

BARRE GAZETTE

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Board designate top three needs

By Ellenor Dower
Editor
edowner@turley.com

OAKHAM – In response to a letter from state Sen. Peter Durant asking the town for their top requests for state aid, the Select Board selected three at their Feb. 17 meeting.

First on the list was \$32,000 for the Jaws of Life for the Oakham Fire Department. The second item was \$25,000 to replace the service elevator at the Fobes Memorial Library. Finally, they decided to request \$200,000 for legal fees regarding a Battery Energy Storage System on Coldbrook Road in town. Another item presented by the assessors was an increase in the Payment in Lieu of Taxes the state pays to the towns.

This was not specific to Oakham only, but to all the cities and towns, which have state owned land.

Highway Superintendent and Town Clerk vacancies

The town received two applicants for Highway Superintendent and one for Town Clerk. Vice Chairman Micheal Brunelle suggested running a newspaper ad outside the Barre area in hopes of getting more applicants.

See OAKHAM, page 7

Young author finishes second book

By Ellenor Dower
Editor
edowner@turley.com

BARRE – Twelve year old Rosalie S. Strzelecki of Barre believes the world needs more books.

She is helping to fill that need after just completing her second book in a trilogy. Her second book “The Guardian’s Sword: The Royal Prisoner” now joins her first book “The Guardian’s Sword: The Dawn of the Guardian.” She is already working in the third and final book in the “The Guardian’s Sword” series.

The home-schooled student says, “I always wanted to be an author, but I didn’t originally set out to write my first book.” She sketched a scene of two knights dueling and began



Submitted photo

See AUTHOR, page 6

Rosalie S. Strzelecki holds her two books, “The Guardian’s Sword: The Dawn of the Guardian” and “The Guardian’s Sword: The Royal Prisoner.”

Fire Chief proposed merging fire departments

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis
Correspondent

NEW BRAINTREE – New Braintree Fire Chief Dennis Letendre proposed merging the New Braintree and Hardwick fire departments during a joint meeting between the two town’s select boards on Monday night.

Letendre said the idea was originally proposed during the last meeting of the New Braintree Select Board when they signed the intermunicipal police

department agreement, which was also signed by Hardwick at the Monday meeting.

Letendre said both town’s fire departments are struggling with staffing and financial restraints, and they cannot afford full time firefighters. He noted that in the past, the fire departments were well staffed, with 25-30 members of each fire department until the 1990s, and their training nights were well attended.

He said enrollment in the department has cut in

half since then.

Proposal

Letendre said his proposal is to merge the two town’s fire officials to provide better coverage, training, and community access to firefighters. He said the firefighters from each respective town would still be assigned to their current station to prevent confusion. He also proposed becoming a member of the regional technical rescue team, as technical calls are currently handled by other munici-

palities, he specifically mentioned the town of Holden as an example.

He said the towns currently do not have enough money to buy the technology required, and merging the budgets could provide purchasing power.

Additionally, he proposed combining CPR and first aid training to cut costs, facilitating the recording software for writing incident reports, com-

See FIRE DEPARTMENTS, page 6

Select Board appoints new police officer

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis
Correspondent

HUBBARDSTON – The Select Board officially appointed Zackary Wright to the Police Department at their Monday, March 2 meeting.

Police Chief Ryan Couture highlighted Wright’s hard work and determination in completing the academy, and said he also has committed his service to the Army National Guard. Wright was joined by his fiancée and friends, and was read the ceremonial oath by Town Clerk Melody Green.

Williamsville Road closure

Couture said that there will be a full closure of Williamsville Road for bridge repairs starting March 3 and the closure is likely to last 14-18 months. Couture said the detour is going to be along Thompson and Kruse roads and he said they are narrow, and not well suited for large amounts of traffic.

He said pedestrians should be aware of the increase of traffic to avoid any accidents. He said the department will be increasing patrols in the area, and strictly enforcing a 30 mph speed limit through the detour.

See HUBBARDSTON, page 6

Selectmen heard update from downtown committee

By Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Sheila Orsi, chair of the Downtown Development Committee gave an update to the Selectmen about the committee’s efforts over the past eight years, and its need for new members to continue moving forward.

Orsi said the Downtown Development Committee was formed in October of 2018.

“Our mission was to create a vibrant atmosphere of the downtown and to rejuvenate our town center,” she said at the Feb. 24 Board of Selectmen’s meeting.

Orsi said at the beginning, the committee worked with a District Local Technical Assistance grant in the amount of \$21,000 and its members visited the Upton town hall, which had the same architect as the Town House. She said the committee has worked directly with the Friends of the North Brookfield Town House.

“One of our strategic goals is to revitalize that ‘Town House,’” Orsi said.

In 2019, the committee worked with Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission

to create a strategic plan, which is posted on the committee’s Facebook page.

“Our strategic goals are walkable downtown, connected trails, Town House revitalization, downtown development (generally) and business investment,” Orsi said.

Orsi detailed some of the highlights of the committee over the years, including receiving numerous grants.

Orsi said the majority of the committee members took a traffic counting course through the Department of Transportation to work toward applying for the Complete Streets grant program to redevelop the downtown’s sidewalks and crosswalks.

The committee also hosted business spotlights through live-feed interviews before the pandemic. She said she would like to see this come back.

Orsi said during the pandemic, the committee received a grant from the Cultural Council to host outdoor movies, and the committee partnered with the Friends of the North Brookfield Town House for its CATLab program.

In 2021, the Downtown Development Committee was awarded the

See N BROOKFIELD, page 6

Lots of snow and effort create feline sculpture



Eli, a 14 foot snow sculpture, is shown with a head, but no body. Steve Grady of McEvoy Road in New Braintree and his neighbors created this sculpture.



Submitted photos

The group of artists used a ladder to put in the cat’s eyes. They used two empty cans and painted the eyes. Eli’s whiskers are metal rods used by lawn care companies.



Eli the cat sculpture is shown with Goose the kitten in his paws. Steve Grady invites people to come visit Eli before he melts away.



This shows the finished piece which contains Eli, named for a neighbor’s kitten, complete with two mice and a litter box in the background.



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News of the Towns



ROUND TOWN

by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

Post 2 to hold corned beef dinner

The Barre Post 2, American Legion, 450 South Barre Road, Barre, will host their annual corned beef dinner on Saturday, March 14 from 5-7 p.m. People may eat in or take out: cost is \$18 per person. Ham will also be available. For tickets, people may call the Post at 978-355-2730, Tony Musnicki at 978-337-2351 or Scott Tourtellot at 508-320-9899.

NHS blood drive

A blood drive hosted by the Quabbin National Honor Society will be held on Monday, March 16 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in the gym at the Quabbin Regional Middle High School, 800 South St., Barre. The Rhode Island Blood Center will be holding the blood drive. People may sign up ahead of time by visiting ribc.org/drives with the sponsor code M102. The blood drive is the society's annual community service project. Sixteen year old donors require parent/guardian permission. Permission slips are available at ribc.org/permission.

Food pantry

The next two Barre Food Pantry distributions will occur on Wednesday, March 11 from 10-11:30 a.m. and on Thursday, March 19 from 5:30-7 p.m. Clients are invited to pick up groceries from the food pantry either in the morning on Wednesday, March 11 or in the evening on Thursday, March 19, whichever is more convenient for them. In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients March 11 and 19 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'll 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. On Tuesday night, March 10 at 5 p.m. the Barre Food Pantry will be gathering volunteers at the Barre Congregational Church to unload incoming groceries from their truck, to sort through donated groceries, to pre-fill grocery bags and in other ways to prepare for the distribution the following morning. If people can help pitch in for an hour on March 10, they should call Sonja Blaney at 978-355-6921. Volunteer should not arrive on March 10, 11 or 19 without first contacting Sonja Blaney at 978-355-6921 or Chuck Radlo at 978-355-6463.

Lions Club scholarship

The Barre Lions Club offers a \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior, who lives in Barre, Oakham, Hubbardston, New Braintree or Hardwick. To be eligible, the student must be accepted by an accredited college or technical school and must be entering the school in the fall semester of the current year. In addition to Quabbin seniors, this year the club expanded the scholarship applications to local students, who attend Monty Tech, Pathfinder or BayPath. For the students' convenience, the application has been sent to the guidance counselor of each school. People may email barremalionsclub@aol.com with any questions.

Designer pancake breakfast

Cradle Rock Chapter Order of Eastern Star will hold a designer pancake breakfast Saturday, March 7 from 7:30-10:30 a.m. at the Masonic Lodge, 71 Pleasant St., Barre. The full breakfast includes pancakes, waffles, sausage gravy and biscuits, bacon, sausage, coffee, juice and always real maple syrup. Cost is \$9 per adult and children age 6 and under \$5. All are welcome.

Barre Youth Theater

The Barre Players Youth Theater presents "The Enchanted Bookshop" on Friday, March 6 and Saturday, March 7 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, March 7 and Sunday, March 8 at 2 p.m. at the Barre Players Theater, 64 Common St. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for students, seniors 65+ and children 12 and under. Tickets may be reserved by either emailing barreplayers@gmail.com or by visiting www.barreplayerstheater.com. This production is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Barre Food Pantry distributions

BARRE – The next two Barre Food Pantry distributions will occur on Wednesday, March 11 from 10-11:30 a.m. and on Thursday, March 19 from 5:30-7 p.m.

Clients are invited to pick up groceries from the food pantry either in the morning on Wednesday, March 11 or in the evening on Thursday, March 19, whichever is more convenient for them.

The Barre Food Pantry volunteers strive to continue to fulfill their mission to get food to hungry and food insecure clients. Many clients and volunteers are classified as high-risk due to their age and/or underlying health conditions. The Barre Food Pantry Board of Directors has considered changing how the pantry currently operates, but has decided that the most

responsible path forward is to continue to operate as we have since March of 2020.

In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients March 11 and 19 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.

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Congregational Church to unload incoming groceries from their truck, to sort through donated groceries, to pre-fill grocery bags and in other ways to prepare for the distribution the following morning. If people can help pitch in for an hour on March 10, they should call Sonja Blaney at 978-355-6921.

Volunteer should not arrive on March 10, 11 or 19 without first contacting Sonja Blaney at 978-355-6921 or Chuck Radlo at 978-355-6463.

Because conditions have been changing rapidly, people should visit the Barre Food Pantry website at <http://www.barrefoodbank.org/index.htm> for updates and and the Barre Food Pantry Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Barre-Food-Pantry-100156068300314/>.



OAKHAM

by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

EQLT plans group walk

East Quabbin Land Trust will host a spring forward at Eva's Woods, Ware Corner Road, on Sunday, March 8 at 3 p.m.

This one mile long loop walk winds through diverse forest, wetlands and past historic stone walls.

There is a small parking lot. All are welcome. Depending on the weather between now and Sunday, trail conditions could be snowy, icy or muddy or all three. Boots are required and snowshoes recommended. Participants plan to dress for the weather and bring water.

EQLT has a couple of pairs of snowshoes available to borrow. First come are first served. People should email atrevett@eqlt.org to register for this walk.

Church breakfast

The Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road, will hold a breakfast to benefit the church furnace fund on Saturday, March 7 from 8-9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. The menu includes pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, strawberries, orange juice, coffee, tea and hot chocolate.

Special Town Meeting

A Special Town Meeting will be held on Monday, March 9 at 7 p.m. in the Oakham Center School. The warrant contains two articles. Article one seeks the town to accept as public ways Old Schoolhouse Road and Skyline Drive and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase and/or eminent domain, the fee and/or easements in Old Schoolhouse road and Skyline Drive. The second article if approved would transfer \$75,000 from the General stabilization fund to supplement the town's legal budget including without limitation, for costs associated with the Battery Energy Storage System matter. This requires a 2/3 majority vote.

March COA events

Blood Pressure Clinic 2 will be held on Thursday March 12 at 11:15 a.m. in Main Room at Oakham Senior Center. Friday March 13 the Council on Aging meets at COA noon. Podiatry Clinic meets on Monday March 16 from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. appointment required. People should call Senior Center at 508-882-4073 to request an appointment. The lunch bunch meets Friday, March 20, the third Friday of the month, at 12:30 p.m. at the Draught House Bar & Grill, 44 West Boylston St., West Boylston, formerly The Manor. Blood Pressure/Glucose screening clinic takes place on Tuesday March 31 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in Senior Center multipurpose room. Walk ins are welcome. Ongoing activities include Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. -puzzling, Monday through Thursday at 9 a.m. walking group (meet at Senior Center); Tuesday through Thursdays at 11 a.m. walking group. (meet at Senior Center), Tuesday yoga at 1 p.m., through March 10 \$40 for eight classes senior center multipurpose room (registration required); Wednesdays at 8:45 a.m. Zumba Gold in New Braintree Town Hall \$3 donation/class; Thursdays at noon: Weigh in at the Senior Center support weight loss group and

Fridays at 10:30 a.m. Functional Fitness at the New Braintree Town Hall \$3 donation/class. Walking group members may request being added to the text MSG group by calling the Senior Center at 508-882-4073 and leaving their name and cell phone number. If seniors can't get to the Senior Center to make reservations or sign up or for more information on offerings, they may call the Senior Center 508-882-4073 and leave a message or email COA@Oakham-MA.gov.

Senior Center hot lunches

Hot Lunches are offered at the Senior Center dining area Monday through Thursday at 11.15 a.m. Reservations are needed at least two days in advance and can be made through the Congregate Meal Coordinator from 9 a.m.-12.15p.m. at 508-882-4072.

Editorial deadline reminder

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

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 March 9. 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 – Teriyaki beef, steamed rice, roasted broccoli, pineapple, fortune cookie, whole wheat bread

TUESDAY – White bean chicken chili, brown rice, green beans, Mandarin oranges, marble rye bread

WEDNESDAY – Chicken picatta,

pasta, California blended vegetables lemon pudding, diet = tapioca pudding, pumpernickel bread

THURSDAY – Salisbury steak with gravy, garlic mashed potatoes, herbed carrots, fresh fruit, sandwich roll

FRIDAY – Lemon pepper haddock, red bliss potatoes, mixed vegetables, Lorna Doones, marble rye bread, tartar sauce

*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.

Legion Auxiliary Unit 3 meets March 9

BARRE – The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 2 meeting in March will be held on Monday, March 9 at 7 p.m. in the American Legion Post #2, 450 South Barre Road.

The refreshment committee consists of Kara, Barbara and Karen. Hope to see you there.

Post 2 to hold corned beef dinner March 24

BARRE – The Barre Post 2, American Legion will host their annual corned beef dinner on March 14 from 5-7 p.m.

People may eat in or take out: cost is \$18 per person. Ham will also be available.

For tickets, people may call the Post at 978-355-2730, Tony Musnicki at 978-337-2351 or Scott Tourtellot at 508-320-9899.

Select Board discussed improvement of mill

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis
Correspondent

HARDWICK – The Hardwick Select Board held their meeting in New Braintree on Monday night, following the joint meeting with the New Braintree Select Board.

Mill improvement

The first topic on the agenda was a request by Hardwick Master Plan Steering Committee member Meg Haight, requesting the board sign a letter of support for a grant related to improving the mills in Gilbertville. She said the Steering Committee has already written their letter of support.

Haight said that this letter of support could trigger an overall economic development committee for the town to discuss ideas for what to do with the mills. She said she is working with the knitters mill owner, and hopes to form a joint committee of the owner plus community members to discuss improvements.

She said the project to solicit members is about four months, and will present them to the board for approval. She said the Central Massachusetts Regional

Planning Commission is assisting, and would help put together agendas and community input surveys.

The board unanimously agreed to sign the letter.

Highland Terrace contractor

The board approved the contract for Ludlow Construction Company to complete the Highland Terrace project, which includes sewer and drainage improvements. The board said their bid was the lowest, coming in at about \$548,000.

Tri Parish Church event

The board approved the use of Hardwick Common for the Tri Parish Community Church for their annual plant, bake, craft, and tag sale on the weekend of May 16 and 17.

Approval of minutes

The board voted 2-1 to approve the minutes from Jan. 12. Select Board Vice-Chair William Tinker opposed the motion which was made by Jeff Schaaf, saying the board should be approving the missing minutes in order from least recent to most recent.

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News of the Towns

PUBLIC MEETINGS

BARRE

QRSD Building, Grounds, Safety and Technology Subcommittee – March 5 at 4:30 p.m.
 QRSD Joint Meeting of Budget and Central Office Subcommittees – March 5 at 5:30 p.m.
 DPW Commission – March 9 at 6 p.m.
 Conservation Committee – March 10 at 7 p.m.
 Library Trustees – March 11 at 6:30 p.m.
 Barre Housing Authority – March 12 at 1 p.m.
 Master Plan Steering Committee – March 12 at 5:30 p.m.
 Select Board – March 16 at 5 p.m.
 Finance Committee – March 17, March 31, April 7 and April 14 at 6:30 p.m.
 Barre Common Oversight Committee – March 18 at 5 p.m.
 Zoning Board of Appeals – March 19 at 7 p.m.
 Cemetery Commission – March 26 at 11 a.m.
 Planning Board – April 1 at 7 p.m.
 Town Election Day – April 6 from 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

HARDWICK

Select Board – March 9 at 6:30 p.m.
 Planning Board – March 10 at 6:30 p.m.
 Gilbertville Public Library – March 11 at 3 p.m.
 Hardwick New Braintree Cultural Council – March 11 at 6:30 p.m.
 Master Planning Steering Committee – March 12 at 6:30 p.m.
 Board of Health – March 12 at 6:45 p.m.
 Capital Planning Committee – March 16 at 3 p.m.
 Gilbertville Water District – March 17 at 5:30 p.m.
 Recycling Commission – March 17 at 6:30 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – March 18 at 6:30 p.m.
 Paige Library Trustees – March 26 at 7 p.m.

HUBBARDSTON

Board of Library Trustees – March 5 at 7 p.m.
 Cemetery Commission – March 9 at 5 p.m.
 Board of Health – March 10 at 7 p.m.
 Agricultural Commission Farmer's Workshop – March 11 from 6:30 -8:30 p.m.
 Community Preservation Committee – March 12 at 7 p.m.
 Board of Assessors – March 18 at 6 p.m.
 Council on Aging – March 18 at 4 p.m.
 Planning Board – March 19 at 6:30 p.m.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

Planning Board – March 18 and April 15 at 6 p.m.

OAKHAM

Board of Health – March 5 at 6 p.m.
 Special Town Meeting – March 9 at 7 p.m.
 Board of Assessors – March 10 at 6 p.m.
 Council on Aging – March 13 at noon

PETERSHAM

Select Board – March 5 at 5:30 p.m., March 10 at 3:30 p.m., March 12 at 5:30 p.m., March 19 at 5:20 p.m., March 24 at 3 p.m., March 26 at 5:30 p.m., March 31 at 3 p.m. and April 2 at 5:30 p.m.
 Advisory Finance Committee – March 5, March 12 and March 19 at 6 p.m.
 Council on Aging – March 9 at 10:30 a.m.
 Cemetery Commission – March 10 at 10 a.m.
 Petersham Historic District – March 19 at 6 p.m.
 Board of Assessors – March 20 at 9 a.m.

RUTLAND

Finance Committee – March 5 at 6 p.m.
 Rutland Development & Industrial Commission – March 5 at 6 p.m.
 Planning Board Hearing – March 10 at 6:30 p.m.

The Next Watershed Moments...

By Keith Davies
 Coordinator, Chicopee 4Rivers Watershed Council
 Guest Contributor

Editor's Note: This is the third and final part in a multi-part series about the Chicopee 4Rivers Watershed Council.

So, what's next for these four rivers: Swift, Ware, Quaboag, and Chicopee? C4R has got the ball rolling, but it won't keep rolling if there is no push behind it.

Who pushes? Leaders and volunteers, communities.

During 2026, C4R will hold a series of community information sessions to highlight our potential and vision. The first will be a spring kick-off event at the Palmer Historical Cultural Center, 2072 Main St., in Three Rivers on Sunday, March 22 at 2 p.m.

Throughout the year, C4R will have fun paddles, nature paddles, clean ups (suggested sites?), water quality monitoring, and more.

We hope to post on our website our events schedule by March 22. These events and the meetings will be a good opportunity to see our rivers, meet others and hear how we can together Care 4 rivers-C4R.

Our needs: we need to strengthen our leadership team, add qualified and committed people to help with organizational, communication, database and financial management. People with water resource and aquatic biological savvy can also help. We have reached a point where we can do more as a community group to Care 4 rivers.

Our vision is to promote stewardship, conservation, enjoyment, and restoration of the rivers, ecosystems and wildlife habitats of the Chicopee-4 Rivers basin, while balancing and fostering river friendly city and town economies and com-



Cub Scouts are shown cutting the ribbon to officially open the Lower Ware River Blue Trail. Both of these Cub Scouts volunteered with C4R to establish the Robbins Road launch site and test the water quality.



Turley File Photos
Chicopee 4Rivers Watershed Council Coordinator Keith Davies prepared paddlers for the inaugural launch on the Lower Ware River Blue Trail in spring 2023.

munity life.

We have planted the seed for this with our basic monitoring and paddling trails. But sprouts need more to grow.

We could go to the next level by adding broader water quality monitoring (adopt a stream, macroin-

vertebrates), trail teams, storm water education and action efforts, wildlife monitoring, annual rivers report card, restoration efforts, and perhaps a rivers celebration event!

We could be the source for Caring for our local 4 Rivers. Now we're talking!

Sounds inviting? Something inside you saying: "yes, I feel I want to help and make a difference!" Our local rivers are beautiful and magical places, places to discover – but also to care for.

Rivers have been the lifeblood of New England for centuries, likely thousands of years. They still are and can continue to sustain us and wildlife as we live in balance with them.

C4R is a means to gather us together to do that, albeit in a humble way. We invite you to join in the vision, let's C4R!

For more information about C4R and to get involved, people may visit www.c4rivers.org, email chicopeewatershed@gmail.com, or mail C4RWC, P.O. Box 126, Three Rivers, MA 01080.

Paige Memorial Library lists upcoming events in March

HARDWICK – The Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, holds adult knitting, sewing and fiber art group continues on Saturdays, March 7, 14, 21 and 28.

Story time meets every Wednesday from 10:30 a.m.-noon with playtime, a story and activities.

Stampmania will be held on Wednesday, March 11 from 12:30-4 p.m. Students will use rubber stamps, ink, markers and more to make their own bookmarks and other creations. This is a drop-in event for an early release from school day.

Shenanigans with Friends will play rock, country, folk and R and B on Saturday March 14 from 3-5 p.m. at the Hardwick Town House. This is funded from the Hardwick-New Braintree Cultural Council supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Celtic Knot Drawing Workshop will take place on Tuesday, March 17 at 5:30-6:30 p.m. People will learn the basics of drawing Celtic knots and spirals with artist Elizabeth Buck. Materials are provided.

People can meet the author of "Out of the Dark" David Payne, on Thursday, March 19, at 6 p.m. The Paige Library becomes the portal into suspense and adventure, his new novel and his writing.

Patrons will celebrate spring with the seed library and more on Saturday, March 21 from 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Collect some seeds and celebrate with activities for all ages.

Pysanky Ukrainian egg decorating on Tuesday, March 24 at 5:30 p.m. and on Wednesday, March 25 at 2:30 p.m. Participants should bring a fresh white egg to decorate. Beeswax, dye, and

kitskas will be provided.

Page to Screen Group meets Tuesday, March 31 from 6-7 p.m.; on Tuesday, March 21 at 6 p.m. they will discuss "Project Hail Mary." This group will meet several times a year and focus on books that have been turned into movies. Read or listen to the book by Andy Weir and/or watch the movie with Ryan Gosling, then come together to discuss a favorite parts or plot points. People can go to the theater independently or they could organize as a group to a showing (TBA).

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

HUBBARDSTON

by Ellenor Downer
 edowner@turley.com

Country Hen offers scholarships

The Country Hen Scholarship Fund awards a total of \$1,000 in scholarships to one or more graduating high school students from Hubbardston. Applicants must be a Hubbardston resident for at least three years, be a graduating high school senior planning to attend an accredited college or university and have demonstrated community involvement during their high school years. Applications are available online by visiting the town website at www.hubbardstonma.gov and are due by Sunday, April 26. For questions, they should email admin@hubbardstonma.gov.

Ag Commission workshop

The Agricultural Commission presents a Farmer's Workshop, making your own Biochar on Wednesday, March 11 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Conference Room at the Town Building, 48 Gardner Road.

Excise tax bills

The 2026 Motor Vehicle Excise tax bills were mailed on Feb. 11 and are due March 16. Bills are sent to addresses on file, at the Registry of Motor Vehicles, for vehicles that are registered or garaged in Hubbardston as of Dec. 31, 2025. According to MGL Chapter 60A, Section 2 "Failure to receive notice shall not affect the validity of the excise." This means that even if people don't receive the bill, they are still liable for paying the excise plus any accrued interest and penalties. Anyone not receiving a bill should contact the Collector's office at 978-928-1400, extension 205.

Lions Club Scholarship

The Barre Lions Club offers a \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior, who lives in Barre, Oakham, Hubbardston, New Braintree or Hardwick. To be eligible, the student must be accepted by an accredited college or technical school and must be entering the school in the fall semester of the current year. In addition to Quabbin seniors, this year the club expanded the scholarship applications to local students, who attend Monty Tech, Pathfinder or BayPath. For the students' convenience, the application has been sent to the guidance counselor of each school. People may email barremalionsclub@aol.com with any questions.

Senior Center events

All artists are welcome to attend the art group at the Hubbardston Senior Center every Friday from 9-11 a.m. A new activity at the Senior Center is the Creative Needle and Thread activity every Friday from 9 a.m.-noon. All are invited to bring projects, such as embroidery, cross stitch, sewing and quilting. Questions may be directed to Michelle at 508-450-4476. Yarn-It-All group meets from 10 a.m.-noon. Knitting and crocheting projects will be worked on, and those who have questions will get help from others who attend. Games of Pitch are held the second and fourth Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. and the first and third Fridays at 6:30 p.m. Cribbage is played every Thursday at 12:30 p.m., Bingo is every Monday at 12:30 p.m. and Wii Bowling is every Monday and Thursday at 9 a.m. Functional Exercise Classes are held at the Senior Center Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Q-Munity closet expands hours

NEW BRAINTREE – The Q-Munity Closet, located at the New Braintree Grade School, 15 Memorial Drive, expanded their hours. Hours are Mondays and Thursdays from 8:30-11:30 a.m. and the second Saturday of the month from 9-11 a.m. One night a week will be added in March. More information with time and day will be announced soon.



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Opinion



Water access for the future

By Elizabeth Martin

A resilient community is a healthy community, and for good health we need clean water, clean air and good food.

Few would argue otherwise and most of us are used to taking it for granted that our government is somehow or other guaranteeing the quality of these necessities for a healthy life. Our Quabbin region serves as a sort of guarantor for the rest of the Commonwealth by conserving large areas of natural forest and open land, and by sending 200 million gallons of water to Boston every day.

Meanwhile the local water systems are stressed and they have no access to Quabbin water themselves. In the town of New Salem, which borders the reservoir, the town wells recently failed. Worse than that, in my view, the Commonwealth's misguided effort to site large industrial battery energy storage facilities and industrial solar installations on rural land endangers the land and the aquifers.

Water scarcity is an up-coming emergency around the world as populations increase and cities grow. Boston relies on one reservoir, but New York City requires nineteen res-

ervoirs to supply its water needs. In the American southwest the Colorado River supplies water to seven states under an allocation agreement made a century ago.

The amount of water allocated turns out to be much more than the amount of water in the river, so groundwater supplements it, depleting the aquifers. The area irrigated with this water includes California's Imperial Valley, where most of the vegetables we eat in the winter are grown. It also includes the cities of Los Angeles, Las Vegas, Phoenix, Tucson and Salt Lake.

Thinking ahead, considering the people who will live here in Central Massachusetts long after we're gone, requires that we take responsibility for protecting our rivers, ponds and aquifers from pollution and depletion; for protecting the forests that hold the soil in place, filtering rainwater and snowmelt and refreshing the air and for protecting our local farmland for access to healthy food.

We are fortunate to have people and local organizations that are devoted to conservation of the land. Let's support their efforts and create a resilient community for now and for the future.



DAVE GRANLUND.COM

In Past Pages

5 years (March 11, 2021)

North Brookfield Administrative Assistant Ashley Barre presented requests for Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act money from the school for speech therapy in the amount of \$624.97. Barre also presented old requests for CARES Act funds which included: Fire Department, \$1,800 for repairs to turnout gear; Haston Free Public Library, approximately \$800 for Zoom subscription and an air purifier; Senior Center, \$3,248 for computers. The library also put in a request for two additional air purifiers. Selectman Chairman Dale Kiley said these requests would put the town's CARES Act fund balance at \$5,170. Kiley said they will need to use these funds for vaccine clinics. He said that Board of Health member Trevor Brusco expects clinic costs to be around \$2,400. Kiley suggested holding off on approving the two additional air purifiers until they knew what their costs would be. They approved all the expenses except for the library's request for additional air purifiers. The board agreed to wait to approve the library's second request.

The Barre Finance Committee went over some department budgets at its Feb. 18 meeting. They met with treasurer/collector Alex Haggerty. He said his dues/meeting line item increased as he and his newly hired assistant planned to take classes at UMass Amherst this summer. He said the state was not sure if the classes would be in person or webinar. If they were in person, he would stay at the school rather than travel

Look Back Wrestling Champ – 1996



File photo Dan Medford, New England wrestling champion, holds a chart with the tournament results along with the plaque he was awarded.

back and forth. Haggerty said excise taxes would be going out March 1 and he would send out reminders next week to those, who owed outstanding real estate taxes. He said there were 80 parcels outstanding for 2019, 2020 and 2021. He said the number was "too high" and he would like it reduced to 20 to 30. He said tax liens were filed with the registry of deeds, advertised in the newspaper and included tax title fees.

The Haston Free Public Library, 161 North Main St., North Brookfield received a Virtual Programming for Distance Learning grant of \$1,660 from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

The library will use this grant to explore the theme, "Preserving our Memories,"

through workshops for adults and children, such as digital scrapbooking, memoir writing and art journaling. Librarian Amy Hietala, of Old Sturbridge Village, will present a program on the diaries and journals found in the village's collection. Finally, the library will create a video documenting North Brookfield citizens' responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. Through this project the Haston Library encourages the community to record their life experiences and add to the historic record. The Haston Free Public Library's grant is one of \$54,900 in 20 grants to libraries across the commonwealth through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act fund-

See PAST PAGES, page 5

I lost money as a widow and ex-spouse by not knowing the rules

Dear Rusty:

I just found out, as someone who was collecting widow's benefits on my second husband, a very small amount, for some time, that I was, all along, entitled to divorce benefits from my first husband, which are much more. I thought I had to wait until my first husband passed before I could collect anything from him. Now I learned I have the right to collect as a divorcee. All of these years I have been missing out on a bigger benefit because I didn't know this. Please make this clear and stress it for others in my position.

Signed: Lost Benefits

Dear Lost Benefits: I am truly saddened that you lost out on benefits from your first husband for such a long time. Although you could not collect an ex-spouse benefit



your Husband #2 died, you actually had a choice – either collect your surviving spouse benefit from your

recently deceased husband #2, or to collect a regular ex-spouse benefit from your first husband if that is more than your benefit as your second husband's widow. Regular ex-spouse benefits from your first husband are available even though he is still living (and, indeed, even if he remarried) because you are no longer married to husband #2.

This, however, is not always the way things work out for someone who has had multiple marriages. It all depends on the SS benefit each former spouse was enti-

See SOCIAL SECURITY, page 10

Garden related chores to ease in the season

Last week I'm writing about a blizzard, while this week it looks as if the mercury is going to climb! How about our

crazy New England weather?

If the skyrocketing temps have you feeling the urge

to get a jump on the gardening season, you are not alone! Here are a few tasks, straight from the archives that will get you outside, and a few more to get you back indoors, because inevitably, winter is here for awhile longer. I think.

Perform appropriate garden chores.

I am usually negligent in cutting down asparagus foliage in the fall. Weather permitting, in other words, if the snow melts enough over the course of the next two weeks, I will get out there and cut it back to its base soon, then haul off the branches to prevent any bugs that overwintered there from infesting this year's spears.

It is also time to prune blueberries, apples, raspberries and grapes.

Pruning can vary depending on the age and health of your specimens. If you are not experienced at it, consult any number of good books on the subject before you head outdoors with your pruning shears and loppers.

Assess your tools

Was the rototiller running rough last fall? Perform or schedule a tune up for later this month and beat the rush. Same goes for the weed whacker and lawn mower.

Hoe and spade blades can be washed of dirt and debris then sharpened with

a metal file. Medium grit sandpaper works wonders to smooth out the wooden handles of these and other garden tools.

After which, boiled linseed or tung oil can be applied to both the handle and the metal blade. It helps the wood resist moisture which leads to cracking and prevents rust on the blades.

I love my Dad's old spade. It has a great, handmade wooden handle that is about to crack through; sure wish I had oiled it 20 years ago!

Take inventory.

Many of us have our seed orders in by now. If you don't, or if you plan to buy your seeds locally, it is a great idea to go through your leftovers.

Before you decide whether or not they are keepers, consider their age and how they were stored. My rule of thumb is that if any seed is over three years old it isn't worth the risk. Some seeds, such as those for parsley, hybrid onion, carrot and parsnip expire even sooner. These are discarded after only one year.

If seeds were stored in a moist or overly hot location, their viability can be cut short sooner than normal. If you have concerns that they might not germinate, sow a few seeds indoors in pots in a warm location and see what kind of results you get.

Nothing is more upsetting than planting seeds in the garden and having few or no seedlings come up. Time is wasted and the harvest is delayed by unknowingly utilizing dead seeds.

See GARDEN, page 10

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Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

I am hoping March is closer to spring.

This has been a tough winter with the deep snow and freezing temperatures. I am welcoming spring and finally put away the snowmen people and took out the daffodils and Easter eggs.

I had a nice surprise visit from our oldest daughter and her husband on Sunday. She recently had a hip operation and then broke three bones in her leg so we have not seen her for a while. She brought me lots of books to read and food items.

Both daughters brought me some potting soil so I was able to pot up the coleus and cactus slips that have rooted. The only problem I had is the garden shed is not accessible due to four feet of snow and the pots were also in that so I had to use old ice cream cartons to put the soil and slips in.

I can repot them when I can get the pots. My soil was also in the shed and frozen so that is why I needed some new soil. Some stores keep the soil outside but this soil was kept inside and not frozen.

I had a nice letter from a 93 year old lady from California that likes to read my Serenity Hill Sampler. This is the third letter I have gotten and appreciate them letting me know how much they enjoy this column. My eye sight is not good as I have macula degeneration

so hopefully I can keep typing this information.

I found a recipe that my mother used to make for corn fritters and I have made them two times this week. My neighbor gets this column and he said his wife would like this recipe so here goes

CORN FRITTERS

1 egg
1/4 cup milk
1 cup pancake mix
1 can whole kernel corn, drained

Mix all together and heat some vegetable oil in a frying pan about 1 inch deep. Put a tablespoon of the mix in and fry for two minutes per side. Delicious served with butter and maple syrup.

How many of you remember the delicious corn fritters they used to serve at the Old Mill in Westminster? Not sure if they still do, but these taste just like those did.

Our handyman took down some huge icicles off the gutters in the back of the house. It was interesting to watch him as he held an old plastic sled as a shield so he would not get hit with a four foot icicle. His dog, Buddy, watched him from the glass doors and was concerned. He also shoveled many piles of snow which was at least four feet high off the deck. We like to get some off the decks so they don't collapse.

I have been doing a lot

of watercoloring during this bad weather. One series I am doing is from a book called, "Wild Flowers of America" by Rickett. I do only ones that I know and have seen in this area. I do them on 8 inch by 10 inch watercolor stock. I label the watercolor on the back with the name of the flower.

I try to call at least one friend a day to check on them, My friend Barbara lives in Rhode Island now and said she had the most snow ever since living there. My oldest daughter lives in southern Massachusetts and had the most snow she has ever had. Like Boston, they are not used to that much snow. I'm glad I don't live in Boston this week.

My penpal from Oakham sent me two packages of flower seeds. I will plant them soon inside and see if I can get some plants to put outside. The Amaryllis from the cellar are sprouting up so I brought them up and put them in the plant window.

My dear helper bought me a beautiful bouquet of red carnations, which I am enjoying. I also dried some of the mixed bouquet Ken got me for Valentines day.

Have a good week and spring has to come as it does every year. Don't like the news I am hearing on television. Some times I shut off the news as it makes me too depressed.



By Ellenor Downer



Male red-winged blackbird

On March 2, I received an email from a Worthington resident that he just saw a red-winged blackbird.

Male red-winged blackbirds arrive before the females. They are one of the first birds to return to northern breeding grounds, arriving in late February or early March.

Red-winged blackbirds are abundant songbirds, who inhabit marshes, wetlands and fields. The male is glossy black with bright red and yellow shoulder patches or epaulets. Females have streaked brown plumage.

The highly territorial males often sit on high perches, singing and displaying their epaulets. Their "conk-la-ree" is heard frequently. They are known for "dive bombing" crows, hawks and even humans to defend their territory. They primarily eat insects such as beetles, drag-

onflies and moths during the breeding season and seeds and grains during fall and winter.

They nest in loosely associated colonies in shrubs or cattails and are found across most of Northern America. They are polygamous and a single male may mate with up to 15 different females in his territory. Red winged blackbirds can form huge roosts during the winter of up to a million birds.

Brimfield resident

A Brimfield resident sent an email recently. He said, "On Saturday I was driving to West Springfield to put up some picture at the library for an exhibit. Some members of the Allen Bird Club are displaying photographs there for the month of March. On the way I stopped by a nest in Ludlow that bald eagles have used for at least three years."

In Brimfield, he said, "Lately we have been seeing a Cooper's several times in the yard and a broad-winged hawk was seen on Feb. 22. The broad-winged hawk sat in a tree in front of the house for over an hour. Last year a pair of broad-wings had a nest on the next door neighbor's property. They could see the nest from their deck, but I was never able to see the nest walking around near where

they described its location."

Turkey vultures

On Feb. 11, the Brimfield resident saw a turkey vulture in the center of Palmer near the intersection of Routes 20 and 32. This week, his wife saw 25 turkey vultures flying above that area. They often see vultures soaring over that area and the first of the year shows up in mid-February. He said, "I believe the vultures nest in the area, possibly on or near Mount Dumplin that is just north of the turnpike ramps."

Other birds and more

The Brimfield residents still has lots of junco about as well as a healthy the gray squirrel population. Recently they saw two and sometimes three red squirrels. He is enjoying the longer days and looking forward to warmer temperatures.

Red-tailed hawk

A Rutland couple saw a red-tailed hawk quickly grab a gray squirrel her husband shot. They watched it hungrily consume a "warm meal" in the yard. They moved their feeder nearer to the house due to the deep snow. They have lots of black-capped chickadees and woodpeckers come to the new location

Bluebirds

An Oakham resident sees bluebirds on a daily basis. She enjoys watching them.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005. The Palmer office has a new phone system and I will be getting an extension where messages may be left. I will publish the number as soon as it is set up.

PAST PAGES from page 4

ing distributed by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

10 years (March 10, 2016)

Navy Midshipman Baylee Smith from Oakham, Massachusetts, participated in the Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps ship selection draft as a future member of the U.S. Navy's Surface Warfare Officer community. More than 280 midshipmen at 70 Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps units around the country have selected to serve in the Navy as surface warfare officers. Each selecting midshipman is ranked according to his or her grade point average, aptitude scores and physical fitness.

Incumbents Nancy Allen and Lynn Jones Peredina retained their seats on the Petersham Select Board and Petersham School Committee, respectively. Allen won another three-year term to the board of selectmen with 208 votes. Her challenger, a former selectmen, received 169 votes. Lynn Jones Peredina received another three-year term on the Petersham School Committee with 195 votes to 141 for Anne Marie Goodfellow. With 380 voters casting ballots, voter turnout was 41% for the March 7 annual town election. All other candidates ran unopposed. Jean W. Robinson received 315 votes for a three-year term to the board of assessors. Fifi Scoufopoulos got 313 votes for a three-year term to the board of health. Voters elected three constables for three-year terms: Denis N. Legare with 315 votes, Richard N. Bartus with 302 votes and Larry A. Robinson with 301. Heidi A. Shortis with 304 votes won a three-year term to the Mahar Regional School Committee. Donna K. Byron with 294 votes received a three-year term to the planning board and Hilary Loring won a three-year term as Trustees of Public Library with 89 votes.

Quabbin High School Athletic director, Mark Miville, shared results of a survey filled out by Quabbin students and parents with the Quabbin Regional School District Policy, Review and

Reform Subcommittee. Miville stated that 260 responded from grades 7 through 12. He explained that the survey was anonymous and went to all students at the middle/high school. Participation was about even between male and female students. About 20 percent of fall sports athletes received free or reduced lunch and 15 percent of winter sports participants. The survey asked what additional school sport students and parents would like. Responses included fall cheerleading and volleyball for girls, hockey and middle school indoor track for winter and lacrosse in spring. Skiing and swimming were also listed and suggested as possible cooperative sports. Wachusett Regional has a ski team and Gardner High School, swimming. Several students already participate in hockey at Gardner High.

25 years (March 8, 2001)

Like the postal creed, snow isn't supposed to stop the wheels of democracy either. And it hadn't until Monday, March 5. Voters in Barre were heading to the polls to cast ballots in two hot races, one for selectmen and the other for Board of Health and many made it despite the dire predictions of heavy snow by dawn thanks to winter storm Emily, a monster nor'easter, which threatened to develop into the biggest storm ever. When Monday came and there was no snow to be seen, voters headed to the polls hoping to beat the storm and fulfill their democratic duty. Turnout was brisk early in the morning and into the afternoon before the snow started falling. The Select Board closed the polls early as allowed in state statute. All ballots were sealed. The state then would declare another date to resume the election.

One month to the day, residents in Barre and surrounding communities were digging out from under a blanket of more than 20 inches snow in what is one of the top five snowstorms on record. So when forecasters late last week began predicting a monster nor'easter to rival even the big ones of decades past, people here took it seriously. Schools and many business-

es closed. Residents stocked up on food and emergency supplies and then waited. The forecast for as much as five inches by dawn Monday were way off. In fact, the area saw little in the way of anything for much of Monday. By the time the storm passed, the huge snow totals were only moderate and the roads were cleared to pavement in most places and crews were breathing a sigh of relief.

What are the inspiring strains of song emanating weekday evenings from Hubbardston Center School and sounding like a series of Gregorian chants? The musicians and artists responsible for these sounds may not be a spiritual group, but they are undeniably spirited. They are the families and friends of that make up the Hubbardston Community Theatre and their celestial voices are simply warning up for rehearsals of this spring's musical production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Cinderella" to be performed March 23, 24 and 25. Although an onlooker at these rehearsals might say the performers look like one big happy family, the unique quality of Hubbardston Community Theatre productions is that a number of participating families have both children and adults on stage.

38 years (March 11, 1988)

Democrat Governor Michael Dukakis and Republican Vice President George Bush took the majority of votes in both precincts of Barre's Presidential Primary held on Tuesday, March 8. In precinct one Dukakis received a total 160 votes while in precinct two he received 127. On the Republican side, Bush received 82 votes in precinct one and in precinct two, 29.

In a town election without contest held Monday,

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Petersham voters chose to stay a home, only 111 being tallied. Officers re-elected included Town Clerk, Ruth Bassingthwaite, 106; Selectman, Dana Robinson, 101; Tax Collector, Romona Hubbard, 103; Board of Health (one year), Charles Goddard, 96; Board of Health (three years) Donald Buiwit 97; School Committee Peter George, 81; Regional School Committee, Mary Kenney, 103; Library Trustee, Gloria Edinburg-George 88. The only new face was that of Charles Berube, who was elected to

the Planning Board with 90 votes.

The New Braintree Board of Selectmen expressed anger and disapproval to the State Department of Public Works over construction that has been done on Route 67 through their town Barre and North Brookfield. Selectman Chair Stephen J. Cronin wrote to Public Works Commissioner Jane Garvey on March 2. In that letter, Cronin wrote, "We are appalled at what we have been informed about the new construction. We call

for your help and hope you will take action." According to the letter, "The condition of the road surface ranges from poor to dangerous." He wrote that Rte. 67, which runs through New Braintree, North Brookfield and Barre "presents a rough, constantly varying travel surface with many sections of the road having poor drainage. The poor grading of the finished surface in the areas that are supposed to be completed reflect undulations in the grade.



2026 Fly Fishing EXPO

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Door prize: Fly rod combo.

Guest Speaker: Dr. Andy J. Danylchuk – From Striped Bass to Trout: Science-Based Best Practices for Catch-And-Release

AUTHOR from page 1

creating their backstories, their past and their future. She began writing on the next page and “that’s how ‘The Guardian’s Sword: The Dawn Of The Guardian’ was created.” She still has the notebook with the original sketches.

She lives in Barre with her parents, Ted Strzelecki and Michelle Bennett and dog She plays on the Quabbin Regional Middle School basketball team and likes to use the weight room at the school.

Her first book opens with the protagonist, Valorem Reltivar, engaged in a duel. She says, “His [Valorem Reltivar] old friend interrupts the duel and the trio ends up at an inn where they are given a quest for Veltem. On the quest, they face a dragon, avalanche, prophecy, a jousting tournament and knights that csearch for Arvencian blood. Throughout the quest they find all kinds of people who

are fighting for change – an old wizard, a group of rebels, and a scout looking for a knight to entrust with The Guardian’s Sword, which will save the world or end it.”

The story is fiction, but the author did research to make sure part of it was “historically accurate.” Not only does Strzelecki likes to write books, she enjoys reading. Two of her favorite books are “The Ranger’s Apprentice: The Early Years” by John Flanagan and “Eragon” by Christopher Paolini. She considers the Paolini book motivational as Paolini is a young author as well.

Favorite school subjects are writing and reading; she also likes history. Not surprising her hobbies include writing books, writing and reading poetry and basketball.

The second book follows Valorem and his friends who are newly appointed Guardians as they try to find the evil prince of Arvence, Maskotar. They face even more challenges,

new creatures, new kingdoms and new enemies. They tackle this while learning to control a gift they’d never thought they’d receive.

Although Strzelecki doesn’t plan on writing for a living, she will keep writing books. Both her books are available through Amazon. Copies of her books will be available to borrow from the Woods Memorial Library in Barre soon.

She likes anything involving words. She says, “I breathe words like oxygen, so I can always be found working on a new story or poem.” She also says, “I read that most people want to write a book. The trouble is, less than 3% do.”

She offers this advice to all those aspiring authors, “You don’t have to be a known author with a degree in English and editors to write a book. Age definitely isn’t a limit either. If it’s a book you can write, it is a book the world needs.”

HUBBARDSTON from page 1

Additionally, he said for the first few days of the detour, there will be an officer present for detail 24/7 to assist residents. Couture said there will be limited impacts to emergency response.

Finance update

Town Administrator Sean Fitzgerald said the temporary accountant for Hubbardston, Marcia Bohinc, had completed closing the books for fiscal year 2025. He says work is continuing to be done on various other reconciliation projects. Fitzgerald said he had put up for bid continued financial work, to be done in phases 1-5, which would bring them up to date for FY 26.

He said Bohinc was the only responsive bidder and estimated phases 1-4 would take 180 hours of work at \$100 per hour, to total \$18,000. He said phase five was estimated at \$14,625 dollars at \$75 per hour, which comes out to 195 hours.

He said the total cost of the scope of work would be \$32,625.

Fitzgerald recommended the board approve the scope of work for Bohinc, which was approved.

Personnel

Select Board Vice-Chair Katie Young, who was acting as chair for this meeting in the absence of Jeff Williams, said she is continuing interviews for executive assistant and the second round interviews would be done by board member Peter Walker and the town clerk. She hopes for a recommendation at the next meeting.

Town Administrator’s report

Fitzgerald said he held meetings with department heads about the FY 27 budget and his proposed zero base budgeting system, and talked about standardization across departments. He said that the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission proposed the towns of Rutland and Hubbardston share HR services, and he will meet with them to discuss that possibility.

Fitzgerald said he attended a dispatch meeting with

Central Mass Regional Dispatch, and that they propose increasing the communities in the region from five to 11. Fitzgerald, Couture, and the board expressed concerns about the cost of this proposition to the town of Hubbardston. Fitzgerald and Couture said there was a lack of cost projections and analysis.

Fitzgerald said there needs to be analysis on the long term costs to the town, and said it would be a large cost for a small budget. He said he wants to prevent strain on the town.

Couture expressed concerns about citizens noticing a “drastically different” change in how 911 works. Munroe suggested meeting with state level 911 to get answers to various questions the board has.

Fitzgerald said Quabbin Regional School District Superintendent Colleen Mucha will be at the board’s next meeting for the regional agreement listening session.

The board is scheduled to meet next on Monday, March 16.

N BROOKFIELD from page 1

Community Development Planning Award from CMRPC.

“Which was pretty amazing,” Orsi said.

The committee also was awarded the Complete Streets grant and worked to finalize plans with the BSC Group. The sidewalks were completed last year.

Orsi said the committee has also worked on solving downtown parking issues.

Orsi said she has been chair of the committee for eight years and she is not seeking to continue in that role. The committee is looking for new members to take over.

“We talked about having the next couple meetings and wondering whether we need to dissolve DDC or if other people want to come in and take it over and work toward making it something like it

was when we first started... there was a lot of fire in us and we had a lot of stuff coordinated,” she said.

Orsi said the committee has brought in about \$800,000 worth of grants to benefit the town since it was formed.

“We’ve done some really great stuff,” she said.

One Stop grant proposal

Parks & Recreation Committee Chair Brandon Avery said the committee is submitting an expression of interest for the Environment and Climate One Stop grant with the help of CMRPC.

Will Talbot, an associate planner at CMRPC, said the committee needs the board’s approval to move forward with the application to the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs.

“This is a project to revitalize the North Brookfield town common,” Talbot said.

The proposal includes the removal of three canopy

trees on the west side of the common, planting 21 canopy trees around the edge of the common, constructing a pollinator garden at the northeast part of the common and removing pavement from an old basketball court at the south end of the common. He said the two basketball courts slightly to the north of that area will remain as they are.

Talbot said the project will improve shade covering and provide cooling, as well as help the common become a “more inviting and resilient resource” for the community.

There is no financial match commitment from the town for this grant program.

Police Department report

Police Chief Ryan Daley submitted his report for the month of February. He stated in his report that the department was operating with five full-time police officers due to one patrol officer and Chief Mark Smith leaving

for other opportunities.

“Despite these staffing challenges, our officers have continued to serve the town with dedication and professionalism,” Daley stated.

Officer Robert Nelson was hired in January to fill one of two vacancies and Officer Jeff Martin was promoted to the rank of sergeant.

Daley said the department participated in professional development and training opportunities, including Crime Tracer training and mental health crisis response.

Sewer Commission appointments

Board of Selectmen Chair Jason Petraitis said the Sewer Commission members resigned last fall, which resulted in the Board of Selectmen temporarily taking over those positions.

“Because the commission’s appointed, we’re the ones that have to basically do the job until somebody

else is appointed,” he said.

Petraitis said town counsel told them the board could appoint themselves as members of the commission, until new commission members can be found. The board members took turns appointing each other as Sewer Commission members – all of which were approved.

School district update

School Committee Chair Matt Grant gave the Selectmen an update about tuition-out agreement discussion. He said the committee voted 4-1 to move away from these talks to seek a tuition agreement with neighboring districts, and to focus on growing and developing North Brookfield Public Schools.

Grant said the Superintendent of Schools will create a five-year plan for the district to outline goals.

Fire safety grants

The board approved applications from the Fire Department for two grants to provide fire safety education to students and senior citi-

zens. The Student Awareness of Fire Education grant is in the amount of \$5,500 and the Senior SAFE grant, \$2,800, respectively.

There is no financial match from the town for these two grants.

Pole hearing

The board approved the placement of a new joint-owned utility pole on Green Road at a hearing requested by National Grid. This pole will replace a tree anchor, which will be removed.

Appointments

The board appointed Mark Anderson and Lindsey Rockwood to serve on the Parks & Recreation Committee.

Avery said he is happy to have the new members on board and he was looking forward to working with them.

Recognition

Board of Selectmen Vice-Chair Jamie Gilman recognized the efforts of everyone who worked to clean up the roadways after the recent significant snow storm.

Spring home

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FIRE DEPARTMENTS page 1

binging hose and pump testing, and upgrading and sharing an air compressor, which he said could be earmarked by the state.

He said under the agreement, the towns would have two fire engines, down from the three current, two tankers, a rescue, a brush truck, and a utility terrain vehicle. Letendre said he would be the chief and Nick Gaumont the deputy chief.

Residents comments

One resident asked how response times and homeowner’s insurance would be affected under the agreement. Letendre said there would be no change in response times, and said that the reduction of fire engines could have an effect on insurance. Liz Cyran, a resident from Hardwick, said that she lives 25 minutes from the fire stations, and response times to her area are already too long.

Cyran also noted that Hardwick could merge with Barre or Ware, as both of those towns have ambulanc-

Hardwick Select Board Vice-Chair William Tinker seconded that idea, and Letendre said it would cost a lot of money.

One resident said those towns are also unionized, and it could be difficult to work with on-call departments. Tinker said Barre has three ambulances, but Gaumont said there is only one, and it is not always staffed.

Another resident noted Hardwick and New Braintree already have existing agreements with other municipalities for ambulance coverage.

Cyran asked if the fire department had looked into the numbers to verify if the agreement would be financially beneficial. Letendre said he had not yet, because he wanted to make sure the town of Hardwick was interested in the idea before pursuing that research.

Hardwick Select Board member Jeff Schaaf said it is worth being interested, and said small towns must regionalize. The Hardwick Select Board said they would continue discussing the proposal.

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

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

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

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

OAKHAM from page 1

for both positions. Harold Black is acting as interim superintendent and assistant town clerk Karen Harper is filling as town clerk. Administrative Assistant Maribel LaRange said Harper has a full-time day job so she is not available until later in the day.

Use of Wright Field and Library parking lot

Lenessa Hutchinson requested use of Wright Memorial Field and the library parking lot for a Memorial vigil for her brother, David Hutchinson, the victim of a murder. She said they would be lighting candles and releasing biodegradable luminaries.

She said the family already received permission from Fire Chief Tim Howe.

Police Chief Fred Gehring said a road detail of two officers would be needed to close off a section of Ware Corner Road by the field, library and Town Hall. He and the fill duty officer would fill the detail. Vice Chairman Brunelle said would ask the highway department to clear a portion of the field for the memorial vigil. The Select Board unanimously granted permission.

Sanders Road issue

The Select Board received a complaint about the condition of Sanders Road from a resident. He said previous highway

superintendents ignored the problem and the efforts by the last highway superintendent to fix the water issue, which causes wash-outs, failed. The Select Board said they would have to wait until the snow melts to fix the problem.

FY 2027 budget

Finance Committee member Claire Hendra presented the Select Board with the record of levy limits, which she copied from the state website. There were years when the tax rate was less than the allowed proposition 2 1/2 levy limit. She said the town should levy to as near to the levy limit as possible rather than the practice of using free cash to balance the budget. She also said it

was important to pay more attention to tax payments, which were delinquent.

She also said she heard from the school district that an Oakham student was interested in attending Norfolk County Agricultural High School for animal husbandry. She said the Norfolk school had 399 applications and only 150 spots. It went to a lottery. She said the town needed to know if the student made the lottery or was on a waiting list. Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School in Northampton also offers an agricultural program. Tuition at Norfolk was \$27,000 plus \$1,775 fee and Smith was \$21,000 and the cost of transportation to the schools. Norfolk was 60 miles from Oakham

and Northampton 40 miles. She said the town needed to know if the Smith program was comparable to the Norfolk program and should contact the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Skyline Drive and Schoolhouse Road

A resident asked via zoom about how much the easement payments would be if any residents decided not to sign the waivers. She was told the Select Board decided if all the residents did not sign the waivers on the right of ways, the town would walk away and both Skyline Drive and Schoolhouse Road would remain private ways.

Select Board Chairman

Donald Haapakoski said if the town accepted the roads, the town would receive about \$9,00 per year in Chapter 90 funds. Select Board member Dennis Bergin said the residents of these roads have paid taxes for a long time to the town.

A Special Town Meeting will be held on Monday, March 9 at 7 p.m. in the Oakham Center School. One of the warrant articles seeks the town to accept as public ways Old Schoolhouse Road and Skyline Drive and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift, purchase and/or eminent domain, the fee to and/or easements in Old Schoolhouse Road and Skyline Drive.



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Make the most of the summer camp

Summer camp season will soon be here, and throngs of children will board buses each morning or pack their parents' cars full of essentials to survive a few weeks away from home.

Looking back, many adults who experienced summer camp have fond memories of their adventures — whether they all went according to plan or there were some hiccups along the way. Parents want their children to make their own summer camp memories. Even if the canoe capsizes or the cabin leaks during a summer thunderstorm, such experiences can build character and strengthen friendships.

According to RegPack, an online registration software company, more than six million American children participate in some form of camp each year, including sleep-away camp or day camp. The American Camp Association says that number is closer to 14 million, with the most popular camp session length around one week or less. Families getting prepared for camp can follow these guidelines to ensure the experience is one kids won't soon forget.

Search for an accredited camp

Accredited camps must meet more than 300 standards related to program quality, safety and health, according to the ACA. An accredited camp will likely give parents the most peace of mind.

Consider children's readiness

There's no magic age when a child may be ready to go to camp, but generally kids who are ages seven or eight may be fine to start a resident sleep-away camp. Day camp kids can begin as early as age three, the same age kids often begin preschool programs. Gauge whether the child has spent time away from home at friends' or family members' homes to decide if a resident camp will be the right fit or if a day camp is a better fit.

Connect with fellow campers

If possible, attend a meet-and-greet prior to the start of the season. Neighborhood day camps tend to draw kids from local communities, so there's already a chance kids will know a few fellow campers.

Get to know camp counselors early on

Campers can introduce themselves to camp counselors and other program directors and are urged to ask questions about specific programs. Counselors can direct campers toward activities they may enjoy.

Make the most of all situations

Much of summer camp will likely be smooth-sailing, but it's reasonable to expect some bumps along the way. Campers shouldn't expect perfection, but use the situations that may go awry as learning experiences on how to handle adversity — trying to find the fun in them anyway. Even a medical situation can be overcome, particularly because camps staff qualified medical personnel to ensure campers are safe and well.

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Calendar of Events

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

CIRCLE OF SONG REHEARSALS are today from 7-8:30 p.m. at Barre Town Hall, 2 Exchange St. Rehearsal are every Thursday between now and Thursday, May 14 with the concert on Saturday, May 16 at 7 p.m. at the Barre Town Hall. Circle of song is particularly in need of altos this session. Singers of all ages and experience are welcome. The chorus sings in four-part harmony and there is a modest sliding scale membership fee with deep discounts for students. People may email director Julie Rawson at julie@mhof.net or call 978-257-1192.

Q-MUNITY CLOSET, located at the New Braintree Grade School, 15 Memorial Drive, New Braintree has expanded their hours. Hours are Mondays and Thursdays from 8:30-11:30 a.m. and the second Saturday of the month from 9-11 a.m. One night a week will be added in March. More information with time and day will be announced soon. The Q-Munity Closet at New Braintree caters to adults and young children and currently has a great inventory of winter clothing in stock.

BARRE LIONS CLUB SCHOLARSHIP for \$1,000 scholarship is accepting applications from a graduating senior, who lives in Barre, Oakham, Hubbardston, New Braintree or Hardwick. To be eligible, the student must be accepted by an accredited college or technical school and must be entering the school in the fall semester of the current year. In addition to Quabbin seniors, this year the club expanded the scholarship applications to local students, who attend Monty Tech, Pathfinder or BayPath. For the students' convenience, the application has been sent to the guidance counselor of each school. People may email barre-lionsclub@aol.com with any questions.

PAXTON COA TRIP through the Canadian Rockies and Pacific Northwest will take place on Thursday, Sept. 3 through Thursday, Sept. 17. Cost is \$7,625 per person (double) includes 14 days with 20 meals, hotels and all transfers within tour; but does not include airfare and transportation to airport. Pricing for airfare and ground transportation to airport will be finalized soon, but plan for under \$1,000 per person. For more information, people may email Bill Murwin @ whmurwin@gmail.com or by phone at 508-756-3193.

PROGRAM ON PROPERTY, PROBATE AND ESTATE PLANNING will take place today at noon in the Barre/Hardwick Senior Center, 557 South Barre Road, Barre. This free public educational program will help residents better understand how property ownership, probate and estate planning impact their homes and families. The presentation will feature Kathryn A. Toomey, Worcester Registry of Deeds and Stephanie Fattman, Register of Probate Courts, who will explain how the Registry of Deeds and Probate Court work together in Massachusetts. Attendees will learn about deeds, the Homestead Act, trusts,



Turley Publications photo by Ellenor Downer

Where is this?
This week's mystery photo is from Hardwick. If any readers know where this photo was taken, they may email edowner@turley.com with their answer by noon on Monday, March 9. Bill Bowles and James Laramie correctly identified the photo. The photo last week was of the Powder Mill Pond dam as taken from the Howard Dahart Bridge on Vernon Avenue, Barre.

estates and how probate issues can affect property ownership. The program will also include guidance on protecting homeowners from deed fraud and information about the Consumer Notification Service. Attendees are encouraged to bring questions. To register, people may call 978-355-5031.

FRIDAY, MARCH 6

BARRE PLAYERS YOUTH THEATER presents "The Enchanted Bookshop" today and Saturday, March 7 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, March 7 and Sunday, March 8 at 2 p.m. at the Barre Players Theater, 64 Common St., Barre. The play is written by Todd Wallinger. Raiden Bousquet is director and Christa Belardo, stage manager. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for students, seniors 65+ and children 12 and under. Tickets may be reserved by either emailing barreplayers@gmail.com or by visiting www.barreplayerstheater.com. This production is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE FAIR will be hosted by Mount Wachusett Community College, 444 Green St., Gardner today from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Organized by the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, the Agricultural Resource Fair is a free, drop-in event designed to connect the agricultural community with vital state and federal resources, technical assistance and funding opportunities that support the long-term sustainability of farming in the Commonwealth. The fair

welcomes farmers, agricultural businesses and community members from across the region. For additional information about the event, people may email Mackenzie May at the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources at Mackenzie.A.May@mass.gov.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

DESIGNER PANCAKE BREAKFAST sponsored by Cradle Rock Chapter Order of Eastern Star will be held today from 7:30-10:30 a.m. at the Masonic Lodge, 71 Pleasant St., Barre. The full breakfast includes pancakes, waffles, sausage gravy and biscuits, bacon, sausage, coffee, juice and always real maple syrup. Cost is \$9 per adult and children age 6 and under \$5. All are welcome.

BEEES 101 takes place today at 2 p.m. in the New Braintree Town Hall, 20 Memorial Drive, New Braintree. The New Braintree Library and Friends of the New Braintree Library welcome you to join representatives from the MA Dept. of Agricultural Resources for an introductory lecture on beekeeping. This session will cover the basics of honey bee biology, hive management, seasonal care and best practices for supporting healthy pollinator populations. Ideal for beginners and the bee-curious alike. This program is free and open to the public.

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

EQLT WELLNESS WALKS will be held today at 3p.m. at Eva's Woods, Ware Corner Road, Oakham. To register, people may email atrevvett@eqlt.org. Other dates

are: on Wednesday, March 18 at 2:30 p.m. there is a walk at Patril Hollow Preserve, 1015 Hardwick Road, Hardwick; Sunday, March 29 at 9:30 a.m. Deer Park Preserve and Coxhall Kitchen Garden 481 Barre Road, Hardwick; on Sunday, April 12 at 3 p.m. Mass. Central Rail Trail New Braintree south to Creamery Road in Hardwick (meet at 1740 Hardwick Road, New Braintree) and Wednesday, April 29 at 11:45 a.m. Mass. Central Trail New Braintree north to Wheelwright and River's Edge Preserve (meet at 1740 Hardwick Road, New Braintree).

WORCESTER CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY FREE CONCERT will be held today with a performance at 3 p.m. in Mechanics Hall, 321 Main St., Worcester. Neighborhood Strings students will perform at the beginning of the concert. Admission is free, but tickets are required. Tickets are available at https://worcesterchambermusic.org/fairy-tales-and-fables/ or by calling the WCMS office at 508-926-8624. This family concert is sponsored by Bay State Savings Bank, Cornerstone Bank, UniBank, Fidelity Bank and Country Bank. This concert is also funded in part by the Shrewsbury Cultural Council and Worcester Arts Council, local agencies funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. Venue is handicapped accessible. People should reserve early, since this event typically sells out quickly.

250TH TALES OF REVOLUTION AN OPEN HOUSE will be held at the Petersham Historical Society, 10 North St., Petersham today from 2-4 p.m. The event will include meeting some bold Revolutionary War characters, as well as exploring exhibits of what's new and old in the historical society collection and a "What could this be?" display of mystery items. This event is free and open to everyone to enjoy Revolutionary and Petersham history.

PETERSHAM DEMOCRATS CAUCUS will be held today at 4 p.m. in person at the Petersham Town Hall, lower level, 1 South Main St., Petersham to elect delegates and an alternate to attend the 2026 Massachusetts Democratic Convention. The caucus is open to all registered and pre-registered (must be 16 years old by the start of the caucus window, i.e. Feb 19) Democrats in Petersham. Petersham can elect two delegates and one alternate to the Convention. In the spirit of inclusion, youth, veterans, underrepresented ethnic and racial groups, people with disabilities, and members of the LGBTQ community who are not elected as delegates or alternates may apply to be "add-on" delegates. The Mass Dems' 2026 Nominating Convention is scheduled to take place on Friday and Saturday, May 29 and 30 at the DCU Center in Worcester. For more information about the caucus or the Petersham Democratic Town Committee, people may call Henry Woolsey at 978-771-2173 or email at henrywoolsey@gmail.com.

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Unlock the full potential of your 401(k)

Your 401(k) is one of the most powerful tools for securing your financial future. The question is: Are you using it to its full potential? Here are some strategies to help you maximize its benefits:

Earn your employer's match. It's a good idea to contribute as much as you can afford to your 401(k) plan. (In 2026, you can put in up to \$24,500, or \$32,500 if you're 50 or older. If your plan allows, there's also a "super catch-up" contribution of \$11,250 for people aged 60 to 63, for a total contribution limit of \$35,750). At least put in enough to earn a matching contribution if one is offered. Otherwise, you're shortchanging yourself. For example: Your employer matches 50% of your contribution up to \$5,000. If put in \$8,000, your employer's 50% match is \$4,000, and you're leaving \$1,000 "on the table."

Give your plan a raise. When your income increases, consider increasing contributions to your 401(k). When you get a bonus or a tax refund, you could use some or all of that to boost your retirement savings.

Evaluate the Roth option. When you invest in a traditional 401(k), you contribute pre-tax dollars, lowering your taxable income that year. Your earnings grow tax-deferred and are taxed when you withdraw. If your employer offers a Roth 401(k), you contribute after-tax dollars, so your taxable income doesn't drop that year. However, withdrawals in retirement, contributions and earnings alike, are generally tax-free. (Employer matching contributions and related earnings remain taxable.) If you expect a higher tax bracket in retirement or want to diversify tax treatment for flexibility in retirement, consider the Roth option. In 2026, the Roth option must be used for catch-up contributions if you earn more than \$150,000 and you are 50 or older. Consult your tax advisor before deciding.

Build an appropriate investment mix. You may have multiple investment options in your 401(k). The driving principle early on is growth so your plan can fund a long retirement. But growth-oriented investments are naturally riskier than fixed-income vehicles. When starting your career, you may prefer a portfolio weighted toward aggressive growth, as you have years to recover from downturns. Nearing retirement, though, consider shifting to a more conservative mix. A financial advisor can help you choose an appropriate mix at different stages, based on your risk tolerance, time horizon and goals.

Keep your plan intact. At times, you may feel a financial pinch that leads you to consider taking out loans or early withdrawals from your 401(k). However, this can cause you to incur taxes and penalties and will likely slow the growth needed to help reach your retirement savings goals. Taking steps to prepare for unexpected expenses, such as building an emergency fund containing three to six months' worth of living expenses, can help you avoid dipping into your 401(k). You may also be able to find other ways to access cash.

By following these steps, you can unlock the full potential of your 401(k) and position it as a cornerstone of your retirement income.



Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors cannot provide tax or legal advice. You should consult your attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation.

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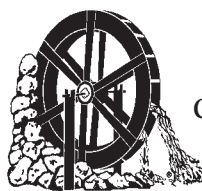
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Season concludes with three straight wins



Quabbin Girls B
Abby Rogowski passes out of the paint.

BARRE – The season has come to a conclusion for Quabbin Regional High School girls basketball. The Panthers would end up finishing with games against Narragansett and then Montachusett Tech. Both, combined with a win against Ayer Shirley were also wins. The Panthers would beat

Monty Tech 50-35 on Feb. 18 to finish off the season with a 6-14 record overall. Unfortunately, the Panthers were not able to make the playoffs this year, and their season ended without a state playoff appearance. There was also no Central Mass. tournament this season.



Makenzie Casey is all alone looking for a layup.



Aubrey Thorpe makes a three-point attempt



Mia Ducos heads down the court during late-season action.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Hubbardston resident running for the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge team

Raising funds for cancer research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

BOSTON – On Apr. 20, Carly Williams from Hubbardston, Massachusetts, is running to defy cancer as a member of the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge team in the 130th Boston Marathon presented by Bank of America, along with more than 500 Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge teammates from across the country and around the world, will run Massachusetts' historic marathon route from Hopkinton to Boston to collectively raise more than \$8.75 million for cancer research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

This year marks the 37th annual running of the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge (DFMC), the largest and longest-running

charity team for the Boston Marathon. One hundred percent of the funds raised by the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge team benefit Dana-Farber's Claudia Adams Barr Program in Innovative Basic Cancer Research, which enables promising scientific research in its earliest stages. The Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge has raised more than \$140 million for the program since 1990.

Runners include cancer survivors and patients, and family and friends of those who have been affected by cancer. Each team member must fulfill a basic fundraising commitment:

Invitational runners - runners who receive their entry from Dana-Farber have a minimum fundraising commitment of \$12,000

Own entry runners - runners who have joined the DFMC team after obtaining their own race entry have a fundraising commitment of \$4,000.

Dana-Farber was among

the first charity organizations to be recognized by the Boston Athletic Association (B.A.A.), which organizes the Boston Marathon. The Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge team offers its members extensive fundraising support, team training runs, exclusive Dana-Farber events, and a post-race recovery zone. Celebrating his 50th anniversary of winning the 1976 Boston Marathon Men's Open Division, Jack Fultz will serve as the team training advisor for the 37th time. Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge runners who are not time-qualified for the Boston Marathon receive an invitational entry into the race.

To contribute to the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge, visit RunDFMC.org or contact the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge staff at (617) 632-1970 or dfmc@dfci.harvard.edu. Follow DFMC on Facebook: www.facebook.com/marathonchallenge.

Amherst-Pathfinder co-op hockey falls in WMass tourney

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

AMHERST – Senior assistant captain Andrew Holton had a team-leading 13 goals and 12 assists for the Agawam hockey team this winter. Holton's final high school goal was very memorable.

The Western Mass. Class B quarterfinal match between the fifth-seeded Brownies and the fourth-seeded Amherst Hurricanes was tied 4-4 a minute into overtime. That's when Holton received a pass from junior Kaeden Clifford before firing a shot into the net past Amherst senior goalie Jason Kim (34 saves), which gave the Brownies an exciting 5-4 victory at Orr Rink located on the Amherst College campus on Presidents Day, Feb. 15.

"I've never scored a game winning goal before and it's just an amazing feeling," said Holton after celebrating with his teammates. "We worked very hard in tonight's game."

Holton, who joined the varsity squad as a freshman,

described his first career game-winning goal.

"After Kaeden passed me the puck, I cut to the middle of the slot and fired a shot. I just knew that the puck was going into the net," said Holton, who also assisted on two goals. "This was one of the best hockey games that I've ever played in. We're now hoping to win another Western Mass. title this year."

Agawam, who wrapped up the regular season with a 4-3 overtime loss against Chicopee two days earlier, posted a 6-1 victory over Taconic in last year's Class B finals.

Unfortunately, the Brownies (3-15) didn't make it back to the championship match again this year. Their season came to an end 24 hours later following a 5-2 semifinal loss to top-seeded McCann Tech at the Olympia Ice Center in West Springfield.

The other seniors listed on the Brownies hockey roster are Jackson Lariviere, Noah Beavis, Joey Wilkinson, Gavin Ogorzalek, Nick

Brown, Brady Blanchette, Casey Thomas, who's an assistant captain, and team captain Anthony Barbarini.

"We have a total of nine seniors on this year's team," said Agawam head coach Todd Rowley. "We had an up and down season, but those guys never quit. They work very hard at practice and in every game. I'm very proud of them. It took a total team effort to win tonight's game."

Blanchette, who's the Brownies starting goalie, was credited with a total of 17 saves against Amherst.

The Hurricanes finished their season with a 6-12-2 overall record. They tied Chicopee (4-4) and Taconic (2-2).

"I thought my players played very well in tonight's game, but it just came down to one shot in overtime," said Amherst head coach Michael Rousseau. "That was the difference maker."

The Hurricanes senior captain is Ethan Mooney,

See AMC HOCKEY, page 10

T-Birds score much needed win over Checkers

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds (21-25-5-2) overpowered the Charlotte Checkers (30-18-4-0) on Saturday night before a sellout crowd of 6,793 inside the MassMutual Center on Military Appreciation Night, coming away with a 5-1 victory.

Zach Dean provided instant offense on Friday night, and the third-year pro experienced deja vu on this night, jabbing home a 2-on-1 pass from Hugh McGing just 2:20 into the action to give Springfield a 1-0 lead.

Unlike a night earlier, Steve Ott's team was able to build upon its early lead with two successful penalty kills, followed by a power-play redirection by Matthew Peca at 18:57 of the first, as the captain tipped a Calle Rosen shot through Kirill Gerasimiyuk. The T-Birds' offense

proved to be far from finished, as Alek Kaskimaki took a breakaway pass from Otto Stenberg at 4:30 of the second and stayed with his initial shot to cash in on a rebound past Gerasimiyuk, extending the lead to 3-0.

Charlotte finally got on the board just 52 seconds later when Noah Gregor crashed the net to chip a Brian Pinho pass over the shoulder of Will Cranley, but it proved to be just a small blip on the T-Birds' radar in what would evolve into a firestorm of offense for the home team.

Only 1:03 of game time passed before Springfield had restored its three-goal advantage, as Jakub Stancl circled the offensive zone to the right circle before firing the puck back toward the goal mouth. Dylan Peterson parked himself

See T-BIRDS, page 10

HCC Women celebrate final home game with 67-56 win



Tatiyana Zuniga passes in transition.

HOLYOKE – Women's basketball played their last regular season game on Friday evening, Feb. 20, hosting regional opponent Bunker Hill CC. The Lady Cougars defeated their opposition 67-56 to earn their seventh straight win. Holyoke's two second-year players, Emily McGrail (Ware, MA / Ware HS) and Erin Bullough (South Hadley, MA / South Hadley HS), were honored with a sophomore night that included a pre-game ceremony recognizing the athletes and their accomplishments. Posters, photos and decorations were hung on the walls and in the stands around Golas Court.

McGrail led the Cougars in blocks during Friday's game and was second in rebounds, tallying six of each. She leads Holyoke in blocks this season with 59 and blocks per game, averaging 3.5. McGrail is sixth



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Erin Bullough, of South Hadley, tries to overcome pressure.

in NJCAA Division III in blocks and third in blocks per game. Bullough sunk the Lady Cougars first basket of the game on Friday. She leads Holyoke in three-point shooting percentage this season and is second in three-pointers made. Bullough has made 41.3% of the three-point shots she has attempted this

year, ranking her fourth in NJCAA Division III. She has drained 31 total shots from long range on the year. Anastacia Dixon (Keene, NH / Keene HS) had an outstanding game in the regular season finale, leading

See HCC WOMEN, page 10

Sports

Different name, but OT win for Worcester Railers

WORCESTER – Did anyone in the city see their front door blow open unexpectedly at about 5:30 Sunday afternoon?

If so, it had nothing to do with the weather. It was the entire staff and roster of the Worcester Monkey Wrenches exhaling in unison after veteran Drew Callin scored what up to now is their biggest goal of the season.

It came at 4:27 of overtime to give the home team a 1-0 victory over the Adirondack Thunder, one of the four teams ahead of them in the North Division standings. The goal snapped a four-game losing streak on home ice and allowed Worcester to earn four of a possible six points for the weekend.

The game marked only the second time in team history it was 0-0 after 60 minutes. Worcester won the last one, as well, on March 21, 2018 at Wheeling in a shootout.

The goal was Callin's 20th goal of the season. Anthony Repaci set it up by stealing the puck in the left circle. Callin was alone



on the right side, moved in on Thunder goalie Jeremy Brodeur and beat him with a backhand fake.

"Patch made a great pass over," Callin said, "that gave me some free space. I just picked my head up, saw (Brodeur) sliding over and I figured I'd go the other way."

The overtime victory was the home team's seventh of the season, fifth at the DCU Center.

The goaltending was great, as it often is in this division.

Brodeur stopped 27 shots. Worcester's Parker Gahagen made 25 saves for his second 1-0 victory in 29 days.

The Monkey Wrenches killed five penalties and had just one power play. They killed them beautifully to keep the game scoreless.

Worcester's penalty kill featured some excellent work by Cole Donhauser, who played a major role in Sunday's victory.

"We have a little bit of plan going into it," Donhauser said, "but the main thought is to deny the seams, don't let the puck get going east to west, deny the one-timers, try to protect the house and our D-men did a great job blocking shots."

Gahagen's presence has made a huge difference in all the close games Worcester has played recently. Throughout the back-and-forth havoc, especially in the third period and overtime, he looked like the calmest person on skates.

And the home team is playing nothing but close games these days.

"I think everybody deems it important this time of year to play the right way," Tuzzolino said.

Callin became the 14th player in team history to score 20 goals. He joins brother Anthony who had 24 last season.

AMC HOCKEY from page 9

who's a defenseman. He was credited with three assists in the quarterfinals.

"Ethan joined our hockey team as a sophomore and it's been a pleasure watching him grow during the past couple of years," Rousseau said. "He's the leader of our hockey team."

Mooney, who attends Pathfinder Tech, plays hockey for Amherst as part of a co-op.

The other hockey players from Pathfinder Tech listed on the Amherst hockey roster are sophomore Noah Latulippe, sophomore Landon Lukasik, sophomore Nolan MacTavish, freshman

Mason Sadusky, freshman Lincoln Auclair, and freshman Landon LaCroix.

Agawam and Amherst split the regular season series for the second year in a row.

The Hurricanes took a 1-0 lead in the quarterfinal match following an unassisted goal from junior Sawyer Ferro at the 10:46 mark of the opening period.

Less than a minute later, Brown scored the equalizer for Agawam.

The Brownies took the lead for the first time four minutes into the second period when junior Braden Parrelli banged home a rebound shot.

The scoring spree contin-

ued with a goal from Graham Arguin tying the score at 2-2 with 10:13 remaining in the second period.

The contest was also tied at 3-3, entering the final 15 minutes of regulation. Parrelli and Ferro scored their second goal of the match during the final eight minutes of the second period.

The Hurricanes retook the lead following a goal by freshman Brody Palmisano 28 seconds into the third period.

Holton scored a short-handed goal with ten minutes remaining in regulation before becoming the hero of the game a minute into overtime.

In the Classroom

Colleges and universities announce President's and Dean's lists

PRESIDENT'S LIST

Fitchburg State University Fitchburg

Geneva G. Herzig of Hubbardston
Luke Perron of Hubbardston
Peter W. Elliott of Petersham
Nia R. Manderson-Matheson of Petersham
Ronan J. Johnson of Rutland
Charles K. Stevenson of Rutland

University of Hartford West Hartford, Connecticut

Sophia Molinari of Rutland

Western New England University Springfield

Janelle Mensah of Rutland
Colton Wells of Barre
Nicholas Warburton of Hardwick
Shyra McWhorter of North Brookfield

DEAN'S LIST

Champlain College Burlington, Vermont

Madisyn Kajjala of Hubbardston, creative media major

Clark University Worcester

Dominic S. Molinari of Rutland

Fitchburg State University Fitchburg

Katelyn M. Barry of Barre
Rylee-Anne R. Harty of Barre
Evelyn M. Luukko of Barre
Joshua A. Marcotte of Barre
Kayla R. Sherblom of Barre
Sophia M. Spier of Gilbertville
Marc D. St. Germain of Hardwick
Kylie A. Blouin of Hubbardston
Ariana G. Forte of Hubbardston
Lara Qasim of Hubbardston
Alivia M Smith of Hubbardston
Jaedyn D. Levine of Oakham
Emily R. Szalai of Oakham
McKayla L. Brown of Rutland
Ryleigh M. Ford of Rutland
Peter E. Joslyn of Rutland
Elizabeth G. Mason of Rutland
Christopher A. Towns of Rutland

Norwich University Northfield, Vermont

Brayden Baillargeon of Rutland

Roger Williams University Bristol, Rhode Island

Benjamin Auger of Rutland
Caden Francis of Rutland
Nathan Goozey of Rutland
Patrick McGugan of Rutland
Susan Yang of Rutland

GARDEN from page 4

We can also take inventory of the various supplies we use during the growing season. How are you set on lime, grass seed, and fertilizers?

Plan to take advantage of preseason sales by knowing what you need ahead of time. Do you have enough containers, trays and labels?

If you find yourself short, you need not buy them. You can start seeds in repurposed fruit and vegetable boxes, the kind that mushrooms, strawberries and lettuce mixes come in. They work great as long as you make a few drainage holes in the bottom.

Pint sized ice cream containers are perfect for a second transplanting of tomato or pepper plants. Seeds of squash or annual flowers can be sown in single serving ice cream cups. As a kid I always saved our Popsicle sticks for labeling seedlings or garden rows.

When I run out of labels, all it takes is a trip to the recycle bin to make some more.

Last year I cut them out of quart-sized yogurt containers; they were the perfect length.

Practice good garden hygiene

Disinfect any containers, labels, stakes etc. that you wish to reuse this gardening season by washing them in

hot soapy water then a quick rinse of one part bleach to nine parts water. This mixture will kill any pathogens left behind from previous gardening endeavors.

Out with the old, and in with the new – all in due time!

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

For 34 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turlley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

SOCIAL SECURITY from page 4

bled to. That's because your survivor benefit as your 2nd husband's widow is based on the full (100%) amount he was receiving from Social Security when he died.

In contrast, your benefit as your first husband's ex-spouse while he is still living will be based upon half (50%) of his full retirement age SS entitlement. And often, 100% of a deceased person's SS benefit is more than 50% of another living person's amount. But not always.

It's important to also know that if you claim any SS benefit before reaching your personal Rull Retirement Age, the monthly amount will be reduced. Benefits as a spouse

(or a surviving spouse) do not reach maximum until the spouse reaches FRA, which is somewhere between age 66 and 67 depending on the spouse's year of birth.

It's also important to know that if a surviving spouse is working, any SS benefit received will be subject to Social Security's Annual Earnings Test, which limits how much can be earned before SS benefits are affected. For 2026, the earnings limit for those collecting early SS benefits is \$24,480 and, if that limit is exceeded, Social Security will take away some of your benefits. Note that the earnings test goes away when you reach your full retirement age.

Finally, be aware that if your first husband also predeceases you, you will then

become eligible for a surviving ex-spouse benefit from him, even if he has remarried.

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 amac-foundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory or email us at sadviser@amac-foundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

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HCC WOMEN from page 9

Holyoke in points with 24 and rebounds with eight.

Women's basketball closes out the regular season with a 10-3 regional record and a 14-7 overall record. They are the second-place team in the New England (Region XXI) standings and will be the #2 seed entering the regional tournament. This will be HCC women's basketball's first postseason appearance in over 15 years. The Lady Cougars will get a bye to the tournament semifinals and will host the winner of one of the two quarterfinals.



Turley photo by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Johansy Andrades goes for the layup.

T-BIRDS from page 9

right outside the crease and allowed the puck to ricochet off his skate and past Gerasimuk to make it a 4-1 game, chasing Gerasimuk from the game in the process.

Charlotte backup Louis Domingue did not fare much better, as McGing revved up

the ice on a breakaway 55 seconds later. McGing was tripped and may have earned a penalty shot, but as he was falling, the puck continued on a straight line path under Domingue's legs, giving McGing credit for the third T-Birds goal in a 2:50 blitz, extending the lead to 5-1.

There would be no more

goals in the final half of the game, but the fireworks were far from done, and with just eight seconds remaining and tempers flaring, Cranley and Domingue met at center and dropped the mitts for a goalie fight, the first in T-Birds history, which left the sellout crowd in an uproar to close out the victory.

Church News

Local pastor offers sermon

Promises of Christ Part 4

We do well to consider the promises of Christ.

They should serve as the foundation for life and living, and can be trusted. After all, is He not faithful and true? Will He not diligently work to keep His word? Thus said, let us conclude our series with this promise of the Lord:

John 14:1-3 (NIV)

1 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. 2 My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am."

Did you catch the promise of Jesus in the midst of verse 3? He stated unequivocally that He would come back for His own. The Second Coming of Christ is taught clearly in the pages of Scripture. In this edition, let us note three elements of His Appearing:

1) Inevitable

Firstly, Scripture speaks to the inevitability of His Coming. By this, I mean that the Second Coming is both sure and certain; it shall come to pass. The Bible presents His Advent as a future event that will take place in the good timing and purpose of the Father at the consummation of the age. The following selections speak to the reality of His Return:

Titus 2:11-14

11 For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. 12 It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, 13 while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, 14 who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

Hebrews 9:28b

28 . . . Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.

2) Imminent

Secondly, Scripture speaks to the imminence of His Coming. By this, I mean that the Coming of Christ is fast-approaching, impending and looming; marked by a sense of proximity. How does the Word of God present the imminence of His Return?

a) Time Language.

Inspired writers ongoingly utilize language that conveys imminence:

Revelation 22:7, 12, 20a

7 "Look, I am coming soon."
12 "Look, I am coming soon. My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done."
20 He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon."

b) Emphasis on Unpredictability.

The Bible emphasizes the unpredictable nature of His Appearing:

Matthew 24:36b, 42

36 ". . . about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father."
42 "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come."

c) Call to Watchfulness.

The Bible continually calls us to a state of spiritual watchfulness:

Mark 13:33-37

33 "Be on guard. Be alert. You do not know when that time will come. 34 It's like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with their assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch. 35 Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back—whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn. 36 If he comes suddenly, do not let him find

you sleeping. 37 What I say to you, I say to everyone: "Watch."

d) Ethical Urgency. The imminence of Jesus' Coming is emphasized by a call to spiritual readiness:

Romans 13:11b-14

11 . . . The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. 12 The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. 13 Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. 14 Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

3) Impacting

Finally, Scripture speaks to the impact such an event will have upon the earth and the inhabitants thereof. If you think the First Coming of Christ some two-thousand years ago was affecting, you have not seen anything yet! Time and space do not permit a full treatise on this topic, but do you wonder what is in store for the earth subsequent to His Coming? I can only encourage you to read Revelation 19:11-22:5 on your own time. Revel in these words and repent that you might participate in the glories ahead accordingly.

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

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

Pastor James Foley

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

New Life Assembly participates in Operation Christmas Child

SOUTH BARRE – Several months ago New Life Assembly of God-60 Main St. South, Barre, MA-participated in the ministry of Operation Christmas Child, a project of the larger Samaritan's Purse led by Rev. Franklin Graham.

Operation Christmas Child collected and delivered some 230 million shoeboxes to children in more than 170 countries and territories since 1993. Each shoebox, containing an array of gift items packed by folks just like you, serves to spread Christmas cheer and the good news of Jesus Christ to impoverished children all over the world.

This past year New Life packed 261 shoeboxes for

this global effort, and they report that they tracked one of them in kind. The congregation recently learned through Samaritan's Purse that one of their 261 shoeboxes safely reached a child in the far-off nation of Tanzania. Tanzania, home to Mount Kilimanjaro (Africa's highest peak) and the birthplace of Freddie Mercury, is the largest country in East Africa. Only the Lord can comprehend the impact that this one package might have.

New Life Assembly of God is already planning on participating in Operation Christmas Child 2026. Would you consider helping us out? Interested parties may call the Pastor James Foley at 978-355-6407

or email jamesfoley2newlifebarre.org. Those looking for more information on Samaritan's Purse and the ministry of Operation Christmas Child should visit their website at <https://www.samaritanpurse.org>. Let's hope 2026 provides an even greater opportunity to touch the nations.

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

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

Public notice deadlines are Friday at 3 p.m.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

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 \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice (with a word limit of up to 500 words) and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

Public Notices

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Division Docket No. WO26P0512EA Estate of: Herbert William Moody Also Known As: Herb Date of Death: August 25, 2025
INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Elizabeth C Bassett of Petersham, MA** a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Elizabeth C Bassett of Petersham, 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. 03/05/2026

BARRE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Barre Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, March 19, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Henry

Woods Municipal Selectmen Meeting Room, 1st Floor, 40 West Street, Barre, MA requested by Insight Meditation Society, Inc. for a variance from the maximum height requirement for properties in the R-80 zoning district and the minimum parking requirements of the Zoning Bylaw in connection with the construction and development of a retreat center building (the "New Retreat Center") and three duplex cottages (the "New Teacher Housing") (collectively, the "New Buildings") located on Pleasant Street, two parcels. Assessors Map B-107A and a 3.23 acre portion of B-90. Recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Books 54612, 18293, Pages 48 (B-107A), 157 (B-90) consecutively. Plan can be reviewed by contacting the Boards' Office.

Anyone wishing to comment on this matter should attend the hearing or submit comments in writing prior to the hearing to the Zoning Board of Appeals, Henry Woods Building, 40 West Street – Suite 5, Barre, MA, barreboards@townofbare.com or contact the Boards' Office at 978-355-2504 ext. 8. 02/26, 03/05/2026

Barre Conservation Commission Notice of Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 131, Section 40, The Wetlands Protection Act, that a public hearing will be held on a **Notice of Intent** for improvement of existing 1.14 mile section of the Mass Central Rail Trail within the former Central Massachusetts railroad corridor extending from Station Road southwesterly to the New Braintree Municipal Boundary. The multipurpose trail is 10 feet wide with 2-foot-wide shoulders and occurs in part within the 200-foot Riverfront Area to the Ware River and/or the 100-foot Buffer

Zone. From: East Quabbin Land Trust 120 Ridge Road Hardwick MA 01037 To be held on **Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Conservation Commission Office on the 3rd floor of the Henry Woods Building, 40 West Street, Barre, MA 01005. Ronald Rich, Chairman 03/05/2026

PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING QUABBIN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING:

In accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 71, Section 38N, the Quabbin Regional School District School Committee will hold a Public Hearing regarding the FY27 Budget on **Thursday, March 12, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Educational Support Center, 872 South Street, Barre, MA 01005. The public is invited to attend in person or via Zoom at **6:00 p.m.** Please use the link below to join the presentation directly through Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting: bit.ly/QuabbinRSDSC

Meeting ID: 840 3950 2276

Passcode: qNR6R0

A copy of the FY27 budget will be available for review on our website at www.qrsd.org or at the Educational Support Center, 872 South Street, Barre, MA 01005 after 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 10, 2026

**Pursuant to Section 13 of Chapter 4 (enacted by Chapter 174 of the Acts of 2015, entitled An Act Relative to Electronic Publication of Certain Legal Notices), it is stated that the newspaper is to post on their website and on the MNP website: masspublicnotices.org 03/05/2026

Tri-Parish donates to local missions

NEW BRAINTREE – Tri-Parish Community Church members voted at their Feb. 1, 2026 annual meeting to donate all the proceeds raised from the 2025 Christmas in New Braintree craft fair to the local missions supported by church.

A decision had been made in mid-2025 for the church to host the event, which had been on hiatus for several years. It was a successful event, featuring over 35 vendors and raising just over \$2,400, thanks to the hard work of many volunteers within the church and greater community. An anonymous donor and Webster First Federal Credit Union contributed funds as well, with the donation from Webster First specifically earmarked for the Hardwick Food Pantry and the church's Mustard Seed program.

The proceeds have been

distributed to the Hardwick Food Pantry, the Church's Deacon's Fund and Mustard Seed program. The Hardwick Food Pantry, located in the Calvinistic Congregational Church in Hardwick, serves many in the communities of Hardwick and New Braintree throughout the year. The Deacon's Fund provides emergency financial assistance to individuals to help with a variety of critical needs such as the costs of heating oil, electricity or rent. Referrals for assistance come through the Hardwick Food Pantry, church office or deacons of the Tri Parish.

The Mustard Seed program provides a monthly meal to the Mustard Seed ministry in Worcester. Volunteers meet to prepare a nutritious meal, complete with fruit and home-made brownies the third Monday of each month at the New Braintree Town Hall,

which is then transported to the Mustard Seed shelter in Worcester.

The church members are grateful for the support of the community and all the vendors, who participated in the event, enabling the church to fulfill its mission to love God and its neighbors through worship and service. Donations to these worthwhile missions can be made to the Tri-Parish Community Church with specific designation written on the memo line of the check, mailed to Tri Parish Community Church, P.O. Box 202, New Braintree, MA 01531 or through the church's website by visiting triparishcommunitychurch.org.

Those interested in participating in this year's Christmas in New Braintree, either as a vendor or volunteer, should email the church office at triparishcc@gmail.com.

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Public Safety

Barre Police Log

Sunday, Feb. 1
 5:27 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Marsh Road, Transported to Hospital
 11:05 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Silverbrook Road, Transported to Hospital
 3:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Valley Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 7:19 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Main Street, Transported to Hospital

Monday, Feb. 2
 5:24 p.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, School North Street, Officer Spoke to Party

Tuesday, Feb. 3
 9:41 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Wauwinet Road, NoTransport Required
 3:54 p.m. Larceny or Theft, Barre Police Headquarters, Officer Spoke to Party
 4:46 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Ruggles Lane, Mutual Aid Assist
 5:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
 6:37 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Ruggles Lane, Transported to Hospital
 9:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Summer Street, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Boldov, German, 25, Athol
 Charges License Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle with, Speeding Rate of Speed Exceeding Posted Limit

Wednesday, Feb. 4
 12:39 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Written Warning

7:15 a.m. a.m. Speak to Chief/Officer, Main St., Officer Spoke to Party
 8:42 a.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Peach Street, Fire Extinguished
 9:09 a.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, Barre Police Headquarters, Information Taken
 10:16 a.m. Court Duty, East Brookfield District Court, Report Filed
 11:05 a.m. Emergency Medical Services – Seizures, South Street, Transported to Hospital
 1:56 p.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Wildbrook Drive, Fire Extinguished
 6:05 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Williamsville Road, Citation Issued

Thursday, Feb. 5
 8:03 a.m. Missing Person, Hubbardston Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 9:34 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Worcester Road, Transported to Hospital
 5:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Williams Road, Citation Issued
 6:07 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Urinating Blood, Ruggles Lane, Transported to Hospital
 6:31 p.m. Erratic Operator, South Barre Road, Prisoner Bailed
 Arrest Ballard, Matthew Allen, 37 South Barre
 Charges Operating Under Influence of Liquor OR .08%, Marked Lanes Violation, Inspection/Sticker, No, Name/Address Change, Florida Notify RMV Off

Friday, Feb. 6
 10:05 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare

Check, Root Road, No Transport Required
 12:51 p.m. Speak to Chief/Officer Advised, Barre Police Headquarters, Officer Spoke to Party
 Arrest: Days, Michael D., 40,, South Barre
 Charges Operating Under Influence – Liquor OR .08%, Firearm, Intoxicated Licensee Carry c269 §10H
 1:20 p.m. Speak to Chief Officer, Barre Police Headquarters, Officer Spoke to Party
 Arrest Ballard, Matthew Allen, 37, South Barre
 Charges Operating Under Influence of Liquor OR .08%, Marked Lanes Violation, Inspection/Sticker, No, Name/Address Change, Florida Notify RMV Off
 4:25 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Sheldon Road, No Transport Required
 4:44 p.m. Follow-Up Investigation, Elm South Street, Prisoner Bailed
 Brien, Kelly A., 50, South Barre
 Charges Larceny from Building, Larceny from Person +65

Saturday, Feb. 7
 12:38 a.m. Road Condition Notification, Town Wide, Information Given
 10:11 a.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Hubbardston Road, Removed from Scene
 3:32 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Transported to Hospital
 6:35 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Barre Police Headquarters, No Transport Required

Rutland Police Log

Sunday, Feb. 1
 12:05 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Written Warning
 7:13 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, East County Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 4:25 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop – Disabled, Wachusett Street, Removed from Scene
 6:05 p.m. Stolen Vehicle, Woodside Avenue, Report Filed
 10:41 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Bushy Lane, No Transport Required

Monday, Feb. 2
 8:19 a.m. Animal – Wildlife, Maple Avenue, Investigated
 8:38 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Maple Akvenue, Transported to Hospital
 3:12 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity Charnock Hill Road, Negative Contact
 4:20 p.m. Road/Traffic Hazard, Main Street, Referred to Other Agency
 4:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
 5:48 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Rutland Heights Way, Public Assist
 6:05 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Sassawanna Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 6:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Written Warning
 6:40 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, River Road, Transported to Hospital
 7:51 p.m. Administration, Rutland Police Department, Report Filed
 Summons Moyo, Samuel T., 36, Fitchburg
 Charges Abandon Motor Vehicle
 7:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Vehicle Towed
 Summons Winchester, Melissa Jean, 29, Worcester
 Charges Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With Uninsured Motor Vehicle

Tuesday, Feb. 3
 12:18 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Barre Paxton Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 12:20 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Barre Paxton Road, No Action Required
 8:36 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 1:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Fisherman's Road, Vehicle Towed
 6:26 p.m. Abuse/Neglect, Inwood Road, Report Filed
 9:10 p.m. Safety Concern, Pommogussett Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Wednesday, Feb. 4
 12:18 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
 7:54 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Main Street,

Ambulance Signed Refusal
 8:42 a.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Peach Street, Fire Extinguished
 8:52 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Maple Avenue, No Action Required
 1:15 p.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Wildbrook Drive, Fire Extinguished
 4:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Strachan, Alexander, 61, Templeton
 Charges Uninsured Motor Vehicle, Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With, Unregistered Motor Vehicle
 4:28 p.m. Safety Concern, River Road, Information Given
 5:09 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 5:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 6 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 6:42 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, East Hill Road, No Transport Required
 6:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
 7:37 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
 7:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Hillside Road, Vehicle Towed
 11:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
 11:32 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 11:47 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

Thursday, Feb. 5
 1:04 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 3:56 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Central Tree Road Transported to Hospital
 1:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 2:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 2:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 3:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning
 3:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Vehicle Towed
 3:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 4:40 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Leg Blood Clot, Bullard Road, Transported to Hospital
 7:28 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 7:38 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Medical Alarm/Fall, Thurston Hill Road, Transported to Hospital
 11:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 11:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Written Warning

Friday, Feb. 6
 1 p.m. Safety Concern, Turkey Hill Road, Transported to Hospital
 8:06 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 9:51 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 9:56 a.m. Animal – Wildlife, Bigelow Road, Referred to Other Agency
 10:12 a.m. Motor Vehilce – Disabled, Kalloch Drive, Officer/Chief Advised
 10:17 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Forest Hill Drive, Arrest(s) Made
 Arrest Magalhaes, Wesley Inacio, 33, Worcester
 Charges Warrant
 11:04 a.m. Animal – Wildlife, Pommogussett Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 11:33 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Citation Issued
 11:34 a.m. Erratic Operator, Main Street, Negative Contact
 3:04 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Seizures, Turkey Hill Road, Transported to Hospital
 4:44 p.m. Follow-up Investigation, Barre, Prisoner Bailed
 Arrest Brien, Kelly A., 50, South Barre
 Charges Larceny from Building, Larceny From Person +65
 5:15 p.m. Safety Concern, Glenwood Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 8:42 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Sassawanna Road, Transported to Hospital
 9:03 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, East County Road, Mutual Aid Transport

Saturday, Feb. 7
 12:06 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Prospect Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 1:43 a.m. Road Condition Notification, Town Wide, Information Given
 6:47 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle/Parking Issues, Olivia Lane, Officer Spoke to Party
 10:21 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Barre Plains Road, Removed from Scenec
 2:07 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disable, Sassawanna Road, Removed from Scene
 3:42 p.m. Threats, Arrowhead Way, Report Filed
 4:46 p.m. Animal – ACO Cal, Pommogussett Road, Information Given
 4:51 p.m. Fire – Miscellaneous Fire, Highland Park Road, Investigated
 5:54 Assist Other Police Department, Holden, Mutual Aid Assist
 6:01 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Pommogussett Road, Removed from Scene
 7:56 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Seizures, Brintnal Drive, Transported to Hospital
 8:28 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Kenwood Drive, No Transport Required

Hubbardston Police Log

Sunday, Feb. 1
 6:16 a.m. Noise Complaint, Pine Tree Lane, Report Filed
 6:39 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Pine Tree Lane, Report Filed
 11:22 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Gardner Road, Mutual Aid Transport
 12:21 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Gardner Road, Mutual Aid Transport
 7:42 p.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, Grimes Road, Recovered

Monday, Feb. 2
 12:08 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Apache Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 2:29 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Williamsville Road, Officer Chief/Advised
 5:26 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Cross Road, Transported to Hospital
 6:42 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Eye Problems/Injury, Natty Pond Road, No Transport Required
 9:02 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Williamsville Road, Report Filed

Tuesday, Feb. 3
 8:41 a.m. Fraud or Forgery, Main Street, Officer Spoke to

Party
 9:55 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Madison Way, Transported to Hospital
 10:40 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Burnshirt Road, Transported to Hospital
 10:47 a.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Halfrey Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 5 p.m. Safety Concern, Main Street, Report Filed
 5:42 p.m. Erratic Operator, Worcester Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 7:25 p.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Evergreen Road, Fire Extinguished

Wednesday, Feb. 4
 8:03 a.m. Burglary/Breaking and Entering, Madison Way, Report Filed
 1:49 p.m. Identity Theft, Williamsville Cutoff Road, Information Taken

Thursday, Feb. 5
 6:36 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Stroke (CVA), Gardner Road, Transported to Hospital

Friday, Feb. 6
 8:18 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Old Princeton Cutoff Road, Transported to Hospital

1 p.m. Harassment, New Westminster Road, Investigated
 9:45 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Gardner Road, Report Filed
 Summons Richard, Justin G., 42, Gardner
 Charges Speeding Rate of Speed Greater Than Was Reasonable and Proper c90 §17, Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle, Marked Lanes Violation, License Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With, Subsequent Offense, Unregistered Motor Vehicle, Uninsured Motor Vehicle, Leave Scene of Property Damage

Saturday, Feb. 7
 12:50 a.m. Road Condition Notification, Town Wide, Information Given
 8:46 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Information Taken
 10:02 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Williamsville Road, No Transport Required
 12:04 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Old Boston Turnpike, Vehicle Towed
 2:16 p.m. Property Damage, Evergreen Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 3:27 p.m. Property Damage, Williamsville Cutoff Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Oakham Police Log

Sunday, Feb. 1
 2:32 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, North Brookfield Road, Report Filed
 9:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Coldbrook Road, Public Assist

Tuesday, Feb. 3
 2:38 p.m. Complaint, Old Turnpike Road, Investigated
 3:26 p.m. Property Dispute or Exchange, Bullard Road, Transported to Hospital
 3:43 p.m. Property Damage, Barre Road, Report Filed

Wednesday, Feb. 4
 1:56 p.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Wildbrook Drive, Fire Extinguished
 6:42 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, East hill Road, No Transport Required

Thursday, Feb. 5
 1:12 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Skyline Drive, Office Spoke to Party
 4:40 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Leg Blood Clot, Bullard Road, Transported to Hospital

Friday, Feb. 6
 5:53 p.m. Property Dispute or Exchange, Old Turnpike Road, Returned
 11:19 p.m. Road Condition Notification, Town Wide, Information Taken

Saturday, Feb. 7
 10:21 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Barre Plains Road, Removed from Scene
 11:12 a.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, South Road, Public Assist

New Braintree Police Log

During the week of Feb. 16-23, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 10 building/property checks, 32 directed/area patrols, 11 radar assignments, two traffic controls, four emergency 911 calls, one safety hazard, nine citizen assists, one assist other agency, one animal call and three motor vehicle stops in the town of New Braintree.

Monday, Feb. 16
 1:58 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Services Rendered

5 p.m. Assist Citizen, Dennis Whitney Road, Negative Contact

Wednesday, Feb. 18
 8:17 a.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled
 8:33 a.m. Medical Emergency, Oakham Road, Officer Handled
 8:34 a.m. Medical Emergency, Oakham Road, Patient Refusal
 10:06 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled
 2:01 p.m. Medical Alarm, Barre Road, Transported to

Hospital
 2:02 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled
 6:26 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Prouty Road, Arrest(s) Made

Thursday, Feb. 19
 9:02 a.m. 911 Misdial, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled
 9:59 a.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Services Rendered
 11:14 a.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled
 5:06 p.m. Assist Citizen, Dennis Whitney Road, Officer Handled

Friday, Feb. 20
 2:23 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled
 6:25 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, West Road, Patient Refusal

Saturday, Feb. 21
 1:26 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled
 7:46 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Mara Road, Referred to Other Agency
 11:19 p.m. Safety Hazard, Area Roadways, Officer Handled

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of Feb. 16-23, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 47 building/property checks, 34 directed/area patrols, seven radar assignments, five traffic controls, nine emergency 911 calls, five assist other agencies, one complaint, three safety hazards, one fraud, one trespass, one larceny/theft/shoplifting, one motor vehicle accident, one animal call and 10 motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Tuesday, Feb. 17
 8:34 a.m. Fraud, Ruggles Hills Road, Investigated
 4:29 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Bridge Street, Services Rendered
 10:35 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Jackson Road, Officer Handled

Wednesday, Feb. 18
 9:33 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Ruggles Street, Officer Handled

Thursday, Feb. 19
 12:20 p.m. Parking Complaint, Main Street, Officer Handled
 2:58 p.m. 911 Animal Call, Lower Road, Services Rendered
 6:24 p.m. 911 Lockout, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled
 10:48 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Out of Town, Services Rendered

Friday, Feb. 20
 10:24 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Petersham Road, Written Warning
 10:32 a.m. 911 Misdial, Main Street, Officer Handled
 10:48 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 11:11 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Written Warning
 12:42 p.m. Medical Emergency, Church Lane, Transported to Hospital
 3:02 p.m. Safety Hazard, Barre Road, Officer Handled

Saturday, Feb. 21
 5:24 a.m. Medical Alarm,

Church Lane, Transported to Hospital
 10:28 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Petersham Road, Officer Handled
 12:33 p.m. Trespass, River Run, No Action Required
 1:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Crash, Main Street, Officer Handled
 8:45 p.m. Larceny/Theft/Shoplifting, Broad Street, Negative Contact
 11:15 p.m. Safety Hazard, Area Roadways, Dispatch Handled

Sunday, Feb. 22
 6:54 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital
 6 p.m. Safety Hazard, Main Street, Referred to Other Agency
 7:48 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Cleveland Road, Negative Contact

Monday, Feb. 23
 3:34 a.m. Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Patient Refusal

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