

BARRE GAZETTE

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Maureen Marshall wins second term

Incumbent has 487-413 votes for Richard Stevens

By Ellenor Downer
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BARRE – With the unofficial Town Election results in, Maureen Marshall won a second three-year term to the Select Board.

She received 487 votes (284 precinct 1 and 203 precinct 2) and her challenger, Richard C. Steven got 413 votes (246 precinct 1 and 167 precinct 2). The voter turnout was 21.48% with 908 out of 4,228 registered voters casting ballots. Five hundred thirty six out of 2,104 registered voters in precinct 1 and 372 out of 2,124 in precinct 2 went to the poles Monday, April 1.

Three voted by absentee ballot, all from precinct 1 and 297 (193 precinct 1 and 104 precinct 2) voted by Early Voting. The total number of Early Voting and Absentee Ballots not returned were 221 (109 precinct 1 and 112 precinct 2).

All other candidates ran unopposed. Robert William Arthur Leroux won another term to the Board of Assessors with 680 votes (401 precinct 1 and 279 precinct 2) and Michael B. Radesky, incumbent.

See **ELECTION RESULTS**, page 5



These croci were taken in Wyben. Spring flowers are in bloom throughout the land.

Turley photo by Kathryn Koegel

Casella's zoning requests focus of public hearing

By Paula Ouimette
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HARDWICK – On Tuesday, April 9 at 6:30 p.m., the Planning Board will hold a public hearing at the Hardwick Elementary School, 76 School House Drive, Gilbertville to decide whether or not to recommend to town meeting an amendment to the town's bylaws as requested by Casella Waste Systems, Inc.

This proposed zoning bylaw amendment was submitted by Casella for the purpose of reopening and expanding the solid waste landfill on Patrill Hollow Road.

In a Feb. 20 letter to the Select Board, Casella's Vice-President Brian Oliver said the amendments including increasing the allowable height of the landfill from 670 feet above Mean Sea Level to 850

feet (General By-laws, Article XV, Section 2).

Oliver said Casella is also requesting an amendment to the zoning map to re-zone certain parcels of land on Patrill Hollow Road from Agricultural Residential (AR-60) to Industrial (I-40); adding language to the schedule of land intensity regulations for buildings, structures and uses (Zoning Bylaws, Section 2.3.2); and to add solid waste landfilling as an allowed use in the Industrial District.

In order for Casella to be able to reopen and expand the landfill, a portion of Patrill Hollow Road would need to be discontinued and reconfigured.

Oliver also submitted a draft Host Community Agreement to the Select Board on March 21.

See **CASELLA**, page 5

Board interviews town administrator candidates

By Paula Ouimette
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NORTH BROOKFIELD – The Board of Selectmen interviewed two candidates for the newly established role of Town Administrator.

At the March 26 meeting, candidate Justine Caggiano of Spencer said she has been in state and local government for her entire career, starting as a legislative aide in the State House. She has also worked in human resources for the town

of Millbury and Millbury Public Schools, as well as the town of Ware.

Caggiano has most recently worked as the assistant town administrator in Leicester and now works as an HR consultant for Capital Strategic Solutions.

"I really believe that everything that the town is looking for is qualifications that I have and my experience, and just be such a good fit. We could grow together," she said.

Caggiano said she feels like she already knows the town well,

and she has been watching the meetings.

"I see the passion that the residents have...and I really think that I could bring what I have and really serve the community," she said.

Caggiano said if she were hired, she would focus on formalizing policies and the budget process, and get information out to the public. She has reviewed the Department of Revenue's recommendations for the town from 2008 and she would like to follow through with them.

She would also take a thorough look at the budget to find ways to save money. She said she is familiar with both state and local budgeting processes.

Caggiano said she was part of the budget team for both Millbury and Ware, and was in charge of personnel as well as her own department's budget.

Caggiano said she has also been successful in securing grants.

"I don't want to leave anything on the table, whether grants or state funding," she said.

Caggiano said she is familiar with long-term strategic planning, but she hasn't been directly involved with developing one.

She said in her experience working with a five-member selectboard in a previous job, she made sure each member was prepared to make decisions.

"My position is to be that resource for the board," Caggiano said.

Caggiano said communication is important to maintain transparency. See **NORTH BROOKFIELD**, page 6

Earthlands 60th Anniversary honors vision

PETERSHAM – On a beautiful sunlit afternoon, Larry Buell and a small group of supporters hiked along the East branch of the Swift River in Petersham to a small cabin.

There he received a dream for his life's work. For Buell, it was a 60 year walk back in time, when as a 21 year-old he received a vision that guided his entire personal and professional life that was now being confirmed.

Buell is a well-known local historian and storyteller who's "Sense of Place" teachings have guided many others to value where they live and its stories. The small group to join Buell on the trek back to the cabin represented many who have been influenced by his life work, including the present staff of his University of the Wild and others interested in the stories of the land.

Back in 1964, Buell was the co-captain of the Springfield College Basketball team, a student respected by his teachers and fellow students, and in relationship with a popular coed.

The future foretold of a teaching position, head basketball coach, marriage and a family, yet there was something wrong with this scenario. Buell knew that there was something more to life than what others wanted or expected of him.

He decided to take stock and journeyed into the solace of the deep woods where he felt safe and secure away from all the expectations of others. There he reflected



Submitted photo

Larry Buell is in his element in the woods and enjoys a hike to a "cabin" in Petersham.

on his life.

The nearly weeklong "Quest for a Vinson" allowed him to write, reflect and imagine a future that he craved and believed was possible.

This time at the cabin enhanced his courage and commitment to live the life he envisioned. He returned to his life and was prepared to inform his parents, coaches and fiancé that he was

dropping out of college and was going to travel around the world on a once in-a-lifetime Spiritual Journey. Knowing that this decision would have tremendous impact on all of his relationships, he waited before informing others.

Apparently, the world had another path for Buell. When he

See **EARTHLANDS**, page 7

Egg hunt brings families together

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

NEW BRAINTREE – The New Braintree Revitalization Committee, with support from the Fire Department, hosted an egg hunt outside the library this weekend, and 60 kids came to enjoy it.

Students from the Quabbin Regional High School helped to pack and fill more than 800 eggs with candy for kids of all ages to hunt around the field.

The Revitalization Committee has been working to engage the community more by providing fun, free family-oriented activities and events for all to enjoy.

The egg hunt has hit its fourth year, and will continue for many more years to come as children make friends, and joy is spread amongst the community.

The New Braintree Fire Department dropped off the Easter Bunny to begin the egg hunt.



Turley Photos by Emily-Rose Pappas

Ben and Kaleigh Maio with their three kids, Addison, Maverick, and Marshall were ready with their bunny ears to hunt some eggs.



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News of the Towns



Round Town
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Legion Auxiliary to meet

The April meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 2 will be held at 7 p.m. in American Legion Post 2 quarters, 450 South Barre Road. The refreshment committee consists of Becky Swenson and Melinda Cheney. There will be a penny sale so please bring some delicious desserts.

Ed the Wizard

Ed the Wizard and his sea life balloon animal twisting workshop will appear at the Woods Memorial Library, 19 Pleasant St., Barre on Thursday, April 18 starting at 4:30 p.m..

Patrons will learn the art of balloon twisting as they create their own Sea Turtle. No balloon twisting experience is required. This program is free and opened to the public, but may require pre-registration. People should call the library at 978-355-2533, extension 104 for more information and to register.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Barre Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

OES pancake breakfast

Cradle Rock Chapter Order of Eastern Star will sponsor a designer pancake breakfast on Saturday, April 6 from 7:30-10:30 a.m. at the Mt. Zion Masonic Lodge hall, 71 Pleasant St., Barre. Cost is \$9 per adult and \$5 for children 10 and under. Complete breakfast includes: design your own pancakes, waffles, sausage gravy with biscuits, bacon, sausage, orange juice, coffee and 100% real maple syrup.

All are welcome to enjoy an "I can't eat anymore, I'm stuffed, breakfast."

Fridays with friends

Fridays with Friends will be held on Friday, April 5 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 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 April 8. 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 – Pork rib-i-que, barbecue sauce, mac n cheese, green beans, fresh fruit, sandwich roll

TUESDAY – Hot dog, baked beans, cole-slaw, baked apples, hot dog roll, mustard

WEDNESDAY – Swedish meatballs, mashed potatoes, Scandinavian vegetables, vanilla pudding, diet sugar free vanilla pudding, marble rye bread

THURSDAY – Chicken Cacciatore, Gemmeli pasta, roasted broccoli, brownie, diet = Rice Krispy Treat, Italian bread

FRIDAY – Fish with crumb topping, rice pilaf, Tuscan style vegetables, fruited ambrosia, 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.

Kathleen Dunn receives 'First Time Walker of Year' award

BOSTON — Kathleen Dunn of Oakham was recognized as "First-Time Walker of the Year" for her efforts in the Boston Marathon@ Jimmy Fund Walk presented by Hyundai.

She was among a select group of awardees recognized for their fundraising and commitment in the 35th Jimmy Fund Walk event, held this past October. 2023 was a record-breaking year for the Jimmy Fund Walk, as the fundraising has officially surpassed \$9.4 million.

More than 8,400 walkers and 700 volunteers came together for the event. Among them was Dunn, a first-time walker, who was treated for breast cancer at Dana-Farber. The Well Dunn team was created in Kathleen's honor by her friends and family as a way to celebrate her "strong and inspiring spirit."

She raised \$1,600 last year and the team raised over \$3,200. Dunn is now cancer-free.

"She is one of the strongest women I know," Kathleen's team member writes. "She is truly an inspiration to us all."

"It is truly remarkable to see the dedication of individuals who have invested their time, passion, and energy in supporting this event, furthering critical research at Dana-Farber," said Suzanne Fountain, vice president of the Jimmy Fund. "Kathleen has demonstrated her commitment to defy cancer and exemplifies the spirit of this event. We are proud to honor Kathleen with the 'First-Time Walker of the Year' award to recognize all she does for Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund."

In 2023, participants walked along the Boston Marathon@ course and had the flexibility to choose from four distance options: 5K walk (from Dana-Farber Cancer Institute), 10K walk (from Newton), Half Marathon walk (from Wellesley), or Marathon walk (from



Kathleen Dunn of Oakham receives "First-Time Walker of the Year" by Boston Marathon@ Jimmy Fund Walk.

Hopkinton). Walkers could also participate virtually, as well.

The Jimmy Fund Walk has raised more than \$176 million for Dana-Farber Cancer in its 35-year history, raising a record-breaking \$9.4 million in 2023. Funds raised from the Jimmy Fund Walk support all forms of adult and pediatric patient care and cancer research at the nation's premier cancer center, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The Boston Athletic Association has supported the Jimmy Fund Walk since 1989, and Hyundai has been the presenting sponsor for more than 20 years.

The 2024 Jimmy Fund Walk will be held on Sunday, Oct. 6 in Boston. To register for the Walk (#JimmyFundWalk) or to support a walker, visit www.JimmyFundWalk.org or call 866-531-9255. Registrants can enter the promo code NEWS for \$5 off

the registration fee. All registered walkers will receive a bib, medal, and a Jimmy Fund Walk T-shirt.

The Jimmy Fund is comprised of community-based fundraising events and other programs that, solely and directly, benefit Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's lifesaving mission to provide compassionate patient care and groundbreaking cancer research for children and adults. The Jimmy Fund is an official charity of the Boston Red Sox, the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association, the Pan-Mass Challenge, and the Variety Children's Charity of New England. Since 1948, the generosity of millions of people has helped the Jimmy Fund save countless lives and reduce the burden of cancer for patients and families worldwide. Follow the Jimmy Fund on Facebook, X, and Instagram: @TheJimmyFund.

Ed the Wizard to teach balloon twisting

BARRE – Ed the Wizard and his sea life balloon animal twisting workshop will appear at the Woods Memorial Library on Thursday, April 18 starting at 4:30 p.m..

Patrons will learn the art of balloon twisting as they create their own Sea Turtle. No balloon twisting experience is required. This program is free and opened to the public, but may require pre-registration. People should call the library at 978-355-2533, extension 104 for more information and to register.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Barre Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.



Ed the Wizard will hold a balloon twisting workshop on Thursday, April 25 at 11 a.m. in the Woods Memorial Library, 19 Pleasant St., Barre. They will make this sea turtle balloon.

Poetry and music series at Woods Memorial Library starts April 9

BARRE – A poetry and music series will be held at the Woods Memorial Library, 19 Pleasant St. on Tuesdays, April 9 and 23 at 6 p.m.

Each evening will feature solo readings by area poets book-ended by a musical duet. This program is made possible

by the Barre Cultural Council as supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council and the Woods Memorial Library.

On April 9, poets Susan Roney-O'Brien and David Thoreen will be accompanied by musicians Jerry Wilfong (bass) and Dick Hummel (trumpet and

percussion). On April 23, poets Clair Degutis and Jonathan Blake will be accompanied by musicians Jerry Wilfong (bass) and Rich Falco (guitar).

The program is free and open to all. Please stop by or call the library at 978-355-2533 to reserve your seat.

Hubbardston

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Rep. Berthiaume and Sen. Durant have office hours

On Wednesday, April 17 from 9:45-1:45 a.m. State Rep. Donnie Berthiaume's Chief of Staff, Donna and Senator Peter Durant's, Constituent services coordinator will hold office house in the Hubbardston Senior Center. Constituents and town officials are invited to meet with staff to express any concerns, ideas or issues that they may need assistance with. They may call Donna at 774-402-4742 if they would like a private meeting.

Town Clerk lists election info

The 2024 Hubbardston Annual Town Election will be held on Tuesday, June 11. Nomination papers for candidates interested in running for town-wide offices are available at the Hubbardston Town Clerk's Office. Tuesday, April 23 at 5 p.m. is the last day to submit nomination papers to Registrars. Offices, which will appear on the ballot. Are: Select Board two positions for three-year terms; Board of Assessors one position for three-year term; Board of Health three positions – two three-year terms and one two-year term; Cemetery Commission one position three-year term; Library Trustees three positions two three-year terms and one one-year term, Quabbin Regional School District Committee two positions for three-year terms; Finance Committee three positions two three-year terms and one one-year term; Parks Commission four positions one three-year term, two two-year terms and one one-year term and Planning Board one position five-year term. Those interested in running for any of these positions must collect a minimum of 24 signatures from registered Hubbardston voters. Nomination papers can be picked up at the Town Clerk's office during regular business hours Monday from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. and Tuesday through Thursday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. People may call the Town Clerk's office at 978-928-1400 extension 202 or email telcer@hubbardstonma.us with any questions. Deadline to register to vote at the Annual Town Meeting is Saturday, May 25. Deadline to vote for the Annual Town Election is Saturday, June 1.

Hubbardston Citizen of the Year Award

The Select Board announces the launch of the inaugural Hubbardston Citizen of the Year Award. This annual recognition is designed to celebrate the individuals, pairs of individuals, groups, community organizations or non-profits that have made significant contributions to enhancing the quality of life in town. Hubbardston is filled with unsung heroes, who go above and beyond to make the community a better place. Now is a chance to nominate them for this prestigious award. People may visit online Google Form at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSftj3BtIK-94cHUov8TFgWrJWNp3ek0u> to fill out a form. If they prefer, they can also pick up a paper nomination form at the Select Board's Office, 7 Main St. They should provide as much detail as possible about their nominee's contributions and impact on the community in the application. Nominations must be received by April 25 to be considered for this year's award. The winner will be recognized at the Hubbardston Annual Town Meeting, and their name will be added to a dedicated plaque at Town Hall. People may call the Select Board office by calling 978-928-1400 or emailing admin@hubbardstonma.us.

Library community survey

The Hubbardston Public Library is conducting a community survey to evaluate the library's programs, facilities and services to inform their strategic plan for the next five years. Whether people use the Hubbardston Library or not their participation in this survey will help create a plan that meets the needs of the community. The survey takes approximately 10 minutes to complete online. To complete the survey, people should visit <http://tiny.cc/HubbardstonLibrarySurvey>.

Senior center events

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

Library holds Rainforest Reptile Show on April 21

NEW BRAINTREE – Rainforest Reptile Shows, a hands-on traveling animal show, is coming to the New Braintree Town Hall, 20 Memorial Drive, on Sunday, April 21 at 3 p.m.

Children of all ages will have a chance to come into direct contact with live reptiles, artifacts and their incredible stories. This program is presented by the New Braintree Public Library and is sponsored in part by a grant from the Hardwick/New Braintree Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

The program is free and open to the public. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. People may call the library at 508-867-7650 during regular business hours for more information.

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News of the Towns

PUBLIC MEETINGS

BARRE

Select Board – April 4 and April 16 at 6 p.m.
 Water Commission – April 8 at 6:30 p.m. DPW Commission – April 8 at 7 p.m.
 Cable Advisory Committee – April 9 at 7 p.m.
 Conservation Committee – April 9 at 7 p.m.
 Library Trustees – April 10 at 6:30 p.m.
 Barre Housing Authority – April 11 at 3 p.m.
 Board of Assessors – April 16 at 6 p.m.
 Planning Board – April 16 at 7 p.m.
 Sewer Commission – April 18 at 7 p.m.
 Cemetery Commission – April 25 at 11 a.m.
 Felton Field Commission – May 7 at 6:30 p.m.

HARDWICK

Board of Health – April 4 at 6:30 p.m.
 Paige Library Trustees – April 4 at 7 p.m.
 Finance Committee – April 8, April 22 and May 6 at 6 p.m.
 Planning Board – April 9 at 6:30 p.m.
 Council on Aging – April 10 at 9 a.m.
 Gilbertville Public Library – April 10 at 4 p.m.
 Gilbertville Water District – April 16 at 5:30 p.m.
 Master Plan Steering Committee – April 16 at 6:30 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – April 17 at 6:30 p.m.
 Recycling Commission – May 7 at 6:30 p.m.
 Hardwick New Braintree Cultural Council – May 13, June 10, July 8 and August 12, Nov. 11 and Dec. 9 at 6:30 p.m.
 Capital Planning Committee – May 20 at 3 p.m.

HUBBARDSTON

Library Trustees – April 4 at 7 p.m.
 Open Space Committee – April 4 at 7 p.m.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

Fire/Highway Building Committee – April 4 at 4 p.m.
 Library Board of Trustees – April 4 at 6 p.m.
 Finance Committee – April 4 at 6 p.m.
 Board of Selectmen – April 9 and April 23 at 6 p.m.
 State Rep Berthiaume and Sen. Durant aides office hours – April 16 at 10 a.m.
 Planning Board – April 17 and May 15 at 6 p.m.
 Annual Town Election – May 6
 Downtown Development Committee – May 6 at 6:30 p.m.

OAKHAM

Board of Selectmen Special Meeting/Highway Superintendent Interviews – April 5 at 1 p.m.
 Council on Aging – April 12 and May 10 at noon
 Planning Board – April 16 and May 21 at 7 p.m.
 Select Board – April 16, May 13 and May 28 at 6 p.m.
 Town Elections – May 20 from 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
 Board of Health April 22 at 4:45 p.m.

PETERSHAM

Select Board – April 4 at 5:30 p.m.
 Petersham School Committee – April 4 at 5:30 p.m. and April 8 at 10 a.m.
 Advisory Finance Committee – April 4 at 6 p.m.
 Board of Health – April 4 at 6 p.m.
 Council on Aging – April 8 at 10 a.m.
 Cemetery Commission – April 9 at 10 a.m.
 Capital Improvement Planning Committee – April 9 at 7 p.m.
 Petersham Historic District – April 18 at 6 p.m.
 Board of Assessors – April 23 at 5:30 p.m.
 Open Space and Recreation Committee – May 7 at 6 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – May 7 at 7 p.m.

RUTLAND

Rutland Development and Industrial Commission – April 4 at 5:30 p.m.
 By Law Committee – April 4 at 7 p.m.
 Planning Board Public Hearings – April 9 at 6:30 p.m.
 Capital Improvement Planning Committee – April 11 at 6:30 p.m.
 Finance Committee with Select Board – April 11 all day
 Economic Development Commission – April 17 at 7 p.m.

Barre Food Pantry holds distributions

BARRE – The next two Barre Food Pantry distributions will occur on Wednesday, April 10 from 10-11:30 a.m. and on Thursday, April 18 from 5:30 -7 pm.

Clients are invited to pick up groceries from the food pantry either in the morning on Wednesday, April 10 or in the evening on Thursday, April 18, whichever is more convenient for them.

The Barre Food Pantry volunteers strive to continue to fulfill their mission to get food to hungry and food insecure clients.

The pantry must also continue to protect clients, volunteers and the larger community from the spread of disease 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 continue to operate as we have since March of 2020.

In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients April 10 and April 18 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 distributions 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.

On Tuesday night, April 9 at

5:30 p.m. the Barre Food Pantry will be gathering volunteers at the Barre Congregational Church to unload incoming groceries from their truck, to sort through donated groceries, to pre-fill grocery bags and in other ways to prepare for the distribution the following morning.

If people can help pitch in for an hour on the April 9, they should call Sonja Blaney at 978-355-6921. Please do not arrive to volunteer on April 9, 10 or 18 without first calling Sonja Blaney at 978-355-6921 or Chuck Radlo at 978-355-6463.

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

Oakham

Ellenor Downer
 edowner@turley.com



Rep. Berthiaume and Sen. Durant have office hours

On Tuesday, April 16 from 11 a.m.-noon State Rep. Donnie Berthiaume’s Chief of Staff, Donna and Senator Peter Durant’s, Constituent services coordinator, Jared Griggs will hold office hours in the Oakham Town Hall. Constituents and town officials are invited to meet with staff to express any concerns, ideas or issues that they may need assistance with. They may call Donna at 774-402-4742 if they would like a private meeting.

Roadway Cleanup

On Saturday, April 20 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. there will be a town wide roadside clean up day in recognition of Earth Day on Monday, April 22. All Oakham residents may participate in a roadside clean up day, before all the ticks and grass grow too high. There will have a dumpster available for drop off behind the municipal buildings, Fire, Police and Highway. Blue trash bags and gloves will be available. This is only for roadside trash that can go into regular trash. There will be no disposal of electronics, tires, mattresses or other items not usually disposed of in weekly trash.

Recycling Day

The Oakham Board of Health will hold a Recycling Day on Saturday, June 8 where they will be accepting electronics, mattresses, medical sharps, medications as they have in years past.

Golf Tournament

The GABB Tournament sponsored by the Oakham Congregational Church will be held Monday, Aug. 5 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Quail Hollow Golf & Country Club, Old Turnpike Road, Oakham.

Registration is from 7:30-8:45 a.m. The tournament named in memory of Gretchen Nahkala, Art Gray, Bob Lajoie and Bob Tyck benefits local charities. Cost is \$100 per player and include 18 holes of golf, a cart and a barbecue buffet. Cost is \$360 per foursome if paid by July 26. There will be prizes, raffles and silent auction. For more information, people may call Dawn Thistle at the Oakham Congregational Church at 508-882-5537 and leave a message if there is no answer.

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. 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.

Rep. Berthiaume and Sen. Durant staff to hold office hours in area towns

State Rep. Donnie Berthiaume’s Chief of Staff, Donna and Senator Peter Durant’s, Constituent services coordinator, Jared Griggs will hold office hours.

Locations include: Tuesday, April 9 in the town of Ware at the Senior Center from 9-9:45 a.m.; Tuesday, April 9 in the town of West Brookfield, at the Senior Center 10-10:45 a.m.; Tuesday, April 9 in the town of Brookfield at the Town Hall from 11:00-11:45 p.m.; Wednesday, April 10

in the town of East Brookfield at the Senior Center from 10-10:45 a.m. Wednesday, April 10 in the town of Spencer, at Howe Village from 11-11:45 a.m.; Wednesday, April 10 in the town of Leicester at the Senior Center, from noon-1:45 p.m.; Tuesday, April 16 in the town of New Braintree, at the town hall, 9-9:45 a.m.; Tuesday, April 16 in the town of North Brookfield at the Senior Center from 10-10:45 a.m.; Tuesday, April 16 in the town of Oakham

Town Hall from 11 a.m.-noon; Wednesday, April 17 in the town of Hubbardston at Senior Center from 9:45-10:45 a.m. and Wednesday, April 17 in the town of Barre Senior Center from 11 a.m.-noon.

Constituents and town officials are invited to meet with staff to express any concerns, ideas or issues that they may need assistance with.

They may call Donna at 774-402-4742 if they would like a private meeting.

Paige Memorial Library upcoming events

HARDWICK – Don’t miss the big event at the Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, on Saturday, April 13 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Friends of the Paige Memorial Library will launch their 2024 Seed Library, one of the very first Seed Libraries, and they will do it again with a Bake Sale, a Book Sale, and a garden-themed raffle basket that includes a \$50 gift certificate from the Hardwick Farmer’s Exchange.

If you would like to donate to the bake sale or raffle or have any questions, email director.

paigelibrary@gmail.com, call 413-477-6704, or stop in.

On Saturday, April 27 at 1:30 p.m. at the Town House, learn from Gariné of Kalina Folk Arts how to create a “Scrunch-Paint” tie-dye style silk scarf. This workshop is for teens and adults.

Each participant will leave with a beautiful silk scarf masterpiece. This program is supported by a grant from the Hardwick Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Registration is required. Email, call, or stop in.

Story Hour is held on Wednesday mornings at 11 a.m. The Paige Writing group meets on alternate Tuesdays at 3 p.m., and the Paige Book Club meets at 2 p.m. monthly.

The Cookbook Club meets at 5:30 p.m. monthly on the last Wednesday. A Legos open building session will be held from 2-4 p.m. on April 10, which is a half day in the Quabbin Regional School District.

All are invited to join the library’s Friends group, suggest a new program or present a new workshop.

Recycling Center offers bulk waste day April 13

HARDWICK – The Hardwick Recycling Center, 2011 Barre Road, will hold a Bulk Waste Collection Event on Saturday, April 13 from 8 a.m.-noon.

This event is open to the residents of Hardwick and surrounding towns. A recycling center sticker is not required.

Please note, there are fees per item charged to cover the cost of hauling and processing.

Prices are as follows: mattress or box spring, any size, \$30; couch, \$30; futon or waterbed mattress, \$25; love-seat, \$25; upholstered chair, \$25; pool tables, \$25; wall unit cabinets, \$20; large entertaining center, \$20; sink, \$15; toilet, \$20; carpeting/foam carpet backing, \$15; kitchen/dining table, \$15; bookcase, bureau, \$15; trash compac-

tor, \$10; wooden chair, end table, coffee table, night stand, \$12; infant car seat, \$7; bulk Styrofoam (bagged), \$5; and suitcases, \$5.

The staff and volunteers reserve the right to price or reject other items not listed above accordingly on site.

For more information, people email recycling@townofhardwick.com.

Poetry and music series offered at Merriam-Gilbert library

WEST BROOKFIELD – A poetry and music series will be held at the Merriam-Gilbert Public Library, 3 West Main St. on Tuesdays, April 16, 30 and May 7 at 6 p.m.

Each evening will feature readings by area poets book-ended by a musical duet. This program is made possible by the West Brookfield Cultural Council as supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

On April 16, poets Karen Sharpe and John Hodgen will be accompanied by musicians Jerry Wilfong, Rich Falco and Rich Ardizzone. On April 30, poets Andre Juarez and Geoff Wilkinson will be accompanied by musicians Jerry Wilfong and Jim Capone and on May 7, poets Eve Rifkah and Paul Szlosek will be accompanied by musicians Jerry Wilfong and Rich Falco.

The program is free and open to all. Please stop by or call the library at 508-867-1410 to reserve your seat.

Editorial deadline reminder

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

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

MITA
 WOODWORKING, LLC
 FAXTON, MA
 Kitchen / Bath
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 In home or showroom
 774-366-5517
 mitawoodworking@aol.com

hardwickcrossing.com
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 774-757-8907
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HARDWICK CROSSING
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OPEN 7 DAYS FOR LUNCH, DINNER & GOLF
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 Online Ordering &
 Curbside Pick-up Available
Monday - 6:30 p.m.
TRIVIA NIGHT
Wednesday - 6:30 p.m.
MUSIC BINGO
Sip & Paint
 Tuesday, April 9,
 Tuesday, April 23
 Starting at 6:30 p.m.
Large Outdoor Dining Seating Area
Golf Course Now Open
 Visit Our Website For More Details

Are you having difficulty communicating with your partner, struggling with boundaries, and healthy relationships?
 We invite you to join us Friday afternoons from 1-2:30 pm to explore these topics and more.
 This group will be held in zoom, is educational, confidential, and free.
 Please contact **Pat James 413-726-8661**.

REMINDER:
APRIL 30TH IS THE DEADLINE TO REMOVE STUDDED TIRES
ORIGINAL TIRE CO.
 Joseph West, Prop.
 SOUTH ATHOL ROAD, ATHOL 978-249-3477
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Opinion

Letter to Editor

Group calls upon Planning Board to oppose landfill rezoning

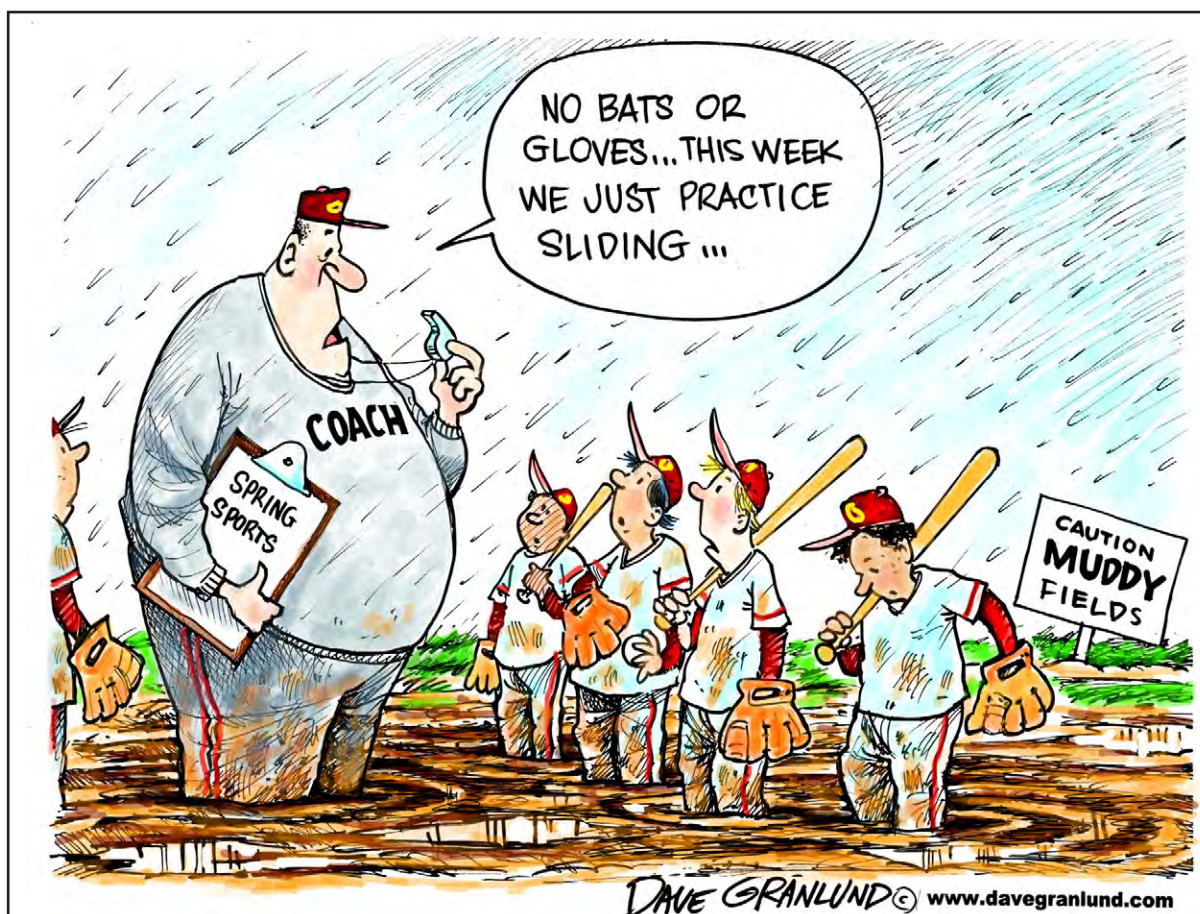
To the Editor,
The Physicians Advisory Panel to the Town of Hardwick, Board of Health would like to express its opposition to the proposed rezoning of the currently residentially zoned property owned by Hardwick Landfill, Inc. to industrial zoning for the ultimate purpose of creating a regional landfill for municipal solid waste disposal.

For the sake of the public health and safety of Hardwick and Ware, the siting of a landfill in the midst of a residential zone, overlying a high and medium yield aquifer, in a valley with poor air circulation, accessible only by narrow rural truck routes poses a significant health threat to the communities.

The physician panel comprised of physicians with extensive and varied academic and clinical training are deeply concerned about toxic exposure and road safety posed by the proposed Regional Landfill.

We strongly urge the Planning Board to unequivocally recommend against siting the landfill in Hardwick for indisputable health and safety reasons.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Romano, M.D.
Hardwick



Guest Column



Asparagus plants - upkeep, harvest and oddities

It was so much fun to be outdoors on Easter Sunday.

I enjoyed just sitting on the deck, talking with family and moseying around the yard while the little kids enjoyed an Easter egg hunt. It's funny that being outside is one of those things that once you do it, you want to do it more often.

It got me thinking of some of the tasks back home I have to do to get the gardens ship-shape.

One of the tasks concerns my asparagus bed. The grocery stores are teasing us lately, with spears from Mexico making an appearance in the sales circular.

I usually hold off buying it, preferring my home-grown to anything store-bought. I never did get to cut back the foliage in the fall after the first frost.

Presently, its laying down in the beds, making a catch-all for leaves. I'll get in there with a pair of sharp clippers, cutting away the foliage, then with a rake to further tidy up.

Once complete, I'll sprinkle lime on the beds, followed by some compost, since asparagus prefers fertile soil on the alkaline side.

It'll be a few weeks still before the spears start to poke through the surface. Since my beds are several years old at this point, I will be able to harvest for a good eight weeks.

Be on the look-out for the asparagus beetle mid-stream and the black eggs that are laid horizontally shortly thereafter, usually apparent on the upper portion of the spears. I monitor my beds often and flick the bugs into a yogurt container of soapy water while squishing the eggs in-situ.

I don't do more than that in terms of pest control and I'm able to keep populations down.

Weeds are another foe. It's important to keep the beds weeded - especially free of perennial grasses, and you will likely have a productive asparagus patch for decades to come.

I usually harvest asparagus with a knife, so that the cut is clean. If the spear has gotten a bit too tall, but the buds haven't opened too much, I will still harvest it at the appropriate length of 6-8" long, and cut the rest of the stem off at ground level.

If the buds have opened and are too far gone to be edible (at least in terms of looking like traditional asparagus) I will just allow the foliage to grow, figuring that the photosynthesizing will benefit the roots in the long run, just as later foliage does after the harvest period is over. I usually let really skinny spears go to foliage as well - they are usually kind of tough.

Speaking of tough, what about those really thick spears, the kind that are "thumb-thick?"

If you notice the base of these spears to be woody and tough in appearance, get out the potato peeler and remove the outer skin, revealing a much more ten-

See GARDEN, page 11

In Past Pages

5 years (April 11, 2019)

Oakham Selectmen unanimously approved and adopted a natural hazard mitigation plan for the town, a Federal Emergency Management Agency requirement. Planner Trish Settles of Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission presented the plan at the Tuesday night selectmen's meeting. She explained the plan was not a disaster response. Instead, its goal was to reduce hazard impacts before a disaster occurs.

The stars seemed to be aligned for Hardwick fourth-grader Calvin Hurd last Friday evening. Not only did Hurd win one of close to 20 cakes being raffle doff at the annual cake walk, he was also part of the trio, who won first place at the Annual Talent Show, with both events happening at Hardwick Elementary School. "I'd like to do this again," Hurd said, when asked if he would share his talents in future years. It was a full house last week when Hurd and roughly three dozen other Hardwick elementary students took the stage and performed a variety of singing, dancing, magic, mining, acting, musical and comedy acts.

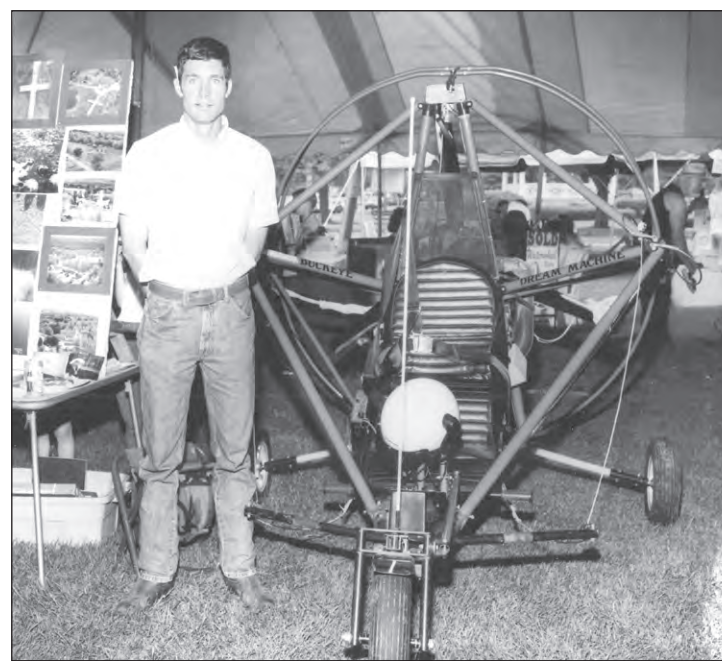
With the words, "I relieve you sir," Cadet ENS Morgan Whitney took over as Commanding Officer of the Navy Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corp unit at Quabbin Regional High School last Friday. Whitney, a junior, relieved Cadet CDR Joseph Day, a senior.

10 years (April 3, 2014)

William Scanlon of Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission attended the Monday night Oakham Selectmen's meeting to discuss the regional highway equipment cooperative. Presently, the towns of Brimfield, Brookfield, East Brookfield, Hardwick, West Brookfield and Warren belong to the cooperative. If Oakham decided to join, they would become the seventh town. Barre, Holland, Monson and Wales were also asked, but none of those towns have yet to respond. The cooperative through grant money purchased a brush clearing trailer, a roller and a street sign making machine.

The Petersham Advisory Finance Committee and the Petersham Select Board continued their meeting with department and committee heads regarding the FY 2015 budget. Prior to arrival of the AFC, the Select Board continued their discussion regarding administrative coordinator Steven Boudreau's request for salary for coverage of the office for 15 days when he would be out of the office. Select Board member Nancy Allen suggested a reduction in the number of days because the Administrative Assistant is already scheduled to be in the office on Mondays and the office, which is currently open half-days on Fridays could be closed on Fridays.

LOOK BACK Barre Business - 1995



File photo
Phil Stevens brought his flying machine along with several aerial photos he had taken.

Those that did not attend the small presentation put on by the Quabbin Regional High School Art Department this past Thursday sure missed out on a great opportunity not only to see the vast array of scratch board and digital art done by talented students, but also to hear Ruth Sanderson speak about her career and her experience with the art students over the past few months. This past fall Quabbin Regional High School received two grants: the Stars Residency Grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council for \$2,700 and a Q.U.E.S.T. grant for \$790 to bring Ruth Sanderson, a local and multi-talented children's book illustrator to QRHS to work with students on several different types of art projects.

25 years (April 8, 1999)

Dick Fiske of North Brookfield is bringing his variety show to Coldbrook Country Club on Saturday, April 17. Fiske has been doing shows in the area for many years, mostly donating his time to help someone in need. His last show in North Brookfield to benefit Mark Gorham had a sell-out crowd of 600 people and raised \$5,500. This show will benefit Laura Merulla, a young woman who is battling cancer. Helping Fiske with the planning of this show is Laura's sister-in-law, Judi Borelli of Barre, whose daughter Nicole is one of the stars of the show.

Oakham Sand and Gravel Corporation filed an appeal on a decision that limited its gravel removal operation. Selectmen received a copy of a letter from Gary S. Brackett, attorney for Oakham Sand and Gravel, that was sent to Town Counsel Robert D. Cox, Jr. stating that Oakham Sand and Gravel filed an appeal with the Land Court in Boston on March 18 on a decision of Judge Leon J. Lombardi dated March 8. In that decision Lombardi ruled a special permit from the Oakham Planning Board was required and the Oakham Sand and Gravel could not remove soil and or gravel beyond the original 10-acre parcel on 1540 Old Turnpike Road.

The Petersham Memorial Park and Common Committee met with Selectmen recently to discuss the proposed bylaw submitted by the committee. As chairman, Ruth Bassingthwaite gave a summary of the committee's inception and the work done to date. She said the committee has already applied for and received a matching grant for tree work to keep the North Common and memorial trees there-in shape.

38 years (April 10, 1986)

Barre will soon be welcoming its first Christian Pre-school. It will open its doors this September at the Barre Congregational Church. The

See PAST PAGES, page 11

Guest Column

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters
By Russell Gloor

When should we claim Social Security?

Dear Rusty

I am almost 63 and my husband will be 61 soon and we are looking to see when our best time would be to start our Social Security benefits.

We would like to know if one of us qualifies for benefits from a previous marriage from 1984 to 1995. And we are wondering if I can start drawing at age 65, in two years or if it is better that I wait until 67 because my spouse is two years younger than me. Also, if I were to continue working limited hours after 65, what would my earning limit be?

Signed Almost Ready

Dear Almost Ready

The first thing to understand is that Full Retirement Age for both of you is 67. If either of you claim before that, your monthly benefit amount will be permanently reduced and, because you are working, you will be subject to Social Security's "earnings test."

If you claim your benefit at age 65 your monthly payment will be about 87% of what you would get if you claimed at age 67. If your husband claims at age 62, his benefit will be about 70% of his FRA amount.

The only way to get 100% of the benefit you've each earned from a lifetime of working is to claim at your FRA. You can choose to claim at age 65 as long as you're comfortable with the benefit reduction which will occur and as long as your annual work earnings do not significantly exceed the earnings limit for that year. In any case, when each of you claims will not affect the other's retirement benefit amount.

Social Security's "earnings test" for those claiming before FRA sets a limit for how much can be earned before some or all benefits are taken away. The earnings limit for 2024 is \$22,320, but it changes yearly. If you claim early benefits and your work earnings exceed that year's limit, Social Security will take away \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit.

They take away by withholding future benefits long enough to recover what you owe for exceeding the limit. If you significantly exceed the annual earnings limit, you may be temporarily ineligible to receive SS benefits until you either earn less or reach your FRA.

The earnings test no longer applies after you reach your FRA. I cannot predict what the earnings limit will be two years from now, but it will be more than the 2024 limit and published at that time. FYI, in the year you turn 67 your pre-FRA earnings limit will be much higher and when you reach your FRA the earnings test no longer applies.

Regarding your previous marriage, you cannot receive spousal benefits from an ex-spouse while you are currently married. But when to claim may also be influenced by whether either you or your current spouse will get a spousal benefit from the other. If the FRA (age 67) benefit amount for one of you is more than twice the other's FRA entitlement, the one with the lower FRA amount will get a "spousal boost" to

See SOCIAL SECURITY, page 11

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

Election letters to the editor welcome

The Barre Gazette welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to the Barre Gazette care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to edowner@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Thursday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

For more information, call the editor at 413-283-8393.

Campaign news

As part of its election coverage, the newspaper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers.

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in the Barre Gazette.

Turley Publications Letters to the Editor Policy

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

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Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

Did anyone April Fool you?

I think we are being fooled by the weather. Sunday was so nice that I spent most of the day outside raking and cutting dead branches on shrubs.

We decided to stay home for Easter. On Saturday, we had a couple of relatives stop in from Cape Cod and my son-in-law installed some genealogy of the family on my computer so I spent part of the rest of the day printing out the photos that I did not have.

My handyman gave me this recipe that he thought my readers would enjoy making.

FRENCH FRIED APPLES

- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 3 tablespoons flour
- 4 apples, peeled and sliced thin
- vegetable oil
- powdered sugar

Make a batter of eggs, sugar and flour. Dip the apple slices into batter and fry in oil until light brown. Drain on paper towels, dust with powdered sugar. Great with sausage or bacon.

This and That

I spent part of one day trying to organize things in my "mess room" as my company was coming and he would use the computer where it is kept. It is the room that I sew, water color, do crafts, iron and use the computer and printers so it is pretty crowded. I also have boxes of files of various subjects and plan to get file cabinets for these items.

I understand that Rietta Ranch flea market will be opening on this Sunday, April 7. I'm not sure if I will

be able to walk good enough to go. Time will tell.

The three inches of snow did not seem to hurt the daffodils as they are still growing. I did divide a few plants of primroses, but the soil is still too cold to work.

It was too cold to bring an Easter lily or tulips home from the store so I did not have any real ones. I do have some artificial daffodils in a copper tea kettle with some pussy willows that my late friend, William Haynes picked for me. I have saved them for three years.

I put away the Easter egg collection and the wall hangings that depicted Easter. I changed the calendars to April.

I did make a pretty small tote with the pieces of fabric I had left from the bindings on quilts that I previous made. You take a piece of fabric, like a piece of muslin, and cover it with the strips of fabric on an angle. I also made a lining and handles for it. It was a good way of using up those end pieces.

Hint for the week

Take a few tablespoons of cream of tartar and mix with hot water or hydrogen peroxide to clean aluminum pans, porcelain surfaces, copper kettles and rusty drains.

I hope spring weather comes soon. It is fun to watch the flower gardens to see what comes up each day. I hope there will be flowers on the PJM and forsythia this year. I did force some forsythia and flowering quince and they did blossom.

Have a good week.

Easter on the Common



Noah (left) and Luca Grandinetti sit with their mom April for a photo with the Easter Bunny on the common this past Saturday.

HARDWICK – Families gathered on the common this past Saturday for a chance to visit with the Easter Bunny, pose for photos, enjoy crafts and games, and take part in the annual egg hunt.

Sponsored by Eagle Hill School, volunteers helped cover the common with brightly colored eggs filled with sweet treats for children of all ages to collect.



Turley Photos by Single Shot Photo

This boy found a colorful striped egg during the Easter egg hunt.



The Easter Bunny helps this young child collect eggs.



Children line up with the Easter Bunny before the egg hunt begins.

Earth Day/celebration at Wells State Park April 20

STURBRIDGE – Grassroots Central Mass will continue its tradition of celebrating Earth Day with its fourth "Trees Are Treasures" event on Saturday, April 20 at Wells State Park in Sturbridge from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

GCM, a local affiliate of Indivisible Mass Coalition is again co-sponsoring this year's events with Brookfields Fight Fear. Both

GCM and BFF are local groups dedicated to serving the communities we live in through finding and supporting solutions to issues in our communities, our state, and our nation.

This event includes a short, level walk along the Mill Pond Trail at Wells State Park, where costumed interpreters are stationed to discuss the importance of wet-

lands and forest ecosystems, at both child and adult levels. This is a family friendly stroll.

This free event will also include children's crafts under the pavilion, storytelling, facepainting and a free tree seedling giveaway. Join GCM to celebrate and appreciate the beauty of our native forest.

For more information visit grassrootscentralmass.org/

ELECTION RESULTS, continued from page 1

bent, won a three-year term on the Board of Health with 670 votes (388 precinct 1 and 282 precinct 2). James Edward Caruso won a three-year term as Water Commissioner with 669 votes (389 precinct 1 and 280 precinct 2) and John J. Chase, incumbent, won a three-year term as Sewer Commissioner with 704 votes (410 precinct 1 and 294 precinct 2).

Paul M. Cranston received 691 votes (403 precinct 1 and 288 pre-

cinct 2) for a three-year term to as Felton Field Commissioner. Cherie E. Benoit received 661 votes (394 precinct 1 and 267 precinct 2) and David Alvin Deschamps 666 votes (395 precinct 1 and 271 precinct 2), both candidates for re-election to the two Library Trustees positions for three-year terms.

Dylan S. Clark received 666 votes (388 precinct 1 and 278 precinct 2) for a two-year term to the Library Trustees. Edward Floyd Kelley, candidate for re-election, got 704 votes (418 precinct 1 and 286 precinct 2) for a five-year term to the Planning Board.

Karen Jean Keegan got 661 votes (388 precinct 1 and 273 precinct 2) for a one-year Planning Board Member and Michael A. Larose got 662 votes (387 precinct 1 and 275 precinct 2) for a one-year term as Associate Planning Board Member.

David Alvin Deschamps received 685 votes (408 precinct 1 and 207 precinct 2) and Stanley John Wolanian received 624 votes (373 precinct 1 and 251 precinct 2) for two positions for three-year terms on the Quabbin Regional School Committee.

CASELLA, continued from page 1

The draft states that Casella will pay the town a host fee of \$6 for each ton of "acceptable waste" (also known as solid waste). This does not include "excluded waste" such as highly flammable substances, hazardous waste, liquid waste, certain pathological and biological wastes, explosives, oil, motor vehicle parts, animal carcasses, human waste, hospital and laboratory waste, and more.

The fee also does not apply to acceptable waste that may be accepted at the landfill at no charge to the customer.

According to the draft, Casella would pay the host fee monthly, and the host fee would be

payment in lieu of taxes, fees, charges and other assessments with respect to the landfill, with the exception of real estate taxes for the land on which it is located.

The draft also states that Casella agrees to keep trucks from driving through the town's center.

The proposed hours of operation for the landfill would be Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday from 7-11:30 a.m. The landfill shall not accept waste on New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

A landfill oversight program would be managed by a landfill operator with engineering support from an independent engineering consultant.

Casella also proposed reim-

bursing the town up to \$75,000 for legal and consulting fees incurred through negotiation of the HCA and advising the town concerning the bylaw amendments and warrant articles.

Casella is also requesting that the town receive and treat leachate from the landfill, up to 25,000 gallons a day. Casella has proposed paying the town \$.08 per gallon of leachate.

The complete draft HCA can be found on the town's website, hardwick-ma.gov under "Important Notices."

Those who wish to submit a comment prior to the public hearing for the Planning Board to take into consideration can do so by emailing planningboard@town-of-hardwick.com. These will be taken into consideration at the hearing.

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| 5. Mystical or magical | 42. Spots where golfers start | 4. Clip | 38. Hebrew calendar month |
| 11. Shortening | 44. Polite form of address (Indian) | 5. In a way, misleads | 40. Designated hitter |
| 14. More satisfying | 46. French river | 6. Human gene | 43. Northern Poland village |
| 15. Other side | 47. Reduce the light | 7. The Golden State (abbr.) | 45. A passport is one form |
| 18. Philippine island | 49. Blood-sucking fly | 8. Lizard genus | 48. Hand (Spanish) |
| 19. More unnatural | 52. A way to categorize | 9. Parasites that invade the skin | 50. Hit with the open hand |
| 21. Mutual savings bank | 56. Procrastinates | 10. Took apart | 51. Actor Idris |
| 23. Famed designer Chanel | 58. Tall slender tower | 12. Mild yellow Dutch cheese | 53. Shakespeare's nickname "The ___" |
| 24. Makes less wild | 60. Where researchers work | 13. S. California town | 54. Northern U.S. lake |
| 28. At some prior time | 62. Office of the Pope | 16. Suffix plural | 55. Marvin and Horsley are two |
| 29. The cops who investigate the cops | 63. Office furnishing | 17. Painting technique | 57. Soak |
| 30. Immune system response | | 20. Small Eurasian deer | 58. Partner to cheese |
| 32. Distress signal | | 22. Mr. T character | 59. Expression of disappointment |
| 33. Engine additive | | 25. Microsoft | 61. College dorm employee |
| 35. "No Scrubs" trio | | 26. Shock therapy | |
| 36. Very fast airplane | | 27. Able to be sold | |
| 39. A reward | | 29. A doctrine | |
| | | 31. These three follow A | |
| | | 34. Pulse | |
| | | 36. Quantitative fact | |
| | | 3. Ancient Syrian | |

ANSWERS ON PAGE 10

Quabbin Visitor Center lists First Thursday hikes

BELCHERTOWN – The Department of Conservation and Recreation's Les and Terry Campbell Quabbin Visitor Center, is hosting First Thursday Habitat Hikes each month.

All ages are welcome at these programs; however, dogs are not allowed anywhere at Quabbin Reservoir.

Quabbin is an area of immense diversity of habitat, from shady vernal pools to sunny mountaintops. Staff will be hosting hikes one Thursday each month (weather permitting) to spotlight some of these beautiful landscapes.

Hikes will vary in location and intensity and may focus on an individual species or on a more general area. For more information and to register visit www.mass.gov/locations/quabbin-reservoir or email QuabbinVisitor.Center@mass.gov

Wetlands Walk

A 1.5-mile easy Wetlands Walk will be held on Thursday, April 4 from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (<https://goo.gl/maps/RvC5y8AMtmWToTTq5>).

This Habitat Hike will visit two different types of wetlands. It will begin at the parking area for Goodnough Dike in Quabbin Park and walk the Dike Road down to the wetlands' location and back, covering approximately 1.5 miles round trip.

Please dress appropriately for the weather and be prepared for wet/muddy conditions (wear appropriate footwear).

Register at: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/fe46ba08256404fa1bd49660f68c624>.

Gate 37 Forest Walk to Wetlands

A 1.5-mile east Gate 37 Forest Walk to Wetlands will be held on Thursday, May 2 from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (<https://goo.gl/maps/wPedFYxiN5Qp8sVv9>).

Meet at Gate 37 off Route 122 in the North of Quabbin Reservation. Parking is limited.

This Habitat Hike will be a short walk down a forest road to a stunning wetland habitat. It is a little over 1-mile round trip.

Those who are feeling adventurous may opt to hike further, up the side of Soapstone Mountain to a spectacular view of the Quabbin, though be advised this portion is difficult and will not be a part of the official hike. Please wear appropriate footwear and protect yourself against ticks.

Register at: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/c3936c4d26c8443694b6b3fc0be97d4>.

Tower Trail Habitat Hike

Join a 3-mile moderate Tower Trail Habitat Hike on Thursday, June 6 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. (<https://goo.gl/maps/9K3L4xf44nbVK4bG7>).

This hike will meet at the parking area inside the Middle Entrance off Route 9. It is a moderately difficult hike, approximately 3-miles round-trip up Quabbin Hill through woodland and mountain habitat and back.

Due to safety issues, hikers will not be able to go up to the tower itself, as it is currently closed for renovations. Please wear appropriate footwear and protect yourself against ticks.

Register at: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/c2dd1551fb7467bbdd4704a469c7929>.

MSBS hosts button show April 13

THREE RIVERS – The Massachusetts State Button Society's spring meeting will be hosted by the Monson Button Club on Saturday, April 13, at the Amvets Post 74 on Main St., from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

The public is invited to attend the day's activities and to purchase buttons and button related items from 9 a.m.-noon and from 1:30-3 p.m. There will be

no button sales during the break from noon to 1:30 p.m. as lunch, a business meeting, and auction will take place.

Morning visitors will be treated to coffee and refreshments provided by the hosting club; bring your own brown bag lunch, and dessert will be provided.

There is no admission fee, and all are welcome.

Historical Society provides firearm presentation

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

STURBRIDGE – The Sturbridge Historical Society provided a presentation at the Publick House about a local firearms manufacturer last week.

The presentation was about Gibbs, Tiffany and Company, a Sturbridge based manufacturer of underhammer pocket pistols dating back to the 19th century. The original home of this manufacturer was located by Pistol Pond.

Speaking during the presentation was the team of Bob Arnold, Charlie Blanchard and Doug Quigley. All three presenters are collectors of antique weapons including some of the pistols created by this Sturbridge manufacturer.

Gibbs, Tiffany and Company was the largest manufacturer of underhammer pistols back in the 1830s.

These pistols were small and inexpensive and benefited many buyers who were moving out west. The pistols were light, easy to carry weapons making it convenient to carry while traveling.

The company was started by Enoch Gibbs and Lucian Tiffany and started the business back in 1833.

Many of the company's shops were located throughout western Connecticut and western Massachusetts and had over 30 employees. The business ceased operation in 1838.

Arnold is a freelance photographer, historian and avid collector of all things Sturbridge. Arnold has been documenting life in the community of Sturbridge for over 50 years.

Arnold mentioned during the presentation that the underhammer pocket pistol was invented in Sturbridge back in the 1830's and is also known as a "pocket rifle". This 3.5 inch barreled firearm would have the words engraved "Gibbs, Tiffany and Co," to indicate who its manufacturer was.

The underhammer pocket pistol was known for its unique design and had ties to a manufacturer that came before the Sturbridge company.

Prior to Gibbs, Tiffany and Company, a local manufacturer out of Hardwick the Ruggles Factory operated and produced underhammer style firearms. Adin and



Bob Arnold, Doug Quigley and Charlie Blanchard spoke during the Sturbridge Manufacturer of New England Underhammer Pocket Pistols program at the Publick House.

Fordyce Ruggles obtained a patent for manufacturing firearms and their designs were very simplistic and grew in popularity in New England.

Both Ruggles brothers died from separate firearms accidents. The company began leasing room in the factory to at least five other individuals who made underhammer pistols on the Ruggles machinery.

Therefore, the production of these unique firearms would continue.

Another speaker during the presentation was Blanchard, who shared the history behind both Ruggles Factory in Hardwick and Gibbs, Tiffany and Company.

Blanchard has served on the Water and Sewer Commission for 16 years. He also served on the Board of Selectman for 18 years.

Blanchard currently serves on the Planning Board and is a founding member of the Sturbridge Historical Society. Blanchard has served as treasurer of the Historical Society since its inception.

Joining Blanchard and Arnold is Sturbridge Historical Society President, Quigley. A resident of Sturbridge for over 45 years, Quigley has contributed in many living history events from the Revolutionary War to the Civil War.

He is also a collector of original and reproduction firearms.

Quigley begins his presentation by sharing the background behind firearms dating back to the invention of gunpowder.

Before the invention of underhammer pistols, the flintlock pistol was a popular firearm in early

American history. Explaining with a photograph of the flintlock, Quigley stated that the Flintlock was used for over 140 years.

Gibbs, Tiffany and Company operated until 1838, but was one of many pistol manufacturers out of New England. Other known companies include W. Ashton, HJ Hale, EK Putney, Ingraham, BM Bosworth, Ethan Allen of Grafton and many more.

There was a question and answer period after the presentation and many guests had questions regarding how the guns worked at the time.

Quigley described the underhammer pistol made by Gibbs, Tiffany and Company as "a personal defense weapon."

According to Quigley these firearms from the 1800s are rare and were hardly produced after the company's closure in 1838.

"These guns were considered gone by the 1840s," Quigley said.

When asked about the value of

these antique firearms, these collectors believe they vary pending on condition. There was one firearm manufactured by Ruggles that sold at a Connecticut Auction for about \$4,800.

This was the first ever firearm presentation by the Sturbridge Historical Society and to conclude it there was a display case of some of the original underhammer pistols by Gibbs, Tiffany and Company. There was also a rare buggy rifle produced by the company during its tail end of operation.

Arnold, Blanchard and Quigley are all collectors of these underhammer pistols and enjoyed sharing this program about a local manufacturer that is viewed as an important piece of history.

The Sturbridge Historical Society appreciates the Publick House for hosting their events. The next program will be on April 25 for "Sturbridge in the Civil War" by Wally Hersee at 7 p.m.



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

The buggy rifle is a rare firearm made during the tail end of Gibbs, Tiffany and Company's operation back in the 1830s.

NORTH BROOKFIELD, continued from page 1

ency, including keeping the town's website updated and utilizing media and social media. She said she has an open door policy and welcomes conversation with both residents and town employees.

"I always try to hear people out," she said. "I even welcome those difficult conversations."

The next candidate to be interviewed was Dawn Foster, who was born in East Brookfield and lived in both Brookfield and West Brookfield, before moving west to California. She has experience working in municipal government across the country.

"I've had quite a bit of experience just in different states," she said.

Foster said she would like to be Town Administrator because she enjoys setting up systems and writing policies and procedures; and putting all of them into play.

Having people work together as a team to reach a common goal is

key. She would make sure that "everybody is rowing the boat of North Brookfield in the same direction and that everybody is doing their bit."

Foster said some of the biggest issues the town is facing involves infrastructure and finances.

"There's a disparity between what needs to be done financially, and what's coming in," she said.

Foster said there is always a better way to do things, and it's important to look at current systems and efficiencies, to plan for the future.

Working in her current position in Lancaster, she helped develop a long-term strategic plan for information technologies. She said it requires a lot of communication with both town officials and residents.

Foster said she has dealt with conflict and stress in her position and as an EMT, including dealing with natural disasters while working in California.

"Often there is conflict, there is pressure, there is stress. A lot of time the conflict is coming

from a position of either fear... or ignorance, and by ignorance I just mean somebody doesn't have all the facts," she said. Addressing fears and providing education has helped to resolve and solve issues, she said.

Informal conversations and office hours are helpful in sharing information, as well as using a town notification system and website. She said Facebook isn't always the best method to relay information.

When it comes to building the town's budget, Foster said she likes to work from a "zero budget" perspective. She would look at that the town spent the previous year on general operations, and then craft a budget that won't exceed that.

"If it's going to exceed that, then we need to identify 'how is that going to make North Brookfield better?'" she said. "You really have to quantify how it's going to make an impact."

Foster said she does not have a lot of experience with grant writing, but is familiar with managing Community Development Block Grants in her previous jobs. She

said she would be working with department heads to determine which grants would be beneficial to apply for.

In terms of economic development for the town, Foster said that depends on the needs and wants of the residents.

"Those would be things to explore," she said.

Foster said she has been involved with planning and developing large projects, including the construction of a fire station in Arizona and refurbishing a historic opera house. She said the opera house project was complex, and it also involved coordinating with the friend's group.

FY 25 budget deficit

The Finance Committee joined the Board of Selectmen to discuss the deficit in the fiscal year 2025 budget.

Committee Chair Joseph Trentacosta said currently, the anticipated revenue is \$1.3 million less than the requested expenditures. He said last year the town faced a similar situation and had to borrow from the stabilization fund and utilize free cash.

"Fortunately, it was very close," he said. "We were able to cover most of the deficit last year with the exception of \$76,000, which we could not pay back to the stabilization fund."

Trentacosta said the Finance Committee realized that rising inflation and increasing costs would pose a "greater challenge" to covering the FY 25 budget.

He said the committee discussed ways to meet the growing needs of the town, including looking at an override. He said many other small communities in the region are also considering overrides.

Large capital projects, including the fire station, may need to be deferred, if an override passes to lessen the added tax burden.

"We have to really start to sit down and make some determination on how are we going to cover the \$1.3 million," Trentacosta said.

He said the biggest problem the town faces in its budget is centered around the cost of education, primarily the cost of out-of-district tuition and transportation, which totals \$1.7 million. He said these costs are "absurd" for a small town

to pay. Trentacosta said he shared these concerns with state legislators, hoping to find a way to cover some of these mandated expenses.

He said if significant cuts need to be made to the school district's budget, the residents will need to know in advance.

"If we're going to start slashing the school, the residents need to know what the results may be," he said. "This isn't just people who have children in school; this is our community. It supports our tax base."

Finance Committee member Kathleen Crevier said the situation with the FY 25 budget is "very urgent," urging all involved to work together to find a solution.

Member Chet Lubelczyk said the state needs to fund special education, adding that "the answer is not in this room."

ARPA recommendation

The American Rescue Plan Act Committee recommended spending \$4,175 to fund the replacement of the water heater at the Haston Free Public Library. The board approved the recommendation.

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Education



Quabbin Regional Middle School held the National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony on March 12. Submitted photo

Quabbin Regional Middle School holds NJHS

BARRE – The 2024 National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony was held at Quabbin Regional Middle School on Tuesday, March 12.

NJHS President Kingston McKenzie gave the welcome address to the 33 inductees, their families and friends and faculty members in attendance. The two guest speakers were Camryn Orsini, National Honor Society President and Samantha Dube, both members of the Quabbin Regional High School class of 2024.

Members of the NHS, Samantha Dube, Camryn Orsini, Kaeliana Boucher, Samantha Carlson, Sydney Gagne, Angelina Feliciano, Kayla Sherblom,

Sydney Slattery, Haley Ayer, Bella Smith, Ellie Frost, Jaxon Warburton and Kaylee Shaw were instrumental with the setup, organization, and the clean up of the event. Other NHS members were also in attendance in support of their siblings and other inductees.

Readings for the Candle Lighting ceremony were done by Matthew Labrousse – Character, Adrien Cyr – Citizenship, Vivien Burch – Leadership, Marcus McDonald – Service, and Abraham Brown – Scholarship. Ellie Poulin led the inductees in the Pledge. Certificates and honor cords were presented to the students by Assistant Principal Janet Hicks and the NJHS

Advisor, Nancee Roy.

The objective of the National Junior Honor Society is to create an enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to foster worthy leadership and citizenship, and to encourage the development of character in students of Quabbin Regional Middle School. Candidates must meet the academic requirements, and complete an application describing co-curricular activities, community activities, leadership positions, work experience, and recognition and awards.

Additionally, they must explain why they feel it is important to become a member of the NJHS. Their applications are then reviewed by a Faculty Council.

The following students were inducted into the NJHS ceremony: Abraham Brown, Josephine Buck, Careerism Campbell, Nicholas Carroll, Alianna Casey, Kaylee Correia, Adrien Cyr, Olivia Drake, Andrew Erickson, Audrey Faucher, Samuel Feldman, Callahan Hardy, Chloe Howarth, Samuel Jamieson, Ava Kinney, Matthew Labrousse, Alison LaRoche, Emma Lindsey, Marcus McDonald, Kingston McKenzie, Max Melad, John Orsini, Zion Parks, Stella Pears, Aubrie Phelps, Ellie Poulin, Moira Powers, Juliet Priestley, Kristen Schur, Hailey Stoll, Benjamin Thompson, Erin Trottier and Catherine Tucker.

MWCC announces fall 2023 honors lists

GARDNER – Mount Wachusett Community College announces the President's, Dean's, Distinction and Excellence lists for the fall 2023 semester.

Local students making President's list are: Morgan Blavackas of Hubbardston, Miranda Monahan of Hubbardston, Elizabeth Cyganiewicz of New Braintree, Jennifer Ford of Oakham, Jackson Langlois of Oakham and Lia Gomez of Rutland.

Local students making Dean's list are: Taylor-Lee Chick of Barre, Alyssa Goulet of Barre, Jessie Ury of Barre, Jared Hall of

Hardwick, Jahzara Desravines of Hubbardston, Katie Holgerson of Hubbardston, Hannah Southwick of North Brookfield, Rebecca Buell of Petersham, Royal Kane of Petersham, Zachary Aslakson of Rutland, Kiley Kukesza of Rutland, Curtis Lindberg of Rutland and Faith Mwaniki of Rutland.

Local students making Distinction list are: Deniel Ewing of Barre, Sophia Cameron of Hubbardston, Elwin Gardens of Hubbardston, Quinn Johnson of Hubbardston, Maddy Kajjala of Hubbardston, Ozzy Nordstrom of Hubbardston, Amber Sklarz-

Gomes of Hubbardston, Jessica Holmes of New Braintree, Kate Grandbois of Petersham, Michael George of Rutland, Ethan Naiman of Rutland and Megean Wessell of Rutland.

Local students making Excellence list are: Jennifer Hyland of Barre, Alyssa Loftus of Barre, Rachael Strom of Barre, Michael Douglas of Hubbardston, Rhonda Fox of Hubbardston, Madisyn Magoon of Hubbardston, Rachel Chisholm of New Braintree, Kaylee Newland of North Brookfield, Kelsey Cobb of Rutland and Coralina Ludden of Rutland.

Students who complete a minimum of 12 semester hours are eligible. The Dean's List requires a 3.30 to 3.99 grade point average while the President's List requires a 4.0 grade point average.

Students who have earned between 6 and 11.5 semester hours and who have attained a grade point average of 4.0 and receive no incomplete grades are honored with placement on the Distinction List, while those who attain a grade point average between 3.3 and 3.99 are honored as Excellence List members.

Lynn Lyons to speak at Quabbin High School

From the desk of Colleen Mucha, Superintendent of QRSD

BARRE – The Quabbin Regional School District is excited to host Lynn Lyons, a licensed clinical social worker and psychoanalyst with over 30 years of experience on Wednesday April 10 at 6 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Quabbin Regional Middle High School, 800 South St.

This event is free and open to the public. The topic is what parents need to know and do to decrease stress, worry and anxiety with special emphasis on cell phones and social media. Current news about young people and mental health has created warranted concern, but the information can be overwhelming and hard to sort through.

Lyons will provide dependable strategies for parents and families to assist their children with managing their moods and social pressures including school avoidance. She will focus on current traps that adults may fall into and the key adjustments needed to prevent and stem the current surge of anxiety and depression in our children, this includes preventative measures that we can all take.

At Quabbin, we see and hear concerns from parents and families as well as directly from our students. One statistic states that teens, who spend more than three

hours a day on social media actually double their risk of depression and anxiety. It can cause behavioral changes such as irritability, withdrawal, lack of focus/concentration or issues with sleep.

Social media may create an increased form of "peer pressure." Eating disorders, increases in body dissatisfaction and low self esteem have been directly linked to too much time on social media. Children are scrolling through images and videos that may have been altered and present what may be perceived as a "perfect" picture/image that may not actually be a true representation of someone's appearance.

There can be dangers associated with watching videos made by other children. Sometimes these videos may result in dangerous viral trends. Through the desire to be "like" someone else or to be "part" of something else, children can put themselves in physical harm by trying to replicate these viral activities.

They often lack the executive functioning or cognitive ability to see the actual dangers. The good news is that there are steps and strategies that can be taken to support our children. Please consider joining us for this helpful, informative and entertaining session with Lynn Lyons. No matter if you are a parent, thinking of becoming a parent or have grandchildren, all are welcome

If you want to learn more or see what Lynn is all about, check out her podcast called "Flustercux."

Colleges and universities announce fall Dean's list

Bridgewater State University Bridgewater

Shannon Daige of North Brookfield, Reagan Bartlett of Rutland, Olivia Fournier of Rutland, Sophia Hale of Rutland, Katie Moore of Rutland, Meghan Morris of Rutland, Alison O'Brien of Rutland, Kathryn Pepin of Rutland and Mikayla Sargent of Rutland

Champlain College Burlington, Vermont

Henry Foley of Hubbardston and Danni Vecchione of Ware

Endicott College Beverly

Lily Dion of Barre, nursing and daughter of Joie Dion and Christopher Dion; Katharine Jablonski of Barre, political science and daughter of Elizabeth Jablonski and Michael Jablonski; Anna Berd of Hubbardston, English and daughter of Elizabeth Berd and Thomas Berd; Grace

Vartanian of Hubbardston Hospitality Management, daughter of Tracy Vartanian and Mark Vartanian; Rebecca Miner of North Brookfield, nursing and daughter of Rowena Miner and Robert Miner; Gwyneth Femino of Oakham, education and daughter of Sheryl Femino and Stephen Femino; Abigail Berthiaume of Rutland, education and daughter of Jennifer Berthiaume and Christopher Berthiaume; Alison Chouinard of Rutland, nursing and daughter of Melissa Chouinard and Scott Chouinard; Kiera Greevy of Rutland, nursing and daughter of Megan Greevy and Famy Greevy; Andrew Guindon of Rutland, sport management and son of Tara Guindon and Daniel Guindon and Eliot Josti of Rutland, communication and daughter of Samantha Josti and Robert Josti

University at Albany Albany, N.Y.

Emma Stoddard of Barre

EARTHLANDS, continued from page 1

returned to the college in the spring of 1964, there was a letter waiting for him from the United States State Department. It was an invitation for their basketball team to travel around the world as Ambassadors of Sport. He could not let that once in a lifetime opportunity go by and decided to join the world basketball team. He returned from the remarkable worldwide trip with a deeper understanding of life and international culture.

But life's commitments called. He married his college sweetheart and began a professional career at a noted Quaker School on Long Island New York teaching history and coaching three sports.

During those early years, the memory of the vision he received at the cabin lingered in his mind. Then at middle age, he reviewed his career decisions and he realized that he actually was living the vision he received.

Yet something was missing and he felt a tug. There was something more in store for him. After additional thought and guidance, he made a decision.

In 1980 he founded the internationally recognized Outdoor Leadership Program at Greenfield Community College and in 1993 founded the Earthlands Community and Environmental Center in his hometown of Petersham. These two projects projected Buell to a new level of service and manifestation that more fully reflected his long-held vision.

The 60th anniversary of the vision was a time to reflect on what has really come forth over the years. The trip back to the cabin represented the quintessential component of his long-held vision. With him on that trek was Ron Higgins, a resident of nearby Barre who wanted to learn more of the land once owned by his



Larry Buell talks to a group of students at the "cabin." Submitted photo

late grandfather, Joseph Higgins. Anthony Brogno staff of the University of the Wild was also there with some students, as well as residents of Petersham, a present OLP student, and members of the new group that was about to purchase the Rice's Roots Farm just up the river.

For Buell, preparing for and participating in the trip allowed him to return to the stories that were so alive in him and to acknowledge his vision and its present consequences. On the trip he articulated the core values that had grown over the years, including his intention to live, learn, and act in connection and harmony with the Earth and All Life.

He also became acutely aware of his need to heal the trauma and programming of the dominant patriarchal society that had been influencing his life. He now saw the power of his intention to study and teach the natural laws that guide all of life within the context of the realm of education for sustainable and regenerative global citizenship.

At the anniversary Buell also acknowledged some of his accomplishments that expressed his long-held vision, including returning selected Buell family lands to the local Nipmuc Tribe within the International "Land Back Movement," the UMass Learning to Learn University. In that program self-directed mentored students earn credit through the nationally recognized University Without Walls through Buell's University of the Wild, and most recently his March 21 launch of an international network called Wild Earth Communities and Households International.

This program welcomes individuals and groups who are already living sustainable lifestyles to become part of an ever-expanding international network. The eleven (11) founding members represent different environmental and Earth-based programs and services located around the world including California, London, and New England.

Buell is not resting on what he has accomplished. He believes his

age of 81 is the new 61. While he has the energy and the intention of a 21 year-old, he is no longer able to hike or bike 20 miles a day or cut a cord of wood in an afternoon.

Instead he spends his days researching different landscapes, recording his many stories, talking to groups, visiting WECHI projects around the world, and writing books. He is presently working on four books that represent different components of his life, including The University of the Wild: Vision, Practice, and Promise, The Natural and Cultural History of the Swift River Valley: The 1965 Round-the-World Basketball Team, and The Comprehensive History of the Buells of Petersham Family.

Buell continues to engage as a member of the local Petersham Historical Society giving much attention to the culture and happenings of Petersham, his chosen community. In addition to his writing he has plans to travel to different communities within the WECHI Network, speak to groups about the concepts of living, learning and acting for the Earth, guiding University of the Wild mentors and students, and living under the banner of the Greek meaning of university – a Life Well Lived.

To learn more of the life and times of Larry Buell, people visit the website www.UofWild.org and purchase some of his writings at www.wildearthpublications.org. or email Buell directly at Larry@

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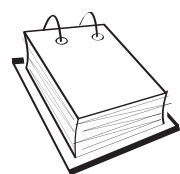
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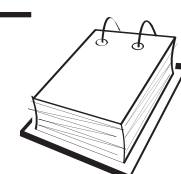


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Calendar of Events



THURSDAY, APRIL 4

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.

RUTLAND SCHOLARSHIPS sponsored by the Rutland Historical Society are now accepting scholarship applications. The scholarships are offered to any two Rutland high school seniors planning to enter college, who have resided in the town of Rutland for at least two years. The two \$500 awards are based on scholarship with an emphasis given to involvement and contributions in the areas of both school and community. Applicants can obtain scholarship forms by emailing Sheila Judkins at sljwheeler@gmail.com. Forms should be submitted with an official transcript, SAT or ACT scores and a letter of recommendation by May 31. They should send completed application.

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

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

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

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

DESIGNER PANCAKE BREAKFAST sponsored by Cradle Rock Chapter Order of Eastern Star will take place today from 7:30-10:30 a.m. at Mt. Zion Masonic Lodge hall, 71 Pleasant St., Barre. Cost is \$9 per adult and \$5 per child 10 and under. Menu

Where is this?



This week's mystery photo is from Oakham. 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, April 1. The names of those that correctly guessed the location will appear in the following edition. **Bill Bowles, Peggy Civilik, Stephen Craven, Barbara Crawford, Elizabeth Laramee, James Laramee, Evelyn Luukko, Jeremy Varnum, Cora Wangerin and Lynn Wangerin correctly identified the photo. The photo last week was the North Brookfield Savings Bank on Gilbert Street, Route 67, in North Brookfield.**

includes design your own pancakes, waffles, sausage gravy with biscuits, bacon, sausage, orange juice, coffee and 100% real maple syrup. All are welcome to this all you can eat breakfast.

WARWICK CHILDREN'S BUSINESS FAIR will be held today from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Warwick Community School Gym, 41 Winchester Road, Warwick, MA. For more details, people may email Warwickchildrenbusinessfair@gmail.com.

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

RAISE THE CROWN, a musical for Easter, will be performed by the Christian Community Choir presented today at 3 p.m. Today's performance is on Sunday, April 7 at 3 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 131 Blaine Avenue, East Brookfield.

TUESDAY, APRIL 9

HISTORY AT PLAY (TM, LLC) with Judith

Kolaora is hosted by the Rutland Historical Society and the Rutland Cultural Council today at 7 p.m. at the Rutland Library, 280 Main St., Rutland. Kolaora will portray, "Unsung Heroines of WWII." She delivers a one-woman, dynamic performance highlighting the accomplishments of five women, who risked their lives in defense of their country. A display of WWII memorabilia will be on display. This event is free and open to the public.

POETRY AND JAZZ to celebrate National Poetry Month will be held tonight and Tuesday, April 23 at 6 p.m. at the Woods Memorial Library, 19 Pleasant St., Barre. Each night will feature two local poets reading from their books and two local musicians playing live jazz music. Tonight features poets, Susan Roney-O'Brien and David Thoren and musicians, Dick Hummel and Jerry Willfong. On April 23, the program features poets, Jonathan Blake and Clair Degutis and musicians, Rich Falco and Jerry Willfong. This program is supported by a grant from the Barre Cultural Council, a local agency which

is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

BARRE FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION will occur today from 10-11:30 a.m. and on Thursday, April 18 from 5:30 -7 p.m. In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients April 10 and April 18 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.

TUESDAY, APRIL 16

ENDANGERED SPECIES EDUCATIONAL PUPPET SHOW for all ages will be held during school vacation week for this special program today at 7 p.m. at the Boylston Town House, 599 Main St., Boylston. Life-size puppets created by artist Amanda Gibson will delight the audience with information on the African Painted Dog, the Kakapo, the Vaquita, the Chimpanzee, and the Tiger, and their endangered status. A graduate of the Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Gibson combines her love of storytelling and art to showcase the versatility of puppetry. This "Night of Community Spirit" is sponsored by Worcester Central Pomona, a district Grange, and the local chapters of Central Community, Holden, North Orange, Petersham and Sterling. In addition to the entertainment, a donation of items, the result of a five-month community service foster care project, will be presented to a representative from the Worcester East office of the Department of Children and Families. Door prizes and refreshments will conclude the evening. All are welcome to join us for this free educational and entertaining event. The program is funded through an Opportunity Grant awarded by the Massachusetts State Grange. For more information, people may email jsegur55@gmail.com or call 508-886-2341.

THURSDAY, APRIL 18

ED THE WIZARD and his sea life balloon animal twisting workshop will appear at the Woods Memorial Library, 19 Pleasant St., Barre today starting at 4:30 p.m. Patrons will learn the art of balloon twisting as they create their own Sea Turtle. No balloon twisting experience is required. This program is free and opened to the public, but may require pre-registration. People should call the library at 978-355-2533, extension 104 for more information and to register. This program is supported in part by a grant from the Barre Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

The Recovery Center of HOPE

(RCH) is a community run for and by people in recovery.

We welcome those in or seeking recovery from alcohol, drugs, or any other addiction, whether that be personally and/or with a loved one.

Our community recognizes

Multiple Pathways because we understand that one size does not fit all.

RCH is open Monday through Friday, with occasional weekend events.

52 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082
(413) 277 6290 • RCHinfo@wmtcinfo.org



RCH strives to create a safe, inclusive environment conducive to healing and growth. Our families and allies are valued members of our community.



Recovery on Main, a cozy and comfortable space with plenty of room for everyone to enjoy.

Building your recovery capital? Need a ride to move forward.

We're here to help! RCH is also home to Guiding Rides, a free recovery transportation support. This includes Monday through Friday transportation to nearby methadone clinics, as well as rides to treatment, providers, and other recovery supports.



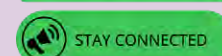
Join us in community for:

- Daily All Recovery Meetings
- Flapjack Fridays
- Art Hour
- Game Nights
- Holiday events
- Wellness planning
- Recovery Coaching

Coming soon..

- Recovery Dharma
- Yoga
- Nutrition in Recovery
- Meeting exploration trips
- ...and more!

For current hours and offerings:



SPORTS

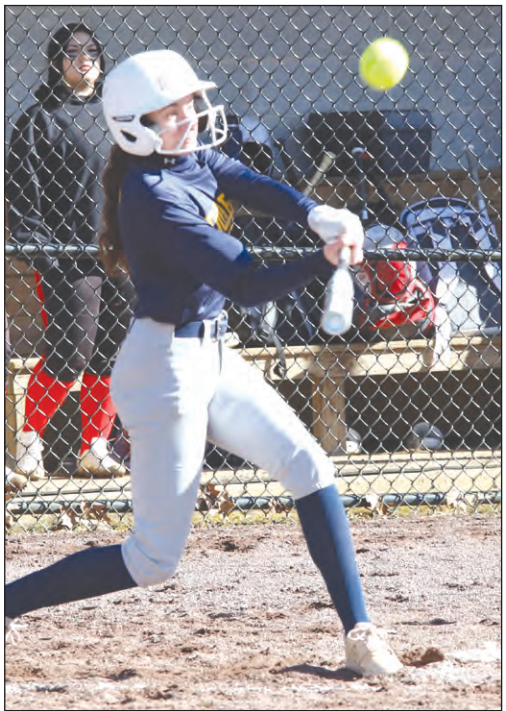
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SEND US YOUR SPORTS SUBMISSIONS

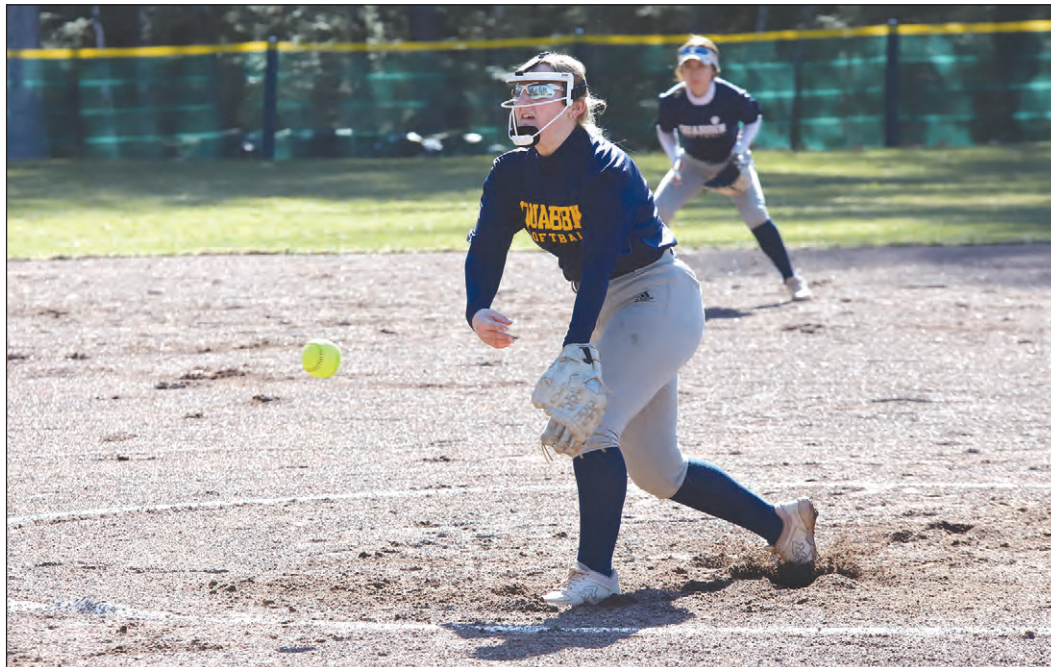
www.sports.turley.com

Panthers look to open season

BARRE – Earlier this week, Quabbin softball was scheduled to face off with Littleton in the team's season opener, but that game was postponed on Monday. The game was rescheduled to Tuesday, but weather was still not ideal. The Panthers were also scheduled to face Oakmont on Friday, April 5, but that game was postponed. The Panthers finally hope to open the season on Monday, April 8 against Narragansett.



The Quabbin offense will need to perform if the Panthers are to have a successful season.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Late last week, Quabbin softball continued its preparation for the regular season.



The Panthers were also scheduled to play this Friday, but will not.



The Panthers were scheduled to face competition at the beginning of the week

Boys lacrosse looks for improved season



MONSON – Last year, the Monson boys lacrosse team, which co-ops with Pathfinder Regional, had a tough season overall. The Mustangs are hoping to change their fortunes, starting with a matchup against Lenox. The Panthers were scheduled for their home opener on April 4 against St. Mary's, but severe weather, as of press time, was threatening that matchup. Monson's next game is on Monday against Granby High School at 7 p.m.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Monson co-ops with Pathfinder in the sport.



Monson boys lacrosse works out last week in practice.



The boys were scheduled to open the season earlier this week.

Pioneers hold off Sci-Tech

SPRINGFIELD – On Monday afternoon, Pathfinder was able to get its baseball season started with a matchup against Sci-Tech at Forest Park. Though leading 6-1, Sci-Tech was relentless in the late innings. The Pioneers were able to overcome a late rally in the seventh for a 10-9 victory. Sci-Tech was able to get three runs in the seventh off Brayden Mega, but Mega was able

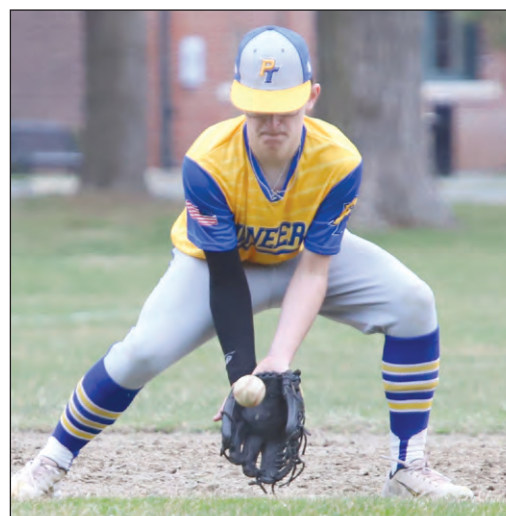
to get the final out for the save for the Pioneers. Tim Russell got the win, allowing just two earned runs on seven hits. Errors hurt the Pioneers a bit, resulting in some unearned runs scoring for the Cybercats. On offense, Russell had a two-run double, and had three hits, three RBI and scored three times. Ethan Nompleggi had two hits and two RBI.



Dayne Shanley reaches high to get an out at first.



Zander Auffrey makes the long throw to first.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Brayden Mega fields a ground to short-stop.



Tim Russell delivers a pitch for the Pioneers.

Games being delayed or moved off Monday for eclipse

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

Athletes, parents, and fans are seeing changes to their schedules related to next Monday, April 8.

Several games and contests being held outdoors have had their start times delayed or have had the games moved off the date completely due to the upcoming solar eclipse set for the late afternoon hours that day.

Agawam High School Athletic Director Karen Gomez said she moved a softball game to later in the afternoon after she and other athletic directors received guidance from the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association urging them to move events away from the time the eclipse is scheduled for.

According to the email from the MIAA: "On Monday, April 8, Massachusetts will be experiencing a solar eclipse from 2 to 4:30 p.m. You may already be aware of the danger of looking at the sun during the eclipse. Outdoor activity, practices, and games should be approached with extreme caution as unavoidable exposure to the harmful intensity could happen accidentally with extreme harm to athletes."

The email did not specifically bar events from happening during that time period, but most of the rescheduled games outdoors were moved to the 5 p.m. hour to avoid the eclipse, which is supposed to result in more than 80% coverage of the sun in Massachusetts.

The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and

Secondary Education also issued guidance to all schools, directing education officials not to allow students to look directly into the eclipse while it is happening.

"A solar eclipse occurs when the moon passes directly between the Earth and the sun," the DESE guidance states. "The moon is much smaller than the sun, but because it is so close to the Earth, it can appear to partially or completely block the image of the sun."

South Hadley High School Athletic Director Eric Castonguay confirmed he had to move some events scheduled Monday, including a track meet due to the eclipse's timeline. "I didn't really have an issue with

See ECLIPSE, page 10

Registration now open to take part in Bay State Games

WOBURN – Registration for the 42nd annual Bay State Summer Games is now open. The 2024 Summer Games will include thirty sports with competitions from May 11 – July 27 at venues throughout eastern and central Massachusetts including Game On in Fitchburg, Boston Sports Institute in Wellesley, Union Point Sports Complex in Weymouth, and North Star Ice Sports in Westborough. Bay State Games participants range in age from 5 to over age 75 and represent more than 300 Massachusetts communities as well as surrounding New England States in some sports. From grassroots participants to accomplished amateur athletes, the Bay State Games provide opportunities for the athlete in all of us.

Seven high school showcase sports will take place for a variety

of sports, including baseball, basketball, field hockey, ice hockey, soccer, softball, and volleyball. Athletes currently in grade 8-11 who live or go to school in Massachusetts are eligible to attend regional tryouts during the month of June. These tryouts will determine teams representing the various regions of the Commonwealth that will compete against each other in July. Check each sport page for specific eligibility requirements.

The Summer Games include a wide variety of individual sports including swimming, track & field, figure skating, pickleball, wrestling, weightlifting, badminton, and more. These sports are open to a wide range of ages and skill levels from youth participants to masters-aged athletes. Adaptive sport divisions in archery, swimming,

and track & field are offered, as well. Bay State Games also organizes tournaments for pre-existing teams in rugby, and 6v6 field hockey.

Returning in 2024, Table Tennis will take place on June 1 at PingPod in Boston after a 5-year hiatus from the Summer Games sport lineup. New venues include Babson College, which will host the Girls Basketball Showcase, and NorthStar Ice Sports, which will host Figure Skating and the Girls Ice Hockey Showcase. Game On in Fitchburg will serve as a hub venue for eight sports. Bay State Games expects 1,500 athletes and their families to attend competitions at Game On during the second week of July.

For questions, email info@bay-stategames.org or call 781-932-6555.

North Brookfield

School Committee hears parents' concerns about bullying

By Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The School Committee held a special meeting to hear comments from the public about concerns of bullying in the school district.

At a special meeting held on March 25, Heather Halkyard, a mother of a former fifth grade student, said her child had experienced bullying by both students and staff. She thanked the School Committee for hearing her concerns.

“Over the past several months I have been addressing bullying concerns with the administration at North Brookfield Elementary School via ClassDojo, phone and in-person meetings,” she said.

Helgard said students have bullied her son for his appearance and clothing, calling him names, and making comments about his personal life. She said one of his teachers has also made inappropriate comments toward him and promoted violence in the classroom.

She said on Feb. 15, her son was accused of threatening violence toward another student. She was notified via ClassDojo by his teachers hours after it happened.

Helgard said she went to the school to speak with Principal Sarah Priestley, but the principal was unavailable. She then called and left Priestley a message but didn't get a call back.

The following day, she brought her son to school and tried to meet with Priestley, who was unavailable until later that day. When Helgard met with Priestley, she shared her concerns about incidents that had occurred that week, as well as previous concerns about bullying.

Helgard said she also brought up the lack of follow-up and staff accountability.

Helgard said Priestley confirmed that students were bullying her son and that regular meetings would be held to address the situation. She said these meetings were never scheduled.

Helgard said her son's math and science teacher, Dan Pfefferle, would yell and throw things in the classroom, and make comments directed at her son. She said another student told their parent about Pfefferle throwing a chair in class because of her son's behavior.

A meeting with Pfefferle, Priestley and other staff had improved the situation, but Helgard said seeing how the situation was

handled has led her to request a formal investigation into bullying at the school.

“I have always given this school the benefit of the doubt, believing that they had my son's best interests at heart, so I haven't been keeping track of every day and time they have failed my son and myself as educators,” she said. “But I do know there have been more situations they have not handled in a professional manner.”

Helgard said on March 11 her son returned home from school and complained of being bullied and hit. She said none of these incidents were reported to her by school staff and she requested an urgent meeting with the school's administration.

The meeting was held on March 14 and Helgard questioned why a formal investigation into the bullying was not performed after Feb. 16 when she initially met with Priestley. She said Priestley didn't start an investigation until Helgard filed a formal complaint with the Department of Education.

Helgard said Priestley didn't interview any of the students who were present when Pfefferle threw a chair; and that she only interviewed Pfefferle. Helgard said

Pfefferle has admitted to treating her son poorly, but that Priestley classified it as an “isolated incident,” and that the situation had improved.

“The problem is it wasn't isolated, it happened over weeks and months and was framed in the way of my son misbehaving in class,” she said. “I truly believe that Dan Pfefferle's behavior encouraged the students to feel comfortable in treating my son poorly with no accountability.”

Helgard said Priestley completed the investigation and found that it did not meet the criteria for bullying. Priestley included an action plan with the report, indicating how the school would keep Helgard's son safe going forward.

Helgard said, “it's a little too late.”

She said she has unenrolled her son from the school district, and she will homeschool him until he can school choice out of the district the next school year.

Helgard said she reached out to other parents on social media and found that they have also experienced bullying.

Helgard said she hopes the Department of Education can “find the cracks in the system,” and

address these ongoing issues.

Another parent attending the meeting said her experience with the school district has been the opposite of Helgard's. She has found the staff and administration to be supportive and responsive to bullying and other concerns.

“Each time we've had an incident, whether my kids have been the aggressors...and they have been receivers...the school has, in my opinion, taken appropriate actions,” she said. “They've been really supportive of my children when they've had issues. I think the school's been doing a good job.”

She said the school has followed up on all incidents to make sure all students are safe.

Tashena Holmes said she has lived in town most of her life and she feared her children would face bullying in the schools. She said her children's experience in the elementary school has been positive and she has been satisfied with the school district's response to incidents.

Holmes said the high school has “serious issues,” with bullying, and that her son had to transfer out of district. She said there needs to be proper documentation for incidents of bullying.

Two parents came forward about their students being named “aggressors” in bullying situations, including another fifth grade student.

“This was all very shocking, this entire situation,” Stella Morin said. “It's just very upsetting.”

Morin said she was notified that her student was identified as an aggressor by receiving a letter, rather than having a meeting with school staff.

School Committee member John Magario said it would be worth reviewing and possibly changing the school district's bullying policy.

“I think it's worth revisiting,” he said, to make sure it is up to date with state policies. The topic of bullying “hits close to home,” he said, and he hopes positives steps can be taken forward.

School Committee Chair Ron Ryel said now that the School Committee has heard from parents, they will have Superintendent Timothy McCormick look into their concerns. He said the policy subcommittee will review the current bullying policy and bring any amendments back to the full committee for approval.

FOSC presents organist Peter Krasinski

GILBERTVILLE - Organist extraordinaire Peter Edwin Krasinski will present Speedy, a 1928 baseball-themed silent film on a theater-sized movie screen with live improvised accompaniment on the historic instrument at the Stone Church Cultural Center, 283 Main St. at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 6, at 7 p.m.

Harold Lloyd, Ann Christy and Bert Woodruff star in this Oscar-nominated comedy classic, with cameo appearances by Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig. Hosts Friends of the Stone Church will serve free popcorn and snacks. Tickets are \$20 at the door or online at <https://buytickets.at/friendsofthestonechurch/943723>. Youth under 18 are admitted free. Group tickets for families of more than three will be capped at \$60 for the group.

Nominated for an Oscar in 1928, Speedy is the story of a Yankees fan who saves from extinction New York City's last horse-drawn trolley, operated by his girlfriend's grandfather. Mr. Krasinski's unique live accompaniment will take the audience on a captivating journey into the Roaring Twenties, a golden age for American sports fans. To integrate sound and silent pictures, Krasinski memorizes each film. His spontaneous performances seamlessly reflect the films' actions and characters' states of mind, bringing productions to life with relevance and



Submitted photo
Peter Krasinski and soprano Maria Ferrante are shown at Mechanics Hall in Worcester.

compassion. In recognition of his talent and creativity, he received the First Prize in Improvisation from the American Guild of Organists National Competition.

House Organist of the Providence Performing Arts Center, Krasinski was named last year as the official House Organist at Mechanics Hall, Worcester. A past Dean of the Boston Chapter AGO, Krasinski is active as Organist at First Church of Christ Scientist in Providence, accompanist at Beth El Temple Center in Belmont and he has presented Master Classes at the Sibelius Academy, Helsinki, Finland. Krasinski appeared in 2023 in his own cameo for the Oscar-nominated film The Holdovers, set and filmed in New England.

Speedy will be Krasinski's seventh Family film concert in the Silents Are Golden series in Gilbertville.

Spring 2024 Concerts at the Stone Church Cultural Center are sponsored by Boston Financial Management and many FOSC donors. Additional support comes from the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency, and from the Cultural Councils of Barre, Oakham and Petersham, which are supported by the Mass Cultural Council.

FOSC participates in the Mass Cultural Council's Card to Culture program by extending discounts to EBT, WIC and ConnectorCare health plan insurance cardholders. Eligible participants may request up to 2 free tickets at the box office on the day of the event. Bring EBT, WIC or Connector Care health plan card for 2024. FOSC welcomes donations toward our ongoing preservation project and our concerts online at www.friendsofthestonechurch.org or by mail to FOSC, P.O. Box 347, Gilbertville, MA 01031.

SOCIAL SECURITY, continued from page 4

their own amount when both of you are collecting.

Spouse benefits reach maximum at one's FRA, but each person's personal SS retirement amount will continue to grow if not claimed at FRA. Waiting past FRA to claim allows the SS retirement benefit to grow by 8% per year, up to age 70.

So, with an FRA of 67, claiming at age 70 will yield a payment 24% higher than the FRA amount, 76%

more than the age 62 amount and about 37% more than the age 65 amount. But waiting beyond FRA is only smart if financially feasible and life expectancy is at least average about 84 and 87 respectively for a man and woman your current ages. And, as a general rule, if one's spousal benefit at FRA (50% of their partner's FRA entitlement) is highest, then that spouse should claim at FRA to get their maximum benefit.

The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the

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

PAST PAGES, continued from page 4

school will be a new ministry of the church established as a service to the community. Any child between the ages of 2.9 and 5 years is welcome to register and applications will be accepted on a “first come first serve” basis. Operating five days a week, the school will offer a Monday Wednesday Friday session for three year olds. The director will be Susan Hayward and the teachers will be Jean Allen and Kathy Carruth.

Very free voters went to the polls Monday in Barre Only 177 voters or 5.11% of the 3,466 registered voters cast a ballot. Of the 177 voters, 102 were from precinct 1 and 75 from precinct 2. Precinct 1 has 1,775 registered voters and precinct 2, 1,691. The only contest on the ballot was for a three-year term to the Board of Health. Incumbent Margaret A. Frost won with 102 votes (68 precinct 1 and 34 precinct 2).

The Barre Board of Selectmen met with the Board of Health to discuss the closing of the landfill

owned by Waste Management, next year, probably in June. The Department of Environmental Protection extended the closing date, as it was not filled yet. Board of Selectmen Chair Kathlyn Inman said Tom Murray of Waste Management said there was no truth in the rumors that the landfill planed to expand. She said everyone needed to know what was going to happen in about a year. The Sewer Commission would need to fan an alternate place for its sludge.

GARDEN, continued from page 4

der interior portion. An old friend taught me this trick, and it works out pretty well.

I'd be in remiss if I didn't address the stinky smell associated with eating asparagus.

Yesiree, it can happen even 15 minutes after ingesting it. Use the bathroom and voila, your urine

will have a pungent, asparagus-like smell. Only maybe worse.

Our bodies convert asparagus acid into sulfur-containing chemicals that are volatile enough to fly from the toilet up your nose, that is, if you have the ability to perceive it. Some people don't.

Call them lucky, perhaps. I consider myself lucky to have such an amazing vegetable growing right in my backyard, stinky or not.

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.

Quabbin Visitor Center lists free upcoming events

BELCHERTOWN – The Department of Conservation and Recreation's Les and Terry Campbell Quabbin Visitor Center will offer several free programs in April and May.

The Quabbin Interpretive Services program operates the Les and Terry Campbell Quabbin Visitor Center, offering public and school education programs, teacher workshops, and general information about DCR's water supply resources and watershed management, the history of the Quabbin Valley and wildlife of the area.

Staff members are available to assist with visitor information and services. An automated telephone system, 413-323-7221, provides 24 hour access to current information on fishing, hunting, programs, rules and regulations, and public access.

All ages are welcome to these events. Email QuabbinVisitor.Center@mass.gov with questions or to be added to the mailing list

Please dress appropriately for the weather and bring water and snacks. Dogs are not allowed anywhere on the Quabbin Watershed. Space is limited.

To register for any of these events, visit www.mass.gov/locations/quabbin-reservoir/events.

Exploring the Ware River Watershed

On Saturday, April 13 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., explore the Ware River Watershed with a moderate 4.4 mile looped group hike near Muddy Pond.

Meet at the Ware River Watershed, Route 122 rest area parking lot in Oakham. The rest area is in the shape of a banana with grass and picnic tables. (<https://maps.app.goo.gl/jWsgofmrd6NDyGzB6>)

The route climbs/descends roughly 140 feet in elevation. The foot path hikers will travel on is non-technical.

The last mile of the hike is on a scenic section of the Mass Central Rail Trail. The hike begins/ends north of Muddy Pond.

Visit the following website for additional information on the

route: <https://www.trailforks.com/route/4mi-loop-near-muddy-pond-from-rest-area/>.

Register here: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/ab0e732a488d4dfda9847662dfe78286>.

Exploring Quabbin Park

On Saturday, May 11 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., exploring Quabbin Park via the Tower Trail and Webster Road Trail at Quabbin Reservoir, 100 Winsor Dam Road, Belchertown.

The hike will begin at the Tower Trail parking area which is located just inside the Middle Gate off Route 9 in Belchertown.

(<https://maps.app.goo.gl/KeEppMJmKDSjJMFz8>)

Participants will hike up to the Observation Tower and take in the scenic view. The tower is currently closed indefinitely for repairs, so people won't be able to go inside.

Hikers will then utilize a connector trail down to Webster Road, and then loop back to where they began. The trail to the tower gains 475 feet of elevation.

Register here: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/ce6482dfca1943e78057b9bf42c06a5c>.

Quabbin's Hidden History

On Sunday, May 12 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. learn about Quabbin's Hidden History: Webster Road on this approximately .5 mile easy hike.

Meet at the Hank's Meadow parking lot. (<https://goo.gl/maps/4RiEq17PCNEf6s9E7>)

Quabbin's ghost towns are hiding in plain sight - if you know where to look. This two-hour guided interpretive walk will teach you how to read the natural landscape as you uncover clues that reveal the hidden history of Webster Road.

Explore old cellar holes and historic stone walls, get to know some native and invasive plants, and learn more about the families who lived in the town of Enfield a hundred years ago.

Register here: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/8fa0a8815fd1474c801926220047b22f>.

Memorial Day at Quabbin Park Cemetery

On Sunday, May 26 from 11 a.m.-noon, a Memorial Day Commemoration will be held at Quabbin Park Cemetery.

Refreshments will be offered at 10 a.m. and the parade and services begin at 11 a.m. No registration required.

In 1868, Major General John A. Logan, the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, named May 30 as a special day for honoring the soldiers that had died in the Civil War. Like communities across the United States, the towns of the Swift River Valley commemorated their war dead each year on Memorial Day until the towns' demise in 1938.

Since 1947, Quabbin Park Cemetery has been the center of Memorial Day services for the four towns. Please join the Friends of Quabbin, the Swift River Historical Society, the Veterans Council of Belchertown, Chauncey D. Walker Post #239, American Legion and the staff of the DCR Quabbin Reservoir for our annual Memorial Day Service at Quabbin Park Cemetery.

The public is welcome but please, no dogs.

(<https://goo.gl/maps/tDuKU-2VLjxnVbde8>)

Quabbin Park Cemetery tour

Following Memorial Day events on Sunday, May 26 from 2-3 p.m. take an easy walking tour of Quabbin Park Cemetery. The walk is an uneven ground

(<https://maps.app.goo.gl/rv4tzdEPPr0ba1jV9>)

After they Memorial Day remembrance ceremony, join DCR staff for a cemetery tour focused on the stories of some of the Valley residents that served and lost their lives in service to the United States. The tour will begin at the town monuments.

Register here: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/31306340e82941628d5e7fb1be3b017>.

WE'RE ALL EARS

Questions? Comments? Story Ideas?

Let us know how we're doing. Your opinion is something we always want to hear.

Contact edowner@turley.com
Barre Gazette, 24 Water St., Palmer • 413-283-8393

Obituaries

Georgette T. Carey, 95

BARRE – Georgette T. (Gillespie) Carey, 95, of Williamsville Road, died on Thursday afternoon, March 28, 2024 at Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center in West Brookfield.

Born in Barton, Vermont on Feb. 9, 1929, she was the daughter of Joseph and Aldea (Beliveau) Gillespie and grew up in Barton.

On Feb. 3, 1951, Georgette married Frederick E. Carey and they enjoyed 29 years of marriage until his death on Nov. 18, 1980.

Georgette had worked in the Needle Room at the Torrington Co. in Orange, as well as Duall Plastics and the J.F. McElwain Shoe Shop, both of Athol, before retiring early to care for her grandson, Will.

Georgette was an amazing baker, especially her apple pie. She and Frederick also raised and raced harness racing horses and had won many races.

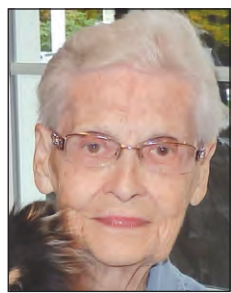
The family is appreciative and thankful of the wonderful care

given Georgette by the staff of Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Care.

Survivors include her children, Carmen Gelinis and her husband Bill of Barre and Michael Carey and his wife Lynn of Livermore, California; grandchildren, Heidi Carey and Neil Carey and his wife Crystal, all of Livermore, California and Will Gelinis of Hardwick; great-grandchildren, Audrey Carey and Haley Carey of Livermore, California and several nieces and nephews. Georgette also leaves behind three children she baby sat for that were like her own grandchildren, Natalie, Ben and Sabrina.

Besides her parents, Georgette was predeceased by her sisters, Simone Vorce of Orange and Rolande Lowe of Leominster.

Calling hours will be Thursday, April 4, 2024 from 5-7 p.m. at



Witty's Funeral Home, 158 South Main St., Orange.

A funeral service will be held on Friday, April 5, 2024 at 10 a.m. at Witty's Funeral Home, Orange.

Interment will follow in Worcester County Memorial Park, Paxton.

In lieu of flowers, donations are suggested to the Alzheimer's Association, 309 Waverly Oaks Road, Waltham, MA 02452.

Witty's Funeral Home, 158 South Main St., Orange, is assisting the family.

Guest book online at WWW.WITTYFUNERALHOME.COM.

DEATH NOTICE

Carey, Georgette T.
Died March 28, 2024
Funeral Service April 5 at 10 a.m.
Witty's Funeral Home, Orange

Country Bank appoints Thomas Dufault Senior Vice President

Country Bank, a leading financial institution serving Central and Western Massachusetts, announces the appointment of Thomas Dufault as the Senior Vice President of the Retail Lending Department.

With an impressive thirty-five years in the mortgage industry and an entrepreneurial and construction background, he brings a wealth of knowledge and leadership to his new role.

He gained extensive experience in construction standards, business acumen and process improvements throughout his career. His diverse background, including being a previous business owner, makes him the ideal candidate to lead Country Bank's Retail Lending team.

In addition to his professional achievements, Dufault is also committed to community service. He has served on the Board of Habitat for Humanity North Central Massachusetts for ten years, with the past four years as the Board President.

He supports various charitable

initiatives, including the United Way of North Central Massachusetts, the American Cancer Society, Heifer Project International and the Alzheimer's Association. He has also served on various committees and boards in the town of Rutland where he lived for twenty-six years with his wife and two daughters.

"I am excited to join Country Bank and contribute to its continued success in helping customers obtain their dreams of homeownership," said Dufault. "I will focus on offering innovative products to help meet our customers' needs with a simple application and approval process while offering a superior customer experience. I am eager to make a difference for the retail lending team and for our customers."

"We are incredibly pleased to welcome Tom to our leader-



Thomas Dufault

ship team; his extensive background in Retail Lending brings an exciting level of strategic insight and direction to the Country Bank brand of Community Banking. His commitment to strategic and empathetic leader-

ship, community support, and entrepreneurial spirit align with our iSTEP Corporate Values of Integrity, Service, Teamwork, Excellence and Prosperity. We are proud that Tom has chosen Country Bank as his Employer of Choice," stated Miriam Siegel, First Senior Vice President and Chief Culture & Development Officer.

Country Bank is a full-service \$1.8B mutual community bank serving Central and Western Massachusetts with 14 offices in Ware, Palmer, West Brookfield, Brimfield, Belchertown, Wilbraham, Ludlow, Leicester, Paxton, Charlton and Worcester.

ASSE seeks host families for exchanges students

ASSE International Student Exchange Programs, a non-profit, public benefit organization, is inviting local families to discover the many rewards of hosting a foreign exchange student.

ASSE students come from more than 50 countries worldwide: France, Denmark, Spain, Italy, Ukraine, Japan and Australia, to name a few. They are between the ages of 15 and 18 years, and they are enthusiastic and excited to experience American culture, family life, school, sports, etc.

Students also love to share

their own culture and language with their host families, who welcome the students into their home, not as a guest, but as a family member, giving everyone involved a rich cultural experience. Host families may be single parents, couples and single persons.

The exchange students have pocket money for personal expenses and full health, accident and liability insurance. ASSE students are carefully selected based upon academics and personality, and host families choose their student from a wide variety of

backgrounds, countries and personal interests.

ASSE also offers qualified American students the opportunity to learn another language and culture by spending a school year, semester or a summer with a host family in another country.

Those interested in hosting an exchange student or becoming an exchange student abroad should call Alina at 1-800-677-2773, visit www.asse.com or send an email to asseusouth@asse.com to request more information or start the application process.

Church News

Local pastors offer sermons

Christian Growth Part 3

Those who would walk with the Lord do well to consider this classic 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.

What are the varying aspects of the fruit of the Spirit? Let us begin our exploration of the nine-fold fruit with biblical love.

What is love? The underlying term (v. 22) is defined as an unconditional, sacrificial love; the type of love God demonstrates. Let us note these hallmarks of such love:

a) It is not contingent upon the attractiveness of its object, for it extends even to the outcast and the broken

b) it is not contingent upon the response of its object, for it operates regardless of reciprocity or rejection

c) It is not contingent upon what one may receive; its focus is solely upon what it may give to another

d) It is not contingent upon relationship, as it extends beyond the confines of family or friendship

e) It does not produce mere sympathy, but compassion (i.e., which is noted by corresponding action)

Is this not how the Lord loves us? Is this not what He demonstrated in the offering of His Son on our behalf? Remember:

Romans 5:8b

8 . . . God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 1 John 4:9-10, 19 9 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. 10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. . . . 19 We love because he first loved us.

Such is the type of love that you and I are to demonstrate. Of course, you may say that this is impossible, which is correct! You and I can never produce this form of love on our own. Yet as we walk by the Spirit, the Spirit of God can cultivate such affection in us.

Would you like an example of such love in operation? If you are like me, perhaps you learn best by example. Please note:

Luke 10:25-37

25 On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

26 "What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?"

27 He answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind" [Deut. 6:5]; and, "Love your neighbor as yourself." [Lev. 19:18]"

28 "You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."

29 But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

30 In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. 31 A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. 32 So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. 33 But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. 34 He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine.

Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. 35 The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'

36 "Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

37 The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him."

Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

What do we see in the Good Samaritan? An aspiration example of love-an example that you and I are called to emulate!

As we close, I would be remiss if I failed to recommend the following text for review. It is a seminal passage on such love:

1 Corinthians 13:1-8

1 If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. 3 If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 8 Love never fails.

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

Easter Sunday

"Do not weep, My children. I have Risen!"

Our services can be found on our website at www.barrechurch.com and Facebook page.

Scripture Reading: John 20 v 1-18 I. Introduction:

In this life, we have many experiences and moments that make us happy, and then we have our problems, from our personal lives, to what is happening in our homes, at work, in our community, and in this world. These problems can make us anxious and make us angry and make us do things we sometimes regret we had not done... and then, they can make us weep.

When last have you been weeping? Good, this is the place to be, to hear the Risen Christ say to us, "Do not weep, my children. I have Risen." Oh, wait When He says that, he does not really mean that we should not weep, then what is He implying? Let's have a look.

II. Mary Magdalene and the Risen Christ

In this passage as well as the other accounts of the Resurrection story, we encounter a multitude of emotions from those who followed Jesus. There are those like Mary Magdalene who wept when she didn't see Him in the tomb. Then there are those who were afraid in their homes because they could be persecuted also. And then there are those like Peter and Judas and the rest who denied and betrayed Him, and others who fled the scene.

They must have gone through a terrible time, on top of experiencing the loss of the One who lost His life in such a gruesome manner, the One they followed and loved.

It is the tears of Mary that struck the Son of God, at the morning of His resurrection. Those were tears of sadness over His death, but also because they took His body away. They took His body away, she told the angels sitting there. They first killed Him, and now this?

It is important to note that Mary Magdalene, according to the other three Gospels, was one of a few women at the tomb of Jesus that morning, but John is focusing on her story here in his Gospel. Another note of importance is that this Mary Magdalene, according

to Mark 8 verse 2 was healed and cured by Jesus from being possessed by seven demons and must have been extremely grateful for His intervention in her life, and so she became one of His followers.

She was also one of the witnesses to His crucifixion, an extremely traumatic experience for her. Here we see Jesus entering the scene, coming into her space as she was experiencing the most profound sorrow in her life. He called her name and asked her why she wept. And then, when she answered, she realized it was Him, and the weight of her sorrow was lifted from her broken heart.

She saw the Man who healed her, and cared for her and made her whole again. She rushed to tell the disciples what she had just experienced, that she saw the Risen Lord, that He listened to her, saw her sorrow, and dried her tears. Mary's encounter with Jesus is a powerful Resurrection story that illustrates how being and dwelling in the presence of God altered a life dramatically.

III. To dwell in the sacred spaces of the Most High

In Psalm 91 the Psalmist speaks of the Lord as our Refuge and our fortress. It speaks about those who when they dwell in the sacred spaces of the Lord Most High, shall abide in the shadow of the Almighty. Those who say the Lord is their Refuge and fortress, will surely be delivered and protected.

This is what happened to Mary Magdalene, who first received her transformation from being demon possessed, and when she refused to leave the empty tomb, Jesus entered her space again, saw her love and commitment to Him, and changed her life again. They were on holy ground, where she, the sinner dwelled in the presence of the Risen Christ who returned to her as her Refuge and deliverer, and her hope for the future.

IV. Conclusion: His resurrection is a call to follow Him

This is what His Resurrection message conveys, a call to the wholeness of humanity and the whole of creation, a call to each of us to experience that wholeness in the presence of the Risen Christ. Do not weep, Christ says to us this morning. Do not be in despair. I have Risen. You have hope in Me, and I have everything you need.

My God and I with the help and presence of the Holy Spirit are here with you. So, come to Me, and let your mind and your soul be at peace from the troubles in your life. Empty yourselves and leave that stuff with Me, and I will give you rest. If you experience joy in your life right now, continue on that path and let Me in and let us dwell together, and I will make you all My disciples.

Please do not leave Me like Peter and Judas and the others did on that dreadful journey I was on, but come, stay with Me like Mary did, and I will fill your lives with the fullness of God's blessings. We will dwell together in this life of yours. You will talk to Me in prayer, and I will listen, and I will answer you.

The Risen Christ calls us this morning to allow the Holy Spirit to touch us and speak to us anew on this Resurrection Day. To follow the Risen Christ means that we must follow Him, dwell with Him in love and peace and joy, and to have the courage to stay in it and not be afraid to do what is right. To follow the Risen Christ means we must also ask what He requires from us. How shall I follow thee, oh Lord? How shall I live out the compassion You speak of?

Where do You call me too still? God will hear, and God will respond, and God will send us to the right places where we will dwell and experience the presence of the Most High in our lives. It requires that we reexamine our relationships with one another, at home, in our communities, at work, at church and in this world.

The Risen Christ as the Head of the Church calls us all afresh to come, and be forgiven, and forgive one another, to worship and pray and sing together, and to serve. This is a part of the Easter message for all of us to receive, and to answer to. And so, may you hear God's answer today, tomorrow, or the day after, as you continue to live your life on this earth.

May this Resurrection message be a blessing to all of us. Happy Easter.

Amen.

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

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.



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BUSINESS

Turley Publications is liberal with regard to its business coverage policies, but we do have some standards folks need to understand. First, local businesses and merchants are just as much institutions in our towns as the library and schools. Without them, there are no towns.

We will feature coverage of local businesses that are new, have a major expansion, moving, closing, under new management or ownership, celebrating a milestone anniversary, or have been thrust into the news realm. Merchants can request that coverage through the editor, or for our existing advertising clients, through their ad representatives.

For more information on business coverage for the Barre Gazette, please email edowner@turley.com.

Public Safety

Barre Police Log

Sunday, March 24
 1:45 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Peach Street, Office Advised
 2:11 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Summer Street, No Fire Service Necessary
 5:08 p.m. Road Condition Notification, Nichols Road, Referred to Other Agency

Monday, March 25
 8:03 a.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, North Brookfield Road, Message Delivered
 1:01 p.m. Fire – Power Lines Down/Arcing, Granger Road, Investigated
 4:19 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Trauma, Cut Of Road, Mutual Aid Assist
 2:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Wheelwright Road, Investigated

Tuesday, March 26
 9:46 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Main Street, Mutual Aid Assist
 2 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Loring Road, Information Given
 5:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Granger Road, Public Assist

Wednesday, March 27
 8:31 a.m. Court Duty, East

Brookfield District Court, Court Duty
 9 a.m. Erratic Operator, Worcester Road, No Action Required
 4:20 p.m. Keep the Peace, Old Coldbrook Road, Public Assist
 8:30 p.m. Trespasser or Prowler, Exchange Street, Removed to Court/Lockup
 Arrest: Keans, Robert S., 58, Barre
 Charges: Breaking and Entering for Misdemeanor, Trespasser

Thursday, March 28
 7:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, West Street, Removed to Court/Lockup
 Arrest: Cooley, Cedric Miller, 32, New Salem
 Charges: Reckless Endangerment of Child, License Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle with Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle with Subsequent Offense, Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle, Speeding Rate of Speed Greater Than Was Reasonable and Proper c 90 §17
 Summons: Lovely, Alycia, 32, New Salem
 Charges: Unlicensed/Suspended Operation of Motor Vehicle, Permit
 9:25 a.m. Prisoner Transport, East Brookfield District Court, Removed to Court/Lockup
 Arrest: Cooley, Cedric Miller, 32,

New Salem
 Charges: Reckless Endangerment of Child, License Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle with, Subsequent Offense, Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle, Speeding Rate of Speed Greater Than Was Reasonable and Proper c 90 §17

Friday, March 29
 10:13 a.m. Neighbor Dispute, Gauthier Road, Office Spoke to Party
 3:45 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, South Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 4:23 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Wauwinet Road, Unable to Serve
 11:47 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hubbardston Road, Written Warning

Saturday, March 30
 8:48 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Mechanic Street, Transported to Hospital
 1:24 p.m. Fire – Power Lines Down/Arcing, Granger Road, Referred to Other Agency
 2:40 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Valley Road, Vehicle Towed
 11:40 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Written Warning

Rutland Police Log

Sunday, March 24
 2:01 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Main Street, Vehicle Towed
 7:35 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Orchard Hill Drive, Officer Spoke to Party
 4:11 p.m. Neighbor Dispute, Maple Avenue, Investigated
 5:14 p.m. Emergency Medical Services – Seizures, Woodside Avenue, Transported to Hospital
 6:49 p.m. Stolen Vehicle, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
 Summons: Jackson-Parker, Sirena Latrell, 42, Worcester
 Charges: License Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle with, License Not in Possession
 8:04 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Campbell Street, Investigated
 10:49 p.m. Erratic Operator, Maple Avenue, Negative Contact
 10:51 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Oakham, Mutual Aid Assist

Monday, March 25
 5:47 a.m. Erratic Operator, Main Street, Negative Contact
 8:28 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, North Brookfield Road, Transported to Hospital
 9:15 a.m. Animal – Wildlife, Woodside Avenue, Message Delivered
 10:32 a.m. Fire – Fumes/Odor/Gas Leak, Miles Road, Investigated
 1:52 p.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Edison Avenue, Officer Advised
 3:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 4:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Citation Issued
 4:53 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Brunelle Drive, Officer Spoke to Party

Tuesday, March 26
 3:14 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Maple Avenue, Citation Issued
 8:03 a.m. Fire – Fumes/Odor/Gas Leak, Miles Road, Investigated
 8:27 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, River Road, Information Given
 8:46 a.m. Emergency Medical

Service – Sick/Unknown, Miles Road, Transported to Hospital
 9:06 a.m. Animal – Wildlife, Fernwood Drive, Officer Advised
 10:55 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
 12:57 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Prisoner Bailed
 Arrest: O'Reilly, Jimmy, 36, Norwood
 Charges: License Suspended for Operating Under Influence, Operating Motor Vehicle With
 2 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Loring Road, Information Given
 2:45 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Bleeding (Non-Traumatic) Forest Hill Drive, Transported to Hospital
 3:19 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
 4:11 p.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Sassawana Road, Information Given
 5:59 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Peters Avenue, Transported to Hospital
 7:48 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Barre Paxton Road, Officer Advised
 10:12 p.m. Confusion, Locke Road, Transported to Hospital
 11:27 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Barre, Mutual Aid Assist

6:03 p.m. Erratic Operator, Main Street, Message Delivered

Thursday, March 28
 12:15 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Fisherman's Road, Written Warning
 5:42 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Glenwood Road, Transported to Hospital
 7:35 a.m. Emergency Medical Service Sick/Unknown, Brunelle Drive, Transported to Hospital
 8:13 a.m. Court Duty, Worcester District Court, Court Duty
 10:43 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning
 11:40 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Written Warning
 12:05 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Kosta Avenue, Transported to Hospital
 4:51 p.m. Erratic Operator, Barre Paxton Road, Negative Contact
 8:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning

Friday, March 29
 7:25 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Written Warning
 10:40 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Barre Paxton Road, Information Given
 1:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 3:34 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 4:28 p.m. Harassment, Main Street, Report Filed
 4:54 p.m. Harassment, Wildbrook Drive, Officer Spoke to Party
 6:46 p.m. Abdominal– Back Pain, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
 9:18 p.m. Erratic Operator, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 10:07 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, River Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Saturday, March 30
 12:36 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
 1:41 p.m. Neighbor Dispute, Lewis Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 8 p.m. Public Assist, Forest Hill Drive, Public Assist

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of March 25-April 1, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 67 building/property checks, 55 directed/area patrols, five traffic controls, five radar assignments, 12 emergency 911 calls, two assist other agencies, three citizen assists, one complaint, two scams, two threats, three safety hazards, one brush fire, one motor vehicle accident, two motor vehicle investigations, one animal call and 10 motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, March 25
 11:02 a.m. Scam, Lower Road, Spoken To

Tuesday, March 26
 12:54 a.m. Medical Emergency, Pine Street, Transported to Hospital
 6:17 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 6:37 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hardwick Road, Written Warning
 8:35 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Turkey Street, Transported to Hospital
 8:42 a.m. Assist Citizen, Out of Town, Dispatch Handled
 10:11 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
 10:55 a.m. Welfare Check, Main

Street, Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, March 27
 8:05 a.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, River Run, Spoken To
 11:24 a.m. Officer Initiated, Out of Town, Arrest(s) Made
 3:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Written Warning
 4:33 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Upper Church Street, Dispatch Handled
 4:41 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Lower Road, Investigated
 9:56 p.m. Threat, Unknown Location, No Action Required

Thursday, March 28
 10:47 a.m. 911 Misdial, Church Lane, Officer Handled
 3:27 p.m. Fire Alarm, Old Petersham Road, Investigated
 5 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Lower Road, Investigated

Friday, March 29
 5:17 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Church Lane, Transported to Hospital
 6:11 a.m. Fire/Brush, Chagnon Road, Transported to Hospital
 12:08 p.m. Assist Citizen, Hardwick Road, Spoken To
 2:27 p.m. 911 Motor Vehicle

Accident, Lower Road, Citation Issued
 2:32 p.m. Scam, Barre Road, Officer Handled
 3:52 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Fiske Road, Transported to Hospital
 5:43 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
 8:05 p.m. Safety Hazard, Barre Road, Removed Hazard

Saturday, March 30
 4:11 a.m. 911 Misdial, Charity Hill Road, Spoken To
 10:50 a.m. Safety Hazard, Ridge Road, Dispatch Handled
 11:09 a.m. Safety Hazard, Ridge Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
 12:58 p.m. 911 Disturbance, Hardwick Road, Arrest(s) Made
 5:24 p.m. Assist Citizen, Church Lane, Officer Handled

Sunday, March 31
 11:43 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Ware, Services Rendered
 1:54 p.m. 911 Threat, Broad Street, Officer Handled

Monday, April 1
 1:38 a.m. 911 Suspicious Activity, Barre Road, Officer Handled

Oakham Police Log

Sunday, March 24
 6:02 p.m. Road/Traffic Hazard, Coldbrook Road, Removed Hazard
 2:22 Tree Incidents (No Wires), North Brookfield Road, Information Given

Monday, March 25
 8:28 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, North Brookfield Road, Transported to Hospital
 9:38 a.m. Fire Power Lines Down/Arcing, Spencer Road, Referred to Others

Tuesday, March 26
 12:32 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Barre Road, Officer Advised
 10:27 a.m. Identity Theft, Barre Road, Officer Advised

3:26 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Rutland, Mutual Aid Assist
 3:27 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, East Hill Road, Mutual Aid Transport

Wednesday, March 27
 9:30 p.m. Vandalism, Crocker Nye Road, Report Filed

Thursday, March 28
 8:42 a.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Spencer Road, Message Delivered
 5:15 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Barre Road, Report Filed

Friday, March 29
 3:41 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Ware Corner Road, Written Warning
 6:02 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Coldbrook Road, Officer Spoke

to Party
 9:22 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, North Brookfield Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Saturday, March 30
 8:08 a.m. Follow Up Investigation, Barre Road, Investigation (On-Going)
 9:48 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Citation Issued
 10:02 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
 11:09 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Citation Issued
 2:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Citation Issued
 2:36 p.m. Gunshots, New Braintree Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 6:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Citation Issued
 9:53 p.m. Vandalism, Old Turnpike Road, Report Filed

Hubbardston Police Log

Sunday, March 24
 2:51 p.m. Fire – Water Rescue, Comet Pond, Transported to Hospital

Monday, March 25
 8:14 a.m. Road Condition Notification, Elm Street, Report Filed
 9:49 a.m. Keep the Peace, Gardner Road, Report Filed

Tuesday, March 26
 10:03 a.m. Assist Other Agency/Non-Police, Gardner Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 4:40 p.m. Keep the Peace, Old Boston Turnpike, Public Assist

Wednesday, March 27
 6:12 a.m. Emergency Medical

Service – Falls, Madison Way, Public Assist
 9:05 a.m. Court Duty, Gardner District Court, Court Duty
 10:06 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Hale Road, Officer Advised
 11:06 a.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Gardner Road, Information Given

Thursday, March 28
 3:32 p.m. Assist Other Agency/Non-Police, Williamsville Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 6:35 p.m. Tree Incidents (No Wires), Worcester Road, Removed Hazard

Friday, March 29
 7:44 a.m. Welfare Check, High

Bridge Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 11:30 a.m. Fraud or Forgery, Williamsville Road, Information Given
 12:51 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, High Bridge Road, Transported to Hospital
 2:30 p.m. Fire – Power Lines Down/Arcing, Old Boston Turnpike, Information Given
 4:35 p.m. Police Escort, Old Boston Turnpike, Officer Advised

Saturday, March 30
 7:21 p.m. Suspicious Person/Motor Vehicle, Old Princetown Cutoff Road, Information Given

New Braintree Police Log

During the week of March 25-April 1, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 19 building/property checks, 41 directed/area patrols, nine traffic controls, two radar assignments, two emergency 911 calls, two citizen assists, one safety hazard, one complaint, one animal call, one motor vehicle investigation and three motor vehicle stops in the town of New Braintree.

Monday, March 25
 8:24 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency,

Wine Road, Transported to Hospital

Tuesday, March 26
 7:26 a.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Hardwick Road, Investigated
 8:32 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Barre Road, Transported to Hospital
 3:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Written Warning
 5:04 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

Wednesday, March 27
 3:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Citation Issued

Friday, March 29
 9:57 a.m. Safety Hazard, West Brookfield Road, Removed Hazard
 2:23 p.m. Complaint, West Brookfield Road, Officer Handled

Saturday, March 30
 11:08 a.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Spoken To

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Deadlines:
 The deadline for all classified ads in the Quabbin and Suburban Zones is Friday at noon for publication the following week. The deadline for the Hill Towns Zone is Monday at noon.

Email: classifieds@turley.com
 or call 413-283-8393



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Public Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The New Braintree Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 6:30 PM** in the Town Hall, Memorial Drive, New Braintree, MA on the following application:

Rebecca Berg, Applicant, seeks a Variance under the provisions of MGL Chapter 40A, Section 9, and Section 4 of the Town of New Braintree Zoning Bylaw (Chapter 4) to add a 32' x 36' garage to existing structure located at 11 Tucker Road, Town Assessor's Map 408 parcel 19.

The application is on file in the Town Clerk's Office. All those interested must be present, or send a representative, or send communication in advance of the hearing date.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
03/28, 04/04/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
Docket No. WO24C0073CA
In the matter of:
David Gregory Desplaines, Jr.
CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME**

A Petition to Change Name of Minor has been filed by David Gregory Desplaines, Jr. of Barre, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

**Gregory Allen Desplaines
IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Worcester Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/30/2024.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

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

Date: March 28, 2024
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
04/04/2024

FY 2025 - REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR AN UPDATE PROGRAM TO MAINTAIN EQUITABLE ASSESSMENTS WITHIN THE TOWN OF BARRE, MASSACHUSETTS

The Town of Barre invites all interested companies to submit sealed proposals for undertaking a program to update all real and personal property values within the

Town of Barre for Fiscal Year 2025.

Specifications for the proposed program may be obtained at the office of the Board of Assessors, Henry Woods Building, 40 West Street, Barre, MA 01005 Mondays through Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Specifications will be available until Monday, February 26th, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

Proposals are to be submitted to the Board of Assessors, Henry Woods Building, 40 West Street, Barre, MA 01005. Proposals will be accepted Monday through Thursdays between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. until Monday, February 26th, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

It is the specific intent of the Town to contract through its Board of Assessors for a complete update of property valuations effective January 1, 2024 consistent with Massachusetts Department of Revenue requirements using an in-house CAMA appraisal system. The program is to commence on or about July 2, 2024, and to be completed by October 15, 2024. The program is to result in the approval of property values by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

The Town of Barre reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals or any part thereof, or to select a bidder whose proposal is not the lowest, as deemed to be in the best interest of the Town.

The awarding of the contract shall be subject to the availability of funds.

Board of Assessors
Christopher Jenkins
Michael G. Landry
Robert W.A. Leroux
04/04, 04/11/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508)831-2200
Docket No. WO-24P0987EA
Estate of:
Paul Thomas Evans
Also known as:
Paul T Evans
Date of Death: 02/12/2024
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Mark J Evans of Alfred, ME requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that:

Mark J Evans of Alfred, ME be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/14/2024.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

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

Date: March 26, 2024
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
04/04/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508)831-2200
Docket No. WO-24P1042EA
Estate of:
Janet Eileen Logan
Also known as:
Janet E. Logan
Date of Death: 02/03/2024
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Repre-

sentative has been filed by **Laurie M. Howard of Barre, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Laurie M. Howard of Barre, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/30/2024.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

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

Date: March 28, 2024
Stephanie Fattman
Register of Probate
04/04/2024

**Town of New Braintree
Invitation for Sealed Bids**

The Town of New Braintree will accept sealed bids for pavement surfacing of Old Turnpike Road. MassDOT prequalification of contractors with the class of work as, Pavement - Surfacing, for the project with an estimated value of **\$100,191.36** will be required. The estimated value provided in this

Invitation to bid is for FY2024.

All bids signed with the name and address of the bidder should be submitted in a sealed envelope that is plainly marked in the lower left-hand corner of the envelope **"FY2024 BID FOR OLD TURNPIKE ROAD"**. All bidders are required to be in compliance with Mass. General Laws, Chapter 149, Prevailing wage rates, where applicable.

The Town of New Braintree reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any informalities in the bidding if they deem it in the best interest of the town to do so.

Bid specifications must be obtained from the Select Board office, 20 Memorial Drive, New Braintree, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or can be emailed upon request by calling the Highway Department at (508) 867-2451.

Bidders must be pre-qualified by the Contract Engineer of Mass. D.O.T., before specifications can be handed out.

Bids will be received until 6:30 p.m., Monday April 22, 2024, and will be opened and read at 6:35 p.m. in the office of the Select Board. The bid shall include a statement of non-collusion.
03/28, 04/04/2024

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 63 Pine Tree Terrace, South Barre, MA 01074

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by James E. Tyler to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., and now held by US Bank Trust National Association, Not In Its Individual Capacity But Solely As Owner Trustee For VRMTG Asset Trust, said mortgage dated April 10, 2013 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 50780, Page 1, as affected by Partial Release dated February 21, 2024 and recorded in said Registry of Deeds in Book 70221, Page 307, said mortgage was assigned from JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. to Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC by assignment dated July 11, 2017 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 57424, Page 384; said mortgage was assigned from Community Loan Servicing, LLC F/K/A Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC to Federal National Mortgage Association by assignment dated May 13, 2021 and recorded with said

Registry of Deeds in Book 65172, Page 337; said mortgage was assigned from Federal National Mortgage Association to MCLP Asset Company, Inc. by assignment dated March 30, 2023 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 68965, Page 118; said mortgage was assigned from MCLP Asset Company, Inc. to US Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee for VRMTG Asset Trust by assignment dated May 2, 2023 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 69181, Page 388; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction** on May 30, 2024 at 11:00 AM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

Tax Id Number(s): BARR-000043-000000-H00000, H 43, H-43
Land Situated in the County of Worcester in the State of MA

THE LAND WITH THE BUILDINGS THEREON SITUATED ON THE SOUTHEASTERLY SIDE OF PINE TREE TERRACE IN THAT PART OF BARRE KNOWN AS SOUTH BARRE, BEING SHOWN AS LOT C ON PLAN OF SUBDIVISION OF PROPERTY IN SOUTH BARRE, MASS. BELONGING TO BARRE WOOL COMBING CO. LTD. DATED DECEMBER 10, 1953, MADE BY ROWLAND H. BARNES & CO., CIVIL ENGINEERS, RECORDED WITH WORCESTER DISTRICT REGISTRY OF DEEDS, PLAN BOOK 195, PLAN 9, BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING AT A POINT IN THE SOUTHEASTERLY LINE OF PINE TREE TERRACE WHICH IS 135.8 FEET S. 23 DEGREES 42 MINUTES 35 SECONDS W. MEASURED ALONG THE SOUTHEASTERLY LINE OF PINE TREE TERRACE FROM A POINT WHICH IS 225.95 FEET S. 57 DEGREES 14 MINUTES 20 SECONDS W. FROM THE INTERSECTION OF THE EASTERLY LINE OF NELSON STREET WITH THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF TRAFALGAR SQUARE, SAID POINT OF BEGINNING BEING ALSO THE WESTERLY CORNER OF LOT D ON SAID PLAN;

THENCE FROM THE AFORESAID POINT OF BEGINNING RUNNING S. 23 DEGREES 42 MINUTES 35 SECONDS W. BY THE SOUTHEASTERLY LINE OF PINE TREE TERRACE ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-SIX AND FIVE TENTHS (156.5) FEET TO LAND OF THE BOSTON & ALBANY

RAILROAD; THENCE N. 66 DEGREES 50 MINUTES 58 SECONDS E. EIGHTY-FIVE AND SIX TENTHS (85.6) FEET;

THENCE N. 59 DEGREES 47 MINUTES 58 SECONDS E. ONE HUNDRED FIFTEEN AND ONE HUNDREDTH (115.01) FEET; (THESE TWO COURSES BEING BY SAID BOSTON & ALBANY RAILROAD LAND) TO THE SOUTHERLY CORNER OF SAID LOT D;

THENCE N. 65 DEGREES 48 MINUTES 25 SECONDS W. BY SAID LOT D, ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-SIX AND THIRTY-ONE HUNDREDTHS (126.31) FEET TO THE SOUTHEASTERLY LINE OF PINE TREE TERRACE AT THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

C O N T A I N I N G APPROXIMATELY 10,485 SQUARE FEET.

NOTE: The Company is prohibited from insuring the area or quantity of the land. The Company does not represent that any acreage or footage calculations are correct. References to quantity are for identification purposes only.

Being the same property conveyed to James E. Tyler, by deed dated October 16, 1995 of record in Deed Book 17425, Page 152, in the County Clerk's Office.

Commonly known as: 63 Pine Tree Ter, South Barre, MA 01074

EXCEPTING THEREFROM that certain land described in a partial release of mortgage dated February 21, 2024 and recorded in said Registry of Deeds in Book 70221, Page 307, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

the land in said Barre situated off the easterly side of Pine Tree Terrace being shown as Lot C-2 on Plan of Subdivision of property in South Barre, Mass. for Barre Wool Combing Company, Ltd, dated April 25, 1960 by Barnes Engineering Co., Inc., recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 250, Plan 93, bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point at the northwesterly corner of the tract to be conveyed which point is S. 65° 48' 25" E. 18.10 feet from the easterly line of Pine Tree Terrace;

THENCE S. 65° 48' 25" E eight and twenty-one hundredths (8.21) feet to a point, said point being the most easterly corner of land conveyed to Harry R. Stevenson et ux by deed of Bachmann-Uxbridge Worsted Corporation d/b/a The Barre Wool Combing Company, Limited, dated January 2, 1954 and recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Book 3563, Page 509;

THENCE S. 59° 47' 58", thirteen and fifty-six hundredths (13.56) feet to a point at said Stevenson's land;

THENCE N. 22° 33' 31" E, eleven and three hundredths (11.03) feet by said Stevenson's land to the point of beginning.

Containing 45 square feet of land more or less.

The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

For Mortgagor's Title see deed dated October 18, 1995 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 17425, Page 152.

TERMS OF SALE: Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.

FIVE THOUSAND (\$5,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within thirty (30) days after the date of sale.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Brock & Scott, PLLC
23 Messenger Street
2nd Floor

Plainville, MA 02762
Attorney for US Bank Trust National Association, Not In Its Individual Capacity But Solely As Owner Trustee For VRMTG Asset Trust
Present Holder of the Mortgage
(401) 217-8701
04/04, 04/11, 04/18/2024

**Town of Barre
Public Hearing Notice
Transfer and Pledge of Liquor License**

TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Selectmen will conduct a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Select Board Meeting Room, Henry Woods Building, 40 West Street, Barre, MA on the following proposed Transfer of an All Alcohol Beverages License from Brusio Liquor Mart, Inc. to 15 Exchange Street, Inc. Barre, MA and for a Pledge of that Liquor License to Rockland Trust. 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
04/04/2024

Job Connection

HELPING YOU FIND HELP

DRIVE FOR THE QUABOAG CONNECTOR

Description
Drivers wanted for the Quaboag Connector community transportation service! The Connector operates in ten towns in the Quaboag Region, connecting residents to their everyday needs. We are seeking friendly, responsible drivers to be the face that community members see while traveling to work, medical appointments, grocery stores, and beyond.

Hours and Salary:
We are looking for van and bus drivers for full and part time opportunities. 6AM-2PM shifts and 3PM-7PM shifts for van operators available starting at \$16.00/hour. We are also looking for full-time CDL Class B drivers starting at \$27/hour.

Application Process:
Interested applicants should visit the Ware Town Hall for an application or visit our website at www.rideconnector.com/driveforum. If you have any questions, please call (413) 667-7196.

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer and committed to excellence through diversity. Qualified applicants are considered for all positions regardless of race, color, religion, creed, gender, national origin, age, disability, marital or military status, genetic information, sexual orientation, or any other legally protected status.

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.

Support the local businesses that support your local newspaper.

Let them know you saw their ad in the Barre Gazette

Fidelity Bank donates nearly \$500,000

LEOMINSTER – Fidelity Bank announced its 2023 LifeDesign Community Dividend completed the year with a record of nearly \$500,000 donated to more than 250 organizations, events, and charitable endeavors throughout the communities the bank serves in Central and Eastern Massachusetts.

The LifeDesign Community Dividend provides funding to support local nonprofit organizations that directly impact and benefit the communities in Fidelity Bank service areas. Eligible programs include those that support inclusion and diversity, culture and arts, elder services, and youth programming, among others.

"These community investments are at the core of Fidelity's LifeDesign banking brand promise," said Ed Manzi Jr., chairman and CEO, Fidelity Bank. "Focusing on care, clarity and confidence, our Community Dividend supports the communities that support us, while also providing funding to ensure organizations continue providing important services needed to help our communities thrive."

Organizations receiving contributions in 2023 included the Boys & Girls Club of Fitchburg, Leominster and Gardner, City of Gardner's 100th Anniversary, Ginny's Helping Hand and Food Pantry, Girls Inc. of Worcester, Massachusetts Biomedical Initiatives, Montachusett Veterans Outreach Center, Needham Education Foundation, Shine Initiative and the Spanish American Community Center, to name a few.

In addition to the many deserving organizations, who received support through the Bank's LifeDesign Community Dividend, more than 18,000 area residents received sweet treats from Fidelity's Frosty Flyer ice cream truck last summer at over 100 local community and non-profit events, and banking center locations. Fidelity Bank colleagues also got involved with outreach in their communities by participating in more than 150 Random Acts of Care, including delivering meals to first responders in the days following the Leominster floods, donating supplies to animal shelters, purchasing backpacks and

supplies for local youth, and donating winter hats and mittens to organizations serving the homeless.

"We love the communities we serve," added Manzi. "It is truly a privilege to support community initiatives that help others, particularly in the areas where Fidelity Team Members live and work. It is a total team effort, done with true intention and gratitude."

Since the program was renamed in 2013, the Fidelity LifeDesign Community Dividend has committed approximately \$3.6 million to organizations in Central and Eastern Massachusetts.

Founded in 1888, Fidelity Bank is one of the strongest independent community banks in Central and Eastern Massachusetts. The bank offers a range of personal and business banking solutions to clients in 13 full-service banking centers in Leominster, Worcester, Fitchburg, Needham, Gardner, Shirley, Barre, Millbury, Paxton, Princeton, and Winchendon.

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Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

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.

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TOWN OF WILBRAHAM

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The Town of Wilbraham is looking to fill a vacancy for Firefighter/EMT. Paramedic Certification or currently attending paramedic school highly preferred. For application and more info visit www.wilbraham-ma.gov. Deadline 4/17/24

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GRANT WRITER/FACILITATOR

The Town of Brookfield is seeking qualified applicants for a part-time (15 hours per week) Grant Writer/Facilitator. See job description at brookfieldma.us. Salary is commensurate with experience. Current appropriation is \$30.28 per hour. Please submit a resume and cover letter to selectmen@brookfieldma.us Open until filled. *Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer*

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HELP WANTED

TOWN OF HAMPDEN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The town of Hampden Highway Department is seeking to fill a full-time skilled worker/truck driver position. All applicants must possess a valid Class B CDL, 2B Hoisting License, OSHA 10 Certificate of Training, and a copy of current driving record. Applicants must have the skills and knowledge necessary to perform general road and grounds maintenance and the ability to operate and maintain all associated tools and equipment. The capability to perform maintenance/repair on trucks and equipment, welding, and the use of other garage tools, along with light construction and snowplowing experience, would be beneficial. Please call the Hampden Highway Department (413) 566-8842, or email highway@hampdenma.gov for inquiries and application/resume submittals.

TOWN OF WILBRAHAM

HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR 1
P/T BORROWER SERVICES ASSISTANT
P/T RECYCLING ATTENDANT
SUMMER CAMP COUNSELOR
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TOWN TREASURER:

The Town of Brookfield is seeking qualified applicants for the full-time (40-hour week) position of Town Treasurer. Full job description at brookfieldma.us. Salary commensurate with experience. Current appropriation is \$80,498.62. Submit cover letter and resume to: selectmen@brookfieldma.us. Reviews begin week of April 15th. Open until filled. *The Town of Brookfield is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.*

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