BARRESGAZETTE

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www.barregazette.turley.com



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

Diane DiPietro did a flower arrangement demonstration at the Woods Memorial Library in Barre.

By Ryan Drago Staff Writer rdrago@turley.com

BARRE - The Woods Memorial Library welcomed Diane DiPietro of Flowerland @ Tintagels Gate to demonstrate flower arrangements.

DePietro's flower shop is based out of Athol and has done flower arrangements for five years. The earliest recorded history of flower arrangements dates back to the ancient Egyptians roughly around 2500 BC. Arrangements come in all forms from being in sculptures, tapestries vases, baskets and bouquets.

When it comes to flowers, they are always being picked, cooked, healed and always put in arrangements. DiPietro did a step by step demonstration on how to arrange flowers in a vase. Flowerland @ Tintagels offers flowers by the stem and by the bouquet. As some of the rose pedals were falling off, DiPietro mentioned that her flower shop also sells pedals by the bag.

During the flower arrangement, DiPietro brought up one of the toughest mysteries behind flower arrangements. The question many guests were trying to answer was when did modern flower arrangements first happen.



DiPietro started off with arranging a dozen roses.

of industry come to realization. Many assume that modern flower arranging started sometime during the Victorian Era.

DiPietro's first demonstration was a standard dozen rose vase. She insisted on patience being important to have when it comes to arranging a vase or bouquet of flowers. The process of flower arranging should never be rushed and takes practice.

Being involved with flower arrangements, DiPietro knows it takes not only patients but also In other words, when did this form care and passion. While demon-

strating the flower arrangements, DiPietro hopes her guests and customers enjoy arranging flowers.

"If you don't enjoy this, your arrangements look like you don't

enjoy this", said DiPietro. After the bouquet demonstration, DiPietro switched to another arrangement of a carnation. Using a jar and floral foam, DiPietro created a beautiful carnation to go along with the bouquet of roses.

To conclude the demonstration, DiPietro had everyone's names put in a drawing to give away the arrangements she made during



The next arrangement was a carnation using floral foam.

her presentation. Two guests won and got to take the flower arrangements home.

To learn more about flower arrangements, visit DiPietro at her store, Flowerland @ Tintagels Gate at 501-505 Main St, Athol, Ma. DiPietro's business offers flower arrangements for every occasion such as weddings, funerals and special occasions. Flowerland @ Tintagels offers local delivery and can be reached at 978-249-3057. For more information, visit www.flowerlandathol.com.

Finance Committee starts FY 25 budget process

By Ellenor Downer Editor edowner@turley.com

BARRE - The Barre Finance Committee started off the new year by reorganizing with the election of chair, vice chair and secretary at their Tuesday, Jan. 23 meeting.

The committee re-elected Dan Jewell, chair; Leigh Ann Spring, vice chair and newest member, Zackary Macutkiewicz secretary. At the beginning of the meeting, chair Jewell had the new Town Administrator Tammy Martin and the newest Finance Committee member Zackary Macutkiewicz introduce themselves.

Introductions

The Town Administrator said she was looking forward to working with the Finance Committee. She has an extensive background in finance having worked at a bank and most recently as Chief

Financial Officer for the town of Warren. Finance Committee member Macutkiewicz said he recently moved to town and wanted to get involved in the town.

The other Finance Committee members introduced themselves. They were in addition to Jewell and Macutkiewicz: Eric Reicker, Brian Inman, Irena Massei and Leigh Ann Spring.

Meeting schedule

Chair Jewell recommended meeting every other Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. beginning on Tuesday, Feb. 13. They meet in the Selectmen's Meeting Room located on the first floor of the Henry Woods Building, 40 West St. **Meetings with Department heads**

The committee chair said then Interim Town Administrator Greg Balukonis sent out letters to all

See FINANCE COMMITTEE,

Food policy council participates in opioid rescue training

By Paula Ouimette pouimette@turley.com

The Quaboag Valley Food Policy Council met to discuss food security and access within the communities it serves, and offer a free "Opioids and Opioid Rescue Training" in collaboration with the Quabbin Health District.

Opioids and Opioid Rescue Training

Health District's Public Health Nurse, Kirsten Krieger, presented a training about opioids, addiction and how to recognize signs of an opioid overdose.

"The biggest goal is to give people some basic information," she

Addiction, she said, is a treatable, chronic medical disease and that only one in 10 people with substance use disorders are getting treatment.

"It's finally being seen as more of a disease than a choice," Krieger

"Most people who are using, they feel euphoria, they feel high, it makes them feel better," she said. "They get to a point when it's not about the high; it's about not getting sick."

Krieger explained the neurobiology of addiction and how it affects the prefrontal cortex, which is responsible for impulse control and predicting consequences of actions. This part of the brain doesn't fully develop until a person is in their early-to-mid-20s, making adolescent substance use a great concern.

Addiction also impacts the basal ganglia, the part of the brain that controls the pleasurable/reward-At the Jan. 25 meeting, Quabbin ing effects of substance use and is responsible for formation of habitual substance use. The external amygdala is also affected by addiction, and is where the "fight or flight" response comes from.

Krieger said stigma is something substance users face, both from themselves and from the world around them.

"There are three kinds of stigma," she said, including self-stigma, public stigma and structural stigma.

Krieger said language matters when it comes to reducing stigma, including using "person with a substance use disorder" instead of derogatory terms like "addict" or "junkie," and "had a setback" or "resumed use" rather than

See FOOD POLICY, page 5

Sportsman's Club hosted comedy fundraiser for eighth graders



Members of the Central Tree Middle School PTO helped put together this fun comedy show and fundraiser at the Rutland

Sportsman's Club. By Ryan Drago over 100 guests to the Rutland Staff Writer rdrago@turley.com RUTLAND - The Rutland Sportsman's Club welcomed come-

support the eighth grade class of Central Tree Middle School. Members of the CTMS Parent Teacher Organization welcomed

dians and guests for a fundraiser to

Sportsman's Club for food, beverages and a night of laughter. The goal of the Central Tree Middle School PTO is to aid the students and staff of Central Tree Middle School by providing support for their educational and recreational

The CTMS comedy show featured a total of five comedians



alongside comedian Cindy Gray who was one of the five comedians to perform at the comedy show.

to entertain the guests. Originally from San Francisco now residing in Worcester, comedian Cindy Gray appeared in her first comedy gig in Rutland. Gray has been a comedian for seven years and enjoys bringing laughter to the atmosphere she performs in.

In addition to comedy, the CTMS PTO hosted a raffle to raise money and support end of

school year events for the eighth grade class. Raising money for class barbecues, field trips and class T-shirts. Other support for the CTMS PTO was sponsorships for the CTMS Comedy Show.

The supporting sponsorships were from organizations such as Daignault Real Estate, Jake Pettis Septic Systems, Quinn's Restaurant, Rutland Marketplace,



A raffle was taking place during the comedy show to support school events for the Central Tree Middle School's eighth grade class

Brilla Coffee, Stone Cow Brewery and many more.

The Rutland Sportsman's Club is located at 75 Pleasantdale Road and has served central Massachusetts sportsmen since 1932. The Rutland Sportsman's Club has over 400 members and promotes education and good sportsmanship in hunting and fishing, and also promotes social activ-

ities among its members and assists in the propagation of wild game and fish under the supervision of the proper authorities.

To learn more, visit https://



News of the Towns



Round Town Ellenor Downer edowner@turley.com

Barre Taxpayers Association to meet Feb. 14

The Barre Taxpayers Association will meet at the Barre Senior Center, 557 South Barre Road, on Wednesday, Feb. 14 at 7 p.m. People should bring their questions and concerns. The BTA will have an on-going regular meeting the second Wednesday of the month, same time and place.

Barre Food Pantry

Once or twice a year a month begins on a Thursday. This makes the third Thursday of the month the day right after the second Wednesday. February 2024 is such a month. As a result, the Barre Food Pantry's two distributions in February will occur on successive days, Wednesday morning Feb.14 from 10-11:30 a.m. and Thursday evening, Feb. 15 from 5:30-7 p.m. Clients are invited to pick up groceries from the food pantry either in the morning on Wednesday, Feb. 14 or in the evening on Thursday, Feb. 15, whichever is the more convenient for them. To maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients Feb. 14 and 15 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.

Pancake breakfast

Cradle Rock Chapter Order of Eastern Star will hold a Designer Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, Feb. 3 from 7:30-10:30 a.m. at Masonic Hall, 71 Pleasant St.. Cost is \$9 per adult and \$5 for children 10 and under. People can create their own pancake. Compete breakfast choices include designer pancakes, waffles, sausage gravy with biscuits, bacon, sausage links, coffee and juice. All are welcome.

Make a Valentine

Preschool, school age and tweens can come anytime during open library hours and create a Valentine on Friday, Feb. 9, using supplies from the Valentine's Day station, at the Woods Memorial Library, located in the Children's Room

Nomination papers

Nomination papers for the Annual Town Election on April 1 are available at the Town Clerk's Office, 40 West St., for any registered voter wishing to take out papers for any of the available seats.

The last day and time to take out nomination papers will be on Wednesday, Feb. 7 at 5 p.m.

All Nomination Papers must be returned to the Town Clerk's Office for certification of signatures by the Board of Registrars no later than Monday, Feb. 12 at 5 p.m. The last day to register to vote in this election will be on Friday, March 22 at 5 p.m.

Library offers winter play group and story time

NEW BRAINTREE - Making Opportunities Count will be offering a winter play group in place of Story Time at the New Braintree Public Library, 45 Memorial Drive, on Monday, Feb. 5 at 10 a.m.

MOC offers Coordinated Family and Community Engagement programs and is funded by the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care. The next Story Time program will be held on Monday, Feb. 19, President's Day, at 9 a.m. The story time will be feature "Stomp, Wiggle, Clap and Tap: My First Book of Dance" by Rachelle Burk and "Smile, Pout-Pout Fish" by Deborah Diesen. Parental supervision is required. People may call the library at 508-867-7650 during regular business for more infor-

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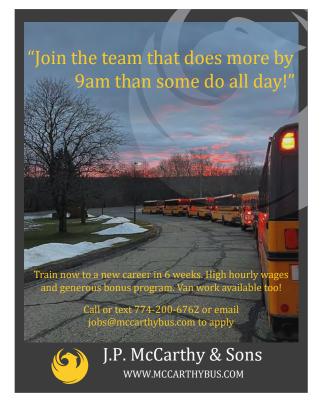
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Sunday and Monday saw more snow falling in the area. This time is was about two inches or more o heavy, wet snow, which clung to these hemlock trees.

Country Bank supports QVCDC with \$10,000 donation

WARE - Country Bank, a full-service financial institution serving central and western Massachusetts, announced a \$10,000 donation to the Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation to support various programs to help local communities in the

"The Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation is grateful for this generous donation from Country Bank. We appreciate Country Bank's support for our initiatives and its investment in the economic growth and stability of the Quaboag Region," said Melissa Fales, QVCDC executive director in a press release.

To learn more about the various support programs the QVCDC offers, visit www. QVCDC.org

About Country Bank

Country Bank is a full-service \$1.7B with 17.0% Tier 1 Capital mutual community bank



of Compliance and CRA at Country Bank; Melissa Fales, executive director and James DaRosa, loan program coordinator for the Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation.

serving central and western Massachusetts with 14 offices in Ware, Palmer, West Brookfield, Brimfield, Belchertown, Wilbraham, Ludlow, Leicester, Paxton, Charlton and Worcester.

Country Bank is a member of FDIC, DIF, and the SUM network. Country Bank can be reached by calling 800-322-8233 or online at countrybank.

Salvadore family donates \$100,000 to support automotive technology program

Family, long-time Barre residents and owners of Salvadore Chevrolet, Salvadore Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram and Salvadore Pre-Owned Super Center in Gardner, recently donated \$100,000 to fund local Automotive Technology Program Scholarships.

As a trade school graduate himself, Angelo Salvadore not otherwise be able to afford,"

BARRE - The Salvadore understands first-hand the importance of Trade education. "We need more tradesmen and tradeswomen in today's society and the lack of qualified candidates for automotive technicians is a clear indication of this. We hope this donation will provide young people who are as passionate about the automotive industry as we are, an opportunity they may

said Angelo Salvadore. "We look forward to having them join our

team someday". Last year, Mount Wachusett Community College purchased 42 Linus Allain Avenue to create an Auto Tech program center. The donation by the Salvadore Family will be distributed as full and partial scholarships to applicants, who qualify for assis-



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Valentine for our woods poets and trees hike on Sunday, Feb. 11 at 3 p.m. at Barre Falls Dam. People should meet at the Overlook Parking Lot on the Barre Road entrance to Barre Falls. The hike is a one or two mile hike on moderate terrain and an easy pace for all ages. Poles and microspikes or even snowshoes may be helpful, but not essential, depending on trail conditions. It will be held rain, snow or shine. Participants will count down Ten Reasons to Love Trees with for-

ester-naturalist Tim Hawley.

Forester to lead Valentine for the woods hike

Forester and naturalist Tim Hawley will lead a

Hubbardston

Ellenor Downer

edowner@turley.com

Valentine's Day Roast Beef Dinner

The Hubbardston Scholarship Committee will hold a Valentine's Day Roast Beef Dinner on Saturday, Feb. 17 with servings from 5-8 p.m. at the Hubbardston Rod and Gun Club, 55 Williamsville Road, Hubbardston. Menu includes beside roast beef, mashed potatoes, green beans, mixed vegetables, bread, coffee and dessert. Cost is \$15 per adult and \$8 per child. People may call Flo at 978-928-5113 or Paula at 978-928-4095.

Hubbardston Community Theatre

The 2024 production at the Hubbardston Community Theatre will feature "The SpongeBob

This production was directed by Donna Farrell & Michelle Johnston. The play will premiere at the Hubbardston Center School Gym at 8 Elm St. The dates for the show are March 15, 16 and 17.

The Hubbardston Community Theatre, Inc. seeks to provide a theatrical experience to children and families throughout the Hubbardston Community. They began back in 1993 with a production of "The Pied Piper," directed by Russell Killough-Miller. Originally, the cast was solely comprised of students, but the following year was expanded to include students and their families and opened up to Hubbardston and surrounding communities over the years.

Community discussion

On Monday, Feb. 5 at 6:30 p.m. a community discussion will be held to provide input on the priorities and agenda for the Hubbardston Legislative Delegation this term. State Senator Peter Durant and state Representative Donnie Berthiaume will be present to hear directly from Hubbardston residents. This event will take place during the Select Board meeting at the Slade Building, 7 Main St.. Both in-person and hybrid/virtual attendance options will be available. If people plan to attend in person, they should email admin@hubbardstonma.us to ensure proper seating arrangements. This is a prime opportunity or residents to make their voice heard and impact the key issues the legislators will address on behalf of Hubbardston this term.

Dog licenses

2024 Dog License applications are due by Sunday, March 31. Dog owners may fill out the application and return by mail with a check, pay in the office with cash/check or pay online

Senior center events

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

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. 5. 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 - Chicken pot pie, mashed potatoes, country blend vegetables, pears, biscuit TUESDAY - Braised beef, Gemelii pasta,

broccoli, fresh fruit, French bread WEDNESDAY - Baked Ham, sour cream/ chive mashed potatoes, honey glazed carrots,

yogurt, pumpernickel bread THURSDAY - Jambalaya, rice pilaf, green peas, pineapple, marble rye bread

FRIDAY - Garlic herbed chicken, bread stuffing, roasted Brussels sprouts, banana pudding, diet = sugar free pudding, whole wheat

*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.

Designer Pancake Breakfast on Feb. 3

BARRE - A Designer Pancake Breakfast, sponsored by Cradle Rock Chapter Order of Eastern Star will be held Saturday, Feb. 3 from 7:30-10:30 a.m. at Masonic Hall, 71 Pleasant St., Barre. Cost is \$9 per adult and \$5 for children 10 and under.

People can design their own pancake. Compete breakfast choices include; designer pancakes, waffles, sausage gravy with biscuits, bacon, sausage links, coffee and juice.

All are welcome

News of the Towns

PUBLIC MEETINGS

BARRE.

QRSD Budget Subcommittee – Feb. 1 at 6 p.m. QRSD Student Services Subcommittee -Feb. 5 at 5:30 p.m.

Select Board – Feb. 5 and Feb. 7 at 6 p.m. Board of Assessors – Feb. 6 at 6 p.m. Felton Field Commission – Feb. 6 at 6:30 p.m. Planning Board – Feb. 6 and Feb. 20 at 7 p.m. Council on Aging – Feb. 7 at 1 p.m. Barre Housing Authority – Feb. 8 at 3 p.m. Board of Health – Feb. 12 at 5 p.m. Water Commission – Feb. 12 at 6:30 p.m. DPW Commission – Feb. 12 at 7 p.m. Cable Advisory Committee – Feb. 13 at 7 p.m. Conservation Committee – Feb. 13and Feb. 27

Library Trustees – Feb. 14 at 6:30 p.m. Sewer Commission – Feb. 15 at 7 p.m. Planning Board – Feb. 20 at 7 p.m. Cemetery Commission - Feb. 22 at 11 a.m. Primary Election Day – March 5 from 7 a.m.-8 p.m.

Town Election Day – April 1 7 a.m.-8 p.m.

HARDWICK

Board of Health – Feb. 1 at 6:30 p.m. Paige Library Trustees – Feb. 1 at 7 p.m. Master Plan Steering Committee – Feb. 6 at 6:30 p..

Recycling Commission – Feb. 6 at 6:30 p.m. Capital Planning Committee – Feb. 12 at 3 p.m. Board of Selectmen – Feb. 12 and Feb. 26

Hardwick New Braintree Cultural Council -Feb. 12, March 11, May 13, June 10 and July 8 at 6:30 p.m.

Planning Board – Feb. 13 at 6:30 p.m. Council on Aging – Feb. 14 at 9 a.m. Gilbertville Public Library – Feb. 14 at 4 p.m. Gilbertville Water District – Feb. 20 at 5:30 p.m. Zoning Board of Appeals – Feb. 21 at 5:30 p.m. Conservation Commission – Feb. 21 at 6:30 p.m. Board of Registrars – Feb. 24 at 9 a.m. Personnel Committee – Feb. 26 at 4:30 p.m. Capital Planning Committee – March 18 at 3 p.m.

HUBBARDSTON

Finance Committee – Feb. 1 at 5:30 p.m. Library Trustee – Feb. 1 at 7 p.m.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

Parks and Recreation – Feb. 1 at 6 p.m. Library Trustees – Feb. 1 at 6 p.m. Town Administrator Search Committee -Feb. 8, Feb. 15 and Feb. 22 at 6:30 p.m. Board of Selectmen – Feb. 13 and 27 at 6 p.m. Conservation Committee – Feb. 13 at 7 p.m. Planning Board – Feb. 21 at 6 p.m.

OAKHAM.

Select Board – Feb. 5 and Feb. 20 at 6 p.m. Finance Committee – Feb. 7 at 6 p.m.

PETERSHAM

Board of Health – Feb. 1 at 6 p.m. Open Space and Recreation Committee -Feb. 3 and Feb. 6 at 6 p.m. Core Planning Team – Feb. 5, Feb. 12, Feb. 19, Feb. 26, March 4, March 11 and March 18 at 1:30 p.m.

Board of Assessors – Feb. 6 at 5:30 p.m. Conservation Commission – Feb. 6 at 7 p.m. Council on Aging - Feb. 12 at 10 a.m. Cemetery Commission – Feb. 13 at 10 a.m. Petersham Historic District – Feb. 15 at 6 p.m. Planning Board – Feb. 22 at 7 p.m.

RUTLAND

General and Zoning By-Law Proposed Amendments Public Information Sessions -Feb. 4 and Feb. 11 from 1-4 p.m. Special Winter Town Meeting – Feb. 15 at 6 p.m.

Editorial deadline reminder

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

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.

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Hearts for Heat helps warm homes with annual dinner



Many people came to show their support of Hearts for Heat and its mission as they enjoyed a spaghetti dinner

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

NORTH BROOKFIELD -Hearts for Heat, a local organization, hosted their 15th annual spaghetti dinner to raise money for winter heating help.

The organization was started by Cindy Shea 15 years ago with the dream of "community helping community.'

"Ninety percent of our funds come from within North Brookfield, proving how much we care about all residents in our little town," Sue Lewandowski, the president of the organization,

The 15th annual spaghetti dinner was hosted this year in the North Brookfield Elementary School's cafeteria. There were many sponsors of the event, including food donated by Hannaford Supermarket.

Hayden Lodge A.F. & A.M. was another sponsor, and helped to make the food and serve it. Local band, The Otters, helped to liven the atmosphere, and attendees got to enter a raffle for fun prizes.

The community really cares," Lewandowski said, as was seen at the end of the fundraiser where the event raised a

Local band, The Otters, offered those gathered a wonderful show of music to add to the fun.

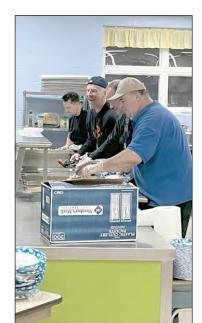
total of \$2,540, all to be donated to help provide a variety of heating fuel to residents in need.

The North Brookfield Hearts for Heat raises funds to help with fuel assistance for qualified North Brookfield residents," Lewandowski explained. "Last year, we helped 31 families and raised \$33,000, the most we have raised in a year so far."

The Hearts for Heat, a nonprofit organization, takes all money donated or raised through raffle tickets or the dinner to send directly to fuel providers of those who qualify for the assis-

Fuel includes oil, propane, natural gas, electricity, pellets, or cord wood that would be used in order to heat a home.

The event was successful, and helped to raise money that will make a difference in the lives of many people this cold winter



Members of the Hayden Lodge A.F. & A.M. volunteered to do all the cooking and serving for the fundraising event.



Paige Memorial Library lists events

HARDWICK - The Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, is calling out to those who would like to do some stressfree writing, to record ideas and memories and to meet with others for a rewarding sharing ses-

Paige Writers is an informal group. It can be a confidence builder and an enjoyable social experience. Interested people should come to the Paige Memorial Library on Tuesdays at 3 p.m. for an adventure in creativity. They may email the

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Paige Library for more information at director.paigelibrary@ gmail.com or call 413-477-6704.

On Saturday, Feb. 10 at 1:30 p.m., Julie Rawson and Jack Kitteridge of Many Hands Organic Farm, Barre, will talk about their book: "Many Hands Make a Farm," shareholding, organic farming and their connection with the Northeast Organic Farming Association. Organic farming is a farming system that respects the balance of natural cycles and works as much as possible within those cycles. The event will be held at the Town House, 32 Common St.

Other adventures in creativity are the Cookbook Club, try recipes and share the results or FUNdamentals of Art, a workshop for artists and craftsmen of all abilities. People may call 413-477-6704, email director.paigelibrary@gmail.com or stop at the library.

The library is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2-7 p.m., Wednesdays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-1

SUBMISSIONS ALWAYS WELCOME

Send your stories and photos to edowner@turley.com

Oakham Ellenor Downer edowner@turley.com



Church to hold breakfast Feb. 17

The Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road, will hold a breakfast on Saturday, Feb. 17 from 8-9:30 a.m. The menu will include pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, homemade doughnut holes, fruit, orange juice, coffee, tea and hot chocolate. Donations will benefit the Oakham Congregational Church.

COA health fair

A Health Fair sponsored by the Oakham Council on Aging will be held Wednesday, Feb. 14 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road. There will be a Life Coach, Medicare/Medicaid guidance, a Caregiver's Guide, Massage Therapy, Reiki and other energy treatments, There will also be a public health nurse, yoga instructor, dietitian, Oakham Board of Health and fire officials, Ayurveda and much more. Refreshments will be available. All are welcome.

Dog licenses

Dog licenses are due by Sunday, March 31. All dogs six months of age or older must be licensed each year. In order to license a dog the following items must be presented to the Town Clerk, a copy of a valid rabies certificate, a spayed/neutered certificate if applicable for first time licensing the dog and a check made out to the Town of Oakham for the correct amount. No cash will be accepted The license fee is \$11 for a male or female and \$7 for a neutered or spayed dog. People may mail the information and check to Town Clerk, 2 Coldbrook Road, Unit 4, Oakham, MA 01068 and include a stamped self-addressed stamped envelope. The information also may be dropped off at the Oakham Town Hal blue box located to the left of the Town Hall's side entrance. Town Clerk office hours are Monday from 6:15-7:30 p.m. and Fridays 10 a.m.-

Senior center activities

Ongoing activities include Zumba Gold Monday from 10:30-11:15 a.m., Wii Bowling Tuesdays: from 10-11 a.m., cards and cribbage on Tuesdays beginning at 1 p.m., coffee Wednesdays and social hour from 9-11:45 a.m. and BBC Thursdays at 12:30 p.m. which includes crafts and BBC miniseries. FUNctional Fitness Fridays is held at 10:30 a.m. in the New Braintree Town Hall, Memorial Drive, New Braintree.

Meal site

Elder Services of Worcester effective the first of January increased the suggested donation for meals served at the Back Door Cafe from \$2.50 to \$3 per

Historical Society to hold genealogical presentation

NEW BRAINtREE - The New Braintree Historical Society will hold a free genealogical presentation with Dan Hamilton on Friday, March 15 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the New Braintree Historical Society Museum, 10 Utley Road.

The Tapestry of Life by Dan Hamilton is a personal journey through historical, genealogical and DNA research using a live demonstration of online tools and often used reference books. There will be a question and answer period as well.

Dan, a retired professional actor and Emmywinning director, spent the last 25 years exploring the genealogy and history of his own family and that of friends and clients. He is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogy and holds a Certificate in Genealogical Research from Boston University. He is a lifetime member of the New Braintree

Historical Society, the Quaboag Historical Society, served on the West Brookfield Historical Commission where he produced the Lucy Stone Bicentennial Celebration in 2018, and most recently, produced the Brookfield Historical Commission's event; A Robert Wilder Memorial Presentation: Honoring Brookfield's First Inhabitants.

He is also a member of the Massachusetts Archeological Society, the Archaeological Society of Virginia, the Planetary Society and the Mayflower Society. He builds and maintains websites, creates video documentaries on YouTube and occasionally appears as a speaker.

All are welcome to attend. Masking is optional.

EVENT

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Places to go... Things to do...



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Opinion

Letter to the Editor

Operation Christmas Child makes a difference

Generosity throughout Barre contributed to a successful shoebox gift collection season at drop-off locations for the Samaritan's Purse project Operation Christmas Child.

Across the U.S., the project collected 10 million shoebox gifts in 2023. Combined with those collected from partnering countries in 2023, the ministry is now sending over 11.3 million shoebox gifts to children worldwide, including many who are suffering from war, poverty, disease and disaster.

Through shoeboxes-packed with fun toys, school supplies, and personal care items-Barre area volunteers brought joy to children in need around the world. Each gift-filled shoebox is a tangible expression of God's love and it is often the first gift these children have ever received. Through the continued generosity of donors since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 220 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 170 countries and territories.

Across Massachusetts, shoebox packers often shop for deals on shoebox items throughout the year, and many serve at a deeper level by becoming a yearround volunteer. Information about ways area participants can get involved year-round can also be found by visiting samaritanspurse.org/occ or by calling 518-

Although local dropoff locations for shoebox gifts are closed until Nov. 18 - 25, 2024, anyone can still be a part of this life-changing project by conveniently packing a shoebox gift online in just a few simple clicks at samaritanspurse.org/buildonline.

These simple gifts, packed with love, send a message to children worldwide that they are loved and not forgotten.

Sincerely, **Jasmin Sutton** Samaritan Purse Operation Christmas Child

Guest column



Will withdrawing from 401(k) affect my **Social Security?**

Dear Rusty

My full retirement age (FRA) is 66 and 8 months, which I'll reach in September 2024. I'm still working three days a week. I want to cash in my 401K and want to know if I have to wait until my FRA for IRS purposes or can cash it in anytime in 2024. I don't want to affect my Social Security or end up paying taxes on my

Signed: Seeking to Avoid Taxes

We're not experts on IRS matters here at the AMAC Foundation so I can't address 401(k) questions, but we can provide information on your Social Security circumstances and how 401(k) withdrawals may affect your SS. I assume from your question that you are now receiving early Social Security and wish to avoid any tax consequences thereto by cashing in your 401(k), as well as from working. Here's what you need to know:

Since you will reach your Full Retirement Age in 2024, your 2024 work earnings limit will be \$59,520 up to the month you reach FRA. If you were born in January 1958, you'll attain FRA in September 2024. After you have reached your FRA there is no longer a Social Security limit to how much you can earn from working, so your work earnings thereafter will not affect your monthly Social Security benefit regardless of how much you earn. If your part time work between January and August 2024 won't put you over the \$59,520 limit, your work earnings will not negatively affect your gross monthly Social Security benefit.

Assuming you are on Medicare, the premium for which is deducted from your Social Security payment, withdrawals from your 401(k) might affect your net monthly Social Security payment in two years hence. Medicare premiums are based upon your combined income from all sources, including 50% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year. If your 401(k) withdrawal(s) put you over an income threshold for your tax filing status, you may be required to pay an Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount on top of the standard Medicare premium. That IRMAA supplement would be deducted from your Social Security, which would affect the net amount of your Social Security payment. Your Medicare premium for each coming year is determined by your combined income from two years prior, so if you "cash in" your 401(K) in 2024, it would affect your net Social Security payments

Whether you will pay income tax on your Social Security benefits is determined by your combined income from everywhere, which the IRS calls your "Modified Adjusted Gross Income." MAGI is your income from all sources except ROTH IRA withdrawals and includes half of the SS benefits you received during the tax year.

If you file your taxes as a single, and your MAGI is over \$25,000 or if you file your taxes as "married-jointly" and your MAGI is over \$32,000 then 50% of the Social Security benefits received during the tax year becomes part of your overall income taxed by the IRS

See SOCIAL SECURITY, page 5



In Past Pages

5 years (Feb. 7, 2019)

A Valentine's roast beef dinner will benefit the Hubbardston Scholarship Committee Saturday, Feb. 16 from 5-8 p.m. at the Hubbardston Rod and Gun Club, 55 Williamsville Road. Menu includes roast bee, mashed potatoes, green beans, mixed vegetables, bread, coffee and dessert. Advance tickets are \$12 per adult and \$6 per child and \$14 per adult and \$8 per child at the

Hardwick senior participation numbers increased since the towns of Barre and Hardwick first entered a regional agreement to share senior center services. Hardwick Selectmen met with Barre Selectmen and Eileen Clarkson, Barre Senior Center director, to discuss a new agreement for the upcoming fiscal year. Hardwick Selectmen said the seniors from their town liked going to the Barre Senior Center. Hardwick provided transportation by van to the Barre Senior Center Monday through Friday. The two towns entered into an agreement several years ago. Hardwick Selectmen said initially their senior citizens wanted to keep the center in town. However, Barre had a newer facility and offered more services. Selectmen stated now their seniors enjoyed the arrangement. About 28% of seniors are from Hardwick.

The Big Game in Atlanta wasn't the only sold out and successful bowl event or those in Central Mass last weekend. Locally, the first ever Soup-er Bowl, sponsored by the Friends of North Brookfield Council on Aging, was like ninety years touch-down return, selling out of soup in less than thirty minutes last Saturday afternoon. "It was the best fundraiser, we've had in years," Anne Role Tymczyn said. "It was all about the soup." Held at the North Brookfield Senior Center for take out only, the public was invited to stop in to purchase a variety of donated soups sold in pints and

10 years (Jan. 30, 2014)

Dr. Virginia "Ginger" Asel was at New Life Assembly of God, Main Street, South Barre for a dedication and book signing on Sunday, Jan. 12. She is the author of "Four and No More: Ezekiel's Introduction to the Gospels." Rev. Dr. Asel has been in active ministry for over fifty years as pastor, conference center co-founder and co-director and conference and retreat speaker. She speaks internationally and held seminars in Africa, India, South America, Guatemala and Asia. She also published "The History of the First Congregational Church of Royalston" in 2001.

The winter system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this incident was

LOOK BACK Cold and alone - 1993



For history buffs or anyone

who enjoys true adventure, the

recently issued book, "So Red

the River," will provide interest-

ing and thought provoking read-

ing. The book, authored by the late

Robert M. Newbury who grew up

in Petersham, follows the trail of

havoc laid by King Phillip, actually

the Native American, Metacomet,

from 1675 to 1690. King Phillip,

the name given him by the white

settlers, was well known to both

the Massachusetts and Connecticut

settlements Both were aware of his

intention to drive the whites from

press releases from the legis-

lator in Boston about the town

receiving money through the

Heritage Tree Care program of the

Commonwealth. A matching grant

amount of \$985 was approved

for the repair of three large trees,

including a giant ash and a maple

tree on Petersham Common. In

Petersham, there are memorial trees

for each of the servicemen and

women lost in battle from World

38 years (Feb. 6, 1986)

Dispatch Study Committee, gave a

report on the committee's recom-

mendations to the Barre Selectmen

at Monday night's meeting. The

committee met four times to dis-

cuss the feasibility of a central dis-

patch system. The committee was

in favor of converting to this sys-

tem, because of the new Federal

Labor Standards Act, which will

mandate the town to pay time and a

half for any hours dispatchers work

over forty in a given week. Other

committee members included Mike

Ryder, Barre Police Chief; Dick

Clark, Barre Fire Chief; Don Rich,

a radio and telephone expert and

Irene Marsh of the Personnel Board.

Sue Strauss, chairperson for the

War I through the Vietnam War.

Recently, there have been

the land.

This snowman was built in the middle of Connors Pond in Petersham. The friends who made him got in somewhere out of the cold, but the snowman doesn't seem to mind the blustery day.

not an emergency, as Barre Water Department customers, residents have a right to know what happened and what the department did to correct the situation. The water department routinely monitors for drinking water contaminants. On Jan. 13, the department collected 12 bacteria samples to test for the presence of coliform bacteria. More than one sample showed the presence of coliform bacteria, which exceeds acceptable standards. On Jan. 15, the department collected an additional six samples. All of the samples on the Jan. 15 came back negative for coliform bacteria.

Town Administrator Heather Lemieux reported she received a letter from Meghan Kellaher of rutland Regional Dispatch regarding an update on the communication tower. Kellaher said National Grid informed Rutland Dispatch, which is coordinating the installation of the communication tower off Pleasant Street, the existing pole on Pleasant Street by the site must be replaced. The utility company stated the pole would need to be replaced with a stronger one to house the transformer needed tor service the

25 years (Feb. 4, 1999)

The Barre Town Hall is featured on the 1998 Limited Edition Medallion collection of historical landmarks in town. The medallions are in and are available at Country Gourmet and Barre Opticians. The Barre Lions Club started the collection in 1994 with the intention of offering a series of seven medallions, the final one to be released in the year 2000. Each medallion is cast metal with raised lettering and design and has an antique bronze wreath and packaged in an attractive see through box. They can be used as Christmas ornaments or displayed year round. About 350 medallions will be available for sale at a cost of \$14.95.

Heidi Young, Jennifer Sweet, Liz Twarog and Leah Calberg help man the Quabbin High School store, a joint project of the Student Council and sophomore class. On sale are sweatshirts, pants, shorts, tee-shirts, socks, jackets, pens, pencils, personalized buttons and notebooks. The store will be open to students during every lunch period. Checks

Guest Column



Re-blooming paper whites

I purchased some paper white bulbs early in December, figuring I'd need some flower power come

Four bulbs were planted in potting soil in an old tureen bowl that I found at the local recycling center swap shed. I covered the soil in moss I saved from my yard and honest to goodness when those bulbs burst into bloom about a month after planting, I felt pretty proud of myself for creating such a chic display.

Now what to do with it? Usually, when paper whites are forced in pebbles, or just plain water, they are a once and done kind of experiment. But because I planted them in decent potting soil, there may be hope for re-bloom.

Read on to see how it's done.

First, it's important to think about how bulbs work. They are a self-contained unit that has everything in that unit to bloom the first time no matter what, as long as basic environmental needs are met.

Pretty impressive.

For bulbs to bloom again, we have to make sure that unit gets re-charged. I read once to think of the

bulb as a solar battery – that's not far off!
For typical daffodil bulbs that are planted in the ground that means removing spent flowers, keeping the foliage intact until it yellows, and giving the plant a little fertilizer or a compost top dressing if the soil isn't fertile. Now that we understand, we can use this information to re charge our hyacinth bulbs.

The flowers are still on my chic display, but they are definitely gone by. I will snip off the spent blooms. Next, I will put the tureen in a sunny window. To be honest, I had placed it in my pantry when it was in

My husband found the fragrance a little too overpowering and not to his liking. Over the years I have found that people either love it or hate it and sadly he leans toward the latter of the two.

But, because it was placed in the window of a cool room, it grew upright without falling over, and the flowers lasted close to three weeks! Now that I have the pot of foliage in a sunny window, I will sprinkle a little bulb fertilizer on the soil surface and water it in.

Choose one that has both nitrogen for the leaves and phosphorus for the bulb. The numbers on the fertilizer indicate NPK: Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Potassium.

We want to encourage those leaves to photosynthesize and make energy to build up the reserves in the bulb. Fertilization will happen monthly as long as the leaves are green.

The leaves will grow for longer than you might think, maybe even into late spring and summer. I'll put the pot outside in the sunshine once the weather warms up enough.

Eventually, though, the leaves will yellow and brown. Once they do it's time to cut them back and let the soil dry out completely, after which the bulbs can

Give them a couple of days in the sun to dry out

See GARDEN, page 10

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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



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See PAST PAGES, page 5

Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

I can't believe we are in February all ready.

Valentine's day will soon be here and spring, which I am looking forward to.

Our youngest daughter bought us each a planter box for the deck so I imagine that will be our only vegetable garden this year. I think I will plant herbs in mine and Ken can decide what he wants.

I spent most of this week working on a series of 9 by 12 inch watercolors of wild flowers. After I tested my handyman to see how many he knew, he did very

I wasn't sure if I did a good job of painting them or he has a lot of knowledge of wildflowers. I have done 40 different flowers up to today.

This week we had a chicken dinner followed by a delicious chicken soup the next day. I cooked the bones and made a nice broth with carrots, onion, celery and added rice and noodles. Of course, I added a nice portion of cut up chicken.

This might be a good recipe to use for Valentine's Day.

FRUIT SQUARES

3/4 cup margarine or butter

- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 12 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/2 cups old fashion or quick oats, uncooked
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon salt 1 ten ounce jar of preserves or jam
- Cream butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Add

Fox sparrow

I received an email from a birder in Brimfield.

who sends bird updates on a regular basis. He

reported an acquaintance in Hardwick have five fox

sparrows visiting their yard this winter. He said,

"Lucky them, I only see one or two fox sparrows

in the yard during migration and didn't see any this

The fox sparrow is a large sparrow about 7 inch-

es in length. It has rufous streaking and a gray head

and back. The tail and rump are reddish brown and

the underparts whitish with brown streaking. There

eating seeds, fruits and insects. It jumps forward

and back pulling up ground debris to uncover food

beneath. It may come to feeders where seed is scat-

woods, brushy areas and wood edges. Their song is

in a cup like nest of grasses, lichens and leaves

lined with hair fur and rootlets. The nest is placed

Brimfield birds

said, "[I] wanted to pass on some of my backyard

action this winter. I was surprised to see five or six

cowbirds along with a solitary red wing blackbird

last week." He has a lot more juncos around with the

white throated sparrows. He said chickadees and nut-

hatches and the titmice population is down a bit He

I received an email from a Brimfield resident. He

a short series of clear, melodious whistles.

on the ground under a small tree or shrub.

Fox sparrows inhabit deciduous or coniferous

The female lays four to six light blue green eggs

Like many sparrows, it feeds on the ground

is a central, irregular shaped dot on the breast

By Ellenor Downer

combined dry ingredients; mix well. Press half of the crumb mixture into greased 9 by 12 inch baking pan. Spread with preserves; sprinkle with remaining crumb mixture. Bake at 400 degrees, 20 to 25 minutes. Cool; cut into bars.

This and That

While writing this I am anticipating a big snow storm, so I decided to write this column early. We had just about gotten all our snow melted on the driveway and now more is to come.

I was reminded of the big storm of 1978. We lived on Parsons Road at that time and Ken worked at Heald Machine Co. in Worcester. He got up early to leave for work and got to Heald's and the watchman told him he was not supposed to be on the road and the factory was closed.

The Governor had declared an emergency because of all the snow, but Ken did not know. He had a powerful station wagon at the time, which would go through any snow drift and did. So he had to turn around and come back home.

The most snow we have had this year was the 14 inch storm. We are so thankful that Tom keeps us plowed out and the Handyman shovels where needed. I do keep the decks cleared, sanded and salted, if needed.

I have been throwing out bird seed on the back deck and have juncos, squirrels and turkeys visiting. The turkeys look in the sliding class door windows at me. I call them my peeping Toms.

Have a nice week and spring is coming, I promise.

had a few starlings that stop by now and then along with cedar waxwings. He has not seen as many wild turkeys this year. Golden crowned kinglet

A Brookfield resident emailed two photos of a golden crowned kinglet he took on Saturday, Jan. 27. He said, "Walking into my home, I spotted this tiny bird at the door." Tiny is an apt description of this bird as it is only 3 ½ inches long. More Brimfield birds

A frequent emailer said he read about the sighting of bluebirds and grackles in this column. He wrote, "Coincidentally we had a lone grackle in the yard last week. It showed up for a couple of days. I thought it was unusual to see just one grackle, they

are most often seen in a group especially this time of The Brimfield resident said, "When I mentioned to a friend from Belchertown that I had seen a grackle at the feeders he mentioned that he had a group of

He said three days ago "I noticed a male bluebird at the feeders. It has visited daily since first being seen. The bird is feeding on suet cakes and a 'log' that is made of seeds, fruit and meal worms."

about 30 grackles visit his feeder briefly one day last

He counted over 70 juncos and four white-throated sparrows in the yard. He recently had three starlings, who seemed to like a feeder containing suet pellets. He said he rarely sees starlings at his feeders. He removed the feeder to deter the voracious eating

Bluebirds

This seems to be the year for flocks of bluebirds showing up at feeders. On Friday, Jan. 26 six or eight male and female bluebirds were at my suet cake, which contained fruits. I removed the ice from a small dish like feeder, I use for mealworms, grape jelly or orange halves. The bluebirds ate all the mealworms and I filled it again. They have been hanging around daily and I put out mealworms

Tuesday, I looked out the window and saw several bluebirds perched on my car. One occupied a side mirror, another was on the roof and two on the hood by the windshield wipers. I think they may have been drinking the water from the melting snow on the car.

Later, when I looked to see if they were still there, a mourning dove was perched by the wiper

Large flock of robins

A North Brookfield resident, who lives on Lake Lashaway, emailed on Friday, Jan. 17 she had a flock of 30 or more robins zoom in to the neighborhood.

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

SOCIAL SECURITY. continued from page 4

(at your normal IRS tax rate). But if your MAGI as a single filer is more than \$34,000 - or as a married/ jointly filer over \$44,000 – then up to 85% of the SS benefits received during the tax year becomes part of your overall income taxed by the IRS.

tered on the ground.

Your part time work earnings in 2024 won't affect your monthly Social Security benefit, unless your 2024 work earnings prior to September 2024 exceed \$59,520.

Depending on the amount of your 401(k) withdrawals, your 2026 net Social Security payments may be impacted by Medicare's IRMAA provision. But your 401(k) withdrawals will not affect your gross Social Security payments.

Depending on the amount of your 401(k) withdrawals, some of the Social Security benefits received during the 2024 tax year will likely be subject

PAST PAGES, continued from page 4

for the items can be made payable to Quabbin Regional High School.

Air Force Airman Marianne King, daughter of William and Victoria A. King of Barre, has arrived for duty with the 93rd Munitions Maintenance Squadron, Castle Air Force Base, California. King, an aircraft armament specialist, was previously assigned at Lowry Air Force Base in Colorado. She is a 1985 graduated of Quabbin Regional High School, Barre. Marianne was home for a ten-day leave just before Christmas. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Salvatore Lamacchia of Worcester Road and George King of South Barre.

to income tax. That is, if your annual total income, including your 401(k) withdrawals, exceeds the MAGI thresholds described above.

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.

Yoga

FOR

EVERY

BODY

Gilbertville library hosts Valentine Station through Feb. 14

the are and if you want to tell a loved one or a friend just how special they are, stop by and visit Valentine Station at the Gilbertville Public Library, 259 Main St., Gilbertville.

Beginning Feb. 2, and during regular hours until Feb. 14, the library will have a self-guided

a work of art and add it to a cutout greeting card donated by Lisa at Plymouth Cards (www.plymouthcards.com).

The library will have everything you need to make a special art piece which you can slide into a card and send to that special someone. Your card can fit into

HARDWICK - Love is in craft station where you can create a 5 inch by 7 inch frame so the recipient can save it and hang it in a special place to be reminded of you, each time they see it.

The library is open from 2-6 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and from 4-7 p.m. on Friday. If school is closed due to weather, the library is closed too.

FINANCE COMMITTEE, continued from page 1

Department heads requesting their Fiscal Year 2025 budgets be turned in by Wednesday, Jan. 17. Town Administrator Martin sent out reminders. She said she was meeting with them this week and would hopefully collect any budgets not yet returned.

The chair asked the Town Administrator if department heads, who submitted level funded budgets, needed to meet with

the Finance Committee. She said no. The chair said the Finance Committee usually met with both the treasurer and assessors early in the process to discuss the revenue information for the town. The Town Administrator said she would convey the message to

The Finance Committee will schedule meetings with the largest budgets such as Department of Public Works, Fire Department, Police Department and Quabbin Regional School District early in the budget process. On nights, those meeting are scheduled, that

department will be the only one on the agenda. When the smaller departments meet with the Finance Committee, two or three departments would be on the agenda.

Reserve Fund

The Chair said the Finance Committee had \$93,000 in the Reserve Fund. This money is used to fund unexpected expenses not budgeted during they year. Some of that amount is earmarked to cover the salary increases for the Police Department, once the town and the Police Union ratify the contract.

FOOD POLICY, continued from page 1

"Use person-centered language," she said, putting the emphasis on the individual, instead of the disease.

Krieger said there are three types of opioids: natural, such as morphine or codeine; semisynthetic, including heroin, hydrocodone, oxycodone, buprenorphine and oxymorphone; and synthetic, fentanyl, methadone and tramadol.

Fentanyl is 50 times stronger than heroin and 100 times more powerful than morphine, binding faster than any other opioid. It is used to treat extreme pain.

"It's very addictive," Krieger

Fentanyl use has increased significantly since 2020 and continues to be the biggest cause of overdoses in the commonwealth, surpassing heroin. It was responsible for 93% of fatal overdose cases in 2022, with heroin accounting for 6%.

Xylazine use started being reported in 2021, and is commonly known as "tranq" and "tranq dope." Although xylazine is a large animal tranquilizer and not an opioid, it is following a similar trend being trafficked into the U.S. that heroin did.

Overdoses from xylazine are usually fatal in humans. It's also unresponsive to naloxone or Narcan, which is used to treat opioid overdose.

Some people are at a greater risk for opioid overdose, Krieger said, including people who have recently been released from pris-

"They have a 129 times greater risk of fatal overdose in the first two weeks after release from prison than the general population," she said.

Signs of an overdose include a death rattle (similar to snoring); infrequent or no breathing; heavy nod and not responding to stimulation (rubbing knuckles over sternum); slow heartbeat/pulse; and "wooden chest" syndrome (chest wall rigidity often associated with opioid use); and blue or gray skin (in dark skinned people, nailbeds will turn white).

Naloxone can reverse opioid overdose by blocking brain receptors and it takes about three-tofive minutes to take

effect and more than one dose may be necessary. A dose of naloxone can last for 30-90 minutes.

Naloxone can be injected or administered through a nasal spray, and cannot cause harm to an individual, even if the person suspected of having an opioid overdose is not.

Multiple doses are also safe.

Krieger cautioned people to always call 911 and give a detailed description of the location of the victim, and if possible, send someone to meet first responders at the door.

Administering naloxone via nasal spray is simple, Krieger said, by placing the nozzle inside one nostril and discharging. A second dose can be administered after about two-to-three minute if there has been no change.

"Even if the person is not breathing, Narcan is aerosolized and will get where it needs to go,"

Rescue breathing and CPR are also recommended, Krieger said, adding that making sure the scene is safe is also a priority. At the least, call 911 and administer a dose of naloxone if possible.

"Every human life is worth it," Krieger said. "A person who's deceased can't get to recovery."

Krieger has naloxone kits available to anyone in the community, and she may be reached by calling 413-967-9605 extension 112 or emailing kkrieger@townofware.

Food access

Council members shared concerns about getting access to food and other resources, and how to better connect people to food pantries in their own towns.

One member mentioned that sne saw someone asking for food in a Facebook community forum. Council members agreed that they could use social media to share hours and locations of area food pantries, as well as monthly drivethrough distributions and other resources.

QVFPC members discussed an increase in calls for help from senior citizens, especially near the end of the month when their income and food supply run low.

Council Coordinator Caitlin Geaghan said it's important to get input from people that live in the area and determine the support needed.

Council members also discussed the need for education around cooking, and how to make the most with the food you have available to you. **Funding and grants**

Geaghan said the QVFPC has applied for a second round of funding from the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources. It was this initial funding that was used to create the council last year.

If awarded, the MDAR grant will be used to continue to sustain the council.

The QVFPC has also applied for a mini grant through Baystate Health. If awarded, the council will receive \$5,000 which would be used for an older male-targeted cooking class that will address social isolation and nutritional knowledge.

This mini grant will also benefit area food pantries.

Community Food Assessment Geaghan said the priority goal

of a Community Food Assessment is "to create a picture of a community's food system through the collection of data."

The QVFPC has subcontracted with Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission to conduct asset mapping to create a legend map of food resources in the region.

The QVFPC is also working with the Collaborate for Educational Services to provide training for council members. The training will be available to about six-10 members.

"They will train interested council members on how to effectively and respectfully interview community members in relation to rood access, both individually and in small groups," Geaghan said.

Through these interviews, members will create a spreadsheet to track data.

Geaghan said a form will be distributed to council members to express interest in receiving the training.

About QVFPC

The Quaboag Valley Food Policy Council is funded through a grant received by the Town of Ware in partnership with Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation, covering the towns of Ware, Belchertown, Palmer, Monson, Wales, Holland, Brimfield, Warren, Brookfield, West Brookfield, North Brookfield and East Brookfield.

The Council is open to all, and everyone is welcome to join in the discussion.

For more information, people may email Geaghan at cgeaghan@



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Calendar of Events



THURSDAY, FEB. 1

CIRCLE OF SONG REHEARSALS take place tonight at 7 p.m. in the Barre Town Hall, Exchange Street, Barre. The choral group of 23 years sings in four-part harmony and often in other languages. People may email julie@mhof.net or call 978-257-1192 for more information. They preform several concerts during the year. The next concert will be Saturday, May 18 at the Barre Town Hall. New members are always welcome. Membership dues are sliding scale from \$25 per year for students and \$40 -\$70 for adults according to ability to pay.

If people are interested in joining Circle of Song, they may email Julie Rawson, director, at julie@ mhof.net, or call 978-257-1192 or show up at a rehearsal.

FRIDAY, FEB 2

FRIDAYS WITH FRIENDS will be held today from 3:30-4:30 p.m. at the Woods Memorial Library, 19 Pleasant St., Barre in the multipurpose room for school age children children. Different activities are held each week ranging from arts and crafts to STEAM based challenges all meant to bring the community closer together. The program is held Fridays during January, February and March and is recommended for ages five plus.

SATURDAY, FEB. 3

SATURDAY STORY TIME will be held today from 10:30 a.m.-noon at the Woods Memorial Library, 19 Pleasant St., Barre in the multipurpose room at the library. The program is recommended for ages three to six. Each week Ms. Katie will read a story and pair it with a craft or related activity. To request sign language interpretation or other accommodation for special needs for any program, people should call the Library Director at least two weeks before the program date at 978-355-2533 extension 101 or email jhood@barrelibrary.org.

DESIGNER PANCAKE BREAKFAST sponsored by Cradle Rock Chapter Order of Eastern Star will be held today from 7:30-10:30 a.m. at Masonic Hall, 71 Pleasant St., Barre. Cost is \$9 per adult and \$5 for children 10 and under. People can design their own pancake. Compete breakfast choices include; designer pancakes, waffles, sausage gravy with biscuits, bacon, sausage links, coffee and juice. All are welcome.

SUNDAY, FEB. 4

VIRTUAL HEART AND VASCULAR HEALTH by Baystate Health cardiac surgeon Dr. Andrew Goldsweig will lead the first in the series entitled "Minimally Invasive, Maximally Effective New Technologies in the Cardia Cath Lab" today at noon followed by a question and answer period. Registration is required for each session.Dr. Goldsweig's presentation can also be attended in-person at the Baystate Health Education Center on 361 Whitney Ave., 2nd entrance to building, in Holyoke. This is the only lecture in the four-part series to also

Where is this?



Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

This week's mystery photo is from North Brookfield. 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. 5. The names of those that correctly guessed the location will appear in the following edition. Bill Bowles, Peggy Civilik, Stephen Craven, Evelyn Luukko, Jeremy Varnum and Phil Warbasse correctly identified the photo. The photo last week shows the solar array on Oakham Road in New Braintree across from the New Braintree Grade School and Town Hall.

be held in-person.

MONDAY, FEB. 5

WINTER PLAY GROUP offered by Making Opportunities Count will be offered the first Monday of the month in place of Story Time. The play group will be held today and Monday, March 4 at 10 a.. in the New Braintree Public Library, 45 Memorial Drive, New Braintree. MOC offers Coordinated Family and Community Engagement programs and is funded by the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care. Parental supervision is required. People may call the library at 508-867-7650 during regular business for more information.

SATURDAY, FEB. 10

LOCAL AUTHORS at 1:30 p.m., Julie Rawson and Jack Kitteridge of Many Hands Organic Farm, Barre, will talk about their book: "Many Hands Make a Farm" today at 1:30 p.m. They will discuss shareholding, organic farming and their connection with the Northeast Organic Farming Association. Organic farming is a farming system that respects the balance of natural cycles and works as much as possible within those cycles. The event will be held at the Town House, 32 Common St., Hardwick.

SUNDAY, FEB. 11

VALENTINE FOR OUR WOODS HIKE will take place today at 3 p.m. at Barre Falls Dam. Forester and naturalist Tim Hawley will lead a one to two mile hike on moderate terrain and at an easy pace. People should meet at the Overlook Parking Lot on the Barre Road entrance to Barre Falls. Poles and microspikes or even snowshoes may be helpful, but not essential, depending on trail conditions. It will be held rain, snow or shine. Participants will count down Ten Reasons to Love Trees with forester-naturalist Tim

MONDAY, FEB. 12

PROGRAM SHOWCASING PRESIDENT LINCOLN hosted by the Rutland Historical Society will be held today at 7 p.m. in the Rutland Historical Society, 232 Main St., Rutland. Stephen Brewer, a former Massachusetts Senator, will characterize President Lincoln and provide some interesting history and facts about the former President. Refreshments will be served following the presentation.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 14

SPRING EXHIBITIONS open today at UMass

Amherst's Hampden Gallery in Amherst. The gallery will host receptions for both Cynthia Guild's collection of oil paintings, "Fabrications and Dreams" and and Gonzalo Silva's "Obsessive Compulsive Drawings" on Friday, April 5 from 5-7 p.m., with talks by Guild and Silva from 6-6:30 p.m. and 6:30-7 p.m. respectively. The reception and talks are free and open to the public. Admission to the gallery is always free.

HEALTH FAIR sponsored by the Oakham Council on Aging will be held today from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road, Oakham. There will be a Life Coach, Medicare/ Medicaid guidance, a Caregiver's Guide, Massage Therapy, Reiki and other energy treatments, There will also be a public health nurse, yoga instructor, dietitian, Oakham Board of Health and fire officials, Ayurveda and much more. Refreshments will be available. All are welcome.

BARRE TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION will meet at the Barre Senior Center, 557 South Barre Road, Barre, today at Feb. 14 at 7 p.m. People should bring their questions and concerns. The BTA will have an on-going regular meeting the second Wednesday of the month, same time and place.

FRIDAY, FEB. 16

SUPPORT GROUP for grandparent raising grandchildren will be held today from 9:30-11 a.m. at Worcester Family Resource Center, 20 Cedar St., Worcester. This group meets the third Friday of every month. People should call 508-796-1411 or email yiwfrycyouice@sevenhillsorg to register or for more information.

SATURDAY, FEB. 17

VALENTINE'S DAY ROAST BEEF DINNER sponsored by the Hubbardston Scholarship Committee will be held today with serving rom 5-8 p.m. at the Hubbardston Rod and Gun Club, Williamsville Road, Hubbardston. Menu includes beside roast beef, mashed potatoes, green beans, mixed vegetables, bread, coffee and dessert. Cost is \$15 per adult and \$8 per child. People may call Flo at 978-928-5113 or Paula at 978-928-4095.

Calendar Policy

POLICY: Our calendar section is intended to promote "free" events or ones that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization that benefits the community. Paid events that are not deemed fund-raisers or benefits do not qualify. Noncharitable events that charge the public to enter are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items in the mail, by fax, or emailed in Word document format is Monday at noon or sooner. We usually print one week in advance of an event, and the listings should be brief, with only time, date, location, brief activity explanation and contact information.

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Specials

Wednesday, February 14

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Valentine's Day is Wednesday, February 14th



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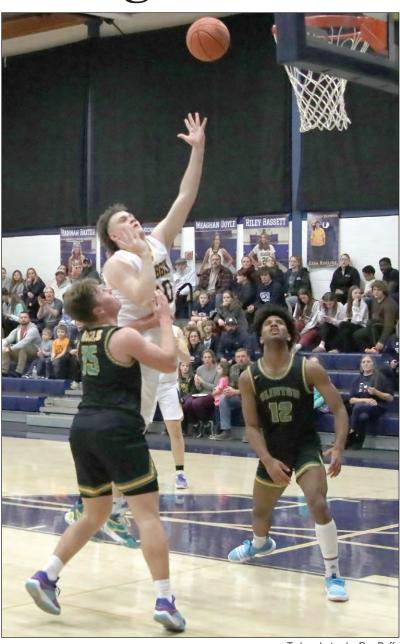
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Young Panthers learning lessons this season



Kyle Clark (rockin the new doo) with a left-handed layup.

By Tim Peterson Sports Correspondent

BARRE—The basketball court is very similar to a biology class or an algebra class for longtime Quabbin Regional boys' varsity basketball coach Dennis Dextradeur. He and his assistant coaches have done a lot of teaching this winter.

The Panthers, who played last Tuesday night's home game without a key starter, suffered a 70-33 loss to Mid-Wach C rival Clinton.

"Clinton is the best team in our league this year. We were hoping to catch them on an off night," Dextradeur said. "We were also missing one of our starters, which made a big difference. He's one of our leading scorers. This was a very good learning experience for the other players. I would've like to have ten timeouts instead of only

Quabbin junior Quinn Geary, who's averaging 10.8 points per game, didn't play in the home game against Clinton (10-1, 8-0) because he was sick.

The Panthers (2-10, 0-8) began the regular season with victories against Murdock, (58-18 at home), and at Narragansett Regional, (53-42) before losing their next ten games.

"Our first two games of the regular season were against nonleague opponents," Dextradeur said. "All of the teams in our league are having very good seasons. We're the only team who's going through the rebuilding pro-

The Panthers lost the first meet-



Luke Salvadore put up a jump

ing at Clinton by the final score of 66-41 on December 19.

The only senior listed on the varsity roster is Nick Whitelaw, who didn't score any points in the second meeting against the Gaels. His twin sister, Brianna, is a member of the Quabbin girls' varsity basketball team.

"Nick is our only senior and he's been a very good team leader. He understands that we're in a rebuilding year," Dextradeur said. "Everyone else on the varsity basketball team will be returning. The



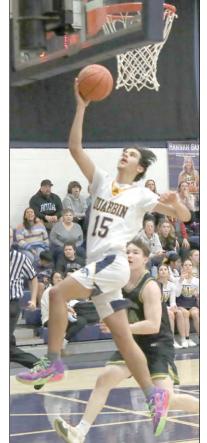
Bryce Venne leaps over the defenders with a jump shot.

j.v. team will also be staying the

Geary is one of the six juniors listed on the Panthers varsity basketball roster.

Junior guard Bryce Venne, who replaced Geary, made his first start in a varsity game. He scored one point, which was a made free throw during the second quarter.

The other four Panthers juniors are Luke Salvadore (2 points), Jaxon Warburton (4 points), Zeke Santoro (5 points), and Kyle Clark, who scored a team-leading 12



Anthony Quarterone takes it to the hoop.

points. He also pulled down eight rebounds and blocked a shot.

Rounding out the varsity squad are sophomore Anthony Quarterone (6 points), freshman Jacoby Dilling (3 points), and eighth grader Brady Patchen.

Quarterone, who started the season as a member of the junior varsity team, played in his second varsity game against Clinton.

The two things that Dextradeur wasn't very pleased about in the Clinton game was his team's free

See PANTHERS, page 8

Pioneers suffer tough loss at Monson



Seth Mitchell drives to the hoop.

By Tim Peterson Sports Correspondent

MONSON — Colin Beaupre, who's a three-sport athlete, is writing the final chapter of his brilliant athletic career at Monson High School. He has been a member of the Mustangs boys varsity basketball team since the eighth grade.

Beaupre, who's one of the three seniors listed on the Mustangs varsity hoop roster, will have an opportunity to play in the Division 5 state tournament and most likely the Western Mass. Class D tournament in February.

The Mustangs (10-4) clinched a berth in the state tournament following an 84-57 non-league



Cayden Bousquet makes his way down the court.

victory over the Pathfinder Tech Pioneers before a large crowd at Michael J. Kane Gymnasium, last Friday night.

"I was in the eighth grade the last time that we qualified for the postseason tournament. We've had a couple of rough seasons since then," said Beaupre, who scored 10 of his 13 points against the Pioneers during the first half. "I wouldn't want to be a member of another basketball team. We're hoping to finish the regular season strong and we're looking forward to playing in the postseason tour-

Monson, who won their fourth consecutive game, were ranked 12th in the MIAA Division 5 state



Hunter Griswold reaches out for the layup.

power rankings. They were also ranked fourth in the Western Mass. Class D. power rankings. The top eight teams in each of the four classes will qualify for the Western

8-12 overall record. the Western Mass. tournament as



Mass. tournament.

The Mustangs just missed qualifying for the state tournament a year ago, as they finished with an

"We put ourselves in a good position to make the postseason tournament last year, but we lost our last two games," said Monson head coach Zac Dreher. "It does feel very good to clinch a berth in the state tournament, especially this early in the regular season. We'll probably be playing in

Adam Slonka tries to get a

Monson eighth grade guard Trey Dillahunt scored a game-high 24 points against Pathfinder Tech. Sophomore guard Jake Beaupre, who's Colin's younger brother, contributed with 21 points.

"Jake and I have been teammates on the varsity basketball team for the past three seasons," said Colin Beaupre, who also plays soccer and baseball. "It's always nice playing one on one against him at practice. I've taught him a lot and it has been a lot of fun being teammates with him."

Dillahunt and the Beaupre brothers combined to score 58

See PIONEERS, page 8

Defense lifts Quabbin to win

BARRE - The Quabbin Regional High School girls basketball team continues to hold the opposition down, this time keeping Maynard below 30 points in a 45-29 win last Friday night. Meg Doyle had 13 points to lead the team, and Riley Bassett and Hannah Baxter each scored 12 points. The panthers have qualified for the state tournament and are 10-3 this season with a 6-3 league record in the Mid-Wach C.



Turley photos by Ray Duffy Brooke Austin hits a jump shot from the baseline.



Hannah Baxter puts up a



Meg Doyle gets some air on her jump shot.

Riley Bassett catches the pass to make a layup.

Indians creeping toward tournament berth

NORTH BROOKFIELD The North Brookfield High School girls basketball team record. North Brookfield fell behind early, but had a strong second half to defeat Bethany Christian School 42-34 last Friday night. Olivia Holmes had 15 points for the Indians and Milcalia Ayala added 10 points.

The Indians are now 7-2 this season with a 4-1 league needs just two more wins to automatically qualify for the state tournament.

Their impressive mark could also get them into the sectional tournament.

Quabbin to celebrate 1999 team

BARRE - Next month, Quabbin Regional High School is celebrating the 25th year reunion and recognition of its 1999 championship boys basketball team.

This team was special, having won 24 games, including the Central Massachusetts Championship, Clark Tournament and being a state finalist, having lost to East Boston at the Worcester Centrum in the state final game.

The reunion and celebration will take place Friday, Feb. 2 against Tyngsboro at home. Game time is set earlier at 6 p.m. There will be a social and school tour from 5 to 6 p.m. Members of the team attending will be recognized and honored at halftime of the game.

Admission is free of charge to returning members of that championship team as well as their fam-

Sports

Committee seeks HOF nominations

BARRE – Nominations for the Quabbin Regional Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2024 are being

Nomination forms are available on the Quabbin Regional mmiville@qrsd.org.

Athletic website (www.qrsd.org). All forms are due March 1. Please mail forms to: Quabbin Regional Athletic Hall of Fame; PO Box 874; Barre, MA 01005 or e-mail to

T-Birds offense scores big over Checkers

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds (20-17-3-2) dominated for much of the night in a 6-1 win over the Charlotte Checkers (20-17-4-0) on Saturday night before a sellout crowd of 6,793 at the MassMutual

The T-Birds jumped to a first-period lead for a second straight evening, this time just 3:37 into game action. Mathias Laferriere spun away from a defender to gain entry on the rightwing side. Mikhail Abramov raced up the middle of the ice, catching a perfect pass from Laferriere and lifting a shot into the top shelf behind Charlotte netminder Ludovic Waeber, making it 1-0 on his eighth goal of the

After not facing much action in the opening half of the period, Springfield goaltender Malcolm Subban got infinitely busier in the closing minutes, as the T-Birds killed off two Charlotte power plays, including 28 seconds' worth of 5-on-3 time. Subban shined, with point-blank saves off Gerry Mayhew and Rasmus Asplund sticking out in a 10-save opening frame.

After the goal by Abramov, Waeber also settled in, and the Checkers' third-ranked penalty kill also denied Springfield on two power plays as the two clubs' man-advantage units continued to scuffle.

For a second consecutive evening, Charlotte got an equalizer in the early stages of period two. Patrick Khodorenko approached the net and bashed home a rebound through Subban's legs after Patrick Giles had his initial try denied by the goaltender. The goal came just 44 seconds into the period to tie the score, 1-1.

However, like Friday night, the tie score would be short-lived. A Matt Kiersted penalty sent Springfield's power play back to work, and just 32 seconds after the Khodorenko tally, Hugh McGing got his first goal since Nov. 24, ramming home a wide shot from Laferriere that skipped off the end boards right in front of the goal on the left side.

With the lead back in their possession, the T-Birds would not relinquish it. Subban made a crucial 2-on-1 save on Checkers captain Zac Dalpe, and moments after another Springfield penalty kill, at 10:22 of the period, Hunter Skinner stepped into a onetime drop pass from Zach Bolduc and saw it ricochet off a Charlotte stick and behind Waeber to make it 3-1. It was Skinner's first goal as a Thunderbird.

Laferriere's night was far from over, as he stepped over the left-wing side and roofed a heavy snap shot through Waeber at 14:00, and in less than four minutes, the lead grew to

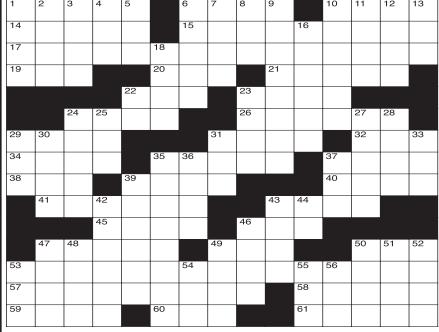
Things would not get any better for the Checkers in the third. Ryan Suzuki pounced on a loose puck in the slot after a Jakub Vrana pass to Bolduc caromed off Waeber's pad right into the slot area. Suzuki also found the top corner, advancing the lead to 5-1 on his third goal of the season.

Will Bitten would round out the scoring with his second point of the night, cashing in on a 2-on-1 after an initial shot from Bolduc bounced off Waeber's left pad and right onto Bitten's tape. Subban got himself back into the win column, making 29 saves in securing his ninth win of the year.

Including the postseason, Springfield is now 10-1-0-0 in its last 11 games against Charlotte inside the Thunderdome, and with the twogame sweep, the T-Birds leaped ahead of Charlotte in the Atlantic Division

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.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Become less intense 6. Variety of pear
- 10. Religion native to China
- 14. Type of tooth
- 15. Fitted out
- 17. Make every effort 19. Autonomic nervous
- system
- 20. Complete
- 21. Alternate name 22. River in France and
- Belgium 23. Miami's mascot
- 24. Turfs
- 26. Most cognizant of reality 29. Broad volcanic crater
- 31. Canadian surname
- 32. Satisfaction
- 34. Traitorous Greek
- 35. Collide 37. Immune response 38. Feline 39. High opinion of one's
- mythological prince
- 3. Substitutes (abbr.) 4. Principle underlying the universe 5. Work unit

- own appearance 40. Thin strip to align parts
- 41. Containers 43. Convicted American 45. Breathe noisily
- 46. Taxi 47. Pancakes made from buckwheat flour
- 49. Swiss river 50. I.M.__, architect 53. Have surgery 57. Formal withdrawal 58. Dutch and German
- surname 59. Square measures 60. 2,000 lbs. 61. Degrade someone
- **CLUES DOWN** Siberian river 2. Blessing
- 6. Yellow edible fruits

- 7. Gemstone 8. A place ships dock (abbr.)
- 9. Evergreen tropical tree 10. Reality TV star Richards
- 11. Nonflowering aquatic 43. Swiss river 12. Stakes 13. Antidiuretic hormone 16. Make warm again
- 18. Light beams 22. Lethal dose 23. Terrorist group 24. Kids love him 25. Naturally occurring solid
- 27. German surname meaning "man from Saxony 28. Popular cuisine
- 29. Partner to cheese 30. Type of horse Diego 33. Defensive nuclear weapon
- 53. Young women's association 54. City 55. Niger-Congo branch of languages 56. Pointed end of a pen 35. Most shrewd

36. It may be for

shopping 37. Midway between

south and southeast

39. A stock of foods

42. The bindings of

books

44. Megabyte

46. Sammy ___,

songwriter

47. Dutch colonist

48. Clare Booth ___,

American writer

50. Popular type of bread

49. Sun or solar disk

51. Transfers of money

(abbr.)

52. Association of

engineering

professionals

Education

John and Abigail Adams Scholarship recipients



These Quabbin Regional High School students are the recipients of the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship. This is a merit based program that provides credit toward tuition for undergraduate education at a Massachusetts state college or university. These students are the recipients of the John and Abigail Adams Scholarships. Front row from left are Sean LaPointe, Vivienne Benoit-Smith, Kylie Casey, Gracie Talbot, Kelsey Marsh, Natalie Marchand, Christian Paydos, and Alena Arnold; middle row from left Principal, Purnima DeMorais, Brianna Whitelaw, Meaghan Doyle, Camryn Orsini, Amy Stauder, Ally Legare, Sophia Januszewski, Natalie Fisher, Colin Harmon, Cole Morrill and Julianna Stanger and back row from left, Jadyn Gonzalez, Riley Bassett, Jake Leazott, Benjamin Vasseur, Edward Guertin, Nicholas Whitelaw, Michael Tobin, Austin Conti, Kylian Bowles, Gavin Majoy, Grace LaValley and Assistant Principal, Jason Gilmartin. Not shown are Annabelle Magill, Heather Stuart, Lillian Thibeault and Elanor Thompson.

COLLEGE NEWS

QCC announces Dean's and Merit lists

WORCESTER Quinsigamond Community College announces its fall 2023 Semester Dean and Merit

Dean's List

Students making the fall 2023 semester Dean's list are: Delanie Kennan of Barre, Riley Bassett of Gilbertville, Bethany Jacques of Gilbertville, Erin Malin of Gilbertville, Amanda Tadros of Hubbardston, Brooke Dennis of Oakham, Sydney Gagne of Oakham, Paige Lindley of Oakham, Annabelle Magill of Oakham, Lily Rice of Oakham, Kaylee Cannon of Rutland, Sophie Jenkins of Rutland, Hadley Kariko of Rutland, Marissa O'Brien of Rutland, Luke Rollins of Rutland, Gil Salzman of Rutland, Caroline Soucy of Rutland, Camden Towns of Rutland, Hayden Tremblay of Rutland, Michael Vinton of Rutland, Zacharias Fragkiadakis of Wheelwright and Benjamin LaFlash of Wheelwright.

Students who earn 12 or more credits in a given semester. All grades must be "C" or higher. No grades of "I" or "X" are permitted. Semester Quality Point Average must be 3.50 or higher, and cumulative QPA

must be 2.00 or higher. All courses must be college-level. Merit list

Students making the fall 2023 semester Merit list are: Scott Anastasio of Barre, Shari Martel of Hardwick, April Pellegrino of New Braintree, Noah Caouette of North Brookfield, Liam Carlson of North Brookfield, Victoria Davis of North Brookfield, Jeanne Goyette of North Brookfield, Deborah Hill of North Brookfield, Kyle Pagnoni of North Brookfield, Shannon Sisco of North Brookfield, Abigail Baldwin of Rutland, Hayley Blum of Rutland, Jack Borges of Rutland, Kaitlyn Bucci of Rutland, Jackson Burns of Rutland, Joshua Haggerty of Rutland, Kaylee Miller of Rutland, Jason St. Amand of Rutland, Jason Woodsmall of Rutland and Nicholas Hanny of Wheelwright.

Students must earn six or more credits in a given semester, but fewer than 12 credits. All grades must be "C" or higher. No grades of "I" or "X" are permitted. Semester Quality Point Average must be 3.50 or higher, and cumulative QPA must be 2.00 or higher. All courses must be college-level.

Jacob Nadeau makes Dean's List at Saint Anselm **College**

MANCHESTER, N.H. Saint Anselm College announces the Dean's List of high academic achievers for the second semester of the 2022-2023 school year.

Jacob Nadeau of Rutland, a business major in the Class of 2024, made the spring 2023

Dean's List. To be eligible for this honor, a student must have achieved a grade point average of 3.4 or better in the semester with at least 12 credits of study which award a letter grade.

PIONEERS,

eight points.

continued from page 7

points against the Pioneers.

"We're not a very big team,

Senior forward Sebastian

but our guards are very fast,"

Dreher said. "Colin, Jake, and

Nava and sophomore forward

Austin Meacham just missed

reaching double digits in the

home victory, as they both scored

column for the Mustangs were

sophomore forward Shane Szado

(6 points), freshman guard Kyle

Beaudry (3 points), and senior

the hardwood between the two

squads since Pathfinder squeaked

out a 43-39 home win in a

non-playoff game two years ago.

That victory gave Pathfinder Tech

It was the first meeting on

guard Osvaldo Nieves (1 point).

Rounding out the scoring

Trey are outstanding athletes."

Roger Williams University announces Fall Dean's list

BRISTOL, R.I. - Roger Williams University announces their fall 2023 Dean's list.

Local students making the Dean's list are: Benjamin Auger of Rutland, Patrick McGugan of Rutland, Cameron Ridgewell of Rutland and Susan Yang of Rutland. Full-time students who complete 12 or more credits per semester and earn a GPA of 3.4 or higher are placed on the Dean's List that semester.

a berth in the inaugural Division

5 state tournament. They lost at

Minuteman Regional in a prelim-

Paulo Freire in the same round a

year ago, had a 6-5 overall record

following last Friday's game.

They were ranked 35th in the

Division 5 state power rankings

and eighth in the Western Mass.

cally qualify for the state tourna-

ment, along with the other teams

who finish the regular season

Hunter Griswold, who's plan-

ning on playing football at Mass

Maritime Academy next fall,

moved from Palmer to Monson

in the sixth grade. He scored

a team-high 21 points in his

first varsity basketball game at

Michael J. Kane gymnasium.

Pathfinder Tech senior guard

with a .500 or better record.

The top 32 teams automati-

The Pioneers, who lost at

inary round game.

Class C. rankings.

Zonta Club is accepting scholarship applications

The Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley is now accepting applications for Zonta International's Young Women in Public Affairs Award.

This scholarship is open to a young woman (ages 16-19) who has demonstrated leadership skills and commitment to public service and civic causes.

Deadline is March 8. The Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley is also accepting applications for Zonta International's

Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship. Women of any age, pursuing a business program with major field of specialization in accounting, economics, finance, business management, business technology, information technology, marketing, operations management, human resources management, international business or entrepreneurship at an accredited university/college/institute, who demonstrate outstanding potential in the field and are living or studying in a Zonta district/ region, are eligible.

Deadline is June 15.

For details about either of these scholarships, visit the Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley's website at www.zontaqv.org/scholarships.

two double figure scorers were

senior Abdiel Zapata (11 points)

and junior Christian Green (10

the game in slow motion,

which didn't happen tonight,"

Dextradeur said. "I just hope our

fans understand that we're in the

developing stage. We're teaching

the fundamentals and are hoping

to win a couple of games before

the end of the season."

"We just need to play

points).

PANTHERS, continued from page 7

throw shooting and the turn-

The Panthers only made five of their 18 shots from the free throw line.

"We always tell the players that going to the free throw line is free offense," Dextradeur said. "We shot very poorly from the free throw line in tonight's

The Panthers made a total of 27 turnovers leading to 35 points.

Most of the Panther's turnovers came in the first quar-

Clinton scored the first 21 points of the contest before Santoro was fouled while making a lay-up in the final seconds of the opening quarter. He also made the bonus free throw completing

the three point play.
The Panthers scored 12 points in the second quarter, but they were trailing 38-15 at halftime.

The home team wouldn't get any closer than that during the second half. Senior's Axel

Ramos and Cam Grady led the Gaels with 12 points apiece. Clinton's other

Zeke Santoto with a buzzer beater (and gets fouled) putting Quabbin on the scoreboard before the end of the

first quarter.

"This is the first time that I've played a basketball game in this gym," Griswold said. "I do know all the Monson players and it was a lot of fun playing against them tonight. I just wish that we could've won the game. They started red hot offensively and we could never catch up. I'm hoping that we can play them again in

the state tournament.' Senior forward Richie Gula, who's from Palmer, scored 14 of his 17 points during the second half.

The other Pathfinder Tech players who live in Monson are junior guard Seth Mitchell (6 points), senior forward Adam Slonka (4 points), and senior forward Luke Magnus (2 points).

Monson, who raced out to an 8-0 lead in the first three minutes of the contest, held a 27-10 lead at the end of the opening quarter. "Monson is a very fast team,

"I wish that it was a closer game, but we should be playing teams like Palmer and Monson more often. Every time that we lose a game, it's an opportunity for us to get better. Our main goal is to qualify for both the Western Mass. and state tournaments." The Mustangs also held a 17-point (43-26) halftime lead,

and they shot the ball very well tonight," said Pathfinder head

coach Zac Button, who's father,

Al, was an assistant girls' basket-

ball coach at Quaboag Regional

under legendary head coach Dick

Gowen during their glory years.

and they outscored the Pioneers, 41-31, during the second half. If the two boys' basketball

teams don't face each other again in the Division 5 state tournament, Monson is scheduled to make the short trip to Pathfinder Tech during the 2024-25 regular

ANSWERS ON PAGE 10

Church News

Local pastors offer sermons

Spiritual Frustration Part 1

Every relationship comes with its share of frustrations.

No matter how much you love your family and friends, at some point they will all drive you mad. At varying points you will have to navigate the irritation, disappointment and offense that is part and parcel of every association.

Thus said, allow me to make a difficult statement: this is also true of being in relationship with Christ. No matter how much you love and are committed to Him, at some point He and His ways will drive you mad. You will undoubtedly have to navigate the irritation, disappointment and offense that often accompanies spiritual con-

In what ways can we become frustrated? In this issue, let us note that many become exasperated by Christ due to the difficulty of His teaching.

How many start to serve Christ well, impassioned and even excited about being His follower, yet somewhere along the way they come upon a precept or principle that is so challenging or lofty, they forsake Him? How many prosper in the Lord until He calls them to trust when it seems impossible, forgive that which seems unforgivable, serve when it seems overly sacrificial, give when it seems insensible and lay aside a personal dream to pick up a cross of His choosing (Matt. 16:24)?

At such times, you will be forced to decide between pressing on or shrinking away. Would you like an example of this? Take the time to read the entirety of John 6. It is far too lengthy to publish in this edition. Come back when you are ready.

Please consider the following elements born of John 6:

1) The Call

In the latter portions of said chapter, Christ offers this difficult and mysterious call:

John 6:35b, 41-42, 48a, 50b-54 35 . . Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry and whoever believes in me will never be

thirsty." 41 At this the Jews there began to grumble about him because he said. "I am the bread that came down from heaven." 42 They said, "Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I came down from heaven'?'

48 "I am the bread of life. . . . 50 . . . here is the bread that comes down from heaven, which anyone may eat and not die. 51 I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."

52 Then the Jews began to argue sharply among themselves, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?'

53 Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. 54 Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last

To be clear, this call to belief (v. 35) is quite challenging. It is shrouded in mystery, and we can see how many might easily misconstrue it as a call to cannibalism (v. 52). Yet rather than pursue clarification, the audience of Christ Jesus took offense.

2) The Fallout

Having lost much of His audience, Jesus turns His attention to His followers in the following seg-

John 6:60-61, 66

60 On hearing it, many of his disciples said, "This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?"

61 Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, "Does this offend you?"

66 From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him.

Consider that this text does not reveal the loss of disbelieving masses, but the loss of those who were called by His Name. We see men and women so frustrated with the teaching of Christ, they abandon ship rather than trust the wisdom and intention of their Captain. As has been noted, only Christ knows how many have followed in their footsteps over the centuries, as His Word and ways seemingly proved too difficult. Yet He is not going to change His Word or His ways for us.

3) The Inner Circle

Ultimately, there were those who properly navigated such a season. Please note:

John 6:67-69

67 "You do not want to leave too, do you?" Jesus asked the Twelve.

68 Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. 69 We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of

May we aspire to the example of Simon Peter. In those moments when we find ourselves confused or overwhelmed by the Lord and His teaching, let us hold fast to Him, trusting that He knows best.

Understanding and insight come with time, but they are no substitute for faith and obedience. After all, where else will we go, for He alone possesses the words which bring eternal life (v. 68)? Heed this word and let it remind you to remain with Jesus amidst moments of spiritual frustration.

Thank you for taking the time to read this publication. Should you have any comments or questions, feel free to contact me at your convenience using the information

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

Pastor James Foley New Life Assembly of God 60 Main St. South Barre jamesfoley@newlifebarre.org 978-355-6407

Fourth Sunday of the **Epiphany**

"The One who spoke with Authority.'

Our services can be found on our website at www.barrechurch.

Scripture Reading: Mark 1 21 - 28

1. Introduction

To be in positions of authority is not always the easiest place to be in, whether at home or at work, in the community or at church.

To speak and act with authority that is given to you, or that you assume because of your specific role, means to act in a way that gives good and useful guidance and direction to those following, with good outcomes for everyone. Sometimes such authority can be misused and can lead to the abuse of such power and lack of good guidance, decision making and to bad and even destructive outcomes. And so, the one who speaks and acts with authority also carries with them the responsibility to take such authority seriously.

II. The man possessed with an evil spirit

Here in Mark, we see Jesus having a second encounter with Satan, the evil one, right at the beginning of His public ministry. In the first, He is directly challenged and tempted by Satan in the desert, to give up His authority and listen to the one who promised to give Him the earthly kingdoms if He were to bow before him and throw himself down from the highest temple.

In our passage He is about to enter the synagogue in Capernaum, a city where many would come for their fishing business and so many would take the opportunity to come and listen to Him.

Right there He is stopped by a man with an evil spirit, screaming at Him and challenging Him about who He was, "What do you want from us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are - the Holy One of God."

The force of darkness takes a direct aim at the force of light, the One he recognizes and obviously the One whom he fears. He takes aim at His authority, but Jesus

would not have it. He instructs the force to be quiet and in a violent manner and a shriek in his voice, the force leaves the man and submits to the Divine power and authority of Jesus, the Messiah. In both instances we see the chaotic, yet unsuccessful interruption of what Jesus' mission was all about, to bring love, peace and healing to the people He encountered.

III. The One who spoke with authority

Those who saw what happened, first acknowledged that this Man, Jesus, was different from the other teachers, that He spoke with authority. Is this a new teaching, they asked. Only then did they notice that He drove out the evil spirit and that even the evil spirits obeyed Him.

In typical exorcisms, there are specific rituals to drive out demons, but as Mark L. Strauss says in his commentary on Mark, Jesus only needed to speak a word with no additional actions needed. The power of His word was an indication of Who He was, which was to preach the Good News of love and peace to the people who needed it.

Jesus, in His travels saw the needs of people. He already knew that the conditions of humanity needed someone who truly cared and someone with the capacity to make them feel better, to heal them and to transform their lives.

So, He rose up in authority to clear His path from anything that would stand in His way to accomplish this mission. Strauss asserts that through His Messianic words and deeds, the power of the Kingdom of God was realized into the human existence. What we see is the struggle between God and Satan, good and evil, darkness and light.

This is not a struggle that humanity in their own power can effectively fight and win, but a struggle that can only be overcome through the Divine power and authority that speak and bring light into the darkness. Humanity must surrender to the divine authority and take on the full armor of God, which is what Paul describes in Ephesians 6 v 10 - 20, to take on the belt of truth, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation and pray in the Spirit. That is when the full authority of God to protect against the forces of darkness, can be seen, experienced, and felt.

IV. Conclusion

While Mark describes the strug gle between Christ and the evil force that took over the life of this man in the synagogue, we are living in a world where the forces of darkness operate openly. We see deliberate harm done to innocent people, we see unacceptable suffering because of poverty and the inability of many to make it in this life, we see the darkness of racism, and we see the hurting of the other, because of what they believe, how they look and what they stand for.

We see and experience darkness among us when we cannot find our loving way with one another, but always look for ways to be against someone. We often do not operate with one hope and one vision of peace and togetherness, and therefore lack the ability to support one another. Our differences of opinion tend to drive us apart, rather than being opportunities to work things out and move forward together.

Jesus is not having any of this. He came to speak about the Kingdom of heaven and He knows how the forces of darkness operate. He will speak and reveal to us through the work and authority of the Holy Spirit what is happening and He will quiet the forces of darkness in ways we cannot stop.

We, as the church of Christ must listen to Him when He councils us to be on the path of righteousness and to bring this light further and further into this world. May God help us to yield to the authority of Christ's message and may those around us feel the peace of God coming from us, because we have allowed the living and peaceful Spirit of God to dwell within us.

Pastor Margaret Keyser Barre Congregational Church 30 Park St., Barre

Obituaries

Michael J. Cranston, 50

BARRE - Michael J. Cranston, 50, passed away on Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2024 after a long battle with depression.

Born in Gardner and raised in Barre, he was the son of Patricia Cranston of West Chester,

Pennsylvania and the late Jack Cranston. A soccer and baseball player at Quabbin Regional High School, Mike went on to spend four years at Syracuse University, where he was a part of the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications majoring in broadcast journalism. During his time at Syracuse, he was a Sports Director at radio station WAER and provided play-by-play for Syracuse football, basketball and lacrosse. Mike was a winner of the Bob Costas Broadcaster Award.

Upon graduation from Syracuse, Mike did stints as a News Anchor/Reporter for West Virginia Radio Corporation in Charleston, West Virginia, as well as WTSL/WGXL Radio in Lebanon, New Hampshire and was the Sports Anchor for American Radio Systems in Worcester. For eight years Mike was the play-by-play announcer for Winthrop University basketball and hosted the weekly Gregg Marshall Show call-in program.

Mike had a lengthy career at Westwood One as the Sports Director, providing morning drive sports reports for numerous radio outlets, including Charlotte's

WFNX and the North Carolina News Network. He managed a three-person staff that covered the Carolina Panthers, Charlotte Hornets/ Bobcats and other sports.

It was during this time that Mike

launched his career with sports writing. Until his untimely death, he was a versatile freelance writer for many news outlets including the Associated Press, NBC Sports Networks and ESPN Events to name a few. He covered MLB, NFL, NBA, NHL, college football and basketball, soccer, golf, boxing, horse racing, tennis and NASCAR under tight deadline pressure, moving seasonally to where stringer help was needed. Mike served stints in Denver, Philadelphia, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Chicago, Phoenix, Boston, Orlando and Charlotte.

Mike was an avid lover of soccer and spent 17 years as a referee. He officiated Division 1 NCAA games, men's and women's amateur, high school and youth games across the United States.

Most recently, Mike worked and supervised retail sportsbooks for DraftKings, Flutter Entertainment, Penn Entertainment and at Encore Boston Harbor.

Mike loved to travel, spending time in all 50 states and six out of the seven continents. He knew everything there was to

DEATH NOTICES

Cranston, Michael J. Died Jan. 16, 2024 Calling Hours Feb. 18 from 1-3 p.m Pillsbury Funeral Home, Barre

Crawford (Kowza), Stella J. Died Jan. 23, 2024 Funeral Services private

Posey, Lowell "Tom" Died Jan. 13, 2024 Celebration of Life Feb. 24 at 11 a.m. Barre Congregational Church, Barre

know about sports and was an avid reader. He is survived by his mother Pat Cranston of West Chester, Pennsylvania; sister, Nancy Hoyer and her husband, Gustav of Fort Collins, Colorado; sister, Beth Sinkus and her husband Paul of West Chester, Pennsylvania and seven nieces and nephews: Nicholas, Gretchen, Lillian, Gabriel and Kurt Hoyer and Meghan and T.J. Sinkus.

Calling hours will be held on Sunday, Feb. 18, 2024 from 1-3 p.m. in Pillsbury Funeral Home, 96 South Barre Road, Barre.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Jack and Mike Cranston Scholar Athlete Scholarship, 735 Sugars Bridge Road, West Chester, PA 19380. The fund is designed to provide college assistance to a student athlete from Downingtown West High School. Pillsburyfuneralhome.com

Stella J. (Kowza) Crawford, 87

BARRE - Stella J. (Kowza) Jr and wife Linda, Crawford, 8, of Barre, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2024 in Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Nursing Center in West Brookfield.

She was born on Dec. 18, 1936 at Mary Lane Hospital in Ware. She was the daughter of Boleslaw and Jadwiga (Wicik) Kowza, Polish immigrants who spent most of their lives in South Barre.

Stella was one of seven children; she was pre-deceased by her older sister, Jadwiga (Michael Narekiewicz, deceased). She leaves behind siblings Jennie (Theodore Tylicki), Anne (William E. Tuttle, deceased), Julie (Gary F. Nobert), Eva (W. Kenneth White) and Jan B. Kowza (Rachel).

She is predeceased by her husband, Harold A. "Buddy" Crawford. Stella leaves behind her four children: Harold A. Crawford appointed as one of the first Pillsburyfuneralhome.com

Richard W. Crawford and wife Kay, John J. Crawford and Johanna Swain and husband Patrick and the many grandchildren and great-grandchildren she was blessed with.

Stella began her

employment history at the age of fourteen at the local pharmacy after school, on weekends and during the summer months. As an adult, she worked for many years as part of a three-woman team of dispatchers who rotated in eighthour shifts daily. Radios and phones were installed in their and flower gardening. private homes to provide emer-

town of Barre. Shortly thereafter, she was

women police officers (Reserve Intermittent) in Barre. In future years,

she worked as an Administrative Assistant to Selectmen in several towns in Massachusetts including Barre, Hubbardston and New Braintree.

She also worked for the federal government when the Veterans Administration was computerizing its medical centers and hospitals in the state. She loved working and eventually fully retired at age eighty. Outside of work, Stella was passionate about painting, politics

Funeral services are gency dispatch services to the Arrangements are under the care of Pillsbury Funeral Home 96 South Barre Road, Barre.

Lowell T. "Tom" Posey, 89

BARRE/HUBBARDSTON -Lowell T. "Tom" Posey, 89, of Hubbardston, brother, loving husband, father, uncle, grandfather, great-grandfather and friend passed on Jan. 13, 2024.

Tom was predeceased by his wife Carol, of 65 years and his sister, Nora Pelowski. He leaves his only child, Laura Guilbault and her husband, Peter Guilbault of Massachusetts; granddaughters, Bethany Baptista (John Baptista) of Massachusetts, Danielle Neal (Adam Neal) of Ohio; great-granddaughter, Lydia Baptista and great-grandson, Domingos Baptista; his sister, Nellie Stanley of North Carolina; brother, Rev. Ralph Posey (Sally Posey) of Florida; sister-in-law, Virginia "Ginger" Watson (Bob Watson) of Virginia and sister-inlaw Margaret "Peggy" Blackford (Earl Blackford) of Missouri; nieces and nephews.

Tom was born in McCaysville, Georgia, was a graduate of

Copperhill High School, Tennessee and attended the University o f Tennessee where he met the love of his life, Carol. He worked 21 years for the U.S. Postal Service until he retired in 1995.

Tom's southern charm and hospitality allowed him to make acquaintances and friends wherever he went. Many knew Tom from his years as an active member of the Barre Congregational Church where he was a choir member and a member of many different committees.

For many years he was a member of the Worcester Men of Song and sang with the Forget-Me-Notes and Blue Skies Quartet (tenor) and was a member of the Society for the preservation and encouragement of barber shop quartet singing in America. He was an avid gardener and shared



garlic and produce with many. In his years in Hubbardston, he was an involved member with the Hubbardston Senior Center. Tom Posey was a

generous, friendly,

loyal, loving friend, husband and father,

who is loved and will be greatly missed by many. A Celebration of Life will

be held on Saturday, Feb. 24, 2024 at 11 a.m. in the Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St. Barre.

Tom requested that in lieu of flowers, donations be given in his memory to the Hubbardston Senior Center and/or the Barre Congregational Church.

Arrangements are under the care of Pillsbury Funeral Home,

96 South Barre Road, Barre. For an online tribute please

visit Pillsburyfuneralhome.com.

Barre Gazette

OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

The other is a Paid Obituary, costing \$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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BARRE GAZETTE - SERVING THE TOWNS OF BARRE, HARDWICK, HUBBARDSTON, NEW BRAINTREE, NORTH BROOKFIELD, OAKHAM, PETERSHAM & RUTLAND SINCE 1834

Public Safety

Barre Police Log

Monday, Jan. 15 10:37 a.m. Road Condition Notification, Cathy Lane, Message

2:25 p.m. Road Condition Notification, Town Farm Road, Information Given

6:56 p.m. Fire - Motor Vehicle Collision, South Street, Transported to Hospital

8:26 p.m. Property Dispute or Exchange, Nichols Road, Officer Spoke

Tuesday, Jan. 16 1:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Summer Street, Vehicle Towed Summons: Riska, Franci, 19,

Charges: Number Plate Violation to Conceal, Registration Not in Possession 3:57 a.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Worcester Road, Transported to Hospital

4:16 a.m., Road Condition Notification, All Town Roads, Message Delivered

8:32 a.m. Fire - Motor Vehicle

Collision, South Street, Report Filed 9:19 a.m. Emergency Medical Services - Breathing Difficulties, Wheelwright Road, Mutual Aid

6:30 p.m. Animal - ACO Call, Main

Street, Information Taken 9:07 p.m. Road/Traffic Hazard, Cedar Street, Officer Spoke to Party

Wednesday, Jan. 17

8:49 a.m. Assist Other Agency,

8:53 a.m. Court Duty, Barre Police

Headquarter, Court Duty 9:37 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle

Collision, Old Hardwick Road, Report

9:47 a.m. Animal – Wildlife, Park

11:52 a.m. Disturbance, Exchange

Thursday, Jan. 18

2:09 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Main

9:49 a.m. Motor Vehicle - Disabled,

9:53 a.m. Keep the Peace, Cutler

Summons: Ferguson, Matthew S.,

Street, No Fire Service Necessary

South Street, Information Taken

Road, Officer Spoke to Party

South Street, Officer Spoke to Party

Farrington Road, Dispatch Handled

Street, Message Delivered

Street, Peace Restores

10:29 p.m. Road/Traffic Hazard, Elm

4:51 p.m. Emergency Medical Services - Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Dana Road, Transported to Hospital

11:07 a.m. Emergency Medical

Services - Falls, South Street, Mutual

Friday, Jan. 19

3:07 p.m. Animal - ACO Call, Broad Street, Officer Advised

Operating Motor Vehicle

Aid Transport

4:06 p.m. Emergency Medical Services – Sick/Unknown, James Street, Report Filed

5:42 p.m. Emergency Medical Services - Falls, Dana Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Saturday, Jan. 20

11:50 a.m. Erratic Operator, Exchange Street, Negative Contact 1:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle - Disabled, South Street, Information Given

2:47 p.m. Abdominal - Back Pain, Kendall Street, Transported to Hospital 3:21 p.m. Fire - Illegal Burn, Church Lane, Investigated

3:27 p.m. Animal - Lost and/or Found, South Street, Animal Returned

6:55 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Petersham, Report Filed

Charges: License Suspended,

Monday, Jan. 15 10:45 a.m. Be On the Lock Out Notification, Worcester Road, Report

12:02 p.m. Animal - ACO Call, Spencer Road, Information Given

7:29 p.m. Animal - Lost and/or Found, East Hill Road, Information

Tuesday, Jan. 16 3:25 p.m. Animal Wildlife, Oak Drive,

Information Taken

Wednesday, Jan. 17

Oakham Police Log

7:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle - No Fire Department/Emergency Medical Services Response, Crawford Road, Office Spoke to Party

Thursday, Jan. 18

2:55 p.m. Animal - ACO Call, Robinson Road, Animal Control -Search Negative

Friday, Jan. 19 2:03 Animal - Lost and/or Found,

North Brookfield Road, Animal Returned

9:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle - No Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service Response, Crocker Nye Road, Officer Advised

Saturday, Jan. 20

11:59 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, Barre, Information Given 3:53 p.m. Fire - Motor Vehicle Collision, Old Turnpike Road, Report

9:04 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Barre, Mutual Aid Assist

New Braintree Police Log

During the week of Jan. 22-29, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 18 building/property checks, 26 directed/area patrols, two traffic controls, three radar assignments, one investigation, one motor vehicle accident, five emergency 911 calls, three animal calls and one motor vehicle stop in the town of New

Monday, Jan. 22 10:27 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency,

During the week of Jan. 22-29,

the Hardwick/New Braintree Police

Department responded to 79 build-

ing/property checks, 46 directed/area

patrols, six traffic controls, nine emer-

gency 911 calls, 10 radar assignments.

four citizen assists, one assist other

agency, two complaints, one motor vehi-

cle investigation one burglary/breaking

and entering, one investigation, one ani-

mal call and 10 motor vehicle stops in

Tuesday, Jan. 23

10:13 a.m. Assist Other Agency,

11:44 a.m. Parking Complaint,

6:04 p.m. 911 Burglary (Breaking

and Entering), Barre Road, Officer

Wednesday, Jan. 24

9:46 a.m. 911 Assist Citizen, Church

the town of Hardwick.

Barre Road, Officer Handled

Prospect Street, Officer Handled

Wednesday, Jan. 24 11 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned,

Memorial Drive, Spoken To 4:07 p.m. 911 Animal Call, Utley Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency

Thursday, Jan. 25 12:51 p.m. 911 Misdial, Memorial

Drive, Dispatch Handled 3:33 p.m. Medical Emergency,

Hardwick Police Log

12:14 p.m. Medical Alarm, Church

12:33 p.m. 911 Assist Citizen,

11:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main

Hardwick Road, Taken/Referred to

Thursday, Jan. 25

Church Lane, Transported to Hospital

11:17 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency,

2:51 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle

7:04 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street,

11:15 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main

Friday, Jan. 26

12:15 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main

10:10 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency,

Operations, Main Street, Negative

Street, Dispatch Handled

Street, Written Warning

Voice Message Left

Street, Written Warning

Street, Written Warning

Other Agency

Lane, Transported to Hospital

Worcester Road, Transported to Oakham Road, Transported to Hospital

Friday, Jan. 26

3:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Citation Issued 5:13 p.m. Investigation, McKay Road, Investigated

Sunday, Jan. 28

2:42 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital 11:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Barr Road Vehicle Towed

Church Lane, Transported to Hospital

Petersham Road, Checked/Secured

Miner Road, Transported to Hospital

Road, Services Rendered

Saturday, Jan. 27

Road, Officer Handled

Town, Spoken To

Services Rendered

Investigated

2:33 p.m. Assist Citizen, Petersham

9:52 p.m. 911 Misdial, Old

4:36 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency,

12:19 p.m. Investigation, Lower

6:44 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Out of

10:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle

11:50 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency,

Investigation, School House Drive,

Monday, Jan. 29

2:59 a.m. Utility Issues, Miner Road,

7:26 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency,

Main Street, Transported to Hospital

Barre Road, Transported to Hospital

Rutland Police Log

Sunday, Jan. 14

12:26 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Citation Issued 9:14 a.m. Fire - Motor Vehicle Collision, Barre Paxton Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal

10 a.m. Illegal Dumping Pommogussett Road, Removed Hazard 10:12 a.m. Emergency Medical Services - Breathing Difficulty, Spencer Road, Transported to Hospital

12:07 p.m. Emergency Medical Services - Falls, Old Turnpike Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal

1:40 p.m. Public Assist, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party

1:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Contact Summons: Guaman Tacuri, Segundo Andres, 30, Norwalk, CT

Charges: License Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle with, Speeding rate of Speed Exceeding Posted Limit 5:57 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Welch Avenue, Vehicle Towed

Monday, Jan. 15

12:10 a.m. Suspicious Person Vehicle Activity, Barre Paxton Road, Officer Spoke to Party

8:57 a.m. Road Condition Notification, Barre Paxton Road, Message Delivered

10:01 a.m. Emergency Medical Service - Urinary Tract Infection, Paddock Road, Transported to Hospital 11 a.m. Emergency Medical Services - Seizures, Miles Road,

Mutual Aid Transport 4:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple venue, Written Warning

5:03 p.m. Animal - ACO Call, Anthony Drive, Negative Contact 5:17 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued

Tuesday, Jan. 16

2:58 a.m. Road Condition Notification, Town Wide, Information

3:42 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, Worcester Road, Officer Spoke to Party 9:27 a.m. Lockout (Home or

Vehicle), Brintal Drive, Entry Gained 12:54 p.m. Road Condition Notification, Irish Lane, Message Delivered

1:25 p.m. Emergency Medical Services - Altered Mental State, Thurston Hill Road, Transported to

2:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle - No Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service Response, Forest Hill Drive,

2:17 p.m. Fire - Motor Vehicle Collision, Pommogussett Road, Vehicle

2:51 p.m. Animal - ACO Call, Turkey Hill Road, Message Delivered

3:11 p.m. Fire - Motor Vehicle Collision, Maple Avenue, No Fire Service Necessary

5:33 p.m. Suspicious Person Vehicle Activity, Main Street, Officer Advised 6:02 p.m. Animal - Lost and/ or Found, Pommogussett Road,

Information Taken 11:33 p.m. Public Assist, Main Street, Public Assist

Wednesday, Jan. 17

7:34 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Written Warning 8:22 a.m. Public Assist, Turkey Hill Road, Officer Spoke to Party 8:47 a.m. Complaint, Rutland,

Officer Took Call

9:08 a.m. Assist Other Agency/Non-Police, Main Street, Dispatch Handled 9:19 a.m. Emergency Medical Services - Breathing Difficulty, Main

Street, Transported to Hospital 9:47 a.m. Animal - Wildlife, Park Street, Message Delivered

1:05 p.m. Fire - Motor Vehicle Collision, Barre Paxton Road, Report

2:28 p.m. Emergency Medical Services - Unconscious/Unresponsive/ Syncope, Lowry Lane, Report Filed

5:05 p.m. Erratic Operator, Main Street, Area Search Negative 11:03 p.m. Serve Warrant, Athens

Avenue, Arrest(s) Made Arrest: Hill, Brian K., 65, Rutland Charges: Warrant

Thursday, Jan. 18

12:43 a.m. Prisoner Watch or Meal, Main Street, Removed to Court/Lockup Arrest: Hill, Brian K., 65, Rutland Charges: Warrant

8:20 a.m. Emergency Medical Services - Unconscious/Unresponsive/ Syncope, Campbell Street, Transported to Hospital

8:36 a.m. Prisoner Transport, East Brookfield District Court, Transported to Hospital

9:30 a.m. Fraud or Forgery, Maple Avenue, Report Filed 11:14 a.m. Emergency Medical

Services - Mutual Aid Ambulance, South Street, Mutual Aid Transit 11:38 a.m. Fire - Motor Vehicle

Collision, Main Street, Report Filed 12:39 a.m. Suspicious Person Vehicle Activity, Barrack Hill Road, Area

2:51 p.m. Suspicious Person Vehicle Activity, Ten Rod Road, Officer Spoke

2:52 p.m. Emergency Medical Services - Breathing Difficulty, East

County Road, Transported to Hospital 3:59 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East

County Road, Citation Issued 4:25 p.m. Serve Warrant, Prospect Street, Arrest(s) Made

Arrest: Quinn, James J., 39, Worcester

Charges: Warrant 5:41 p.m. Erratic Operator, Main Street, Officer Advised

6:44 p.m. Broken Hip, Main Street, Transported to Hospital

9:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

Friday, Jan. 19

8:04 a.m. Safety Concern, Charnock Hill Road, Investigated

9:25 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued 10:10 a.m. Suspicious Person

Vehicle Activity, Main Street, Investigated 10:26 a.m. Animal - ACO Call,

Locke Road, Officer Advised 11:47 a.m. Motor Vehicle - Disabled, Main Street. Public Assist

12:03 p.m. Emergency Medical Service - Sick/Unknown, Maple Avenue, Transported to Hospital

3:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued

3:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning 3:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main

Street, Written Warning 5 p.m. Diabetic, Soucy Drive, Public

8:46 p.m. Threats, Pleasantdale Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Saturday, Jan. 20

12:33 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning 12:48 p.m. Animal - ACO Call, Wachusett Street, Information Taken 2:42 p.m. Vandalism, Laurelwood

Road, Report Filed 3:53 p.m. Fire - Motor Vehicle Collision, Old Turnpike Road, Report

4:48 p.m. Fire - Motor Vehicle Collision, Main Street, Report Filed 6:36 p.m. Fire - Motor Vehicle Collision, Moulton Mill Road, Vehicle

Removed 7:49 p.m. Road/Traffic Hazard, Glenwood Road, Information Given 8:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main

Street, Written Warning 8:38 p.m. Larceny or Theft, Highland Park Road, Officer Took Call

8:59 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

9:54 p.m. Fire - Motor Vehicle Collision, Pleasantdale Road, Transported to Hospital

Hubbardston Police Log

Sunday, Jan. 14

12:38 a.m. Erratic Operator, Gardner

Road, Citation Issued 7:38 p.m. Road Condition Notification, Whole Town, Message Delivered

3:23 p.m. Road Condition Notification, All Town, Information Given 3:48 p.m. Motor Vehicle - Disabled, Williamsville Road, Public Assist 9:05 p.m. Emergency Medical

Monday, Jan. 15

Mutual Aid Assist

8:09 a.m. Fire - Motor Vehicle Collision, New Westminster Road,

Service - Diabetic, Old Princeton Road,

Tuesday, Jan. 16

5:15 a.m. Motor Vehicle - Disabled,

Old Westminster Road, Vehicle

8:56 a.m. Fire - Motor Vehicle Collision, Williamsville Road, Vehicle

Towed 12:26 p.m. Road/Traffic Hazard, Brigham Road, Public Assist 7:49 p.m. Road/Traffic Hazard,

Gardner Road, Removed Hazard

Thursday, Jan. 18 4:44 a.m. Follow-Up Investigation, Mohawk Drive, Officer Took Call

7:36 p.m. Fire - Motor Vehicle Collision, New Templeton Road, Vehicle

9:18 a.m. Court Duty, Gardner District Court, Court Duty 10:42 a.m. Emergency Medical

Services - Falls, Rollingswood Road,

Transported to Hospital

Friday, Jan. 19

7:33 a.m. Motor Vehicle - No Fire Department/Emergency Medical Services Response, Gardner Road, Report Filed

5:37 p.m. Suspicious Person Vehicle Activity, Underwood Road, Report Filed

Saturday, Jan. 20

3:34 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Gardner Road, Vehicle Towed Summons: Gagne, Adam J., 35,

Charges: Uninsured Motor Vehicle,

Unregistered Motor Vehicle 4:56 p.m. Erratic Operator, Brigham Road, Officer Spoke to Party

6:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle - Disabled, Gardner Road, Officer Spoke to Party 7:18 p.m. Emergency Medical Services - Falls, Twin Hill Road,

Transported to Hospital Second Chance to host dinner auction fundraiser

EAST BROOKFIELD – Tickets for the 25th Annual Second Chance Dinner Auction are now available for purchase.

This significant fundraising event on Saturday, March 23 at the La Salle Reception Center in Southbridge marks the kickoff of Second Chance's yearlong 25th-anniversary celebration, promising an evening of philanthropy and joy to benefit homeless shelter pets in need of veterinary care. Animal lovers and advocates are invited to join them in making a difference for shelter pets by participating in this

milestone event. The evening commences with a cocktail hour at 4 p.m. giving attendees the opportunity to peruse and bid on a myriad of silent auction

items and try their luck with exciting raffle prizes. The main event unfolds with a delectable dinner at 6 p.m. followed by the highlight of the night, the auction. Tickets are \$55 per person with the option to reserve a table for nine for \$495.

Lindsay Doray, Chief Development Officer, emphasizes the importance of this year's dinner auction, stating, 'Our annual dinner auction serves as a lifeline for our shelter pets, ensuring they receive the necessary veterinary care to embark on their new journeys. With the challenges we anticipate this year, your support is more crucial than ever."

The success of the event relies on the generosity of sponsors and item donors. Second Chance encourages businesses and individuals to consider lending their support by becoming a sponsor or contributing items to make this event truly impactful. The popular event features both a silent and live auction featuring hundreds of items ranging from gift certificates for local businesses and restaurants to gift baskets and everything in between.

Doray highlights, "Our community's commitment to animals through the years has been truly heartwarming, and we welcome sponsors to join us in our mission to ensure that all pets can get the second chance they deserve. Your support will directly contribute to providing shelter pets with the medical care they need for a brighter future."

To enhance the auction experience, a selection of gift cards and small, easy-to-ship items will be available for advance online bidding March 14 to March 21. For those interested in sponsoring, donating items or attending the event, complete information and tickets can be found by visiting http://www.secondchanceanimals.org/dinner-auc-

GARDEN, continued from page 4

further. The outer skin of the bulbs will get papery.

Now it is time to store them in a brown paper bag until planting. Old panty hose or onion bags

would also work. I will replant my paper white bulbs during Advent, and with any luck, all of my work will pay off with blooms when I need it And maybe every year thereaf-

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 31 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 the most – this time next year! subject line.

Job Connection

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HIGHWAY SECRETARY • PART-TIME

The Town of New Braintree Highway Department is seeking a part-time Secretary for five (5) hours per week during business hours. High school education: associate degree preferred. Minimum 3 to 5 years of responsible administrative work experience. Ability to maintain detailed statistics and records. Proficiency needed in computer applications. Knowledge of Chapter 90 procedures is suggested. Hourly rate of \$20/hour with no benefits. If interested, please mail a resume by 7th February 2024 4:00 p.m. to Select Board, Town Hall, 20 Memorial Drive, New Braintree, MA 01531or by email to: selectboard@newbraintree.org.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO THE SELECT BOARD

The Town of New Braintree is seeking an Executive Secretary to the Select Board. This position would be full-time, up to 32 hours per week with some evening hours required several times per month. An Associate's degree in business administration or related field, 3 to 5 years of experience in municipal government and/or strong administrative position or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Salary and benefits are conditional on experience. If interested, please mail a resume by 7th February 2024 4:00 p.m. to Select Board, Town Hall, 20 Memorial Drive, New Braintree, MA 01531 or by email to: selectboard@newbraintree.org.

The Town of New Braintree is an equal opportunity employer.

in the advertisement.

NOTICE

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Public Notices

Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Worcester Probate and
Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508)831-2200
Docket No. WO24P0230EA
Estate of:

Docket No. WO24P0230EA
Estate of:
Peter A Ruskowski
Also known as:
Peter A Ruskowski, Jr.
Date of Death: 12/28/2023
CITATION ON
PETITION FOR
FORMAL
ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal
Probate of Will with
Appointment of Personal
Representative has been
filed by Tammy Norwood of
Southbridge, MA requesting
that the Court enter a formal
Decree and Order and for
such other relief as requested

in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Tammy Norwood of Southbridge, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.
IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/27/2024.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Represent-

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

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A Keamy, First Justice of this Court.

Date: January 25, 2024 **Stephanie Fattman** Register of Probate 02/01/2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508)831-2200 Docket No. WO22P0354PM

CITATION ON
PETITION FOR
ORDER OF COMPLETE
SETTLEMENT
A Petition for Order of
Complete Settlement has

been filed by Sara Spooner

Estate of:

Anthony L. Nims

of Auburn, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, and first account and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right
to obtain a copy of
the Petition from the
Petitioner or at the court.
You have a right to object
to this proceeding. To do
so, you or your attorney
must file a written appearance and objection at
this court before: 10:00
a.m. on the return day of
02/27/2024.

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

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

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah
A Keamy, First Justice of
this Court.

Date: January 29, 2024 **Stephanie K. Fattman** Register of Probate 02/01/2024

> Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Division

Docket No.
WO23P4488EA
Estate of:
Edward J. Valardi
Date of Death:
December 3, 2023

INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION
NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Edward J. Valardi, Jr. of Barre, MA

Jr. of Barre, MA
a Will has been admitted to informal probate

Edward J. Valardi, Jr. of Barre, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court,

but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner. 02/01/2024

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HELP WANTED

ASSISTANT TOWN ACCOUNTANT The Town of Palmer is seeking appli-

cants for the full-time position of Assistant Town Accountant.

The applicant should have a working knowledge of accounting theory and accrual concepts along with strong organizational, interpersonal, and analytical skills as well as experience with Microsoft Office. Previous experience using MUNIS accounting software is a plus. Complete job description can be found at https://townofpalmer.com/jobs. Please e-mail a cover letter and resume to gpotter@townofpalmer.com or via mail to the Town Accountant's Office at 4417 Main

The Norcross Wildlife Foundation in Wales is looking for a part-time (16 hours/week) Administrative Assistant to assist with operations and office management duties. For a full job description, please visit www.norcrosswildlife.org or email dgugliotti@norcrosswildlife.

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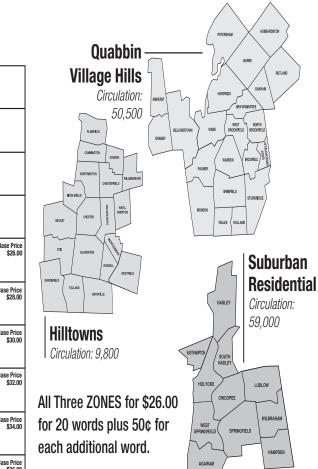
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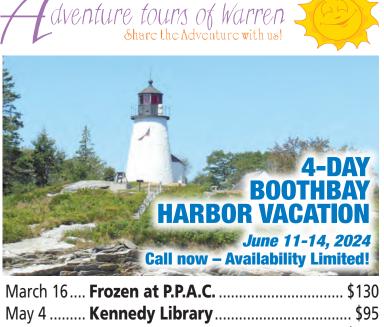


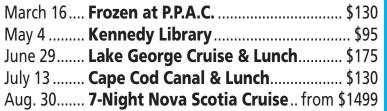




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