

BARRE GAZETTE

USPS 044560

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

March 14, 2024 | Vol. 189, No. 49 | \$1.00

www.barregazette.turley.com

Fin Com eyes several budgets

By Ellenor Downer
Editor
edowner@turley.com

BARRE – The Barre Finance Committee met with representatives from the Historical Commission, Assessors and Woods Memorial Library on Tuesday, Feb. 27.

Lucy Allen of the Historical Commission said last year the Commission did not need a budget, but this year they would like it back. The amount would be \$1,200, the level funded budget from Fiscal Year 2023. She said last year, the Commission thought they could get a grant, but it did not happen.

She said they would like to place “Entering a Historical District signage at the Barre, Barre Plains and South Barre Commons.. She said a lot of people treasure the commons and as people know more about community history, they show a sense of pride.

Another item was a self-guided tour of the Barre Common. The tour would have a map containing bar codes to access tour information and local sites via their cell phone. The final request was to replace the lost signage for Quork Walker, a former slave who lived in Barre. His brother has a cemetery in Ware River Watershed land owned by the Department of Conservation and Recreation off Gilbert Road. The Commission would like to add a Black History Trail. Allen said the state reached out to the Historical Commission to work with them on town history within the Ware River Watershed land.

Assessors

Jesse Warren, Administrative Assessor, presented the Fiscal Year 2025 budget for the Board of Assessors. He said all the contractual Vision software had increases in cost. The other increase was in office supplies, mainly for ink. The Assessor’s budget for FY 25 was a 2.5% increase over FY 24 for software and office supplies.

Warren said a salary increase for the Administrative Assessor was also in the proposed budget. He said he completed classes for accreditation and now has that. He looked at comparable salaries in other communities and his salary was on the low end. The Board of Assessors would like to increase the salary to be competitive with other communities.

The Administrative Assessor in Paxton works 26 hours at \$46,700. In Athol, the position is 37 hours at \$84,000 and in Gardner it is 40 hours at \$76,000. Town Administrator Tammy Martin said the state average is \$65,000 to \$72,000. She also said \$65,000 is one of the lowest full-time positions and Warren has certification, which is “hard to come by right now.”

Warren and the Town Administrator are working to achieve higher new growth, which calculates into the town’s 2 ½ levy capacity. A Finance Committee asked what new growth looked like for this year. Warren said in the past new growth has added about \$100,000 to the levy. He said the amount was not available at the time, but there is a subdivision in the works waiting for State approval. When completed it would add about \$600,000 to new growth. The Town Administrator said she hoped to see added new growth.

Joseph Hood, Woods Memorial Library Director and David

See BARRE, page 5

Purple for Prevention Week

Chris Herren speaks at school and community assemblies

By Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

BARRE – For Quabbin Regional High School alumni Cody Handrahan, stepping back into his high school gym and standing in front of an assembly of students and staff; was a feeling almost beyond words.

“It’s an honor and a privilege to be back here,” Handrahan said at an assembly last Thursday evening, held in commemoration of Purple for Prevention Week.

Handrahan attended the high school in 2008-2009, but never graduated. As a young teen, he smoked and drank a lot to fit in with his peers.

“Very quickly, that changed,” he said, when he became addicted to opioids at just 15 years old.

Handrahan had the opportunity to work with Q-DRUG (Quabbin Drug Response Unifying Group) when it first started, and had its members’ support when he hit rock bottom and told his mother he would take his life.

“They stuck by my side,” he said.

Q-DRUG’s founder Nehr Jenkins thanked Handrahan for sharing his story, adding that she is “so proud of him.”

Jenkins then introduced former Boston Celtics point guard Chris Herren, who had spent the day at the school speaking with students in middle and high school as part of Purple for Prevention Week.

Herren first came to the school district in 2013, sharing his story from his days playing basketball in his driveway as a kid, to going pro, and losing everything he had to addiction.

“I’ll never be like that guy,” Herren recalled thinking to himself as a teenager when he sat through an assembly similar to

See HERREN, page 6



Turley Photos by Mary Whitelaw

Chris Herren gives a fist bump to a student as he walked through an assembly held for middle and high school students for Q-DRUG’s Purple for Prevention Week.



Chris Herren autographs a basketball.



Former NBA player Chris Herren stands with Q-DRUG members Nehr Jenkins (left) and Mary Whitelaw (right).

USDA grant would cover 35% of new cruiser cost

By Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

HARDWICK – Capital Planning Committee Chair Mark Korzec updated the Select Board about the feasibility of purchasing a new vehicle for the Police Department.

At the March 11 meeting, Korzec said the U.S. Department of Agriculture has offered a Community Facilities grant for \$23,450, which would leave a balance of around \$43,557 that the town would be responsible for. He said the Finance Committee has reviewed funding for the vehicle.

“Our suggestion was to get a four- or five-year loan and pay it back from Capital Stabilization,” Korzec said. There is currently \$50,000 in that account, and the Capital Planning Committee plans to add \$50,000 to it each year.

“In four years, when that would be paid off, we’d have plenty of money for the other capital purchases that were coming up,” he said.

Town Administrator Nicole Parker said the Community Facilities grant is for a “shovel-ready” project that is not construction and covers 35% of the cost. She said the funding will be gone as of Sept. 30, and the town’s portion has to be paid in full.

In order to meet the parameters of the grant, Parker said the town would need to have the title of the vehicle, and if they paid with a loan, they wouldn’t receive that title for several years.

Lieutenant Kevin Landine said this cruiser will replace a 2016 vehicle with 130,000 miles on it.

“We know the town is struggling,” Landine said. “We would not be asking for it if we didn’t need it.”

Korzec said the replacement vehicle has been a recognized need on the capital planning list.

The cost of the vehicle could be

See HARDWICK, page 6

Listening Wellness Center welcomes new executive director

By Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

BARRE – After celebrating its 20-year anniversary four years ago, Listening Wellness Center is ready to turn the page on its next chapter with a new executive director at its helm.

Barre resident Beatriz Arroyo has recently filled the role, following the departure of longtime Executive Director Laura Dusha Nelson.

Arroyo and her boyfriend moved to Barre with her sister, purchasing their dream home near the idyllic common. With the first year spent making the old house into a home, Arroyo decided it was time to look for a new career path.

Having followed Listening Wellness Center on Facebook since she moved to town, Arroyo decided to take a chance and apply for the executive director position.

“Something kind of nudged me to just send it. I sent it in, and they contacted me for an interview. I felt really good about it,” Arroyo said. “It’s really a dream.”

Now, she has a job she can walk to and from every day, taking in the beauty of her neighborhood.

“You can tell that people love it [Barre] and that makes me love it too,” she said.

Originally from south Florida, Arroyo attended Florida Gulf

University in Fort Meyers, Florida, where she studied sociology. Following graduation, she moved back home and took a part-time job at Whole Foods.

“That was supposed to be a little hiatus and ended up turning into a career,” Arroyo said.

Food is something that ties in closely to wellness, Arroyo said, and it becomes a shared experience for people from all cultures and backgrounds.

“Food is the unifier for all people,” she said.

Arroyo had planned to stay with Whole Foods for her career, but following a change in ownership the culture of the company shifted.

It’s the culture of Listening Wellness Center that made Arroyo want to apply for the executive director position, something that is very important to her.

“I wanted to do something really meaningful to me, and impactful,” Arroyo said. “Everything kind of lined up.”

Arroyo is ready to immerse herself in Listening Wellness Center’s programming, especially the cooking, yoga and children’s classes. She is also ready for the community building that encompasses this role and the center in general.

“We’re gearing up for our spring program for the kids and the community. That’s the stuff that I’m really excited about,” Arroyo said. “I want more pro-



Submitted Photo

Barre resident Beatriz Arroyo has been named Listening Wellness Center’s newest executive director.

grams and access to the community. Barre is such a great community.”

Listening Wellness Center is looking to offer cooking classes for people that are older, teaching them how to cook for one or two

people. Other ideas include cooking classes for college students living on their own for the first time.

Juicing and smoothie-making would be another topic, along with finding fun ways to incorpo-

rate vegetables into your diet.

These classes would be about “meeting people where they’re at,” then adding more diverse culinary classes.

Arroyo has been listening to feedback from the community and beyond, to meet the center’s growing needs.

“We’ve had a lot of requests from the community for more yoga, and yoga options,” Arroyo said of the center’s yoga program. Listening Wellness Center has numerous yoga instructors leading a variety of classes for all skill levels and abilities.

She’s also been in touch with a nonprofit veterans yoga movement based out of California, to organize at least one veterans yoga event.

“Their instructors are either veterans who have gone through the training, or yoga instructors who have been through trauma informed veterans training,” Arroyo said. “I’m hoping that it kind of opens up a door for them.”

Mental health is also just as important to wellness as physical health, Arroyo said, as is “flexing our social muscles.”

“Humans need activities to bond and build our social networking in the community,” she said. “Physical and mental health are singular...[community events] bring in all different types of people and make bridges that

See LISTENING, page 6



8 0 4 8 7 9 1 3 1 7 7

News of the Towns



Round Town
Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

Hubbardston
Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com



Petersham Art Center lists upcoming spring classes

PETERSHAM – On Thursday, March 21 from 7-9 p.m., Katie Locke will be teaching the intricate art of Ukrainian egg dying.

Hot wax is applied to the eggs and designs are etched into them, so that when the eggs are dipped in dye, exquisite patterns emerge. Since hot wax and candles are used, the class is open to adults and children 10 years and older with adult supervision.

Sara DePonte of White Pickets Studio in Petersham will offer a day-long still-life water color painting class on Saturday, April 6 from 10 a.m.-noon, then from 1-3 p.m. DePonte is an accomplished fine artist whose paintings have been displayed in many exhibitions and are sought after by collectors. She will guide students through all the steps to create three still-life scenes. Students should bring three objects they would like to use for their artwork creations.

On Saturday, April 13 from 10 a.m.-noon Kate Hall will bring the 18th century art of English Paper Piercing to participants. The technique uses templates to create shapes and arrangements of fabric or paper pieces that are sewn by hand to make quilts, clothing designs or whatever the creator can imagine. Hall has apprenticed with quilt maker and has been enjoying creating fabric art since she was a child.

A spring basket class on Saturday, April 20 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. will be taught by Sue Morello of Sheldon Farm Baskets. Students can choose from several styles to make



Submitted photo
Sara DePonte of White Pickets Studio in Petersham will offer a day-long still-life water color painting class on Saturday, April 6 from 10 a.m.-noon and 1-3 p.m. at the Petersham Art Center, Route 32, Petersham.

their own flower-gathering baskets. Morello has taught basket making for many years and has demonstrated basket making techniques at heritage venues, such as Old Sturbridge Village.

Wool to Weaving, a class taught by Debra Bachrach and Chris Eaton, both of Petersham, will have a tentative start date of Sunday, April 28 and continue on Sundays, May 5, May 12, and May 19. The start date may be adjusted due to readiness of the sheep to be sheared. The students will experience the entire process, from start to finish, of creating a handwoven woolen project. The class will begin with a shearing demonstra-

tion at the farm. Students will then learn to card, spin and dye the wool, culminating with learning to use a hand-held loom to weave. This is a full experience from start to finish.

All the classes have a fee. People can learn more and register by calling 978-724-3415 or by emailing chrisoutdoors71@gmail.com.

Petersham Art Center, located on Route 32 in Petersham, is a venue for the arts, with exhibits, an artisan gift shop, and a variety of classes that are held to benefit the North Quabbin region. Check our Facebook Page for more upcoming classes and information.

Listening offers Spring Enrichment Programs for Kids

BARRE – Listening Wellness Center, 35 South St., is offering Spring Enrichment Programs for Kids.

Upcycled Art with Jen Swan
This program will be held over six weeks on Mondays March 25, April 1, 22, 29, May 6 and 13, from 4-5 p.m. for children in grades one through five. The cost is \$85.

Be creative and find new ways to make art out of unexpected materials. Children will paint ocean creatures using bubble wrap to add texture, create portraits out of paintbrushes, and make mosaics using tile, glass, and found objects.

From buttons to bottle caps, each class will be an opportunity to express yourself and recycle.

Abstract Painting & Collage with Jen Swan
A free workshop: Teens Community Through Art, will be held on Friday, April 19 from 3-4:30 p.m. for ages 12+. Space is limited and registration is required.

Learn techniques in collage and acrylic painting in this workshop designed to explore

relationships of color, pattern, and texture. Teens will use gel medium, decorative papers, and found materials to infuse your acrylic paintings with added interest and creativity.

All levels welcome and all materials provided. This workshop is funded by a Festivals & Projects Grant from Mass Cultural Council.

Posture Power: Stand Tall, Feel Great!

Rhonda Hamer will lead a two-hour workshop on Tuesday, April 9 from 2:30-4:30 p.m. for youth in grades six through eight. The cost is \$24.

Do you know there are activities and exercises you can do a few times each week to really improve your posture? Better posture can make you look taller, feel better and gain confidence.

It's a little bit lecture and a bunch of practice with exercises and stretches to improve posture.

Yoga for Teens with Lisa Holloway

This program will be held over six weeks on Thursdays March 28, April 4, 11, 25, May 2 and 9 from 2:30-3:15 p.m. for

ages 12+. The cost is \$60.

Class will begin with a grounding exercise. Work on strength, balance, and flexibility through yoga poses. Develop emotional equilibrium, self-esteem, and concentration with breathing, relaxation, and meditation components.

End in Savasana, a restorative yoga pose, integrating everything we did throughout class.

How to register

Visit listeningwellness.org and click on each program button found on the flyer for more information and to register on Eventbrite. Cutoff date is seven days prior to first class.

Scholarships are available. People are encouraged to apply by emailing office@listeningwellness.org or selecting the scholarship ticket in the event.

Funding in part by local Cultural Councils including Hardwick/New Braintree Cultural Council, Barre Cultural Council, and Oakham Cultural Council, local agencies which are supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency

Democrats to hold Zoom caucus
The Barre Democratic caucus will be held on Saturday, March 16 online via Zoom at 11 a.m. The Barre Democratic Town Committee will elect delegates and alternates to attend the 2024 Massachusetts Democratic Convention. The caucus is open to all registered and pre-registered Democrats, 16 years of age or older, living in Barre. Youth (16-35), people with disabilities, people of color, veterans and members of the LGBTQ+ community may apply to be an add-on delegate at the caucus or by visiting www.massdems.org/massdems-convention.

This year's Mass Dems convention is scheduled to take place on Saturday June 1 at the DCU Center in Worcester. For more information and the link to the Zoom meeting, people may email BarreDTC@gmail.com.

St. Joseph's Cemetery

All winter baskets and decorations must be removed by Sunday, March 24 at St. Joseph's Cemetery, South Barre Road. The removal of the baskets and decorations will facilitate spring clean-up. All remaining items will be discarded.

Looking to the future

Looking to the future will meet on Wednesday, March 27 at 6 p.m. in the all purpose room at the Woods Memorial Library, 19 Pleasant St., Barre. All are welcome. A group of 16 people met at the Woods Memorial Library on March 6, with author Courtney Schlosser. The purpose was to become familiar with his book "Existential Threats and Moral Prospects." Schlosser highlighted the threats that our society is now facing including the possibility of escalating conflicts leading to nuclear war, the challenges arising from climate change and unrest from increasing income inequality, among them. The group will meet again to encourage conversation around these and other issues. Schlosser is Philosophy Professor Emeritus from Worcester State University lives in Barre.

Community Friendship supper

Community Friendship drive thru supper will be held Thursday, March 21 with pick up from 5:30-6:30 p.m. The meal is a hot turkey sandwich, stuffing, beverage and dessert.

Annual Town Election

The Annual Town Election will be held on Monday, April 1 from 8 a.m.-8 p.m. The last day to register to vote in the annual town election will be on Friday, March 22 at 5 p.m.

Fridays with friends

Fridays with Friends will be held on Friday, March 15 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. at the Woods Memorial Library, 19 Pleasant St., Barre in the multipurpose room for school age children. Different activities are held each week ranging from arts and crafts to Science Technology Engineering Arts and Mathematics based challenges all meant to bring the community closer together. The program is held Fridays during January, February and March and is recommended for ages five plus.

Barre Democrats to hold Zoom caucus

BARRE – The Barre Democratic caucus will be held on Saturday, March 16 online via Zoom at 11 a.m.

The Barre Democratic Town Committee will elect delegates and alternates to attend the 2024 Massachusetts Democratic Convention. The caucus is open to all registered and pre-registered Democrats, 16 years of age or older, living in Barre. Youth (16-35), people with disabilities, people of color, veterans and members of the LGBTQ+ community may apply to be an add-on delegate at the caucus or by visiting www.massdems.org/massdems-convention.

This year's Mass Dems convention is scheduled to take place on Saturday June 1 at the DCU Center in Worcester. For more information and the link to the Zoom meeting, people may email BarreDTC@gmail.com.

Editorial deadline reminder

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

"Join the team that does more by 9am than some do all day!"

Train now to a new career in 6 weeks. High hourly wages and generous bonus program. Van work available too!

Call or text 774-200-6762 or email jobs@mccarthybus.com to apply

J.P. McCarthy & Sons
WWW.MCCARTHYBUS.COM

Post 2 to hold annual corned beef and cabbage dinner March 16

BARRE – American Legion Barre Post 2 will hold its annual corned beef and cabbage supper on Saturday, March 16 from 5-6:30 p.m. Cost is \$15 per person for either eat in

or take out. Only 120 tickets are available. To reserve tickets, people may call 978-355-2730, Tony Musnicki at 978-337-2351 or Scott Tourtellot at 508-320-9899.

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 18. 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 – Lasagna and meatballs with Marinara sauce, mixed vegetables, yogurt, French bread

TUESDAY – Beef with onions and peppers, potato wedges, honey glazed carrots, fresh fruit, sandwich roll

WEDNESDAY – Chicken fajitas, Spanish rice, black beans and corn, sour cream, pita bread, pineapple

THURSDAY – Hot dog, baked beans, coleslaw, baked apples, hot dog roll, mustard

FRIDAY – Salmon primavera, wild rice, peas and pearl onions, lemon pudding, diet = sugar free tapioca pudding, whole wheat bread

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

LOCAL KETONE PROMOTER

Call For Information
413-813-2391

Leave Message

Check Out Facebook at **Denise Dubowski**

Save Up To 25% OFF Retail Prices

Stasukelis
APPLIANCE & TV

WE SERVICE ALL MAJOR BRAND APPLIANCES

NAME BRAND APPLIANCES & TV'S AT WAREHOUSE PRICES

287 Main Street
Gardner
978-632-0241

McNeely Tree Service
Insured • References

- Hazardous Tree Removal
- Stump Grinding
- Bobcat Work
- Lot Clearing • Storm work
- Furnace Wood
- Firewood \$275/cord
- 101 ft Aerial Lift Rental POR
- Credit Cards, Cash & Venmo Accepted

H: 508-867-6119 • C: 978-888-1693

MITA
WOODWORKING LLC
PAXTON, MA

Kitchen / Bath
Design / Sales / Installation

We Sell Cabinets

Call to schedule an appointment
In home or showroom

774-366-5517
mitawoodworking@aol.com

News of the Towns

PUBLIC MEETINGS

BARRE

Barre Housing Authority – March 14 at 3 p.m.
 Quabbin Regional School District Central Office/
 Audit/Administrative Review Committee –
 March 14 at 5:15 p.m.
 Quabbin Regional School District Committee –
 March 14 at 6:30 p.m.
 Water Commission – March 14 and April 8 at
 6:30 p.m.
 DPW Commission – March 14 at 7 p.m.
 Select Board – March 18 at 6 p.m.
 Insurance Advisory Committee – March 18
 at 6 p.m.
 Board of Assessors ° March 19 at 6 p.m.
 Planning Board – March 19 at 7 p.m.
 9/11 Memorial Development Committee –
 March 27 at 5 p.m.
 Cemetery Commission – March 28 at 11 a.m..
 Town Election Day – April 1 from 7 a.m.-8 p.m.
 Felton Field Commission – April 2 at 6:30 p.m.
 Planning Board – April 2 at 7 p.m.
 Council on Aging – April 3 at 12:30 p.m.
 Board of Health – April 8 at 5 p.m.

HARDWICK

Capital Planning Committee – March 18 at 3 p.m.
 Finance Committee – March 18 and March 25
 at 6 p.m., April 1 at 7 p.m. and April 8,
 April 22 and May 6 at 6 p.m.
 Gilbertville Water District – March 19 at 5:30 p.m.
 Master Plan Steering Committee – March 19
 at 6:30 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – March 20 at 6:30 p.m.
 Board of Selectmen – March 25 at 6:30 p.m.
 Recycling Commission – April 2 at 6:30 p.m.
 Personnel Committee – April 3 at 4 p.m.
 Board of Health – April 4 at 6:30 p.m.
 Paige Library Trustees – April 4 at 7 p.m.
 Hardwick New Braintree Cultural Council –
 May 13, June 10, July 8 and August 12
 at 6:30 p.m.

HUBBARDSTON

Public Safety/Building Committee – March 14
 at 6:15 p.m.
 Emergency Management Committee –
 March 19 at 1 p.m.
 Council on Aging – March 26 at 4 p.m.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

Planning Board – March 20 April 16 at 6 p.m.
 Board of Selectmen – March 26, April 9 and
 April 23 at 6 p.m.

OAKHAM

Library Trustees – March 14 at 4 p.m.
 Cemetery Commission – March 15 at 7 p.m.
 Select Board – March 18 and March 25, April 1,
 April 15 and April 29 at 6 p.m.
 Board of Health – March 18 at 4:45 p.m.
 Planning Board – March 19 and April 16 at 7 p.m.
 Senator Durant and Rep. Berthiaume Office Hour
 s – March 27 from 1-2 p.m.
 Council on Aging – April 12 at noon

PETERSHAM

Select Board – March 14 at 5:30 p.m.
 Advisory Finance Committee – March 14 at 6 p.m.
 Core Planning Team – March 18 and March 25
 at 1:30 p.m.
 Petersham School Committee – March 20 at 6 p.m.
 Board of Health – March 21 at 6 p.m.
 Petersham Historic District – March 21 at 6 p.m.
 Planning Board – March 26 at 7 p.m.
 Open Space and Recreation Committee –
 April 2 at 6 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – April 1 at 7 p.m.
 Council on Aging – April 8 at 10 a.m.

RUTLAND

Select Board – March 14 and March 18 at 6 p.m.
 Finance Committee – March 14 at 6 p.m. and
 March 21 at 6:15 p.m.

Corrections policy

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



Submitted photo

Conductor Stephanie Parker with the Orange Community Band at the 42nd Pops Concert in the Ruth B. Smith Auditorium in 2023. Rehearsals for the 43rd Pops begin March 20 at the Central Congregational Church in Orange

Orange Community Band to hold Pops Concert

ORANGE – The Orange Community Band will hold its second Pops Concert since Covid forced cancellation in 2020 on Sunday, April 21 at 2 p.m. in the Orange Town Hall Ruth B. Smith Auditorium.

Seating will be concert-style instead of Cabaret Style, and no tickets will be sold in advance. Donations to the band will be accepted at the door. Anyone wishing to be listed as a sponsor or donor in the program should contact Maureen Riendeau by April 24. This will be the 43rd Pops Concert held by the Band since it took over from the Minute Tapioca Band.

Rehearsals begin Wednesday, March 20 at 7 p.m. in the Central Congregational Church on South Main Street. Musicians are invited to join at that time. The band is specifically seeking French horn and oboe players for the Pops concert.

Community Band Pops Concerts were started in 1978

and held annually until 2019 as a fund raiser and as a means of getting members in shape for the summer season of concerts on the bandstand. There has been a Concert Band in Orange since the mid 1800s, under names including the Mechanics Band, the New Home Band and the Minute Tapioca Band. Those bands also performed Pops style concerts in addition to the open air concerts in the park during the summer. Although the name changed several times, the same core group of musicians followed the band.

The town of Orange supported the bands through the years. A 1910 editorial in the Orange Enterprise and Journal berated citizens because "the total receipts of the voluntary subscription of the people of Orange was \$25.56 for the support of the band concerts this season." The records of the New Home Band showed that each year the town was asked to put a warrant article at Town meet-

ing, requesting support of the band. In 1917 that request was for \$350 to cover expenses for the weekly summer concerts. Until Proposition 2 ½ took effect in Massachusetts in 1980, the town supported the band. At that time the band volunteered to eliminate town financial support and rely on the generosity of community and business sponsors, and Band fundraising efforts. The town continued to provide music storage and rehearsal space until recently, when the Armory was closed. The band has rehearsed in the Congregational Church the past two years.

A Pops Program will provide the band with fund toward rental of the Town Hall for the concert, and for purchase of new music. Individuals and businesses wishing to help support the band should contact Maureen Riendeau, Susan TandySonger or other band members to be listed in the program.

Food Pantry holds monthly distributions

BARRE – The next Barre Food Pantry distribution will occur on Thursday, March 21 from 5:30-7 p.m.

The Barre Food Pantry volunteers strive to continue to fulfill their mission to get food to hungry and food insecure clients. The pantry must also continue to protect clients, volunteers and the larger community from the spread of the COVID-19 subvariant viruses.

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 considered changing how the pantry currently operates, but decided that the most responsible path forward is to contin-

ue to operate as they have since March of 2020.

In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients March 21 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.

Based on the success of dis-

tributions so far, the Food Pantry volunteers believe this "drive-through" style is the safest possible way to get food to clients and to help keep everyone well.

Volunteers

People should not arrive to volunteer on March 21 without first contacting Sonja Blaney at 978-355-6921, Dave Petrovick at 978-852-169 or Chuck Radlo at 978-355-6463.

Because conditions have been changing rapidly, people should continue to check for updates on the Barre Food Pantry by visiting: <http://www.barrefoodbank.org/index.htm> or the Barre Food Pantry Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Barre-Food-Pantry-100156068300314/>.

North Brookfield library lists upcoming events

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The Haston Free Public Library, 161 North Main St., lists upcoming events and programs for the month of March.

Strategic Planning meeting

The library's Strategic Planning Committee will meet on March 21 at 6 p.m. Please speak to a staff member if you would like to be a part of this important committee.

Discussion groups

The Book Group will discuss "Interpreter of Maladies" by Jhumpa Lahiri on March 26 at 7 p.m. The Movie Discussion Group will talk about "Far and Away (1992, PG-13)" on March 28 at 6 p.m.

Story Times

March Story Times with Miss Bri will be held in the Children's Room on Tuesdays at

10:30 a.m. Upcoming programs include March 19, "Rechenka's Egg" by Patricia Polacco and children will make a fake egg decorating craft and March 26, "Corduroy's Easter Party" by Don Freeman and children will make a bunny craft.

Children's Art Club

Art Club for children will be held the first and third Mondays of the month from 4-5 p.m.

Oakham

Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com



Pen Pal letters ready March 22

The Senior Pen Pal letters from students at the Oakham Center School will be available for pick up on Friday, March 22 at the back door of the Fobes Memorial Library. Responses are due back Wednesday, April 3.

Church news

The Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road, will hold a Maundy Thursday service on March 28 at 7 p.m. The church will hold an Easter Sunrise Service on Sunday, March 31 at 6:30 p.m. behind the church. A breakfast in Fellowship Hall will follow the service. Menu includes three types of pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, homemade doughnut holes, strawberries, orange juice, coffee, tea and hot cocoa. A free will donation will be accepted.

The regular Easter Sunday Service will be held on March 31 at 10 a.m. All are welcome to attend any of the services and/or the breakfast.

Annual Town Election

The last day for candidates to obtain nomination papers for the Annual Town Election is Friday, March 29. The last day to submit nomination papers is Monday, April 8. The last day to register to vote for election is Friday, May 10. Positions on the ballot for three year terms are Select Board, Assessor, Board of Health, Library Trustee, Cemetery Commission, School Committee, Moderator, Town Clerk and Tree Warden. There is a one year term for Constable to fill a vacancy and a five year term for Planning Board.

Nomination papers may be picked updating regular business hours at the Town Clerk's Office Monday 6-7:30 p.m. and Fridays 10 a.m.-noon. A minimum of 20 signatures are required. People may call town clerk's office at 508-882-5549, extension 4 for more information.

Senior center

The Oakham Senior Center, lower level Town Hall, is open Monday through Thursdays until 3 p.m. Fun fitness is held at the New Braintree Town Hall every Friday at 10:30 a.m. Zumba Gold is held Mondays at 10:30 a.m. at Pine Acres Campground, Bechan Road. Ongoing activities also include Tuesday at 10 a.m. Wii and Tuesday and Thursdays walk away at 11 a.m., and Wednesdays at 9 a.m. coffee with friends. Tuesday, March 26 Geeky met at 10:45 a.m.; Friday, March 15 at 12:30 p.m. lunch brunch at Hitchcock Tavern; Monday, March 18 from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. podiatry clinic; Wednesday, March 20 at noon Brown Bag lunch at Mechanics Hall and Tuesday, March 26 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. blood pressure and glucose clinic and Wednesday, March 27 at 12:30 p.m. movie "Poms."

New Braintree Library to hold Story Time

NEW BRAINTREE – The New Braintree Public Library, 45 Memorial Drive, offers their next Story Time program on Monday, March 18 at 9 a.m.

The focus will be spring weather and will feature "Little Cloud" by Eric Carle, "It Looked Like Spilt Milk" by Charles G. Shaw and "Rain!" by Linda Ashman.

This reading and crafts program for preschool children is held twice a month on Mondays at the library. Parental supervision is required.

People may call the library at 508-867-7650 during regular business for more information.

St. Joseph's to hold Lenten fish fry

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Saint Joseph's Church will hold their annual Lenten fish fry on Friday, March 22 serving from 5-7 p.m.

The Knights o Columbus 2381 host the event. The menu includes traditional battered haddock, hand cut French fries and coleslaw. Take out will be from church parking lot. Tickets are \$15 and available in advance by Monday, March 18 by calling the Parish Office 508-867-6489, after Mass and from a Knight. Proceeds benefit the Scholarship Fund.

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

Our advertisers make this publication possible. Let them know you saw their ad in the Barre Gazette



hardwickcrossing.com

262 Lower Road, Gilbertville 774-757-8907

Pro Shop 774-261-2634

HARDWICK CROSSING

EST. 2022
 COUNTRY CLUB

OPEN 7 DAYS FOR LUNCH, DINNER & GOLF

Specials Posted on Facebook & Instagram

Prime Rib
Every Thursday, Friday & Saturday
Online Ordering Available
Monday - 6:30 p.m.
TRIVIA NIGHT
Wednesday - 6:30 p.m.
MUSIC BINGO

Sip & Paint
Tuesday, March 12, Tuesday, March 26, Tuesday, April 9, Tuesday, April 23
Starting at 6:30 p.m.

Easter Egg Hunt
Sunday, March 24 at 1 p.m.
FREE

Visit Our Website For More Details

St. Patrick's Day Party
Sunday, March 17
Live Music Starting at 3 p.m.
Tequila Mockingbird
Food & Drink All Weekend Long

Easter Brunch
Sunday, March 31
Seatings at 10:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m. & 2 p.m.
Menu Available on Facebook & Website

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

Stars & Stripes Diner
 32 Main St., Hubbardston • 978-820-1600
Visit Us On St. Patrick's Day
For Our Leprechaun Specials
 Like Us On Facebook@hubbtowndiner
 OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
 7:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



Opinion

Letter to Editor

Spencer has too many solar arrays

Enough is enough. The town of Spencer has 23 commercial solar arrays and there is no end in sight. Apparently the state is targeting Central Massachusetts as the premium location for solar arrays. Land outside Boston is very expensive and the western part of the state seems to be exempt because of soil conditions. I would guess that the beautiful vistas in the western part of our state that bring in tourist dollars is also a factor.

Did you know that there is legislation that says you will have to remove trees on your property if requested by your neighbor, if it blocks the sun from their solar panels? MGL, Part 2, Title 1, Chapter 187, Section 1A Check it out.

I have not been convinced that there will not be adverse effects to the land after solar panels have been removed. Many ideas that looked good at the time turned out to be a nightmare. Asbestos is a prime example. I am also concerned about fire.

It is my understanding that any large scale solar arrays will be required to have battery energy storage systems on site. Spencer will be proposing a new bylaw amendment that will require signs to indicate 100 feet from these systems, because a large storage system has a blast radius or explosion of 100 feet. This is to keep the responders safe. It is also my understanding that the fire department's only option at this time is to let the fire burn itself out.

If you are as concerned as I am, please feel free to reach out to me at rmcpher683@aol.com, I encourage you to contact me to help form a committee representing Central Massachusetts to slow down this problem by putting political pressure on our state government. There are two bills before the legislature that will help our communities regain more control. They are S1319, and H2082.. If we work together, we will be more effective.

Thank you for your attention.

Carol McPherson
Spencer

Guest Column



Will my benefit increase if I work while collecting disability?

Dear Rusty
I will be 64 in March and currently receive Social Security Disability Insurance payments. My full retirement age is 67, but I'm thinking about trying to return to work.

If I work and my earnings exceed the monthly disability payment limits, but do not exceed the annual limit, how will my disability payments be affected? Will working while receiving Social Security disability payments change my Social Security benefit amount when I reach my full retirement age of 67?

Signed Mending

Dear Mending
Social Security doesn't go by annual earnings when it comes to disability; they go by monthly earnings. If your work earnings in any one month of 2024 exceed \$1,550, that will be a flag to SS that you are no longer disabled (\$2,590 per month if you're blind). If that happens for a few months in a row, they will most likely stop your SSDI payments.

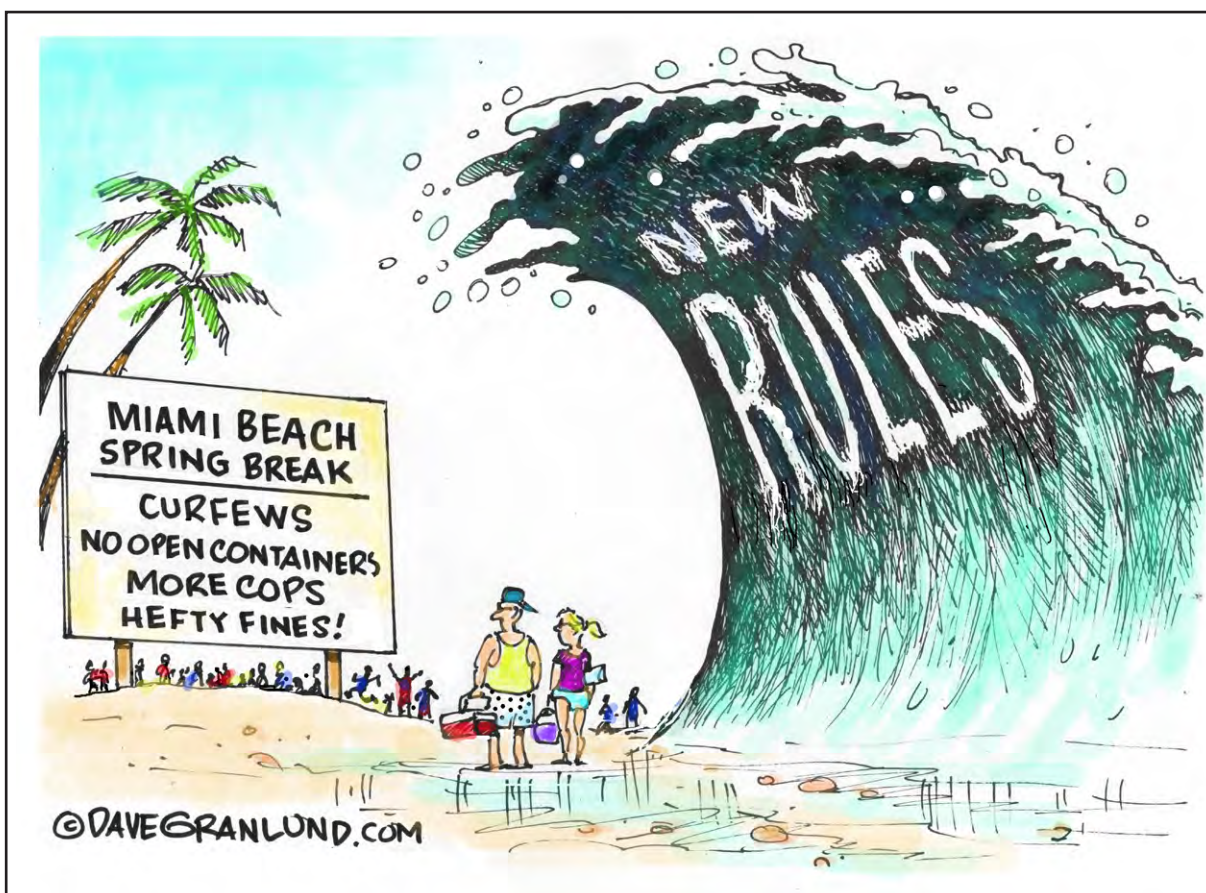
Often, this happens retroactively, they won't find out until sometime later that you repeatedly exceeded the monthly limit, but they will likely cancel your SSDI benefits and require you to repay any benefits you received in months you exceeded the monthly SSDI earnings limit or months they deem you were capable of working without restriction.

I suggest you consider enrolling in Social Security's "Ticket to Work" program. While enrolled, you can work and will have a rolling nine month "Trial Work Period" over five years, during which you can earn more than \$1,110/month in 2024 without jeopardizing your SSDI benefits.

If, after completing your nine month trial work period, you are taken off of SSDI (because you're no longer considered disabled), and you again become disabled and unable to work, your SSDI benefits can resume without requiring you to go through the entire application process again. You can test your ability to work, will be able to work some and can earn more than the limit in some months, which makes the Ticket to Work program your best option. Read more about it here by visiting <https://choosework.ssa.gov/>.

As for whether working while on SSDI will improve your benefit at your Full Retirement Age, that depends. Your current SSDI benefit is equal to your FRA entitlement from your earnings record at your disability onset date, but paid to you prior to your FRA. The method for determining your benefit under SSDI is complex and depends on the age at which you became unable to work and the number of Social Security credits you had accumulated at that time. Although SS retirement benefits normally require you earn at least 40 SS quarter credits and are based on your highest earning 35 years, those

See SOCIAL SECURITY, page 6



In Past Pages

5 years (March 21, 2019)

Winning is not something that happens to Quabbin seventh grader Shea Lanier very often. As a matter of fact, it's been a long six or so years since he won a Sponge Bob Gift Basket from an event at Hardwick Elementary School. Lanier's luck changed, however, when he won a four pack of iTunes Git Cards at the Family Fun Night at Quabbin High School last Friday night. "I'm not luck at all," a happy Lanier said with the git cards in his hands. BINGO was the name of the game, as a freshmen class sponsored an all ages event as a fundraiser for graduation expenses, caps and gowns, their senior class trip and other additional things that arise during their time at Quabbin.

Barre Selectmen held the first of two public hearing regarding a Community Host Agreement with Tom Egan, CEO of Castle Rock Agricultural Inc. for outdoor cultivation of marijuana on his property at 257 Walnut Hill Road. Egan plans to grow marijuana on a 2.3 acre parcel within his 134 acre property. He said he would grow only for wholesale and had not intention of a retail operation. He planned to hire Barre residents as much as possible. He stated he was committed to doing this right.

There is only one contest on the Barre Annual Town Election ballot and that is a two-way race for a three-year term on the Board of Selectmen. The two candidates, Dylan S. Clark and John M. Lathrop III, answered a few questions. Town Clerk Ellen Glidden announced that she received a write-in candidate statement from Ralph Rogers, who is a write-in or the vacant position of Planning Board Associate Member.

10 years (March 13, 2014)

Town Administrator Anita Scheiper presented an initial town operating budget or fiscal Year 2015 to the Hubbardston and Finance Committee on Monday night. She estimated revenue at \$7,430,448. Of the \$7.4 plus million, \$5,864,830 would come taxes, \$448,618 local aid and \$1,117,000 local receipts. The base budget proposal included increases ranging from 0.4% in public works to 14.7% in education. The proposal also had a 3.7% increase in general government, a 3.5% increase in public safety and a 2% increase in unclassified.

The Oakham Congregational Church voted 34 to 3 to conclude its affiliation with the United Church of Christ and to begin an affiliation with the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches at its annual church meeting this past Sunday. During their August meeting, the Board of Deaconate unanimously recommended the Oakham Congregational Church change affiliations from UCC to NACCC. Church Council at a monthly meet-

LOOK BACK State Grange Fair – 1992



File photo
Jackie and Charlie Perkins of Petersham are shown at the Massachusetts State Grange Fair July 23, 1992 at the Spencer Fairgrounds.

ing voted to pursue the matter. The Council scheduled an information meeting and supper on two different evenings in January with each organization.

The first order of business for the Petersham Board of Selectmen was to reorganize the board due to the recent election of Nancy Allen. They elected Peter George chairman, Nancy Allen vice-chairman and Rich Marsh clerk. Before handing over the gavel, Marsh welcomed Allen to the Board and said they had worked well together as selectmen in the past.

25 years (March 18, 1999)

Voices were raised and accusations were tossed at the March 15 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. At issue were the complaints of several residents of the High Plains section of Barre that a few dogs and apparently one in particular, were being allowed to roam the streets without leashes. Nearly a dozen residents of Peach Street, School Street and High Street appeared at the hearing to voice their displeasure with what they deemed to be a nuisance for area home owners and perhaps even a danger to their children.

Quabbin District school teachers will have the opportunity to attend two educational workshops thanks to a grant received from the Department of Education and Global Studies Center. Offered in conjunction with Clark University, teachers will receive a stipend for their participation. The courses offered are "Understanding and Mapping the World's Religions" and "China and Japan in the Massachusetts Framework. The program has very few openings and Superintendent Maureen Marshall enthused by the opportunity said the district would fill all the slots it is offered.

Carmela "Emily" Mastronardo

was honored at a party last Saturday at Barre Town Hall or her 50 years of service as an election warden. Emily worked at Precinct 2 and was known for her warm and gentle smile, according to Town Clerk Ellen Glidden, who organized the surprise party. Glidden said when she became Town Clerk, she worried if everything would go all right, but after the election she realized that Barre's competent group of election workers made her job easy.

38 years (March 20, 1986)

The Barre Board of Assessors has received word from the Department of Revenue that Barre's tax rate or Fiscal 1986 has been approved. The rate is \$14.50 per thousand, down \$5.66 from fiscal 1985 rate of \$20.16 per thousand. This new rate reflects the recertification of the new values of property to 100% Full Market Value. The tax rate breaks down to \$7.39 to General and \$7.11 School.

Notice will be sent out to residents announcing that personal property tax will be charged on junk cars parked on their property in violation of the zoning regulations. John Meilus of the Board of Assessors made the announcement to the Barre Board of Selectmen at their Monday night's meeting, in response to Selectwomen Ruth Trifilo's question on the matter. Meilus said all junk cars will be evaluated at \$200 and taxed accordingly.

The Barre Selectmen reviewed a letter from Joseph Pitisci requesting permission to operate the Farmers Market on the common, in the same location as last year. The market would be held every Saturday from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. starting June 21. Pitisci added the Farmers Market was a great success last year and he would like to see it continue.

Guest Column



News from my garden to yours

I received a text from a friend earlier today asking what is covering my strawberry plants.
I answered her with one word: water.

Yes indeed, a good portion of my garden is drowning at the moment, as are various parts of my yard. We have had too much rain in too short of a period and the ground is still frozen partway down.

It's happened before and will likely happen again, but every time it does, I wonder how these areas could possibly rebound and look good come spring. Usually, they do and with little help from me.

The water recedes and spring comes.
Keep in mind that the soil, be it in your garden or yard, will lose some of its fertility because of leaching, and it will be compacted from such excessive rainfall. Give your plants a side dressing of compost this spring; it will be sure to help restore fertility and improve the condition of the soil in general.

According to a soil test, my garden was notoriously low in nitrogen, so I incorporated blood meal into the soil at planting time with another dose a few weeks later. It didn't occur to me at the time, but flooding a couple of times early in the year could be the culprit of the low nitrogen reading.

Soil that is heavy with water literally pushes out the space that was meant for oxygen and becomes compacted. Without oxygen, plants' vascular systems won't function properly.

As I said before, a few days in the off season likely won't hurt much, but if this were to happen during the growing season, your plants may look wilted even though they are sitting in water.

Root rot, perhaps, or simply that the roots are unable to absorb the water around them.

Lawns should be aerated to remedy this problem, and garden soil should be loosened – once it's dry of course – to get some air into the soil. This can be done numerous ways, by use of various hand tools.

Although scratching around with a three tine cultivator will likely bring some weed seeds to the surface, it is one of my favorite things to do in the garden. I find it a great stress-buster, too.

Do remember to try not to walk on saturated soil or it will compound the problem. Even in the spring when you are working in your garden, place a board under your feet to distribute your weight evenly and prevent more compaction.

Have you noticed that your houseplants have begun to put on an abundance of new growth? Mine sure have! Support this with a dose of half strength liquid fertilizer.

I need to take cuttings of fuchsia and geranium plants that I overwintered. It will sure be great to make cemetery logs with our own geraniums this year.

I will simply cut a terminal (meaning top) stem about 4-5 inches long just after a node (that's where the leaves join the stem). I'll carefully take off all but the top two or three leaves and insert the leafless section into a small pot (say around 2-3 inches in diame-

See GARDEN, page 6

Turley Publications Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters to the editor should be 350 words or less in length. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require letter writers to include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous or contain unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, defamation of character and offensive language. All unknown or alleged facts and quotations offered by the author need to cite credible, unbiased sources. Send letters to: Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005 or via email to edowner@turley.com. The deadline for submissions is Friday at noon.

BARRE GAZETTE

TEAM

- EDITOR**
Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com
- ADVERTISING SALES**
Tim Mara
tmara@turley.com
- SPORTS EDITOR**
Greg Scibelli
sports@turley.com

The Barre Gazette (USPS 044560) is published every Thursday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069.

© Barre Gazette
WEB
www.barregazette.turley.com

PATRICK H. TURLEY
CEO

KEITH TURLEY
President

DEANNA SLOAT
Graphics Manager



www.turley.com

Turley Publications, Inc. cannot assume liability for the loss of photographs or other materials submitted for publication. Materials will not be returned except upon specific request when submitted.

PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID AT BARRE, MA
The Barre Gazette is a weekly newspaper published every Thursday by Barre Gazette, Inc., with offices located at 5 Exchange St., Barre, MA 01005 and at 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069. Telephone at 978-355-4000 or FAX at 978-355-6274. USPS number is 044-560. Postmaster: Send address changes to: Barre Gazette, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 \$1.00 per copy Subscription rate: \$33 for one year, \$44 for two years Out of State: \$38 for one year, \$54 for two years

HERREN, continued from page 1

this one. Herren said if he could go back to 1994 to that assembly, he would listen. Over the last 15 years, Herren has spent most of his time traveling, speaking at schools and connecting with students, hoping to empower them to feel good about themselves and avoid using substances in order to feel comfortable around their peers. "We put way too much energy into the worst day and not the first day," Herren said. Herren grew up in a home that was shaped by addiction, as his father is an alcoholic. "My mother was always by herself in her bedroom reading," Herren recalled. He remembered the first time his mother had the courage to tell his father that she would leave him if his drinking continued, and how at 12 years old, he asked her to take him away with her. Two years later, she caught him getting drunk on his father's beers. "To this day, I don't understand why no one in my family explained alcoholism," Herren said. Herren went on to gain recognition as a basketball player on his high school team in Fall River, before playing for Boston College and Fresno State. He was ranked in the top 20 basketball players in the country at the height of his career. He was selected by the Denver Nuggets in the second round draft pick in 1999, before being picked up by the Boston Celtics in 2000. Despite his rising career, addiction continued to have a hold on Herren, who tried cocaine for the first time at 18 years old. "Just one line...that one line took 14 years to walk away from," he said.



Turley Photo by Mary Whitelaw

Q-DRUG member and Quabbin Regional High School alumni Cody Handrahan spoke about the support he received from the organization.

It also caused him to be kicked out of Boston College, which earned him an embarrassing headline in the newspaper. Coach Jerry Tarkanian took a chance on him, and he flew out to Fresno, California at 19 years old where he excelled on the court, but continued to fail drug tests. Knowing he was going to fail another drug test, Herren remembers breaking down and crying in the athletic director's office. The athletic director said to him, "it saddens me that this addiction will never let go of you." Now at 21 years old, Herren was sent to treatment, which was announced in a press conference. Every day, Herren begged his

mother and his wife to take him out of the treatment center. "I wasted my time," Herren said of his first time in treatment. "I blew the greatest opportunity of my life. I was the 33rd pick, I was unbelievably fortunate...had a wife and a baby." Herren remembers that his teammates wouldn't let him fall back after treatment. He moved back home to Fall River when he was 24 years old, and filled with pride at his accomplishments. One day he had a knock on his door, and it was someone he used to play basketball with as a kid. "He said, 'there's a new painkiller,'" Herren said, describing

the plastic bag full of little yellow pills. "In 1999 I never heard of Oxycontin." Herren gave him \$20 for one pill, threw it in his mouth, and went back to watching cartoons with his son. "That \$20 turned to \$20,000 a month," he said. When he returned to training camp he went through his first detox, and it was at this time that he got the call that he was now a member of the Boston Celtics. "What should have been a dream come true, was a nightmare beginning for me," Herren said. "My first phone call was to the kid with the pills. At that point in my life, I never felt so ashamed." Following his time with the Celtics, Herren went on to play for the number one team in Europe, where he and his family lived in a beautiful house in Italy, and he earned twice what he was making in the U.S. Despite smuggling 300 80mg Oxycontin with him to Italy and having a plan to taper himself off of them, Herren quickly went through his supply. "Unfortunately, Oxycontin doesn't play that way," Herren said. In desperation, Herren found a dealer and not knowing how to ask for the painkiller in Italian, he simply pointed to his arm. He asked for heroin. Three weeks later Herren and his family were returning to the U.S. following the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001. "For the next six months I woke up every single morning with no job, went to Dunkin Donuts and buy heroin every day...I'd sit in my little spot and shoot it." After shooting heroin, Herren would get in the drive-thru and order himself a coffee and Munchkins to bring home for his children. It was in this Dunkin Donuts that Herren had his first overdose. He remembers waking up on the pavement, with a police officer on top of him; his arm bleeding with the needle still in it. After he bailed out of jail, he went back to the heroin dealer for more since it was so good it nearly killed him. "To this day, I don't understand why no one in my family explained alcoholism." - Chris Herren

"I kept taking a chance at dying," Herren said. By 27 years old, heroin had taken over his life. Another overdose caused him to crash his car into a cemetery fence and he ended up in the hospital. As a police officer led him through the hospital he said to Herren, "your poor kids have no idea how close you were to dying." It was at this time that Herren made the decision to take his life, when a nurse that had known his late mother told him she would do anything to help him. She began by calling every detox facility, while the hospital held him as long as they could. On his last day in the hospital, NBA player Chris Mullin called him and told him that he had found a place for him in New York. Mullin was also in recovery, and he asked Herren if he was willing to work for it. On day 35 in recovery, Herren had earned his first phone call, which he made to his wife. "My wife was broken, she immediately started crying," Herren recalled, as she was in the

hospital giving birth to their third child. Against his counselor's recommendation, Herren went home and witnessed the birth of their child. His first sober birth. His oldest son cried uncontrollably in his arms in that hospital room, and told him "I don't want you to die. I still want you to be my daddy." Herren went for a walk, and he didn't go back. He went to the liquor store and bought cheap vodka, then called his drug dealer. "I was back on the street, taking a chance at dying," Herren said. The next day he went back to his wife, and she told him she was leaving him. At 32 years old, Herren had nothing left to live for. His father was waiting for him in the hospital lobby, and drove him back to New York. He went back to his room, thought about his mother, and prayed. Aug. 1, 2008, is now his sobriety date. His children and his wife are his life's biggest blessings and if his teenager ever came home drunk or high, he plans to ask him "why." "Why can't my son feel good enough? Why do you have to change yourself?" Herren said. "There's a lot of pain and suffering in my family...we all have our 'why.'" **About Q-DRUG** Q-Drug is celebrating its 10-year anniversary this year, working to empower the community to stand together to support substance use prevention. They seek to promote awareness and erase the stigma of substance use disorder to build a recovery supportive community. For more information, visit qdrug.org, email quabbin.drug@gmail.com, call or text 978-434-2001 or follow them on Facebook and Instagram.

GARDEN, continued from page 4

ter) of good quality moist potting soil. The two or three leaves you left will be above the soil line. If you have rooting hormone on hand, you can dip the stem into that first, but you don't have to; plants in active growth usually root fine even without it. I will place my cuttings in indirect light and mist with a spray bottle a couple of times a day to keep them from wilting before they root. Check in about a month, and if you are lucky, roots will have formed. Depending on the size pot you used, and the size of the roots, it may be a good time to put the plants into a bigger pot and place them in a sunnier window until it's safe to plant them outside. My daffodil plants are starting to pop up here and

there in the yard. I had a little bit of balanced organic granular fertilizer left from last year, so I sprinkled it around the clusters.

Now and once the flowers have gone by are the two best times to fertilize narcissus. I am so excited to enjoy the varied colors and scents from this huge Genus of plants.

To me, they are the epitome of a true spring flower. Soon enough, soon enough!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 31 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

HARDWICK, continued from page 1

paid from the Capital Stabilization fund or free cash, in order to meet the requirements of the grant.

Parker said there would be about \$90,000 remaining in the town's \$161,000 in free cash after the snow and ice removal deficit was filled.

The Select Board approved a motion to fund the cost of the vehicle using free cash. Voters will decide on the vehicle purchase at town meeting.

Ballot question

Select Board Chair Eric Vollheim said a citizen suggested that a nonbinding question be added to the annual town election warrant.

The question would be: "Shall the town consider reopening and expanding the former landfill, located at Patrill Hollow Road." Voters could answer yes or no.

Vollheim said Parker and Town Clerk Ryan J. Witkos drafted the language.

"It's just a chance to take the pulse of the town," Vollheim said of the nonbinding question.

Select Board Vice-Chair Kelly Kemp recused herself, at the suggestion of town counsel.

Resident Lisa Cohen said she didn't think having the question on the ballot would be a good idea at this time, and that it could be con-

fusing to voters.

"The answer we will get, is the answer based on people's gut feelings, and without any chance to do any sort of education," she said. "To have this question even before we have a public hearing, really doesn't get the pulse of anything other than people's ignorance about the project."

Resident Judi Korzec agreed with Cohen, saying the question was "premature."

Korzec said almost half of residents today weren't around when the dump was open, and they are unaware of the issues associated with it, including odor and vermin.

"I don't see any benefit to putting this in front of the town when there's nothing to vote on," Korzec said. "Why would we put this in front of people who have had no opportunity to hear about this whole thing except for misinformation from Casella."

Vollheim and Clerk H. Robert Ruggles did not take action on the suggestion to add the nonbinding question to the ballot.

Town Administrator's report

Parker said the USDA would like to have a ribbon cutting ceremony at the new pump station when it is completed.

She said the Green Communities grant will be completed before May 31. The project includes new window shades, weatherization and blown-in insu-

lation in the attic of the Municipal Building and heat pumps at the Fire Station.

District Local Technical Assistance grants acquired through Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission will be used to design and create physical and interactive maps for the ecotourism part of the Master Plan.

Parker said she met with an Eagle Scout candidate that will build a kiosk in town.

A Complete Streets policy draft will be presented to the Select Board for review at an upcoming meeting. Parker said they are thinking of a project that will promote walkability and access from the end of the new trail to the elementary school.

Parker said the CDBG application has to be submitted by March 25. The biggest project that could be covered by the grant is Highland Terrace and there may be money to design the Gilbertville park.

She said the town's electric vehicle charging stations are up and running. They will be charging users \$.35 per kilowatt in the future, but for the time being their use is free.

Appointments

Matthew Borelli was appointed as Assistant Superintendent of the Highway Department and AmyGrace Lewis was appointed to the Council on Aging with her term ending June 2024.

LISTENING, continued from page 1

wouldn't necessarily be there." Dusha Nelson is working alongside Arroyo as she transitions into her new role.

"I am very excited for the future of Listening," Dusha Nelson said. "I've been working with Bea doing some training and some transitioning and it's been a pleasure to get to know her and I can see myself continuing to work with Listening in the future in my own new endeavors."

Arroyo welcomed people from the community to stop in and meet her at Listening Wellness Center, located at 35 South St.

"If you see me around say 'hi,'" she said. "I want people to feel comfortable coming here and reaching out."

For more information on Listening Wellness Center and its offerings, visit listeningwellness.org or follow them on Facebook and Instagram.

SOCIAL SECURITY, continued from page 4

approved for SSDI can get benefits with fewer than 40 credits and less than 35 years of lifetime earnings. Since each case is unique, I cannot say whether your earnings while on SSDI will improve your FRA amount, but Social Security will monitor your earnings and increase your benefit if appropriate. FYI, your SSDI benefit would normally automatically convert to become your regular SS retirement benefit at your FRA at the same amount you were receiving while on SSDI. It's possible that the limited earnings you may have from working while on SSDI may increase your benefit, but that's impossible for me to predict. Your benefit is based on your lifetime earnings history (adjusted for inflation), not on your contributions to Social Security while working.

So, if you are on SSDI and wish to try returning to work, and you think your monthly earnings

will occasionally exceed the SSDI limit, I suggest you contact Social Security (1-800-772-1213 or your local office to explore enrolling in the Ticket to Work program. That would be your best option to avoid jeopardizing your SSDI benefits, and your benefit amount will be automatically adjusted by Social Security if appropriate.

The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. This article is intended for information purposes and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the Association Mature Citizens Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. To submit a question, visit amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory or email us at ssadvisory@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

This paper publishes birth, engagement, wedding and significant anniversary announcements free of charge. Simply log on to our web site, choose the paper you want the announcement to appear in, then use our SUBMISSION link to email your information.

Logos for birth announcements, engagement announcements, and wedding announcements. Website: www.turley.com

TRUSTED NEWS & INFORMATION

When You Need It Most

In times of uncertainty, rest assured that as your community newspaper, we are working hard with a local, regional and national network of official resources to keep you informed and up to date on the issues and developments that matter most to you.

Accurate. Reliable. Unbiased. Local.

Subscribe Today at 800.824.6548 or turleynewspapers.com to stay informed and help protect the future of local reporting.

Let your community know if you are still open and what services you are still providing. CALL TODAY TO ADVERTISE! Specials Available!!

BARRE GAZETTE

It Matters Now More Than Ever. In Print. Online. Local. 800.824.6548 | barregazette.turley.com

Education

The Hills of Quabbin are alive with the sound of music

For 40 years, March has been designated as "Music in our Schools Month" by the National Association for Music Education and Quabbin is proud to showcase and share the work of our students and our educators that support them.

The Quabbin Regional School District has a proven track record in performing arts. Students have won prestigious awards and taken part in incredible trips and performances over the past several decades.

This year has been no exception, recently we had eight students, Ben Darcey, Fiona Derr, Tess Dunphy, Em Gentile, Jacoby Hartshorn, Jaiden Ortiz, Benjamin Vasseur and Gareth White accepted to the Senior and Junior MMEA Central District Music Festivals following challenging and competitive audition processes. In addition, we had 45 middle and high school students participate in the Quabbin Valley Music Festival with students from across Western and Central Massachusetts.

For the first time in many years we had three seniors, Ally Legare, Chalice Riendeau and Benjamin Vasseur participate in the UMSS Honor Band with hundreds of other musicians from across the entire state.

You may be wondering just how it is that Quabbin students are able to be so successful. For many, it begins in elementary school. Not only do we offer comprehensive general music classes to all students in Kindergarten through Grade 5, but we also offer chorus and instrument lessons starting as early as Grade 4.

These lessons take place during the regular school day and are taught by our talented teachers.



Submitted photos
At Choralfest, the Quabbin Regional School District elementary choral students joined the Quabbin Regional Middle High School choral students for a wonderful evening of joy and song.

Additionally, the music department offers an "Artist in Residence" program. This is an after school program where Quabbin students can take additional lessons with local musicians and even some of our high school students for a minimal fee.

By the time our elementary students move up to the middle high school they have a secure foundation in music education. In middle school, students have the opportunity to participate in band, chorus and orchestra.

It is also the first time that many students may decide to "try" their hand at drama. It is never "too" late to join one of our programs and our educators are continually seeking new members.

In high school, students have the opportunity to further hone their skills and align with their areas of interest. Many think about what their future may look like and

if performing arts might play a role in it.

We offer a wide variety of courses including drama workshop, history of music, music theory, jazz band and more. Perhaps as important as the course offerings is the opportunities for students to have authentic hands-on experiences.

Led by Lisa Payne, our students have worked on set and costume design for our productions. Students feel so accomplished when they see something that they have created help bring a production to life.

Students also can focus on lighting and sound and have the opportunity to be a part of our productions.

They work diligently as they strive to bring performances alive with sights and sounds that captivate our audiences. Oftentimes, these are internship opportunities

where students receive "credits" for their work and yet for many they engage in this work because they simply love it.

Julia Tuttle leads our choral and drama programming. She is a Quabbin graduate, who is passionate about instilling in our students great confidence. As most of us know, being on stage can be a terrifying experience and Tuttle provides students with actionable strategies that help them work through their fears and anxieties. She is an amazing cheerleader and her energy is contagious.

Our music department also includes another Quabbin Graduate Rebecca Kelly and her husband, Sean Kelly. The Kelly's are "instrumental" in our programming. Sean delivers general music education at the elementary level and is the high and middle school orchestra director. Rebecca is the elementary orchestra director and



Quabbin students participated in the Quabbin Valley Music Festival at Auburn High School in February.

teaches small group string lessons. They both have impressive personal performing experiences and we are thankful to have them on our team.

Our most recent member of the music department is Tim Kane. He provides general music instruction to our elementary students and works with some of our chorus students as well. Kane has been working with our youngest learners, helping them to understand their voice and impact. Oftentimes, students are encouraged to use a microphone to help them build their performance skills.

Finally, our music department is spearheaded by Toni Brown. She is also a Quabbin graduate and has not only worked in our music department, but she also previously taught math here at Quabbin. For Brown, it is important that we provide equitable opportunities for our students and that is one reason the elementary program is so critical.

Barriers to access are removed for our students, they do not need to be provided transportation or have costs incurred to learn "how" to play an instrument or partake in vocal instruction. The Quabbin team strives to provide these



Em Gentile and Benjamin Vasseur are shown at Mechanics Hall, Worcester MA for the Massachusetts Municipal Educators Association Central District Music Festival in January.

opportunities to students throughout their educational journey to ensure that all students can access our programming.

MWCC Dental Hygiene students offer free cleanings

GARDNER – The Mount Wachusett Community College dental hygiene students are providing free dental care to individuals and families at the Dental Hygiene Clinic located at the Community Health Connections Family Health Center in Fitchburg (Burbank Hill).

Patients treated in the newly renovated, state-of-the-art clinic can receive comprehensive oral assessment, dental cleaning, fluoride treatments, dental sealants, deep cleaning and dental x-rays. Services are free for those without dental insurance, individuals with insurance are billed for hygiene procedures and any costs not covered by the insurance are free.

"Dental health services are a basic need that too many people cannot afford," states Jenna Guzman, President of the Dental Hygiene Club. "Access to dental services not only benefits physical health, but it also gives patients an increased sense of self-esteem."

Appointments are available during the spring semester Mondays through Fridays between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. excluding holidays and semester breaks. Interested individuals and families can contact the clinic at 978-630-9413 or visit mwcc.edu/dentalvisit to make an appointment.



Submitted photo
Shown in first row from left are Marian Khalil Holden; Jenna Guzman of Leominster; Edward Garcia of Pelham, N.H.; Megan C. of Worcester and Abby Bryant of Barre and second row from left, Leyla A. of Hyde Park; Nicole L. of Athol; Stella P. of Leominster; Becca Sellers of Richmond, N.H. and A. A. Kerylow of Vernon, Vermont.

New Subscribers!

Stay connected to all the people, places and events that make our community a great place to call home. From dining and entertainment to sports, shopping and neighborhood news, we cover every local angle to keep you in the know and on the go.

Business Owners,
Reach households throughout **BARRE, HARDWICK, HUBBARDSTON, NEW BRAINTREE, NORTH BROOKFIELD, OAKHAM PERTERSHAM & RUTLAND** when you advertise with us!
Call **TIM MARA 508.826.2675** today to get started.

Get Home Delivery for Less Than 64¢ a Week!

Call or go online today to subscribe:
413.283.8393
www.turley.com/subscriptions

YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY NEWS!

BARRE GAZETTE

www.barregazette.turley.com • 413.283.8393
SUBSCRIBE ONLINE AT WWW.TURLEY.COM

YES, start my subscription to Barre Gazette today!

Choose your subscription type and term:

1 year \$33.00 2 years \$44.00

Out-of-State 1 year \$38.00 2 years \$59.00

Check Enclosed Credit Card

Mail this completed form with payment or bill me later preference to:
Barre Gazette
24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069

Delivery Address
Name: _____
Delivery Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____

Billing/Mailing Address (if different from delivery address):
Name: _____
Delivery Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Credit Card: _____
Exp. _____ C/V: _____

JOBS. REAL ESTATE. BUY. SELL

YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY NEWS!

BARRE GAZETTE

www.barregazette.turley.com • 413.283.8393
SUBSCRIBE ONLINE AT WWW.TURLEY.COM

YES, start my subscription to Barre Gazette today!

Choose your subscription type and term:

1 year \$33.00 2 years \$44.00

Out-of-State 1 year \$38.00 2 years \$59.00

Check Enclosed Credit Card

Mail this completed form with payment or bill me later preference to:
Barre Gazette
24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069

Delivery Address
Name: _____
Delivery Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____

Billing/Mailing Address (if different from delivery address):
Name: _____
Delivery Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Credit Card: _____
Exp. _____ C/V: _____

Colleges and Universities Fall 2023 Dean's lists

Assumption College Worcester

Matthew Brouillet of South Barre, Rebecca Craine of Rutland, Jack Devlin of Rutland, Julia Forest of Rutland, Gemma Gabrielli of Barre, Jamison Howland of New Braintree, Maura Lemoine of Rutland, Angelina Riendeau of North Brookfield, Hannah Stevenson of Hubbardston, Meadow Taylor of New Braintree and Ava Walker of Oakham

Bryant University Smithfield, R.I.

James Dubovick of Rutland and Brendan Shaw of Rutland

Clark University Worcester

Kate B. Galvinhill of Rutland, second honors; Aidan Bray Keefe of Rutland, first honors; Ryan M. Kerr of Rutland, first honors; Zoey L. Lenahan of South Barre, second honors; Brock M. Milaszewski

of Rutland, second honors and Matt D. Wells of Rutland, first honors

College of Holy Cross Worcester

Jorji LaViolette of Barre, Class of 2026 and Samantha Shea of Rutland, Class of 2027

Curry College Milton

Abigail Rambelje of North Brookfield and Lily Smith of North Brookfield

Fairfield University Fairfield, CT

Lillian M. Riley of Hubbardston

Saint Anselm Manchester, N.H.

Jacob Nadeau of Rutland, Class of 2024 business major

Tufts University Medford

Emma Varteresian of Hubbardston, Class of 2024

Saint Anselm College sophomore nurses

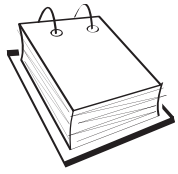
MANCHESTER, NH – Saint Anselm College sophomore nursing student Anna Paulson of Rutland joined fellow student nurses in the Abbey Church for a blessing before beginning clinical placements.

The blessing of the hand's ceremony held on Friday, Feb. 2 is a beloved tradition for the college's future nurses, connecting the Benedictine values at the center of their college experience to their future work.

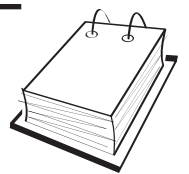
Paulson along with 114 other future nurses representing seven states received the blessing of hands, marking a new chapter in their nursing education by taking the classroom, lab and simulation learning to the clinical environment.

To be eligible for this honor, a student must be in good academic standing and have completed three semesters of a liberal arts nursing curriculum.

The nursing students were joined by faculty, family and friends, listening to prayer and reflection. Father Francis McCarty, O.S.B., presided over the blessing.



Calendar of Events



THURSDAY, MARCH 14

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

FRIDAY, MARCH 15

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

THE SPONGE BOB MUSICAL sponsored by the Hubbardston Community Theater will be held today, Saturday, March 16 and Sunday, March 17 at the Hubbardston Center School gym, 8 Elm St., Hubbardston. Directors are Donna Farrell and Michelle Johnston.

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

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

WINE TASTING FUNDRAISER sponsored by the Friends of Ware Town Hall will host this event to benefit the Ware Town Clock Restoration at "It's Wine O'Clock," located at 164D West St., Ware today from 1-4 p.m. Admission to the tasting is free, with light refreshments served and a nice selection of wines for tasting, which will be available for purchase. A percentage of wine sales during the event will be donated to Friends of Ware Town Hall Raffle tickets will be sold during the event with gift card prizes to "It's Wine O'Clock." Lotto Calendars will also be available for sale, with the drawing for the calendars beginning April 1 and continuing through

Where is this?



Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

This week's mystery photo is from New Braintree. If any readers know where this photo was taken, they may email edowner@turley.com or call the Barre Gazette at 413-967-3505, extension 100 with their answer by noon on Monday, March 18. The names of those that correctly guessed the location will appear in the following edition. **Bill Bowles, Peggy Civilik, Stephen Craven, James Laramie, Evelyn Luukko and Christian Paydos** correctly identified the photo. The photo last week **St. Augustine Mission Church, Church Lane, in the Wheelwright Village of Hardwick.**

the entire month of April.

BARRE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS will take place today at 11 a.m. via Zoom. The Barre Democratic Town Committee will elect delegates and alternates to attend the 2024 Massachusetts Democratic Convention. The caucus is open to all registered and pre-registered Democrats, 16 years of age or older, living in Barre. Youth (16-35), people with disabilities, people of color, veterans and members of the LGBTQ+ community may apply to be an add-on delegate at the caucus or by visiting www.massdems.org/massdems-convention.

This year's Mass Dems convention is scheduled to take place on Saturday June 1 at the DCU Center in Worcester. For more information and the link to the Zoom meeting, people may email BarreDTC@gmail.com.

STANDOUT IN SUPPORT OF MARY LANE HOSPITAL will be held today from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Veterans Park located on Main Street, Ware. The

hospital buildings are currently on a demo delay which was issued by the Ware Historical Commission.

MONDAY, MARCH 18

STORY TIME at the New Braintree Public Library, 45 Memorial Drive, New Braintree will be held today at 9 a.m. The focus will be spring weather and will feature "Little Cloud" by Eric Carle, "It Looked Like Spilt Milk" by Charles G. Shaw and "Rain!" by Linda Ashman. This reading and crafts program for preschool children is held twice a month on Mondays at the library. Parental supervision is required. People may call the library at 508-867-7650 during regular business for more information.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

BROWN BAG CONCERTS will be held at Mechanics Hall, 321 Main St., Worcester. Brown Bag Concerts features regional and national artists performing a wide variety of jazz styles from American

and Latin to Big Band and Gypsy jazz. Daniel Bennett Group, led by New York saxophonist Daniel Bennett, will perform today from noon-1 p.m. (doors open at 11:30 a.m. and Betty's Bounce, performing American and Gypsy jazz performs on Wednesday, March 27. All concerts are free and open to the public; registration is not required. Cabaret-style seating in the Great Hall is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Attendees are invited to bring their own "brown bag" lunch. In addition, food and beverages will be available for purchase. Concerts are subject to change without notice. For more information, people may visit mechanicshall.org or call 508-752-5608. Brown Bag Concert Series is sponsored by Price Chopper/Market 32 and The Fred Harris Daniels Foundation.

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

Q-DRUG 10TH ANNIVERSARY will be held today from 5:30-9:30 p.m. at the Harding Allen Estate, 59 Allen Drive, Barre. There will be a silent auction awards, dinner and dessert. Tickets are \$50 per person or \$400 per table. Additional donations greatly appreciated. People should RSVP for tickets by Friday, March 1 by emailing quabbin.drug@gmail.com.

SUNDAY, MARCH 24

ST. JOSEPH'S CEMETERY SPRING CLEAN-UP will be taking place soon. All winter baskets and decorations must be removed by today at St. Joseph's Cemetery, South Barre Road. The removal of the baskets and decorations will facilitate spring clean-up. All remaining items will be discarded.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE will meet today at 6 p.m. in the all purpose room at the Woods Memorial Library, 19 Pleasant St., Barre. All are welcome. A group of 16 people met at the Woods Memorial Library on March 6, with author Courtney Schlosser. The purpose was to become familiar with his book "Existential Threats and Moral Prospects." Schlosser highlighted the threats that our society is now facing including the possibility of escalating conflicts leading to nuclear war, the challenges arising from climate change and unrest from increasing income inequality, among them. The group will meet again to encourage conversation around these and other issues. Schlosser is Philosophy Professor Emeritus from Worcester State University lives in Barre.

FRIDAY, APRIL 19

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

It's maple syrup season at *Hardwick Sugar Shack*

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

HARDWICK – During Sundays in March, the Hardwick Sugar Shack offers tours and teaches the process of how maple syrup is made, starting with trees and ending up in those special maple syrup containers.

This family sugar shack has been operating in Hardwick for more than 20 years.

Joe Raskett and Megan McDonough welcome many guests to explore the process behind making maple syrup. It is a fun experience where guests can venture out into the outdoors and witness the steps in the maple syrup making process.

March is sugaring season in Massachusetts and the Hardwick Sugar Shack has been keeping busy to make as much maple syrup as possible. On location, there is a sugar house that houses merchandise and memorabilia of all the history of Hardwick Sugar Shack; the shelves stocked with containers of maple syrup, maple cream and maple candy.

Raskett has many newspaper articles over the years that have told stories about Hardwick Sugar Shack. One of the greatest stories to Raskett involves his children.

"I got to watch my kids grow up seeing these articles," Raskett said.

While growing up, Raskett's



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

Visitors can check out Hardwick Sugar Shack and see how maple syrup is made.

children Emily and Jonathan got to experience the world of making maple syrup and help out their parents every season. Hardwick Sugar Shack have had seasonal staff over the years as youth in the neighborhood expressed interest in helping out every maple syrup season.

Students in high school would help every year until they left for college. Raskett says sometimes the kids come back to help or visit during their school breaks.

Raskett, originally from Rutland, started making maple syrup as a

hobby. Raskett also admits to having a sweet tooth for maple syrup.

This hobby would soon turn into a family business as equipment for making maple syrup can be very expensive.

As of now, Hardwick Sugar Shack has about 16 acres of land with over 1,400 trees tapped into to collect sap. The land is filled with trails that take the staff of Hardwick Sugar Shack into the wilderness.

Raskett's favorite part of operating the sugar shack is going out into the outdoors and checking out

the trees.

As the business grew over time, the supply of maple syrup got bigger and the Hardwick Sugar Shack got busier. Many customers appreciate the business of Hardwick Sugar Shack and can rely on purchasing delicious pure maple syrup every season.

"People want a good taste of maple syrup," Raskett said. "The public will take care of you".

Raskett and McDonough appreciate the continued support from the community of Hardwick and



The front counter of the sugar house at Hardwick Sugar Shack features maple syrup, maple cream and maple candy.

the neighboring communities and businesses who love their maple syrup.

During the sugaring season, Hardwick Sugar Shack does feature their sugar house with maple syrup, hats, t-shirts, and other maple products. However, their maple syrup is available year-round at local stores.

Hardwick Sugar Shack's pure maple syrup is available at The Country Gourmet in Barre, Rose32 Bread in Gilbertville, Hardwick Farmer's Co-Op in Hardwick, Hartman's Herb Farm in Barre, Howe's Farm Stand in Paxton and Holden, Mimi's Coffee House in Hardwick and Petersham Country

Store in Petersham.

Hardwick Sugar Shack attends the annual Hardwick Community Fair every August and offers pure maple syrup. Containers of maple syrup come in half pints, pints, quarts and half gallons. The Hardwick Sugar Shack makes an average of about 350 gallons of maple syrup a year.

For a tour of the Hardwick Sugar Shack, visit 572 Jackson Road on Sundays, March 17 and 24 from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. To learn more, call the Hardwick Sugar Shack at 413 477-0932 and follow the Hardwick Sugar Shack on their Facebook page.



A cozy campfire is always running during the operation of making maple syrup at the Hardwick Sugar Shack.



The first step of making maple syrup is to collect sap from the trees. Tubing makes the job easier.



Pumps help bring sap to the sugar house where it is converted to maple syrup.

SPORTS



Marshall Ames lets go of a free throw.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Lian Lopez-Baez makes his way down the court.

Pioneers lose state tourney opener to Panthers

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

PALMER—The Palmer Panthers won a preliminary round home game in the Division 5 state boys basketball tournament for the second time in the past three years.

Led by senior Andrew Menard and freshman Taydem Haley, who combined for 48 points, the 23rd-seeded Panthers advanced into the round of 32 with a 79-51 victory over the 42nd-seeded Pathfinder Tech Pioneers on Feb. 27.

“It’s really good for these guys, especially the two seniors, to have a home win in the states,” said Palmer head coach Missy Rocker said. “As soon as we found out that we would be facing Pathfinder, the kids were very excited about playing against their friends.”

Two years ago, Palmer defeated the Hampden Charter School East, 61-40, in a preliminary home game before losing at Hopkins Academy in the round of 32.

This year’s postseason journey also came to an end for the Panthers in the round of 32 following a 68-49 road loss to the 10th-seeded Douglas Tigers two nights later.

Palmer finished their season with an 11-10 overall record.

Menard, who scored 13 of his 22 points against the Pioneers during the second half, and Shawn Troche are the two seniors listed on the Panthers varsity roster.

“Andrew and I have been playing on the same basketball teams since we were little kids,” said Troche, who chipped in with seven points. “It feels amazing to win a state tournament game in our final home game. We lost in the round of 32 two years ago and we’re hoping to get to the round of 16 this year.”

Haley, who’s a tri-captain captain with the two seniors, played in his first state tournament game against Pathfinder Tech. He netted 18 of his career-high 26 points after halftime.

“Winning a game in the state



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Richie Gula shoots for the Pioneers.



Hunter Griswold passes on the run.

Senators continue in state tournament



Morgan Softic drives into the paint.



Lucas Isrow starts a play for the Senators.

tournament feels really good,” Haley said. “There was a lot of pressure on us, but we worked very hard as a team.”

Troche was very impressed with Haley’s outstanding performance.

“Taydem is only a freshman, but he scored 26 points, which is amazing,” he said. “He always plays every game with a lot of confidence.”

Pathfinder Tech, who has made three appearances in the state tournament since the postseason format was changed in 2021, finished their season with an 11-10 overall record.

“Even though the final score was worse than the first time that we played Palmer, I thought it was a much more competitive game tonight,” said Pathfinder head coach Zac Button. “We battled them to the end.”

The seven seniors listed on the Pioneers varsity roster are Hunter Griswold, Adrien Moskovitz, Branden Hnitecki, Luke Magnus,



Adrien Moskovitz passes on the run.

See PIONEERS, page 10

St. Patrick’s Road Race set for this Saturday afternoon

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

HOLYOKE – The weekend of St. Patrick’s Day is synonymous with the popular parade in the streets of downtown Holyoke. But equally tradition is the 10K St. Patrick’s Day Road Race.

The road race was disappointingly cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and again in 2021 when COVID-19 rates rose due to the vaccine not being as widely available at the time.

But last year, the race returned to the joy people throughout the region and beyond and Holyoke once again became a hub of activity beginning with “Race Day.”

And the sights and scenes of St. Patrick’s Day weekend were also back in the Paper City the past two years as the downtown area around Maple and High Streets were lined with patrons. Bars and restaurants were filled with people going in and out, the Mummies gave their performance, and children and others were able to participate in the Kids Walk and Fun Run prior to the “main event” taking place at 1 p.m.

This year’s race, the 47th running of the tradition, will take place



Photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

The first wave of harriers are off in the 2023 St. Patrick’s Road Race in Holyoke.

this Saturday, March 16. Once again, many will be looking to add their name to the list of winners of the 10K.

In 2023, it was the ideal day for Jenna Gigliotti, an Amherst woman who won the 10K Road Race for the second consecutive year. She crossed the finish line at 35:29.

This year’s male and overall winner was Michael Norberg, who also is from Amherst. He finished

with a time 30:50. He was more than 30 seconds ahead of the second-place finisher, Bradley Mish, of Hadley.

There were more than 5,000 participants in this year’s event, which is part of a big weekend in Holyoke, going along with the parade that took place on Sunday. It also is viewed as a practice course for runners participating in more races later in the year, including the

Boston Marathon. There are harriers who will run 6.2-mile course multiple times to simulate 26.2-mile marathon distance, including participating in the main race.

Of the more than 5,000 harriers signed up, 3,813 registered finishes.

Benjamin Lasky, of Ludlow, was a top local finisher, coming in 14th at 33:41. Lasky has been a top 10

See ROAD RACE, page 10

Quabbin alum Nassir participates in MASCAC championships

WESTFIELD – Abdi Nassir, a graduate of Quabbin Regional High School, has been a regular participant this winter on Westfield State University’s Track and Field team after spending the fall as part of the cross country team.

Most recently, Nassir took

part in the conference championship meet, placing fifth in the one-mile run. He completed a mile in less than five minutes at 4:45. He went on to participate in the 3,000 meter run, a distance of just under two miles. He placed third in that event with a time of 9:37.

Registration now open for Quabbin Valley baseball

The Quabbin Valley Over-28 Baseball League is looking to infuse new talent into its league for the 2024 season.

Registration for the 2024 season is now open and any interested players can go to www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org to get registered, or to seek more information or make inquiries about the league. The league website will also be updated over the next month with information about the upcoming season.

There are many open roster spots available in the league for the 2024 season, which is ten-

tatively scheduled to begin on Sunday, April 21. The league plays most Sunday from late April through late August with playoffs following that. The league plays a 15-game schedule and typically fields six teams each year. Games are usually played at 10 a.m. with fields in Easthampton and South Hadley normally used.

The Quabbin Valley league is an all-abilities league and all are welcome to join. Eligibility is players who are age 28 and

See QUABBIN VALLEY, page 10

BARRE GAZETTE

It’s easier than ever to **SUBSCRIBE** to your hometown paper.

Visit barregazette.turley.com and click on SUBSCRIPTIONS!

You can also browse our archives, submit your news and view our facebook feed all from the same page!

\$33/Year | \$38 Out-of-State

Home Who We Are Find Us Contact Us Advertising Classifieds Submissions Turley Publications Archives **SUBSCRIPTIONS**



Sports

Railers suffer loss to Lions

THROIS-RIVIÈRES, QC – The Worcester Railers HC (25-25-4-2, 56pts) lost to the Trois-Rivières Lions (23-26-3-3, 52pts) on Saturday afternoon by the final score of 3-1 in front of a crowd of 2,224 at the Colisée Videotron. The Railers head back home to play the Reading Royals for their second school-day game of the year on Wednesday, March 13th at 10:05am.

Trois-Rivières notched the game's first two goals from Jakov Novak (1-0-1) and Justin Ducharme (1-0-1) to go up 2-0 entering the second. Nicolas Guay (1-0-1) extended the Lions lead to 3-0 with an early goal in the second. Trevor Cosgrove (1-0-1) scored the final goal of the game in the second on the power play as the Railers would go on to lose 3-1 to Trois-Rivières to wrap up the weekend.

Jakov Novak (21st) continued his hot play against the Railers with his 13th point against the team this year. Novak found the puck loose in front on a chaotic play in front of Ceci and proceeded to pat it past him to Put the Lions ahead 1-0. While short-handed, Cory Thomas airmailed a puck from his own corner into the neutral zone. Justin Ducharme (14th) skated past the Railers defense and scooped up the puck en route to scoring blocker side on a breakaway past Ceci to make it 2-0 Trois-Rivières going into the second.

Trois-Rivières picked up in the second where they left off in the first with a goal just 3:57 into the frame. Nicolas Guay (6th) entered the Railers zone on a three-on-one rush with Tyler Hylland and John Parker-Jones. As the puck bounced around

the attacking zone, Guay placed a perfect shot bar-down past Ceci for his second goal in two games to make it 3-0 Lions. Worcester went to the power play for the second time off a trip from Nicolas Larivière. Trevor Cosgrove (7th) hammered a one-timer off a pass from Keegan Howdeshell and made it 3-1 Railers on the man-advantage. The Lions continued to pressure in the second, but Cole Ceci was strong the rest of the period as Worcester was outshot 13-7 in the second.

Worcester woke up in the third, outshooting the Lions 18-2 in the frame. Worcester tested Strauss Mann heavily in the period, but the Greenwich, CT native was strong in net as he turned all 18 shots aside. He secured the third star of the game for the Lions, along with the win for Trois-Rivieres.

T-Birds suffer shutout

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds (26-26-3-2) threw everything they could at the net of the Providence Bruins (35-17-3-2) without success in a 5-0 defeat on Sunday at Amica Mutual Pavilion.

It was evident from the onset that the goaltenders were not going to allow anything easily, as both Colten Ellis of Springfield and Brandon Bussi of Providence came out with laser-like focus. Bussi was exceptional from the get-go, as he turned away a trio of point-blank chances in the opening 10 minutes off of Will Bitten, Joey Duszak, and Zach Dean.

Operating on the first power play of the afternoon, the T-Birds instead saw the scoreless deadlock broken when Jayson Megna

intercepted a pass and beat everyone up ice to beat Ellis on a backhand breakaway, giving the P-Bruins a 1-0 lead at 11:23 of the first period.

Megna's tally, which began Providence's Teddy Bear Toss, proved to be the only shot to beat Bussi or Ellis for the next period and a half. The T-Birds peppered the Providence net from all angles and in all situations, but Bussi continued to bamboozle his division foes.

With Springfield still pushing hard to equalize, Oskar Steen finally afforded Bussi and his defense some insurance when he elevated a wrist shot past Ellis

3:58 into the final period. Joey Abate and John Beecher would follow suit, setting each other up for odd-man rush goals at 13:45 and 15:37 respectively. With the game well in hand, the Bruins' top power play unit added one more for good measure as Georgii Merkulov potted the Bruins' 5th goal at 19:28.

The T-Birds get some well-deserved rest before a crucial two-game series in Charlotte next Saturday and Sunday against the Checkers inside Bojangles' Coliseum. Puck drop on Saturday is set for 4 p.m., with a 1 p.m. matinee on tap for Sunday.



Pitkat gets new ride as he returns to Stafford

STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT – Woody Pitkat announced today that he will return to competition in the Open Modified events at Stafford Motor Speedway during the 2024 season. Pitkat will drive the No. 8, a Chassis Pro machine, owned by Mike and Makayla Holmes.

Pitkat will run all of the Open Modified events, including the \$20,000 to win NAPA Spring Sizzler to open the season, April 27-28.

"Mike has been a friend over the years and driving for him in this new car is a great opportunity," Pitkat said. "The team will remain very similar to our team with Dunleavy Racing, with Cam McDermott as the crew chief and many of our crew members. We're looking forward to getting back to Stafford, a place I am lucky enough to call home. They have done a great job with their short-track racing program and we're excited to chase wins in these major events."

The team may also run additional events in New England if time allows. Pitkat announced last week he will return to Dunleavy Racing to compete for the full Monaco

Modified Tri-Track Series schedule driving their No. 88.

Mike Holmes & Son Excavating includes services like septic installation, septic repairs, complete house lots, additions, yard expansions, drainage work, gravel driveways, trucking and more. They also have a 24-hour emergency service available.

"We're beyond excited to finally be a car owner, especially with having a driver like Woody Pitkat behind the wheel," Mike Holmes said. "Woody has become a great friend over the years and I'm blessed to have Cam and his wife,

Lauren, who have become family to my wife Makayla and I, along with our entire crew. I can't thank Todd Owen, the Chassis Pro team, and all of our sponsors and crew members enough. We're looking forward to Stafford and some other races we will have scheduled to chase checkered flags and have a fun year."

Pitkat is second on the all-time Stafford Motor Speedway wins list with 83 career victories, the most recent in 2023. He's also a two-time Stafford Late Model champion and a former SK Modified champion at the Connecticut half-mile.

Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

Tuesday Night Commercial Elks League

PALMER – March has arrived for the Tuesday Night Commercial Elks League.

The standings as of Feb. 27 had Acres and Blue B's tied for first place at 6-2. In third place, Team BK has a record of 5-3. The Champs R Here, Compression and Last in Line are tied for fourth place with a record of 4-4.

Life is Good is in last place at 2-6.

Compression won in the first round and Life is Good won the second round. One more team is aiming to join them in the playoffs at the end of the season.

The Champs R Here bowled against Compression on this Tuesday night of March. In game one, The Champs prevailed with a commanding lead over Compression and won by a score of 423-378. Filling in for the Champs is Bryan Surprise starting off the evening with a 111.

John Colkos also bowled well over his average scoring 113.

In game two, Champs R Here won again by a score of 387-370. Surprise had the high score of game two out of both teams with a 102. In game three, The Champs won 395-368 for a three-game sweep over Compression.

Surprise finished strong with a 118 and a series of 331. Total pinfall was won by The Champs R Here with a season of 1205 with

Compression having a total pinfall score of 1116.

Thursday Night Mixed League

The Thursday Night Mixed League is several weeks away from wrapping up their season.

With a couple weeks left, several teams are aiming to win the second and final round. As of Feb. 29, Team Six, the winners of round one, are leading in round two at 25-15. Team One is in second place at 23.5-16.5. In third place, just one point behind Team One, Team Four is at 22.5-17.5.

In one match, Team Six bowled against Team Three. In game one, Team Six took the first game by a score of 412-400. Dan Mahoney of Team Six started off the evening with a 110.

In game two, Team Six won again by a score of 421-375. Josh Gorham of Team Six bowled well scoring 105.

In game three, Team Six won for a three-game sweep by a score of 430-422. Team Six won total pinfall by a score of 1263-1197.

Team One bowled against Team Five and attempted to take first place from Team Six. In game one, Team Five took the first game by a score of 427-401. Mike Wadas of Team Five led the team starting off with a 108.

In game two, Team Five won again by a score of 408-386. In game three, Team One managed to win the last game by a score of 422-400. Team Five was the winner of total pinfall by a score of 1235-1209. Team One only managed to win one point where Team Six won four points.

The Thursday Night Mixed League will conclude on Thursday, March 28.

Pioneers 2024 schedule released

LUDLOW – Earlier this week, the Western Mass. Pioneers have released their 2024 schedule.

It includes potential participation in the U.S. Open Cup, which begins on March 19. The Pioneers have won an Open Cup match in the past. Later, the Pioneers have their "friendly" exhibition game scheduled for May 10.

They will face 3rd Eye FC prior to the start of their USL-2 League schedule. Their opener for the regular season is against the Boston Bolts on the road May 14. Their home opener is scheduled for May 18 against Pathfinder FC of New York. The schedule continues through July 13 and includes a total of 14 games.

PIONEERS, continued from page 9

Trevor Allard, Adam Slonka, and Richie Gula.

"We'll be losing seven very good kids," Button said. "I coached the seniors on the junior varsity team before coaching them at the varsity level the past two years. They work very hard on the court and in the classroom. They're a very special group."

Gula scored a team-high 17 points in his final high school basketball game.

Griswold, whos' planning on playing football at Mass Maritime Academy next fall, scored 14 of his 16 points during the second half.

"I do know most of the Palmer players and losing to them in a state tournament game is tough," said Griswold, who's an outstanding three-sport athlete. "It has been awesome being a member

of this basketball team for the last four years."

At the end of December, the Panthers made the trip down the street to Pathfinder Tech and celebrated a 53-37 non-league victory. Haley scored a game-high 18 points in that contest.

Menard scored the first four points in last Tuesday's contest and the Panthers never trailed.

A couple of minutes later, a lay-up by sophomore Angel Torres (7 points) gave the home team an 8-4 advantage.

Gula made the first of his two trifectas with 5:15 remaining in the opening quarter, which closed the gap to 8-7.

Then Haley buried a 3-pointer from the top of the key beginning a 13-3 Palmer run. Haley scored six more points during the final five minutes of the first quarter.

"Taydem is an outstanding point guard for a freshman," Rucker said. "He's a big cata-



Trevor Allard makes a shot.

lyst for our team and jump-starts things. His performance tonight was unbelievable. He made fantastic shots while driving, and that's what we need more of."

Sophomore Dylan Doherty (8 points) added a field goal and made a pair of foul shots for the home team during the run. Sophomore Stephen Fredette (5 points) also made a free throw, as the Panthers entered the second quarter holding a 21-10 advantage.

Pathfinder Tech began the second stanza with a pair of inside hoops by Allard (6 points) and Slonka (8 points) before Palmer scored the next seven points.

Late in the first half, a Doherty put-back hoop gave the Panthers a 37-21 lead.

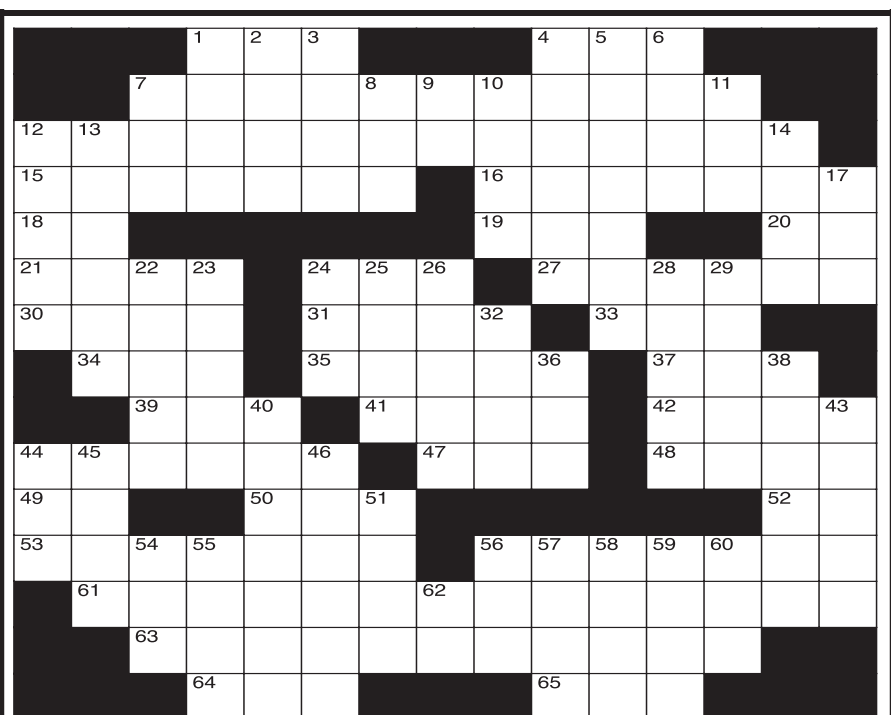
Haley took over the spotlight offensively during the third quarter by scoring twelve points, which helped Palmer keep their double digit lead.

"Taydem is a heck of a basketball player," Button said. "He cut right through our defense, especially in the third quarter."

The Pioneers did cut the deficit to ten points a couple of times in the quarter quarter, but they weren't able to get any closer than that the rest of the way.

Griswold made five field goals and a foul shot during the final eight minutes of the contest for the visiting team.

The returning Pioneers players will be looking for a little bit of revenge when they play another game at the Palmer High School gymnasium during the 2024-25 regular season.



- CLUES ACROSS**
- Helps little firms
 - Political action committee
 - Allowed
 - Olivia Colman played one
 - Open
 - He had a notable lamp
 - Promotional material
 - Domesticated animal
 - Larry and Curly's buddy
 - The best ever
 - TV network
 - Checked for
 - Dry or withered
 - Expression of annoyance
 - Dash
 - Fifth note of a major scale
 - A secret clique
 - Partner to
- CLUES DOWN**
- Prevent from
 - cheese
 - ___ school: where to learn healing
 - City in ancient Syria
 - Gasteyer and de Armas are two
 - Established practice
 - Thanksgiving side dish
 - District in Peru
 - It's becoming more prevalent
 - State in India
 - Measure of illumination
 - Raised platform
 - Japanese warrior
 - R.L. Stevenson novel
 - Transitory
 - Advanced degree
 - Fiddler crabs
 - seeing
 - Czech city
 - ___ and Andy, TV show
 - A young pig
 - Removed surgically
 - Covered with (slang)
 - Nigerian City
 - Midway between south and east
 - A way to shut
 - Stop playing
 - Marshy places
 - Takes apart
 - Ten cents
 - A gesture of assent
 - Scent
 - Teletypewriter
 - General's assistant (abbr.)
 - Hillside
 - Taxi driver
 - Semitic Sun god
 - Town in India
 - Traditional rhythmic pattern
 - Fugitives are on the ___
 - Type of dance
 - Two letters, one sound
 - Having a strong, pleasant taste
 - Golf score
 - Mayhem
 - Drenched
 - River in northeastern Asia
 - Drug to treat anxiety (abbr.)
 - Part-time employee
 - A very large body of water
 - Aboriginal people of Japan
 - Millisecond
 - Forearm bone
 - Subway dweller
 - Royal Mail

\$12.50 Each

Digital Photos
TURLEY PUBLICATIONS, INC.
Purchase a photo that recently ran in one of our publications. Go to newspapers.turley.com/photo-request

STAY ON TOP OF IT ALL!
Subscribe Today!

Turley Publications, Inc.
12 HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS
413.283.8393
www.turley.com
24 Water Street
Palmer, MA 01069

ROAD RACE, continued from page 9

finisher in the past.

The race continued traditions of participants running for various charities and other causes, in honor of deceased loved ones, and of course, the running of the race

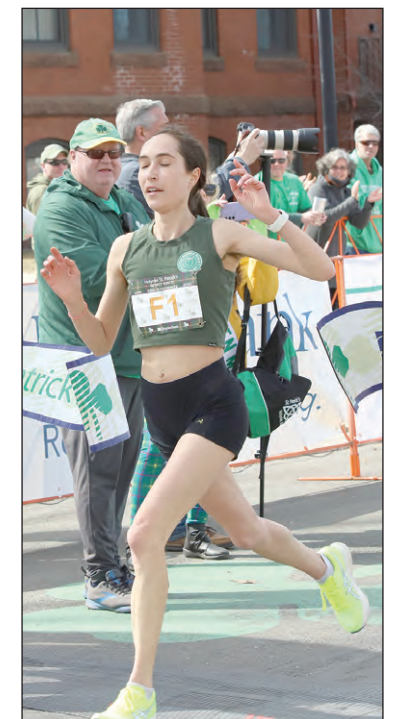


Photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Michael Norberg, of Amherst, finishes first overall

in costume.

The current cost, as of press time, to enter the race, is \$35. The two-mile walk price was \$25 as of press time, but was expected to rise on March 13.

The weather, as of press time, is expected to be warmer than in previous years, near 60 and sunny.



For the second straight year, Jenna Gliotti, of Amherst, was the top female finisher. She came in at 35:29.

QUABBIN VALLEY, continued from page 9

over. You must be 30 to be eligible to pitch in the league. Your age for eligibility is whatever age you will turn in 2024. The league is also able to entertaining taking

in an entire group as a team to add to the league. Please email the league board for to inquire about entering a team.

The league is currently in the process of preparing for the 2024 season and held a meeting on Feb. 18 to discussion plans for

the upcoming season. The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday March 24 at 11:40 a.m. at the Hangar Pub & Grill in South Hadley.

All are welcome to attend the meeting, ask questions and express interest in joining.

March is sweet at Old Sturbridge Village

Living history museum offers Maple Days

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

STURBRIDGE – It's that special time of year when the smell of wood smoke and maple syrup fills the air when you visit Old Sturbridge Village.

In 1830s New England, trees were tapped, and the sap was collected and boiled down into maple syrup. With the season of spring fast approaching, the interpreters and staff at Old Sturbridge Village are

showcasing the entire sugar making process.

Guests who tour the grounds of the village will periodically stop at some locations where there will be demonstrations about the process of taking sap to maple syrup, then to maple sugar. The process teaches how maple sugar was more commonly used in early New England than cane sugar.

One of the first daily activities is a visit to the sugar camp at the Goods from the Woods exhibit. Throughout the day, guests witness how maple trees are tapped and sap is collected.

Once the sap is collected, it will be boiled down into maple syrup. The amount of sap depends on how much the trees produce.

Several trees around the sugar camp were tapped and interpreters estimated they had collected roughly 20 gallons of sap. The interpreters explained how to choose the right trees and recognize the right time to begin sugaring.

Wood fired cauldrons are used to boil down the sap and were carefully monitored at the sugar camp.

Over by the Pottery Shop and Kiln, the demonstration of storing maple sugar was seen. The potter explained the functions of sugar molds, which were mainly used for maple sugar and were particularly useful in the colder months.

Sugar molds are much like vases and have holes in the middle of them. The point of the hole is to drain the molasses and hold the

sugar tightly.

Back in the early 19th century, potters who designed maple sugar vases found the design challenging to make.

At the Freeman Farmhouse, interpreters showed how they incorporated maple sugar into their household and daily cooking. Pork and beans were being cooked and maple sugar would soon be added to the stewing process.

Maple syrup was used as a basting technique to add sugar content to homecooked meals. The Brooks' cake was popular during the maple sugar movement.

Mary Brooks, the headmistress of the Concord Female Anti-Slavery Society baked and sold her signature tea cake, known as Brooks' Cake.

This famous cake was commonly served during Concord anti-slavery meetings.

The recipe of Brooks' cake is listed on the Old Sturbridge Village website, www.osv.org.

The Tin Shop at Old Sturbridge Village welcomed visitors who got to learn more about sugar bowls, sugar boxes and syrup cups. Tanners made useful and decorative household items from tinned sheet iron.

At the Small House and Garden, visitors got to witness that making syrup is only half the work. Maple syrup can also be cooked down into more desirable sugar loaves, and using a sugar mold, folks were able to preserve sugar.

Maple Days at Old Sturbridge Village is available on selected dates



until March 17. This demonstration during Maple Days supports the interesting fact that maple syrup is one of only a few agricultural processes in North America that is not a European colonial import.

Tickets can be purchased www.osv.org/event/maple-days.



How to find the right fit for summer camp

Many adults fondly recall their days at summer camp. The increase in households with two working parents has made it more important than ever to find a camp to accommodate youngsters who need to remain engaged and entertained throughout over summer vacation. That reality has led to more summer camp options, but it's not always so easy finding one that's the right fit for a child.

No two children are the same and kids change quite a bit as they grow up. So a camp that worked for an older child or even one that accommodated a younger camper may not make the perfect fit this summer. With that in mind, parents can consider these tips to find the right summer camp for their children.

• **Ask around.** Even if no two campers are the same, it can benefit parents to ask around when shopping for a summer camp. Summer camp spots are limited and it's not uncommon for competition for available spaces to develop, which

can make it more difficult to gather information. However, ask neighbors whose children have outgrown summer camp if there's one they might recommend (or would not recommend).



• **Pursue a package deal.** Though package deals might not result in lower rates, approaching a camp with the parents of your child's friend or friends may work in your favor. Kids undoubtedly

will be more excited about camp if their friends will be there as well. Camp officials may see these quasi-package deals as beneficial and a quick and easy way to fill spots.

• **Ask kids how they want to spend summer.** Specialized camps run the gamut from sports camps focusing on a particular sport to general outdoor recreation camps to camps that cater to young musicians. More general camps offer a wide range of activities throughout the summer, and that might appeal to children less interested in specialized camps. Ask youngsters for their input before making a final decision. Involve kids in the search by showing them websites of prospective camps and asking them what they think of each one. If attending an in-person consultation, bring kids along so they can form their own impression.

• **Make sure the camp suits your sched-**

ule. Kids' preferences are not the only opinions to consider. In households with two working parents, moms and dads must find a camp that aligns with their work schedule. Many camps offer half-day sessions and/or full-day sessions, but some offer just one or the other. If parents need full-day sessions, they might need to begin their search early to ensure they can secure a spot before they fill up.

• **Identify what you can afford.** Camp costs vary significantly, so parents should identify how much they can afford before they begin their search. Doing so may

eliminate various camps right off the bat, saving parents precious time as they try to find a camp for their children before spots fill up. Many towns offer local camps at schools, and these may be an affordable option. Parents also should know that many camps allow them to pick certain weeks or days of the week a child will attend rather than insisting kids attend camp for the duration of the summer.

Summer camp season is right around the corner. Parents and children can work together to identify a camp that will ensure this summer is filled with fun.

Greene Acres Equestrian Center L.L.C.
April Vacation Riding Camp - April 16-18
2024 Summer Riding Sessions
June 25-28 • July 22-25 • July 29-Aug 2
Aug 5-9 • Aug 12-16 • Aug 19-22
9AM - 3PM LUNCH NOT PROVIDED
Basic Horse Care, Daily Riding, English & Western, Ages 5 & up
Call to Register (413) 813-9291
53 Ware Road, Belchertown
Email: Amanda.greeneacres@gmail.com

THE MACDUFFIE SCHOOL
VERITAS
1890

Co-ed • Grades 1-8
July 1 - August 16

Race into summer at Camp MacDuffie!

Be part of this year's camps and discover the true meaning of summer...having fun and making friends!

Camp MacDuffie offers seven weeks of exciting camp experiences:
Week 1: July 1 - 5 Week 3: July 15 - 19 Week 6: August 5 - 9
Week 2: July 8 - 12 Week 4: July 22 - 26 Week 7: August 12 - 16
Week 5: July 29 - Aug. 2

Camp programs include:
Arts • Athletics • Coding • Science • Dance • Lego's • And More!

Monday-Friday 9am-3pm • Area fields trips and lunch included
Extended care available if needed 7:30am-5pm

Register now for summertime fun at MacDuffie.org/summer-camp

The MacDuffie School • 66 School Street • Granby, MA 01033 • 413.255.0000 Ext.110

Belchertown Kidz Club

TODDLER • PRESCHOOL • SCHOOL AGE
Offering Flexible Care Programs For Kids Ages 18 mo. - 12 yrs.
Open 7:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. / MONDAY - FRIDAY
Both Full Time & Sibling Discounts

Providing Childcare for 30 years!

NOW ENROLLING FOR SPRING/SUMMER/FALL PROGRAMS

KIDZ SUMMER PROGRAM
Ages 5 - 12 yrs. • JUNE 17TH - AUG. 23RD
10 Themed Weeks • Full & Part Time Options/Single Weeks or All Summer!
Swimming • Field Trips • Close walk to Playgrounds & CHCS Pool
Daily Creative & Educational Indoor/Outdoor Activities!
*Start of camp based on Belchertown School Schedule

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE
K-6th Grade • Full & Part-Time • Homework Support
School Bus Pick Up & Drop Off • Indoor & Outdoor Activities

PRESCHOOL Year round program for Ages 3-5 yrs.
Full & Part Time • Choose from Full Day or 3/4 Day Options
Creative Educational Kindergarten Readiness Curriculum

TODDLER Year round program for Ages 2-3 yrs.
Choice of Full Day 7:00-5:00 or 3/4 day option 8:30-2:30
Come Grow, Learn, and Play!

4 Stadler Street • (413) 323-5439
belchertownkidzclub@gmail.com

Join Toddler Waitlist

Follow Us

EEC LICENSED PROGRAM #177446

Stoneleigh-Burnham School

Summer Camps
in Performing Arts, Debate & Public Speaking

day & residential options available
sbschool.org/summer

Space is limited so don't wait!

Monday-Friday 9am-3pm • Area fields trips and lunch included
Extended care available if needed 7:30am-5pm

Register now for summertime fun at MacDuffie.org/summer-camp

The MacDuffie School • 66 School Street • Granby, MA 01033 • 413.255.0000 Ext.110

SUMMER STREAMS
AT PVCA

A STATE OF THE ART SUMMER PROGRAM IN WESTERN MA
SERVING THE COMMUNITY WITH THE LOVE OF CHRIST

WORKSHOPS INCLUDE: WEEKLY FIELD TRIPS AND LUNCH ARE INCLUDED FOR OUR FULL DAY PROGRAM FOR GRADES K-8

SPORTS CLINICS
COOKING & NUTRITION
ENTREPRENEURSHIP
CODING AND ROBOTICS
WORSHIP SONGWRITING
CARTOONING/COMICS
STOP MOTION ANIMATION
DANCE & MUSIC
CRAFTS AND MORE!

INTRODUCING OUR PRESCHOOL 1/2 DAY PROGRAM!

SPACES ARE LIMITED!
LEARN MORE AND REGISTER TODAY AT:
413-782-8031
PVCAMA.ORG/STREAMS

PVCA
PIONEER VALLEY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

DON'T MISS OUT! REGISTER EARLY! MORE INFO AT BEMENT.ORG/SUMMER

Adventure Awaits You!
Summer camp at The Bement School

Bement camps are a unique day experience for children entering grades k-8.

Arts and crafts, swimming, nature programs, hiking and more. Lunch is included. Before and after care is available.

ENROLL IN ALL WEEKS AND GET 7TH WEEK FREE!

SESSION 1: JUNE 17-21
SESSION 2: JUNE 24-28
SESSION 3: JULY 8-12
SESSION 4: JULY 15-19
SESSION 5: JULY 22-26
SESSION 6: JULY 29-AUG 2
SESSION 7: AUG 5-9

Visit Bement.org/summer for more information and to register. Register early!

Enrichment Camps!
Led by faculty and staff from Bement as well as local area experts, enrichment camps are open to campers in a variety of grades. Check the website for specific offerings each week.

Digital Storytelling • Studio Arts & Crafts • Flag Football
Book Blasters & Word Wizards • Bement Does Broadway & more!

Please contact eeoneal@bement.org with questions.

THOMPSONS QUALITY INSTRUCTION SINCE 1981

SUMMER GYMNASTICS

WWW.THOMPSONSGYM.COM

Fun Summer Programs
FOR 3 YEAR OLDS AND UP

p:413-532-0374 e:tgymnastic@aol.com

200 OLD LYMAN RD., SOUTH HADLEY

Church News

Local pastor offers sermon

Christian Growth Part 2

Those who would walk with the Lord do well to consider this seminal text on the matters of Christian growth and renewal:

Galatians 5:16b-17, 19-25 (NIV)

16 . . . I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want.

19 The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

Moving along in our study, we do well to contend with what our sinful nature (i.e., flesh) produces, left to our own devices:

1) Sexual Immorality. The underlying Greek term for sexual immorality is porneia. If this sounds familiar, it is the root of pornography. This term refers to all forms of sexual practice outside of a scripturally-sanctioned marriage.

2) Impurity. The underlying term herein is a broad term referring to moral uncleanness in word, thought and deed. Impurity is often connected with sexual immorality in the Bible (e.g., Eph. 5:3; Col. 3:5; Heb. 13:4).

3) Debauchery. Debauchery is defined as “the habitual and unrestrained indulgence of lust and sensuality.” It encompasses several aspects of wicked living, including

but not limited to sexual immorality, drunkenness, crude talk and generally out-of-control behavior.

4) Idolatry. The worship of anything other than or above God. We are to love Him above all else (Luke 14:26)!

5) Witchcraft. The underlying term is pharmakeia, from which we derive our term pharmacy. The ancients used to worship idols through the use of drugs to create trancelike states. With the proliferation of illicit drugs in our society, might this be a modern form of witchcraft?

6) Hatred. Hatred refers to enmity, hostility, and the operation of malice one to another. Such are not fitting in our lives:

1 John 2:9

Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness.

1 John 4:20

20 Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar.

7) Discord. Discord refers to the presence and operation of strife. Those who traffic in such are given to quarreling, etc.:

Romans 16:17

17 I urge you, brothers and sisters, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them.

8) Jealousy. The underlying term pertains to a sense of threat, alarm or fear over losing what one has. The word literally means “hot enough to boil over” and speaks to the “burning” desire some have to safeguard what they have acquired. Consider what King Herod was willing to do to safeguard his throne in the days of the Birth of Christ (cf. Matt. 2)!

9) Fits of Rage. This phrase speaks to reckless actions that emerge out of intense impulses. Christian, be careful with anger (Eph. 4:26, 31): “26 ‘In your anger do not sin’: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, 27 and do not give the devil a foothold. . . . 31 Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.”

10) Selfish Ambition. Literally,

the “mercenary self-seeking or acting for one’s own gain regardless of the pain it causes; the placing of self-interest ahead of what the Lord declares right, or what is good for others.” Dear reader, “Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.” (Phil. 2:3-4)

11-12) Dissensions and Factions. These terms speak to the use of divisions which wrongly separate people into pointless, groundless, and often warring, factions.

13) Envy. Defined as the desire or longing for what another has; covetousness. The underlying term speaks to a “strong feeling . . . that sours due to the influence of sin” (derived from a primitive root meaning to decay, breakdown or corrupt). This sentiment is captured in this proverb (Prov. 14:30): “A heart at peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones.”

14) Drunkenness. Speaks to inebriation. Though Scripture never forbids drinking per se, it speaks forcefully against drunkenness:

Ephesians 5:18

18 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery.

14) Orgies. This word refers to riotous partying and the practice of unbridled sexual immorality.

Such are what we produce when left to our own devices, and beyond! Such is not the life Christ Jesus has called us to live. In the weeks to come, following several Easter-related publications, we will address the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23). Until then, thank you for taking the time to read this publication. Should you have any comments or questions, feel free to contact me at your convenience 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

United Church hosts turkey dinner

WARE – United Church of Ware, 49 Church St., will host a turkey dinner on Monday, March 25 from 5-6 p.m., take-out only.

The cost is \$15 per meal; payable with cash or check.

Reservations are not required, just park on the side of the street (same side as the church) and stay in your car. A runner will come to take your order.

Trinity Episcopal hosts St. Patrick’s Day dinner

WARE – Trinity Episcopal Church, 17 Park St., will host a St. Patrick’s Day corned beef and cabbage dinner on Sunday, March 17 from 5-6:30 p.m.

The cost is \$15 per meal, and is available drive-up or take-out. The menu includes corned beef, potatoes,

carrots, bread and dessert.

For reservations, please call 413-967-6100 and leave your name, phone number and the number of meals you’d like to order.

All proceeds from the dinner benefit parish mission and ministries serving the community.

Many Hands to hold educational workshops

BARRE – The Many Hands Sustainability Center, 411 Sheldon Road, will be holding a series of seven educational workshops in 2024.

A more specific press release on each workshop will be sent two weeks in advance of each workshop. People may visit <https://mhof.net/>

events-workshops/ for workshop, email For more information, people may email Julie Rawson at julie@mhof.net or call 978-257-1192.

Educational workshops are Saturday, March 23 Natural and Low-cost Homestead Design; Saturday, March 30 Ayurveda, Yoga, and Seasonal Cooking;

Saturday, May 11 Navigating the new normal- power equipment and implements on the farm and homestead; Saturday, May 25 Starting Seeds and Seedlings; Saturday, June 1 Keeping the soil covered: tarps, cover crops, mulch; Saturday, June 15 Homestead Carpentry and Sept. 14 Food preservation

25th annual dinner auction benefits shelter pets

EAST BROOKFIELD – Second Chance Animal Services is calling on all animal lovers to place their bids in the 25th Annual Dinner Auction.

The event, dedicated to the welfare of homeless shelter pets, will be held at the La Salle Reception Center in Southbridge on Saturday, March 23. Advance online bidding for select items begins this week.

Chief Development Officer, Lindsay Doray, expressed gratitude for the overwhelming support received from local businesses and animal lovers, noting the array of exciting auction items available, including lavish gift baskets, Red Sox State Street

Pavilion tickets and Yukon Solo Stove bundle.

Advance online bidding is open to everyone for select items and gift cards from Thursday, March 14 at 1 p.m. to Thursday, March 21 at 1 p.m. Those attending the event will have the opportunity to bid on a dizzying array of additional items, as well as surpassing online offers to support shelter pets in need.

With a limited number of tickets remaining, Doray urges prospective attendees to secure their reservations promptly. Doors open at 4 p.m., offering a delightful cocktail hour amidst hundreds of auction and raffle items.

A sumptuous dinner will be served at 6 p.m., followed by an exhilarating live auction featuring premium items, concluding with the silent auction. Tickets are priced at \$55 per person.

Second Chance is still accepting sponsorships and item donations to elevate the success of the dinner auction. Doray acknowledges the unwavering support of local businesses, underscoring the event’s goal to provide medical care to shelter pets in need.

For sponsorship inquiries, item donations, or to purchase tickets for the 25th Annual Dinner Auction, please visit <http://www.secondchanceanimals.org/dinner-auction>.

Senate passes ‘Blue Envelope’ bill for people with autism



Submitted Photo

Shown from left are UMass Police Chief Tyrone Parham, Max Callahan and Senator Jo Comerford.

BOSTON – The Senate recently voted unanimously to pass “An Act facilitating better interactions between police officers and persons with autism spectrum disorder” (S.2542), also known as the “Blue Envelope” bill, filed by Senator Jo Comerford (D-Norhampton).

The bill creates a voluntary program to make available special blue envelopes to people with autism spectrum disorder that hold the driver’s license, registration, and insurance cards, and which can be handed to a police officer in the event of a traffic stop. On the outside of the envelope are specific instructions for law enforcement officers on the driver’s diagnosis, impairments, triggers, emergency contact information, as well as best practices for communicating.

“I am deeply grateful to Senate President Karen Spilka, Ways and Means Chair Michael Rodrigues, Transportation Chair Brendan Crighton and my colleagues for passing this important legislation,” said Comerford in a press release. “The Blue Envelope bill will make our Commonwealth a safer place for people who are neuro-diverse. It moves us closer to equal opportunity and access for people of all abilities.”

“The Arc of Massachusetts and Advocates for Autism of Massachusetts are grateful to Senator Comerford, Senate President Spilka and Chairman

Rodrigues for passing the Blue Envelope, a priority bill for our advocacy organizations. This bill will ease interactions between police and autistic drivers. We know these situations can escalate and become traumatic or even dangerous,” said Maura Sullivan, Director of Government Affairs, The Arc of Massachusetts/Advocates for Autism of Massachusetts. “The Arc and AFAM applaud the Senate for taking action to be inclusive of the needs of the drivers with autism, in Massachusetts.”

“The Blue Envelope Bill would be a game changer for our family and for so many Massachusetts residents,” said Ilyse Levine-Kanji, an Executive Committee member of Advocates for Autism of Massachusetts. “Like many people with autism, my 25-year-old son Sam does not have any physical characteristics that indicate he has autism. In a stressful situation, where split second decisions must be made, I’m relieved that a police officer could see a blue envelope in Sam’s car and immediately understand that any unusual behavior or speech pattern is a result of autism. Thus, this bill could dramatically decrease the possibility of a tragic misunderstanding. Advocates for Autism of Massachusetts is extremely grateful for Senator Comerford’s leadership in introducing and championing this common sense initiative

and to the Senate for moving so quickly to pass the bill.”

“Massachusetts police officers conduct thousands of traffic stops each year. While most of these interactions are relatively ‘routine,’ officers do not know who they are interacting with before the traffic stop so they proceed with caution. Each driver reacts differently when they are pulled over by the police,” said Tyrone Parham, UMass Amherst Chief of Police. “The introduction of the blue envelope under stressful interactions will provide immediate information and context to the officer as they begin to communicate. This will be instrumental to help bridge the communication gap for both motorists and police officers.”

For drivers with autism spectrum disorder, being stopped by a police officer can be particularly challenging. At times, law enforcement officers or other first responders have had little or no training about how to communicate appropriately with people with ASD.

The bill facilitates understanding and better communication between law enforcement and drivers with ASD. In other states, like Connecticut, a similar voluntary program has been shown to reduce stress, facilitate better communication, and improve safety.

This bill will now move to the Massachusetts House of Representatives for consideration.

MassDOT and Fundación MAPFRE announce contest for high school students

BOSTON – The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT), in collaboration with global nonprofit Fundación MAPFRE, announces the launch of a roadway safety public service contest for Massachusetts high school students.

The contest, which was launched in 2022 as part of MAPFRE’s Look Both Ways Program, seeks to help students raise awareness with their peers and underscore the importance of being safe while driving on roadways across the Commonwealth. Safety experts and state officials caution that, as data for 2023 continues to be received and analyzed, the results could show a

third straight yearly increase in road-related fatalities.

“MassDOT is pleased to continue our collaboration with Fundación MAPFRE through the second annual roadway safety education contest,” said Transportation Secretary and CEO Monica Tibbitts-Nutt. “Getting young drivers involved in safety education is an important action towards making our streets safer, and we are eager to see the great ideas that students come up with this year. Their participation is important in helping MassDOT to envision a future without roadway injuries and deaths.”

“Our youngest and most inexperienced drivers are disproportionately at risk for being involved in a crash,” said Jaime

Tamayo, Chief Representative of Fundación MAPFRE in the United States and CEO of MAPFRE USA.

To enter the contest, high schools simply visit: <https://www.fundacionmapfre.org/en/look-both-ways/>. The deadline for contest submissions is Friday, March 29 at 5 p.m. on Friday. The students with the winning submission will work with the Boston Creative Communications Agency to produce the spot which is anticipated to timely air in the spring before prom and graduation season. Additionally, the students’ school will receive \$3,000 provided by Fundación MAPFRE, toward road safety education.

Barre Gazette OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

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

Our advertisers make this publication possible.

Let them know you saw their ad in the

Barre Gazette

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

Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity embraces energy-savings initiatives

By Brandice J. O'Brien
Marketing and Communications
Manager, Greater Springfield
Habitat for Humanity

WEST SPRINGFIELD – Energy savings and green products are all the rage right now. Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity, or GSHFH, is working tirelessly to provide their homeowners and prospective partner families with environmentally-friendly products that help them save on utility costs, while keeping expenses low. That's not an easy feat considering inflation and limited resources. Yet, the nonprofit organization is able to accomplish this achievement through fundraisers, donations and grants.

Sometimes, it's the small changes that make the biggest difference. GSHFH is now incorporating electric mini split heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems to avoid using fossil fuels. In some instances, based on location and home design, tankless water heaters or air-sourced water heaters are installed.

"Our goal is to provide our partner families with an energy-friendly home that will allow them to save money, while protecting their investment for many years to come," said Aimee Giroux, GSHFH executive director. "We want them to pass their home to the next generation of family members and provide them with a solid foundation for a better, more stable future."

Energy-friendly products range from solar panel installation, the use of Low-E glass windows, to a plant-based fiber insulation called HempWool; light-emitting diode (LED) fixtures, and the affiliate's first-ever insulated concrete form (ICF) home.

Solar panel installation can help a family significantly cut their electric bill and the use of Low-E glass windows lets in natural light while reflecting inside heat back into the home during the winter months. During the summer, outside heat is reflected away from the home.

LED fixtures reduce energy usage and programmable thermostats provide heating and cooling only during the times it was most



Submitted photo
Dean student working with rebar at Chestnut.

needed. Plus, Energy-Star appliances, which are rated for maximum energy efficiency and cost savings, are used.

HempWool is a US Department of Agriculture-certified bio-based insulation that is naturally mold and pest resistant. It's also resistant of volatile organic compounds and toxins. It's easy to install, doesn't sag, and like the Low-E glass, lowers the energy bills for heat in the winter, cooling in the summer, and general comfort.

"It's a lot less itchy to handle," said Tom Eisenman, GSHFH volunteer.

Additionally, new construction projects are built to meet the Specialized Opt-in Energy Code of Massachusetts Stretch Energy Code. The code sets significantly higher requirements for heating and cooling loads, which can be responsible for 60% of a building's energy use.

In November 2022, GSHFH began its most notable energy-efficient project yet: an ICF home. A dedication ceremony celebrating the completion of construction will be held at 11am on Wednesday, Feb. 14, at 360 Chestnut St. in Holyoke. The project is a collabora-

tion between the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association and Habitat for Humanity International to build 50 ICF homes across the country.

The insulated concrete forms are hollow foam blocks that are stacked into the shape of exterior walls of a building, reinforced with steel rebar, and filled with concrete.

"Doing something different in construction is not easy," said Gregg Lewis, chief communications officer at NRMCA. "Construction is hard enough when you're doing the same thing day in and day out. Try to take on a new way of building and it's really a huge deal."

ICF combines one of the finest insulating materials – expanded polystyrene (EPS) with one of the strongest structural building materials – steel reinforced concrete. The result is a wall system of unmatched comfort, energy efficiency and noise reduction.

"The house will be quiet, even when it's windy and stormy outside and it'll stay nice and toasty inside," said Steve Bogle, an Integraspec local distributor.

Integraspec is the brand name of the foam blocks. Steve and his wife Cheryl, also an Integraspec distributor, worked with GSHFH in the early stages.

Unlike a traditional wood frame house with sheathing, an ICF home offers several additional benefits to the builder and homeowner. The foam panels are made from recycled material. ICF walls do not off-gas, whereas conventional walls sheathed with oriented strand board (OSB) off-gas through glues and resin. ICF walls are resistant to mold and rot, which provides a better living environment for those suffering from allergies or asthma. Also, due to the rising cost of lumber, this method significantly reduces the need for wood for framing and sheathing the exterior and less trees are cut down.

"We're excited to have built a more energy-efficient, affordable home for one of our Habitat families," Aimee said.

To see pictures from the construction phase of the ICF build, visit habitatspringfield.org/Holyoke.

BBB warns of prescription medication scam

When demand for something exceeds its supply, scammers are quick to take advantage the Better Business Bureau warned in a press release.

It's happened recently with popular toys, baby formula, and even rental cars. Now, it's happening with Ozempic, a prescription-only drug for people with Type 2 diabetes.

Scammers are aware of the drug's popularity for weight loss, and they're targeting folks looking for a convenient way to purchase it. Here's what you need to know to stay alert.

How this scam works

You are looking online for a pharmacy that carries Ozempic and are pointed to a website claiming to sell the drug at a reduced price. You may find the website through a web search, an ad, or even a friend's post on social media.

The website claims that buying Ozempic is easy, and you can save a few hundred dollars by purchasing it online versus through a doctor. All you must do is make a payment through a digital wallet app like CashApp or Zelle (CashApp and Zelle are BBB Accredited Businesses as of this writing in December 2023).

Many such websites don't even ask for a prescription before "selling" the drug, but some sites work harder to appear that you are dealing with a legitimate pharmaceutical company. One consumer reported having a "tele-consult" with a "doctor" before paying to

receive Ozempic.

The consumer told BBB: "I have not received the drug. When I reach out to customer service, they send automated responses. They refuse to refund my money, even though they claim not to know when or if the drug will be shipped."

In some versions of the scam, the con artists claim to encounter issues when shipping the drug, all of which require additional fees. For example, after your initial payment, scammers may insist that you need to pay for insurance or a discreet shipping fee to get the package past customs.

If you refuse, scammers may resort to threats. For example, they may claim to report the transaction to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and you'll be held responsible for buying illegal drugs without a prescription.

In reality, scammers never planned on sending you anything at all. Any problems encountered when "shipping" the medication is only a trick to get even more money from you.

If you give in and use a digital payment app to send funds, your money is gone for good.

How to avoid similar scams

Don't buy medicines from foreign countries. The FDA warns consumers that non-FDA-approved products sold by internet pharmacies in other countries can be downright dangerous.

Avoid risking your health and getting scammed by sticking with pharmacies based in the country

where you live.

Don't buy prescription-only medications from a seller who doesn't ask you for a prescription. This is a huge red flag and one of the biggest signs that you are dealing with a scammer.

Even if they are selling the drug, offering it to consumers without a prescription is illegal.

Watch out for unreasonably low prices. This is another red flag.

Ask yourself, why is a vendor offering a high-demand, name-brand prescription at such a low price? It's probably a scam. After paying, you could end up with counterfeit products or no products at all.

Don't use digital wallet apps to pay for a prescription. A reputable pharmacy won't ask you to make a payment using a digital wallet app, prepaid debit cards, or wired funds.

These payment methods are a common denominator in countless scams.

Only buy from reputable pharmacies. If you come across a pharmacy online that you aren't familiar with, research is a must.

Make sure the business has legitimate contact information and a working phone number. Look for consumer reviews, keeping a sharp eye out for reports of scams or shady business dealings.

Remember, your personal information, some of your medical details, and your money are all on the line.

Gas prices increase by a penny

WESTWOOD – With spring around the corner, Northeast gasoline prices are following seasonal trends by ticking up in advance of the summer driving season.

This is the time of year when refineries around the country are wrapping up seasonal maintenance and switching to producing summer blend fuel, which is more expensive to refine than winter blend. Prices also climb alongside demand as the weather improves, creating more opportunities for automobile travel. The fact that oil prices are edging closer to \$80 a barrel, up about \$10 more per barrel than a few months ago, is helping to push prices higher as well.

The average gas price in Massachusetts is up one cent over last week (\$3.18), averaging \$3.19 per gallon. Today's price is three cents higher than a month ago (\$3.16) and 10 cents lower than March 11, 2023 (\$3.29). Massachusetts's average gas price is 20 cents lower than the national average.

"Gasoline demand surged to levels not seen since before the pandemic, according to last week's report from the Energy Information Administration," said Mark Schieldrop, Senior Spokesperson for AAA Northeast. "At the same time, national stocks of gasoline tightened. Increased demand and

tighter supply are pushing pump prices higher."

AAA Northeast's March 11 survey of fuel prices found the current national average to be 4 cents higher than last week (\$3.35), averaging \$3.39 a gallon. Today's national average price is 21 cents higher than a month ago (\$3.18), and 8 cents lower than this day last year (\$3.47).

AAA Northeast is a not-for-profit auto club with 67 offices in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, New Hampshire and New York, providing more than 6 million local AAA members with travel, insurance, finance and auto-related services.

The benefits of local newspapers

Local newspapers play vital roles in communities across the globe. The Information Age has changed the way many people get their news, but local newspapers continue to serve as valuable resources for readers interested in learning more about and becoming more involved in their communities.

While local publishers continue to adapt to the changes brought about by technology, the following are a handful of benefits unique to local newspapers.

- Local newspapers keep readers up-to-date on their own communities.** Globalization may be here to stay, but that does not mean local communities are no longer home to newsworthy events. National and international newspapers and 24-hour cable news channels can keep men and women up-to-date on national and world news, but in many instances, local newspapers are the only means people have to learn about what's going on in their own communities. Local politics impact residents' lives every day, and local newspapers cover local politics extensively.

- Local newspapers benefit nearby businesses.** Small business owners often connect with community members via local newspapers. A strong, locally based small business community can improve economies in myriad ways, creating jobs in the community and contributing tax dollars that can be used to strengthen local schools and infrastructure. And local newspapers do their part by providing affordable and effective advertising space to local business owners looking to connect with their communities.

- Local newspapers can strengthen communities.** Local newspapers are great resources for residents who want to become more active in their communities and learn more about community events. Local newspapers often showcase community events like carnivals, local theater productions and projects like park cleanups. These are great ways for readers to become more active in their communities and build stronger communities as a result.

- Local newspapers can benefit children.** National newspapers may have



little age-appropriate content to offer young children, but local newspapers tend to include more soft news items than national periodicals, and such stories typically are appropriate for young readers. According to Newspapers in Education, students who participated in an NIE group in Florida performed significantly better in spelling and vocabulary

than nonreaders. Additional studies have indicated that students who use newspapers in the classroom perform better on standardized reading tests than those who do not use newspapers in class.

Many local newspapers have played vital roles in their communities for decades, providing a go-to resource for local readers and business owners.

12 Weekly Newspapers Serving The Local Communities

Agawam Advertiser News • Barre Gazette • Chicopee Register • Country Journal
Journal Register • Quaboag Current • The Register • Sentinel • The Holyoke Sun
Town Reminder • Ware River News • The Wilbraham-Hampden Times
413.283.8393 • www.newspapers.turley.com

Turley
Publications, Inc.

Public Safety

Barre Police Log

Sunday, March 3
 12:01 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Old Dana Road, Transported to Hospital
 12:23 p.m. Evidence Processing, South Street, Secured
 4:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Williamsville Road, Citation Issued
 8:07 p.m. Stolen Vehicle, Broad Street, Investigation (On-Going)

Monday, March 4
 5:06 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Diabetic, Old Stage Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 5:15 p.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Kendall Street, Information Taken
 5:55 p.m. Follow-Up Investigation, Peach Street, Investigated
 7:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Valley Road, Vehicle Towed
 8:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hubbardston Road, Citation Issued
 11:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Written Warning

Tuesday, March 5
 1:05 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Old Stage Road, Transported to Hospital
 5:59 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Written Warning
 9:05 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, Hardwick, Mutual Aid Assist
 4:26 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled,

Summer Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 5:23 p.m. Public Assist, Summer Street, Public Assist
 10:19 p.m. Public Assist, South Street, Administration Complete
 11:43 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Marsh Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Wednesday, March 6
 9:27 a.m. Court Duty, South Street, Court Duty
 10:42 a.m. Larceny or Theft, Oakham Road, Investigated
 12:20 p.m. Public Assist, Old Dana Road, Information Taken
 2:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Summer Street, Removed Hazard
 6:34 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, High Street South, Mutual Aid Transport
 8:39 p.m. Erratic Operator, Hubbardston Road, Verbal Warning
 10:17 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Edward Lane, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Thursday, March 7
 6:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Main Street, No Action Required
 2 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Grove North Street, Citation Issued
 9:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Arrest(s) Made
 Arrest: Ribeiro, Dakota James, 28, Hudson
 Charges: Operating Under the

Influence – Liquor OR .08%, Speeding Rate of Speed Exceeding Posted Limit
 10:10 p.m. Suspicious Person – Vehicle, South Street, Officer Advised
 10:53 p.m. Juvenile Runaway, South Street, Recovered

Friday, March 8
 7:32 a.m. Road Condition Notification, Summer Street, Information Given
 9:20 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Cedar Street, Information Given
 10:09 a.m. Public Assist, South Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 4:43 p.m. Erratic Operator, Broad Street, No Police Service Necessary
 5:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Vernon Avenue, Written Warning

Saturday, March 9
 12:42 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Citation Issued
 1:23 p.m. Suspicious Person – Activity, Summer Street, Returned to Family
 2:53 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, Hardwick, Mutual Aid Assist
 10:58 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, Hubbardston, Mutual Aid Assist
 11:05 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Wheelwright Road, Citation Issued
 8:14 p.m. Erratic Operator, Hubbardston Road, Officer Advised

Rutland Police Log

Sunday, March 3
 1:55 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Written Warning
 5:34 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
 9:13 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 11:16 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 11:52 a.m. Larceny or Theft, Blair Drive, Report Filed
 11:59 a.m. Juvenile Runaway, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 12:05 p.m. Suspicious Person-Vehicle Activity, Pommogussett Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 1:26 p.m. Complaint, Miles Road, Information Taken
 5:28 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Memorial Drive, Transported to Hospital
 6:11 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Fernwood Drive, Mutual Aid Transport
 6:46 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Barre Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Monday, March 4
 4:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning
 8:37 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning
 8:54 a.m. Court Duty, East Brookfield District Court, Court Duty
 9 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Citation Issued
 9:15 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Written Warning
 9:35 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, Barre, Negative Contact
 11:23 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Pioneer Circle, Transported to Hospital
 12:38 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 1:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 1:41 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning
 1:53 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning
 2:37 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Sunset Trail, Transported to Hospital
 3:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning

3:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 5:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Citation Issued
 11:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Vehicle Towed

Tuesday, March 5
 7:34 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Citation Issued
 7:42 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Citation Issued
 7:53 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Citation Issued
 8:13 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Depot Road, Transported to Hospital
 8:48 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, North Brookfield Road, Transported to Hospital
 3:56 p.m. Fire – Vehicle Fires, Main Street, Fire Extinguished

Wednesday, March 6
 9:20 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, Hubbardston, Mutual Aid Assist
 3:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 3:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Citation Issued
 4:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Glenwood Road, Written Warning
 7:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 7:48 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, Pleasantdale Road, Information Given

Thursday, March 7
 8:52 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Pommogussett Road, Report Filed
 11:08 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Glenwood Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 4:08 p.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Main Street, Area Search Negative
 4:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning
 6:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 8:30 p.m. Suspicious Person – Vehicle Activity, Pommogussett Road, No Action Required
 11:42 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Barre, Mutual Aid Assist

Friday, March 8
 1:17 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, Hubbardston, Removed to Court/Lockup
 7:20 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Pleasantdale Road, Vehicle Towed
 9:27 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 10:05 a.m. Harassment, Main Street, Report Filed
 12:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 12:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 12:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 12:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 12:32 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Bleeding (Non-Traumatic), East Hill Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 12:42 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Maple Avenue, Transported to Hospital
 1:02 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 3:46 p.m. Harassment, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 4:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Citation Issued
 6:38 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Main Street, Animal Returned to Owners

Saturday, March 9
 1:20 a.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, East County Road, Negative Contact
 8:59 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
 Summons: Witt, Douglas Joseph, 69, Spencer
 Charges: License Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle with Dangerous Weapon, Carry
 9 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Glenwood Road, Vehicle Towed
 10:53 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
 3:34 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Main Street, No Transport Required
 6:08 p.m. Erratic Operator, East County Road, Negative Contact 8

Oakham Police Log

Sunday, March 3
 2:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Spencer Road, Written Warning
 6:20 p.m. Erratic Operator, Worcester Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 6:46 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Barre Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Monday, March 4
 3:48 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old Turnpike Road, Written Warning

Tuesday, March 5
 8:48 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, North Brookfield Road,

Transported to Hospital
 4:17 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Robinson Road, Written Warning

Wednesday, March 6
 1:08 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Barre Road, Report Filed
 9:23 p.m. Fire – Pubic Service Call, Skyline Drive, Public Assist

Thursday, March 7
 10:01 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Barre, Mutual Aid Assist

Friday, March 8
 11:19 a.m. Tree Incidents (No Wires), Spencer Road, Dispatch

Handled
 12:25 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, Oak Drive, Referred to Other Agency
 12:32 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Bleeding (Non-Traumatic), East Hill Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 5:16 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old Turnpike Road, Written Warning

Saturday, March 9
 6:06 p.m. Suspicious/Vehicle Activity, Old Turnpike Road, No Action Required

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of March 4-11, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 57 building/property checks, 51 directed/area patrols, nine traffic controls, seven radar assignments, nine emergency 911 calls, two assist other agencies, two citizen assists, one motor vehicle investigation, one investigation, three safety hazards, one motor vehicle accident, three animal calls and eight motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, March 4
 12:51 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Lower Road, Report Taken
 2:55 p.m. Gunshots, Ruggles Hill Road, Investigated
 3:57 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Arrest(s) Made
 10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Lower Road, Services Rendered

Tuesday, March 5
 8:41 a.m. Suspicious Activity, Old Petersham Road, Investigated
 11:29 a.m. Assist Citizen, Unknown,

Dispatch Handled
 12:20 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Lower Road, Dispatch Handled

Wednesday, March 6
 9:32 a.m. Safety Hazard, Petersham Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
 10:11 a.m. 911 Suspicious Activity, Thresher Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
 10:11 a.m. 911 Suspicious Activity, Thresher Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
 1:40 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 4:25 p.m. Investigation, New Braintree Road, Report Taken
 6:05 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Westminster Police, Officer Handled

Thursday, March 7
 4:48 p.m. Safety Hazard, Sessions Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
 5:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hardwick Road, Citation Issued
 6:51 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency,

Church Lane, Transported to Hospital
 11:58 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Barre Police, Services Rendered

Friday, March 8
 8:12 a.m. Assist Citizen, Unknown, Investigated
 9:30 a.m. 911 Animal Call, Barre Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
 6:56 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Barre Road, Transported to Hospital

Saturday, March 9
 2:49 p.m. 911 Suspicious Activity, Barre Road, Unfounded
 11:17 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hardwick Road, Citation Issued
 2:02 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hardwick Road, Written Warning
 4:13 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Lower Road, Investigated

Sunday, March 10
 1:16 a.m. Safety Hazard, Petersham Road, Officer Handled

New Braintree Police Log

During the week of March 4-11, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 17 building/property checks, 38 directed/area patrols, seven traffic controls, three radar assignments, two emergency 911 calls, one citizen assist, two safety hazards, one motor vehicle investigation and one motor vehicle stops in the town of New Braintree.

Tuesday, March 5
 7:58 p.m. 911 Welfare Check, Moore Road, Officer Handled

Wednesday, March 6
 9:08 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Padre Road, Transported to Hospital

Thursday, March 7
 2:23 p.m. Safety Hazard, Hardwick Road, Removed Hazard

Friday, March 8
 5:12 a.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Services Rendered
 4:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Gilbertville Road, Investigated

Sunday, March 10
 12:01 p.m. Safety Hazard, Cushman Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency

Hubbardston Police Log

Sunday, March 3
 11:39 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, New Westminster Road, Message Delivered
 3:16 p.m. Notification – Morgan Road, Officer Advised

Tuesday, March 5
 8:18 a.m. Safety Concern, New Templeton Road, Information Taken

Wednesday, March 6
 8:19 a.m. Emergency Medical Services – Unattended Death, Chippewa Street, Report Filed
 9:22 a.m. Serve Warrant, Gardner Road, Removed to Court/Lockup
 Arrest: Gagne, Alisha Armosa, 34, Hubbardston
 Charges Warrant of Apprehension
 4 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
 Summons: Blaisdell, Micah William, 25, Hubbardston
 Charges: Registration Suspended,

Operating Motor Vehicle With, Safety Standards, Motor Vehicle Not Meeting Registry of Motor Vehicle Inspection/ Sticker, No
 6:20 p.m. Property – Lost and Found, Main Street, Property Picked Up

Thursday, March 7
 11:43 a.m. Court Duty, Gardner District Court, Court Duty
 12:14 p.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Gardner Road, No Action required
 2 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Grove North Street, Citation Issued
 10 p.m. Fire – Fumes/Odor/ Gas Leak, Old Westminster Road, Investigated
 10:59 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Barre, Mutual Aid Assist

Friday, March 8
 1:03 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain,

Williamsville Road, Mutual Aid Transport
 6:59 a.m. Road Condition Notification, Worcester Road, Message Delivered
 7:29 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Ragged Hill Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 8:21 a.m. Tree Incidents (No Wires), Kruse Road, Investigated
 9:26 a.m. Court Duty, Gardner District Court, Court Duty
 7:25 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, Ragged Hill Road, Information Taken

Saturday, March 9
 8:29 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Brigham Street, Written Warning
 2:23 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Gardner, Negative Contact
 6:01 p.m. Erratic Operator, Gardner Road, Negative Contact
 9:10 p.m. Erratic Operator, New Westminster Road, Area Search Negative

Public Notices

Town of Barre Public Hearing Notice Transfer of Liquor License Change of Manager
 TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Selectmen will conduct a Public Hearing on **Monday, March 18, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Select Board Meeting Room, Henry Woods Building, 40 West Street, Barre, MA on the following proposed amendments of a Wines & Malt Retail License from Tisha, Inc. DBA Red Tomato Pizza to RHEA, Inc. for premises located at 11 Exchange Street, Barre, MA, and Change of Manager to Anastasios Kyris. Persons wishing to comment may do

so at that time. The Board will also consider written comments received prior to the hearing.
 For the Select Board:
 Tammy Martin
 Town Administrator
 03/07, 03/14/2024

Town of Barre Public Hearing Notice Transfer of Liquor License Change of Managers and Change of Ownership Interest
 TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Selectmen will conduct a Public Hearing on **Monday, April 1, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Select Board Meeting Room, Henry Woods Building, 40 West

Street, Barre, MA on the following proposed amendments of a Wines & Malt Retail License from Carter and Stevens Farm LLC for premises located at 500 West Street, Barre, MA and 281 Old Stage Road, Barre, MA for Change of Officers/Directors/LLC Managers and Change of Ownership Interest (LLC Members/LLP Partners, Trustees). Persons wishing to comment may do so at that time. The Board will also consider written comments received prior to the hearing.
 For the Select Board:
 Tammy Martin
 Town Administrator
 03/14, 03/21/2024

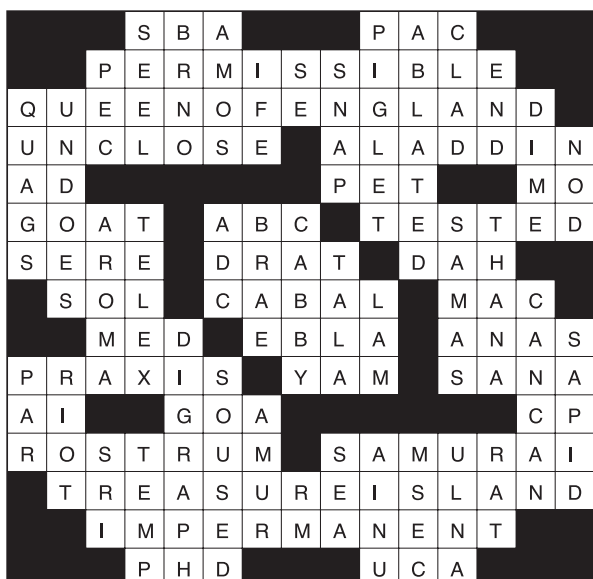
Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

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 Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com



The best of two worlds



Whether you're a digital reader who enjoys the ease of connecting with us online, or a print reader that prefers the feel of a publication in your hands – you can interact with many of our newspapers however you choose.

TO FIND THE CLOSEST PLACE TO PICK UP A COPY OR TO READ CURRENT EDITIONS OF THIS PAPER visit: www.newspapers.turley.com

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Agawam Advertiser News • Barre Gazette • Chicopee Register • Country Journal • The Journal Register
 Quaboag Current • The Register • Sentinel • The Holyoke Sun
 Town Reminder • Ware River News • The Wilbraham-Hampden Times

Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

FOR SALE

MAXIMUM EFFICIENCY. EXTRAORDINARY performance. Central Boiler certified Classic Edge Titanium HDX OUTDOOR WOOD FURNACE. Call today 413-296-4320.

FIREWOOD

FIREWOOD
Fresh cut & split \$200.00
Seasoned cut & split \$300.00
All hardwood.
Tree length available
*Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & volumes **guaranteed!** New England Forest Products (413)477-0083

MORE HEAT LESS WOOD. Central Boiler Classic Edge HDX Outdoor Wood Furnace. EPA Certified. Titanium Stainless Steel. 26% Tax Credit. Call (508)882-0178

HAY FOR SALE

Round, Wrapped Hay Bales, Worthington, MA. Call (413)478-0178.

MISCELLANEOUS

4 YEAR OLD MYERS PLOW, 3 sets of tires with rims 15". Call 413-967-7118 or 413-658-8513.

WANTED

MILITARY ITEMS
USA, German, Japanese
Collections & Small Items
(413) 207-3054

WANTED TO BUY

ANTIQUES AND OLD STUFF WANTED **BUYING** Bottles, Crocks, Jugs, Pottery, Costume Jewelry, Toys, Games, coins, sterling, Glassware, Silver-plated items, watches, Musical instruments, typewriters, sewing machines, tools, radios, clocks, lanterns, lamps, kitchenware, cookware, knives, military, automotive, fire department, masonic, license plates, beer-cans, barware, books, oil cans, advertising tins, hunting, fishing, signs, and more Donald Roy (860) 874-8396

JUNK REMOVAL

ARA JUNK FURNITURE REMOVAL
Full house cleanouts, attics, basements, garages, pools, hot tubs, sheds, decks. Same day service. 8am-9pm. Credit cards accepted. Free estimates on phone. Call Pete 413-433-0356.

JUNK REMOVAL

A Call We Haul FAST REMOVAL
Junk, Appliance, Cleanouts.
We load it & take it.
413-531-1936
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

SERVICES

A B Hauling and Removal Service
2***A & B HOUSEHOLD REMOVAL SERVICE*******
Cellars, attics, garages cleaned, yard debris. Barns & sheds demolished. Swimming pools removed. Cheaper than dumpster fees and we do all the work. Lowest rates. Fully insured. (413)283-6512, cell (413)222-8868.

CHAIR SEAT WEAVING & refinishing - cane, fiber rush & splint - Classroom instructor, 20+ years experience. Call Wait at (413)289-6670 for estimate.

DRYWALL AND CEILINGS, plaster repair. Drywall hanging. Taping & complete finishing. All ceiling textures. Fully insured. Jason at Great Walls. (413)563-0487

ELECTRICIAN

NEED AN ELECTRICIAN? Look no further! **PJ's Electrical** offers fast and reliable electrical services for your home or business. Call now for a FREE estimate! (413) 366-1703

HOME IMPROVEMENT

HOME IMPROVEMENTS, REMODELING Kitchens, baths. Ceramic tile, windows, painting, wallpapering, siding, decks. Insurance work. Fully insured. Free estimates. (413)246-2783 Ron.

HOME REPAIR & REMODELING for all your interior & exterior needs. Carpentry, woodworking, porches, patios, windows, doors, painting, drywall, siding, landscaping, clean-outs. Competitive pricing, references, licensed and insured. Please call Brendan (413) 687-5552.

LANDSCAPING

DAVE MAZ LANDSCAPING
Lawn mowing, Spring thru Fall clean-ups, mulching, pruning, Holyoke, South Hadley, Chicopee, Hadley and Amherst. Call 413-536-3697.

SERVICES

LANDSCAPING

A+ ROZELL'S LANDSCAPING & BOBCAT SERVICE
Excavator Services
Overgrown property?
Extreme Brush Cutting!
Shrub, Stump, Tree Removal
Lawn/Arborvitae Installed
Loam, Stone, Mulch, Sand
Storm Clean-up
Small Demolition/ Junk Removal
Insured
Josh Rozell 413-636-5957

MATT GUERTIN LANDSCAPING
Serving Wilbraham & Ludlow
Weekly lawn care
Landscape design and installation
Hedge trimming, pruning, and mulching
Now scheduling spring cleanup
For more services visit mattguertinlandscaping.com
CALL OR TEXT 413-266-9975

Insured - Commercial - Residential

MASONRY

PAUL DOWD MASONRY
Design, build, restore, repair. All types of stone, brick, concrete, masonry. Free estimate. Call 978-257-8237. Pauldowd51@gmail.com

STOP WET BASEMENTS

ABC MASONRY & BASEMENT WATERPROOFING
All brick, block, stone, concrete. Hatchway doors, basement windows, chimneys rebuilt & repaired, foundations repaired, basement waterproofing systems, sump pumps. BBB+ rating. Free estimates. Lic #14790. Call (413)569-1611, (413)374-5377

PAINTING

DUTCH TOUCH PAINTING
Interior only \$199.00 for average 12x16 room. Very neat, references, prompt service call (508)867-2550

PLUMBING

GREG LAFONTAINE PLUMBING & HEATING Lic #19196 Repairs & Replacement of fixtures, water heater installations, steam/HW boiler replacement. Kitchen & Bath remodeling. 30 years experience. Fully insured. \$10 Gift Card With Work Performed. Call Greg (413)592-1505

Find archives of this local newspaper at www.newspapers.turley.com

SERVICES

RUBBISH REMOVAL

BOB ROBILLARD'S RUBBISH REMOVAL Attics, Cellars, Garages cleaned, Pools/Hot Tubs Removed. Family owned/operated since 1950 (413)537-5090

TREE WORK

AAA - TROM'S TREE SERVICE
Let me save you money. Tree removal, hazard tree removal, cordwood, stump grinding. We're fully insured and **workmen's comp.** for your protection. Free estimates. Mon-Sun Call Jason (413)283-6374

DL & G TREE SERVICE. Everything from tree pruning, tree removal, stump grinding, storm damage and brush chipping. Honest and Dependable. Fully insured. Now offering a Senior Citizen and Veteran discount. Call today for free estimate (413)478-4212

H & H TREE SERVICE All phases of tree care. Call Dave 413-668-6560 day/night.

STUMP GRINDING

DL & G STUMP GRINDING Grinding stumps of all sizes, insured & certified. Senior discounts. Call Dave 413-478-4212

AUTO

AUTO FOR SALE

2019 CHEVY SPARK LS, \$8,900. Excellent condition, well maintained, original owner, 75,000 miles. Clean Carfax, never any problems, non-smoker. Florida car. 413-769-3127.

CASH FOR JUNK AND REPAIRABLE CARS

FREE TOWING FAST SERVICE CASH PAID AS IS CALL OR TEXT 413-219-6839

AUTO PARTS

4 YEAR OLD MYERS PLOW, 3 sets of tires with rims 15". Call 413-967-7118 or 413-658-8513.

PETS

WEST HIGHLAND TERRIER MIX PUPPY, 3 months, current on shots, well socialized. 3 yr old Beagle female. \$200. 413-596-8190, 413-782-2305

HELP WANTED

CLASS A DRIVER. Triaxle dump trailer work. Local deliveries, minimum 40 hours, rate based on experience. **RB Enterprises, Ludlow, MA. 413-583-8393.**

HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANIC. Construction equipment and trucks. Experience required, full time. **RB Enterprises, Ludlow, MA. 413-583-8393.**

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

The Town of Brookfield is seeking an experienced full-time Highway Superintendent. Full job description at brookfieldma.us. Please submit resume and cover letter to selectmen@brookfieldma.us. Application review will begin after March 28th. Resumes accepted until position is filled. Brookfield is an equal opportunity employer.

HELP WANTED

SQUIER & CO. is looking to hire an oil truck driver. \$40,000-\$60,000 full time. Squire will provide CDL school for the right candidate! Email: squiereoil@verizon.net. Call 413-267-3184 or visit us at 5 Squier Ave., Monson, MA. Monday-Friday.

The Town of Huntington is seeking a part-time **HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT** for 16 hours per week. Applicants must be proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel, and Outlook. Hours are flexible, but must be worked during the regular highway department hours of Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to assist the Highway Superintendent. Application and complete job description are available online at www.huntingtonma.us or by emailing admin@huntingtonma.us. Position is open until filled. Town of Huntington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Post your job openings in our classifieds. WE GET RESULTS!

REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT

SHOP/STORAGE/MECHANIC FOR RENT. 3,000 ft2 plus garage for rent in Gilbertville. Two lifts, compressor, office, bathroom/washroom. Large 10 ft overhead electric garage door. Oil heat, 3 phase electric. Room for 5 vehicles plus inside and outside parking. Located right on Rt 32. Perfect for a business or? \$2,000/month. Call Don @ (413) 758-3039.



ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, or religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

FOR RENT

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES
MONDAY AT NOON

TAX SERVICES

1040 2024 TAX TIME

CHANTEL BLEAU ACCOUNTING SERVICES
For Full Accounting & Tax Service
Registered Tax Return Preparer
228 West St., Ware, MA 01082
413-967-8364
Call For An Appointment
The IRS does not endorse any particular individual tax return preparer. For more information on tax preparers go to irs.gov.

AJE FINANCIAL SERVICES
588 Center Street
Ludlow, MA 01056
www.ajefinancial.com
(413)589-1671
Personal, Business, Corporate and Partnership Tax Filing
Bookkeeping and Accounting Services
Trusted Experts Since 1995

Personal & Small Business Federal & All States
FAST TAX USA
TAX PREPARATION SERVICE
413-348-2279
IRS Certified Tax Preparers
Independently owned and operated. Over 25 years experience.
1622 B North Main Street, Palmer, MA 01069
www.FastTax-MA.com
Free E-File & Direct Deposit

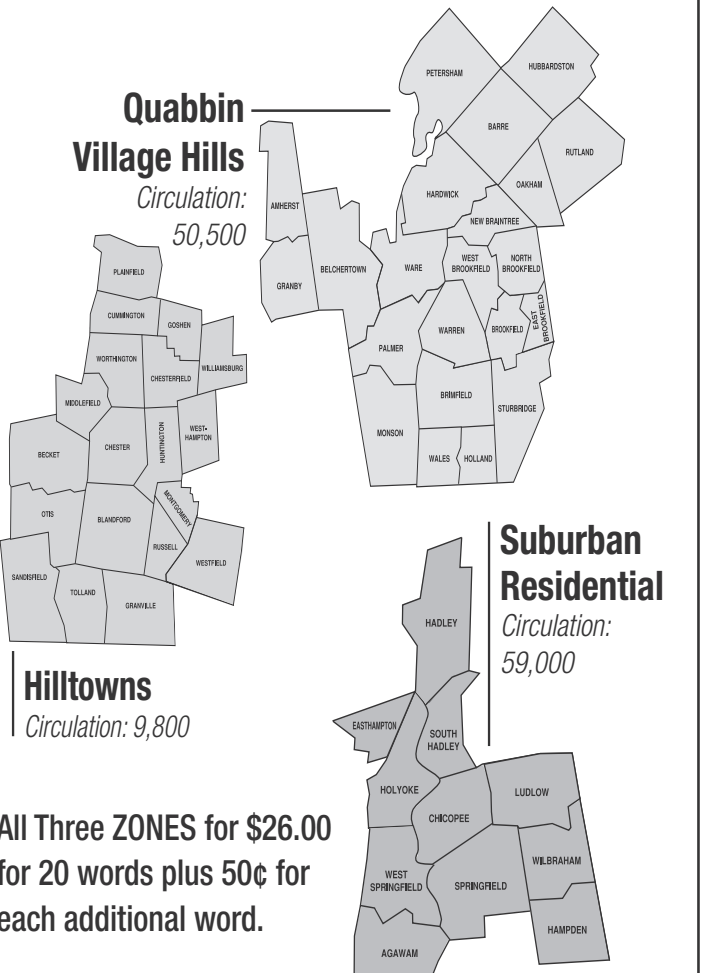
TAX TIME SURVIVAL GUIDE
Call your local Turley Publications sales representative for information and rates on advertising your tax service here!
413-283-8393

Call Your Local Turley Publications Sales Representative For Information And Rates On Advertising Your Tax Service Here
CALL 413-283-8393 TO PLACE YOUR AD TODAY!

FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 DEADLINES: **MONDAY AT NOON**
or call: 413-283-8393

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	Base Price \$26.50	Base Price \$27.00	Base Price \$27.50
22	Base Price \$28.00	Base Price \$28.50	Base Price \$29.00
23	Base Price \$29.50	Base Price \$30.00	Base Price \$30.50
24	Base Price \$31.00	Base Price \$31.50	Base Price \$32.00
25	Base Price \$32.50	Base Price \$33.00	Base Price \$33.50
26	Base Price \$34.00	Base Price \$34.50	Base Price \$35.00
27	Base Price \$35.50	Base Price \$36.00	Base Price \$36.50
28	Base Price \$37.00	Base Price \$37.50	Base Price \$38.00
29	Base Price \$38.50	Base Price \$39.00	Base Price \$39.50
30	Base Price \$40.00	Base Price \$40.50	Base Price \$41.00
31	Base Price \$41.50	Base Price \$42.00	Base Price \$42.50
32	Base Price \$43.00	Base Price \$43.50	Base Price \$44.00
33	Base Price \$44.50	Base Price \$45.00	Base Price \$45.50
34	Base Price \$46.00	Base Price \$46.50	Base Price \$47.00
35	Base Price \$47.50	Base Price \$48.00	Base Price \$48.50
36	Base Price \$49.00	Base Price \$49.50	Base Price \$50.00
37	Base Price \$50.50	Base Price \$51.00	Base Price \$51.50
38	Base Price \$52.00	Base Price \$52.50	Base Price \$53.00
39	Base Price \$53.50	Base Price \$54.00	Base Price \$54.50
40	Base Price \$55.00	Base Price \$55.50	Base Price \$56.00



All Three ZONES for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word.

Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____
 Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Number of Weeks: _____ X per week rate = \$ _____
 Credit Card: MasterCard VISA Discover Cash Check# _____
 Card #: _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV _____
 Amount of charge: _____ Date: _____

GREAT VALUE!
ALL 3 ZONES NOW FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!

REAL Results
REAL Value
REAL Connections
 ADVERTISE TODAY!
Turley Publications, Inc.
WE ARE THE REAL DEAL!
 12 Weekly Newspapers
 Serving the Local Communities
 Agawam Advertiser News • Barre Gazette
 Chicopee Register • Country Journal
 Journal Register • Quaboag Current
 The Register • Sentinel • The Holyoke Sun
 Town Reminder • Ware River News
 The Wilbraham-Hampden Times
413.283.8393
www.newspapers.turley.com

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

Your BUYLINE CONNECTION

**HUGE PACKAGE REBATES!
SEE OUR AMAZON STORE!
BILL'S BEST DEALS**

**1,000s OF APPLIANCES!
EASTER TOY SALE!!!
WEBER GRILL SALE!!!
PRESEASON BIKE SALE!!!**

WHITCO TOY & BIKE 
12 MONTHS 0% FINANCING **140 Main St., Spencer** **508-885-9343**
www.whitcosales.com
Open: Mon.-Fri. 10am-8:30pm, Sat. 9am-8pm, Sun. 12pm-7pm

**6 Common Street
BROOKFIELD
\$450,000**
5 bedroom, 2 Bath,
with attached garage
and enclosed porch.
Call Michelle Terry
508-202-0008



YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS

*We Do More
So You Will
Make More!!!*

EXIT
EXIT Real Estate Executives
130 W. Main Street
Spencer, MA 01562

Michelle Terry
Broker/Owner
michelleterryteam.com

GIVE US A CALL TODAY! 508-202-0008

**LEADMINE
PROPERTY
MAINTENANCE**

*We have all your
clean up
needs.*

- ◆ Small Lawn Mowing
- ◆ Stone Wall Repair
- ◆ Spring Clean Up
- ◆ House Painting
- ◆ Deck Repair
- ◆ Small Tree Jobs

KEN GAUMOND
774.318.0460
mountainlion757@gmail.com

Prompt Service ◆ Reasonable Rates
Easily Reachable

**Who had the #1 market share in
WARE for 2023?**

*I'm not just your REALTOR®...
I'm your NEIGHBOR!*

Dorrinda O'Keefe-Shea
REALTOR®
978-434-1990 • Dorrinda@C21lovet.com

CENTURY 21 North East **Call me...I'm ready to help YOU in 2024!**



Data from 01/01/23-12/31/23 MLSPin



Brookhaven Assisted Care
19 West Main Street, West Brookfield, MA 01585

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT TEAM:
Erin, Laura and Nancy

Over 55 years of service.
24 hour care, Medical Management,
Assistance with activities of daily living,
Activity Program, well trained,
compassionate and caring staff.

Services Available In-House:
Physician's / Nurse Practitioner services,
Pharmacy services, Podiatry services

VNA services:
Physical, Speech, Occupational Therapy,
Hospice, Mobile X-Ray, Geriatric-Psych services
Transportation available, Hairdresser / Barber
Manager: Erin Tierney
508-867-3325 ~ erin.brookhaven@gmail.com

**MICHAEL
Toomey**
& Associates, Inc.
Real Estate

East Brookfield | Maryellen Brunelle | 774-230-1419
Oakham | Irene Caruso | 774-696-9794
Worcester / West Brookfield | Macey Gaumond | 413-233-8967
Spencer | Zac Leach | 508-277-5209
Holden | Sarah Mahoney | 774-245-1218
Barre | Dan Mankin | 760-617-0548
Leicester | Lee Martinelli | 774-253-0364
Paxton | Scott Moss | 508-847-6330
Spencer | Amy Ekleberry Perro | 508-769-7025
Brookfield | Meghan Robidoux | 508-414-2518
North Brookfield | Mike Toomey | 508-951-6460

Serving all your Real Estate needs!

**WHERE EVERYONE GOES FOR
THEIR PIECE OF THE EARTH!**

LANDSCAPE STONE
ALL SIZES
White • Blush • Blue • Brown • Purple
Red • Lt Gray • Dark Gray

SCREENED LOAM STORED IN BUILDING

Construction Stone • Title V Septic Sand
Concrete Sand • Chicken Coop Sand • Utility Sand
Chip Stone • Stone Dust • Silt • Crushed Gravel
Crushed Asphalt • Crushed Concrete • Cold Patch

Homeowner Friendly • No Minimums
PICK-UP OR CALL TO SCHEDULE YOUR DELIVERY TODAY!

Bond 98 North Spencer Road,
Route 31N, Spencer, MA
508-885-6100
508-885-2480

Sand, Gravel & Asphalt 
www.bondsandandgravel.com

CHECK OUT ALL THE

Turley Publications

www.turley.com

Support Your Hometown Businesses SHOP LOCAL

Adventure tours of Warren
Share the Adventure with us!

**NIGHT
CANADA &
NEW
ENGLAND
CRUISE**

*Norwegian Gem –
Departing August 30
Call now –
Availability Limited!*



**NORWEGIAN
CRUISE LINE**

May 4	Kennedy Library	\$95
June 11-14	Boothbay Harbor Vacation	\$799
June 29	Lake George Cruise & Lunch	\$175
July 13	Cape Cod Canal & Lunch	\$130
Aug. 30	7-Night Nova Scotia Cruise	.. from \$1499

Share the Adventure with us soon!
For further information call Randall at (413) 436-5357
or email adventuretours@att.net
or go to www.adventuretoursofwarren.com



Now open Wednesdays 11a-7p

St. Patrick's Celebration

Be one of the lucky ones and discover the treasure of Farmer Matt's corned beef and cabbage dinner. Available Mar. 13-17.

FarmerMatt.com • 508-980-7085

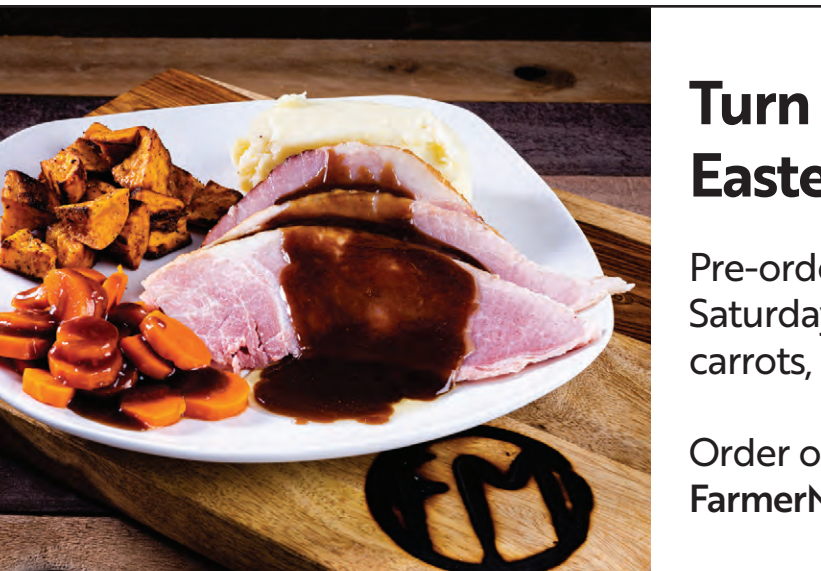
 **Farmer Matt**®
FARM-FRESH + LOCAL
FarmerMatt.com
860 West Brookfield Rd.
New Braintree, MA

 **Farmer Matt**®
FARM-FRESH + LOCAL

860 West Brookfield Rd., New Braintree, MA

Farmer Matt offers farm-fresh beef, poultry, and pork along with a variety of other farm store staples. Also serving homemade meals from our farm kitchen.

FarmerMatt.com or (508) 980-7085



**Turn to Farmer Matt for your
Easter Dinner**

Pre-order your ham dinner and pick up at the farm by Saturday, March 30. Meals include sliced ham, glazed carrots, sweet potato, and whipped potatoes.

Order online or in-store
FarmerMatt.com or call (508) 980-7085