

BARRE GAZETTE

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Stevens wins Select Board seat over write in candidate

By Ellenor Downer
Editor
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BARRE – Seven hundred seventy two voters (401 precinct 1 and 321 precinct 2) of the 4,305 register voter (2,125 precinct 1 and 2,180 precinct 2) or 16.77% went to the polls Monday, April 7.

Richard C. Stevens, 905 Coldbrook Road, won a three-year term on the Select Board with 482 votes (270 precinct 1 and 212 precinct 2). Stevens was the only candidate on the

ballot, but Matthew Urban of 330 Williamsville Road received 211 write-in votes (109 precinct 1 and 102 precinct 2).

Contests on the ballot included Water Commissioner and Sewer Commissioner. Three candidates vied for one three year term as Water Commissioner. The winner was Catherine P. Chase, 120 Hardwick Road with 289 votes (154 precinct 1 and 135 precinct 2). Cory C. Bombredi, 473 Wauwinet Road, had 222 votes (108 pre-

cinct 1 and 114 precinct 2) and Michele Lynn Fatcheric, 107 James St. had 164 votes (110 precinct 1 and 54 precinct 2).

Candidate for re-election Matthew R. LaPointe, 346 Coldbrook Road, won another three year term as Sewer Commissioner with 433 votes (225 precinct 1 and 208 precinct 2). His challenger, Devin E. Resnik, 14 School Street North received 167 votes (95 precinct 1 and 72 precinct 2).

There were also two ballot

questions. Question 1 passed with 387 (218 precinct 1 and 169 precinct 2) in favor of exempting from the provisions of Proposition 2 ½ the bond issued to purchase and equip the new fire truck and 280 opposed (149 precinct 1 and 131 precinct 2).

Question 2 was a non-binding advisory opinion on a dam located on the Prince River near Flaherty Road. It failed to pass with 440 opposed (252 precinct 1 and 188 precinct 2) and 254 in favor (133 precinct 1 and

121 precinct 2).

“A no vote means means that you are not in support of the Select Board pursuing Town ownership of the Dam and the current conditions will remain in effect.” “A yes vote on this question means you are in support of the Select Board pursuing Town ownership of the Dam by requesting an appropriation and other necessary votes at Town Meeting. A yes vote does not require the Select Board take any particular action and no actions will be

taken until all proper Town Meeting authorizations have been obtained.”

All other candidates were unopposed on the ballot. Joshua E. Smith, 80 Pleasant St., candidate for re-election, received 579 votes (308 precinct 1 and 271 precinct 2) for three year term as moderator. Ellen Glidden won another three year Town Clerk term with 622 votes (343 precinct 1 and 279 precinct 2).

Also re-elected were

See ELECTION, page 6

Regional Dispatch District Informational Meeting held in Rutland

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
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RUTLAND – The Rutland Public Library held a joint meeting regarding a new Regional Emergency Communications District.

The Towns of Barre, Hubbardston, Oakham, Rutland, and Warren are exploring a shift to a new Regional Emergency Communications District, a jointly owned and governed approach to emergency dispatch services. Representatives from each of the five towns, including members of each Town’s select boards, Town Administration, Police and Fire attended the joint meeting to see the informational presentation of this possible new model for a Regional Dispatch District.

Giving the presentation was Communications Director at Rutland Regional Emergency Communications Center Mike Moriarty, Rutland Town Administrator Austin Cyganiewicz, Deputy Director of RRECC Elizabeth DeFosse, Thomas Kennedy from the Collins Center, Stephen Foley, and Director of Special Projects for the Massachusetts State 911 Department Peter Kinnas.

A PowerPoint presentation was provided and

shared the feasibility study update from the Collins Center, a draft district agreement chapter, an operational and technical discussion and soon an open discussion featuring questions, comments and concerns from representatives of the five named towns that could make up this regional dispatch district.

The RRECC is a center that provides enhanced 911 services, police, fire protection, and emergency medical services. The RECC is the first point of reception of a 911 call. This center provides services to the communities of Barre, Hubbardston, Oakham, Rutland, and Warren.

Early in the PowerPoint presentation several representatives of the five towns had a series of questions regarding staffing. Is dispatch staffing based on the population that is being served was one of the big questions. If there was population increase or if additional communities wanted to be a part of the district along with the five original towns, there would have to be additional staff to cover the call volume.

The goal of this district is to have a responsible budget and create a fair

See DISPATCH MEETING, page 6

Young sewers give back to library



Submitted photo

The young sewers display the quilt they donated to the library along with their instructor Pam Hinckley. The lap quilt will be raffled off on May 8. Raffle tickets may be purchased at the Paige Memorial Library.

HARDWICK – Each year in January, February, and March Pam Hinckley, a former Hardwick Public School teacher, a seamstress and expert knitter, volunteers her services and skills to teach two classes in knitting, one for teens and tweens and one for adults.

It is always a joy to hear the laughter and happy talk at Pam’s workshops. This year she offered a sewing class “Kids Can Sew.”

The library provided two sewing machines, Pam brought one and three students brought their own. At the end of the class Pam gave

her machine to the student, who learned on it.

Students practiced using the machines, then made pincushions, cloth bags with handles and zippered cases. For their final project they made a lap size quilt with help from Pam. The pattern is a ‘coin’ quilt where pieces of fabric are sewn or stacked, like coins.

The students donated their quilt to the library with the request that it be used to raise funds for library programming. People may stop by the library to purchase a chance to win the quilt. The quilt will be on display until

Thursday, May 8 when the winning ticket will be drawn. All are proud of these young people, their dedication to learning a new skill, their generosity, and their community support.

The Paige Memorial Library are celebrating Hardwick, its love of libraries and its history. Quilts play a big part in Hardwick history. The early Ladies Library Society made quilts to raise money for books.

In 2000, the book quilt that hangs in the library today was created by Pam Hinckley, Joann Benoit and Kaye Boothman. Its design

honors the library and the families of Hardwick, who decorated cloth to represent a book on a bookcase.

Historically, quilt making was a necessity for many families. Quilts kept people warm and were an important recycling practice. The library staff are calling the “Kids Can Sew” quilt the “Celebrate Hardwick Quilt” because it is preserving an historic skill and tradition of quilts for the library.

People are invited to come to the Paige Memorial Library to see the Book Quilt and the Celebrate Hardwick Quilt.

Kevin Welsh is raising awareness for Long COVID

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
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WILBRAHAM - Kevin Welsh is raising awareness for Long COVID, letting others know they are not alone.

Welsh, 33, is a lifelong resident of Wilbraham and got COVID for the first time on October 1, 2023. He was an academic advisor and professor at Southern New Hampshire University at the time and, before the pandemic, was a teacher at Minnechaug Regional High School.

“I went the whole time without getting it. We had been keeping up with our vaccinations, we were doing everything we were supposed to be doing, but it gets ya. It

gets everybody at some point, so I got it,” Welsh said. “I wasn’t hospitalized, but I was mostly really sick and it just never got better. Usually people with a COVID infection, a week to 10 days they’re back on their feet. We got three, four, five weeks down the line and the only thing that was better was I wasn’t testing positive anymore.”

Welsh still had all the symptoms, including loss of taste and smell, fever, body aches, debilitating fatigue, cough and respiratory and cognitive problems. He, also, experiences vocal problems as due to the inflammation from the virus, the vocal folds in his throat “are actively closing off my airway covering my voice box.”

“I’ve had three rounds of Botox injections into my throat to try to help and they haven’t helped. I have another



Photos courtesy of Kevin Welsh

Kevin Welsh, pictured right, stands with his father outside Gillette Stadium, the home of the New England Patriots, with a sign reading “I’m Fighting Long COVID. Pats Inspire Me!” that was signed by numerous players. Welsh is raising awareness for Long COVID

Selectmen discuss possible tuition agreement with Quaboag

By Paula Ouimette
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NORTH BROOKFIELD – Board of Selectmen Chair Jason Petraitis brought up the possibility of entering into a tuition agreement with the Quaboag Regional Middle High School at this past Tuesday night’s meeting.

In a recent interview with Petraitis, he stated that he initiated a Zoom meeting with Quaboag’s Superintendent of Schools Stephen Duff last week, along with some of North Brookfield’s committee chairs and Town Accountant.

Petraitis said there are still a lot of questions that need to be answered, to determine if this is the right move for the town.

“We need to talk about it to answer those questions,” Petraitis said. “My hope

and goal was to have these committee chairs [School, Finance, Selectmen] go back to their respective committees and come up with these questions that need to be answered.”

Petraitis said the town spent the past several years exploring a regionalization agreement with the Quaboag Regional School District, which did not continue after the Quaboag Regional School Committee voted against accepting the amended regionalization agreement in a close vote.

“It didn’t come to fruition unfortunately,” Petraitis said. Petraitis said the town has been aware that funding its school district’s budget was going to become increasingly difficult, and even formed a

See TUITION, page 10



See WELSH, page 7

News of the Towns



ROUND TOWN

by Ellenor Downer
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Historical Society program postponed

The Barre Historical Society program planned for Sunday, April 6 and featuring Christie Higginbottom and Bruce Craven to discuss their book “Finding William Lewis,” is postponed. The event was not held due to illness. The new date will be announced as soon as a new date is confirmed.

Rabies clinic

Second Chance Animal Services will hold a low-cost vaccine clinics on Saturday, April 19from 9 a.m.-noon at the Barre Public Safety Building, located at 655 South St. in Barre. Rabies and distemper vaccines will be available for \$18 each, and microchips for \$22. Both clinics are open to cats and dogs from any community. Advance registration is recommended, as space is limited and same-day availability is not guaranteed. Pet owners can register online by visiting www.secondchance-animals.org/scasconnect-north-brookfield.

Bocce League

Boccee League at American Legion Post 2, 450 South Barre Road, Barre will start Monday, May 5 at 6 p.m. and end on Monday, Sept. 29. There will be no matches on Memorial Day and Labor Day. The fee will be \$5 a week as in past seasons, but paid in two installments of \$50, one at the beginning of the season and the second in the middle of the season. To register, people may call 978-355-2730, leave a name and phone number or call Scott Tourtellot at 508-320-9899 or Joe Petracone at 978-660-8730.

American Legion Auxiliary

The April meeting of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 2 will be held on the Monday, April 14 at 7 p.m. in the American Legion Post, 450 South Barre Road. Refreshments will be served by Becky, Robin and Sonja. There will be a penny sale so please bring your goodies.

Historical Society hosts repair fair

On Saturday, April 26, the Barre Historical Society invites everyone to their first ever Repair Fair on the grounds of the Barre Historical Society and Museum, 18-20 Common St., from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in honor of Earth Day. This is a free community event focused on repairing things where a person with expertise in fixing various household items, like electronics, clothing, furniture, houseplants, knife sharpening, etc. or other items, volunteers their time to help people repair broken belongings instead of throwing them away. They essentially teach and offer repair skills. This reduces waste while fostering a sense of community.

Senior center information fair

On Wednesday, April 23 at 10 a.m. at the Barre/Hardwick Senior Center, 557 South Barre Road, will hold a free information fair. Attendees will explore a wide-range of local resources and discover the wealth of information, services and opportunities. They will learn about local businesses, community organizations, educational programs and connect with experts in the field. This is a great chance to find what they need and meet their neighbors. There will be raffle prizes and this event is free and open to the public. No registration is required.

Lincoln program

The Barre Congregational Church Women’s Fellowship hosts a program on Abraham Lincoln with former State Senator Stephen Brewer on Monday, April 14 at 7 p.m. at the church, 30 Park St. Brewer will bring Lincoln to life through stories and historical antidotes. People are invited to come early at 6:30 p.m. for light refreshments and conversation.

Editorial deadline reminder

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

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

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

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

Please contact Pat James 413-726-8661.

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Historical Society merchandise available at local shop

BARRE – The Barre Historical Society and Museum now has a space at The Commonplace Market, Common Street, at the entrance where people can find some of their merchandise for sale.

Currently, there are long-sleeve tee shirts, the 250th commemorative ornament and aluminum cups, books by James Sullivan and Dr. Barbara Finan, Barre High Yearbooks and booklets on the 200th Bicentennial and one detailing the Barre Cemeteries too More merchandise including maps and postcards will soon be available.

The Barre Historical Society, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, is always recruiting new members. All the work is accomplished by volunteers, who are eager to preserve Barre’s fascinating history so it will be available to present and future generations.

An Individual membership costs \$25 per year, and a family can join for \$40



Submitted photo

This is the display case at The Commonplace Market with various Barre Historical Society and Museum merchandise for sale.

per year. Other than paying annual dues, membership carries no obligation,

although the society hopes they will attend events and/or meetings when possible.

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 14. 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 – Butter chicken, seasoned rice, winter blend vegetables, vanilla mousse, Italian bread

TUESDAY – Salisbury steak, garlic mashed potatoes, Tuscan vegetables, fresh fruit, sandwich roll

WEDNESDAY – American chop suey,

roasted California vegetables, baked apples, Lorna Doone cookies, whole wheat bread

THURSDAY – Maple glazed money, sour cream/chive mashed potatoes, carrots, chocolate cake, diet = half piece cake, marble rye bread

FRIDAY – Lemon pepper haddock, rice pilaf, peas, fruited ambrosia, pumpernickel 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.

Food Pantry holds monthly distribution

BARRE – The next two Barre Food Pantry distribution will occur on Thursday, April 17 from 5:30-7 p.m.

The Barre Food Pantry volunteers strive to continue to fulfill their mission to get food to hungry and food insecure clients. The pantry must also continue to protect clients, volunteers and the larger community from the spread of 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 has considered changing how the pantry currently operates, but has decided that the most responsible path forward is to continue to operate as we have since March of 2020.

In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients April 17 will again be “drive-through” style distribution. 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.

Volunteers should not arrive on April 17 without first contacting 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 on the Barre Food Pantry by visiting

http://www.barrefoodbank.org/index.htm and the Barre Food Pantry Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/Barre-Food-Pantry-100156068300314/.

HUBBARDSTON

by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

Library trustees offer scholarships

It’s scholarship season again. The Hubbardston Public Library Trustees will offer up to two two \$500 scholarships for 2025. Applications in electronic form and paper are available by visiting the library website at www.hubbardstonpubliclibrary.org. Paper copies are also available at the local secondary school guidance counselor office, the front desk at the Hubbardston Public Library, 7 Main St. and the Hubbardston Town Clerk office at 48 Gardner Road. Submissions must be received or postmarked no later than April 30, 2025. If people have any questions, they may email HPLScholarship@gmail.com.

Hubbardston Lions Scholarships

The Hubbardston Lions Club Scholarship Committee is now accepting applications for 2025 annual scholarships. Hubbardston seniors graduating from Quabbin Regional or Monty Tech Regional Schools and going onto higher education are eligible for two \$1,500 scholarships. They may pick up applications in the Guidance offices at the schools. Applications must be completed and signed onto Lions Scholarship Committee by Monday, May 5 for review and selection of winners.

Scrap metal fundraiser

Hubbardston Boy Scout Troop 22 will hold a scrap metal fundraiser on Saturday, April 19 from 8 a.m.-noon. Drop off will be at Curtis Recreation Field, Route 68. In addition to scrap metal, car and truck batteries will be accepted for a fee of \$10 each. Scrap metal is \$1 per item or \$10 per truck load. No tires, liquids, gases, plastics, monitors and lithium batteries will be accepted.

Nomination papers

Nomination papers for the upcoming Annual Town Election on Tuesday, June 10 are available. The last day to obtain nomination papers from the Town Clerk’s office is Tuesday, April 22. Nomination papers may be picked up at the Town Clerk’s office during regular business hours Mondays from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. and Tuesday through Thursday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Town Offices have moved to 48 Gardner Road. A minimum of 23 signatures of registered voters in Hubbardston are required. Papers must be returned on Tuesday, April 22 at 5 p.m. People may call the Town Clerk’s office directly via phone at 978-928-1400, extension 202 or by emailing townclerk@hubbardstonma.gov.

Senior Center

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

Corrections

The article “Looking at Hubbardston Over Time,” which appeared in the April 3 edition of the Barre Gazette had several corrections.

Gary Kangas is the president of the Historical Commission and a member of the Hubbardston Historical Society, which are two different entities. The correct website for the Hubbardston Historical Society is https://www.hubbardstonhistorical.org/. Lastly the photograph at the bottom of page 6 is Hubbardston, Michigan.

NB PTO Presents

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Opinion

Letters to Editor
Grassroots energy focuses on Town Meeting

We wanted to take a moment to thank each and every one of you who stood with us during the write-in campaign for Matthew D. Urban for Select Board.

While we did not win this time, the voices of over 200 Barre residents were heard loud and clear and that's something to be proud of. In a low-turnout election with just 16.7% of registered voters casting ballots, your efforts made a real impact. Matt earned 211 write-in votes, a strong and meaningful show of support that would not have been possible without you.

This campaign was always about more than one race. It was about restoring transparency, accountability and fiscal responsibility to our town's leadership. It was about giving voters a choice when it mattered most and thanks to all of you, that choice existed.

From standing out on cold sidewalks to spreading the word online, every sign, every share and every conversation helped shape this moment. The support, encouragement, and grassroots energy that grew around this campaign has reminded all of us what community engagement should look like.

Matt stepped forward not because he wanted a title, but because so many of us asked him to and he answered that call with humility and strength. That's real leadership.

I look forward to growing this movement by supporting candidates and elected officials, who share our beliefs. We need transparency, real fiscal responsibility, and leadership that prioritizes fairness, follow-through, and the long-term health of our town—not just short-term wins. Our work isn't over and the momentum we've built together is only just beginning.

By standing together, we've planted a seed and we intend to help it grow. With over 200 strong, we have a base of informed, engaged residents who can show up, speak out, and take part in shaping what happens next. Let's take that energy to Town Meeting and make a real impact where it matters most. We don't have to sit back and wait for the town to do the right thing together at Town Meeting, we can make that happen ourselves.

Let's keep showing up. Let's keep asking questions. Let's keep working toward a better Barre together.

With gratitude,
Cory Bombredi
Barre

Reader supplies some info on Old Reservoir

The pond called Old Reservoir was built simply for private recreation, and so it pretty much remains.

It was never a drinking water source and the Water Department has said that it's not useful for drinking water. The Fire Department has said it's not accessible enough to be useful for fire fighting.

The State's engineers have said it's not probable that water impounded in the northern corner of town has much effect on town wells four or five miles away in South Barre.

It was claimed in this space that removal of the dam "focuses on today, without considering future consequences." I disagree. My primary concern about keeping the dam as a town-owned property is about what happens in the future when inevitably repairs will be needed. That is one unpredictable and potentially large cost. Another is the on-going cost of insuring the town in case of flooding or damage caused by the dammed river. And finally, restoring the Prince River to its natural flow is all about the long-term health of the watershed.

Elizabeth Martin
Barre

Guest Column
Urgent need for better treatments for Guillain-Barré Syndrome

By Lisa Butler

Five-year-olds can be goofy.

That was my first thought several years ago when my son stumbled and fell to the ground. But when he failed to get up and told us that his legs hurt, my husband and I grew worried. By the time we got him to a doctor, his mystery sickness had progressed. He couldn't walk down the hall to the exam room without bracing himself against the wall.

It's difficult to describe the sheer terror I felt in that moment. His body was seizing up, but he remained aware of his surroundings. Worst of all, there was nothing I could do to fix it.

Eventually we learned that we were among the thousands of American families affected each year by Guillain-Barré Syndrome or GBS, a rare, debilitating neuromuscular condition that can strike anyone at a moment's notice.

Despite GBS's life-altering impact, treatment options today are limited, outdated and often inadequate.

Developing more effective therapies for this terrible disease should be an urgent public health priority.

Just diagnosing GBS is a challenge. An initial battery of tests on our son revealed nothing. His paralysis progressed rapidly within hours he could not stand or lift his arms above his waist. A spinal tap 24 hours after the onset of symptoms showed elevated protein levels. At that point, our doctor knew it was GBS.

GBS doesn't discriminate. Everyone from young children to the elderly can fall victim. GBS typically strikes without warning and moves at lightning-fast speed. Some patients experience only mild to moderate symptoms, while others lose the ability to chew, swallow or even breathe without a ventilator. Ultimately, about one in 20 people with the condition die from it.

Since the disease moves at such a fast clip, it's critical to identify and treat it promptly. Sadly, however, patients who show up at the

See BUTLER, page 5



In Past Pages

5 years (April 16, 2020)

Last Friday, April 10, the Barre Family Health center, an affiliate of UMass Memorial Medical Center, became a testing site for COVID-19. Timothy Clark, manager of ambulatory and procedural services, said the testing site at the Barre Family Health Center, 151 Worcester Road, provided testing in the Barre area so people did not have to travel to Worcester. Anyone with an order for the COVID-19 test from a UMass Memorial doctor is eligible to participate. People with the test order should drive to the tent following the cones and signs. The first step is to show the doctor's order, take patient information and register for the test. People stay in their car throughout the entire process.

The Hubbardston Select Board voted April 6 to postpone the Annual Town Election from Tuesday, June 9 to Tuesday, June 30. Town Clerk Laurie J. Reed said there were 16 open spots on the election ballot. She said postponing the election would give potential candidates more time to safely secure nomination signatures. She said she would send out information about nomination papers. People may obtain nomination papers by appointment with the Town Clerk.

Hardwick's Select Board meeting on Zoom's web conferencing application, held a pole hearing with National Grid and took care of a variety of issues. They heard from Board of Health member Tex Sarabia and Emergency Management Director Eric Volheim. Volheim updated them on all matter of COVID-19 said to his knowledge there have not been any more confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Hardwick or New Braintree. He said the town has received two sets of supplies, one of hand sanitizer and another of antiseptic cleaner, which he has shared among departments.

10 years (April 16, 2015)

The Quabbin Regional School District Chair Mark Brophy welcomed the new member from Barre, David Deschamps at last Thursday's

Look Back –
Barre library – 1992



Charles Connington, from left, signs a book for Samuel Puliafico,, who said he last visited the library 34 years ago and was glad to return on such a special occasion.

meeting. Deschamps along with Barre school committee member, "Lee" Wolanin, will be chaperoning the eighth grade trip to Washington, D.C. Brophy said the committee would be getting an additional member from Hubbardston after the June 9 town election.

A drawing by Petr Wronski of Barre has been accepted by the Muscular Dystrophy Association's art collection. The collection features artwork by people with neuro-muscular diseases from across the country. Wronski's "Race to the Summit" is a pencil drawing that depicts several animals clustered together in a race up a road. The road is lined with gigantic flower blossoms and the end of the road is a human figure that seems to be waving the creatures onward.

Timothy Toomey of 304 Ware Corner Road and Richard Wilbur of 409 New Braintree Road turned in nomination papers to the Town Clerk for a three-year term on the Board of Selectmen. Leo McCaffrey decided not to run for another term.

25 years (April 13, 2000)

A Barre resident appeared before Selectmen Monday night to ask what rights residents have in connection with the placement of cell towers. He questioned the zoning laws regarding towers being located in residential areas. He said a tower has been planned across the street from his home and several contractors have been on his property with requesting his permission. Balloon testing has been done in several areas of town recently in anticipation of constructing cell towers.

Five proposals were received in response to a request for proposals or a senior center in Barre, Selectmen said at Monday night's meeting. The bidder and the property locations include: Ellsworth Builders land and a new building to be located beyond 685 Valley Road; Central Plains Association land and an existing building located at 57 Peach St.; Florence

See PAST PAGES, page 5

Election letters to the editor welcome

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

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

Campaign news

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

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

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Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

Things have not been so serene at Serenity Hill this week.

On the one nice weather day, I spent part of the day raking leaves and filling three wheel barrels and one tarp of leaves. The gardens are starting to sprout so I need to get more leaves off the gardens.

I noticed several plants of crocus and there are still snow drops. Once I get the gardens raked, I like to label the plants because being 88 years old my memory of their names seem to be lost. I have diagrams of each garden and index cards for each plant so that helps in the labeling.

The Epimediums come up fairly early, but the hostas come later. Last year I put several hostas in pots and hung them in various trees. I need to get down to the Wildflower garden and rake some more as many of those plants come early.

I made a batch of brownies and the Sandy's chicken dish this week.

Here is a recipe for chicken breast that is a little different from the one I usually use.

CHICKEN SCHNITZEL
3 large skinless, boneless chicken breast, about 12 ounces each
1/2 teaspoon black pepper
1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
1 cup all purpose flour

2 large eggs, slightly beaten

1 1/2 cups seasoned breadcrumbs or cracker crumbs

Vegetable oil for frying (I like to use butter and oil)

Directions:

Put the flour, egg and bread crumbs in different dishes. First coat the chicken with pepper and garlic powder. Then coat the chicken in flour, egg and then bread crumbs. Fry in the oil and butter until golden. I keep each batch on a wire rack in the oven to keep them warm. This is nice served with green beans, asparagus or a tossed salad.

This and That

This week I was given a batch of skeins of yarn so I decided to make another band of Granny Squares for a head band to use when the weather is cool outside. You make five Granny squares about five inches each and attach them into a circle. I sew the squares together. I find them more comfortable then wearing a hat. I was never a hat person.

I have been seriously thinking of getting rid of my orchid plants. It seems they only have one set of blossoms a year. The blossoms do last a long time, but they take up all my window space. Soon I can put all the houseplants outside on the deck and that will be a blessing.

Recently I did a lot of cuttings from the coleus plants and made a big pot of them ready to be put on the front deck. They usually grow to be about 24 inches high and they like the shade.

A very nice gentleman brought us some pastry from the Senior Center and I really appreciate it because I can not leave Ken alone to go there. My handyman usually gets it for us and we really appreciate it.

I spent one day trimming the old growth on the four blueberry bushes, which are close to the house. I also took down a wooden fence that had started to fall apart that was next to the bushes.

The handyman is trimming the apple trees and the fruit trees. He will be bringing me some wheel barrels of wood chips from a neighbor, which are stored out by the garden. I am hoping to get a load of aged manure also. Things need to be fertilized.

I usually check E Bay on the computer each day to see if there is anything new on Hubbardston items. This week I found a postcard of Elm Farm that I did not have. That is a house on Kruse Road. I made a copy and sent it to the family.

Have a nice week and hopefully the sun will shine a few days. I know April showers bring mayflowers but.....



Eggplant parmesan anyone?

Just when you think you are done planning your garden you come across something else to grow. What did it for me was a trip to the Dollar Store where I found the seed packs priced at four for \$1.25. What a deal!

While I wouldn't spend \$3.99 for a package of eggplant seeds, I could shell out approximately 32 cents, and if I end up with a half dozen fruit it would be worth the investment.

We grow eggplant at Old Sturbridge Village, but it is the ornamental type, the kind that looks seriously like pure white eggs hanging from a fuzzy gray-green plant! I plan to grow "Black Beauty," the variety that holds promise of parmesan grinders and saucy pasta dishes.

It's been a few years since I have grown eggplant. I stopped growing it because I never seemed to pick it at the right time – either it was too early or too late.

So, why don't we learn together how to grow eggplant successfully and harvest it correctly?

Eggplant is a member of the Solanaceae family, making it cousins with tomatoes

and peppers. Like its relatives, eggplant seeds need to be started indoors, eight to 10 weeks prior to the last frost.

By sowing the seed yesterday, I just sneak in to the eight week mark. If the thought of growing eggplant excites you, don't let the calendar dissuade you. Any head start is still a head start!

The seeds like a warmer germination temperature, with some experts calling for 80 degrees! When the seedlings show their first set of true leaves, transplant them out of the seed pack and into six packs. A grow on temperature of 72 degrees coupled with supplemental light will produce nice, stocky seedlings.

Another trick to stocky seedlings is the brush method. A couple of times a day run the top of your hand gently over the seedlings. Depending on how quickly they grow, another transplanting maybe necessary, this time into a four-inch pot.

Be careful not to disturb the roots too much; while tomatoes and peppers don't seem to mind transplanting, eggplant can be stunted a bit, so tackle this task tenderly.

About mid-May preheat your garden space in preparation for planting out the seedling. I lay down black plastic for peppers and will also use it for my eggplant transplants.

After the plants have been hardened off for a week or so by gradual exposure to the elements, it's time to get them in the ground. I cut "Xs" in the plastic about 18" apart, and mix some compost into the soil under each X. The seedlings are then installed just slightly lower into the soil than where they were growing in the pot.

If you can cover them with a floating row cover to help modulate the heat and keep flea beetles and Colorado potato beetles at bay, all the better.

I read that northern gardeners can expect to get four to six fruit per plant. Folks with a longer growing season can sometimes gain 12 to 15!

Once the fruit appear glossy, they can be picked, even before they reach their full size. If you wait until the skin is dull, the fruits are seedy and not at their prime any longer.

I am excited to see if my 32 cent investment will be fruitful. Fingers crossed!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 33 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

OAKHAM, continued from page 3

behind the church. A breakfast will follow the service in Fellowship Hall. Easter Sunday service will be held at 10 a.m.

Office hours Sen. Durant and Rep. Berthiaume

Staff from state Sen. Peter Durant's office and state Rep. Donald Berthiaume office will be available to meet with constituents to assist with issue involving state agencies or to hear legislative ideas and concerns. As always, staff would be happy to set up meetings at another time with any constituent who needs assistance. Kim Mongeau (Ring), Communications Director office of Sen. Peter J. Durant Worcester and Hampshire District at 413-896-0794. Donna M. Farmer, Chief of Staff Rep. Donald Berthiaume fifth Worcester District at 774-402-4742. Office hours will be held at the Oakham Town Hall on Monday, April 14 at 12:15 p.m.

PAST PAGES, continued from page 4

land and an existing building located at 40 Main St. or land and an existing building located at 20 Mechanic St.

The Hubbardston Business Association is sponsoring a Candidate's Night at the Center School library on April 10 at 7:30 p.m. Though only the tree-year Selectman's position being vacated by Dennis O'Donnell is being contested, two strong candidates have come forward. The two running for the Selectman's position are Thomas J. Colyer of Brigham Road and Michael G. Walsh of Williamsville Road. Both are professional men with strong business backgrounds.

8 years (April 16, 1987)

The Barre Selectmen granted the Quabbin Community Band Auxiliary permission to hold band concerts on the Common coming summer at their meeting Monday, April 12. The band will play on the bandstand

on Sunday nights from 7:30-9:15 p.m. from June 14 to Aug. 16. Conductor Beth Bryant asked the Selectmen for financial support. Bryant said this is the only place the band plays for free.

Voting at the Annual Town Election on Monday, April 6 was very light, only 14% of the registered voters turned out. This was to be expected because of little competition, that for the office of tree warden. Of the 676 registered voters, 94 voted. Gerald Wiersma of Old Turnpike Road was elected Selectman to replace Richard G. Riley, who chose not to run.

Students from Quabbin Regional Jr. Sr. High School were inducted into membership of the Excelsior Chapter of the National Honor Society in an evening ceremony t the high school on Wednesday, April 1, 1987. Twenty-nine members were elected by a five member faculty council or meeting high standards of scholarship, service, leadership and character.

BUTLER, continued from page 4

stress or dehydration and sent home. In many such cases, the muscle weakness keeps intensifying and patients end up back at the hospital practically paralyzed.

Despite abundant progress in many other disease areas in recent years, there is still no therapy approved specifically for GBS in the United States. The two commonly used to treat GBS, intravenous

immunoglobulin and plasma exchange, have to be administered in a number of courses and can take weeks to take effect.

With the current standard of care, 40% of GBS patients will still need to be admitted to the ICU. One-quarter will require mechanical ventilation. Close to one-fifth can't walk within one year of treatment and about half experience pain for upwards of three years following recovery.

The good news is that

scientists could be on the verge of a paradigm-shifting breakthrough. As we speak, researchers are working overtime to develop therapies that, for the first time, specifically target GBS. One experimental treatment has shown the potential to cut total recovery time and thus the amount of time the disease has to progress, in half.

These advancements offer hope that, one day, patients of all ages whether they're five or 85 will have access to fast-

er, more effective treatments for GBS. With better treatments, we could finally ease the burden of this terrifying, debilitating disease.

Note: Lisa Butler is president and CEO of GBS | CIDP Foundation International, a global nonprofit organization supporting individuals and their families affected by Guillain-Barré syndrome, chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy and related conditions. (gbs-cidp.org).

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Rabies clinics take place April 19

Second Chance Animal Services is making it easier for pet owners to keep their pets healthy with two low-cost vaccine clinics on Saturday, April 19.

The first clinic will take place on April 19 from 9 a.m.-noon at the Barre Public Safety Building, located at 655 South St., Barre. Later that afternoon, a second clinic will be held from 1-3 p.m. in Templeton, co-hosted by the Winchendon/Templeton Regional Animal Control at 381 Baldwinville Road in Templeton.

Rabies and distemper vaccines will be available for \$18 each and microchips for \$22. Second Chance CEO and founder Sheryl Blancato emphasized the importance of accessible veterinary care, stating, "We know that access to veterinary care is a challenge for many pet owners. By bringing these clinics directly to communities, we can help more pets stay protected from preventable diseases."

An estimated 30% of pet owners do not take their pets to a veterinarian annually for

preventive care, leaving them vulnerable to life-threatening illnesses like parvovirus and distemper in dogs and panleukopenia in cats. These clinics provide an affordable way to keep pets safe and up to date on essential vaccines.

Both clinics are open to cats and dogs from any community. Advance registration is recommended, as space is limited and same-day availability is not guaranteed. Pet owners can register online at www.secondchanceanimals.org/scasconnect-north-brookfield.

Senior center to hold information fair

BARRE – The Barre/Hardwick Senior Center, 557 South Barre Road, will hold a free information fair on Wednesday, April 23 at 10 a.m.

People will explore a wide-range of local resources and discover the wealth of information, services and

opportunities. They will learn about local businesses, community organizations, educational programs and connect with experts in the field. This is a great chance to find what they need and meet their neighbors.

There will be raffle prizes. This event is free and open

to the public. No registration is required. People may follow them on Facebook-Barre MA Senior Center for more details and updated.

The Barre/Hardwick Senior Center is open Monday – Thursday from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

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ELECTION,
continued from page 1

Christopher J. Jenkins, 788 Dana Road, for a three year term to Board of Assessors with 572 votes (309 precinct 1 and 263 precinct 2) and Anthony F. Mobilio, 414 North Brookfield Road, for a three year term to Board of Health with 566 votes (305 precinct 1 and 261 precinct 2). Suzanne M. Person, 952 Wauwinet Road won another five year term to the Barre Housing Authority with 540 votes (288 precinct 1 and 252 precinct 2).

Voters elected three Constables for three year terms. All were candidates for re-election. Dennis G. Fleming, 7 Exchange St. Apt. 3, had 571 votes (306 precinct 1 and 265 precinct 2); Joseph Thomas Jalbert Jr., 14 Valley Road, had 479 votes (249 precinct 1 and 230 precinct 2) and Michael A. LaRose, 196 Mechanic St., had 486 votes (263 precinct 1 and 223 precinct 2).

Margaret N. Petracone, 600 West St., won another three year term as Felton

Field Commissioners with 583 votes (319 precinct 1 and 264 precinct 2). Voters also elected two Library Trustees for three year terms. They were Lisa Marselle, 100 Pleasant St., with 548 votes (295 precinct 1 and 253 precinct 2) and Martha L. Pearson, 320 Oakham Road, with 534 votes (281 precinct 1 and 253 precinct 2), both candidates for re-election.

Raymond Robert Beaudoin, 460 Wheelwright Road, won a one year term as Planning Board Associate Member with 530 votes (284 precinct 1 and 246 precinct 2). Michael A. LaRose, 196 Mechanic St. won a five year term as Planning Board member with 539 votes (292 precinct 1 and 247 precinct 2).

Voters also elected two Quabbin Regional School Committee members to three year terms. Richard G. Allan, 28 Kendall St. got 520 votes (273 precinct 1 and 247 precinct 2) and Mark T. Brophy, 90 Ruggles Lane, got 546 votes (295 precinct 1 and 251 precinct 2). Both were candidates for re-election.

DISPATCH MEETING,
continued from page 1

district model where each Town gets an equal vote. Many representatives across the five towns had questions about the process of how other towns could buy into the district if they wanted to join.

According to Rutland TA Austin Cyganiewicz, a district agreement, if formed, may not have a buy in option. One representative mentioned that there has to be operational assessments and capital assessments to look at when considering the needs of each community and that the coverage is their to have dispatch meet the needs of the communities and provide a better service.

Director Moriarty talked about an existing district model that is currently operating in Massachusetts and believe it is a model that this district is considering to adopt.

The model is based off the model by the Southeastern Massachusetts Regional Emergency Communications Center. According to Moriarty, this model is growing substantially.

When staffing was brought up again during questions and answers, Moriarty mentioned that the staffing would be monitored. However, If a district will be formed the dispatchers would have to renegotiate contracts.

The amount of money being saved for each of the five towns was also a main concern. Moriarty would like to get this process started soon, otherwise it is possible some towns may join another regional center. Moriarty and Cyganiewicz believes that Rutland and the other four communities want this district.

Warren Town Administrator James Ferrera attended the session and explained to other community

representatives that this information is an option being presented to all five towns.

“Its an option so that this district model would have access to more state grants, resources,” Ferrera said. “We have to look outside the scope of things and try to attract more communities to fund this particular model.”

Back to the PowerPoint, Cyganiewicz explained that the operations committee would consist of each Town’s police and fire departments. Potential community savings include having adequate staff already and some overhead costs may happen and fall under contracts and technology. According to Moriarty, hiring more staff is a possibility. As of now, the director said they’re currently maxed out at the current facility.

If all five towns do come to an agreement, Moriarty believes they’re going to have to get a new building.

Warren Selectmen David Dufresne was wondering what the cost would be for each community for a new building and how would services and costs be distributed amongst the five to possibly six or seven towns, if they were to expand.

Cyganiewicz explained the purpose of this informational session is to possibly change governance. To get accurate numbers, the Towns have to agree unanimously to become a district first before getting any numbers. In other words, the amounts won’t be known right away.

“We can’t do anything without becoming a district first,” Cyganiewicz said.

It is ultimately each town’s decision to see if they want to go forward with the regional dispatch district. All Five towns (Barre, Hubbardston, Oakham, Rutland, and Warren) would have to say yes to move forward.

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Hubbardston receives Community Compact Grant

BOSTON – State Sen. Peter Durant, R-Spencer and State Rep. Donnie Berthiaume, R-Spencer, announce the town of Hubbardston was awarded \$23,300 from the Community Compact Cabinet’s program. The Fiscal Year 2025 IT

grant will help Hubbardston add an e-permitting system. “I’m please to see these grants being awarded to smaller communities like Hubbardston so that they can use technology to streamline services for residents,” Durant said.

The grant will help the town launch “Hubb Connect,” which will streamline permitting, modernize operations and improve how residents interact with local government. “This grant will help Hubbardston create a cohesive, online presence that

will be useful for residents,” Berthiaume said. “For a small rural town like Hubbardston, this early-phase support allows us to build smart, customized tools by combining emerging technology with the expertise of our in-house team –solutions

we simply couldn’t afford through off-the-shelf systems,” Town Administrator Nathan Boudreau said. “It also gives us the flexibility to re-purpose Town Meeting – invested dollars, making the most of every resource to deliver efficient,

responsive and modern public services,” according to Boudreau. “As our larger cities and towns adopt new technologies, it is crucial that we provide the support for smaller communities to do the same,” Durant said.

WELSH, continued from page 1

er one set for the end of the month and that’s the maximum they can do,” Welsh said.

He elaborated on the debilitating fatigue he experiences.

“I now get what is called nonrestorative sleep which means I’m asleep but my body does not recharge its batteries essentially. In order to get through the day I have to take several naps and there is almost a narcolepsy aspect to it as I will fall asleep mid-conversation, mid-bite of food or really any random time,” Welsh said. “I went from someone that just needed a few hours sleep to have a great day, to someone that would sleep 24 hours a day if I could. Since I’ve been battling Long COVID I crave sleep like people crave food.”

Other symptoms include developing blood problems he never had before, high blood pressure and becoming B12 anemic.

After many visits to his primary care, Welsh said it got to the point where they said “We can’t really help you,” sending him to a Long COVID clinic in Hartford, CT. There, he tried medications and nebulizers, physical therapy, speech therapy and cognitive therapy, which didn’t work.

“So I started there around December 2023 and then-and now--it’s still so new that there’s still not, really, a

ton that’s known about Long COVID. It’s mostly just trying to treat symptomatically and it doesn’t really work,” Welsh said.

He later got a phone call from the physical therapy that the clinic in was closing after “the doctor put in her resignation and didn’t tell any of the patients.”

After searching throughout Connecticut, New York, Rhode Island and the Boston area, Welsh went to Massachusetts General Hospital where he’s been ever since, with a team of seven or eight doctors who are heads of their departments. He now goes there several times a month to try to find answers, taking part in studies and experimental trials.

“Once we got into Boston with these doctors, they were very clear from day one that if I was not fully vaccinated and boosted, then my infection would have killed me,” Welsh said.

After getting Long COVID, Welsh shared he had to resign from his job at SNHU and could no longer do things such as going out to a restaurant.

“Life has paused. Everybody, the world, has gone back to normal. My world has not and we don’t know when it will. There’s a good chance these are things I deal with for the rest of my life,” Welsh said.

Another difficult thing for Welsh is when he wears a mask when going to the grocery store, sharing the reac-

tions he and others experienced.

“The looks, comments, that I get for wearing a mask in public and coughing and being winded. COVID is still so politicized that people--anyone who goes out in public with a mask--whether it’s me, my family, other people, we get criticized for it and it’s terrible. It shouldn’t be that way. At the end of the day, how does somebody doing something to protect themselves impact somebody else’s everyday life?” Welsh said.

Welsh added he kept this to himself “for a long time,” but decided to share his story to raise awareness.

“There’s 30 million people in the country dealing with Long COVID. Some people have been sick since COVID began in 2020. So, it’s something that needs to be talked about more, researched more, supported more,” Welsh said.

Since sharing his story, people have reached out to Welsh with their own stories and wristbands in the gray and teal LONG COVID colors that read, “Team Welsh” on one side with a ribbon and “Fight Long COVID” on the other side, were created by him and his former team at SNHU to stay connected and garner support. His doctors at MassGeneral also wear the wristbands and have had people reach out to them to learn more.

They are also sponsored by a local insurance agency owned by his father.

“It means the world to me that people want them, that people want to show me the support in what I’ve done,” Welsh said. “Everybody that’s gotten one has taken a picture of themselves wearing it, so I have a collage at home full of pictures that shows me I’m not doing this alone.”

This support has also expanded to the New England Patriots, who partnered with Team Welsh last summer after Welsh reached out to the team about his story and wanting to do something for his father’s 70th birthday. The team hosted the family during training camp “and went above and beyond to make sure I was safe” from a personal valet to a special roped-off area so people weren’t around him.

After the practice, the players came over to Welsh, who had a sign saying, “I’m fighting Long COVID. Patriots Inspire Me!” Numerous players signed it and also gave him a signed football, later spending time talking with him.

When Welsh reached out to the team again to thank them and shared about the wristbands, they responded within an hour asking for 50 to 75 wristbands for the players and staff.

“So, the entire Patriots roster, the coaching staff, the Kraft Family--the owners--all have these wristbands and a letter from me expressing my appreciation for their support and telling them my story so everyone there knows my

story,” Welsh said. “In the next week or so, we’re sending out enough for the roster of the Celtics.”

To date, Welsh added, almost 300 of these wristbands have been distributed, with more sought as people learn his story. The prior and current presidential administrations have, also, received these wristbands.

“It has nothing to do with politics. It’s about the position in the country, to have the most powerful person in the country aware of Long COVID and the fight that goes along with it. I don’t care what party you’re on. Just to have that support is incredible,” Welsh said.

He, also, has a goal of doing a fundraising event with the wristbands and community to support Long COVID research, expressing gratitude to his family--including his parents--the community and supporters for their love and support.

One thing Welsh wishes people knew about Long COVID was this: the impact on every person is different.

“I have met many people through this that have developed things like Type 1 Diabetes from Long COVID. I’ve met people that had to get pacemakers because of Long COVID, but they don’t have the cognitive issue, they don’t have the vocal issue, they don’t have the blood problem. So, it’s going to present itself differently to every person that has it, which is why it’s so hard for

people to diagnose it,” Welsh said.

He also encouraged people to keep pushing for support from their doctors or to seek a specialist to get the support and help they need.

“It’s going to take you time to find the doctors, but there are doctors out that will believe you, what you’re fighting and they will. They will help you,” Welsh said.

His message for the community was this: to be kind and to remember the kindness that was shown during the pandemic “to everyone that was putting their lives in jeopardy for us” from the Amazon and UPS drivers to the grocery store workers.

Also, remember and support those struggling with COVID or Long COVID today and not to leave them behind.

“COVID has impacted our lives forever, and personally, for the community, I just know what this community is capable of. I’ve lived here my whole life. I’ve seen this community rally behind any number of great people and worthy causes and to know that there’s some people already who now know the story are now getting my story out,” Welsh said. “I know that once it’s read and out there, that I’m going to have the whole community supporting someone who’s been raised and lived here for my entire life.”

To get your own Team Welsh wristband and learn more, email teamwelshlongcovid@gmail.com.



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Calendar of Events

THURSDAY, APRIL 10

PRESERVING THE RULE OF LAW – supporting and protecting a fair and impartial judiciary’ will be present today at 6 p.m.by the Honorable William J. Ritter, Associate Justice of the state Superior Court and member of the Massachusetts Judicial Speakers Bureau. He will be the Woods Memorial Library, 19 Pleasant St., Barre to give this talk. This presentation is free and open to the public; all are invited to attend.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

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

FRIENDS OF PAIGE LIBRARY SEED AND BAKE SALE will be held today from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Paige Memorial Library 87 Petersham Road, Hardwick. People may buy home baked goodies and choose some seeds for their garden. They will learn tips on seed starting and growing with special guest Paulina Borrego, UMass Science and Engineering Librarian, Mass Aggie Seed Librarian and the Common Seed program teaching gardening and seed saving. Children are welcome and can visit with the Easter Bunny and make a craft. People may email Director.paigelibrary@gmail.com or call 413-477-6704 for more information.

SUNDAY, APRIL 13

PUMPERNICKEL PUPPET SHOW will be held today at 2 p.m. in the New Braintree Town Hall, 20 Memorial Drive, New Braintree. The Friends of the New Braintree Library are hosting the show, Peter Rabbit. Pumpernickel Puppets are presented with a cast of colorful puppet characters, audience participation, live voices and sound effects and fast paced scripts that not only entertain, but stimulate children’s imagination and creativity. A demonstration period follows the performance giving the audience sound insight into what happens behind the scenes. The performance will last approximately 30 to 40 minutes and are appropriate for children ages three and up. This program is funded by the Hardwick/New Braintree Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency. This program is free and open to the public.

LANCASTER HISTORY IN REVIEW will be presented by the Lancaster Historical Society, today at 2 p.m. in Room 2 at the First Church of Sterling, 6 Meetinghouse Hill Road, Sterling. The lecture, illustrated with PowerPoint slides, will be presented by Heather Lennon, a local historian and President of the Lancaster Historical Society. A brief Annual Meeting for members will precede the program.

As the oldest town in Worcester County



Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

This week’s mystery photo is from Hubbardston. 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 14. Bill Bowles, Stephen Craven, Evelyn Luukko, Sherry Prescott and Jeremy Varnum correctly identified the photo. The photo last week was of the Gilbertville Post Office, Main Street, in the Gilbertville Village of Hardwick.

and incorporated in 1653, Lancaster has a rich history going back almost four hundred years. Highlighted will be the significant people, places and events that have shaped the town. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, people may call 978- 733-6907.

SUNDAY, APRIL 13

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHOIR’S CANTATA “Redeemer” will take place today at 3 pm. At East Brookfield Baptist Church, 262 East Main St., East Brookfield and on Sunday,

April 27 at 3 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Church, 131 Blaine Avenue, East Brookfield.

MONDAY, APRIL 14

FORMER STATE SEN. STEPHEN BREWER will bring Abraham Lincoln to life with stories and historical antidotes today at 7 p.m. at the Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St., Barre at 7 p.m. The Women’s Fellowship sponsors the program. The public is invited. People may arrive at 6:30 p.m. for light refreshments and conversation before the regular program at 7 p.m. Note: This is a change of date.

NEW BRAINTREE LIBRARY STORY TIME for preschoolers will take place today beginning at 9 am. The readings will include

“Fun Facts About Frogs” by Carmen Bredeson and “Animal Babies in Ponds and Rivers” by Jennifer Schofield. The next story time program for preschoolers on Monday, April 28 beginning at 9 a.m. The readings will include “Ducks Quack” by Pam Scheunemann and “Duckling Days” by Karen Wallace. This reading and crafts program is held at the library. Parental supervision is required. People may call the library at 508-867-7650 during regular business hours for more information.

RURAL FARMING FORUM will be held today from 5-7:30 p.m. in the Grand Room on the second floor of the West Brookfield Town Hall, 2 East Main St. ,West Brookfield. Anne Gobi, Director of Rural Affairs, will be the keynote speaker at the forum. All are welcome to come and speak with agencies and organizations working to support local farmers including the Quaboag Valley Food Policy Council, The Carrot Project, East Quabbin Land Trust, MDAR, Hardwick Farmers Co-op and more. For more information, people may email Eric.vonBleicken@wbrookfield.com

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

FREE ORGAN CONCERT with Italian

organist, Savatore Pronesti, takes place today from noon-1 p.m. at Mechanics Hall, 321 Main St., Worcester. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. All performances are open to the pubic and no registration is required. People may bring a brown bag lunch or purchase lunches there.

FRIDAY, APRIL 18

GRANDPARENTS AND KINSHIP CARE SUPPORT GROUP meets today from 9:30-11 a.m. at the Worcester Family Resource Center, 20 Cedar St., Worcester. The group meets in person for breakfast the third Friday of the month. For questions or to register, people may call Debbie at 508-796-6118 and leave their name and contact information.

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

GEOCACHE SCAVENGER HUNT sponsored with East Quabbin Land Trust today through Sunday, May 4. People may register now by visiting <https://eqlt.org/geocache-scamer-fund/>. The fee is \$20 per entry. On Sunday, May 4 at 2 p.m. their will be reveal party at EQLT offices, 120 Ridge Road, Hardwick.

RABIES CLINICS sponsored by Second Chance Animal Services will hold two low-cost vaccine clinics today. The first clinic will take place from 9 a.m.-noon at the Barre Public Safety Building, located at 655 South Street in Barre. Later that afternoon, a second clinic will be held from 1-3 p.m. in Templeton, co-hosted by the Winchendon/Templeton Regional Animal Control at 381 Baldwinville Road in Templeton. Rabies and distemper vaccines will be available for \$18 each and microchips for \$22. Both clinics are open to cats and dogs from any community. Advance registration is recommended, as space is limited and same-day availability is not guaranteed. Pet owners can register online at www.secondchanceanimals.org/scasconnect-north-brookfield.

Calendar Policy

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

Brought to you by Turley Publications

Key decisions for retired couples

Once you and your spouse retire, you’ll have some decisions to make — decisions that could affect your quality of life in your retirement years. What are these choices?

Here a few of the most important ones:

• How much should you withdraw from your retirement accounts? By the time you retire, you may have contributed for decades to an IRA and a 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan. But once you retire, you’ll probably need to draw on these accounts to help pay your living expenses. Consequently, both of you will need to be sure that you don’t withdraw so much each year that you risk running out of money later in your retirement. One common guideline is to aim for an annual withdrawal rate of 4%, but everyone’s situation is different based on age, pre-retirement income, lifestyle, health, travel plans and other factors. (Once you turn 73, or 75 if you were born in 1960 or later, you will have to take certain amounts, based on your age and account balance, from your traditional IRA and traditional 401(k) each year.)

• When should you take Social Security? The answer to this question depends on many factors, such as your age and other sources of income. You can take Social Security as early as age 62, but your monthly payments will typically be bigger if you wait until your full retirement age, which will be age 67 if you were born in 1960 or later. And if you can afford to wait even longer, your payments will “max out” when you reach age 70. Your decision on when to take Social Security can affect your spouse — and vice versa. If the lower-earning spouse claims Social Security before their full retirement age — again, age 67 — their own retirement benefit and any potential spousal benefit will be reduced. (Spousal benefits are given to the lower-earning spouse if their full retirement benefit is less than half the other spouse’s full retirement benefit.)

• Should you downsize? If you live in a big home and your children are grown, you may find it economical to downsize. Of course, this is also an emotional decision, but you may find that you can save money by moving into a smaller home.

• Where should you live? Some states are far more expensive to live in than others. You’ll want to weigh your decision carefully, considering the cost of housing, food, income and real estate taxes, transportation and health care in whatever state you choose.

• Have you finished your estate plans? If not, now is the time. You’ll want to work with your legal professional to create whatever documents are needed — a will, living trust, power of attorney — to help ensure your assets go where you want them to go, and that your financial and health care choices will be protected if you become physically or mentally incapacitated.

Of course, many of these same issues will apply if you are single, divorced or widowed. But if you are married, you and your spouse will want to discuss all your choices and then decide which steps to take. Once you’ve got your plans in place, you may well find that you can fully enjoy your retirement years.

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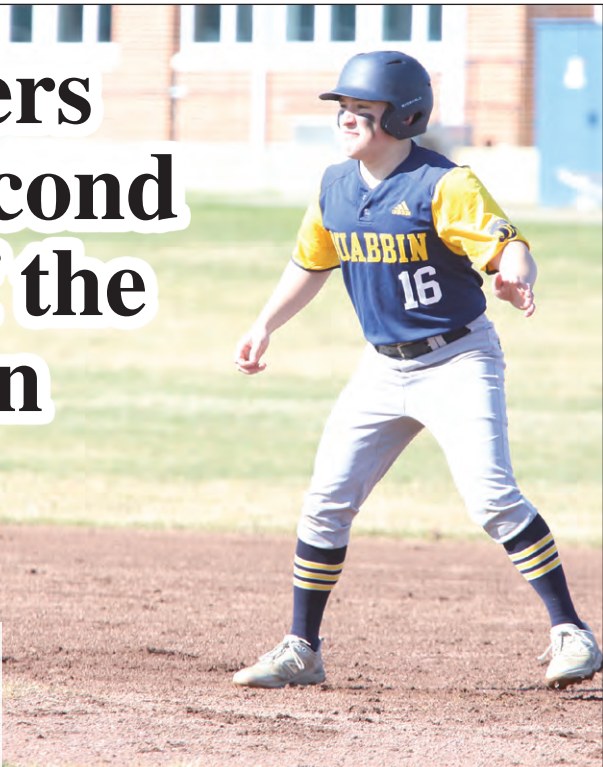
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Panthers fall in second game of the season

BARRE – After a big win in their season opener, Quabbin Regional baseball was defeated by visiting Oakmont last Friday afternoon 5-1. The Panthers, which had 14 runs in their first matchup, could not get the bats going against Oakmont. The Panthers face Clinton on Friday, April 11 at 4 p.m.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Andrew Warfield leads off first.



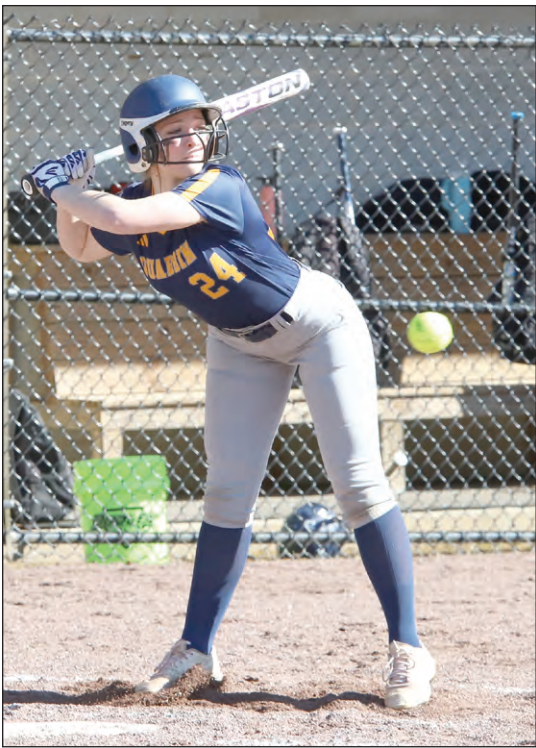
Adam Adams collects a grounder to short.



Sam Morgan gets an out at first.



Aiden Lapointe makes an off-balance throw to first.



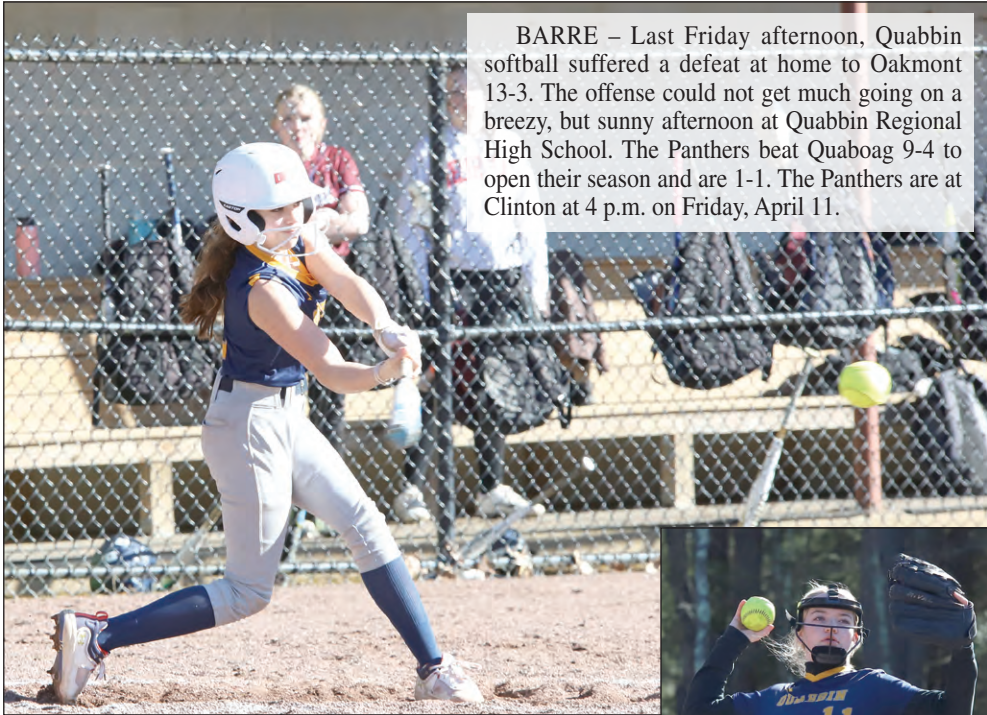
Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Kelsey Allen moves out of the way of an inside pitch.



Abby Rogowski watches the pitcher as she gets ready to lead off second.

Quabbin softball falls to Oakmont

BARRE – Last Friday afternoon, Quabbin softball suffered a defeat at home to Oakmont 13-3. The offense could not get much going on a breezy, but sunny afternoon at Quabbin Regional High School. The Panthers beat Quabog 9-4 to open their season and are 1-1. The Panthers are at Clinton at 4 p.m. on Friday, April 11.



Catcher Ju-Ju Guilderson swings and connects.



Lianna Leger fouls off a pitch.



Shortstop Jordan Blanchard sends a throw to first.

Clean sweep in opening match for Quabbin golf

BARRE – The Quabbin Girls Golf team opened the season this past Friday, April 4 at Quail Hollow.

The Panthers defeated Worcester 33.5-3.5 in a six-hole match. All six players won their matches, Kenzie Casey, Ava Brady, Sierra Lambert, Molly Wilder, Sam Vessair, Junior Captain Kaylan Cavanagh was the medalist shooting a 28.

Coach Richard Lindsten said this year's captains are junior Kaylan Cavanagh and sophomore Makenzie Casey.

Bats break out in season opener for Pioneers

PALMER – Last Monday afternoon, Pathfinder Regional High School baseball scored 13 runs in two innings to be paced to a 15-2 win over the High School of Science and Technology.

The Pioneers took advantage of a lot of free passes to get staked out to the lead. The Pioneers took nine walks and Sci-Tech committed eight errors in the game.

The Cybercats would actually strike first with a run in the top of the first. But Pathfinder scored twice in the bottom of the first to

take the lead.

Sci-Tech tied the game in the top of the third before errors and walks led to six runs in the bottom of the third for Pathfinder and seven runs in the fourth.

With the huge lead, the Pioneers were able to finish the game off in the top of the fifth for the mercy-rule win.

Tim Russell had a good first outing with four innings pitched. He allowed two runs on five hits. Zander Auffrey finished the game with a scoreless fifth inning.

Valley Wheel tryouts begin this weekend

Players looking to join the Valley Wheel Over-28 Baseball League can attend the tryouts beginning Sunday April 13. The first weekend of tryouts was rained out. Tryouts will take place at 2 p.m. at Blunt Park in Springfield.

The league, which plays its games in Western Massachusetts and Northern Connecticut, makes sure that everyone gets a fair share of the action. Everyone plays a minimum of 4 innings in the field, and everyone bats.

The league follows MLB rules with some modified rules adapted with safety in mind.

The Valley Wheel stands apart from other leagues across the country for this reason:

Their league charter and one of their main goals, is to work toward having a league with teams of equal strength.

The league is now seeking new players to fill open roster slots. Enjoy the competition and camaraderie with a great group of

guys who enjoy the game as much as you do. Stay in shape and make new friends. Be part of something that happens once a year, and with luck, win a championship that might be once in a lifetime. Grab your glove and cleats and join a team for a great adventure. It's not too late don't miss out; opening day is just around the corner.

For more information, contact Jim Nason at 413-433-4308 or visit the website www.ValleyWheelBaseball.org.

Open practice rescheduled for new Quabbin Valley players

The Quabbin Valley Over-28 Baseball League is looking to infuse new talent into its league for the 2025 season.

The league is looking for at least six more players to sign up to play in the league this year.

The open practice sched-

uled for Sunday, April 6 was rained out. Players can still register for the season and the next open practice is scheduled for Sunday, April 13 at 10 a.m. at Beachgrounds Park in South Hadley. Following that practice, new players will be drafted to teams in the

league as the league works to fill its open roster spots.

Registration for the 2025 season is now open and any interested players can go to www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org to get registered, or to seek more information or make inquiries about the league. The league website

will also be updated over the next month with information about the upcoming season.

There are many open roster spots available in the league for the 2025 season, which is tentatively scheduled to begin on Sunday, April 27. The league plays

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

The Quabbin Valley league is an all-abilities league and all are welcome to join. Eligibility is players who are age 28 and over. You must be 30 to be eligible to pitch in the league. Your age for eligibility is whatever age you will turn in 2025.

Sports

Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

Bogey Doubles

EAST BROOKFIELD – The Bogey Doubles league on Monday nights have several weeks left of bowling.

This past week, the team of Halbedel & Fontaine bowled against Murphy & Kenneson. In game one, Murphy & Kenneson defeated Halbedel & Fontaine by a score of 288-274. Trever Kenneson began the match with a 128. Aaron Fontaine started the match with a 133 game.

In game two, Murphy & Kenneson won by one point, 250-249. Fontaine bowled a 132 in a losing effort. In game three, Halbedel & Fontaine won by a score of 294-253. Fontaine finished the match with a 166 for a series of 431.

The final score was 817-791 in favor of Aaron Halbedel & Aaron Fontaine. Each team won four points. Fontaine has the second highest series of the season; he bowled a 432 series ear-

lier.

The next match was Clauson & Santora bowling against Rando & MacDougall. Clauson & Santora are currently leading the final round of the season with 18 wins.

In game one, Clauson & Santora were the winners by a score of 307-249. Tom Clauson began the match with a 139 and Gary Santora started with a 123.

In game two, Rando & MacDougall won by a score of 306-278. Dave Rando carried his team with a 137 in game two. Gary Santora bowled well following up with a 141.

In game three, Clauson & Santora won the last game 289-278. Santora finished with a 134 and a series of 398. The final score was 874-833 in favor of Clauson & Santora.

Sandman & Marvin bowled against Talamini & Gravel. In game one, Talamini & Gravel won by a score of 274-269. The high game of 113 was bowled by Travis Sandman. In game two, Jack Talamini bowled a 131 on his team’s way to

winning game two, 292-254.

In game three, Talamini & Gravel won the last game 268-250 for a three-game sweep over Sandman & Marvin. Talamini & Gravel won eight points and the final score was 834-773.

Pellett & Nester bowled against two substitutes for Clough & Gauthier. In game one, Pellett & Nester won by one point, 273-272. The substitutes won again Pellett & Nester in game two, 274-262. In game three, the substitutes won again by a score of 292-274.

The Substitutes won six points with a final score of 838-809.

Mondor & Brayton bowled against Renaud & Ward. In game one, Mondor & Brayton were victorious by a score of 253-232. In game two, Mondor & Brayton totaled for 253 again to win the game. In game three, Mondor & Brayton defeated Renaud & Ward by a score of 271-261.

The Bogey Doubles League has six more rounds to go until the season is complete.

OT goal lifts T-Birds over Lehigh Valley

ALLENTOWN, Pa. — The Springfield Thunderbirds (34-28-2-4) received a perfect night from their netminder and outlasted the Lehigh Valley Phantoms (33-27-6-2) in a 1-0 overtime win on Saturday night at the PPL Center. Coupled with Hartford’s overtime loss in Hershey, the T-Birds’ magic number to clinch a playoff berth has fallen to just 1.

After being pressured for 16 first-period shots on Friday in Utica, Springfield was far stingier defensively in the opening frame against their division foes, keeping Lehigh Valley to just seven shots in the first period and making things easy for Vadim Zherenko to keep the opponents off the board.

Parker Gahagen had a similarly strong start for the Phantoms, turning away the eight Springfield offerings that came his way in the first 20 minutes. Furthermore, neither team could connect on one power-play chance each in the opening stanza.

Springfield had its best chance to break the scoreless deadlock in a mad scramble near the net in the second,

but Gahagen managed to turn away both Dalibor Dvorsky and Nikita Alexandrov despite being on his belly while trying to keep the puck out.

Lehigh Valley’s closest call came off the stick of veteran Anthony Richard, who scooted to the right side of the slot to punch a quick attack on the net after the puck caromed in front off the end boards. Zherenko, though, had the answer, pushing his left leg across for the pad save, one of his 21 stops through 40 minutes. Gahagen took a 20-save shutout into the third for Lehigh Valley.

A tentative third period saw the teams protect the defensive zone. Lehigh Valley’s door of opportunity opened when the Phantoms earned their second power play, but Zherenko and the Springfield penalty kill stiffened. With the game just two seconds away from overtime, the Phantoms nearly won it in the final seconds, but Zherenko flashed out the left leg for a phenomenal in-tight save on Zayde Wisdom to force the game into overtime.

Overtime only further showcased Zherenko’s story-

book night, as Lehigh Valley relentlessly fired chances at the Springfield net, but none of their eight tries found their way past the Springfield goaltender.

With just a half-minute to play in the extra period, Dvorsky moved back into the Phantoms zone and awaited a trailer. Calen Addison flew in off the Springfield bench, took a drop pass, and snapped a wrist shot through Gahagen to finally break the ice and give the T-Birds the overtime win on the veteran blueliner’s first goal and point as a T-Bird.

Springfield gets a break from game action before taking the ice on Friday inside the Thunderdome at 7:05 p.m. against Belleville. The Hartford Wolf Pack and Hershey Bears square off again on Sunday, and any Hershey victory would punch the Thunderbirds’ ticket to the Calder Cup Playoffs.

Fans can get their Thunderbirds tickets for the Calder Cup play-off push today by calling (413) 739-GOAL (4625) or by visiting www.SpringfieldThunderbirds.com.

Education

David Thibault-Muñoz becomes Director of MWCC Brewer Center

GARDNER – Mount Wachusett Community College announces the appointment of David Thibault-Muñoz as the new Director of the Brewer Center for Civic Learning and Community Engagement.

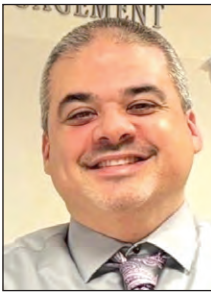
He brings over two decades of experience in education, community organizing and civic engagement to the Brewer Center. Since 2013, he has served as an Academic Counselor and Coordinator for the Gateway to College program, where he has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the success of students in the early college program and community impact.

Under Thibault-Muñoz’s leadership, his First Year Experience students launched the Fitchburg Abolitionist Park Project in 2017, successfully raising \$180,000 to develop the park. His collaborative approach also led to the creation of a commemorative magazine in the spring of 2023, developed alongside MWCC graphic and interactive design and journalism

students.

In addition to his work with students, he has been a champion for diversity and inclusion, serving as Secretary of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Team and as faculty advisor to the ALANA cultural diversity club. Beyond his work at MWCC, Thibault-Muñoz is deeply involved in civic life, currently serving as a Gardner City Councilor and previously as the New England Coordinator for the National Boricua Human Rights Network from 2006 to 2018.

Thibault-Muñoz’s community engagement roots run deep. Before joining MWCC, he spent seven years as Director of Community Engagement at New Vue Communities in Fitchburg, where he founded the Elm Street Area Neighborhood Association, two community gardens, and the annual Trick or Treat on Main Street. He also served on the Fitchburg



David Thibault-Muñoz

School Committee for four years, engaging residents in meaningful school and community improvements.

Thibault-Muñoz holds a Master of Education in Curriculum and Instructional Leadership from the University of Illinois at Chicago and a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology with a minor in History from Binghamton University. His earlier career includes teaching Puerto Rican History at the Dr. Pedro Albizu Campos High School and leading the Youth First! Campaign in Chicago.

“David’s tremendous enthusiasm and energy for this work came through loud and clear in his interviews, and he brings extensive community organizing experience to this new role,” stated Fagan Forhan, Dean of K-12 Partnerships & Civic Engagement. “His experience and vision will bring a new flavor of work to the Brewer Center, and we are truly excited to begin working with him this semester.”

Named for Senator Stephen M. Brewer, the Brewer Center promotes positive social change through equity minded, student-centered, and data-driven programming that benefits our surrounding community and Mount Wachusett Community College.

Dena Hengst exhibits in group show

PETERSHAM – Oakham artist Dena Hengst works in her studio on paintings for “Welcome Spring: A Group Show,” Petersham Art Center’s first exhibition of the 2025 season. The center invited the public to join the artists’ opening reception Sunday, April 6. Petersham Art Center, 8 North St., is a nonprofit organization showcasing regional fine art and craft. The Center is open Thursday - Sunday, noon to 4 p.m. “Welcome Spring: A Group Show” runs through Sunday, April 27.

Photo courtesy of Dena Hengst

Oakham artist Dena Hengst works in her studio on a painting for “Welcome Spring: A Group Show.”



EQLT host Earth day children’s workshop

HARDWICK – The East Quabbin Land Trust will celebrate Earth Day with a free children’s activity workshop during school vacation week on Tuesday, April 22 from 3-5 p.m., at EQLT’s office, 120 Ridge Road.

Children and their parents/caregivers are welcome. Activities are unscheduled and attendees can participate at their own pace. Activities will include: a gathering fire, painting kindness rocks,exploring the children’s play trail and building bluebird birdhouses, one for each child to take home

Most activities will be held outdoors on the hillside next to the EQLT office in both wooded and open grassy areas. Children should be dressed for the

weather and outdoor fun.

They should RSVP by email to atrevvett@eqlt.org by Friday, April 18.

The East Quabbin Land Trust (EQLT) fosters a meaningful relationship with the natural world by conserving, connecting with and caring for the farmlands, woodlands and waters in the East Quabbin region of Massachusetts. EQLT works closely with community members to foster vibrant communities through engagement with the outdoors.

The work of the EQLT is focused on the communities of Barre, Hardwick, Hubbardston, New Braintree, North Brookfield, Oakham, Petersham, Ware and West Brookfield. The EQLT began in 1994 moti-

vated by concern for the loss of farmland and wildlife habitat to unplanned sprawl.

By working cooperatively with property owners, government agencies, conservation groups and other land trusts, the EQLT has permanently protected 7,000 acres of land. EQLT worked with members of the Petersham community to purchase and lease The Country Store, revitalizing the heart of the town.

Over the past two decades, the East Quabbin Land Trust has also purchased and opened 6.5 miles of former railroad corridor as part of the Mass Central Rail Trail in Hardwick, New Braintree and Ware, with another 1.5-miles of rail trail slated for construction in 2025-26.





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TUITION, continued from page 1

task force to look at ways to address this.

“We knew for over a decade that the course of the school was unsustainable,” he said. “We had to figure out what was going on.”

Petraitis said the reports of the task force’s findings are available in the Board of Selectmen’s office.

He said entering into a tuition agreement with a larger school system could provide financial relief to the town, as well as opportunities to support the students.

“The whole idea of a tuition agreement makes practical sense because to leave it the way that it is and just pursue an override for something that’s just going to need another override in a couple years, seems pointless,” he said.

Petraitis said in order to move forward with a tuition agreement, the School Committee would need to make the initiative. He said there wouldn’t be enough time to move forward for the upcoming school year unless everything moved quickly.

“We need to address all the questions, and we need

to address all the money and weigh the costs,” he said. “At the end of the day we need to make sure the town could afford whichever route we go in.”

Petraitis said talking about the options is something that falls under the responsibility of the school department.

“We need to have meetings and talk about them, and that’s the job of the school department,” he said. “In order to maintain our budget, they’re forcing the Finance Committee and Selectmen and other people in town to do their job for them.”

Church News

Local pastors offer sermons

Palm Sunday 2025

Who is Jesus?

Have you ever given serious consideration to the nature and work of the One we herald as Savior and Lord? Scripture posits an array of responses, each worthy of serious consideration and study.

However, as Palm Sunday approaches, let us consider the nature and work of Jesus Christ as King. Let us take note of the following elements in kind:

1) Declarations of His Kingship

To begin, the kingship of Christ was declared prior to His birth:

Luke 1:26-33 (NIV)

26 In the sixth month of Elizabeth’s pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, 27 to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. 28 The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.” 29 Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. 30 But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. 31 You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.”

The kingship of Christ was also declared subsequent to His birth:

Matthew 2:1-2

1 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem 2 and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

2) Demonstrations of His Kingship

Moreover, the kingship of Christ was demonstrated in His miraculous works. Consider that the life and ministry of Jesus was characterized by remarkable demonstrations of power divine, meant to display His authority, dominion and rulership over all things. Note the following:

Firstly, Christ demonstrated power over the forces of nature. Consider that Christ fed the multitudes through the multiplication of food, calmed storms with the power of His words, walked on water, and beyond. In your own time, please review His walking upon the water (cf. Mark 4:35-41). Clearly, He possessed authority over the natural forces of the earth.

Secondly, Christ demonstrated power over the spiritual realm. Jesus ongoingly exorcised demons and broke the power of sinister evil forces. Though we live in a day and age that denies the existence or operation of such entities, the Lord ongoingly dealt with and demon-

strated His authority over the powers of the devil. Reflect on Mark 5:1-13 as one example.

Thirdly, Christ demonstrated power over sickness and human affliction. Jesus was known as One who often healed the sick (e.g., opening mute mouths, giving sight to the blind, cleansing the leper, and more). There was no human ailment beyond His power to heal. Are you sick and in need? Christ yet heals! Take the time to consider Matthew 8:1-3 as but one instance.

Fourthly, Jesus demonstrated His authority over the powers of death. Beyond His own Resurrection, Christ raised the dead on three accounts per the Gospel record (i.e., the raising of Jairus’s daughter, the son of the widow of Nain, and of Lazarus). I would call you to review the raising of the widow’s son at Nain for a moving example of His dominion (cf. Luke 7:11-17).

In summary, each miracle displayed His power-the power of the one true King of kings and Lord of lords. Praise His Name.

3) The Presentation of His Kingship

This brings us to the events of His Triumphal Entry and of that first Palm Sunday. Do you realize that Palm Sunday commemorates that moment in the ministry of Christ when He proclaimed His kingship to the nation of Israel and beyond?

How did Jesus enter the ancient capital city of Jerusalem nearly two-thousand years ago? He entered riding on a donkey. Why? In order to fulfill this ancient prophecy, penned by the prophet Zechariah (9:9): “Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.” Let us note that the crowds rejoiced in kind, as they waved palm branches and shouted “Hosanna” (i.e., an exclamation of praise and a cry for salvation)! The people welcomed Jesus as the long-awaited king, and rightly so. Sadly, and for a number of reasons beyond our time, He would ultimately be rejected and face crucifixion on Good Friday. Thankfully, Easter Sunday came, and Christ rose from death, possessing full and everlasting authority at God’s right hand- and He shall return one day to complete the work He has started and finalize His kingdom upon the earth, praise the Lord.

Ultimately, Palm Sunday forces us to contend with the question of Christ Jesus’ nature and work, and our relation to Him. Do we understand Him to be the King of kings and Lord of lords? Do we know Him to be our King and our Lord (personally)? Is your life marked by a sense of loyalty and allegiance, or rebellion and rejection-which is folly. It is truly one or the other, so choose wisely! I close with this promise from one of the King’s foremost servants-the apostle Paul:

Philippians 2:9b-11

9 God exalted him [Jesus] to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,

10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Have you taken a knee before Christ? Have you confessed Jesus as Lord? If not, do so now while the opportunity remains! 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

Fifth Sunday in Lent

“Mary anointed Jesus.”

Scripture Reading:
John 12 v 1-8

I. Introduction

In tough times, it is comforting to have someone hold our hand, hug us and walk with us until we feel better.

Feeling better means someone cared, lifted our spirits and gave us hope. Upon entering the home of Martha, Mary and Lazarus, Jesus encountered a hospitable and considerate family, who provided Him with much-needed comfort during a challenging period.

II. Jesus, Mary and Judas

This passage describes a significant honor given to Jesus a week before His final day on earth. He was invited to a lovely dinner at Lazarus, Martha and Mary’s home. It was Saturday, the Sabbath, six days before His crucifixion on Good Friday. The next day would be Palm Sunday. This family did not know this, of course.

They were still incredibly grateful for the miracle Jesus bestowed upon Lazarus, the brother of Martha and Mary, whom Jesus raised from the dead in the previous passage. They were filled with joy and appreciated His presence, engaging in conversation, and expressing their admiration for Him. But that was not all.

Mary brought the most expensive and genuine perfume /oil and anointed His feet with it. This perfume was owned by only the richest people in that region during Jesus’ time and only a King in the Old Testament would have had the honor to be anointed with such expensive perfume. She brought a large amount and poured all of it over His feet.

She viewed Him as their King and He was worth receiving such royal treatment. In an act of humility, she used her hair to wipe His feet with it. The environment

created by this family was beautiful and sweet and filled with gratitude and their home was filled with the aroma of this perfume.

Jesus was aware that this would be His final occasion with them in this manner, as He knew

that He was being pursued by members of the Sanhedrin due to the resurrection of Lazarus.

Prior to arriving at their residence in Bethany, He sought refuge in a remote area near the desert, specifically in the village of Ephraim. He remained away from public attention because the timing was not appropriate for Him to be revealed and apprehended by the authorities. He still had more to do before the end came. But here in this loving home, He appreciated the warmth and support.

The gathering was interrupted by Judas, a disciple of Jesus, who questioned why the valuable perfume had not been sold to benefit the poor. It was known that he, who was the treasurer, had taken money from the cash box and had a reputation for dishonesty. It was apparent that his concern was not for the poor, but rather for the economic worth of the perfume.

Jesus intervened promptly, as the interruption was occurring during a significant act bestowed upon Him, the Son of God. Jesus indeed cared for the poor and demonstrated His care in amazing ways, but even the poor would be secondary to the person of Jesus. This holy act which He received from Mary was precious and needed to be respected. Judas needed to learn that money is not more important than the life of the One who came for the salvation of this world. The poor would always be with them, but they would not have Him always. He said this to the person who would later betray Him.

III. Conclusion

In this passage Judas represents those who fail to keep their focus on what is good, right and what is just and humble. He represents those who are dishonest in their behaviors and think they can get away with it. Jesus stands up against this false representation of care for the poor and presents Himself as the One who came to teach and demonstrate the genuine values of love and care and compassion for those in need, the sick and the poor.

He speaks to all of us, and this world to see Him in all His goodness and what He stood for. He seeks to turn our hearts and souls to Him, filling us with His genuine love, compassion, and care, like the oil and perfume Mary used to anoint His feet. May God help us all to spread the love of Christ in word and deed, even when it is risky, because the love of Christ transforms lives, and changes situations of pain and injustice and cruelty.

May God have mercy on all of us.

Amen

Pastor Margaret Keyser
Barre Congregational Church

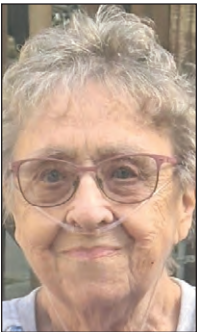
Obituaries

Janet “Tissie” Parnes, 95

PETERSHAM – Janet “Tissie” Parnes, 95 of Athol passed away peacefully on Monday, March 31, 2025 at Quabbin Valley Healthcare.

Janet was born March 27, 1930 in Petersham. She leaves her children: Jeannine Pimental and her husband Jay of Barre, Bernard Brunelle and his wife Sandy of Florida, Janet Bramlage and her husband Don of Florida, two son-in-laws David Bronson and Earl Cooley Jr. of Barre. Her grandchildren Sean Lewis and Georgia Bland of North Carolina Susie Senna and James Brunelle of Florida, Brandi and Jason Pimental of Barre, Rebecca Burns of Templeton, Michael Harty and Sarah Croteau of Barre, Mathew Bronson of Colombia, Amanda Cooley of Athol, Emily Johnson of Rutland, Missy Cooley of Connecticut, Mary Alex and Christina Bramlage of Florida. She also leaves 22 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

Janet was predeceased by three daughters: Jackie Bronson, Denise Cooley and Bernice Lewis and her siblings, Connie Peters, Arland and Bernard Barnes and



Barbara Donahue. She was predeceased by her husband, Nathan Parnes.

Janet was born and raised in Petersham daughter of the late Bernard H. Barnes and Anna (Dugan) Hoffman. She Attended Petersham schools. She worked as a bus driver and was a CNA at Athol Hospital and the Sister of the Assumption in Petersham.

She loved spending time with her family and friends, playing cards baking cookies and making her popcorn balls for Christmas. At Janets request, calling hours and funeral will not be held. There will be a graveside service later for the family.

In Lieu of Flowers the family request that a donation be made to the Barre Fire Dept. P.O. Box 430 Barre MA 01005 or Compassus Hospice 19 Midstate Drive, Suite 130, Auburn MA 01501 in Janet Parnes name.

DEATH NOTICE
Parnes, Janet “Tissie” Died March 31, 2025 Graveside Service will be held later for the family.

Public Notices

PUBLIC AUCTION
Notice is hereby given pursuant to the provisions of M.L.C. 225 Sec.39A the following vehicles will be sold on **April 26, 2025** at a sale to satisfy our garage lien thereon for towing & storage charges and expenses of sale and notice:

2003 Toyota Camry
VIN: 4T1BE32K43U786369

2007 Toyota Camry
VIN: 4T1BE46KX7U139092

2008 Ford Fusion
VIN: 3FAHP06Z28R121411

2008 Infiniti M35
VIN: JNKAY01F98M654384

2015 Chevrolet Suburban
VIN: 1GNSKJKC8FR720724

2006 Honda Pilot
VIN: 2HKYF18576H518447

2004 Honda CR-V
VIN: SHSRD78854U234262

2004 Ford Focus
VIN: 1FAFP34364W103461

2017 BMW 3 Series
VIN: WBA8B7G53HNT70863

2005 Acura RL
VIN: JH4KB16595C018223

2012 Honda Civic
VIN: 2HGFG3B57CH502800

2006 Pontiac G6
VIN: 1G2ZF55B864150280

2008 Ford Fusion
VIN: 3FAHP06Z28R121411

The Sale will be held at
EARLY’S
ON PARK AVENUE
536 PARK AVE.
WORCESTER, MA 01603
04/10, 04/17, 04/24/2025

Town of Barre
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
Establishment of
Liquor License
TAKE NOTICE that the Select Board will conduct a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Selectmen’s Meeting Room, Henry Woods Building, 40 West Street, Barre, MA on a proposed establishment of an All Alcohol Common Victualler License for Rowena’s Resort Bar & Restaurant, LLC for premises located at 395 Stetson Road, Barre, MA. 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
04/03, 04/10/2025

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.

Barre Gazette
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice 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.

Tri-Parish to hold plant, bake, craft sale

HARDWICK – The Tri-Parish Community Church announces they will be holding their 19th Annual Plant, Bake Sale, Craft and Tag Sale on the Hardwick Common Saturday, May 17 and Sunday, May 18 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. each day.

This popular East Quabbin area event will feature traditional, favorite and connoisseur perennials, plus selected annuals, heirloom

vegetable plants, and herbs in time for spring planting. There is a wonderful variety in plants offered through several local vendors including Stillman’s Farm, Howe’s Farm, Garden of New Braintree and Inishowen Farms of North Brookfield, and “home-grown lovelies” from private gardens. A delicious assortment of home-baked desserts and breads will also be sold. The event

is held rain or shine.

The church is also seeking vendors for their annual Tag and Craft sale to coincide with the Plant and Bake Sale. Spaces on the Hardwick Common will be offered for \$35 each. Applications may be obtained by emailing Marguerite at mcrevier1.mc@gmail.com or calling 413-477-6942. People should reserve a space early. All are welcome.

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

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

Public notice deadlines are Friday at 3 p.m.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

Public Safety

Barre Police Log

Sunday, March 23
12:03 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Spring Hill Road, Message Delivered
6:46 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Wheelwright Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Monday, March 24
10 a.m. Fire – Power Lines Down/Arcing, Blair Road, Referred to Other Agency
4:25 p.m. Erratic Operator, Williamsville Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Tuesday, March 25
8:16 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Cut Off Road, Referred to Other Agency
3:26 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Worcester Road, Officer Spoke to Party
9:34 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Written Warning

Wednesday, March 26
8:04 a.m. Animal – Wildlife, Hubbardston Road, Message Delivered
9:02 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Overdose/Poisoning, North Brookfield Road, Referred to Other Agency
9:20 a.m. Court Duty, South Street, Court Duty
11:57 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Main Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal
11:17 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, North Brookfield Road, Transported to Hospital

Thursday, March 27
12:46 a.m. Trespasser or Prowler, Clem Court, Investigated
1:36 p.m. Complaint, Williamsville Road, Officer/Chief Advised
4:15 p.m. Illegal Dumping, South Street, Officer Spoke to Party
5:08 p.m. Suspicious Person – Vehicle Activity, North Brookfield, Negative Complaint

8:15 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Wauwinet Road, Transported to Hospital

Friday, March 28
3 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Spring Hill Road, Officer Spoke to Party
6:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
Summons Gjata, Redina, 34, South Barre
Charges Uninsured Motor Vehicle, Unregistered Motor Vehicle

Saturday, March 29
7:44 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Sunrise Avenue, Report Filed
11:03 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Vehicle Towed
P/C Gibson, Eric Cullen, 25, Gardner
Charges License Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With

Oakham Police Log

Sunday, March 23
12:26 p.m. Noise Complaint, Hapgood Road, Investigated

Monday, March 24
2:30 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Old Turnpike Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
2:57 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old Turnpike Road, Written Warning
6:19 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Worcester Road, No Fire Service Necessary
9:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old Turnpike Road, Written Warning
10:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Written Warning
10:41 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Written Warning

Tuesday, March 25
8:25 a.m. Safety Concern, North Brookfield Road, No Transport Required

10:47 a.m. Court Duty, East Brookfield District Court, Court Duty
11:39 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
11:45 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Stroke (CVA), Lincoln Road, Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, March 26
11:27 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
5:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Citation Issued

Thursday, March 27
10:05 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Bullard Road, Negative Contact
10:36 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Hapgood Road, Transported to Hospital
12:25 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/

Back Pain, Lincoln Road, Transported to Hospital
2 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, New Braintree Road, Transported to Hospital
4:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Robinson Road, Written Warning
5:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Robinson Road, Written Warning
6:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old Turnpike Road, Written Warning

Hubbardston Police Log

Sunday, March 23
8:55 a.m. Property Damage, Geordie Lane, Report Filed
12:25 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Barre Road, Officer Spoke to Party
12:47 p.m. Erratic Operator, Gardner Road, Negative Contact
3:09 p.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Hale Road, Referred to Other Agency
7:39 p.m. ACO Lost and Found/Wildlife, Kruse Road, Information Taken
8:33 p.m. Unwanted Party, Morgan Road, Negative Contact
9:17 p.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Williamsville Road, Investigated
10:13 p.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Williamsville Road, Returned to Family/Guardian

Monday, March 24
12:15 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Old Princeton Cutoff Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
10:08 a.m. Fire – Power Lines Down/Arcing, Williamsville Road, Referred to Other Agency
10:56 a.m. Disturbance/Disorderly, Williamsville Road, Transported to Hospital

6:37 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Old Princeton Road, Transported to Hospital
6:49 p.m. Fire – Power Lines Down/Arcing, Williamsville Road, Referred to Other Agency
11:03 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Lombard Road, Transported to Hospital

Tuesday, March 25
8:29 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal-Back Pain, Streeter Road, Transported to Hospital
11:20 a.m. Fire – Brush and Wildland Fires, Morgan Road, No Action Required
4:27 p.m. Fire – Power Lines Down/Arcing, Williamsville Road, Referred to Other Agency
4:48 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Dogwood North Road, Negative Contact
4:58 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Main Street, Report Filed
5:23 p.m. Keep the Peace, Thompson Road, Report Filed

Wednesday, March 26
3:03 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Old

Princeton Cutoff Road, Public Assist
5:38 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Gardner Road, Citation Issued
7:20 p.m. Erratic Operator, Gardner Road, Officer/Chief Advised

Thursday, March 27
11:39 a.m. Complaint, Bemis Road, Message Delivered
11:57 a.m. Fraud/Forgery, Gardner Road, Message Delivered
12:42 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Bleeding (Non-Traumatic), Old Princeton Cutoff Road, No Transport Required
1:24 p.m. Unwanted Party, Healdsville Road, Officer Took Call
1:55 p.m. Vandalism, Morgan Road, Report Filed
2:18 p.m. Unwanted Party, Bemis Road, Officer Spoke to Party
4:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Gardner Road, Written Warning
5:09 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Gardner Road, Written Warning
9:47 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Diabetic, Gardner Road, Transported to Hospital

Rutland Police Log

Sunday, March 23
12:30 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning
9:37 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop – Disabled, Main Street, Public Assist
10:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
12:53 p.m. Erratic Operator, East County Road, Report Filed
1:14 p.m. Harassment, Charnock Hill Road, Information Taken
3:31 p.m. Fire – Brush and Wildland Fires, Beverly Hills Drive, Fire Extinguished
4:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
6:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
8:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Glenwood Road, Verbal Warning
Summons Hubbard, Trisha Anne, 34, Leicester
Charges Dangerous Weapon, Carry

Monday, March 24
1:36 a.m. Suspicious Person – Vehicle Activity, Barre Paxton Road, Officer Spoke to Party
5:46 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Raod, Written Warning
6:31 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Miles Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
7:38 a.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, East County Road, Negative Contact
2:30 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Old Turnpike Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
6:19 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Worcester Road, No Fire Service Necessary
6:23 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Crestview Drive, Ambulance Signed Refusal
7:15 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, Pommogussett Road, Officer/Chief Advised
8:51 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, Pommogussett Road, No Action Required
9:34 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Main Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Tuesday, March 25
9:12 a.m. Fire – Power Lines Down/Arcing, Sassawanna Road, Referred to Other Agency
10:49 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, East County Road, Transported to Hospital
11:22 a.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Miles Road, Returned to Family/Guardian
11:45 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Stroke (CVA), Lincoln Road, Transported to Hospital
1:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle

Stop, Fisherman's Road, Written Warning
1:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Arrest(s) Made
Arrest: Rivera, Johnny Jr., 29, Jefferson
Charges Window Obstructed/Nontransparent License Suspended, Operating Motor vehicel Wtih, Lights Violation, Motor Vehicle, Alcohol in Motor Vehicle, Posses Open Container of, Seat Belt, Fail Wear
3:18 p.m. Prisoner Watch or Meal, Main Street, Prisoner Bailed
Arrest Rivera, Johnny Jr., 29, Jefferson
Charges Window Obstructed/Nontransparent License Suspended, Opertaing Motor Vehicle Wtih, Lights Violation, Motor Vehicle, Alcohol in Motor Vehicle, Posses Open Container of Seat Belt, fail wear
5:12 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Main Street, Investigated
5:19 p.m. Fire – Fumes/Odor/Gas Leak, Soucy Drive, Investigated
10:29 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Stevens Way, Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, March 26
9:31 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Wachusett Street, Officer/Chief Advised
9:57 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Turkey Hill Road, Information Taken
10:44 a.m. Threats, Juniper Lane, Officer Spoke to Party
1:17 p.m. Follow-Up Investigation, Main Street, Report Filed
Summons Ramos, Oliver Alberto, 35, Worcester
Charges Breaking and Entering Dwelling Daytime for Felony
2:59 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
3:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
4:51 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Paxton, Mutual Aid Assist
5:40 p.m. Illegal Dumping, Main Street, Officer/Chief Advised
5:42 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unattended Death, Cedar Avenue, Report Filed

Thursday, March 27
8:45 a.m. Court Duty, East Brookfield District Court, Court Duty
9:26 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Wachusett Street, Vehicle Towed
10:36 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Hapgood Raod, Tnsporte dto Hospital
12:25 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/

Back Pain, Lincoln Road, Tnsported to Hospital
12:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
1:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
2 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, New Braintree Road,, Transported to Hospital
2:26 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning
4:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
4:51 p.m. Harassment, Maple Avenue, Report Filed
6:14 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Fernwood Drive, Returned to Family/Guardian
6:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Citation Issued
11:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Vehicle Towed

Friday, March 28
3:22 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breahting Difficulty, Brooke Haven Drive, Transported to Hospital
6:37 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Kyle Hunter Circle, Transported to Hospital
6:48 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Maple Avenue, Transported to Hospital
7:45 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
10:13 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Vehicle Towed
Summons Cote, Philip Nelson, 64, Gardner
Charges Uninsured Motor Vehicle, Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With, Unregistered Motor Vehicle
10:54 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
11:54 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
12:16 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponse/Syncope, Maple Avenue, Transported to Hospital
12:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
12:32 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
12:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Vehicle Towed
Summons Rogan, Michael Jerome, 47, South Barre
Charges License Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With, Inspection/Sticker, No
4:19 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Spencer Road, Transported to Hospital

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of March 31-April 7, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 67 building/property checks, 52 directed/area patrols, seven radar assignments, three traffic controls, eight emergency 911 calls, three citizen assists, two assist other agencies, three complaints, one missing person, one safety hazard, one investigation, three motor vehicle investigations, seven animal calls and six motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Tuesday, April 1
3:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
4:37 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Main Street, Officer Handled

Wednesday, April 2
8:23 a.m. Missing Person, Jackson Road, Investigated
4:51 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Broad Street, Investigated
6:49 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Gilbertville, Unfounded

Thursday, April 3
9:05 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital
11:33 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Church Lane, Transported to Hospital
2:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, High Street, Officer Handled
7:16 p.m. Complaint, Old Greenwich Plains Road, Services Rendered

Friday, April 4
6:56 a.m. Medical

Emergency, Church Lane, Transported to Hospital
7:05 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Church Lane, Merge
10:12 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Hardwick Road, Spoken To
4:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Bridge Street, Officer Handled
11:27 p.m. Complaint, Upper Church Street, Officer Handled

Saturday, April 5
12:22 a.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Accident, Greenwich Road, Transferred Call to C7

Sunday, April 6
1:57 a.m. Safety Hazard, Taylor Street, Officer Handled
4:10 a.m. Medical Emergency, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
10:20 a.m. 911 Disabled Motor Vehicle, Brook Road, Services Rendered
5:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Out of Town, Officer Handled

New Braintree Police Log

During the week of March 31-April 7, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 15 building/property checks, 20 directed/area patrols, four radar assignments, seven traffic controls, six emergency 911 calls, one citizen assist, one assist other agency, two illegal dumpings, one identity theft, two vandalisms, one safety hazard, two complaints, one investigation, one animal call and six motor vehicle stops in the town of New Braintree.

Monday, March 31
7:49 p.m. Welfare Check, Skivira Lane, Services Rendered
9:04 p.m. Illegal Dumping, Mara Road, Services Rendered
9:58 p.m. 911 Assist Other Agency, Igoe Road, Services

Rendered

Tuesday, April 1
1:25 a.m. Safety Hazard, Ravine Road, Officer Handled
9:33 a.m. Identity Theft, Old Wine Road, Report Taken
4:25 p.m. Investigation, Out of Town, Officer Handled
5:04 p.m. Illegal Dumping, Mara Road, Report Taken

Wednesday, April 2
12:59 a.m. Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Services Rendered
6:43 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hardwick Road, Written Warning

Thursday, April 3
8:51 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, McEvoy Road, Transported to Hospital

Rendered

Friday, April 4
12:30 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive Spoken To
6:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Mara Road, Arrest(s) Made
7:39 p.m. 911 Welfare Check, West Road, Transferred call to C3

Saturday, April 5
12:09 p.m. 911 Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Hardwick Road, Spoken To
12:46 p.m. Vandalism, Oakham Road, Investigated

Sunday, April 6
3:28 p.m. 911 Vandalism, Utley Road, Services Rendered
8:59 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Pierce Road, Unfounded

Job Connection

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Salary: Starting at \$23.28 per hour with the potential of going to \$24.78 per hour on July 1st.

Hours: M-Thurs., 6:00am – 4:00pm, - April 1 – Nov. 30
M-F 6:00am – 2:00pm, - Dec. 1 – March 31

Overtime is required for: emergency calls and including during snow and ice storms.
Required Licensing/Certification: Possession of a valid 2B Hoisting License and MA Class B CDL.

Applicants: To be considered for this vacancy, please submit a cover letter and resume by no later than **4:00 pm on Thursday April 10th, 2025**. Resumes will be accepted via email to Jeremy Olson at olson@warren-ma.gov, or dropped off to: Town of Warren Highway Department 87 Brimfield Rd, Warren, MA 01083 or mailed to: Warren Highway Department P.O. Box 628, Warren, MA 01083.

For a complete job description please visit the Town's website www.warren-ma.gov.

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TOWN OF WILBRAHAM Library Director

The Town of Wilbraham is looking for a Library Director to join our team. For application and more info, visit www.wilbraham-ma.gov. Application deadline 4/25/2025

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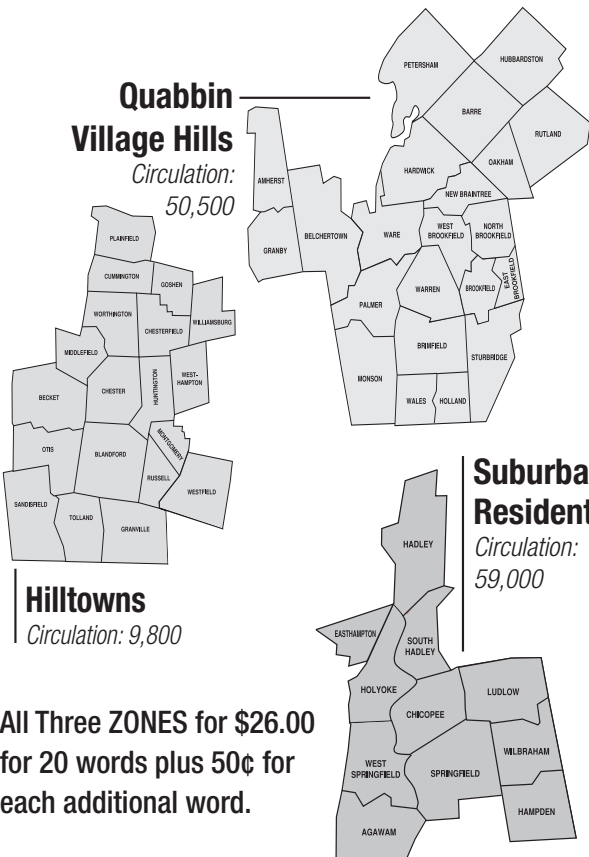
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Questions needed for Hardwick candidate’s forum to be held on April 15

HARDWICK – Citizens of Hardwick and the Ware River News will present a candidate’s forum on Tuesday, April 15 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the historic Town House on the common. All voters and all candi-

dates are invited. This is an independent event where the voters and citizens can meet candidates for the contested races for: Select Board, Planning Board and Paige Memorial Library Trustee

(one year; and the untested races for: Assessor, Constable, K-12 Quabbin Regional School Committee (three years), K-12 Quabbin Regional School Committee (two years), Board of Health, Paige Memorial Library

Trustee (three years) and Paige Agricultural Fund Trustee Each candidate for a contested race will be given a two minute allotment to introduce themselves and inform the citizens why they

are the best candidate to be elected to the position they are running for. A question and answer period will then follow. Candidates for uncontested races will be given two minutes to give a brief

outline of what their office does. If time allows at the end, general questions will be fielded from the floor. Questions can be emailed ahead of time to: pouimette@turley.com.

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