

BARRE GAZETTE

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Select Board and FinCom discuss PILOT policy

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
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HARDWICK – The Select Board had a joint meeting with the Finance Committee on Jan. 21.

The purpose of the meeting was to have a workshop on the payment in lieu of taxes policy. This policy involves payments requested by a city or municipality from a nonprofit organization that owns tax-exempt property within city or municipal limits.

Members of the Finance Committee and the Select Board joined together to research and identify the best conclusions to better understand the policy and how they should approach and negotiate with nonprofits in Town and how they benefit the community.

At first, Select Board Chair Kelly Kemp said she was an agreement with the policy, but that certain elements of the policy were unclear.

"I don't think this is a route we want to go down," Kemp said.

Select Board Clerk William Tinker mentioned they could vote to amend the policy. The board made it clear they don't want to single out anybody in the discussion and this workshop was to share different viewpoints on the PILOT policy.

Nonprofit organizations fall under various chapters that involve multiple entities. The Select Board and the Finance Committee are aiming to form a relationship between representatives of the town and the entities that identify as nonprofit organizations.

The biggest concern is how to determine the impact the nonprofit has on the town of Hardwick. Members of the Finance Committee reminded the board that there are some nonprofits who could come in and make other contributions besides a financial contribution.

One of the policies the board reviewed involved a formula that won't work for certain nonprofits. It seems the policy would work better if the town viewed nonprofit organizations on an individual basis. The Finance Committee said they're willing to assess the impact the organizations have on the town, but still want to agree upon a policy with the Select Board that makes sense.

At first, the Select Board was prepared to vote on the policy, but Town Administrator Justine Caggiano reminded them that this joint meeting is only a workshop and no vote is needed.

"You'll still need definitions on what these nonprofits are," Caggiano said.

Caggiano also mentioned the board would have to have a policy where they define what a base rate is. There was still confusion between both boards as to what was the best way to measure impact from nonprofits. Kemp does believe that there is good in both policies, but there has to be an agreement before the Board is set on a policy.

Tinker mentioned the East Quabbin Land Trust as an example since they have a lot of volunteers who help with improving areas in town and keeping trails clean and clear. One idea of measuring is to calculate the number of volunteer hours the trust puts in.

The board does understand that every nonprofit is not going to get the same impact fee, but the board still wants a policy in place that helps the town prosper and function

See HARDWICK, page 5

Fishing derby participants enjoy a day on the ice



Noah Bachant, left, proudly holds two bass he caught at a fishing derby held at Lake Dean in Oakham this past Saturday, Jan. 25. His grandfather, Paul Zack of Oakham, seems to be having as much fun as his grandson.

Photos by Tom Rawinski

OAKHAM – The Brookfield Lions Club held a fishing derby at Lake Dean this past Saturday, Jan. 25.

The top ten winning bass weights were 5 to nearly 6 pounds. My biggest was barely 3 pounds. -pics.

Tom Rawinski of Oakham also participated in the derby. He said, "We had a lot of fun and decent action at Lake Dean today." His biggest bass was barely 3 pounds.

Rawinski said, "Every bird watcher in the State should be jealous of us ice fishermen because we get to witness a thrilling spectacle of Nature bald eagles swooping down to snatch pickerel off the ice. The pair of



A highlight of the day was the arrival to two bald eagles swooping down and grabbing fish off the ice.

mature eagles appeared 'out of nowhere' after we posed with the bass. They evidently saw the bass from nearly a mile away. I threw them a big pickerel that we didn't want."

Incidentally, this was Noah's first sighting of an eagle.

Hospital committee discusses proposed healthcare facility

By Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Hospital Review Committee Chair Howard Trietsch provided an update about a recent meeting between town representatives, Baystate Health and state Rep. Todd Smola.

At the committee's Jan. 22 meeting, Trietsch said the meeting held earlier in the month, was a "productive meeting."

"They seem to have changed their tunes about a number of things," he said of Baystate Health.

Trietsch said at this meeting, Baystate Health CEO Peter Banko said that Baystate Health had decided to hire a third-party accountant to look at all of the trusts associated with Mary Lane Hospital, and make that information public.

"We thought that was a big deal to get that agreement," Trietsch said.

Trietsch said Baystate Health has also committed to opening a physical site to house a Convenient Care facility, similar to the one operating at Baystate Wing Hospital. He said the facility will have one to three providers, starting with hours offered Monday through Friday.

"Their Convenient Care is a combination of primary care and urgent care," Trietsch said.

Trietsch said Banko made it "very clear" that Baystate Health is also willing to expand the proposed Convenient Care if it's successful, including a laboratory

and other specialties.

"They did say the limiting factor, most likely, is the recruitment of physicians," he said. "They feel right now they have the provider power to do it."

Trietsch said Baystate Health is unwilling to open the Convenient Care facility on the Mary Lane Hospital site, due to a number of reasons including having to renovate the buildings.

"What they'd like to do is find something in town," he said.

Trietsch said some of the possible sites discussed include the Country Bank building on Main Street or St. Mary's School on South Street.

He said the Convenient Care facility is expected to open in a relatively short time frame.

"They thought that they could do this in months not years," Trietsch said.

Trietsch said Baystate Health would like to utilize money from the Gilbert Trust annually as seed money to operate the convenient care facility. He said on Jan. 15, Baystate Health was planning to submit a proposal to Bank of America, regarding this use of the trust.

The Hospital Review Committee and had previously voted unanimously to use the trust funds as seed money to bring a medical entity to Ware, "and that priority for any entity should be the former Mary Lane site, but not limited to only that site."

Trietsch said another meeting See HOSPITAL, page 9

Larry Buell received Lifetime Achievement Award

PETERSHAM – Larry Buell is a life-long resident of Petersham and the North Quabbin Region.

He has influenced many through a myriad of assorted projects and programs related to leadership, community building, education, environmental action and "Sense of Place" initiatives. Others have learned of Larry's remarkable work and accomplishments over the past sixty years more recently.

He has documented over five-thousand hours of voluntary service since his employment at Greenfield Community College and beyond from 1969 to the present. Buell founded the Outdoor Leadership Program in 1980, the Earth Education Program in 1994, and retired as Professor Emeritus of Human Ecology in 2004 from the college.

For his many hours of dedicated service as a volunteer, Larry was recognized at the Jan. 20 Awards Ceremony in Washington DC where he received the U.S. President's Lifetime Award for Volunteer Service. The award was presented to 506 recipients for outstanding leadership and voluntary service for human development, civic engagement and other initiatives that foster hope and transformation within the United States and beyond.

The award has been given for the last eleven years and recognizes the committed advocacy of organizations and individuals, who have experienced religious persecution, hunger, civilian onslaught, racial discrimination and other human rights violations. These awards and the Washington DC-based programs



Submitted photo

Larry Buell proudly holds his U.S. President Lifetime Achievement Award he received on Monday, Jan. 20.

and services promote world peace, harmony and sustainable development world-wide.

Highlights of Buell's volunteer services include, the "Land Back Movement" return of Indigenous Nipmuc Land, co-founder of the Massachusetts Environmental Education Society and the Quabbin Visitor Center; his 1965 trip around the world with the Springfield College Basketball Team; co-founder of the Petersham Friday Market; Historical Society programs and his many programs in-the-field focusing on "Sense of Place" and Sacred Landscapes.

The list of Larry's amazing volunteer services spans over six decades and reads like a roadmap and guidebook for returning to the land, honoring cultural pres-

See BUELL, page 5



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

Hearts for Heat North Brookfield hosted their annual spaghetti dinner at North Brookfield Elementary School this past Saturday night. Roger and Rachel, left, alongside Janet and David enjoyed their spaghetti and meatball meal.

Hearts for Heat hosted successful spaghetti dinner fundraiser

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Residents got to enjoy a spaghetti dinner this past Saturday at North Brookfield Elementary School, put together by the North Brookfield chapter of Hearts for Heat.

Hearts for Heat is a community-based charitable organization dedicated to providing heat to qualified residents in town.

The chapter consists of seven faithful volunteers: Sue Lewandowski serves as president, secretary and founder of the Hearts for Heat Chapter of North Brookfield; Ellen Smith is the treasurer and application facilitator; and the Board of Directors includes Louise Bouchard, Thomas Lewandowski, Tina Buzzell, Crystal Caron and Caitlin O'Connor.

Lewandowski said North Brookfield Hearts for Heat was founded 16 years ago, shortly after the cost of oil first skyrocketed to an all-time high.

"A group of people came together to form the North Brookfield Chapter," Lewandowski said.

Soon the annual spaghetti dinner was created to help raise funds to support North Brookfield Residents.

This annual event is a collaboration of community members and businesses coming together to support a great cause. Hannaford Supermarket supplies most of the food and the Hayden Masonic Lodge prepares the homemade meal. Members of the lodge were keeping busy in the cafeteria preparing spaghetti and meatballs with brownies for dessert.

The North Brookfield Parent Teacher Organization pays for the school building use, while North

Brookfield High School National Honor Society and Valley View School students sell raffle tickets and help with cleaning up after the meal. Local businesses donate smaller items to the raffle table for guests to try and win.

North Brookfield Savings Bank matches \$2,500 in community donations.

Lewandowski mentioned that in the last two years, Hearts for Heat has provided fuel assistance for 75 families.

The spaghetti dinner has been going on for 16 years, but for the last 15 years the dinner has featured live music from The Otters. The band plays many covers of classical songs and provides a great atmosphere that keeps the diners entertained.

The support has been tre-

See HEARTS FOR HEAT, page 5



News of the Towns



Round Town
Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

Food Pantry holds distributions

The next two Barre Food Pantry distributions will occur on Wednesday, Feb. 12 from 10-11:30 a.m. and on Thursday, Feb. 20 from 5:30-7 p.m. Clients are invited to pick up groceries from the food pantry either in the morning on Wednesday, Feb. 12 or in the evening on Thursday, Feb. 20 whichever is more convenient for them. In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients Feb. 12 and Feb. 20 will again be "drive-through" style distributions. Clients will line up in their vehicles on Park Street and proceed into the right hand (east) entrance driveway of the Barre Congregational Church. They will remain in their cars. They'll drive up and be checked in by a volunteer, then continue up to the church building where their groceries will be put into the trunk or wayback of their vehicle by volunteers at multiple stations.

Designer pancake breakfast

Cradle Rock Chapter Order of Eastern Star will old a designer pancake breakfast on Saturday, Feb. 1 from 7:30-10:30 a.m. at Mt Zion Lodge Hall. People may create their pancakes with plenty of chips, fruit, nuts and more. The complete breakfast includes designer pancakes, waffles, sausage gravy with biscuits, bacon, sausage, juice and coffee. The cost is still \$9 per adult and \$5 for children 6 and under. Everyone in welcome.

Barre Winter Market

On Saturday, Feb. 8 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. the Barre Winter Market located in the Barre Town Hall, 2 Exchange St., Barre will take place. Other dates are Saturday, March 8 and Saturday, April 12, all from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. This is the third year of the market. Local crafters and farmers sell their crafts and products. For more information, people may call Celia at 978-355-0139 or email rebellbathandbeyond@gmail.

Holden Grange hold program on aquaculture

HOLDEN – On Monday, Feb. 10 at 7 p.m. the Holden Grange will sponsor a program on aquaculture in the Holden Senior Center, 1130 Main St.

The program entitled "Aquaculture: Pros and Cons for Fisheries Sustainability" will be given by Ted Purcell of Rutland, a naturalist, fisherman, advocate for conservation of Striped Bass, and author of the Wachusett Outdoor Window column in the Holden Landmark.

Fish are the last wild organisms that are "market hunted," meaning wild organisms are harvested and sold to consumers. Efforts have been made and will continue to be made to "farm" fresh and saltwater organisms ranging from fin fish to shellfish and seaweed.

For fish stocks to remain sustainable, many researchers, scientists, fishermen, and consumers envision that a large scale move to farming will be necessary. The presentation will give a brief history of fishing, review current practices, and overview aquaculture methods, options, challenges, and opportunities.

This event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. For more information, people may email holdengranger78@gmail.com or call 508-886-2341.

Friends of Library present finding William Lewis

NEW BRAINTREE – On Sunday, Feb. 16 at 2 p.m. the Friends of the New Braintree Library will present Finding William Lewis in the New Braintree Town Hall, 20 Memorial Drive.

Bruce Craven and Christie Higginbottom will relate how they found the William Lewis documents. They will introduce William through an examination of his writings: his daily journal entries and accounts, including tanning and currying accounts, book sales records, accounts of wife Abby's work sewing bed ticks and the records of daily work on the farm.

This program is funded by the Hardwick/New Braintree Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a State agency. This program is free and open to the public. If it snows, this program will be held on Sunday, May 18. If people have any questions, they may call Deb Morrison at 508-867-3324.

Local Eagle Scouts recognized at celebration dinner



Submitted Photo

Heart of New England, Scouting America Class of 2024 Eagle Scouts.

WORCESTER – Heart of New England Council, Scouting America proudly hosted the Annual Eagle Scout Recognition Dinner at the Hogan Campus Center at Holy Cross College.

This prestigious event honored the remarkable achievements of the newest class of Eagle Scouts, the highest rank attainable. One hundred-three young men and women were honored, including Adrik Matys, Troop 118, West Brookfield; Andrew Gentili, Troop 238, East Brookfield; Zachary Lowe and Gavin Finn, Troop 141, Rutland; Camrin Bolduc, Troop 142, Warren; Richard Tucker and Jacob Labarre, Troop 144, Oakham; and Nathan Lavoie, Joseph Roderick, Alex Fairbrother, Dominic Perreault, Adam Bailey and Ryan Beede, Troop 161, Sturbridge.

The evening was filled with inspiring stories of dedication, leadership, and community service. Distinguished guests, including local dignitaries, community leaders, and proud family members, gathered to celebrate the hard work and commitment of these exceptional young individuals.

The Heart of New England Eagle Project of the Year was awarded to Amsden Klinghard, Troop 131 Sutton. Amsden's Eagle project was inspired by Troop 131's long-standing partnership with American Legion Post 414 in Sutton.

The Eagle Off-Road 5k for Veterans was held to raise awareness and to collect much needed supplies for veterans' organizations. In lieu of an entry fee, race participants donated three items requested by Veterans Inc., a shelter for homeless veterans in Worcester.

What it means to be an Eagle Scout

Becoming an Eagle Scout is a significant milestone that represents years of dedication, perseverance, and personal growth. To earn this rank, a Scout must demonstrate proficiency in various skills, complete a series of merit badges, and lead a community service project that benefits their local area.

The journey to Eagle Scout fosters leadership, responsibility, and a strong sense of community. Eagle Scouts are recognized for their ability to set and achieve goals, their commitment to ethical and moral values, and their readiness to take on challenges.

This rank is not only a testament to their past achievements but also a foundation for future success in their personal and professional lives.

About Heart of New England Council
Heart of New England Council is a 501(c)(3) organization that serves about 4,000 boys and girls in more than 60 communities in central Massachusetts. It provides the nation's foremost program that teaches young people character, leadership, and citizenship through fun and exciting adventures for the entire family.

HNE fosters a culture of diversity and inclusion that makes it enriching to participate, volunteer and work in the Scouting program. Visit www.hnescouting.org for more information.

Town Clerk announces election information

BARRE – Town Clerk Ellen Glidden announces nomination papers for the town of Barre's April 7 Annual Town Election are available from the Town Clerk's Office located at 40 West St.

All papers must be returned back for certification by the Board of Registrars on Monday, Feb. 17 no later than 5 p.m. The last day to obtain nomination papers is Thursday, Feb. 13 at 5 p.m.

Richard C. Stevens, 905 Williamsville Road, returned papers for Select Board member for three years. Ellen Glidden (candidate for re-election), 637 Cutler Road, returned papers for Town Clerk for three years and Dennis G. Fleming (candidate for re-election), 7 Exchange St., returned papers for Constable for three years. Also returning nomination papers were Martha Lee Pearson (candidate for re-election), 320 Oakham Road, for Library Trustees for three

years and Mark Thomas Brophy (candidate for re-election), 90 Ruggles Lane, for Quabbin Regional School Committee Member for three years.

Candidates taking out nomination papers, but have not returned them yet are Joshua Edward Smith, 80 Pleasant St., for Moderator for three years; Joshua Thomas Jalbert Jr. (candidate for re-election), 147 Valley Road for Constable for three years and Michale A. LaRose (candidate for re-election) 196 Mechanic St., for Planning Board Associate member for one year and Richard Gordon Allan (candidate for re-election), 539 Springhill Road, for Quabbin Regional School Committee Member for three years.

To date no one took out nomination papers for Planning Board Member for five years, Water Commissioner for three years and Sewer Commissioner for three years.

election), 600 West St., for Barre Housing Authority Member for five years and Margaret N. Petracone (candidate for re-election), 600 West St., for Felton Field Commissioner for three years.

Voters elect two Library Trustees; Lisa Marie Marselle (candidate for re-election), 100 Pleasant St, has taken out papers, but not returned them. Also taking out papers, but not returning them are Michael A. LaRose (candidate for re-election) 196 Mechanic St., for Planning Board Associate member for one year and Richard Gordon Allan (candidate for re-election), 539 Springhill Road, for Quabbin Regional School Committee Member for three years.

To date no one took out nomination papers for Planning Board Member for five years, Water Commissioner for three years and Sewer Commissioner for three years.

Paige Memorial Library lists programs

HARDWICK – January is International Creativity Month and National Hobby Month, a time to celebrate the power of imagination.

Creativity can enrich lives. The Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, provides books and workshops for a new hobby or to rediscover an old interest.

Ongoing activities include: knitting for adults on Saturdays at 11 a.m., Paige

writers on alternate Tuesdays at 3 p.m. and Fundamentals of art on Tuesdays at 6 p.m.. Fundamentals of art explores printmaking, cardmaking, calligraphy, painting and more or bring a craft and join with others to socialize and share know-how.

Book Club meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 2 p.m. Next meeting is Wednesday, Feb. 19.

Cookbook Club meets on the last Wednesday of the month at 5 p.m. with the next meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 26.

People may call 413-477-6704 or email Director. paigelibrary@gmail.com for more information or to register. Library hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2-7 p.m., Wednesdays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Hubbardston

Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com



Agricultural Commission holds workshop

The Hubbardston Agricultural Commission will hold a workshop on "Raising Chickens: Everything You Want to Know" on Wednesday, Feb. 19 from 6:30-8 p.m. in the Hubbardston Senior Center, 7 Main St. Light refreshments will be available. People planning on attending should email Cathy Hansgate at ladybug-farmproduce@gmail.com.

Helpsy Bins

The Hubbardston Board of Health have Helpsy Bins in the Recycling driveway just south of the Hubbardston Department of Public Works. Accepted items are footwear, clothing, linens, accessories, luggage and stuffed animals. All items must be placed in the bins and not left outside the bin. Footwear includes shoes, heels, flats, sandals, flip flops, boots (all varieties), sneaker, cleats and slippers. Clothing includes tops (t-shirt, blouses, shirts, tank tops), sweaters, sweatshirts, dresses, outerwear (coats, jackets, blazers), bottoms (pants, slacks, jeans, sweatpants, skirts, shorts), suits, pajamas, intimates (slips, bras, underwear, socks) and baby clothing. Linens include sheets/pillowcases, blankets, comforters, curtains/drapes, aprons, dish cloths, cloth napkins, table linens and quilts. Accessories include hats, bags (pocketbooks, backpacks, duffel bags, totes), belts, gloves, ties, scarves, bathrobes, and jewelry. Items are accepted in any condition for all ages and genders so long as they are clean, dry and odorless. Everything should be kept dry in a closed, plastic bag.

Taxes due

Real Estate taxes are due Monday, Feb. 3.

Senior Center

The Hubbardston Senior Center, 7A Main St., events include: Bingo from 12:30-3 p.m. on Mondays; Knitting Group at 10 a.m. every Tuesday at 10 a.m. and WiiBowling beginning at 8:30 a.m. every Monday and Wednesday beginning at 8:30 a.m. Eggs may be picked up on Thursdays at 8:30 a.m. in the Senior Center. Cribbage is played on Thursdays from 1:30-3 p.m. Pitch is played the first and third Friday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Art group meets every Friday at 9 a.m.

Barre Dining Center

BARRE — Elder Services of Worcester Area Nutrition Program welcomes guests to dine at the Barre Senior Center, 557 South Barre Road. The following meals will be served for the week of Feb. 3. Lunches are back at the senior center, but require a pre-sign up. Volunteers are needed at the Barre dining site. Volunteers are needed for Meals on Wheels (mileage reimbursement) and in the kitchen. People should contact 978-355-5027.

MONDAY – Burger, chili and cheese, herb-baked potatoes, green beans, fresh fruit, sandwich roll

TUESDAY – Chicken pesto, Delmonico potatoes, peas and carrots, cookies, pumpernickel bread

WEDNESDAY – Turkey supreme, mashed potatoes, Roman blend vegetables, pear crisp, diet = pears, marbled rye bread

THURSDAY – American chop suey, roasted broccoli, corn, vanilla pudding, diet = sugar free vanilla pudding, whole wheat bread

FRIDAY – Jambalaya, rice pilaf, green peas, fruited ambrosia, Italian bread

*Higher sodium entree Meal includes milk and margarine. Menus are subject to change. All meals are served at about 11:45 a.m. each weekday. Reservations should be made the day before by calling 978-355-5027 before 10:30 a.m. The donation of \$3.00 per meal helps keep the program running.

DCR offers February vacation program on tracks and scat

BELCHERTOWN – The Department of Conservation and Recreation will host a February Vacation Program "Tracks and Scat" on Monday, Feb. 17 from 10-11 a.m.

Although we may not see them often, our native wildlife is all around us. Come learn to recognize some signs of wildlife through a fun and informative indoor activity.

Meet at the Les and Terry Campbell Quabbin Visitor Center in Belchertown. Great for all ages, children must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information, call 413-323-7221. To register visit <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/250b6dc-beefc4f30a4da5b0f86abc4f3>.

SUBMISSIONS ALWAYS WELCOME

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News of the Towns

PUBLIC MEETINGS

BARRE

Select Board – Feb. 3 at 6 p.m.
 Board of Assessors – Feb. 4 at 6 p.m.
 Felton Field Commission – Feb. 4 at 6:30 p.m.
 Planning Board – Feb. 4 at 7 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Feb. 5 at 12:30 p.m.
 Board of Health – Feb. 10 at 5 p.m.
 Water Commission – Feb. 10 at 6:30 p.m.
 DPW Commission – Feb. 10 at 7 p.m.
 Cable Advisory Council – Feb. 11 at 7 p.m.
 Insurance Advisory Committee – Feb. 12 at 4 p.m. and Feb. 27 at 1:30 p.m.
 250th Anniversary Committee – Feb. 12 at 6:30 p.m.
 Library Trustees – Feb. 12 at 6:30 p.m.
 Barre Housing Authority – Feb. 13 at 1 p.m.
 Board of Registrars – Feb. 18 at 4:15 p.m.
 Cemetery Commission – Feb. 27 at 11 a.m.
 Election Day – April 7 from 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

HARDWICK

Finance Committee – Jan. 30 at 5 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Feb. 5 at 12:30 p.m.
 Hardwick/New Braintree Cultural Council – Feb. 5 at 6:30 p.m.
 Paige Library Trustees – Feb. 6 at 7 p.m.
 Planning Board – Feb. 11 at 6:30 p.m.
 Board of Health – Feb. 11 at 6:45 p.m.
 Gilbertville Public Library – Feb. 12 at 4 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – Feb. 12 at 6:30 p.m.
 Gilbertville Water District – Feb. 18 at 5:30 p.m.

HUBBARDSTON

Planning Board Hearing – Feb. 5 at 6:30 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Feb. 18 at 4 p.m.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

Post Owner/Architect/Contractor Meeting – Jan. 30, Feb. 16, Feb. 13, Feb. 20 and Feb. 27 at 3 p.m.
 School Committee Policy Subcommittee Executive Session – Jan. 30 at 6 p.m.
 Board of Health – Jan. 30 at 6:30 p.m.
 Sewer Commissioner – Feb. 3 at 5:30 p.m.
 Planning Board – Feb. 19 at 6 p.m.

OAKHAM

Sen. Durant and Rep. Berthiaume Office hour – Feb. 5 from noon-1 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Feb. 14 at noon

PETERSHAM

Select Board – Jan. 30, Feb. 13, Feb. 20, Feb. 27, March 6, March 13 and March 27 at 5:30 p.m.
 Zoning Board of Appeals – Jan. 30 at 7 p.m.
 Board of Assessors – Jan. 31 at 9 a.m.
 Open Space and Recreation Committee – Feb. 4 at 6 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – Feb. 4 at 7 p.m.
 Board of Health – Feb. 6 at 6 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Feb. 10 at 10 a.m.
 Cemetery Commission – Feb. 11 at 10 a.m.
 Petersham Historic District – Feb. 20 at 6 p.m.

RUTLAND

Town Charter Committee – Jan. 30 at 6:30 p.m.

Nomination papers available for May 3 town election

HARDWICK – Nomination papers for the 2025 Annual Town Election on Saturday, May 3 are now available.

Offices for election and those presently holding the office are as follows: Select Board, Kelly Kemp, three-year term; Assessor, Lucinda J. Childs, three-year term; Constables, James D. Swett, Eric Vollheim and Ryan J. Witkos, (three) three-year terms; K-12 Quabbin School Committee, Jennifer E. Garvey, three-year term and Kristyl B. Kelly, unexpired two-year term; Board of Health, Ernest J. Warburton, three-year term; Paige Agricultural Fund Trust, Stephen A. Prouty, five-year term; Paige Memorial Library Trustee, Stacey A. Hill and Eric Vollheim (two) three-year terms; and Planning Board, John J. Samek, three-year term.

All deadlines below are 5 p.m.:

Last day to obtain and submit nomination papers to the Board of Registrars for certification, Friday, March 14; last day to file nomination papers with the Town Clerk, Friday, March 28; last day to object or withdraw nomination papers, Tuesday, April 1; last day to register voters for the Annual Town Election, Wednesday, April 23; and last day to apply to vote by mail (if haven't already), Monday, April 28.

Voter registration

Voter registration will be held in the Myron E. Richardson Building, 307 Main St. on Wednesday, April 23, from 9-5 p.m. This is the last day and hour to register voters who wish to vote at the 2025 Annual Town Election.

Mail-in voter registrations will be accepted if postmarked no later than the April 23 deadline.

Financial statements

Financial statements must be filed by all candidates for election by the following dates even if the candidate has no financial activity to report: #1 pre-election report, eight days prior to election, Friday, April 25; and #2 post-election report, 30 days after election, Monday, June 2.

Corrections policy

The Barre Gazette will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 2. To request a correction, send information to Editor Ellenor Downer at barrenews@turley.com or call 978-355-4000. Corrections may also be requested in writing at Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

Mahar 50+ raises \$9,000 for scholarships in 2024

ORANGE – The Mahar 50+ Club, Mahar Regional High School classes, who graduated fifty or more years ago, meets annually the third Saturday in September for a dinner to socialize and raise money to be used for scholarships for Mahar graduates.

The event features a meal and several raffles to raise funds. The group also contacts other class members, who cannot attend the event and asks for donations. In operation for the past ten years, donations have grown each year, including the "Covid Years," where no dinner was held, but alumni were asked to donate to the scholarship fund. Donations continue to come in during the year.

This December, totals for 2024 reached slightly over \$9,000 and a check for \$9,000 was recently presented to Jeff Cole, President of the Orange Scholarship Fund, from the Alumni group. Co-chairmen of Mahar 50+, Muriel Holden and Maureen Riendeau, presented the check.

The 50+ Club is trying to obtain email addresses for anyone, who attended Mahar from 1957



Submitted photo
Jeff Cole, President of the Orange Scholarship Foundation, receives a check for \$9,000 from Muriel Holden, Co-Chairman of the Mahar 50+ Club. This brings total donations from the alumni group to the Orange Scholarship Foundation to over \$50,000 in the past ten years.

to 1975 so that they may obtain up-to-date information on the September gathering and fundraising for the Scholarship Foundation. If anyone attended Mahar during those years and has not been receiving Club information, they should email Holden at muriel-

holden@verizon.net, Riendeau at mriendeau@mass.rr.com or Keri Kilhart at gramkeri@icloud.com to update their contact information. If classmates know the information of a classmate, who is not receiving the information, they may reach out to them.

Mass DCR gives creel survey on fish species

By Emily-Rose Pappas
 Staff Writer
 epappas@turley.com

BELCHERTOWN/WARE – The Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife held a presentation about the Quabbin Reservoir Creel Survey this past Sunday, and many people joined remotely and in person.

The goal of the presentation, held by biologists Brian Keleher and Jason Stolarski, is to help people understand and learn about the different fish species found in the Quabbin Reservoir.

Keleher works as a district fisheries biologist for the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, or MassWildlife, and specifically for the Connecticut Valley District in Belchertown, one of five management districts of MassWildlife that each have their own fisheries biologist.

"MassWildlife is responsible for the conservation of freshwater fish and wildlife in the Commonwealth, including endangered plants and animals. MassWildlife restores, protects, and manages land for wildlife to thrive and for people to enjoy," said Keleher.

"I have worked here at this position for just short of nine years. I'm originally from upstate New York, and have worked in and around the fisheries field for about 16 years now."

"Prior to coming to MassWildlife I worked as a Fisheries Biologist for the Confederated Tribes of the

Colville Reservation in North Central Washington State on the Columbia River. Prior to that I worked in Alaska, and the Adirondacks in New York," said Keleher.

"[My favorite part is] having the constant opportunity to work outdoors, especially in and around water. Work with the public and anglers has always been a highlight as well, particularly field trips and school groups where students get the chance to see and interact with fish and develop an interest in the outdoors and fishing," said Keleher.

MassWildlife stocks about 500 bodies of water across the state, and each year releases approximately 500,000 trout during the spring and fall, consisting of mostly rainbow trout and most fish are over 12 inches long.

Stocking these waterbodies provides opportunities for angling, and the fish are stocked in these areas when water temperatures are at the correct range.

MassWildlife holds a creel survey, which "is an important tool that fisheries biologists can use to get a better understanding of how a fishery is used by anglers," Keleher explained.

"It is simply an angler survey with questions designed to help look into specific areas of a fishery and the way that anglers interact with it. At its most basic level creels are used to see how many anglers fish at a location, how long they spend fishing, look into what they are 'targeting' or fishing for, and calculate

their 'catch rate' and 'harvest,'" said Keleher.

Creel surveys determine the success rate of catching fish, like how long it takes to catch fish or a specific kind of fish, and what percentage of fish are kept or released after catching.

The MassWildlife team creates these surveys, and during the presentation Keleher illustrated how the Quabbin Reservoir Angler Survey is conducted, anonymously, and help to keep track of fish populations.

The Quabbin Reservoir is ideal for these creel surveys because of the largely constricted areas with three boat launch areas, and is consistently staffed by DCR attendants during fishing seasons.

The Quabbin Creel Survey is a complete survey and gate attendants provide all anglers with a creel card before their trip, which they fill out after their trip is finished and return to the attendants. The demographic and trip data is then collected by the attendants as part of the boat sealing process.

Throughout Massachusetts, rainbow trout, brown trout, brook trout, tiger trout, and landlocked Atlantic salmon are stocked in the waterbodies.

The fish all come from five different hatcheries across the state, including McLaughlin in Belchertown, Bitzer in Montague, Sunderland, Roger Reed in Palmer, and Sandwich.

See QUABBIN, page 6

Oakham

Ellenor Downer
 edowner@turley.com



Church holds benefit breakfast

The Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road, will hold a benefit breakfast on Saturday, Feb. 8 from 8 to 9:30 a.m. The menu will include pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, strawberries, orange juice, coffee, tea and hot chocolate. Donations will go to benefit the fire victims in California.

Lasagna potluck lunch

On Friday, Feb. 7 at 12:30 p.m. the Council on Aging will host a lasagna potluck lunch at the Senior Center located on the lower level of the Oakham Town Hall. Lasagna is provided; salads, bread and desserts are welcome. Sign up sheets are in the main room of the Senior Center for the potluck lunch. For those who can not get to the Senior Center to sign up for the potluck lunch to make required reservations or for more information on offerings, they may call the Senior Center at 508-882-4073 and leave a message or email COA@Oakham-MA.gov

Census

The Town Clerk mailed out census forms. People should make any changes or corrections, sign the form and return to the blue drop off box located at the Town Hall, left of the side entrance within ten days. Even if there are no changes or additions, the head of household must sign the form.

Dog licenses

Dog licenses expire on Monday, March 31. All dogs six months of age or older must be licensed each year with the town of Oakham. Dog license fees are \$11 for a male or female dog and \$7 for a neutered or spayed dog. In order to license a dog, owners must present a valid rabies certificate and a spayed or neutered certificate if applicable for the first time licensing the dog. People may mail this information to the town clerk along with a check for the correct amount made payable to Town of Oakham to Town Clerk, 2 Coldbrook Road, Unit 4, Oakham, MA 01068. They should include a self-addressed, stamped envelope for the Town Clerk to mail the license and tag to the owner.

Senior Center

Senior Center activities include Mondays through Thursdays at 9 a.m. Walking Group meets at Senior Center and Tuesdays through Thursdays at 11 a.m. Walking Group meets at Senior Center. On cold days, the walking groups will walk to tapes inside the Senior Center. Other activities include: Tuesdays from now to March 4 at 12:30 p.m. Yoga; fourth Tuesday of the month Blood Pressure/Glucose Testing from 11 a.m.-noon; Wednesdays Zumba Gold at 9 a.m. in the Rutland Senior Center (\$2 donation per class); second Thursday of the month Blood Pressure 11 a.m.; third Thursday of the month SHINE from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. reservations are required; Thursdays at noon for the courageous weigh in support weight loss group and Fridays Functional Fitness at 10:30 a.m. at the New Braintree Town Hall (\$2 donation per class).

On Friday, Feb. 7 at 12:30 p.m. there will be a lasagna potluck lunch. Lasagna is provided; salads, bread and desserts are welcome. Sign up sheets are in the main room of the Senior Center for the potluck lunch. Hot lunches are offered at the Senior Center dining area Monday through Thursday at 11:30 a.m. Reservations are needed at least two days in advance and can be made through the Congregate Meal Coordinator from 9 a.m.-12:15p.m. at 508-882-4072.

For those who can not get to the Senior Center to sign up for the potluck lunch to make required reservations or for more information on offerings, they may call the Senior Center at 508-882-4073 and leave a message or email COA@Oakham-MA.gov.

Editorial deadline reminder

Deadline for e-mailed press releases is noon on Monday. Deadline for hard copy is noon on Friday.

Cradle Rock Chapter OES to hold pancake breakfast

BARRE – Cradle Rock Chapter Order of Eastern Star will old a designer pancake breakfast on Saturday, Feb. 1 from 7:30-10:30 a.m. at Mt Zion Lodge Hall. People may create their pancakes with plenty of chips, fruit,

nuts and more. The complete breakfast includes designer pancakes, waffles, sausage gravy with biscuits, bacon, sausage, juice and coffee. The cost is still \$9 per adult and \$5 for children 6 and under. Everyone is welcome.

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Are you having difficulty communicating with your partner, struggling with boundaries, and healthy relationships?

We invite you to join us Friday afternoons from 1-2:30 pm to explore these topics and more.

This group will be held in zoom, is educational, confidential, and free.

Please contact **Pat James 413-726-8661.**

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www.turley.com

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

LIVING WELL AFTER THE DIAGNOSIS

JANUARY 31, 2025

PRESENTED VIRTUALLY

9:30 AM (EDT)

Hosted by the Alzheimer's Association
 New England Chapters:
 CT, MA/NH, ME, RI, VT

Designed for individuals living with early-stage dementia and their care partners.

<https://www.alz.org/manh/events/living-well-after-the-diagnosis>

Sponsors: **LORENZO'S HOUSE** **JF&CS**

PRESENTATIONS

9:30 - 10:30 AM
 Opening Remarks & Keynote, Living Well: Panel of Individuals Living with Dementia; Presented by Meghan Lemay, MS, and Panelists
 This session will highlight what it is like to live with Alzheimer's disease and other dementia. Panelists will discuss coping with the diagnosis and combating the stigma associated with the disease. They will also talk about the importance of disease education, social engagement, and having a voice in your own care.

10:30 - 10:45 AM: Break

10:45 AM - 12:00 PM: Living Well with Cognitive Challenges: Tips and Strategies
 Presented by Julie Brody Magid, PsyD
 Establishing a more simplified routine and schedule can be helpful and affect one's well-being. This session will review cognitive strategies to help manage common difficulties encountered in daily life with the goal of improving feelings of well-being and self-reliance. Specifically it will focus on how to develop a person-centered roadmap to optimize meaning, structure and appropriate levels of stimulation.

alz.org/MANH | 24/7 Helpline 800.272.3900

Opinion

Guest Column



By Russell Gloor

Reader seeks clarification of Medicare IRMAA and MAGI

Dear Rusty:

I am confused by an article in my local newspaper which said that Modified Adjusted Gross Income, on which my Medicare Part B premium is based, is my Adjusted Gross Income, plus any non-taxable interest, plus 50% of the social security I received.

The part that is confusing is the 50% part. When I look at my tax return my Adjusted Gross Income includes the taxable portion of my Social Security benefit which, in my case, is 85% of my total benefits. Why must 50% of benefits be added to my AGI if it is already included in my total AGI?

Signed: Confused

Dear Confused:

The article you refer to was misleading for stating that the Modified Adjusted Gross Income used to determine your Medicare premiums includes your normal Adjusted Gross Income from your income tax return, plus any non-taxable interest you may have had, plus 50% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year. What the article should have said was that the MAGI, which determines your Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount to your Medicare premiums consists of your normal AGI from your tax return, which includes the taxable portion of your Social Security benefits, plus any non-taxable interest you may have had.

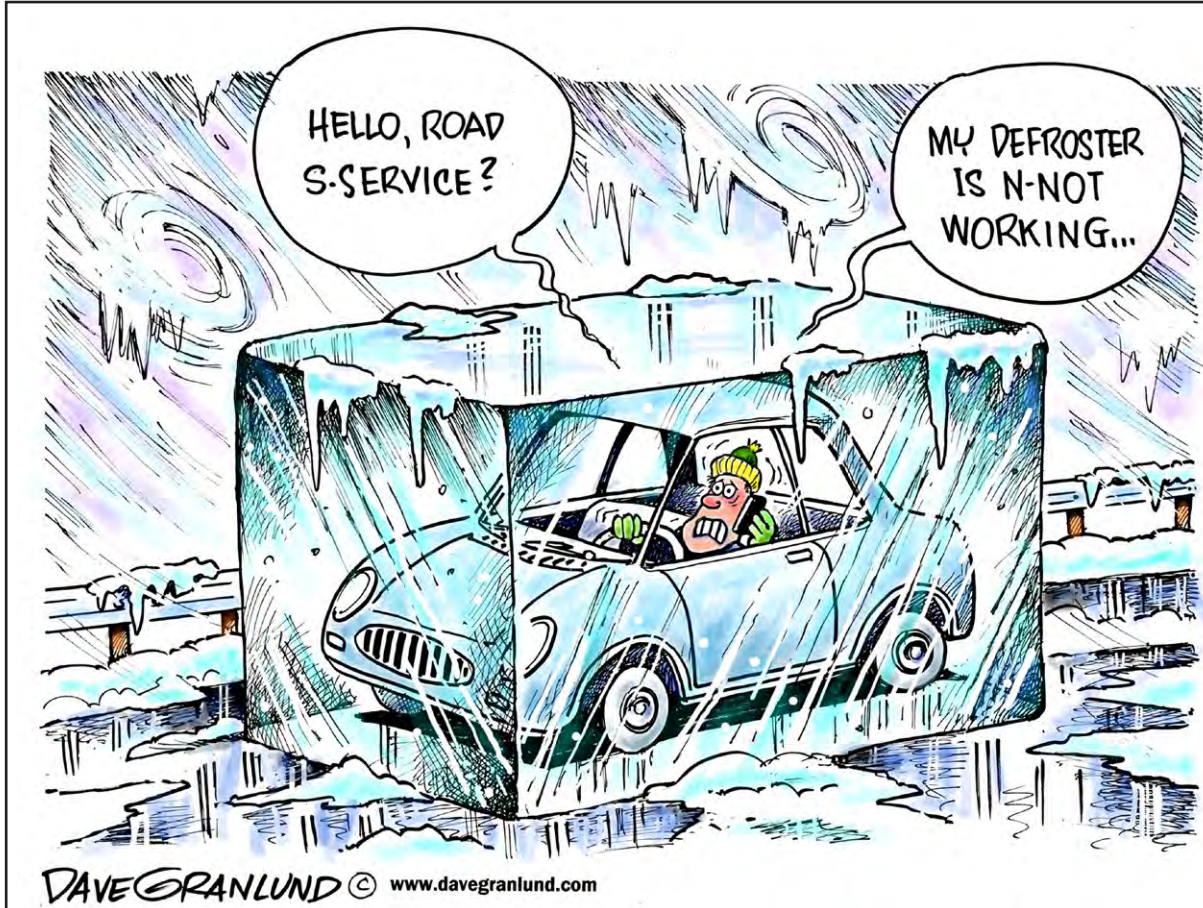
For additional clarity, the Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount is a supplemental amount added to the standard Medicare premium for those with higher incomes. The thresholds at which the IRMAA supplements apply depend on your IRS filing status, and your MAGI determines the amount of supplement which will be added to the standard Medicare premium.

Single filers with MAGI over \$103,000 or married filers with MAGI over \$206,000 will see an IRMAA supplement added to their Medicare premium. Those whose MAGI is under the first IRMAA threshold pay the standard Medicare premium, but those whose MAGI exceeds the first IRMAA threshold above will pay more.

How much more depends on how much their MAGI exceeds the first IRMAA threshold by. The IRMAA supplement (the additional premium amount) could be anywhere from \$69.90 to \$419.30 per month for Medicare Part B (coverage for outpatient services) or an additional \$12.90 to \$81.00 per month to the Medicare Part D (prescription drug plan) premium - again dependent on how much over the initial MAGI threshold the person is for their IRS filing status. You can see the MAGI levels and corresponding IRMAA supplements by visiting this Medicare website at www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/2024-medicare-parts-b-premiums-and-deductibles.

IRMAA and MAGI can be confusing. If people have questions about their Medicare premiums, help is available by emailing SSadvisor@amacfoundation.org or calling 1-888-750-2622.

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.



Guest Column



Creating a "wow" factor at home

This past week I've been hard at work trying to come up with new and exciting garden ideas for the entrance areas of Old Sturbridge Village.

It's a job I've done for decades now, and maybe I take for granted how cool it is to work for a place that many people visit each year. I want to give visitors something to rave about with my color combinations and plant selections!

Read on, straight from the archives, to bring some of this "wow factor" attitude home to your own landscape.

How often have you visited an outdoor museum, amusement park or resort and felt inspired by the gardens or container plantings used to adorn the property? Chances are you may have even used an especially delightful display as a backdrop for a family photo or two.

Tourist attractions such as these put "their best foot forward" each season of the year to awe their customers with spectacular combinations of unique plants, so that no matter when the visit is planned, the guest leaves with the feeling something special was done in their honor.

We can treat our home gardens in a similar fashion. Why not? Certainly we deserve to have exceptional plantings, for our own enjoyment and for the compliments they will elicit from our friends.

So instead of utilizing border plantings that provide only glimpses of color in the spring, summer and fall, devote entire beds to the showiest plants available for the time of year and change them with the seasons.

These types of gardens don't have to be very large, but they do have to be situated for optimal effect. Think "location, location, location!"

If you have a long driveway, consider placing a "welcome garden" just as you turn down the path. Since it will be viewed from a distance, and from a single vantage point, make the bed more wide than narrow, and raise the height of the soil in the back of the bed a bit for a multidimensional appearance.

Utilize large, bold flowers, bright colors, and strong foliage forms- these will capture the eye en route.

Which door do you or guests normally use to enter and exit the house? Plant a small garden nearby, one that can be admired up close, each time you pass by it.

Here, the intricacies of color and form can be fully appreciated, whereas in the garden out front they would be lost. Experiment with a variety of flower and foliage shapes and color schemes.

Don't be afraid to use delicate or small flowers, or those that are mottled or two-tone. Likewise, variegated and cut-leaf foliage can make for interesting inspection if properly paired with surrounding plants.

Similar beds or container plantings can be planned for patio or pool-side, or for other areas within the landscape that might be suitable for entertaining. Simply tailor the gardens to the timeframe in which

See GARDEN, page 6

In Past Pages

5 years (Feb. 6, 2020)

This past Sunday, Lester Paquin and Lucy Allen presented a program on four Civil War heroes with connections to Barre. They included a general, a soldier, a civilian and a preacher. The Civil War also known as the War Between the States was the nation's bloodiest war. The nation lost 2% of its population. Two hundred sixty men from Barre fought in the war and 59 lost their lives. Five soldiers died in one day at Fort Hudson. The north's total dead was more than all the men that fought for the south. The south lost two thirds of its soldiers. The total dead was 620,000 to 750,000, more than the number of U.S. military deaths in all other wars combined. It was the costliest war in our history in terms of lives lost and in cost. Paquin and Allen selected four heroes: Samuel Chamberlain, Lucas Spooner, James Francis Davis and Ella Elvira Gibson.

Police Chief John Carbone said participating in the citizen police academy will be a hands on experience. Everyone will get an opportunity to ride along in the cruiser, participate in a simulated traffic stop and go to the rifle range. The chief said the officers teaching at the citizen academy want to make each class as interesting as possible. Topics will include: criminal investigations, motor vehicle enforcement, administration, school policing, firearms, equipment, use of force and narcotics. Chief Carbone will teach the administration session and Officer Davidson, the school resource officer, will teach school policing. All Barre police officers will help even if they do not teach a session.

Imagine rubbing shoulders with Eleanor Roosevelt, Benjamin Franklin, Sally Ride, Harry Houdini and Cleopatra all in the same room? Last Thursday evening, family and friends in the Ruggles Lane School community were able to do just that when they visited the annual Wax Museum program held in the school's cafeteria. "I know a lot of things he invented and know about his childhood," said Wyatt Clark, a fourth grade student who assumed the role of Benjamin Franklin for the project.

10 years (Feb. 5, 2015)

Journalist and author Lynda Mapes, will hold a discussion at the Harvard Forest Fisher Museum, 324 North St., Petersham on Wednesday, Feb. 11 at 7 p.m. about her forthcoming book, "Witness Tree." Mapes has been a Harvard Bullard Fellow in forest research since September 2014. She is exploring the twined human and natural histories of a single, 100 year old red oak tree and what they reveal about the relationship with nature and the land and the changing world.

The Barre Board Selectmen, Town Administrator Heather Lemieux, EMS Director Charlie Fullan, ALS Director Bill Dino and BLS Director Bob

LOOK BACK Barre Wool Combing Co. - 1988



File photo

This is a view of the Barre Wool Combing Company in South Barre.

Paradise met with officials from two EMS billing companies. The Town Administrator had put out a request for ambulance billing services and she received two, Action EMS Billing Solutions (the current provider) and Costal Billing of Sutton. The two selectmen present Kathy Inman and Lief Ericson took turns asking questions.

The Barre Board of Selectmen will conduct a public meeting on Monday, Feb. 9 at 5:30 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, in the Henry Woods Building, 40 West St., on a proposed special event to be held at Coldbrook RV Resort in June. Due to the numerous complaints as a response of this same event last year by this promoter. The board heard questions, comments or concerns from the residents of the neighborhood.

25 years (Feb. 10, 2000)

The Barre Selectmen voted to open the Annual Town Meeting warrant until April 28. Submissions from town officials, employees and residents are now being accepted for approval by the Selectmen. All articles must be approved unless accompanied by a signed petition. The town meeting will be held as usual in June. The exact date has not been set yet.

At its business meeting on Feb. 3, members of the Barre Historical Society formally adopted a proposal to name a room in the society's headquarters building in memory of Gabrielle Healy Carroll, a devoted long-time member and former curator, who died on Dec. 20, 1999. The Carroll Room will be located just off the foyer, in space that currently serves the society as its office. It will become the Greek

Revival building's formal reception room and library, providing members and visitors with an elegant place to learn about Barre and its rich history. The office will be relocated to two rooms at the rear of the structure, just behind the kitchen. Renovations to the Carroll room have begun, under the supervision of Barre Historical Society Curator, Beryne Smith and member Lester Paquin.

Over 150 voters came to the Feb. 1 Special Town Meeting to review and vote on a 46 article warrant, but the numbers had shrunk by half when voting finally ended over four hours later at 11 p.m. Articles that provoked the most discussion were those involving public safety issues and zoning bylaws. The attendees appeared to be about evenly divided between the conservative and cost conscious and those more interested in maintaining or increasing services and capital improvements, which led to prolonged discussions.

38 years (Feb. 12, 1987)

Dog owners are advised to keep a close check on their pets especially during the next few weeks to avoid wildlife-related problems according to the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. A statewide dog restraining order is in effect requiring dog owners to have their animals under control at all times. Established to prevent free romping dogs from harassing deer already stressed by cold, snow and scarcity of food, this order also protects other wildlife subject to harassment by uncontrolled dogs.

See PAST PAGES, page 5

Election letters to the editor welcome

The Barre Gazette 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 Barre Gazette care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to edowner@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that 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 the editor at 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 Barre Gazette.

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: Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005 or via email to edowner@turley.com. The deadline for submissions is Friday at noon.

BARRE GAZETTE TEAM



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Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

I will glad to see February arriving as that means spring is not far behind.

This sure has been a very cold winter. It has not been very serene on Serenity Hill this past week. A passenger car and a tow truck both got stuck on the driveway.

We had about six inches of snow, but it got packed down and icy. We have now hired a heavy duty plowman to plow the driveway so we hope that will help.

I have not been out as I have helpers, who get the mail and groceries. I do shovel off the front deck and area around the cellar door.

I made pancakes to put in the freezer one day. I had a delicious pot roast dinner another day. My handyman sanded areas of the driveway and chipped some ice. Because we have helpers coming, it is important they can get here.

I have a recipe book that was made by a family member, which has recipes contributed by other members of the family. They are tried and true recipes and I have found they are very good and easy recipes. Here is one I plan to make with some chicken this week.

CHESSY CHICKEN CASSEROLE

- 2 cups of cooked chicken
- 1/2 cup slivered almonds
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup mayonnaise

- 1/2 cup grated Cheddar cheese
 - 2 cups of slivered celery
 - 2 teaspoon chopped onion
 - 2 teaspoon lemon juice
 - 1 cup crumbled potato chips
- Mix all ingredients except potato chips and 1/2 cup cheese. Put in casserole, sprinkle with chips and cheese. Bake for 20 minutes in 450 degree oven.

This and That

I have spent the cold days watercoloring and also did some sewing projects. I was given some interesting designed fabric that looked like it would make some nice dish towels so I edged them and made four dish towels and a couple of cloths to put in the bread basket. Last week I made a lot of holders from pieces of fabric that was good for that purpose.

I see where Hubbardston has a place to deposit linens, shoes and slippers and clothing items at the entry to the former recycling center. I hope they get the recycling center open again. There is a great need for this.

I am sorry to hear of the passing of a long time resident, Eunice Green, formerly of High Street. She was 92. I often used to visit her when I was helping her with her family genealogy. She was a pleasant lady to visit.

Have a good week and stay warm. Will the Ground Hog see his shadow?

Senate passes crumbling foundation legislation

BOSTON – While the State Senate on Monday, Dec. 30 approved legislation that would have created a committee to address how best the state can help homeowners whose foundations are crumbling due to pyrrhotite, the House of Representatives failed to take up the matter which will now be refiled in the upcoming legislative session.

“It is extremely disappointing that our colleagues in the House have let down the residents of Massachusetts who are struggling to keep their homes,” State Sen. Peter Durant, R-Spencer, said. “Anyone who has seen the devastation caused by crumbling foundations can understand the urgent need for this legislation.”

Durant has likened the problem of crumbling foundations to a natural disaster and, alongside several colleagues on both sides of the aisle, has made the issue a top priority during his first year in the Senate.

Homeowners with crumbling foundations are unable to file insurance claims in order to fix the damage to their homes created by pyrrhotite which causes concrete to fail. Residents often find it difficult to fund the raising of their homes and complete replacement of their foundations at costs of more than \$200,000 because their homes lack equity and borrowing becomes impossible.

The creation of a committee to study the best ways to help homeowners would have moved the process forward at no cost to taxpayers.

“This legislation is very important to certain residential homeowners in Dracut and to many homeowners in Worcester County,” Sen. Ed Kennedy, D-Lowell said. “I am very disappointed that the House failed to take any action on the legislation that would have set up a commission charged with addressing the crumbling concrete foundation problem.”

Sen. Michael Moore, D-Millbury echoed the feelings of disappointment. “Faulty foundations are putting the homes and life savings of thousands of Massachusetts families across the Commonwealth at risk, at no fault of their own,” Moore said.

“I’m proud to have partnered with Senator Durant, Senator Fattman and Representative Ashe to put forward a bill to create the Crumbling Concrete Assistance Fund, a priority of former Worcester Senator Anne Gobi, as a first step to making homeowners whole for foundation repairs and replacements due to the presence of pyrrhotite.”

Sen. Ryan Fattman, R-Sutton, has also been pushing for passage of the bill. “The passage of this bill (in the Senate) today marks an important step toward providing relief for homeowners with crumbling concrete foundations,” Fattman said.

Durant said the bill will be refiled and will remain a priority for him in the upcoming session.

Crumbling foundations have been discovered in homes in Western and Central Massachusetts and have been found in 40 communities including Boxford and Dracut. Experts say the problem will only become more widespread, impacting communities by lowering property values and prompting local tax abatements to impacted homeowners.

specific things. They can’t go to funding the budget, but could be used for capital projects. For example, if a road needs to be refinished the funds from the PILOT could be used to fund it.

Caggiano mentioned a fleet maintenance schedule and suggested an equipment database as well. For the negotiations between town

representatives and the non-profit entities, the board and finance committee were thinking about having them publicized after negotiations are complete or go into executive sessions. These ideas are further under advisement.

The Select Board put the policy discussion into their agenda for their meeting in February.

HARDWICK, continued from page 1

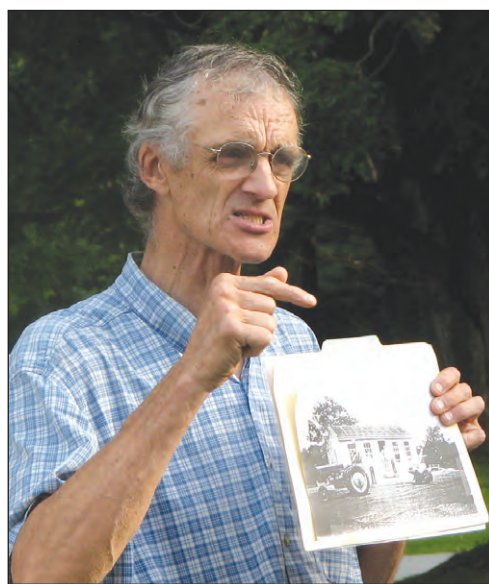
properly. For review of contributions, the board is looking at doing the reviews on a biannual basis.

The joint meeting between the Select Board and Finance Committee would then discuss PILOT funds being allocated for

BUELL, continued from page 1

ervation, and educating people for the Earth and all those who live therein. Mary Swenson, a member of the President’s Awards Planning Committee learned about the wide-ranging volunteer efforts of Dr. Buell when she worked with him on a UMass/Amherst project to expand credit for students interested in self-directed learning.

Last November, Swenson spent several days in Petersham and the Quabbin/Nichewaung Region meeting people, visiting sacred landscapes, hearing the stories of the land and in strategic planning for further support of Place-based and student-centered learning. Swenson said, “I spend many hours with Dr. Buell reviewing his many projects and life-long experiences in Experiential Education, Earth-based Education, and social and environmental justice initiatives.” She goes on to state, “I was introduced to a whole new world of Education, Indigenous Rights, and Environmental-based programs through his innovative University of the Wild program and its “Semester-on-Earth” that takes place right on the land and culture of Petersham. Larry is a natural for the Service Award.”



Larry Buell presents one of his Historical Society programs.

When asked about the Award, Buell gratefully responded. “I was honored by the Award and after review of all the days and hours of service I contributed, I came to realize that I had many visions for programs, but that it took many others who gave their own service to actualize the manifestation of my dream. Honoring all those who gave service in support of my vision is the true meaning of this Award.”

On Sunday, March 16 at 3 p.m. in the Petersham Town Hall, there

will be a special program to honor Larry’s accomplishments and for all those who helped him along the way. All are welcome to attend. Invited guests include people of Petersham and the central New England region and beyond including, Dr. Mary Swenson, who nominated Larry for the Award, and Greg Prince, the former President of Hampshire College who directs the International Alliance for Self-directed Learning through the University of the Wild in Petersham. Other attendees will be the present coordinator of the Outdoor Leadership Program at Greenfield Community College, present and former students and staff, and a wide range of local and regional folks who know of and value Larry’s far-reaching work.

For more information about the UofWild and Larry’s work email him at info@universityofthewild.org larry@UofWild.org, call 978-855-1420 or visit his website at www.UofWild.org; or through social media at www.Facebook.com/LarryBuell or www.LinkedIn/LarryBuell.

PAST PAGES, continued from page 4

Local and statewide officials condemned the Commonwealth’s plan to put a 500 bed medium security prison in New Braintree at the Rally for Unity at the New

Braintree Town Hall on Feb. 7. Dorothea Thomas-Vitrac COST’s unpaid lobbyist, said, “It’s not an issue of ‘Not in my town,’ but more that there is no regional need. There is no to destroy New Braintree. They have options. There is state owned land to the east and the west. There is no need

in Worcester County” for any more medium security beds, considering the prison in Gardner.

The Barre Board of Selectmen discussed purchasing a computer for the town at their Monday, Feb. 9 meeting. The Board received a price on a computer from a computer company.



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

The Paige Memorial Library hosted a play by the fireplace called “Sorrow Visits the Paige Family”.

Play performed by the fireplace at library

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

HARDWICK – The Paige Memorial Library hosted a play by their fireplace titled “Sorrow Visits the Paige Family”.

Guests had the opportunity to hear the readings of letters dating back to the 1850s from members of the Paige family.

The play consisted of three actors portraying members of the Paige family. Copies of the original letters are preserved in the Hardwick Historical Society, but the cast of this play had copies of their own to bring to life the events that took place when they were originally written.

Historian Susan Gainley was the narrator of the play and discussed some of the events that had taken place in the lives of the Paige family. In the years 1852 to 1854 there was a continuous stream of heart-breaking news to Lydia Paige and her family.

The letters were read by Celia Daniels and Joe Shea, who also portrayed members of the Paige family, who lived in that time period. Every character’s attire matched the time period as well.

Library Director Julie Bullock began the play by welcoming

everyone to the Paige Memorial Library and were seated in front of the library’s fireplace.

“We turned our library into a theatre for the night,” Bullock said.

Gainley described the reading of these letters as “like listening to a novel”, due to the detail and extended thought and emotion put into the letters.

The first letter was read by Daniels and talked about a family members’ boat trip to California. Not only did Daniels read the letter she expressed a lot of emotion to bring out the sorrow the reader and writer felt as the letter was first written.

Another letter was written by Sarah Paige. Before reading Sarah’s letter Gainley shared a picture of Sarah Paige with the audience.

During her narration Gainley shared historical facts with the audience. One of the unique details was the use of the term “cars” back in the mid-19th century. Before the infamous invention years later, the term “cars” was used for anything that transports people on wheels.

Shea read as well but he also portrayed a character as if he is writing the letter to Mother Paige. The letter read by Shea dates back to April 14, 1853.

This amazing play is part of the



Historian Susan Gainley talked about the letters that were written by members of the Paige family dating back to the 1850s. These letters were read during the play.

celebration of Hardwick’s history. The Paige Memorial Library will be celebrating its 120th anniversary this year and this play is part of the celebration.

For more information, visit the Paige Memorial Library at 87 Petersham Road. You can also contact the library by calling 413-477-6704 or director.paigelibrary@gmail.com.



Members of the Hayden Masonic Lodge of North Brookfield were operating the cafeteria preparing the spaghetti meals



Susan Lewandowski is president and secretary of the North Brookfield Chapter of Hearts for Heat.

HEARTS FOR HEAT, continued from page 1

mendous over the years and Lewandowski certainly appreciates all the hard work being done by the North Brookfield Hearts for Heat chapter.

“Our small group of seven volunteers was able to assist 34 families last year, 107 individuals ranging from infants through senior citizens. Since 2009, we have helped 309 families”, Lewandowski shared.

Many businesses and organizations generously donated items that were a part of the raffles taking place during the spaghetti dinner. Some of the donated prizes included tickets to a Worcester Red Sox game, a signed basketball from the Boston Celtics and a prize from the Boston Bruins.

This year, the dinner, raffles, and attendee donations totaled up to \$2,344. Lewandowski said this will help up to five families with emergency fuel assistance.



The Otters were the entertainment during the spaghetti dinner and have been performing for the annual fundraiser the last 15 years.

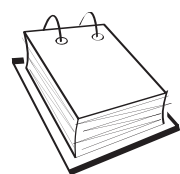
North Brookfield Hearts for Heat will provide one delivery of fuel oil (or the equivalent in natural gas, pellets, electricity, cord wood, or propane) to qualified North Brookfield residents.

For more information, visit

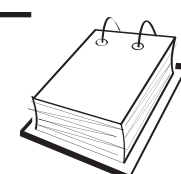
www.heartsforheat.org or www.heartsforheat.org/NorthBrookfield/about.html. There is an application that can be found on the Hearts for Heat website for any of those who are town residents and cannot afford heat.



Guests lined up in the cafeteria to receive their spaghetti dinner.



Calendar of Events



SATURDAY, FEB. 1

FRIENDS OF FOBES MEMORIAL LIBRARY will host an annual meeting today at the Fobes Memorial Library, 4 Maple St., Oakham in the upstairs. At the beginning of each year the annual meeting is held and additional meetings are held as needed to review goals, offer ideas, and act in the best interests of the library. The Friends of the Library organize fundraisers, sponsor programs and support the library in any way that they can. Both current members and those who want to learn more about getting involved in supporting our library are encouraged to attend. For questions and more information people may ask a librarian by calling 508-882-3372.

DESIGNER PANCAKE BREAKFAST sponsored by Cradle Rock Chapter Order of Eastern Star will be held today from 7:30-10:30 a.m. at Mt Zion Lodge Hall, Pleasant Street, Barre. People may create their pancakes with plenty of chips, fruit, nuts and more. The complete breakfast includes designer pancakes, waffles, sausage gravy with biscuits, bacon, sausage, juice and coffee. The cost is still \$9 per adult and \$5 for children 6 and under. Everyone in welcome.

GAME NIGHT FOR ALL AGES with no electronics will take place at the First Congregational Church, 264 Main St., Rutland today from 6-8 p.m. There is no admission charge. Free pizza and drinks will be served. Babysitting will be provided by the Rutland Library Teen Advisory Board and church teens at no charge.

SUNDAY, FEB. 2

THEATRE AT MOUNT AUDITIONS for "Curious George, the Golden Meatball" will be held today by appointment only for ages 8 to 12 at 11:30 a.m. and ages 13 to 18 at 2 p.m. at Mount Wachusett Community College, room A110 (formerly 182), 444 Green St., Gardner. People should call the Theatre at the Mount Box Office at 978-630-9388 Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. or email an appointment request to box-office@mwcc.mass.edu. Auditioners will be asked to sing a short vocal selection, which will be taught at the audition and there will be a dance audition, combination also taught at audition, for all roles and chorus. They should wear appropriate clothing and footwear.

Where is this?



Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

This week's mystery photo is from Barre. If any readers know where this photo was taken, they may email edowner@turley.com or call the Barre Gazette at 413-967-3505, extension 100 with their answer by noon on Monday, Feb. 2. The names of those that correctly guessed the location will appear in the following edition. Robert Augustine, Bill Bowles, Peggy Civilik, Stephen Craven, Evelyn Luukko, Marianne Meyer and Cheryl Paul correctly identified the photo. The photo last week was of St. Patrick's Church, 258 Main St., Rutland.

Some performers will be asked to do cold readings from the script. Performance dates are April 12 at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. for the general public; April 8 and April 9 at 10 a.m. and April 10 and April 11 at 9:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. for school groups. Performances are held during school hours, so all cast members must be willing and able to take four days off from school/work. Tentative rehearsal schedule is Sundays from 2-5 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-8 p.m. beginning mid-February.

WORCESTER CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY will present "Forces of Nature" by the Worcester Chamber Music Society musicians today at 4 p.m. at Assumption University, 500 Salisbury St., Worcester. There will be a pre-concert talk at 3:30 p.m. and a post concert reception. The venue is handicapped accessible. Tickets are available by calling the WCMS office at 508-926-8624 or visiting <https://worcesterchambermusic.org/dazzle->

dreams-and-drama/.

TUESDAY, FEB. 4

ST. OLAF CHOIR will be at Mechanics Hall, 321 Main St., Worcester today at 7:30 p.m. The choir has 75 mixed voices and is one of the nation's premier a capella ensembles. Dr. Anton Armstrong is the conductor. Tickets are \$10 to \$45 and available by visiting www.mechanicshall.org.

FRIDAY, FEB. 7

FREE ICE SKATING sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts will take place at the Oval Ice Skating Rink in Downtown Worcester today from 5-9 p.m.; Friday, Feb. 14 from 5-9 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 15 from 1-9 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 16 from 1-6 p.m. Children age 12 and under can also enjoy complimentary skate rentals. The Oval Ice Skating Rink offers skate rentals, concessions and a limited number of free parking spaces on a first-come, first-served basis in the garage under Worcester City Hall. For more information, including weather-related closings, people may visit The Oval Ice Skating Rink's Facebook and Instagram pages or call the Oval Ice Skating Rink Weather Hotline sponsored by Cornerstone Bank at 508-929-0777.

SATURDAY, FEB. 8

BENEFIT BREAKFAST will be held today from 8-9:30 a.m. at the Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road, Oakham for the fire victims in California. A free will donation will be taken and all proceeds go to the cause. The menu is pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, strawberries, orange juice, coffee, tea and hot chocolate.

BARRE WINTER MARKET located in the Barre Town Hall, 2 Exchange St., Barre will take place today from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Other dates are Saturday, March 8 and Saturday, April 12 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. This is the third year of the market. Local crafters and farmers sell their crafts and products. For more information, people may email rebellebathandbeyond@gmail.com or call Celia at 978-355-0139.

SUNDAY, FEB. 9

'MOTOWN TOM' INGRASSIA comes to the Rutland Free Public Library, 280 Main St., Rutland and will lecture on "Girl Power: The Supremes as cultural icons" today at 2 p.m. This is a free multimedia lecture and open to the public. The program is a celebration of Black History Month as well as the 64th anniversary of The Supremes signing their first Motown recording contract on Jan. 15, 1961.

MONDAY, FEB. 10

PROGRAM ON AQUACULTURE sponsored by the Holden Grange will be held today at 7 p.m. at the Holden Senior Center, 1130 Main St., Holden. The program entitled "Aquaculture: Pros and Cons for Fisheries Sustainability" will be given by Ted Purcell of Rutland, a naturalist, fisherman, advocate for conservation of Striped Bass, and author of the Wachusett Outdoor Window column in the Holden Landmark. Fish are the last wild organisms that are "market hunted," meaning wild organisms are harvested and sold to consumers. Efforts have been made and will continue to be made to "farm" fresh and saltwater organisms ranging from fin fish to shellfish and seaweed. The presentation will give a brief history of fishing, review current practices, and overview aquaculture methods, options, challenges and opportunities. This event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. For more information, people may email holdengrange78@gmail.com or call 508-886-2341. This event is free and open to the public.

QUABBIN, continued from page 3

More specific information on stocking can be found at www.mass.gov/trout.

Keleher also gave a refresher regarding clipped adipose fins on fish. A clipped fin on a salmon means it was hatchery-raised, while no clipped fin means it was produced naturally within the Quabbin.

For lake trout, the adipose fins are clipped for an ongoing study of the trout in the region since the 1950s, and a clipped fin means it has a PIT tag or is being handled in the study.

The Quabbin Reservoir has seen a steady flow of people fishing in the region, with a spike in more people during the COVID-19 pandemic, but have seen a steady decrease since then from 45,000 to 13,000 between the 1980s to today.

The surveys have also revealed that the annual average catch rates are low, but slightly higher than the Wachusett Reservoir because of a large amount of nutrients and influence of boats. "I grew up fishing with my dad and family, and now effectively get to do it as a career, I think I'm pretty lucky to have had that opportunity for both; to have an outlet and positive exposure to the outdoors at a young age and to work in this field now."

"There is a certain level of mystery involved with water; ponds, rivers, streams and the ocean. For the most part you can look at the surface and have no idea what is going on below, there could be literally (within reason) anything down there out of sight," said Keleher.


"When you are a fisheries biologist you have access to many more tools that can help you look into that mystery a little further, to see what is below the surface and what it is up to down there."

GARDEN, continued from page 4

these locations are used most often, and choose your plants accordingly.

Next week we will get into the "nitty-gritty" of each of the three seasons: spring, summer and fall, and how to capture the essence of each in your plantings. You too can have museum quality gardens within your home landscape!

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.



COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic

Flu shot available!

Wednesday February 5, 2025

11 am - 3 pm

Located:
Holland Community Center
40 Brimfield Rd,
Holland, MA 01521


Pfizer & Moderna available.
Bring your ID, insurance card, and
vaccination card (if you do not
have an insurance card, you can
still get the vaccine).
All vaccinations are no cost to you,
walk-ins and families welcome!

Supported by Healthy Quaboag and
The Rural Vaccine Equity Initiative

\$75 gift card
with
Vaccination!
(12 years old or
older)

Please use QR Code or the link to pre-register:
<https://tinyurl.com/mr3zxfm3>

Please direct any questions to Nisha Humayun at
nhumayun@townofware.com, (413) 207-7698





SPORTS

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Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Aimee Ickler gets an open jump shot.



Aubrey Pope gets ready to shoot.

Panthers pick up win

BARRE – Last Thursday afternoon, Quabbin Regional Middle School girls basketball picked up a win over Murdock 28-16.



Zoey Salvadore fights to keep the ball.



Ellery Sylvia focuses on her dribble.



Zoey Salvadore and Ayla Clark go after a rebound.



Juliana Nickson tries to keep possession.

Pioneers fall at Monson

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

PALMER— In their only meeting of the regular season against Pathfinder Tech, the Monson boys' basketball team played very well both offensively and defensively, especially in the first half.

Holding a 40-12 halftime lead, the Mustangs put it into cruise control during the second half leading to a 58-38 road victory over the Pioneers, last Friday night.

"We normally don't get to use the press defense very often in our league games, but we felt like we would be able to use it in tonight's game," said Monson head coach Zach Dreher. "We were able to create some turnovers in the first half, which helped us build a large lead. We also had the chance to play our reserve players in the second half. It was a good opportunity for those guys to get some experience playing in a varsity game."



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Matthew Vanasse goes for the tip.

Three years ago, Monson lost a home game to Pathfinder Tech, 43-39, at the end of the regular season.

The Mustangs defeated the Pioneers, 84-57, last year, which was also played at Michael J. Kane Gymnasium.

Seven of the ten players listed on this year's Mustangs varsity roster scored at least two points in last Friday night's non-league game.

Leading the way offensively for the Mustangs was freshman Trey Dillahunt, who scored 16 of his game-high 20 points before halftime.

Dillahunt, who has been a member of the varsity basketball team since he was in the seventh grade, entered the road game with 956 career points. The plan is for him to score his 1,000th career points at home against Hampshire Regional on Wednesday night.

"Trey only needs 24 more points to reach 1,000," Dreher said. "We'll be playing another road game against Baystate Academy on Tuesday night, but we're hoping that he does it at home the following night against Hampshire. I've talked to Trey about it, I think it's going to be a little more special for him if it does take



Dustyn Cook flies for a shot.

See PIONEERS , page 8



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Jack Leclair hustles down the court.



Robert Tobin fights to get a shot off.

Middle School boys action

BARRE – Last Thursday afternoon, the Quabbin Regional Middle School boys basketball team played host to Murdock High School. The boys are back in action next week.



Thomas Shoonmaker extends for the layup.



Ashton Dahlstrom sends a pass around the perimeter.



Nathan Gingras attempts a three-pointer.



Cameron Bruley fires a pass across the court.

Hurricanes suffer rare blowout loss

WESTFIELD – Last Thursday evening, Amherst hockey, which co-ops with Pathfinder Regional, had a tough shutout loss 10-0 against Westfield.

The Bombers, which play in a higher division and are having an excellent year, took the Hurricanes out of the matchup from the very beginning, taking a 5-0 lead very early, and never stopping the pressure.

The previous day, the Hurricanes got an overtime goal from Ethan Mooney for a 4-3 win over McCann Tech. Mooney scored a hat trick in the win while Joshua Feldman had the other goal. Amherst is 6-4-1 and next faces Southwick on Feb. 1 at 6 p.m. at Amelia Park Arena in Westfield.



Ethan Mooney tries to steal the puck away.



Stephen Rich tries to settle the bouncing puck.



Sawyer Ferro tries to break up a Westfield player's progress.

Sports

T-Birds fall in shootout against Bruins

SPRINGFIELD — The Springfield Thunderbirds (18-17-2-2) got a combined eight points from their top line but ultimately fell in a shootout by a 4-3 score to the Providence Bruins (23-13-3-1) last Saturday night before a seventh sellout crowd this season at the MassMutual Center.

T-Birds captain Matthew Peca got the capacity crowd energized just 3:48 into the first period, taking a slip pass from Matt Luff in the high slot and wiring a shot over Brandon Bussi's blocker to give Springfield the 1-0 advantage.

Springfield carried over their strong special teams night on Friday by dispatching the Bruins' lone power play of the first period, but the Providence attack kept pressing the issue. Georgii Merkulov evened the slate at 13:35 with a one-touch finish from just outside the blue paint, beating Vadim Zherenko upstairs to tie the score 1-1.

Neither team generated much offense in the closing minutes of the period, and the tie game carried into period two, with Providence outshooting Springfield 10-6 in the opening 20 minutes.

The Bruins vaulted to their first lead just 1:59 into the second period when Frederic Brunet found a home with a point shot off a faceoff play, making it 2-1. The T-Birds had a golden chance to get back in the game as they went to a 4-on-3 power play shortly after the Brunet tally, but Bussi and the Providence penalty killers held the fort.

Later in the frame, with Providence on a power play, Ian Mitchell rocketed a one-timer past Zherenko, and the visitors' lead grew to 3-1 at 11:04 of the frame.

In desperate need of a spark, Peca and the top line provided one at 15:32 when the captain entered the zone and lifted a shot over the net. Fortunately enough, the puck careened right to the side of the goal, where MacKenzie MacEachern jabbed it through Bussi to bring Springfield back to within a goal, 3-2. With the good fortune, the veteran winger picked up his fifth goal in his last nine games.

On the very next shift, MacEachern and Peca were at it again, with the captain spotting MacEachern behind the net, and

the winger blindly throwing a perfect pass in front of the goal to Luff, who mashed it home before Bussi could position himself and, thanks to two goals in just 18 seconds, the game was tied, 3-3, heading into the third.

Springfield kept pressing in the final period, but Bussi and the top defensive squad in the AHL kept the home side from gaining the advantage. Zherenko was also up to the challenge, stopping five shots in the third, including a dangerous close-in chance for Fabian Lysell in the dying minutes.

3-on-3 overtime proved to be a showcase of the two netminders' skills, as Bussi and Zherenko traded spectacular saves during the frenetic five-minute frame. Each team had four chances to end the game, but thanks to the goalies, a shootout would be needed.

Merkulov ultimately made the difference, beating Zherenko in the opening round of the skills competition, while Bussi turned away Tanner Dickinson, forced Luff to hit a post, and then stonewalled Dalibor Dvorsky to earn the extra point for Providence.

Worcester's point streak ends in loss at Maine

PORTLAND, Me. — Worcester's eight-game points streak, second-longest in team history, ended here Friday night via a 4-2 loss to the Maine Mariners. The Railers fell behind very early, eventually trailed by 3-0, and were never able to summon the energy to come all the way back.

"I thought they were flat," coach Nick Tuzzolino said. "I thought they were emotionless in the first period. It was not my favorite game with that group."

The defeat was part of a bad standings night for Worcester. Two teams trailing them in the battle for the fourth playoff spot both won. Maine closed to within five points of Worcester and has three games in hand. Reading, suddenly very hot, also won.

The Royals are 5-0-1 in their last six games. They are just one point behind Worcester. Both teams have played 40 games.

Griffin Luce and Jordan Kaplan had the Worcester goals. Luce's was his fifth of the season, extending a career high.

Jacob Hudson, Tristan Thompson, Owen Pederson and Nick Jermain scored for Maine. Hudson made it 1-0 a mere 67 seconds into the game as the

Railers got off to a tentative start.

Once again a Railers game was stagnated by goal reviews. There were two. Both went against Worcester. One was an overturn of a floating shot by Kaplan that went over goalie Maine goalie Ryan Bischel's glove with Griffin Loughran in front in the first period.

Right after that, Thompson scored a power play goal that looked like Michael Bullion was interfered with. That goal held up.

It was a game of hard feelings. There were 23 penalties called good for a combined total of 84 minutes, a season high.

Luce's goal came at 6:07 of the third period. It cut the Maine lead to 3-1 and was scored only 21 seconds after Pederson's goal. Kaplan scored on a pretty wrap-around at 14:40 for the game's final goal.

Bischel got the win as he stopped 27. Bullion made 28 saves for Worcester.

Recent Railers games have been overrun with goal reviews and it really takes away from the flow and momentum. Worcester's last eight games have averaged 2 hours, 37 minutes. That is well above standards from past seasons.

Jack Baldwin to take part in modified tour this season

Tommy Baldwin Racing announced Wednesday that Jack Baldwin will pilot the historic 7NY in over 20 Tour-Type Modified events during the 2025 season.

The bulk of the races will come on the SMART Modified Tour - as Baldwin will compete in the full 14-race calendar driving the 7NY. Jack has two SMART Modified Tour starts to his credit, scoring 5th and 8th place finishes in 2024.

Jack will also compete in the Tour-Type Modified events at New Smyrna Speedway's World Series of Asphalt Stock Car Racing from February 10-14, along with end of the season events at Riverhead Raceway (Islip 300) and Wall Stadium Speedway (Turkey Derby). Additional events may be announced at a later date.

Jack is the reigning 602 Modified champion at New Smyrna and has multiple 602 Modified wins. In 2025, he will chase his first career Tour-Type win.

"Jack has run select events the last few years but we're excited to have him a full season in the Tour-Type Modifieds to continue to gain experience and refine his skills behind the wheel," team owner Tommy Baldwin Jr. said. "He will be running against stout competition in every race he runs."

"I'm definitely excited to get the chance to race on the SMART Modified Tour full-time," Jack said. "Watching the series the last few years, you can tell the racing is tight and the competition is unlike anything else when it comes to Modified racing in the south. Driving the 7NY and working with our family team all year will be special. Excited to kick it off with Speedweeks at New Smyrna."

Follow Turley Sports on Instagram

Turley Publications sports department has recently joined Instagram. You can find our account by searching "turleysports." We will regularly feature samples of photos that you will see in our publications on a weekly basis. Please follow and share with your friends and loved ones. We will be featuring photos from all 11 of our sports sections, but as always, you can see all the photos that appear by subscribing to your local paper or picking up a copy in your community.

Education

Quabbin Regional School District grows readers

From the desk of Colleen Mucha, Superintendent of Quabbin Regional School District

Every child reaches milestones throughout their growth and development.

One truly special milestone is when our young children start to become readers and recognize that they have the ability to independently read the words on a page. Diane Lyons, reading specialist, at Oakham Center School shares, "When our youngest students discover for themselves that written letters represent spoken sounds and that letters can be used to form words, it's a major breakthrough, a real a-ha moment. They've been working hard learning the letters and the sounds, but when it all comes together, when a child figures out that connection, it's an exciting milestone because you know that the child really is developing a super power. They've cracked the code, and with good instruction and lots of practice they're on their way to becoming a reader."

At this point in the school year, we are seeing our students gaining confidence in their literacy skills and reaching important milestones. Recently, we assessed our students at Oakham Center School and their results were impressive. At the mid-year benchmark, 77% of kindergarten students tested at or above the level considered to be on "track" for reading success and 83% of first graders achieved at or above the benchmark level. This means that it is highly likely that these students will become proficient readers with continued effective instruction.

What this may look like at home is that these students are reading signs, packaging and beginning books. You are probably hearing the joy in their voice as they sound out a challenging word and seeing their



Oakham Center School first graders (Colton, Connor, and Raena) get comfy as they settle in with a good book.

smiles as they gain an understanding within a story. The world is opening up to them - what fun.

We thought it might be fun to hear from the readers themselves about how they feel when they are able to read challenging words and books and here is what they shared:

"I feel surprised. Before I wasn't a good reader and I couldn't understand the word, but now I can. That makes me feel happy and proud." Colton Blanco, Grade 1 Oakham Center School.

"I'm impressed with myself because now I can read hard books. Before I practiced and practiced with other books and I just got better." Raena Presti-Thomas, Grade 1 Oakham Center School

"I feel excited and happy now, I like to read to other people." Connor Lariviere, Grade 1 Oakham Center School

These students have a few words of advice for others as they are beginning on their reading journey.

"If you see a long word, break it apart in pieces then read it altogether." Colton

"Practice on easier words then you'll be able to read harder ones. Enjoy the pictures." Raena

"Words are really challenging, and I love challenges." Connor

We are so proud of the readers that we have across the QRSD and I bet many of us remember how we felt when we first felt successful, what a moment and a milestone. Keep up the good work.

PIONEERS, continued from page 7

place in a home game. He's a very special basketball player."

Dillahunt, who scored a game-high 24 points in last season's meeting against the Pioneers, didn't make any 3-pointers in this year's contest.

He was aided by junior Jake Beaupre, who scored 10 of his 16 points before halftime with the help of four 3-pointers. Beaupre scored a career-high 30 points in an 85-69 win at Southwick three days earlier.

The junior duo of Austin Meacham and Shane Szado chipped in with eight points apiece. The other three Mustangs scorers were sophomore Kyle Beaudry (3 points), sophomore Brennan Peterson (2 points), and senior Tyler Labonte (1 point).

While the Mustangs, who are members of the Bi-County West Division, had a 7-4 overall record following the road win, the Pathfinder Tech had a 1-9 record.

The Pioneers played very well during the final 16 minutes of the contest, as they outscored the Mustangs, 26-18.

Pathfinder Tech junior Aiden Girard scored eight of his 11 points during the first half, while sophomore Cayden Bousquet netted all 11 of his points in the second half.

Junior Dustyn Cook added eight points for the home team, while freshman Cassian Kowalik scored five points, and freshman Jordan Mbi made a 3-pointer with less than a minute remaining in the game for his only points.

Kowalik, along with sophomore Ian Sauri-Nieves, and freshman Grayson Griswold, are from Monson. "We do have a couple of players from Monson," said Pathfinder head coach Ethan Ortyl. "They were very excited to play against their hometown high school tonight."

The score was tied 2-2 before the Mustangs pulled away with the



Cassian Kowalik holds the ball back before taking a shot.

help of a 24-2 run.

Dillahunt and Beaupre combined to score 15 of those points.

Meacham contributed five points with a 3-pointer and a put-back hoop.

The Mustangs were leading 26-4 after Szado made a pair of free throws with 56.9 seconds left in the first quarter.

The Pioneers closed out the

opening quarter with Girard sinking a 3-pointer from the top of the key and a lay-up from Cook.

The Mustangs outscored the Pioneers, 14-3, in the second quarter.

Trailing by 28 points at the start of the second half, the Pioneers played very well in the second half.

"Monson is one of the best teams that we've this season. We did make some adjustments at halftime, and we executed a lot better during the second half," Ortyl said. "These guys always play hard no matter what the score in the game might be."

Kowalik and Bousquet began the second half with back-to-back lay-ups.

A couple of minutes later, Girard hit a 3-pointer from the left corner, which closed the gap to 42-19.

The Mustangs finished the third quarter with a 13-4 run, and they entered the final quarter holding a comfortable 55-23 lead.

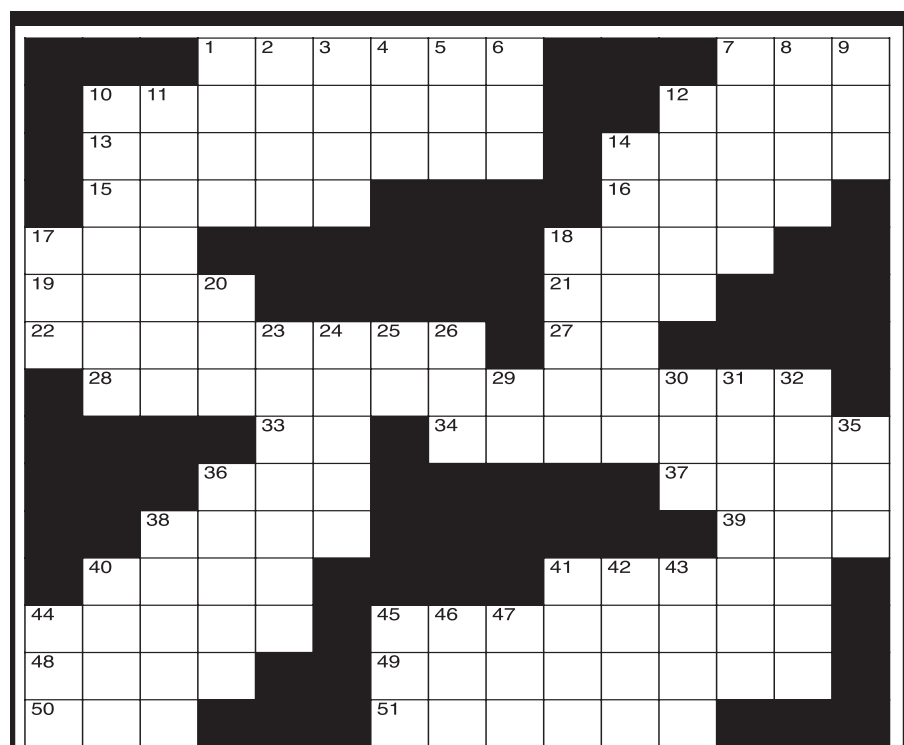
Dillahunt came out of the game with three minutes left in the third quarter and Labonte was the only Monson starter who played during the fourth quarter.

Bousquet scored nine of the Pioneers 15 fourth quarter points.

The only points scored by Monson during the final eight minutes of the contest was a Beaudry 3-pointer from the left corner.



Cayden Bousquet heads into the paint.



CLUES ACROSS

- Where entertainers perform
- Miller beer variety
- Ageless
- River in SE Europe
- Able to be repaired
- Type of wrap
- Atomic #54
- Type of tent
- U.S. Treasury position
- Opposed to
- Protective covering
- Bridge building degree
- Clouding of the lens
- Priestess of Hera loved by Zeus
- Unacceptable
- Mr. T's "The A-Team" character
- American national

CLUES DOWN

- Supreme god of ancient Egyptians
- Nevada city
- Energy, style and enthusiasm
- Bird's beak
- Language
- Midway between south and southeast
- Punjab village
- Small biting flies
- Sportscaster Patrick
- A way to get around
- Repeat
- A way to cook with fat
- Temporary loss of consciousness
- Reciprocal of a sine
- Fir tree genus
- "Transformers"

CLUES DOWN

- park
- One point south of due east
- Assist in a crime
- Greek mythological personification of Earth
- A major division of geological time
- German courtesy title
- English family dating back to Norman times
- Discounts
- South American nation
- Former Milwaukee Buck Michael
- Hostile
- Passports and drivers licenses are two
- Discourages from doing

CLUES DOWN

- director Michael
- Criminals who steal
- Genus of leaf-footed bug
- Music product
- "Talk to you"
- Santa says it three times
- Doctors' group
- African nation
- Ageless
- When you hope to get somewhere
- Worn
- Deprives of vigor
- Used to have (Scottish)
- Where you live
- Muslim ruler title
- Basics
- Type of drug (abbr.)
- Spanish soldier
- It precedes two
- Illuminated

Obituaries

Gerald "Gerry" LaVerne Paist

Gerald LaVerne Paist ("Gerry") passed away peacefully at Harrisburg Hospital on January 24, 2025. He was a resident of Country Meadows Mechanicsburg since April 2024.

Born in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, Gerry was the son of Thomas Holland Paist, Jr. and Ethel Ann (Hubbell) Paist. He grew up in Willow Grove, Pennsylvania and attended the Upper Moreland School District, where he graduated Valedictorian of the class of 1957.

Gerry was very active in Scouting and attained the rank of Eagle Scout. During his senior year, Gerry was selected to tour Europe with the World Friendship Organization. While there, he visited 18 European countries and received the Queen's Scout Badge, the highest award in English Scouting.

Following high school graduation, Gerry earned a B.S. in mathematics from Lafayette College and Masters and Doctoral Degrees in educational adminis-

tration from Harvard University.

After teaching mathematics at Stoneham and Framingham School Districts, Gerry served as Assistant Dean of Westfield University in Massachusetts. He then became the Superintendent/Director of Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School, where he served for 47 years. Currently he is the longest running School Superintendent in the United States.

Gerry will be remembered lovingly by his sister, Susan Hubbell Whyte (Howard) of Carlisle; niece, Kimberly Eshbach Barger (Chad) of Mechanicsburg and grand-nephews, Alec Barger and Chase Barger.

Burial will be private at West Laurel Hill Cemetery in Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania. The family would like to thank Country Meadows Mechanicsburg and UPMC Harrisburg for the excel-



lent care given to Gerry. Also, the family would like to express their gratitude to Greg Salois, Eric Duda, Jim Jyz, Dan Whaley, Scott Moynihan, Mark Moynihan and Tim Moriarty for their ongoing support and friendship.

Memorial donations can be sent to: Pathfinder Vocational Technical High School, 240 Sykes Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

Services will be private and at the convenience of the family.

DEATH NOTICE

Paist, Gerald "Gerry" LaVerne

Died Jan. 24, 2025

Burial will be private at West Laurel Hill Cemetery Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania Services will be private and at the convenience of the family.

MassDOT alerts customers of EZDriveMA scam

BOSTON – The Massachusetts Department of Transportation reminds customers to be mindful of text message-based scams, also known as smishing.

The scammers are claiming to represent the tolling agency and requesting payment for unpaid tolls. MassDOT urges customers to be cautious about email, text and phone scams demanding payment of outstanding toll balances. Some attempts have been made to trick customers into sharing credit card numbers and other sensitive information by directing them to a website to pay their outstanding balances. MassDOT strongly

encourages customers not to click the link contained in those messages.

MassDOT is underscoring that EZDriveMA will never request payment by text. All links associated with EZDriveMA will include www.EZDriveMA.com

The EZDrive "smishing" scam is part of a series of smishing scams which the FBI is aware of. Smishing is when unscrupulous actors send deceptive text messages to get someone to reveal confidential or financial information.

The FBI recommends individuals that receive the fraudulent

messages to file a complaint with the IC3 by visiting www.ic3.gov and be sure to include: the phone number from where the text originated and the website listed within the text.

Delete any smishing texts received. If people clicked any link or provided private information, take efforts to secure their personal information and financial accounts. MassDOT encourages all customers to stay alert to these types of scams and to contact EZDriveMA by visiting www.EZDriveMA.com with any questions about notifications.

HOSPITAL continued from page 1

with Baystate Health will be held on Feb. 10 for further updates.

Town Manager Stuart Beckley said Baystate Health is also willing to work with other healthcare providers, such as New England Wound Care or Behavioral Health Network, with sharing space at the site.

"It may be possible to piece together different healthcare," Beckley said.

Beckley said Baystate Health would not share space with a federally qualified health center. This however, does not prevent a federally qualified health center from coming to town at another location.

"This is the first time that we've had a real entity saying that 'we're going to do this,'" Trietsch said. "This is the first healthcare entity, the largest one in western Mass, that has said 'we're going to bring back some kind of healthcare for the citizens of Ware.'"

Trietsch said the priority of the committee since Baystate Health left, was to bring healthcare back to the town.

"Things have changed in three years, they have new administration...there's been uproar from the town, there's been investigations from the Attorney General's office and questions being asked, and I think they want to make a change and do it right," Trietsch said.

Legal updates

Beckley said Attorney Patricia Davidson has primarily been working on researching deeds and trusts, and discussing these findings with Bank of America's attorney.

"She has researched deeds of additional trusts, they have not found additional trusts beyond three or four (not seven or eight), that are linked to Mary Lane Hospital, so she's continuing on that work," Beckley said.

Beckley said Davidson was also present during the recent meeting with representatives from Baystate Health. He said discussion was had with Banko about

completing an audit of all of the trusts by a third party.

"So that we'll have a list of the trusts and a list of all the expenditures," he said.

Beckley said a list of questions were sent to Davidson regarding the land and property, but they have not heard back from her yet.

"We continue to have discussion of who owns the property, who has control of the property, what happens if the property is sold, what happens if Baystate goes away," he said. "We're looking for those answers from her and I would expect them soon...that seems to be the basis of a lot of discussions."

Update about Wetherby Building

Trietsch said Baystate Health is willing to consider saving the Wetherby Building, if that is what the town wants to do. He said HKT Architects looked at the estimated costs if the town were to take over the building and reuse it.

"Their answer was \$9 to \$12 million," he said.

The lower cost would make the building usable for general office space and the higher cost would ready it for medical purposes.

Demolition

Trietsch said Baystate Health is delaying demolition of the buildings on the property, and there is now a 24-hour security watch for the property. He said everything is at a standstill for the time being and there is no date of when the demolition will move forward.

"It gives us a little bit more time," he said.

Trietsch said there hasn't been any interest from any healthcare entities to either reuse the existing buildings on the site or to construct new buildings.

Role of committee

Trietsch said the Hospital Review Committee was formed in 2021 to gather information and public input regarding the proposed closing of the Mary Lane Hospital outpatient center. He said the committee was charged with planning and recommending the best uses of the site and buildings.

Trietsch said he received an email from Friends of Mary

Lane Hospital Chair Cindy Allen Bourcier outlining some concerns she had about the committee's work, including possible conflicts of interest for its members.

Trietsch, a retired physician, said he was upfront about his ties to Baystate Health when he volunteered to serve on the committee, including having served on its Board of Directors. He does not receive a pension or any other money from Baystate Health.

"I felt that I would be helpful in any negotiations with the Baystate people because my name is well known there and it would get our foot in the door," he said. "And it did, for quite a while...they slammed the door in my face most of the time. It still allowed me to do the negotiations and the conversations on behalf of this committee and behalf of the town, with Baystate."

He said he has tried to hold Baystate Health accountable during his four years on the committee.

Committee member Terrance Smith said Trietsch was selected as the chair because its members felt he was the best person to fill the role.

"Because of Howard's background and his experience and everything with this, this committee itself took a vote and felt that this man was the most qualified of the people that came out from the town at the time four years ago and who actually took time and put in effort into this consistently," Smith said.

Trietsch said some of Bourcier's other concerns, including the moving of funds by Baystate Health and requesting an inventory of the endowment funds, are not within the purview of the committee's work.

Trietsch said he believes the need for the committee will soon come to an end.

"I don't anticipate another three years on this committee, I think that this is coming to a conclusion and that hopefully our job will have been done; that we have represented the town and the townspeople," he said.

Church News

Local pastors offer sermons

Got Resolutions? Part 4

We are in the midst of an extended series on 1 Thessalonians 5:12-24.

I posit that the mandates put forth in this passage make wonderful resolutions to live for in the new year. Let us continue our exploration of this text, one segment at a time:

1) Vengeance v. Kindness

The apostle Paul commands the following in 1 Thessalonians 5:15 (NIV): "Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else." Herein, we are both prohibited from the pursuit of vengeance and called to show forth kindness to others. Paul often touched upon such a theme. For instance:

Romans 12:17-21

17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. 18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. 19 Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. 20 On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

We do well to remember this insight of author Alexander Maclaren: "Kindness makes a person attractive. If you would win the world, melt it; do not hammer it."

2) A Celebratory Spirit

The apostle Paul commands the following in 1 Thessalonians 5:16: "Rejoice always." One may wonder how the Christian can rejoice ongoingly amid the afflictions and cares of this world. A figure like Paul, who suffered greatly, would ask how can we not? How can the follower of Christ be so joyless against the backdrop of God's good purpose, provision and plan? What do we lack that He has not promised to richly supply in Christ?

2 Peter 1:

3 His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.

I know that life can be difficult. Circumstances sour and plans go south, and in such moments it is easy to abandon any spirit of good cheer. Yet we do well to consider that joy transcends earthly event and happening, for it is not founded upon how things go, but upon who we know by faith. This is why the believer can have a lump in their throat and a tear in their eye, but a song in their heart. Never underestimate the power of joy. It can change your life and the lives of others!

As a third-century man was anticipating death, he penned the following last words to a friend: "It's a bad world, an incredibly bad world. But I have discovered in the midst of it a quiet and holy people who have learned a great secret. They have found a joy which is a thousand times better than any pleasure of our sinful life. They are despised and persecuted, but they care not. They are masters of their souls. They have overcome the world. These people are the Christians--and I am one of them."

3) Recurring Prayer

Finally, Paul offers this mandate in 1 Thessalonians 5:17: "Pray

continually." Why do we find it difficult to pray?

Is it because we are simply too busy to pray? If so, allow this quotation from John Piper to shape your perspective: "One of the great uses of Twitter and Facebook will be to prove at the last day that prayerlessness was not from lack of time."

Is it because we deem prayer ineffective? If so, let us consider the words of revivalist, Leonard Ravenhill: "Prayer is as mighty as God, because He has committed Himself to answer it."

Is it because we deem ourselves lousy at prayer? Max Lucado's words encourage me concerning such a matter: "Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the one who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference."

Might it be that we do not want to trouble or impose upon the Lord? Spiritual giant D. L. Moody offers this insight in kind: "Some people think God does not like to be troubled with our constant coming and asking. The way to trouble God is not to come at all."

Might it be that we are simply too lazy? These remarks of Thomas Watson pierce my soul: "Christ went more readily . . . to the cross than we do to the throne of grace."

Looking for resolutions in 2025? Take stock of what has been written and give yourself to the application of God's Word! For homework, continue to review 1 Thessalonians 5:12-24. We will carry on with our exploration of this text next week. Until then, thank you for taking the time to read this publication. Should you have any comments or questions, feel free to contact me at your leisure using the information below.

Also, feel free to check us out online at www.NewLifeBarre.org or join us each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. We hope to see you soon.

Pastor James Foley

New Life Assembly of God
60 Main St. South Barre
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978-355-6407

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

"You are the Body of Christ"

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 12 v 12 - 31 and Luke 4 v 18 - 19

I. Introduction

For our bodies to operate efficiently, it is essential that all their various parts are healthy, well-maintained and properly cared for.

When we feel physically sick, our bodies do not function optimally but need some help to get better. We go to the doctor, we take our medicines and after some time, we feel better, and our bodies get better.

When a specific part of the body does not heal, it can affect the entire body, as well as the individual's emotional well-being. This impact extends to the family, and it often takes time for everyone involved to feel better. The human body has the capacity to fully recover from various conditions, yet it is also subject to mortality when time inevitably arrives.

Our bodies, our minds, our emotions, all need help for us to feel good and to function well. Our bodies are precious gifts from God

and we are grateful to God for our beautiful and precious gift, our body.

II. You are the Body of Christ

Paul uses the human body as a metaphor to describe how the church of Christ functions when its members unite to do God's work. He reassures the Corinthians who feel unequal to the church elite.

He refutes the idea that within Christ's church, certain individuals hold greater significance than others, asserting that the Body of the church does not depend solely on one or two members for its functionality. If the assumption is that the body can function with only one eye, because your eye does not belong to this body, or your ear is less important than my ear, then it operates on the basis of discrimination and exclusion, and judgment about the other. Paul is stressing the importance of the One Body of Christ, with its many parts. For the Body of Christ to function well, it needs all its members to participate and feel they can participate equally with everyone else.

Paul contends that the parts of the body considered to be less honorable and less presentable may hold greater importance than those that are more apparent and presentable. The ones who feel weak, because they don't feel as wise as others or as comfortable talking in front of others like the rest, must be encouraged to participate fully, because their lack of presence and participation weakens the Body.

Paul is concerned that these issues would be a cause for division in the church, therefore he emphasizes the importance of the One Body with many parts, like the physical body with its many parts, and they all need each other to work together well.

The way it should work, he says, is that if one part of the body is doing well, the rest of the body rejoices, but if one part of the body suffers, every part of the body suffers. In and through that experience, they form One Body, connected in all the different experiences that bind them together.

III. Conclusion

The Church of Christ serves as a significant institution where individuals unite, bringing forth their diverse talents, which have been revealed through their encounters with the Holy Spirit. This concept was discussed in detail last week during our examination of the first part of 1 Corinthians 12. The Holy Spirit acts as our Partner, providing us with the necessary support to fulfill our responsibilities within the church. The church of Christ is powerful because God, its author, designed it as intended. We are the Body of Christ, all of us, because we have been called by God to it right into the place we are meant to be. God tells us today, "You are the Body of Christ", with everything you have, which is enough in My eyes. Go forth and serve this church and this community and I will be with you. Take care of each other, in good times and in bad, when you're healthy and when you're sick, when you feel strong and when you feel weak. May God bless each one of us so we will feel equipped to work together in the Kingdom of God here on earth.

Amen.

Pastor Margaret Keyser

Barre Congregational Church
30 Park St., Barre

NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for the Barre Gazette, please email edownner@turley.com.

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Public Safety

Rutland Police Log

Sunday, Jan. 12
 11 a.m. Motor Vehicle Hit and Run, Maple Avenue, Report Filed
 Summons Burns, Jennifer L., 54, Rutland
 Charges Leave Scene of Property Damage
 11:35 a.m. Follow-Up Investigation, Maple Avenue, Officer Spoke to Party
 11:57 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Main Street, Information Given
 1 p.m. Safety Concern, Grizzly Drive, Officer Spoke to Party
 3:04 p.m. Threats, Watson Lane, Report Filed
 3:38 p.m. Complaint, Briarwood Road, Peace Restored
 Summons Johnson, Richard, 41, Rutland
 Charges Disorderly Conduct
 4:05 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Inwood Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 6:30 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, New Braintree Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 7:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 7:18 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unattended Death, Farm Pond Road, Report Filed
 8:47 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Main Street, Public Assistance

Monday, Jan. 13
 12:59 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Maple Avenue, Officer Spoke to Party
 2:52 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle/Parking Issue, Grizzly Drive, Written Warning
 4:32 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Written Warning
 8:03 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Kosta Avenue, Message Delivered
 3:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 3:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Report Filed
 Summons Hayes, Brianna Celeste, 22 Gardner
 Charges Uninsured Motor Vehicle, Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With
 3:53 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 4:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 4:32 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 5:02 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 5:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Report Filed
 Summons Alves De Silveira, Ricardo Jose, 48, Webster
 Charges Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle, Speeding Rate of speed exceeding Posted Limit
 6:03 p.m. Threats, Wildbrook Drive, Report Filed
 Summon Amer, Mennatala Ahmed, 36, Shrewsbury
 Charges Threat to Commit Crime
 8:54 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Lantern Lane, Transported to Hospital
 9:01 p.m. Be On the Look Out Notification, Main Street, Message Delivered

Tuesday, Jan. 14
 12:02 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Allergic Reaction, Campbell Street, Transported to Hospital
 3:20 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle/Parking Issues, Main Street, Written Warning
 3:28 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle/Parking Issues, Inwood Road, Written Warning
 3:36 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle/Parking Issues, Highland Park Road, Written Warning
 4:13 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle/Parking Issues, Oakridge Drive, Written Warning

4:18 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle/Parking Issues, Juniper Lane, Written Warning
 6:19 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unattended Death, Irish Lane, Report Filed
 9:15 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Public Assist, Main Street, Public Assistance
 9:25 a.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Maple Avenue, Fire Extinguished
 12:02 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Edson Avenue, Transported to Hospital
 5:31 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Emerald Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 6:27 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 9:36 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Choking, Highland Park Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 11:13 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Gonzales, Jonhan Mejia, 33, Woodridge, Illinois
 Charges Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With, Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle

Wednesday, Jan. 15
 2:37 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Qammar, Rizwan A., 48, Westborough
 Charges Number Plate Violation to Conceal ID, Unregistered Motor Vehicle
 5:39 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Barre Paxton Road, Transported to Hospital
 7:18 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 7:58 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Woodside Avenue, Citation Issued
 8:06 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Muscopauge Road, Transported to Hospital
 3:58 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Lincoln Road, Transported to Hospital
 5:22 p.m. Noise Complaint, Maple Avenue, Peace Restored
 5:30 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Maple Avenue, Mutual Aid Transport
 6:58 p.m. Lockout (Home or Vehicle), Prouty Lane, Entry Gained
 8:22 p.m. Abandoned Vehicle/Parking Issue, Whitehall Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 9:34 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 10:57 p.m. Motor Vehicle/Disabled, Pommogussett Road, Criminal Complaint
 Summon Joyal, Tyler J., 31, Rutland
 Charges Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle, Leave Scene of Property Damage

Thursday, Jan. 16
 6:49 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Soucy Drive, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 7:59 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 8:13 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Turkey Hill Road, Referred to Other Agency
 8:48 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning
 9:07 a.m. Fraud or Forgery, Finn Park Road, Message Delivered
 9:24 a.m. Lockout (Home or Vehicle) Highland Park Road, Entry Gained
 10:28 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Leicester, Message Delivered
 11:22 a.m. Erratic Operator, East County Road, Negative Contact
 12:06 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Bushy Lane, Officer Spoke to Party
 12:30 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Animal Hospital, Animal Brought to Vet
 2:02 p.m. Emergency Medical

Service – Trauma, Victoria Avenue, Transported to Hospital
 3:12 p.m. Erratic Operator, Juniper Lane, Investigated
 5:19 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
 6:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident – No Fire Department/EMS Response, Pommogussett Road, Report Filed

Friday, Jan. 17
 2:30 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 7:26 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 7:50 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 7:57 a.m. Fire – Power Lines Down/Arcing, Maple Avenue, Referred to Other agency
 8:16 a.m. Fraud or Forgery, Brunelle Drive, Report Filed
 9:32 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
 9:56 a.m. Erratic Operator, East County Road, Negative Contact
 11:48 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 12:03 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Highland Park Road, Transported to Hospital
 12:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 12:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning
 1:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Fracso, Ian, 31, South Barre
 Charges Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle, Inspection/Sticker, NO
 2:54 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Trauma, Miles Road, Transported to Hospital
 3:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 3:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 3:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 4:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road Criminal Complaint
 Summons Brank, Thomas Willard, 66, Rutland
 Charges Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With
 4:40 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Watson Lane, Transported to Hospital
 5:21 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 8:34 p.m. Fire – Illegal Burn, Glenwood Place, Fire Extinguished
 9:25 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
 11:24 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Worcester Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Saturday, Jan. 18
 1:10 a.m. Noise Complaint, Maple Avenue, Unfounded
 3:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 3:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 4:47 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Miles Road, Transported to Hospital
 5:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Citation Issued
 6:12 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Clearview Road, Transported to Hospital
 7:57 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Bleeding (Non-Traumatic), Spencer Road, Transported to Hospital
 8:58 p.m. Threats, Wildbrook Drive, Report Filed
 11:12 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Irish Lane, Report Filed

Barre Police Log

Saturday, Jan. 11
 7:49 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Exchange Street, Report Filed
 11:23 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Vernon Avenue, Transported to Hospital

Sunday, Jan. 12
 10:07 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Gauthier Road, No Fire Service Necessary
 10:31 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Pleasant Street, Vehicle Towed
 9:02 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Clem Court, Transported to Hospital

Monday, Jan. 13
 11:33 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Vernon Avenue, Investigated

Tuesday, Jan. 14
 12:57 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 9:25 a.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Maple Avenue, Fire Extinguished

Wednesday, Jan. 15
 9:25 a.m. Court Duty, South Street, Court Duty
 11:24 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Adams Street., Mutual Aid Transport
 11:35 a.m. Disturbance/Disorderly, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 2:20 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Gauthier Road, Transported to Hospital

Thursday, Jan. 16
 7:22 a.m. Property – Lost and Found, Summer Street, Information Taken
 9:10 a.m. Court Duty, East Brookfield District Court, Court Duty
 3:51 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, South Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 5:38 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Hardwick, Mutual Aid Assist

Friday, Jan. 17
 8:07 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem,

Old Dana Road, Transported to Hospital
 1:22 p.m. Fire – Wires, Chamberlain Hill Road, Investigated
 4:54 p.m. Fire – Smoke Investigation, Morgan Road, Fire Extinguished
 4:55 p.m. Leg Pain, North Brookfield Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 5:43 p.m. Erratic Operator, Summer Street, Verbal Warning

Saturday, Jan. 18
 8:49 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, South Street, Referred to Other Agency
 1:45 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, High South Street, Mutual Aid Transported
 6:55 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Broad Street, Transported to Hospital
 8:07 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Wheelwright Road, Mutual Aid Transport
 10:23 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Hubbardston Road, No Fire Service Necessary

Hubbardston Police Log

Sunday, Jan. 12
 1:57 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Prentiss Hill Road, Mutual Aid Assist
 5:24 a.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Williamsville Road, Message Delivered
 6:01 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Madison Way, Mutual Aid Assist
 10:41 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Ragged Hill Road, Report Filed
 12:04 p.m. Public Assist, Healdville Road, Report Filed
 5:47 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Worcester Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 7:45 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Chippewa Street, Mutual Aid Transport

Monday, Jan. 13
 9:18 a.m. Fraud or Forgery, Main Street, Report Filed
 10:37 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Kruse Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 1:55 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal-Back Pain, High

Street Transported to Hospital
 2:53 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Old Westminster Road, Vehicle Towed
 4:17 p.m. Erratic Operator, Gardner Road, Unfounded

Tuesday, Jan. 14
 8:25 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Madison Way, Transported to Hospital
 11:51 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Bemis Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 3:29 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Mt. Jefferson Road, Vehicle Towed
 6:07 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Overdose/Poisoning, Mt. Jefferson Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Wednesday, Jan. 15
 1:23 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Grimes Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Thursday, Jan. 16
 4:50 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle

Collision, Barre Road, Vehicle Towed
 11:22 a.m. Erratic Operator, East County Road, Negative Contact
 8:22 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Gardner, Investigated

Friday, Jan. 17
 3:32 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Bemis Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 4:07 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Gardner Road, Written Warning
 4:54 p.m. Fire – Smoke Investigation, Morgan Road, Fire Extinguished
 11:24 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Worcester Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Saturday, Jan. 18
 3:56 p.m. Abandoned Vehicle/Parking Issue, Princeton Cutoff Road, Investigated
 5:23 p.m. Road Condition Notification, Town Wide, Officer Spoke to Party
 10:23 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Templeton, Mutual Aid Assist

Oakham Police Log

Sunday, Jan. 12
 11:12 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Spencer Road, Written Warning
 6:30 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, New Braintree Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 7:18 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unattended Death, Farm Pond Road, Report Filed

Monday, Jan. 13
 9:16 a.m. Court Duty, East Brookfield District Court, Court Duty
 9:27 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
 9:51 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
 5:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Report Filed
 Summons Alves de Silveira, Ricardo Jose, 48, Webster

Charges Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle, Speeding Rate of Speed Exceeding Posted Limit

Tuesday, Jan. 14
 9:25 a.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Maple Avenue, Fire Extinguished

Wednesday, Jan. 15
 3:38 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Lincoln Road, Transported to Hospital
 4:16 p.m. Erratic Operator, North Brookfield Road, Call Transferred

Thursday, Jan. 16
 5:38 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Lower Road, Mutual Aid Transported
 7:33 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Lincoln Road, Information Taken

Friday, Jan. 17
 5:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
 5:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning

Saturday, Jan. 18
 11:46 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
 11:57 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Citation Issued
 7:57 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Bleeding (Non-Traumatic) Spencer Road, Transported to Hospital
 8:22 p.m. Road Condition Notification, Town Wide, Message Delivered
 9:30 p.m. Road/Traffic Hazard, Old Turnpike Road, Message Delivered

New Braintree Police Log

During the week of Jan. 20-27, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to eight building/property checks, 19 directed/area patrols, six radar assignments, two traffic controls, one emergency 911 call, one assist other agency, one citizen assist, one property damage, one vandalism, two investigations, one animal call and two motor vehicle stops in the town of New Braintree.

Tuesday, Jan. 21
 8:22 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Barre Road, Services Rendered

Wednesday, Jan. 22
 12:14 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Memorial Drive, Dispatch Handled
 3:02 p.m. Property Damage, Ravine Road, Officer Handled

Saturday, Jan. 25
 3:40 p.m. Vandalism, West Road, Officer Handled
 5:55 p.m. Investigation, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

Sunday, Jan. 26
 4:01 p.m. Investigation, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled
 4:03 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

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Job Connection

HELPING YOU FIND HELP

FULL TIME POLICE OFFICER

The Warren Police Department is accepting applications for the position of full time Police Officer. Applicants are preferred to be academy trained and must be willing to work weekends, nights and holidays.

Responsibilities include responding to emergency and non-emergency calls for Police, Fire and Ambulance services. It is preferred that applicants currently possess valid certification as a Police Officer. Candidates must have strong interpersonal, verbal, and written communication skills. Preferences include an associate degree or higher in criminal justice, serve in the US military, or experience as a Police Officer.

The Patrolmen's contract provides an education incentive and a candidate with prior experience may also be considered to start at a higher step rate of pay.

Resumes and cover letters must be returned no later than **Thursday, January 30th, 2025**, to the attention of **Lt. Kyle Whitcomb, WPD PO Box 606, Warren, MA 01083 or Whitcomb@warren-ma.gov**.

The Town of Warren is an EOE.

TOWN OF BARRE Cemetery Clerk

The Town of Barre is seeking qualified applicants for the part-time position of Cemetery Clerk. This position is approximately 10 hours per week and the minimum hourly rate is \$15.00/hour and the maximum hourly rate is \$18.02/hour. A full job description is available upon request. Applicants must have HS Diploma or GED, with a minimum of two to three years' experience in office setting, or equivalent combination of education and experience.

Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest to: Tammy Martin, Town Administrator, 40 West Street, Suite 697, Barre MA 01005 or townadmin@townofbarre.com. For further information, please contact the Board of Selectmen's Office at (978) 355-2504 x135. A.A. / E.O.E.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Big Y partners with Red Cross Relief in Response to California wildfires

SPRINGFIELD – Big Y is partnering with the American Red Cross to raise donations for those affected by the California wildfires.

Now through Friday, Jan. 31, Big Y customers and employees will have the opportunity to donate to American Red Cross Disaster Relief at all Big Y supermarket locations throughout Massachusetts and Connecticut. Donation containers for cash donations will be available at all Big Y registers with the ability to donate with credit or debit at the register, via the myExpress Checkout app or <https://bit.ly/BigYCaliforniaWildfiresSupport>.

“The American Red Cross is focused on making sure everyone has a safe place to stay, and no one faces this heartbreaking crisis alone,” said Holly Grant, Chief Executive Officer, American Red Cross Massachusetts Region. “The Red Cross is working closely with our partners to provide safe shelter, food, emotional support and other critical services to those in need.”

According to President and CEO Michael P. D’Amour, “For years, our Big Y customers and employees have come together to support those in need through the Red Cross. Currently, their kindness and ongoing contributions are making a meaningful difference in the lives of families affected by these wildfires. We are deeply thankful for everyone’s generosity and commitment to helping those facing this devastation.”

The funds raised through this campaign will support people in the communities affected by these tragic fires.

Public Notices

Town of Oakham Conservation Commission

There will be a NOI hearing at the Oakham Town Hall, 2 Coldbrook Rd., Oakham on **Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at 6:10 p.m.** The applicant, Heart of New England BSA, Goddard Consulting, LLC, filed the NOI for an ecological restoration at Browning Pond to remediate to previous conditions by the use of selective herbicide treatment. This work is within the resource areas of Land Under Waterways and Waterbodies.

Lucy Tessnau, Clerk
Oakham Conservation Commission

01/30/2025

PUBLIC AUCTION NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF M.L.C. 225 SEC.39A THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES WILL BE SOLD ON February 15, 2025 AT A SALE TO SATISFY OUR GARAGE LIEN THEREON FOR TOWING & STORAGE CHARGES AND EXPENSES OF SALE AND NOTICE:

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2014 Maserati Ghibli
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2007 Mazda Mazda 6
VIN 1YVHP80C475M59840
2009 Honda CR-V
VIN 5J6RE48509L019590
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VIN WDBC20A2DB051536
2006 Hummer H3
VIN 5GTDN136368158134
2013 Nissan Pathfinder
VIN 5N1AR2MMXDC612516
2009 Nissan Rogue
VIN JN8AS58V49W176592
2005 Honda Accord
VIN 1HGCM56495A118401
2011 Ford Fusion
VIN 3FAHP0JA3BR254381
2005 Dodge Ram 2500
VIN 3D7KR28C95G722892
2010 Honda Civic
VIN 2HGFA1F55AH539986
2011 Honda Civic
VIN 2HGFA1F5XBH533179

The sale will be held at **Early's on Park Avenue 536 Park Avenue Worcester, MA 01603**
01/30, 02/06, 02/13/2025

Town of Oakham Conservation Commission
There will be an NOI hearing at the Oakham Town Hall, 2 Coldbrook Rd., Oakham on **Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at 6:25 p.m.** The applicant, Michael Toomey of Brookfield, MA proposes to construct a home on lot 11 Crawford Rd., Oakham, MA. This work may fall under the jurisdiction of the WPA.

Lucy Tessnau, Clerk
Oakham Conservation Commission

01/30/2025

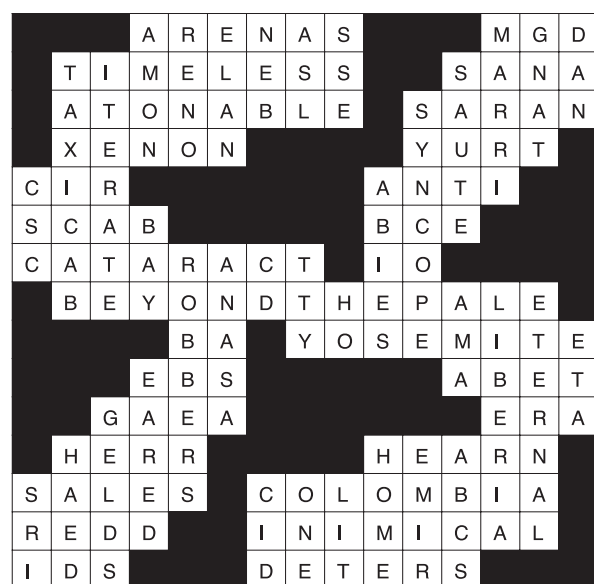


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HELP WANTED

ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR

Council on Aging for the Town of Oakham is seeking an experienced Activities Coordinator. Miscellaneous duties to include supporting current programs and developing new programs to increase attendance and participation of the growing aging population in the Oakham Senior Center. Up to 12 hours per week (flexible) \$20.00/hr. depending upon experience. Resume should be sent to Admin@Oakham-Ma.gov, or mailed to **Board of Selectmen, Town of Oakham, 2 Coldbrook Road, Oakham, MA 01068.**

COA COORDINATOR for Town of Westhampton. Description available online at www.westhamptonma.gov. Applications accepted until position filled.

HAMPDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT is now accepting applications for a **FULL-TIME police officer.** Review of applications begins immediately. Visit www.hampdenpolice.com for more information. EOE

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HELP WANTED

TOWN OF BARRE Cemetery Clerk

The Town of Barre is seeking qualified applicants for the part-time position of Cemetery Clerk. This position is approximately 10 hours per week and the minimum hourly rate is \$15.00/hour and the maximum hourly rate is \$18.02/hour. A full job description is available upon request. Applicants must have HS Diploma or GED, with a minimum of two to three years' experience in office setting, or equivalent combination of education and experience.

Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest to **Tammy Martin, Town Administrator, 40 West Street, Suite 697, Barre MA 01005** or townadmin@townof-barre.com. For further information, please contact the Board of Selectmen's Office at (978) 355-2504 x135. A.A./E.O.E.

WILBRAHAM UNITED CHURCH is hiring a sexton three evenings, 7-10 hours per week, \$16 per hour. Additional compensation for hours needed for weddings and funerals.

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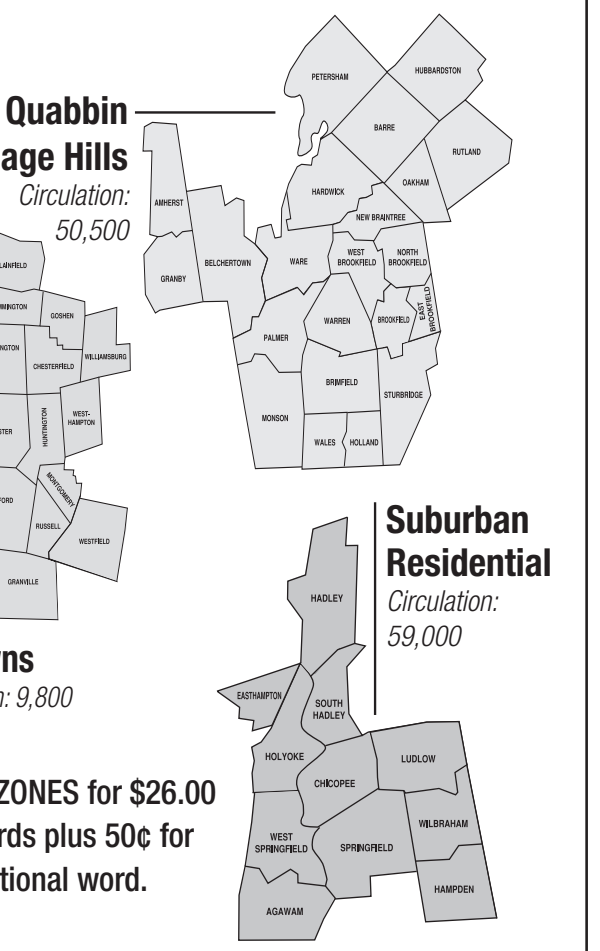
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Health grants available to central Mass organizations

WORCESTER — The Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts announced the opening of its 2025 Activation Fund grant opportunity, which provides capacity-building support for organizations working to address the community-identified health needs of central Massachusetts residents and workers.

With grants typically ranging between \$60,000 and \$125,000, the Activation Fund supports discrete, one-year projects in central Massachusetts aimed at helping organizations advance to their next

level of capacity and effectiveness that can be sustained over time. The deadline for submission of a brief concept paper to express interest is Feb. 28.

Organizations invited to apply will be notified in April so that they can submit full applications; final funding decisions will be made in late June so that projects can launch in July.

“Through the Activation Fund, we seek to offer grants that enable organizations to seize strategic opportunities for growth, address emerging challenges, purchase equipment, or improve facilities,

thereby facilitating activities and outcomes beyond the status quo” said Dr. Amie Shei, President and CEO of the Foundation. “Over the past 25 years, nearly \$12 million in Activation Fund grants has been awarded to 117 unique organizations with positive and lasting ripple effects on health throughout the region.”

Those interested in applying for an Activation Fund grant should visit the Foundation website at www.thfcm.org to access information on the application guidelines and register for a virtual information session to learn about the geo-

graphic focus and other eligibility requirements, types of support considered, and examples of previous grants.

Examples of 2024 grant recipients include Growing Places, which received a \$110,000 grant for development of a customized IT solution to enhance efficiency and expand its capacity to serve local food consumers, buyers and small farmers in north central Massachusetts, and Quinsigamond Community College, which received a \$125,000 grant to replace outdated dental chairs and equipment stations at its

Worcester-based dental clinic that prioritizes underserved patients.

For questions about the application process, please contact Vice President for Programs Jennie Blake at jblake@thfcm.org or 508-438-0009 extension 6.

About the Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts

The Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts is dedicated to improving the health of those who live or work in central Massachusetts, with particular emphasis on vulnerable populations and unmet needs. Through its unique and impactful approach

to grantmaking, The Health Foundation supports community-identified health issues, with health defined broadly to include social determinants of health and with a focus on promoting health equity.

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