a local restaurant will be provided to all who RSVP in advance. In the event of severe weather, such as heavy rain or lightning, the cleanup will be canceled. People may register by visiting tinyurl.com/Housatonic

River-Cleanups-2025. For more information, they may visit thebeatnews.org or call 413-464-9402.

West Branch Housatonic River Cleanups are organized by Berkshire Environmental Action Team and Housatonic Valley Association and co-sponsored by the City of Pittsfield.

GOSHEN

Williams-Boltwood Project hosts upcoming Jazz Age event

GOSHEN – The Williams-Boltwood Project invites people to dust off their flapper fringe and polish their two-tone shoes for a spirited step back into the 1920s/

The event takes place on Sunday, July 20 from 2–5 p.m. at the historic Williams-Boltwood House, 2 Williams Drive. This will be a lively, family-friendly celebration of the Jazz Age and the 100th anniversary of the publication of “The Great Gatsby” by F. Scott Fitzgerald.

This immersive afternoon will bring to life the sights, sounds and tastes of Western Massachusetts during one of the most vibrant decades in American history. Attendees will enjoy live music by The Lark Jazz Trio and try their hand at classic 1920s games like croquet, horseshoes, backgammon, mahjong, a watermelon seed-spitting contest and a scavenger hunt for historic items from the era. There will be a craft station to create a vintage-inspired headband or bow tie on the spot.

There will be sample finger foods, lemonade, macaroons and 1920s-style sodas from local vendors while keeping an eye out

for the gangster bouncer guarding the speakeasy entrance. Crack the code to uncover the secret password and slip inside to enjoy cocktails, music on a vintage Victrola and cocktail demonstrations from the historical bartender, who will teach guests how to mix the iconic “Bee’s Knees” and share the fascinating story of cocktails and Prohibition.

The event also features rare access to the 1795 tavern and the 1813 post office and store, showcasing artifacts and stories from the rich history of the Hill towns. This event is made possible through the generous support of the Mass Cultural Council and the Goshen Cultural Council. Admission and lemonade are free, but donations are gratefully accepted for foods, bottled soda-pop and Speakeasy Cocktails that will support ongoing preservation efforts at the Williams-Boltwood House.

For details and updates, people may visit www.williamsboltwood.com or follow them on social media. People may celebrate the past, create new memories, come as a flapper, a gent or just as they are.



Jim Mayhew manned the grill for hot dogs and hamburgers.



Elvis Guillemette, Jr. performed at the picnic and opening of the summer music series in Huntington.

Town picnic celebrates with food and music



The weather held out for residents to enjoy music and food on the Town Green.

Turley photos by Wendy Long

Cooley Dickinson Hospital offers shuttle service for patients

NORTHAMPTON—To help Pioneer Valley residents access health care services at Massachusetts General Hospital, Brigham and Women’s Hospital and Mass Eye and Ear, Cooley Dickinson Hospital restarted its round-trip, daily shuttle service.

In 2020, Cooley Dickinson Hospital paused the shuttle due to the COVID-19 pandemic. “We are excited to relaunch this important service for our community,” said Cooley Dickinson Hospital President

and Chief Operating Officer Kevin Whitney, DNP, RN. “Local residents have repeatedly told us about the challenges and worries of getting to and from medical appointments at our academic and specialty hospitals. Making access easier to these hospitals is one of our top priorities.”

The 28-passenger, wheelchair-accessible shuttle bus will depart daily from the parking lot across from 8 Atwood Drive in Northampton promptly at 6:30 a.m. The bus is

equipped with free Wi-Fi and will make one stop at a rest area along the Mass Pike, arriving at Mass General Hospital’s Fruit Street entrance at approximately 9 a.m. for patients with appointments at Mass General Hospital and Mass Eye and Ear. The bus will then proceed to Brigham and Women’s Hospital to drop off patients there. Due to variability in traffic, all appointments at Mass General, Brigham and Women’s and Mass Eye and Ear must be scheduled

between the hours of 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. The bus will depart the Boston hospitals at 3 p.m. The shuttle runs Monday through Friday; there is no shuttle service on weekends or major holidays.

Reservations for the shuttle bus are required. People who take the shuttle must have an appointment at Mass General, Brigham and Women’s or Mass Eye and Ear and will be required to provide the date and time of their appointment when they register. Community members should call 24 hours in

advance to reserve their seat; anyone ages 18 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Patients are allowed one companion to ride the shuttle with them.

To make an appointment, people should call 413-966-8011, Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and noon. Outside of those hours, press “1” to leave a message for the shuttle bus coordinator; calls will be returned the next business day.

Cooley Dickinson Hospital (cooleydickinson.org) is a not-for-profit, acute

care hospital that offers community-based programs and services in Northampton, Massachusetts. A member of the Mass General Brigham system, Cooley Dickinson has been advancing the health of people in the Pioneer Valley since 1886. The organization includes community-based primary care and specialty practices in Hampshire and Southern Franklin counties and a VNA & Hospice program that provides home health and hospice nursing and rehabilitation visits.

PUBLIC NOTICES

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No.
HD25P1366EA
Estate of:
Chester E Danek
Date of Death: 04/07/2025
CITATION ON PETITION
FOR FORMAL
ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Frances H Couture of Mooresville, NC requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Frances H Couture of Mooresville, NC be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 07/29/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written

appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court.
Date: June 27, 2025

Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
07/17/2025

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF HUNTINGTON
PLANNING BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING**
The Planning Board (PB) of the Town of Huntington will hold a public hearing on Mon-

day, July 28, 2025 beginning at 7:00 pm in Stanton Hall.

The Public Hearing is scheduled for 7:00 pm for the Special Permit Application of Rene Gonzalez representing T-Mobile from 10 Church Circle, Annapolis, MD 21401, to install equipment cabinets and a generator on a 10' x 15' concrete pad inside the existing compound, and new equipment and mounts on the existing Telecommunications Tower at 19 Basket Street, Parcel Number H2-4-0.

This Special Permit Application will be available to view by appointment in the office of the Selectboard during regular business hours after July 15, as well as at the Public Hearing.
**PLANNING BOARD
TOWN OF HUNTINGTON
07/10, 07/17/2025**

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF HUNTINGTON
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

PUBLIC HEARINGS
The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) of the Town of Huntington will hold 3 public hearings on Monday, July 28, 2025 beginning at 6:00 pm in Stanton Hall.

The first Public Hearing is scheduled for 6:00 pm for the Special Permit Application of Greyson Dice Lyon of 11 Circuit Road North, West Yarmouth, MA to operate a tattoo shop for select clients at property he co-owns at 25 Allen Coit Road, Huntington, Parcels # 508-83-0 & 508-40-0.

The second Public Hearing is scheduled for 6:20 pm for the Special Permit Application of Charles MacDonald of 46 Sampson Road, Huntington, for renewal of his Earth Removal Special Permit at the same address, Parcel Number 506-28-0.

The third Public Hearing is scheduled for 6:40 pm for the Special Permit Application of Andrea McKittrick of 155 Pisgah Road, Huntington, to reopen the former Huntington Liquors at 21 Russell Road, Parcel Number H5-24-0.

All Special Permit Applications will be available to view by appointment in the office of the Selectboard during regular business hours after July 15, as well as at the Public Hearings.

See a separate Planning Board Public Hearing Notice for a Public Hearing the same evening for a new telecommunications carrier on the existing 19 Basket Street telecommunications tower.

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
TOWN OF HUNTINGTON
07/10, 07/17/2025**

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No.
HD25C0218CA**

**In the matter of:
Calvin Charles Whitley
CITATION ON PETITION
TO CHANGE NAME**

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Calvin Charles Whitley of Blandford, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

**Claire Cece Whitley
IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/04/2025.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court.
Date: July 07, 2025

Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
07/17/2025

**(SEAL)
THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
Docket Number:
25 SM 002014
ORDER OF NOTICE**

To: Justin Day
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):

U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as owner trustee for RCAF Acquisition Trust

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Huntington, numbered 14 Pleasant Street, given by Justin Day to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Inland Bank and Trust, dated December 17, 2015, and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 12155, Page 171 and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant’s/Defendants’ Servicemembers status. If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before **August 18, 2025**, or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, Gordon H. Piper,
Chief Justice of this Court on July 3, 2025.

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
26241

07/17/2025

DEATH NOTICE

BUSH, JEAN ELDER

Died July 5, 2025
Graveside service held Center Cemetery Montgomery
Boucher O'Brien Funeral Home Easthampton

OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

OBITUARIES

Jean Elder Bush, 83

MONTGOMERY – Jean Elder Bush, 83, of Montgomery, passed away peacefully on July 5, 2025 after a courageous but short battle with pancreatic cancer. She was born in Westfield on Dec. 2, 1941 to John L. Elder and Dorothy Moon Elder. She lived in Littleville, until the government forced evacuation of all residents, in order to make way for flood zoning at the current Littleville Lake location. She graduated from Chester High School and soon married her high school sweetheart, Curtis, in June of 1960 and in 1962 they settled together in Montgomery and raised a family.

Jean stayed home and cared for her children, while also running the administrative duties of the family business for 41 years.

Some of Jean's most favorite hobbies were cooking, camping, ocean and

ice fishing. She always caught the biggest and most fish. She would go anywhere her husband would go, rough waters of the ocean, car shows in the hot sun, cold winters up north hunting and trips to "camp." She loved Vermont. Bluegrass festivals were also a great joy for her.

As she got older and less mobile, researching her ancestry became a big part of her life. She knew Littleville history well, she lived it. Her research reacquainted her with a lot of friends from Littleville. Feeding and watching the wild birds was also enjoyable.

She leaves a son, Curtis Jr. and his wife Melissa of Montgomery; a daughter, Brenda Carrington and her husband Guy of Guilford



Vermont; two grandchildren, Tanner Bush of Mill Run Pennsylvania and Autumn Hamblin of Montgomery.

She was predeceased by her parents, her husband Curtis Sr., a brother John, (Jackie) and two sisters.

There will be no calling hours. A graveside service was held at Center Cemetery, Russell Road, Montgomery on Saturday, July 12, 2025. Boucher – O'Brien Funeral Home in Easthampton was entrusted with her care.

Donations in Jean's memory may be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital, Chester Historical Society, or your local animal shelter for prevention of cruelty to animals.

Shannon Cowell to compete in 2026 Special Olympics USA Games

BOSTON – Special Olympics Massachusetts announces 16 athletes selected to represent Team Massachusetts at the 2026 Special Olympics USA Games during this year's Summer Games in Boston. The announcement celebrates 16 dedicated athletes from across the state who will compete on the national stage in powerlifting, tennis, athletics (track & field) and aquatics. Local athlete is Shannon Cowell of Pittsfield, athletics (track and field).

To qualify for this honor, each athlete had to have won gold at the 2025 Summer Games, which was held at Harvard University's Athletic Complex from June 7-8. The 2026 USA Games will take place June 20-26, 2026 in Minneapolis, Minnesota, bringing

together over 4,000 athletes from across the country for a week of elite competition.

These athletes earned their spot through years of dedication, consistent training, and powerful performances in state-level competition. They now begin a yearlong journey of preparation, team building, and fundraising as they get ready to compete in Minnesota.

The full Team Massachusetts delegation will ultimately include athletes, Unified partners, and coaches competing in basketball, bocce, bowling, flag football, golf, powerlifting, soccer, swimming, tennis, track & field, and volleyball. Additional team members will be announced in the coming months.

THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPES

ARIES
Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, your confidence is peaking and people are noticing. Even though you are on a roll, don't let it go to your head. Mid-week might be a test of your patience, but you'll keep your cool.

TAURUS
Apr 21/May 21

You are craving creature comforts, Taurus. This week you might be happy with keeping things slow and relaxing. You also may want to splurge on a treat.

GEMINI
May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, this week your brain may be best compared to a Wi-Fi signal. In other words, moving fast, seeking new information and maybe a little glitchy. Slow down enough to focus on necessary tasks.

CANCER
Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, you might be feeling tender this week, and others may be realizing that you're giving off warm-and-fuzzy vibes. That will suit you at home, but you may need to be more firm at work.

LEO
Jul 23/Aug 23

Your charisma is showing, and people could be eating it up. You're giving off lead character energy right now, but don't forget to let others share some of your spotlight.

VIRGO
Aug 24/Sept 22

This week you are completely focused on organizing your life, Virgo. Whether you need to use spreadsheets or label makers, do whatever it takes to fix what you think needs it most.

LIBRA
Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, it's time to embrace some social events, or at least get them on the calendar. Practice your small talk and get ready to mingle. You will be ready to be the life of the party.

SCORPIO
Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, if you've been holding on to secrets, one may slip out this week. It could be a confession or a breakthrough, but it will be intense to reveal.

SAGITTARIUS
Nov 23/Dec 21

You may be halfway out the door and ready for some adventure, Sagittarius. Spontaneity will look good on you this week, but reserve some time for your responsibilities.

CAPRICORN
Dec 22/Jan 20

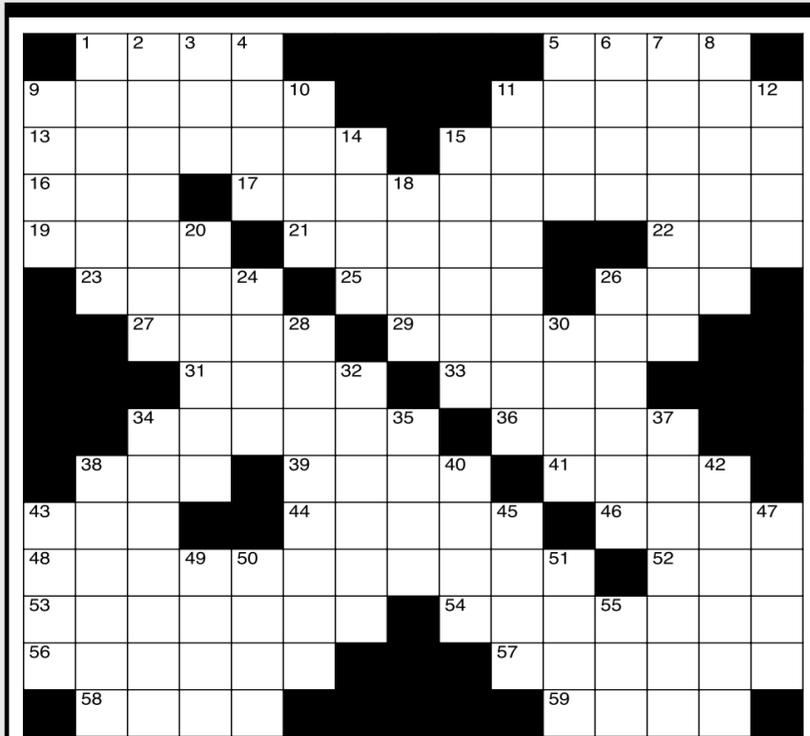
Take inventory of what you have accomplished thus far and enjoy what you have built, Capricorn. You don't need to prove anything because you've been rocking it.

AQUARIUS
Jan 21/Feb 18

What to-do list, Aquarius? Your ability to focus on tasks and knock them off one by one is monumental this week. Your brain definitely has been firing on all cylinders.

PISCES
Feb 19/Mar 20

Someone might surprise you this week with an unexpected compliment or an offer of help, Pisces. Accept either gladly and then figure out how to pay it forward.



CLUES ACROSS

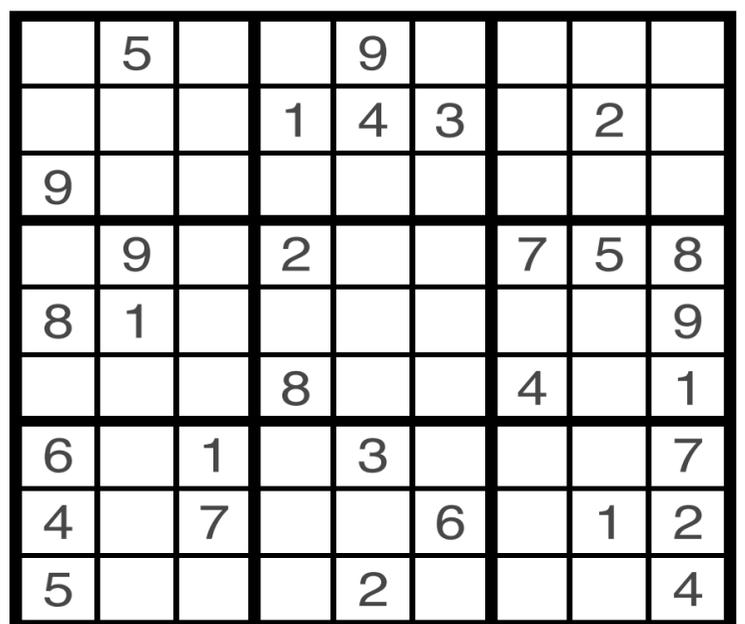
- 1. Resorts
- 5. One point south of southwest
- 9. Musical performances
- 11. Matched
- 13. Four-footed animal part
- 15. Express severe disapproval of
- 16. Type of leaf
- 17. Preparatory
- 19. Walk heavily
- 21. Succulent plants
- 22. Rectangle of grass
- 23. Lump in yarn
- 25. Too
- 26. Foot (Latin)
- 27. Afflicts
- 29. Smoothed
- 31. Mind (Greek)

CLUES DOWN

- 33. Tampa ballclub
- 34. Semitic language
- 36. Sheltered sides
- 38. Ocean
- 39. Electronic point of sale
- 41. Thrust a knife into
- 43. 12th month (abbr.)
- 44. Ringworm
- 46. Father of Aoris (Greek myth.)
- 48. Fighting back
- 52. Cease to exist
- 53. Insects in adult stage
- 54. Freestanding sculpture
- 56. Caps
- 57. Repents
- 58. Brown and Wallace are two
- 59. Moved quickly

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Goes bad
- 2. Yard structure
- 3. They ___
- 4. Marine invertebrate
- 5. European river
- 6. Office supplies firm
- 7. Physically abused
- 8. Service stations in Australia
- 9. Kills
- 10. Liquid body substances
- 11. Particular to a given individual
- 12. Brave or noble act
- 14. Sicilian city
- 15. Conqueror
- 18. Elected officials
- 20. Type of «pig»
- 24. Drop of viscous substance
- 26. Monetary unit of Spain
- 28. Guarantees
- 30. Coloring materials
- 32. Reddish browns
- 34. Square measure
- 35. Will not
- 37. Canned fish
- 38. Appeared
- 40. Six (Spanish)
- 42. Took off
- 43. Negligible amount
- 45. Posts in a Greek temple
- 47. Witnesses
- 49. Phil ___, former CIA
- 50. Places to park
- 51. Guns
- 55. Dance to pop music



SUDOKU

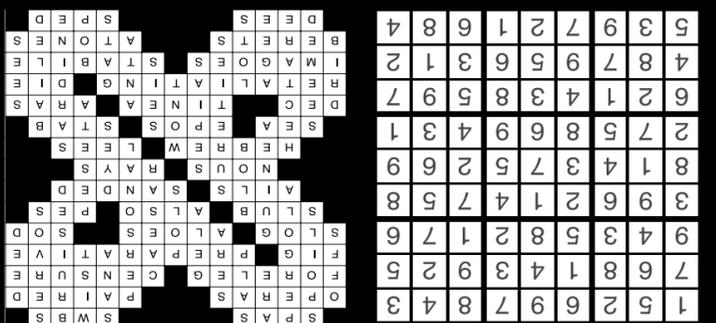
Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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answers



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BLANDFLORD

Council on Aging honors July birthdays at picnic



Three of the six birthday folks are from left, Mary Powers; Jim Kronholm, who marked his 90th birthday and Nancy Ackley. Other July birthdays were Bob Burt, Faith Carpenter and Joyce Kidder.

BLANDFLORD – Prior to indulging in the now infamous root beer float and birthday cake, seniors enjoyed the annual Council on Aging picnic Friday, July 11.

Chief griller Keri Morawiec flipped burgers and turned hotdogs until the right degree of doneness. Food preparation artist Joann Martin created the tortellini salad, potato salad, baked beans and a side of caramelized onions. Water melon was an additional treat along with the birthday cake.

Birthdays celebrated were Nancy Ackley, Bob

Burt, Faith Carpenter, Joyce Kidder, Jim Kronholm who marked 90 years and Mary Powers, another nonagenarian.

Director Margit Mikuski cut the cake baked and decorated by Jennifer Girard while volunteers Judith Mackinnon, Sue Racine and Doretta Boomsma served. Next round of breakfasts and luncheons will be in August and Game Day Friday is the first Friday in August. She thanked the Highway Department for their help, especially scooping ice cream.



Turley photos by Mary Kronholm
Jennifer Girard of the Blandford Bistro baked and decorated the birthday cake.

Froggy, found guarding the potato salad was an appropriate task.



Highway Superintendent Ray Hultay who, with his coworkers Michael Carr, Mario Godbout and Ryan Keach, enjoyed the barbecue.



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