

BARRE GAZETTE

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QRSD presents budget to Fin Com

By Ellenor Downer
Editor
edowner@turley.com

BARRE – Quabbin Regional School District Superintendent Colleen Mucha presented the Finance Committee with a budget packet.

She said this was the same budget information the district supplied to all the member towns. Based on the Governor's budget, the only budget available at the time, she said numbers should change when the House and Senate budgets are ratified.

She said the school district still faced challenges. She said Quabbin and other districts find it hard to fill positions. One recent hire lasted one day. She also said there a lot of retirees this year.

The Superintendent said the budget was a 4.1% increase over last year. For Barre, the increase was 8.07% or about a \$523,000 increase from Fiscal Year 2024.

The Superintendent said this budget had a reduction of 13.4 positions, most due to attrition. She said there were also building issues, which needed to be addressed, new state mandates and new Individual Education Plan classes in the fall.

Superintendent Mucha said the Quabbin District spent below the state average per pupil. Transportation costs increased by 18% with no increase in state transportation reimbursement. Three towns including Barre had an increase in debt.

Last year, the school committee voted to take \$750,000 from Excess and Deficiency Account to lower the assessments to the

towns. In FY 25, they most likely will do the same. Rural School Aid numbers are not finalized yet.

She said she expected different numbers would be available when the Budget Subcommittee meets. Of the five member towns, only Hubbardston had an increase in student enrollment. Hubbardston's assessment numbers were the highest for the member towns.

QRSD Committee Vice Chair Mark Brophy said the school committee was trying to be fiscally responsible. He said the 15 member committee did listen to and work with the entire district.

The Finance Committee also received notice of a 10% increase in the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical High School budget.

Select Board budget

Town Administrator Tammy Martin said the Select Board budget included a pay increase for the Administrative Assistant in order to change the position to an executive position. She would provide administrative support to the Town Administrator. The Board's budget also had a salary increase for the Town Administrator, which was in her contract.

The Town Administrator said building maintenance had been under budgeted. The fire escapes at the Henry Woods Building and the Town Hall both need repairs. She also said she was looking for quotes for solar panels at the Stephen Brewer Public Safety Building to help reduce electrical costs at that building.

Town-Wide Yard Sale celebrates 28th year

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

RUTLAND – The town hosted its 28th annual Town-Wide Yard Sale this past Saturday, and it was a great success as people from all over came to shop amongst the many tables and yards of treasures.

"Participants pay to be on the map, and all proceeds go to the town's 4th of July Celebration," Lynn Patterson said. "Over the years, this event raises over \$3,500 for (the celebration) each year. We've been told, 'it's my favorite day – kinda my own special holiday!'"

"...It's my favorite day – kinda my own special holiday!"

– Lynn Patterson

The anticipation and excitement that the town feels for this special "holiday" is greatly noticed by all who come to see what there is to offer.

Food trucks, live music, and more made the day one to remember, and hundreds of participants greeted many local friends and family, as well as people outside of Rutland.

"Rutland is proud of our history and proud of our annual yard sale tradition," Patterson said. "Community groups, businesses, and all enjoy the day. Several town organizations gather to sell their items for charity, or business boom, and the town streets and sidewalks come to life."

The town is proud of its many events, and anyone can tell how much the day is loved, and looked forward to, for all the years to come.



Megan Ryan (left), and her daughter, Emily Ryan, sold cookies for their Girl Scout Troop 30239 to raise money for a trip to Disney this summer.



Kathy Cammuso and her daughter, Kristen, had fun looking for treasures.



Tracy Wheeler wore a fabulous hat with Bruce Fiene at their yard sale.



Alex and his mom with their collection of books.



Nolan, the young owner of No's Custom 3D Printing, showed off his creations.



Carrie Mota and Sally Hayden, members of the Rutland 4th of July Committee had fun hosting their own yard sale.

Global Roots Farm purchases Rice's Roots Farm

PETERSHAM – Nearly three years ago the Rice's Roots Farm came on the open real estate market after twelve years of operation by Connor Rice.

One of the oldest farms in Petersham dating back 291 years to 1733 now has a new owner with the intention of bringing the 228 acre property into the 21st century with appropriate regenerative and climate smart gardening and state-of-the-art farming techniques and sustainable stewardship practices.

The new owner, Global Roots Farm, LLC, a Boston-based international corporation has as its mission to create a Farm and a surrounding culture that practices and models ecologically sustainable and regenerative agriculture, offers "hands-on" learning experiences; educates present and future citizens to become stewards of the land, and creates a model so that all may live in alignment with nature and its laws. To this end, there are four goals of the Global Roots Farm: produce local food; provide education to all; support local, regional, and international projects and conduct appropriate stewardship of the land.

Lin, the visionary founder of Global Roots Farm was asked, "Why Rice's Roots Farm in Petersham?" His response was "I believe that the future of humanity and our precious Planet will be based on an understanding of cultural differences and the willingness to work together to create a harmonious future where we all can thrive. I want this for myself, my family and all people"

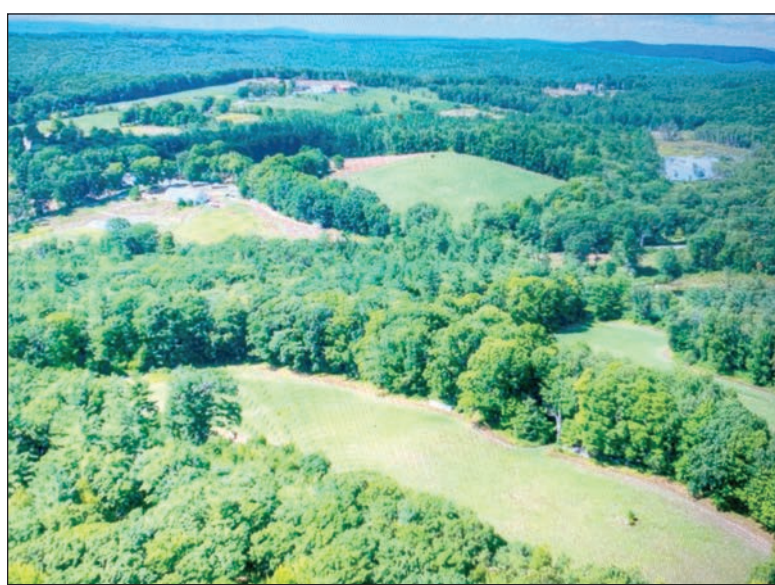
In addition, the operation of the farm could help overcome the anxiety and frustration of the younger generations on the state-of-the-world and empower them to action.

Lin and his team have spent many hours in the community of Petersham walking around and meeting citizens and have felt welcome at every encounter.

Part of the intention of Global Roots Farm is to partner with local educational, agricultural and community organizations to meet common goals through long-term leaseholder agreements. The founding partner to the farm's operation is the local University of the Wild, previously Earthlands. Dr. Larry Buell, UofWild founder, life-long resident of Petersham and local historian has been instrumental in orienting the new owners to the history of the land, food security needs of the region, and the priority of education at all levels.

The partnership with the UofWild brings in the innovative University of Massachusetts/Amherst's new Learning to

See GLOBAL, page 10



Submitted photos
This is an overview of the Rice's Roots Farm in Petersham. It now has a new owner, Global Roots Farm, LLC



Here are some of the crops grown at Rice's Roots Farm in Petersham.



Dr. Larry Buell, UofWild and Chen Lin, CEO, Global Roots Farm, LLC stand by a map of the land.

'Mamma Mia' takes the stage in North Brookfield

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – For the first time in its history, the Theatre Guild of North Brookfield will be performing a production of "Mamma Mia".

The Theatre Guild of North Brookfield is a nonprofit organization that has been creating and presenting local community theatre for over 40 years. Bringing opportunity and community through a variety of shows, events and programs.

Throughout the month of May, the auditorium of North Brookfield Elementary School will be full of singing, laughter and applause as local theatre stars take the stage and bring a familiar story to life. The show features over 30 cast members consisting of Theatre Guild regulars and first-time performers making their debut on stage.

"Mamma Mia" is a musical written by British playwright Catherine Johnson and based on songs by Swedish pop group ABBA. The story is a romantic comedy contrasting the dreams and aspirations of a 1970s girl and a 1990s girl.

As many musical followers know, "Mamma Mia" is the story of Donna, an independent single mother and her daughter Sophie, who is about to get married and have the wedding of her dreams. However, Sophie wants her father to be at the wedding.

If only her mother could tell her who her father is.

Directing the production of "Mamma Mia" is Jay Valencourt, the vice president of the Theatre Guild of North Brookfield. Valencourt is also portraying the role of Sam Carmichael, one of

the presumed fathers of Sophie. Valencourt mentioned that their spring musical is one of the Theatre Guild's biggest shows of the year. The cast and crew have been rehearsing since February and Valencourt has witnessed a lot of hard work, excitement and dedication put into this production.

"We have a lot of fun," Valencourt said. "I still have the theatre bug."

Joining Valencourt on the creative team is Director of Choreography Erin Smith. Growing up with a theatre family in southern California, Smith has always enjoyed listening to cast recordings, dancing, choreographing and performing.

Smith is excited to be back working with the Theatre Guild of North Brookfield and be surrounded by a talented group of performers and creative staff.

Many cast members who are also a part of the ensemble are also students of North Brookfield High School. Some of them starred in the Theatre Guild's recent production of "Willy Wonka".

One of the performers making their debut is North Brookfield Police Chief Mark Smith. The newcomer to the stage will be portraying the role of Bill Austin in "Mamma Mia" and has been given a lot of encouragement and support.

"I'm the new guy and they made me feel like family," Smith said.

Smith is excited to be making his debut on stage and hopes to make his fellow cast members proud. He has always appreciated theatre arts and those brave enough to get on stage.

Playing the infamous Donna

See MAMMA MIA, page 9



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News of the Towns

Round Town
Ellenor Downer
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Hubbardston
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Oakham Senior Center buzzes with activity

Farmer's Market opens
The Barre Farmer's Market opens this Saturday, May 4 from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on the Barre Common, Barre. There be many local vendors selling cards, honey, jams, jellies, crafts, plants, flowers, vegetables and fruits in season, eggs, dairy, ice cream and more. The event is held rain or shine.

Food Pantry
The next two Barre Food Pantry distributions will occur on Wednesday May 8 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. and on Thursday, May 16 from 5:30 p.m. Clients are invited to pick up groceries from the food pantry either in the morning on Wednesday, May 8 or in the evening on Thursday, May 16, whichever is more convenient for them. The Barre In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients May 8 and 16 will again be "drive-through" style distributions. Clients will line up in their vehicles on Park Street and proceed into the right hand (east) entrance driveway of the Barre Congregational Church. They will remain in their cars. They'll drive up and be checked in by a volunteer, then continue up to the church building where their groceries will be put into the trunk or wayback of their vehicle by volunteers at multiple stations.

Historical Society Annual Meeting
The Barre Historical Society and Museum will host its Annual Meeting on Thursday, May 2 at 6:30 p.m. at The Heritage Center, 20 Common St. All invited to attend. To properly conduct the business of the Annual Meeting, a minimum of 15 members in good standing, current members/dues paid for current fiscal year, must be in attendance. People may visit the website for membership information at <https://barrehistoricalsociety.org> and clicking on memberships at the bottom of the home page. Memberships will be accepted up to the commencing of the meeting. The Barre Historical Society and Museum is dedicated to preserving and celebrating the rich heritage, fostering an appreciation for history and providing a vibrant educational platform that connects the community with the past. The theme for the program following the meeting is to bring something to share from Barre's 200th or 225th Anniversary celebrations. Light refreshments will be served.

OAKHAM – Zumba instructor, Melanie Silva share with her class that at the gym where she also teaches have a monthly challenge and this month is special. They have a young woman that has been diagnosed with breast cancer. She was actually in surgery when we had class. The challenge is to do 100 squats a day. I made sure that their workout included 100 squats. They were happy to be a part of the challenge.



Shown recently at the Oakham Senior Center are rear row Becky Austin, Susan Richards, Pauline Dwelly, Judy Mennard and Priscilla McGlynn and Helen Bechan, front.



The Oakham Senior Center Zumba Gold meet on Mondays from 10:30-11:45 a.m. at the North Brookfield Congregational Church, in North Brookfield. They are from left, Christine Clark Paula, Andrea Marchand, Doreen Constratano, Karen Savoie, Cyndi Owens, Wendy Ballou, Claire Nordberg, Gail Totas, Marcia Dwelly, Linda Pearo, Ellen Carpenter and Barbara Wreschinsky and Melanie Silva, instructor.

Hubbardston Library offers scholarships
The Hubbardston Public Library offers two \$500 scholarships for Hubbardston residents pursuing post-secondary education. To be eligible, they must be a current Hubbardston resident. They should submit their application to: Hubbardston Public Library, 7 Main St., Unit 8 Hubbardston, MA 01452. The deadline is Sunday, June 30. For questions or more information, people may email the Hubbardston Public Library at library@hubbardstonma.us or call 978-928-1400.

Plant sale
The First Parish Unitarian Church of Hubbardston will hold their annual spring plant sale on Saturday, May 11 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Perennials from early spring flowering to late fall flowers and all season long will be for sale. There will be edible plants, some annuals like geraniums and some woody plants. Most plants are grown in local gardens so people know they grow in the area. This is a great way to add to an existing garden or to start a new one. In addition to the wide variety of plants, there will be an assortment of homemade fudge and candies.

Pastel workshop
On Tuesday May 21 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. pastel, Greg Maichack, will hold a hands-on pastel workshop for adults and older teens at the Hubbardston Public Library, Main Street. This pastel painting workshop serves sheer beginners to advanced artists. All materials are provided, including professional grade pastels, paper and pencils. People should call the library at 978-928-4775 to register. Space is limited. This program is supported in part or in whole by a grant from the Hubbardston Cultural Council, a local agency, which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

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

MOC COORDINATED FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT						
MAY 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Program Manager – kford@mocinc.org CFCE Coordinators – rburke@mocinc.org , qt12683@aol.com			1 10AM Playgroup 68 Coleman St. Gardner	2 10AM Farm Playgroup 833 New Braintree, Rd. Oakham	3 10AM Playgroup 307 Main St Gilbertville 10AM Playgroup 601 River St Fitchburg	4
5	6 10AM Outdoor Playgroup Curtis Rec Playgroup Hubbardston 10AM Playgroup 16 Elm St Baldwinville	7 10AM Playgroup w/Fidelity Bank 7 Exchange St, Barre	8 10AM Playgroup 68 Coleman St. Gardner	9 10AM Playgroup w/Fidelity Bank 601 River St Fitchburg	10 10AM Playgroup 307 Main St Gilbertville 10AM Playgroup 601 River St Fitchburg	11
12 May is National Better Sleep Month. Visit www.nphic.org	13 10AM Infant Playgroup 7 Exchange St, Barre	14 NO CFCE PROGRAMMING	15 10AM Playgroup w/ Fidelity Bank 68 Coleman St. Gardner	16 NO CFCE PROGRAMMING	17 10AM Playgroup w/Fidelity Bank 307 Main St Gilbertville 10AM Playgroup 601 River St Fitchburg	18 Please check our MOC CFCE and Parent Child + Facebook page for Updates & cancellations
19 For more information.	20 10AM Outdoor Playgroup Curtis Rec Playgroup Hubbardston 1030AM Playgroup Stevens Memorial Library Ashburnham	21 10AM Social Emotional Playgroup Barre (Registration Required)	22 10AM Playgroup 68 Coleman St. Gardner	23 10AM Social Emotional Playgroup Fitchburg (Registration Required) 6pm Evening Playgroup 7Exchange St. Barre	24 10AM Playgroup 601 River St Fitchburg (No Hardwick Playgroup)	25
26	27 MOC CLOSED for Memorial Day!	28 10AM Outdoor Playgroup Crocker Park Fitchburg (No Barre Playgroup)	29 10AM Social Emotional Playgroup Gardner (Registration Required)	30 NO CFCE PROGRAMMING	31 10AM Social Emotional Playgroup Gilbertville (Registration Required) 10AM Playgroup 601 River St. Fitchburg	

All MOC CFCE programs are funded by the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care
Free Playgroups, StoryWalks, and Family Events. No registration is required. For ages Birth to 6yrs and their guardians!

Quabbin Community Band begins rehearsals

BARRE – Rehearsals for Quabbin Community Band will start on Monday, May 6.

Rehearsals run from 6:30-8:30 p.m. and will be held at the Barre Town Hall, corner of Mechanic and Exchange Streets. Musicians should bring a stand and bring their friends and family members, who play instruments.

This is Margaret Reidy's third year as conductor. Each year, the band grew in numbers and competence as a band. All musicians are encouraged to be part of this community group of folks from their early teens to those in their 70s.

Rehearsals start Monday, May 6 and end Monday, Aug. 5 and are from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Barre Town Hall. There are two exceptions: Monday, May 20 rehearsal will be held at Quabbin Regional High School, 800 South St., in the band room under the direction of Toni Brown and there will be no rehearsal on Monday, May 27 due to Memorial Day holiday.

The Quabbin Community Band will play in the Memorial Day parade on Monday, May 27. Upcoming contests are Sundays, June 16, 23 and 30 at 6 p.m. at South Barre Common Bandstand, Nornay Park, Main Street. The remaining Sunday concerts July 7, 14, 21 and 28 and Aug. 4 at 6 p.m. will be in the Harding Allen Bandstand on Barre Common.

The Sunday, Aug. 4 concert will celebrate Barre's 250th anniversary including alumni band members. The Quabbin Community Band will also play during the Barre 250th parade on Saturday, Sept. 21 at 1 p.m.

For more information, people may email Julie at julie@mhof.net or call or text 978-257-1192.

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 May 6. 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 – Shepherd's pie, carrots, peas, peaches, marble rye bread

TUESDAY – Greek chicken, steamed white rice, roasted broccoli, vanilla pudding, diet = sugar free vanilla pudding, pumpernickel bread

WEDNESDAY – Meatloaf with gravy, garlic mashed potatoes, chuck wagon corn, fresh fruit, French bread

THURSDAY – Chicken royale with gravy, mashed carrot and sweet potato, roasted cauliflower, double chocolate cake, diet = cheesecake mousse, Italian bread

FRIDAY – Lasagna with meatballs, Marinara sauce, green beans, baked cinnamon pears, 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.

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

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News of the Towns

PUBLIC MEETINGS

BARRE.

Select Board – May 2 at 6 p.m. and May 6 at 5:30 p.m.
 Board of Assessors – May 17 at 6 p.m.
 Felton Field Commission – May 7 at 6:30 p.m.
 Planning Board – May 7 at 7 p.m.
 Library Trustees – May 8 at 6:30 p.m.
 Barre Housing Authority – May 9 at 3 p.m.
 Board of Health – May 13 at 5 p.m.
 Water Commission – May 13 at 6:30 p.m.
 DPW Commission – May 13 at 7 p.m.
 Conservation Committee – May 14 at 7 p.m.
 Sewer Commission – May 16 at 7 p.m.
 250th Anniversary Committee – May 23 at 6:30 p.m.
 Cemetery Commission – May 23 at 11 a.m.
 Cable Advisory Committee – June 11 at 7 p.m.

HARDWICK

Board of Health – May 2 at 6:45 p.m.
 Paige Library Trustees – May 2 at 7 p.m.
 Finance Committee – May 6 at 6 p.m.
 Recycling Commission – May 7 at 6:30 p.m.
 Council on Aging – May 8 at 9 a.m.
 Gilbertville Public Library – May 8 at 4 p.m.
 Hardwick New Braintree Cultural Council – May 13, June 10, July 8 and August 12, Nov. 11 and Dec. 9 at 6:30 p.m.
 Planning Board – May 14 at 6:30 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – May 15 at 6:30 p.m.
 Capital Planning Committee – May 20 at 3 p.m.
 Gilbertville Water District – May 21 at 5:30 p.m.

HUBBARDSTON

Board of Library Trustees – May 2 at 7 p.m.
 Board of Health – May 2 at 7 p.m.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

Fire Highway Building Committee – May 2 at 4 p.m.
 Parks and Recreation – May 2 at 5:30 p.m.
 Capital Planning – May 2 at 6:30 p.m.
 Annual Town Election – May 6
 Board of Assessors – May 6 at 9 a.m.
 Downtown Development Committee – May 6 at 6:30 p.m.
 Reps from Rep Berthiame and Sen Durant's Office – May 8 at 10:15 a.m.
 Planning Board – May 15 at 6 p.m.
 Special Town Meeting – May 17 at 6:30 p.m.
 Coalition for a Healthy North Brookfield – Saturday, April 25 at 10 a.m.

OAKHAM

Select Board – May 3 at noon, May 13 and May 28 at 6 p.m.
 Cemetery Commission – May 4 at 10 a.m.
 Zoning Board of Appeals Hearing – May 9 at 6 p.m.
 Council on Aging – May 10 at noon
 Board of Assessors – May 13 at 6 p.m.
 Town Elections – May 20 from 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
 Planning Board – May 21 at 7 p.m.

PETERSHAM

Select Board – May 2 at 5:30 p.m.
 Advisory Finance Committee – May 2 at 6 p.m.
 Board of Health – May 2 at 6 p.m.
 Petersham Historic District – May 2 and May 16 at 6 p.m.
 Planning Board – May 2 at 7 p.m.
 Open Space and Recreation Committee – May 7 at 6 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – May 7 at 7 p.m.
 Council on Aging – May 13 at 10 a.m.
 Cemetery Commission – May 14 at 10 a.m.
 Board of Assessors – May 21 at 5:30 p.m.

RUTLAND

Annual Town Meeting – May 11 from 6-9 p.m.

Langlois appointed to Advisory Commission

On April 9, Aaron Langlois, Select Board member in Oakham, was sworn in by the Lieutenant Governor at the State House, as member of the Commonwealth's Advisory Commission on Local Government.

During this meeting he had a chance to speak with Lt. Governor Driscoll about the challenges of small rural towns, our budgets and unsustainable workloads that are dependent on a very limited employed and mostly part time staff and predominantly volunteers.

The commission appointment comes as part of my responsibilities as a board member of the Massachusetts Select Board Association and Massachusetts Municipal Association, which Langlois was elected to in January. This newly appointed volunteer role is in addition to him serving on the elected Oakham Board of Selectmen and Board of Health. He currently a candidate for reelection for both Board of Selectmen (first full term) and Board of Health (fourth term) on May 20.

Per Massachusetts General Law, the Advisory Commission on Local Government shall have the following responsibilities:

1. to review and analyze proposed legislation and regulatory changes from the point of view of municipal government and present such point of view to the governor, his executive secretaries and to the general court;
2. to act as an independent advocate for the interests of local governments in their relations with state and federal governments;
3. to advise officials of the commonwealth and the federal government on the needs of local governments, assist in mobilizing state and federal resources to deal with problems of local governments, provide coordinating support to agencies responsible for administering federal, state and local programs, and promote legislative and administrative proposals reflecting the interests of local governments;
4. to establish, from time to time, study committees or task forces to consider issues pertaining to local government in detail and to present the results of those considerations to the governor, the secretaries of his executive offices and to the general court;
5. to meet monthly with the governor and at such other times as the chairperson deems necessary;
6. to meet quarterly with the legislative leadership, and at such other times as may be necessary;
7. to promulgate rules and regulations governing its procedures and those of the executive committee; and
8. to perform such other like services as the commission shall decide upon.



Submitted photos

On April 9 Aaron Langlois, of Oakham, right, was sworn in by the Lieutenant Governor at the State House as a member of the Commonwealth's Advisory Commission on Local Government.



The Commonwealth's Advisory Commission on Local Government pose for a group photo. Aaron Langlois of Oakham is fifth from the left.

Food Pantry announces upcoming distributions available

BARRE – The next two Barre Food Pantry distributions will occur on Wednesday May 8 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. and on Thursday, May 16 from 5:30-7 p.m.

Clients are invited to pick up groceries from the food pantry either in the morning on Wednesday, May 8 or in the evening on Thursday, May 16, whichever is more convenient for them. The Barre Food Pantry volunteers strive to continue to fulfill their mission to get food to hungry and food insecure clients. The pantry must also continue to protect clients, volunteers and the larger community from the spread of disease viruses.

Many clients and volunteers are classified as high-risk due to their age and/or underlying health conditions. The Barre Food Pantry Board of Directors considered changing how the pantry currently operates, but decided that the most responsible path forward is to continue to operate as we have since March of 2020.

In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients May 8

and 16 will again be "drive-through" style distributions. Clients will line up in their vehicles on Park Street and proceed into the right hand (east) entrance driveway of the Barre Congregational Church. They will remain in their cars. They'll drive up and be checked in by a volunteer, then continue up to the church building where their groceries will be put into the trunk or wayback of their vehicle by volunteers at multiple stations.

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

On Tuesday night, May 7 at 5:30 p.m. the Barre Food Pantry will be gathering volunteers at the Barre Congregational Church to unload incoming groceries

from their truck, to sort through donated groceries, to pre-fill grocery bags and in other ways to prepare for the distribution the following morning. If you can help pitch in for an hour on the May, 7, people should call Sonja Blaney at 978-355-6921.

People should not arrive to volunteer on May 7, 8 or 16 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 website by visiting

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

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



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Opinion

Letters to the Editor

Sen. Durant speaks out on migrant crisis costs

“With the passage of this legislation, we have now spent \$826 million on the migrant crisis here in the Commonwealth in fiscal year 2024.

We are not sure if this funding will be enough to cover the costs we are facing, and the Healey Administration is expecting to spend close to another \$1 billion next fiscal year. To that we ask the same question repeatedly: what are the priorities of this Legislature and Gov. Healey? The more we spend on an inefficient system, the more we pull from the other programs that many of our residents use every day. These residents are citizens of this state that have lived and worked here for most if not all of their lives. We must be prioritizing them and not allow the government to fail them by not effectively solving this crisis in a fiscally responsible way.

In the long term, we may see other programs and services cut because of our inefficient spending to solve this crisis. It is far past time for us to stop throwing money at the problem in the hopes it solves itself. While it is disappointing that our federal government will not step up to help our state, it is essential that we start taking proactive steps to solve this crisis. We must call for federal help and we must work to amend the right to shelter law so that it prioritizes our residents. We cannot spend our way out of this crisis.

State Senator Peter Durant
Spencer

St. Aloysius families thank playground supporters

To the Editor,

St. Aloysius Catholic School family would wholeheartedly like to thank the members of this community for their outpouring of support at the recent Spaghetti Dinner, hosted by the Knights of Columbus Council #183 and held at St. Mary's Hall.

We owe our success to our many sponsors, those of you who bought and sold raffle and dinner tickets or donated your time and services. We especially want to thank Father Piotr Pawlus for use of the venue, the Eddie Foreman Band for providing the music and the K of C for all of their hard work feeding such a big crowd.

All in all, over \$33,000 was raised towards the Joe C. Knight Memorial Playground. Students returned from April break very excited to see the first piece of equipment installed on the school grounds.

Again, thank you to all who worked so hard for the benefit of our students.

On behalf of the St. Aloysius Catholic School Spaghetti Dinner Committee:

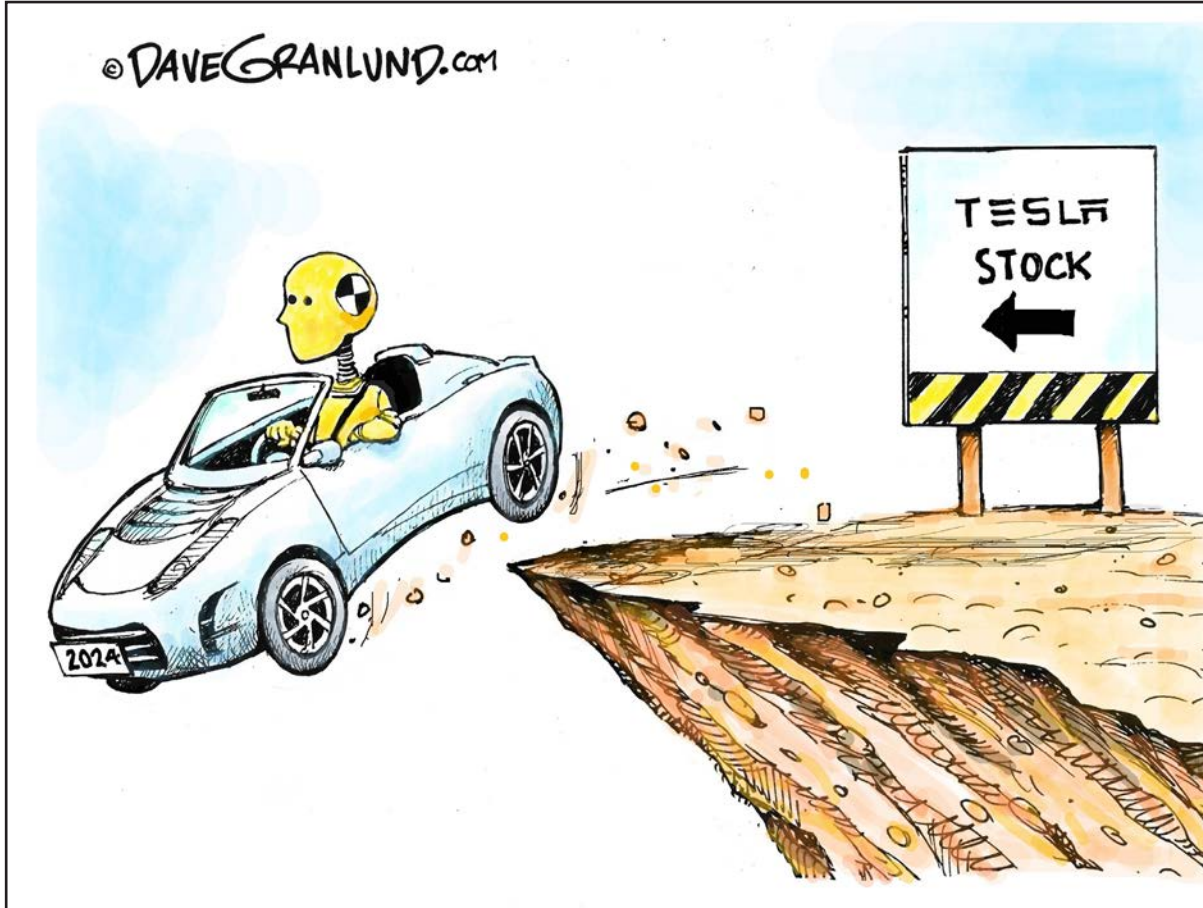
Megan Morrison
Jenn and Bill Moryl
Joanne Barbale and the rest of
the St. Aloysius Catholic School Family

Historical Schoolhouse



Submitted photo

This plaque designates the No. 4 Schoolhouse, 209 Farrington Raod in Barre as a National Register of Historic Places. The No. 4 Schoolhouse members appreciated the founders: Mary E. M> Connolly, Ivy A Cummings and Martin C. Harty Sr.. who established the No. 4 Community Club in July 10, 1957.



Guest Column



Minister wants to maximize Social Security benefit

Dear Rusty

I want to apply for Social Security, but I want to make sure I get all the benefits I have earned. I am a veteran with a 10% disability rating (not sure if that matters). I am 68 years old. I am a minister and have been exempt from Social Security taxes for most of my income since I was about 30, but I still have the 40 quarters needed. I have also worked off and on in the secular workplace and continued paying Social Security taxes.

One hears a great deal about those who want to “help” us apply for Social Security, but which turn out to be a scam or want a fee. How do I apply and maximize my benefits with my unique situation?

Signed: Seeking Answers

Dear Seeking

Don't worry about fees here at the AMAC Foundation – there is never a fee for the services we provide as we are non-profit. And I want to thank you for your military service, you may find the “For Veterans” section at our AMAC Foundation website interesting at www.amacfoundation.org.

Your VA disability rating does not affect your Social Security benefit. At 68 years old, your Social Security benefit payment has been earning Delayed Retirement Credits since you reached your Full Retirement Age of 66 years and 4 months in July 2022. That means that your benefit, if you claim now, will be about 13% more than it would have been had you claimed at your FRA. FYI, if you continue to delay, your SS benefit will continue to grow by 8% per additional year you delay, up to the month you turn 70. At that time, your SS benefit will be 29% higher than it would have been at your FRA. Nevertheless, if you wish to claim a smaller amount now, you can do so in a couple of ways:

You can call Social Security at 1-800-77-1213 or your local SS office to request an appointment to apply. They will most likely set a date/time to call you to take your application over the phone, they discourage office visits these days.

Once you have applied, it typically takes a month or two to process your application, but they will pay your benefits effective with the month you say you want them to begin. Note, they will likely also offer you six months of retroactive benefits but be aware that if you accept that offer your monthly payment will be permanently reduced by 4%.

You can apply for your SS retirement benefit online at www.ssa.gov/apply. Applying online is, by far, the most efficient method, as shown in this short video: www.ssa.gov/hlp/video/claim_r01.htm. However, to apply online you will need to first create your personal “my Social Security” online account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. Once you have your personal online account set up, you will be able to see what your SS retirement benefit will be now and at future ages should you plan to wait longer to claim.

Your SS retirement benefit will be based on your lifetime record of earnings from which Social Security FICA taxes were withheld or self-employ-

See SECURITY, page 5

In Past Pages

5 years (May 9, 2019)

The owner of a house at 68 Coldbrook Road offered to sign the deed over to the town in lieu of taxes owed on the property. The treasurer/collector has the property in take title. Selectman Brad Taylor said it would cost the town more to go through the land court process to acquire the property from the state land court. He said he would like an article on the town meeting warrant for the town to accept the property. Selectmen opted to consult town counsel on the matter. Lucy Tessnau of the Oakham Historical Commission state the house dates from 1790 ad was the oldest home in the center of town.

In the history of the world, there is no association to equal the ancient and profoundly complex relationship between the human and the horse. The horse has shaped art, literature, culture and civilization. Once the most essential companions, for millennia horses provided the strength, stamina and speed humans lacked, building cities, farms and industries and serving as the principal mode of transportation. During times of war, horses were both revered and exploited - eight million were killed during WW I. The Barre Historical Society will present a program honoring horses on May 16.

Barre Selectmen at the request of the Barre Council on Aging took the first step for the town to become an age friendly community. The board approved the formation of a committee of eleven with a quorum of six to work on the task of becoming an age friendly and dementia friendly community. The first step in the process was the formation of a committee to complete the process. Other steps include filing an application with the American Association of Retired Persons researching the need in the community for different categories such as housing and transportation, making the community more area of dementia, educating business employees on how to deal with dementia and training first responder on how to treat dementia.

10 years (May 1, 2024)

Lucy Tessnau, Chair of the Oakham Council on Aging, told the Board of Selectmen at their Monday night meeting that three members on the council's terms were up this year. All three decid-

LOOK BACK Petersham Antique Show – 1997



File photo

A table full of tinware at the Petersham antique show was attractively arranged.

ed to continue of the COA if no one else was interested in serving. She said many senior centers have a director, which is a salaried position. Since the town financially could not afford to hire a paid director at this time, the council is seeking for a volunteer to run the programs at the center, located in the downstairs of the Oakham Town Hall.

The Quabbin Regional School District Committee unanimously approved a lower fiscal year FY 15 budget Tuesday night. The new figure of \$32,342,570 was \$1,240,869 less than the \$33,583,439 preliminary budget approved in February. This budget reflected a 2.5% increase over the last yer's amount and had an average assessment of 6.3% for the district's five member towns. Superintendent Maureen Marshall

explained to the committee the lower amount came rom a reduction in force, elimination of most of the requested positions and reduction to the non-salary expense accounts.

Chair of the Board of Selectmen, William Storie, discussed the handling of invoices on roadwork covered by the \$900,000 Small Town Road Assistance Program grant through MassWorks. The town opted to submit invoices to MassWorks directly or reimbursement rather than the town pay all bills and then get reimbursed form the state. The town originally planned to short term borrow the money, but MassWorks gave the the option of submitting the invoices electronically, receiving direct

See PAST PAGES, page 5

Corrections policy

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

Election letters to the editor welcome

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

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

Campaign news

As part of its election coverage, the newspaper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers. Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in the Barre Gazette.

Turley Publications Letters to the Editor Policy

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

BARRE GAZETTE TEAM



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Guest Column



What to do when and how to do it

The last few gorgeous days got us all outside and into our home landscape. Maybe you looked at this or that and said "Now what do I do?" Here is a column straight from the archives to best guide you through the next oh so fun (and busy) weeks in the garden.

DO remove spent blooms from spring flowering bulbs. Once "deadheaded" the bulb won't expend energy making seeds, instead, it will store it and delight you with an even healthier stand of flowers next year.

DO NOT cut, braid or otherwise alter bulb foliage. It may not be the prettiest, but as long as it is green, (and to some degree even when it is yellowish) it is photosynthesizing, making a storehouse for next spring's blooms.

DO turn under your covercrop of winter rye now, a few weeks prior to planting your vegetable garden. Plant residues will have a chance to break down without stealing valuable nutrients from newly transplanted seedlings.

DO NOT add fresh manure to garden plots as it will burn plants. Be sure to compost it for at least six months prior to use. Make your compost pile "hot" by balancing the amount of green and brown ingredients and by turning it regularly. The result is a near neutral weed-free source of organic matter.

DO prune spring flowering shrubs soon after blooming. Forsythia and lilac for example, bloom on the previous season's wood. By pruning once their blooming period is complete you will allow enough time for regrowth without sacrificing next year's blooms.

DO NOT prune fruit trees now. Better to wait until the trees are dormant. You can, however, rid apple trees of pencil sized or smaller water sprouts in mid

summer. Simply grab one with your hand and give it a quick jerk. Removing a small portion of the branch from which it grows will likely prevent future sprouts in this area.

DO begin to harden off homegrown seedlings and garden-bound indoor plants over the course of the next few weeks. By gradually acclimatizing plants to the outdoors you will likely prevent transplant shock and other maladies such as sunscald and windburn. Start off with a few hours outside each day, working up to all day and overnight. Then, as long as the threat of frost has passed the plants can successfully be planted in the ground.

DO NOT plant pepper seedlings until the soil has sufficiently warmed (usually by the first week in June). Research indicates that planting peppers in cold soil will stunt plants and reduce yields. You can warm the soil where peppers (and other heat lovers) are to grow by laying down sheets of IRT mulch a couple of weeks prior to planting. Then simply cut holes in the plastic and plant as normal.

DO cut asparagus with a knife just under the surface of the soil. In established plantings you can harvest spears for about six weeks. Leave those that are thinner than a pencil. Although we wish the season could go on forever, allowing foliage to form will only return energy to the roots, making for tasty shoots next spring!

DO NOT allow weeds to take over the strawberry patch! Applying a mulch of shredded leaves, composted sawdust or pine needles will not only keep the weeds at bay, but it will feed the plants and keep developing berries clean at the same time!

DO sow grass seed soon, before crabgrass has a chance to take hold. Or better yet, sow seed in late August, or early September, when this dreaded weed is near done its life cycle. Water sown areas daily to promote timely germination.

DO NOT rototill patches of perennial weeds; you are merely spreading them about the garden! Better to hand weed, digging out the roots completely. After planting is complete mulch around plants to cut down on future weeds, conserve moisture, and add organic matter to the soil. When applying mulch around trees and shrubs remember to pull it back, away from the trunk to prevent girdling.

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

May has only one Monday story time

NEW BRAINTREE – The New Braintree Public Library, 45 Memorial Drive, is offering one Story Time program for preschoolers during the month of May, on Monday, May 13 beginning at 9 a.m.

Two of our feathered friends will be featured with "Mel Fell" by Corey Tabor and "Good-Night Owl" by Pat Hutchens. This reading and crafts program for preschool children is typically held twice a month on Mondays at the library.

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

Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

I took a drive down to the post office to mail the real estate taxes and noticed how spring had blossomed out.

The forsythia was beautiful and the PJM bushes were in bloom. Many of the ornamental trees that were planted through the efforts of the late Dot Athens were in bloom.

My PJM and crab apple tree are about to burst out in color. Each day I notice something new coming up in the gardens. Today, I labeled four hollyhock plants that I had planted last year as seedlings. They survived the winter.

This week I will be going for my physical and hopefully will find out why I am not walking good and limping. Nothing hurts, but I have a hard time with balance.

Most of the yard work has been done, but there is a lot of moss on the lawns so I guess I will be having moss gardens this year. Most years I have applied a lot of lime but I won't do that this year.

The Blood Root is in full bloom in the wild-flower garden. There are daffodils in most all of the gardens and they are cheerful to look at.

There are a lot of day lilies in foliage and hopefully they will bloom. My friend, Eeva, gave me a beautiful double orange one that I hope will bloom again and multiply.

I have not put flowers or vegetables in the planters yet as we have had several nights of frost. I did plant a few pots of broccoli and lettuce seeds to get a head start.

I also planted some milk weed seeds for the Monarch butterflies. Speaking of birds, the hummingbirds arrived on Sunday. I had just filled my feeder with the liquid sugar water.

Another bird has been making a nest in the crook of the garden shed and breezeway, but I noticed it had fallen down today. I wonder if another bird is destroying it or was it too big for

the area.

I have some closed gentians coming up with their foliage. They were a gift from a friend. They will bloom later in the year.

I am watching for the Lady Slippers as we have them staked from last year. I hope we have some. The rhubarb is about six inches tall.

Here is a recipe for homemade Instant Oatmeal.

HOMEMADE INSTANT OATMEAL

- 1/2 cup of quick cooking oatmeal
- 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 tablespoon light brown sugar, packed
- pinch of salt
- 1 tablespoon nuts, dried fruit, chocolate chips, spices.

Combine all in bottle or plastic bags. To cook add 2/3 cup of boiling water and let sit for five minutes. Stir and eat.

This and That

I bought some round pretzels this week and plan to dip them in melted chocolate and put them on wire racks to harden. I need a treat every once in a while. Life is too short not to have something good.

This week my handyman got me two two-drawer filing cabinets for my sewing, computer and craft room. I had a lot of things in boxes so this will make it easier to find things. My oldest daughter supplied me with many file folders so now I have no excuse to find things.

Now I need to get the room organized. I have my computer, sewing machine, desk for watercolor painting, ironing board and one bookcase in this room so it is a little crowded.

I hope you all have a nice week and enjoy the warming trend.

PAST PAGES, continued from page 4

deposit reimbursement to the town account and then the town paying the contractors for the various road projects after receiving the money. This plan would save the town interest costs involved with short term borrowing.

25 years (May 6, 1999)

She misses little Elvis there's no doubt about that. For Sandra Hunting, who is deaf, the clownish little Dachshund mix, with his one blue eye and one brown eye, was "an indispensable companion." "Unlike a regular pet, Elvis did everything with me and we went everywhere together. He was like an extension of myself," she said. The bright little mongrel, saved from the pound, had been trained at the New England Dog Center in West Boylston to be Huntington's ears. For almost four years, Elvis' presence was the paren-

theses around each day for Huntington. He would rouse her when the alarm went of and alert her when the phone rang or the doorbell announced visitors. On their walks, Elvis should make her aware when there were people or cars behind her.

Chuck Berube, the affable owner of the Country Store in Petersham, received the Petersham Grange 95 Community Citizen Award Tuesday night. At a meeting taking place simultaneously, the Board of Selectmen voted to make April 29 Chuck Berube Day in Petersham. At the meeting held at the Orthodox Congregational Church residents lauded Berube for outstanding service in the town. In honor of that service he was presented with a plaque and a proclamation listing the activities he has been a part of since he came to Petersham with his wife Sherry and family in 1985.

The Exchange Street area of Barre Common will undergo many changes if the common improvement

plan shown above is approved. The drawings were developed by engineers Guertin and Associates Inc. and architects Gates, Leighton and Associates. A final public meeting to discuss the plans will be held Monday, May 24 in the Barre Town Hall.

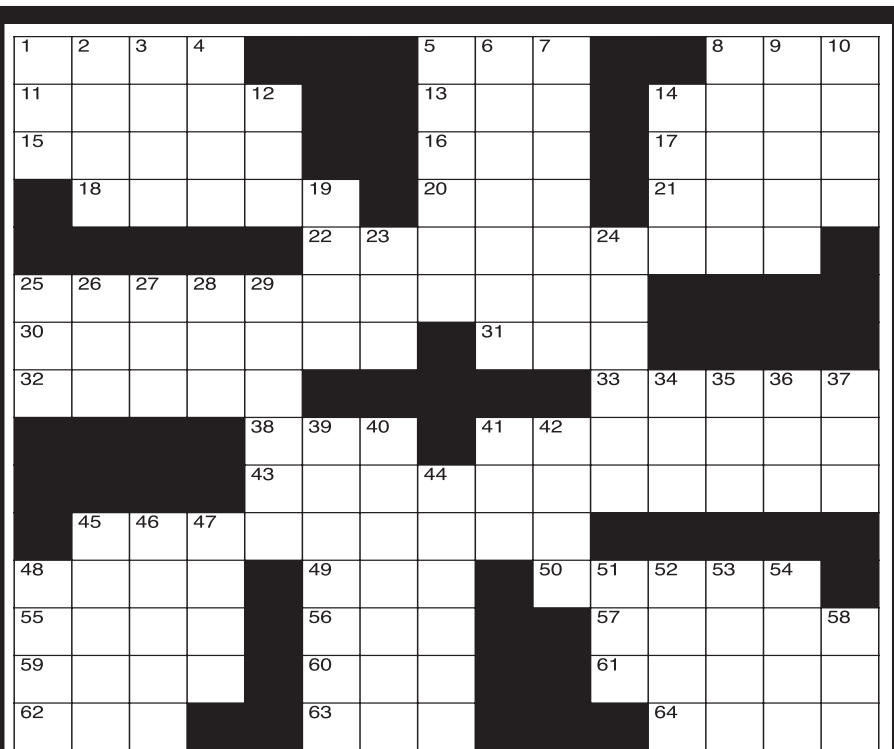
38 years (May 8, 1986)

The annual Oakham Town Meeting will be held next Monday, May 12 at the Oakham Center School at 7:30 p.m. The warrant for the meeting has been posted in the Town Hall, the Fobes Memorial Library and the Post office since March 31. The first 11 articles are routine and have appeared in essentially the same form or several years. One warrant article seeks funding for a full-time police officer. Police Chief Norman Drolet thinks the job has become large enough to warrant a full-time officer.

In light of the recent public appeal by Arlene Betteridge, Barre Finance Committee Chairman, for

voter rejection of the FY87 Quabbin Regional School District Budget. It seems appropriate and urgent that citizens examine the issues more closely. The members of the School Committee, like the members of the Finance Committee of each member town have spent countless hours examining the issues associated with costs for "good" education and the impact of increased state aid because of the recent change to a K-12 Regional School District.

The 225th anniversary committee of the town of Oakham has been meeting for over a year to formulate plans for the town wide celebrations that will take place during 1987. Different organizations in town have pledged to sponsor various events throughout the year. At this time, the following reflects the schedule as it has been set up by the committee. The kick-off for the year will take place during the first three months of in the form of a ball. The Oakham Lions Club is sponsoring this event and will give further information on it later this year.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Lions do it
5. In favor of
8. Rest here please (abbr.)
11. Pulpits
13. Leisure activity
14. Fertility god
15. Financial obligations
16. When you anticipate getting somewhere
17. Spanish river
18. Sporting events
20. Type of tree
21. Ceased to be
22. Persons
25. Synthetic resin
30. Relates to photochemical reactions
31. Father
32. Former Cowboys coach
33. City in Finland
38. Run batted in

CLUES DOWN

1. Cool!
2. Hebrew unit of measure
3. Swedish rock
4. College army
5. Favor over another
6. Called it a career
7. Egg-shaped wind instrument
8. Israeli statesman
9. Hurries
10. Slog
12. Midway between south and southeast
14. Benedictine monk
19. Self-immolation by fire ritual
20. Affirmative
21. Nimble
22. Doctor of Education
23. Family of regulator genes
24. Surrendering
25. Political action committee
26. S. American plant
27. Long-term memory
28. Bark
29. Breathes in
34. Take hold of
35. Everyone has one

CLUES ACROSS

41. Got through
43. They darken skin
45. In a harmful way
48. Form of weaving
49. City of Angels
50. Caucasian language
55. Syngman ___ Korean president
56. Sun up in New York
57. Paddled
59. Fishes
60. Affirmative
61. Nimble
62. Doctor of Education
63. Soviet Socialist Republic
64. A small island

CLUES DOWN

4. College army
5. Favor over another
6. Called it a career
7. Egg-shaped wind instrument
8. Israeli statesman
9. Hurries
10. Slog
12. Midway between south and southeast
14. Benedictine monk
19. Self-immolation by fire ritual
20. Affirmative
21. Nimble
22. Doctor of Education
23. Family of regulator genes
24. Surrendering
25. Political action committee
26. S. American plant
27. Long-term memory
28. Bark
29. Breathes in
34. Take hold of
35. Everyone has one

SECURITY, continued from page 4

ment earnings on which SS payroll taxes were levied. In any case, your SS benefit will be based on your lifetime earnings record contributing to Social Security, as well as your age when you claim. You'll get your maximum benefit based on those factors.

Although your situation is somewhat uncommon, it is not exceptionally unique. Your VA disability rating does not affect

your Social Security benefit and, because you are a member of the clergy, you are not subject to Social Security's Windfall Elimination Provision, a rule which reduces SS benefits for those with a pension earned while not contributing to Social Security. In other words, your SS benefit will be based entirely on your lifetime record of earnings from which Social Security payroll taxes were withheld and your age when your benefit starts.

The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated

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

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	<p>FRIGIDAIRE SIDE-BY-SIDE REFRIGERATOR \$999⁹⁹ WAS \$1,599.99</p>	<p>HOTPOINT WASHER OR DRYER \$469⁹⁹ WAS \$599.99</p>	<p>MAYTAG DRYER OR WASHER \$569⁹⁹ WAS \$699.99</p>	<p>WHIRLPOOL FRENCH DOOR BOTTOM FREEZER \$1599⁹⁹ WAS \$2,699</p>	<p>10 CU. FT. CHEST FREEZER \$499⁹⁹ WAS \$599.99</p>	<p>20 CUBIC FOOT UPRIGHT FREEZER \$799⁹⁹ WAS \$999.95</p>
	<p>LG TOP FREEZER 18 CU. FT. \$699⁹⁹ WAS \$899.99</p>	<p>AMANA GAS RANGE #AGR1533CBAS • Stainless Steel \$599⁹⁹ WAS \$699.99</p>	<p>GE FRONT LOAD WASHER #GFW550SSNWW \$749⁹⁹ WAS \$999.99</p>	<p>20 CU. FT. CHEST FREEZER \$899⁹⁹ WAS \$1099.99</p>	<p>LG SMOOTH TOP ELECTRIC STOVE \$729⁹⁹ WAS \$999.99</p>	<p>OVER THE RANGE MICROWAVE \$199⁹⁹ WAS \$279.99</p>

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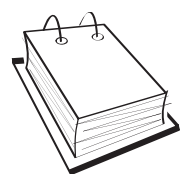
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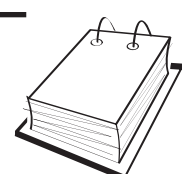
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CROSSWORD ANSWERS ARE ON PAGE 9



Calendar of Events



THURSDAY, MAY 2

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

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

ANNUAL MEETING for the Barre Historical Society and Museum will be held today at 6:30 p.m. at The Heritage Center, 20 Common St., Barre. All invited to attend. To properly conduct the business of the Annual Meeting, a minimum of 15 members in good standing, current members/dues paid for current fiscal year, must be in attendance. People may visit the website at <https://barrehistoricalsociety.org> for membership information by clicking on memberships at the bottom of the home page. Memberships will be accepted up to the commencing of the meeting. The Barre Historical Society and Museum is dedicated to preserving and celebrating the rich heritage, fostering an appreciation for history and providing a vibrant educational platform that connects the community with the past. The theme for the program following the meeting is to bring something to share from

Where is this?



Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

This week's mystery photo is from Hardwick. 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, May 6. The names of those that correctly guessed the location will appear in the following edition. Paul Carlson, Peggy Civilik, Stephen Craven, Evelyn Luukko, Cheryl Paul and Jeremy Varnum correctly identified the photo. The photo last week was the entrance to Glen Valley Cemetery, Valley Road, Barre.

Barre's 200th or 225th Anniversary celebrations. Light refreshments will be served.

MARY LANE HOSPITAL WITH STEVE GRANLUND will be held today at 6 pm. At the Gilbertville Public Library, 259 Main St., Gilbertville. People will hear about the closure of Mary Lane Hospital and its impact on the community. Granlund of Hardwick has done extensive research on this issue and will share what he's learned.

FRIDAY, MAY 3

MAMA MIA will be presented by the Theatre Guild of North Brookfield today, Saturday, May 4, Friday, May 10 and Saturday, May 11 at 7:30 p.m. and on Sunday, May 5 and Sunday, May 12 at 2 p.m. in the auditorium at the North Brookfield Elementary School, 10 New School Drive, North Brookfield. Tickets are available at the website www.theatre-guildofnorthbrookfield.com or may be purchased at the door. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$12 for seniors and students age 12 and under. The performance is supported in part by a grant from the North Brookfield Cultural Council a local agency, which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

SATURDAY, MAY 4

BARRE FARMER'S MARKET opens this Saturday from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on the Barre Common, Barre. There be many local vendors selling cards, honey, jams, jellies, crafts, plants, flowers, vegetables and fruits in season, eggs, dairy, ice cream and more. The event is held rain or shine.

CLEAN UP MASS CENTRAL RAIL TRAIL will take place today beginning at 9 a.m. at 250 Church St., Ware. Volunteers should bring a box cutter or sharp knife and gloves. East Quabbin Land Trust will supply the trash bags. The primary target is to remove the plastic webbing from the straw wattled used during trail construction.

PIONEER VALLEY QUILT GUILD will be presenting their "Up, Up and Away" quilt show today from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, May 5 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Elks #61 Lodge at 440 Tiffany St., Springfield. The venue is handicapped accessible. In addition to beautiful quilts and our eight foot quilted balloon on display, there will be vendors, an appraiser, raffle baskets, a raffle quilt and a food vendor. They will also be selling handmade items from their members at the PVQG Boutique. Admission is \$10. Groups of 10 or more can receive a discount by asking for Janet Foy upon arrival.

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

SUNDAY, MAY 5

INSTALLATION - Pastor Margaret Keyser will be installed as the "Settled Part Time Pastor" of Barre Congregational Church. The installation will be held on today at 10 a.m. at the church. reception will follow the service in Fellowship Hall. Members of the community are invited to attend the installation and celebration.

OAKHAM MUSEUM OPEN HOUSE will be held today from 1-4 p.m. The Oakham Historical Association Museum located at 1221 Old Turnpike Road, Oakham, features a police and fire exhibit. The museum is open the first Sunday of the month May through October.

MONDAY, MAY 6

COLLEGE FAIR hosted by the Quabbin Regional High School, 800 South St., Barre and conducted by the New England Association for College Admissions Counseling will be held today from 6-8 p.m. in the high school gymnasium. There will be over 80 schools represented from near and far. This will give students the opportunity to explore schools, ask questions of the school reps, and begin or finalize their search for the best college choice for them. All are welcome to attend and there is no charge.

QUABBIN COMMUNITY BAND REHEARSALS begin today from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Barre Town Hall, corner of Mechanic and Exchange Streets and continue through Monday, Aug. 6. Musicians should bring a stand and bring their friends and family members, who play instruments. This is Margaret Reidy's third year as conductor. All musicians are encouraged to be part of this community group of folks from their early teens to those in their 70s. There are two exceptions to this rehearsal schedule. Monday, May 20 rehearsal will be held at Quabbin Regional High School, 800 South St., in the band room under the direction of Toni Brown and there will be no rehearsal on Monday, May 27 due to Memorial Day holiday. The Quabbin Community Band will play in the Memorial Day parade on Monday, May 27.



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NOTICE

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

Happy MOTHER'S DAY!

Sunday, May 12th is Mother's Day

MOTHER'S DAY SALE
One Week Only... May 7th thru 11th
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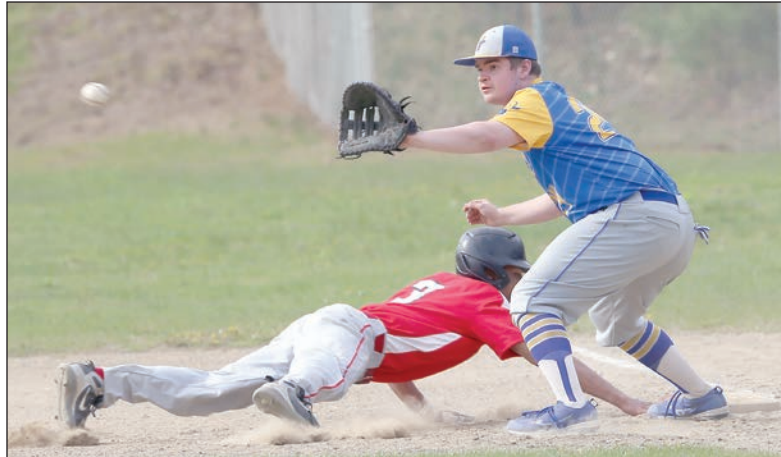
SPORTS

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Pioneers walk off in wild matchup



Camron MacDonald catches a pickoff throw to first.

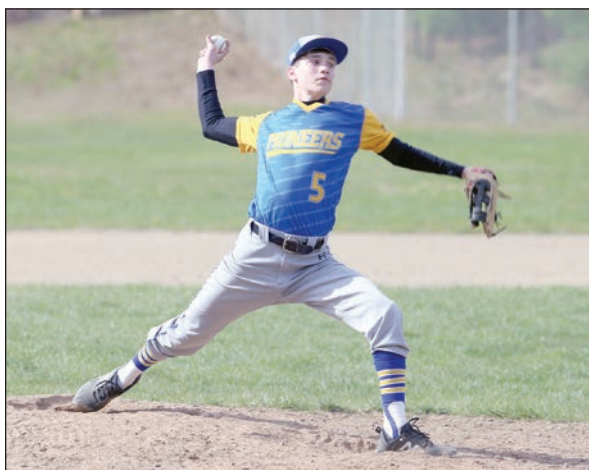
PALMER – It took almost three weeks for Commerce and Pathfinder to finally matchup last Saturday afternoon at St. Joe's Field. Pathfinder scored a run in the bottom of the eighth for a 17-16 win.

In the win, Brayden Mega had three hits and three runs scored. Hunter Griswold and Miguel Velasquez had two hits and three RBI each.

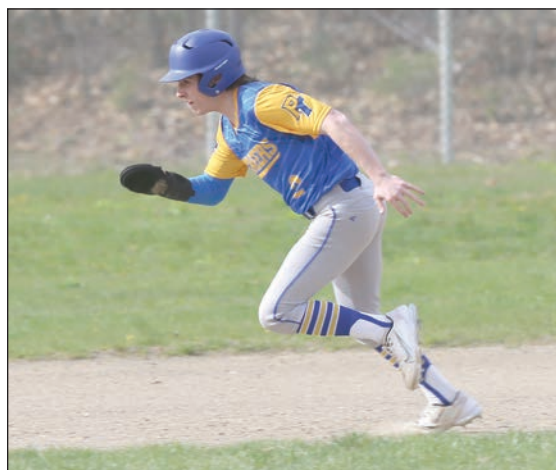
The Pioneers are now 5-1 on the season despite limited action due to several rainouts this month.



Hunter Griswold gets dirty as he slides safely into second.



Andrew Sullivan delivers a pitch.



Zander Auffrey heads for second.



Branden Hnitecki slides into an opposing player.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Unified track in action



Ryan Morin throws the javelin.

BARRE – Last Tuesday afternoon, Unified Track was in action at Quabbin Regional High School. The Panthers hosted Wachusett Regional for a meet. The Panthers will have a few more meets this season, the third in the program. The league meet will move to North Middlesex this season. Quabbin hosted the league meet the past two years.



Chris Howes looks for a long distance with his jump.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli



Luke Salvadore makes his way down the lane. He is a partner for the program.



Olivia Gregory with partner Aubrey Raposa competes in the 100 meter.



Bailey Burke competes in the long jump.

Olympics lead to change in HoopHall induction

SPRINGFIELD – The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame has announced it will move its Enshrinement Ceremonies from Aug. 16-17 to Oct. 12-13 to accommodate requests of the vast global basketball community amid an extensive and expanding summer schedule, highlighted by the 2024 Summer Olympics.

The date change will continue to position the Hall of Fame event as a successful, well-produced standalone event not compromised by potential production

conflicts.

Enshrinement Weekend will begin at Mohegan Sun on Saturday, Oct. 12, with the Tip-Off Celebration and Awards Gala. The Class of 2024 and returning Hall of Famers will then assemble in Springfield, for the annual events taking place at the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame and Springfield's Symphony Hall on Sunday, Oct. 13.

The updated schedule of events for Enshrinement 2024:

Saturday, Oct. 12, at Mohegan Sun (Uncasville, Conn.)

Enshrinement 2024 Autograph Session
Enshrinement 2024 Press Conference

Enshrinement Tip-Off Celebration and Awards Gala

Sunday, Oct. 13, in Springfield
Enshrinement Ceremony VIP Reception at Springfield Marriott
Enshrinement Ceremony Red Carpet Show at Symphony Hall
Enshrinement Ceremony at Symphony Hall

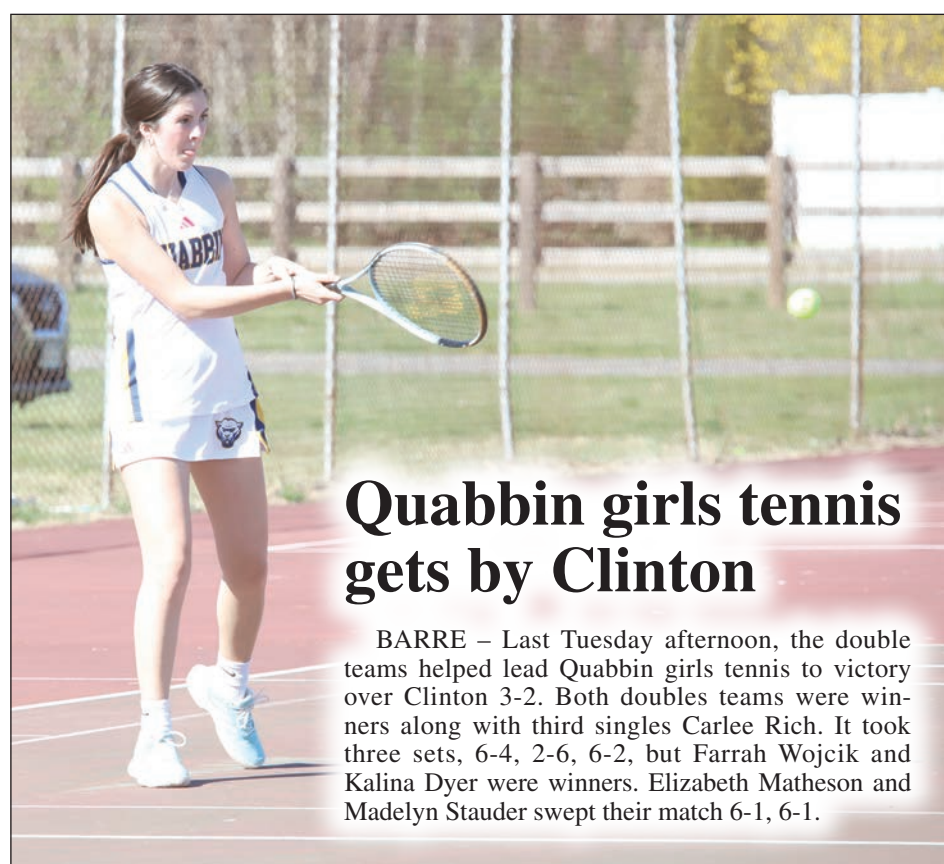
Panthers put another win on the board

BARRE – The Quabbin Regional High School baseball team had struggled for a couple of games. But the Panthers were able to come back and get a much-needed victory over Worcester North High School. The offense really broke out on the road, scoring 18 runs in the game for an 18-5 win. The Panthers continued to play well later in the week, facing off with Tyngsborough in another long road game. The Panthers fought, but were edged 5-4, their second one-run loss of the game.

The Panthers are now 2-4 on the regular season and are hoping to turn their fortunes around with games against Gardner, Clinton, and Oakmont this week. Coming up, the Panthers will be hosting Lunenburg High School on Friday, May 3 at 4 p.m. They travel to Gardner on Monday, May 6 at 3:30 p.m.



Annabelle Magill sends a return hit in first singles action.



Camryn Orsini goes for a backhand.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Quabbin girls tennis gets by Clinton

BARRE – Last Tuesday afternoon, the double teams helped lead Quabbin girls tennis to victory over Clinton 3-2. Both doubles teams were winners along with third singles Carlee Rich. It took three sets, 6-4, 2-6, 6-2, but Farrah Wojcik and Kalina Dyer were winners. Elizabeth Matheson and Madelyn Stauder swept their match 6-1, 6-1.



Carlee Rich competes in third singles for the Panthers.

Sports

Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

Tuesday Night Commercial Elks League

PALMER – The Commercial Elks made it to their final regular week of league candlepin bowling.

These series of matches will conclude the final round and will determine the third qualifier for the playoffs.

As of April 16, The Champs R Here are in first place at 27-9. In the running Acres is in second place at 25-11. Team BK is in third place at 24-12. The remaining teams are mathematically eliminated from playoff contention.

Compression and Life is Good have already qualified for the playoffs.

One match took place between #1 seed Champs R Here against #2 seed Acres. In game one, Acres defeated Champs R Here by a score of 398-382. Matt Bertelli and Paul Tereso of Acres each broke 100 in the opening game (Tereso 101, Bertelli 106). Stephen Manolakis of Champs R Here began with a 114.

In game two, Champs R Here

defeated Acres 375-362. Manolakis led the team with a 113.

In game three, Champs R Here defeated Acres 385-367 to win a total of three points and secure the last playoff spot. Manolakis finished with a 109 and a series of 336.

The final score is Champs R Here at 1142 and Acres at 1127.

#3 seed Team BK bowled against Last in Line. Team BK won the first game 353-345. In game two, Last in Line won 367-354. Vinny Navarro bowled a 112 to lead Last in Line to a victory. Mark Fitzpatrick of Team BK bowled 118.

In game three, Team BK won the last game by a score of 378-361. The final score was Team BK at 1085 and Last in Line at 1073.

The two playoff teams, Compression and Life is Good, bowled each other in the last week of round three. In game one, Compression took the first game from one of their playoff opponents 361-345.

In game two, Compression won again by a score of 352-341. Jason Dominick of Compression led the team in the second game with a 104.

In game three, Compression won for a three-game sweep over Life is Good. The score in game three was Compression at 364 and Life is Good at 357. The final score was Compression at 1077 and Life is Good at 1043.

As a result of winning three points against Acres, Champs R Here are the winners of round three and will be in the playoffs. Compression, Life is Good and Champs R Here will compete against each other in the final week of the season for the league championship.

The remaining four teams who didn't receive a playoff berth will compete in a consolation roll off.

Monday Night League Playoffs

The final two teams who made it to the final week of the season are Tag Team and the Four Stooges. After three competitive games, Tag Team prevails and are the 2023-2024 candlepin league season champions for Monday nights.

Tag Team consists of John Havens Sr, John Eckart, John "JT" Terault and Nick Maslon. The runner ups of the season, The Four Stooges, consist of Dave Chambers, Rich Chambers, Joe Grant and Marc Pelissier.

T-Birds put bow on successful season

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds completed a historic season in style on Saturday, hosting a 14th consecutive sellout crowd inside the MassMutual Center. The capacity crowd for the finale also marked the 20th time during the 2023-24 season that "the Thunderdome" hit its maximum occupancy.

Both the 14-game sellout streak and the 20 total sellout crowds set Springfield AHL hockey records, and those were merely two statistics from a year full of shattered records and overwhelming support from the fanbase. The Thunderbirds' ticket sales department saw distinct growth in numerous categories, including group ticket revenue (up 30% from 2022-23), season ticket revenue (up 15%), and total full-season tickets sold (up 5%).

"The support this franchise has received from day one has been indescribable," said Thunderbirds President Nathan Costa. "It takes so many factors for an American Hockey League franchise to succeed, and our front office staff is right up there with the best in the business. Their tireless efforts, coupled with the passion and energy of the Thunderdome crowd, made this historic season a reality. We have no intention of slowing down either, which should make our fans so excited for what will come."

Of the 6,321 fans who attended Thunderbirds games on average last season, about 25% were members of various groups participating in a wide variety of in-game experiences, from Premium Suite and

Executive Perch parties to on-ice activities like national anthem performances and high-five tunnel teams. Springfield's front office staff efforts helped the club generate the eighth most group tickets sold in the league.

"We have long worked at making Thunderbirds games a life-long memory for fans of all ages," said Costa. "In the process of doing that, we have been able to showcase members of our community, which has led to amazing opportunities for these groups to have a huge audience and grow their followings. Performing at Thunderbirds games has become a checklist item for thousands in this area, and we take great pride in that."

This season, the T-Birds saw an average of 93.1% of all seats filled inside the MassMutual Center, the highest average attendance to capacity in the AHL's Eastern Conference and second-highest in the league. Such successes in filling the arena directly led to the Thunderbirds' corporate sales department reaching new heights.

In the 2023-24 season, the T-Birds saw a 15% growth in corporate revenue while sitting atop the league rankings in total sponsorship deals. Integrations with sponsors have continued to be showcased across various mediums, from in-arena and in-ice signage to social media post sponsorships and elements of the in-game broadcast production.

"Having widespread support from our business partners is also paramount to success in the

American Hockey League," Costa added. "Our corporate team has fostered meaningful relationships beyond return on investment and emphasized Springfield's pride for the city. Their accomplishments are remarkable when compared to markets of exponentially greater size."

Supplementing the Thunderbirds' success in tickets and corporate business, the franchise experienced a seventh consecutive season of brand development and merchandise growth as the club rose to the top 10 in the AHL in-game night merchandise sales, with an emphasis on creating high-quality product lines across not just the T-Birds brand, but specialty nights as well.

"We are aware of how impactful merchandise can be from a grassroots marketing perspective," said Costa. "Giving our fans the ability to show their pride for specialty evenings like Pink in the Rink, Ice-O-Topes, and Military Appreciation further bolsters our connection between our team and the community."

The Thunderbirds will look to build upon their record-breaking success when the 2024-25 season, the eighth Thunderbirds hockey campaign, gets underway this October. Schedules and single-game tickets will go on sale later this summer. Fans can reserve their seats for Thunderbirds' hockey action in the 2024-25 season with a ticket membership by calling (413)-739-GOAL (4625) or visiting www.SpringfieldThunderbirds.com.

Registration open for Bay State Games

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

Seven high school showcase sports will take place for a variety

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

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

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

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

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

Quabbin League wants to fill remaining spots

Rosters spots are dwindling, but there are still some spots available as the Quabbin Valley Over-28 Baseball has begun its season. There are still several open spots to get filled despite the season being underway.

Registration for the 2024 season is now open and any interested players can go to www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org to get registered, or to seek more information or make inquiries about the league.

The league plays most Sunday

from late April through late August with playoffs following that. The league plays a 15-game schedule and typically fields six teams each year. Games are usually played at 10 a.m. with fields in Easthampton and South Hadley used as well some expansion to the surrounding area this season. The league does not play on Mother's Day or Memorial Day weekends.

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 2024. The league is also able to entertaining taking in an entire group as a team to add to the league. Please email the league board for to inquire about entering a team. The league can also pro-rate registration at this point. Simply contact a league board member. Contact information is located at the registration link.

North Brookfield

Free performance of John Morello's 'Dirt' scheduled for May 8

NORTH BROOKFIELD – North Brookfield Public Schools, District Attorney Joseph D. Early Jr. and the Quaboag Hills Substance Use Alliance are presenting John Morello's free one-man show, "Dirt" at North Brookfield Elementary School on Wednesday, May 8 at 6 p.m. Through the portray-

al of relatable and memorable characters, Morello gives voice and reassurance to those who sometimes feel as though they are not heard or understood. He explores the challenges and decisions that young people face every day through the lens of mental health, substance use, bullying and self-esteem.

Informational resources will be shared prior to the performance, starting at 5 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. A meet and greet with Morello will be held in the North Brookfield Jr./Sr. High School at 7 p.m. All are welcomed and encouraged to attend this free community event.

Hardwick

Tri-Parish church seeks tag, craft sale vendors

HARDWICK – The Tri-Parish Community Church announces their 18th Annual Plant and Bake Sale, on the Hardwick Common on Saturday, June 1 and Sunday, June 2 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 Inishowen Farms of North Brookfield, Stillman's Farm of New Braintree, Howe's Farm of New Braintree, Tracie's Greenhouse of Ware, the Hardwick Farmers Co-op of Hardwick and 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 their space early. All are welcome.

Annual town election to be held Saturday, May 4


HARDWICK – The Town of Hardwick's Annual Election will be held on Saturday, May 4, at Hardwick Elementary School, 76 School House Drive and the polls will be open from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

The Selectboard voted to opt out of vote by mail for this election, so those who have previously submitted a vote-by-mail application will not be receiving a ballot for this election.

Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Ch. 54 § 86 & 89, those who are unable to vote during polling hours may request an absentee ballot from the Town Clerk's office no later than 5 p.m. on Monday, April 29.

The deadline for in-person absentee voting is noon on Thursday, May 2.

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Bridal GUIDE

Your wedding or engagement announcement will be included in our Bridal Guide, out September 30, 2024 for FREE!

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 Groom's Name: _____
 Groom's Town Residence: _____
 Wedding Date: _____
 Wedding Location: _____

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Church News

Local pastor offer sermons

Christian Growth Part 7

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

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

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

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

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

What are the varying aspects of the fruit of the Spirit? Let us continue our exploration of said fruit with biblical goodness.

What is goodness? It is defined as uprightness of heart and life; a moral worth or quality wherein one is ruled by and aimed at that which is right. It should be little surprise that the Holy Spirit of God is working to cultivate holiness in His people! Christian, we are called to be holy in an unholy world. We are called to be pure; separated from that which is evil and given to the Lord. Numerous passages call the believer to a lifestyle of goodness. For instance:

2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1

14 Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? 15 What harmony is there between Christ and Belial [i.e., OT personification of evil; NT term ascribed to Satan]? Or what does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? 16 What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said:

"I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people."

17 Therefore, *"Come out from them and be separate, says the Lord. Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you."*

18 And, *"I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."*

1 Therefore, since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God.

1 Peter 1:13-16

13 Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. 14 As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. 15 But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16 for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."

There is no version of biblical Christianity whereby the believer is free to be unconcerned with matters of godliness. Those who would profess allegiance to Christ yet show little concern for how they live posit a dubious profession! Though we are not saved by works but by faith (Eph. 2:8-10), good works are the evidence of a genuine faith (James 2:17; Titus 2:11-14). Ultimately, the

call to goodness is a rather radical one, as the Christian is given no permission to indulge in sinfulness. Would you like a strong passage on this matter?

Colossians 3:5-10

5 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. 6 Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. 7 You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. 8 But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. 9 Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

Would you like an even stronger passage on this matter? Note these words of Christ:

Matthew 18:8-9

8 If your hand or your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life maimed or crippled than to have two hands or two feet and be thrown into eternal fire. 9 And if your eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into the fire of hell.

Set aside the sin and embrace the good ways of God!

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 visit 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

Show dates are Friday, May 3 at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, May 4 at 7:30 p.m., Sunday, May 5 at 2 p.m., Friday, May 10 at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, May 11 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, May 12 at 2 p.m.

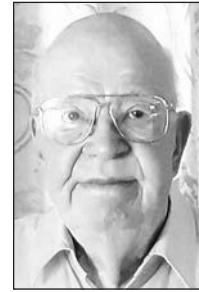
For tickets, visit www.onthestage.tickets/show/theatre-guild-of-north-brookfield/65f0a580c652930e3fe1ac60/ and the same link to learn about the cast, crew and the Theatre Guild of North Brookfield.

Merchandise is also available online through the on the stage link. Merchandise consists of mugs, T-shirts, sweaters, posters, bags and water bottles.

Merchandise sales help support the Theatre Guild of North Brookfield. A percentage of sales goes directly to fund future activities and programming.

Obituaries

Rodney B. Freeman, 93



BRADENTON, FL – Rodney B. Freeman, 93, of Bradenton, Florida, passed away on Nov. 4, 2023.

He was born on March 23, 1930, the son of the late James and Doris Freeman of Barre. Rodney was raised on the family dairy farm in Barre. He graduated from Athol High School in 1948.

He served in the U.S. Army and was stationed at White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico. He worked for Union Twist Drill in Athol for many years as a tool

design engineer. He transferred to Gaffney, SC, in 1986. In 1992, he began work for Rock River Tool in Bradenton, Florida, retiring in 2016 at the age of 86.

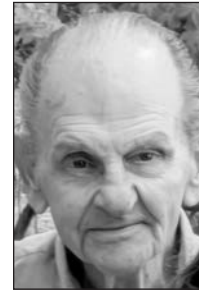
Rodney was predeceased by his parents; two brothers; Stanley and A. Wallace Freeman; a sister, Edna Freeman Worsman; his wife, Joan Lovewell Freeman and two sons, David and Gary Freeman.

He is survived by two sons, Alan Freeman of Winchendon and Paul (Deanna) Freeman of

Carthage, New York; daughter, Janet Baczewski (Phil Meany) of Gardner; nine grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

A Graveside Service will be held Saturday, May 18, 2024 at the Lincoln Cemetery, Pleasant St, Barre, MA at 10:30am, followed by a Celebration of Life at the Athol American Legion Hall, Pequoig Avenue, Athol. Brown & Sons Funeral Homes & Crematory, Bradenton, Florida was in charge of arrangements. Donations can be made to the American Cancer Society in his memory.

Robert "Bob" Sturdy Hayward Sr., 91



Robert "Bob" Sturdy Hayward Sr passed away peacefully on March 18, 2024 at U Mass Memorial Hospital at the age of 91.

Bob was born on October 24th, 1932 in Providence, R.I. to Colonel Edward Grant Hayward and Grace Brayton Hayward. He attended Valley Forge Military Academy graduating in 1951 and spent one year at the University of Maine, Orono before being accepted at West Point Military Academy in 1952.

The Hayward family had a summer home at the end of Mt View Road in Franconia, and they became frequent visitors at the popular Pioneer Club in Sugar Hill. This was where Bob met his future wife, Barbara Serafini. They were married in April of 1954 and their first son, Paul, was born the following year.

Bob's first tour of duty took him to Fort Polk, Louisiana where he specialized in Emergency Management Operations and Civil Defense training. His second son, Robert Jr was born there in 1956. A third child, Holly, was born after the family returned to Sugar Hill in 1958.

Bob was very active in the daily operations of both The Homestead and The Pioneer Club with his wife Barbara and

helped her start her business, The Sugar Hill Sampler. He was a volunteer in the Sugar Hill Fire Dept and was an integral part of putting on the gala Sugar Hill Horse Show every year at The Sunset Hill House. During the Cold War years, Bob was a Civil Defense director and lectured extensively around New England on how to prepare for and survive nuclear attacks.

In 1970, Bob moved to the Fort Bragg area in Fayetteville, North Carolina and after a two years there, moved to Tampa Florida where he worked as a mechanic on a merchant marine ship. He returned to the North Country in the mid 70s and eventually bought land in Victory Vermont where he started an extensive Ginseng operation. He remained in Victory until 1994 when he accepted a position with the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency in Belchertown and moved permanently to the Barre/ Petersham area. He held the position of Safety Operations Director for the existing nuclear power plants in Vermont, Massachusetts and Connecticut for 16 years. He retired in 2009 at the age of 78.

Bob was always an avid gardener and loved growing vegetables just to give away to friends and neighbors. He became well

known in the Barre / Petersham area as "The Garlic Man" planting an average of 6,000-8,000 cloves every year. He was a very active member of the Petersham Grange and was a member of the Hardwick Farmer's Co-op, supplying them with seed garlic every year. He was exceedingly generous in sharing the bounty from his gardens. He also planted and tended a Community Center Garden for several years so that those unable to garden could have fresh produce.

He is pre-deceased by his parents and his two older brothers, Pete and Don Hayward, and his beloved grandson Serry Hayward. He is survived by his three children: Paul Hayward and partner Gail Perkins of Littleton, New Hampshire; Robert Jr. and his wife Monique Hayward of Sugar Hill, New Hampshire; his daughter, Holly Hayward and her husband Patrick Riendeau also of Sugar Hill; his granddaughter, Jerusha Hayward Fish and great-granddaughters, Mia and Cora Fish of Alton, New Hampshire, whom "Bampy Bob" loved spending time with.

A Celebration of Life will be held at The Pioneer Club in Sugar Hill (aka Wedding Barn) on June 15 at 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to your local food pantry. A service in the Petersham area will follow. Date to be announced.

MAMMA MIA, continued from page 1

Sheridan in "Mamma Mia" is Sarah Priestley. This show will be Priestley's debut with the Theatre Guild of North Brookfield but brings a lot of experience and charisma to the stage.

Priestley has performed in shows for the Gilbertville Players and the Barre Players and is ready for a new adventure with the Theatre Guild of North Brookfield.

For a world of laughter, love and music check out "Mamma Mia". The shows will take place at North Brookfield Elementary School at 1 New School Drive.

Public Notices

Community Outreach

High Hawk Farm, LLC is dedicated to hiring a staff of diversified local residents who have a passion for their community. Our goal will be to have a workforce of at least 20% local woman and veterans. Those with strong attentions to detail, and a desire to become part of this growing industry are encouraged to apply.

This community outreach meeting will also be an informational session for those interested in learning more about the opportunities in the Massachusetts cannabis industry including cultivation, transportation, security, marketing and retail operations.

High Hawk Farm, LLC is not only a cannabis cultivation facility, we are also expanding into the retail market with a dispensary located in the Town of Rutland.

High Hawk Farm, LLC urges any person interested to ATTEND the community outreach meeting to be held at 140 Worcester Road in Barre, Massachusetts on **Friday, May 3rd, 2024 starting at 6pm** 05/02/2024

Town of New Braintree PUBLIC HEARING
Upon the petitions of National Grid and Verizon New England, Inc., the Select Board of New

Braintree has scheduled a public hearing on **Monday, May 13, 2024, at 7:10 p.m.** at the New Braintree Town Hall, 20 Memorial Drive, New Braintree, MA.

Plan marked jointly for National Grid and Verizon New England Inc. No. 30708490 dated March 21, 2024, for permission to install 2 JO Pole on Ravine Road beginning at a point approximately 60 feet east of the centerline of the intersection of Hardwick Road and Ravine road. Installing Poles #30 and #29-84 for DOT Project.

Also, for permission to lay and maintain underground laterals, cables, and wires in the above or inter-

secting public ways for the purpose of making connections with such poles and buildings as each of said petitioners may desire for distributing purposes.

The public is welcome to attend. 04/25, 05/02/2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts NOTICE TO FARMERS
The Dept. of Conservation & Recreation, Division of Water Supply Protection is offering for sale hay located on the Ware River Watershed. For details call Russ Wilnot on or before May 15 at 857-262-3809. 05/02/2024

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PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

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

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

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

CORRESPONDENT OPPORTUNITIES

Turley Publications seeks **Experienced Writers/Journalists** to produce news and/or feature stories of local interest for various towns and cities.

- Must be dependable, professional and able to meet strict deadlines
- Salary based on a flat rate by story and photo

Send writing samples with resume to
Deanna Sloat
24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069
or email directly to dsloat@turley.com

Turley
Publications, Inc.
www.turley.com

NOTICE

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

Barre Gazette OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

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

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

Public Safety

Barre Police Log

Sunday, April 21
 12:02 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Written Warning
 1:01 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hubbardston Road, Written Warning
 8:09 a.m. Tree Incidents (No Wires), Williamsville Road, Referred to Other Agency
 11:32 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Overdose/Poisoning, Walnut Hill Road, Transported to Hospital
 1:48 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Sheldon Road, Animal Returned to Owner
 4:38 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Citation Issued

Monday, April 22
 7:36 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, North Brookfield Road, Information Given
 7:54 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Harty Road, Transported to Hospital
 3:16 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 3:41 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old Coldbrook Road, Criminal Complaint
 Summons: Day, Charles R., 76, Barre
 Charges: Uninsured Motor Vehicle, License Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle with
 3:51 p.m. Property – Lost and Found, Old Hardwick Road, Information Taken
 4:19 p.m. Suspicious Person/Motor Vehicle, Town Farm Road, Investigated
 4:26 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Barre Road, Citation Issued
 6:04 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Worcester Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 6:07 p.m. Erratic Operator, Worcester Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 6:11 p.m. Property – Lost and Found, Old Dana Road, Information Taken

Tuesday, April 23
 6:29 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Vernon Avenue, Transported to Hospital
 7:50 a.m. Neighbor Dispute, Main Street, Officer Took Call
 9:15 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, Oakham, Mutual Aid Assist

4:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 4:48 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 6:43 p.m. Larceny or Theft, South Street, Officer Took Call
 7:27 p.m. Be On the Look Out, Hardwick Police Department, Information Given
 11:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Valley Road, Citation Issued

Wednesday, April 24
 12:34 a.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Worcester Road, Public Assist
 2:38 a.m. Disorderly Conduct, Worcester Road, Vehicle Towed
 6:33 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Valley Road, Written Warning
 9:30 Court Duty, East Brookfield District Court, Court Duty
 2:19 p.m. Animal – Wildfire, Pleasant Street, Referred to Other Agency
 3:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Citation Issued
 3:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Citation Issued
 5:20 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Holden, Investigated
 7:42 p.m. Harassment, Vernon Avenue, Officer Advised
 8:23 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, North Brookfield Road, Officer Advised

Thursday, April 25
 12:38 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision Hit and Run, Peach Street, Investigated
 4:26 p.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Madisyn Avenue, Investigated
 4:29 p.m. Larceny or Theft, Worcester Road, Report filed
 10:29 p.m. Emergency Medical Services – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Austin Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Friday, April 26
 1:59 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Hinkley Road, Public Assist
 8:16 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Citation Issued
 9:25 a.m. Traffic or Radar Enforcement, Worcester Road, Citation Issued

9:47 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Citation Issued
 10:29 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Citation Issued
 12:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Citation Issued
 2:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Stetson Road, Citation Issued
 5:12 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Ruggles Lane, Transported to Hospital
 6:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Criminal Complaint
 Summons: Cuevas, Charlie R., 46, Chicopee
 Charges: License Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle with, Subsequent Offense
 10:02 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Main Street, Transported to Hospital

Saturday, April 27
 8:21 a.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, South Street, Animal Returned to Officer
 8:54 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
 11:34 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Williamsville Road, Criminal Complaint
 Summons: Cormier, Meaghan Loren, 38, Gardener
 Charges: License Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With, Inspection/Sticker, NO
 12:33 p.m. Fire – Brush and Wildland Fires, Vernon Avenue, Fire Extinguished
 2:35 p.m. Property – Lost and Found, Worcester Road, Information Taken
 5:05 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Vernon Avenue, Citation Issued
 5:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Valley Road, Written Warning
 6:04 p.m. Threats, Brigham Street, Report Filed
 6:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Williamsville Road, Written Warning
 10:46 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, North Brookfield Road, Transported to Hospital

Rutland Police Log

Sunday, April 21
 12:38 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Kenwood Drive, Written Warning
 4:14 a.m. ACO Lost and Found Wildlife, Campbell Street, Dispatch Handled
 5:29 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
 1:24 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, Muschpauge Road, Information Given
 4:23 p.m. Property – Lost and Found, Winifred’s Way, Property Returned
 4:48 p.m. Suspicious Person – Vehicle Activity, Watson Lane, Party Departed without Incident
 8:50 p.m. Erratic Operator, Holden, Referred to Other Agency

Monday, April 22
 8:45 a.m. Court Duty, East Brookfield District Court, Court Duty
 9:34 a.m. Lock Out/Home or Vehicle, Lowry Lane, Entry Gained
 10:03 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Haven Hill Road, Information Given
 11:29 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 11:44 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning
 11:45 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 12 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Kenwood Avenue, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 12:09 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 12:25 p.m. Trespasser or Prowler, Pommogussett Road, Information Taken
 12:28 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 12:31 p.m. Threats, Bernard Road, Report Filed
 12:41 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
 Summons: Mallicoute, David Lee Randle, 34, South Barre
 Charges: Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle c90 S10, Inspection/Sticker No c90 s20
 2:54 p.m. Road/Traffic Hazard, Pleasantdale Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 3:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
 3:33 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, Main Street, Rescued
 4:41 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 5 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 5:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 5:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 5:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue Written Warning
 6:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 6:10 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Valley View Circle, Transported to Hospital
 7:25 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Paxton, Mutual Aid Assist
 8:29 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Trauma, Main Street, No Transport Required
 9:28 p.m. Noise Complaint, Welch Avene, Officer Took Call

Tuesday, April 23
 7:08 a.m. Lockout/Home or Vehicle, Mark Circle, Entry Gained
 9:18 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, Oakham, Mutual Aid Assist
 11:54 a.m. Larceny or Theft, Finn Park Road, Message Delivered
 2:04 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Sassawanna Road, Report Filed
 2:26 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Maple Avenue, Transported to Hospital
 6:15 p.m. Assault and Battery, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 6:59 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Written Warning
 7:21 p.m. Emergency Medical Services – Falls, East County Road, Transported to Hospital
 8:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Citation Issued
 8:24 p.m. Property Lost and Found, Barre Paxton Road, Dispatch Handled
 8:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning

Wednesday, April 24
 12:01 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Citation Issued
 7:06 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 7:16 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 7:41 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Written Warning
 7:58 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 7:59 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Prescott Street, Transported to Hospital
 8:06 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
 8:14 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 9:47 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale, Written Warning
 9:56 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale, Written Warning
 2:35 p.m. Larceny or Theft, Main Street, Report Filed
 2:48 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 2:52 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Vanessa Circle, Animal Returned to Owner
 4 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Emerald Road, Investigated
 7:20 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Citation Issued
 7:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 8:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

Thursday, April 25
 7:26 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 9:13 a.m. ACO Lost and Found/Wildlife, Inwood Road, Information Taken
 9:40 a.m. ACO Lost and Found/Wildlife, Oakwood Road, Information Taken
 10:55 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
 11:57 a.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Maple Avenue, Information Taken

12:10 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street, Written Warning
 3:17 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 4:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 4:26 p.m. Fire – Structures Fire, Madisyn Avenue, Investigated
 5:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 5:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 5:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 7:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 8:12 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Leicester, Administration Complete
 11:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

Friday, April 26
 12:30 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Citation Issued
 8:07 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 10:55 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 11:04 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Inwood Road, Investigated
 11:32 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Pleasantdale Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 11:34 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Bernard Road, Investigated
 1:13 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Lewis Street, Message Delivered
 1:32 p.m. Erratic Operator, Barre Paxton Road, Negative Contact
 2:59 p.m. Fire – Brush and Wildland Fires, Edson Avenue, Fire Extinguished
 3:13 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 7:41 p.m. Complaint, Pommogussett Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of April 22-29, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 76 building/property checks, 32 directed/area patrols, nine radar assignments, 11 emergency 911 calls, three assist other agencies, nine citizen assists, three fires, three complaints, two animal calls and six motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, April 22
 8:45 a.m. Assist Citizen, Greenwich Road, No Action Required
 9:29 a.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Lower Road, Gone on Arrival
 9:45 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Barre Road, Transported to Hospital
 6:05 p.m. 911 Misdeal, North Road, Officer Handled

Tuesday, April 23
 9:17 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Broad Street, Officer Handled
 10:16 a.m. 911 Welfare Check, Turkey Street, Investigated
 10:55 a.m. Assist Citizen, Parker Court, Negative Contact

11:49 a.m. Parking Complaint, Main Street, Spoken To
 2:02 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Prospect Street, Transported to Hospital
 2:39 p.m. Assist Other Agency, North Road, No Action Required
 4 p.m. Assist Citizen, Parker Court, Officer Handled
 5:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hardwick Road, Arrest(s) Made

Wednesday, April 24
 9:09 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, North Street, Transported to Hospital
 11:06 a.m. Assist Citizen, Parker Court, No Action Required

Thursday, April 25
 2:27 p.m. 911 Assist Citizen, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled
 7 p.m. Assist Citizen, Parker Court, Officer Handled

Friday, April 26
 7:52 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Upper Church Street, Investigated
 10:16 a.m. Assist Citizen, Church Street, Services Rendered

11:04 a.m. 911 Fire/Brush, Thresher Road, Extinguished
 1:44 p.m. 911 Fire/Brush, Upper Church Street, Transported to Hospital
 4:24 p.m. Assist Citizen, Barre Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency

Saturday, April 27
 1:58 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 3:49 a.m. Fire/Illegal Burn, Broad Street, No Action Required
 11:54 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Barre Road, Officer Handled
 12:13 p.m. Unattended Death, Main Street, Officer Handled
 2:39 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Broad Street, Transported to Hospital
 5:50 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Officer Handled
 10:13 p.m. 911 Complaint, Barre Road, Investigated

Oakham Police Log

Monday, April 22
 9:40 a.m. Assist Other Agency/Non Police, Traffic Barre Road at Center School, Administration Complete
 6:07 p.m. Erratic Operator, Worcester Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Tuesday, April 23
 8:20 a.m. School Zone Enforcement, Deacon Allen Drive, Area Patrolled
 8 p.m. Traffic or Radar Enforcement, North Brookfield Road, Negative Contact
 8:55 p.m. Traffic or Radar Enforcement, Old Turnpike Road, Negative Contact

Wednesday, April 24
 8:22 a.m. School Zone Enforcement, Deacon Allen Drive, Patrolled
 9:15 a.m. Lockout – Home or Vehicle, Rutland Road, Public Assist
 9:28 a.m. Court Duty, East Brookfield District Court, Court Duty
 8:21 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, North Brookfield Road, Negative Contact

Thursday, April 25
 8:19 a.m. School Zone Enforcement, Deacon Allen Drive, Area Patrolled

Friday, April 26
 8:10 a.m. School Zone Enforcement, Deacon Allen Drive, Area Patrolled

Saturday, April 27
 12:56 p.m. Building Property Check, DCR Building Old Turnpike Road, Arrest(s) Made
 2:29 p.m. Emergency Medical Services – Trauma, Hunt Road, Transported to Hospital
 5:02 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Citation Issued

Hubbardston Police Log

Sunday, April 21
 9:56 a.m. Property – Lost and Found, New Templeton Road, Message Delivered

Monday, April 22
 2:01 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Gynecology/Obstetrics/Pregnancy, Adams Road, Transported to Hospital

Tuesday, April 23
 9:13 a.m. Court Duty, Gardner District Court, Court Duty
 11:18 a.m. Court Duty, Gardner District Court, Court Duty
 11:32 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Gardner Cutoff Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Wednesday, April 24
 9:31 a.m. Court Duty, Gardner District Court, Court Duty
 1:43 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Healdville Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 10:02 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Gardner Road, Vehicle Towed

Thursday, April 25
 2:45 a.m. Emergency Medical Services – Abdominal/Back Pain, Gardner Road, Transported to Hospital
 4:26 p.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Madisyn Avenue, Investigated

Friday, April 26
 9:39 a.m. Emergency Medical Services – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Burnshirt Road, Transported to Hospital
 10:36 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Kruse Road, Report Filed
 8:10 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Madison Way, No Fire Service Necessary

Saturday, April 27
 9:53 a.m. Erratic Operator, Gardner Road, Verbal Warning
 10:53 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, Princeton, Mutual Aid Assist
 2:25 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, High Street, Referred to Other Agency
 6:04 p.m. Threats, Brigham Street, Report Filed

New Braintree Police Log

During the week of April 22-29, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 12 building/property checks, 19 directed/area patrols, one traffic control, five emergency 911 calls, two citizen assists, one illegal dumping, one trespass, one motor vehicle investigation, two animal calls and four motor vehicle stops in the town of New Braintree.

Wednesday, April 24
 5:26 a.m. Medical Emergency, Worcester Road, Transported to Hospital
 3:12 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled
 7:26 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Sibley Road, Transported to Hospital

Thursday, April 25
 1:44 p.m. Illegal Dumping, Hardwick Road, Investigated

Saturday, April 27
 4:44 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Bernard Whitney Road, Transported to Hospital
 4:26 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

Sunday, April 28
 2:33 p.m. 911 Trespass, Padre Road, Officer Handled

Monday, April 29
 3:40 a.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled

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GLOBAL, continued from page 1

Learn University with its internationally recognized, University Without Walls. Through the UMass collaboration students of all ages and circumstances will have the option to receive university credit for student-centered, experiential-based mentored study on the farm and in Petersham.

One of the first students in the program is New York City resident and professional musician, Yves Mtabouti who is presently mentored by Buell and Brother NorthStar, UofWild staff member. Mtabouti’s self-directed study focuses on healing herbs and pollinator habitats and is one of the first experimental gardens in the UofWild “Teaching Gardens” in the eastern section of property near Moccasin Brook. Another partner of the UofWild project will be Steve Venditti, who will grow organic, heirloom crops of squash, tomatoes and other familiar varieties. Some of the produce grown on the land will be sold at the Petersham Friday Market and be a central part of the program’s educational outreach.

Once up and running by the summer, there will be public educational seminars, self-directed interpretive walks, and a kiosk with information on the natural and cultural history of the land. The UofWild’s public garden site and interpretive programs will include a quiet and reflective site near the unique and historic Moccasin Brook waterway. There will be a series of free public programs with a focus on preparing a No-till Regenerative Garden with a focus on the new Global Roots Farm garden operation. UofWild founder, Larry Buell states that “...the presence of Global Roots Farm which nearly abuts the present education center of the UofWild is a dream come true where we can grow food on large garden tracts, educate the citizens, and grow food for local consumption.”

Beyond the appropriate mission of growing food and educating others, Buell and Lin have an intention to demonstrate new and innovative principles and practices of landownership, leaseholdership, governance, and Community Supported Agriculture, so necessary at this time of great challenge and opportunity.

The region of Petersham in central Massachusetts has always had a significant role in offering top farming

operations to feed its local populations, yet over the last few decades local farming has been reduced by the domination of large out-of-the-area corporate farms, reduction of farmland from suburban-type development and the effects of climate change. While there have been heroic efforts to provide sustainable farming in the area, through local farmer’s markets and a few struggling farms, there is the need to have more area farms growing food for local consumption. Global Roots Farm will become a central member of the developing small farm movement in the Quabbin/Nichewaug bioregion.

The Global Roots Farm team have purchased the Rice’s Roots Farm knowing of the both the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. One central factor to increase their trust in the farming venture is the support they have received from the local community.

Artemis Joukowsky, Trustee of the Joukowsky Foundation, philanthropist, author and co-director with Ken Burns, Defying the Nazis: The Sharps’ War and founder of the UMass Learning to Learn University states, “...the new Global Roots Farm will offer an additional setting for local, national, and international students to learn gardening and earn credits. Our founda-

tion stands ready to add to the \$40,000 already donated to the UofWild’s higher education project.”

People and the Planet are entering very challenging times in the era of climate change, cultural fragmentation, and social and environmental injustices. Yet there are opportunities for innovation and change on all levels - cultural, societal, construction, economics, governance, and the Earth service that are ready to be implemented. The Global Roots Farm Project within the community of Petersham promises to become a beacon of light for personal and planetary well-being and joy.

The Global Roots Farm group looks forward to working together toward manifesting this magnificent and timely vision and striving for a long and productive relationship with the people and organizations of Petersham and from within the Quabbin/Nichewaug Bioregion.

For information on Global Roots Farm.LLC people may visit www.UofWild.org and on the Home page LINK to Global Roots Farm. People may call Lin at 617-751-8398 or email cha.hex@gmail.com and call Larry Buell at 978-855-1420 or email Larry@UofWild.com.

Education

Quabbin Regional to host college fair

BARRE – The Quabbin Regional High School, 800 South St., will be hosting a college fair conducted by the New England Association for College Admissions Counseling on Monday, May 6 from 6-8 p.m. in the high school gymnasium.

There will be over 80 schools represented from near and far. This will give students the opportunity to explore schools, ask questions of the school reps, and begin or finalize their search for the best college choice for them. All are welcome to attend and there is no charge.

The following is the list of schools that plan to participate: Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corp, Albertus Magnus College, Alfred University, Anna Maria College, Assumption University, Bay Path University, Binghamton University, Bishop's University, Bridgewater State University, Bryant University, Central Connecticut State University, Central Maine Community College,

Champlain College, Colby-Sawyer College, Curry College, Dean College, Eastern Connecticut State University, Elizabethtown College, Elms College, Emmanuel College, Endicott College, Fitchburg State University, Framingham State University, Franklin Pierce University, Greenfield Community College, Husson University, Iona University, Johnson & Wales University, Kean University, Keene State College, Keiser University, Lasell University, Lees-McRae College, Liberty University, Lincoln Tech, Maine College of Art & Design, Massachusetts Army National Guard, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Merrimack College, Miami University, Mount Allison University, Mount Wachusett Community College, New England College, Nichols College, Paul Smith's College, Plymouth State

University, Quinnipiac University, Quinsigamond Community College, Rhode Island College, Rivier University, Saint Anselm College, Saint Joseph's College of Maine, Saint Michael's College, Salem State University, Salve Regina University, Simmons University, Springfield College, The Landing School of Boat Building and Design, Thomas College, University of Connecticut, University of Maine, University of Maine at Augusta, University of Maine at Fort Kent, University of Maine at Presque Isle, University of Massachusetts Amherst, University of Massachusetts Boston, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, University of Rhode Island, University of South Carolina Beaufort, University of Southern Maine, Vermont State University, Wentworth Institute of Technology, Western Connecticut State University and Worcester State University.

WSU to offer OTA program

WESTFIELD – Westfield State University announces the introduction of its new Occupational Therapy Assistant program.

Housed within the University's Health Science Department, this program is designed to equip students with the skills and knowledge needed for diverse careers in the healthcare industry.

This initiative represents a significant milestone for Westfield State, as it becomes the sole provider of an OTA degree program in Massachusetts. It is also the only program in the country, which allows students to interact with a fully simulated community, with accessible digital spaces such as a coffee shop, hospital unit, apartment complex, among others.

As occupational therapy assistants, graduates will play vital roles in various settings, including hospitals, rehabilitation cen-

ters, schools and nursing homes. Their work encompasses supporting individuals with disabilities or injuries to regain independence and improve their quality of life.

"Simulated communities are fairly common in hospitals across the nation, but Westfield State is the first university in the country to have one right in the classroom," Dr. Karen Slydek, Professor of Health Sciences and Interim Program Director, said. "This is super exciting from the teaching and learning perspective. Our simulated community has a grocery store, a public park with putting green, a car on a road, and a coffee shop in addition to the hospital unit and apartment set up. In addition, we are adding a warehouse work simulation and a subway car seating module. All of these will give students an opportunity to practice skills in areas they may work with clients."

Simmons University announces Dean's list

BOSTON – Simmons University announces the 2023 fall semester Dean's list.

Local students making the Dean's list are Ali Hobby of Hubbardston, Taryn McEntegart of Rutland and Alison Michalik of Rutland.

To qualify for dean's list status, undergraduate students must obtain a grade point average of 3.5 or higher, based on 12 or more credit hours of work in classes using the letter grade system.

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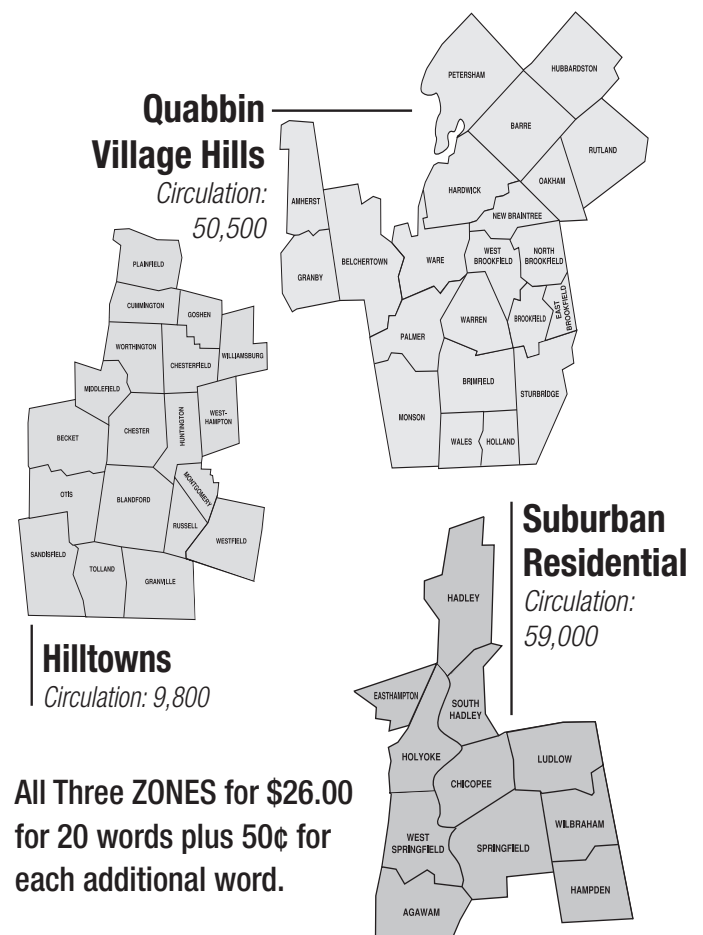
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