

BARRE GAZETTE

USPS 044560

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

May 7, 2026 | Vol. 191, No. 5 | \$1.00

www.barregazette.turley.com

Listening sessions highlight areas of growth

By Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Superintendent Timothy McCormick said he held six listening sessions with staff to find ways to improve the school district.

He said during the listening sessions, staff could talk freely, or write down their ideas.

At the April 27 School Committee meeting, McCormick said the suggestions compiled from the staff feedback fell into several categories including programmatic opportunities, student experience and culture, opportunities and partnerships and structures and systems.

“I had more than 75 different post-it notes...and we identified themes based on those thoughts,” he said. “This is the starting point for this next part of the process.”

He said staff frequently brought up the need for “more diverse and engaging learning opportunities,” such as personal finance, psychology, as well as more art and Advanced Placement classes.

McCormick said a student survey will be sent out to determine interest in launching one or two new electives at the high school for the next school year, based on enrollment and interest.

He said they currently have an internship program

See N BROOKFIELD page 6

Two candidates vie for Select Board seat

Town election takes place May 18

By Ellenor Downer
Editor
edowner@turley.com

OAKHAM – This year two candidates vie for one three-year term to the Select Board.

Donald A. Haapakoski seeks a third term to the Select Board. Frederick J. Gehring, Jr. is the challenger for the position in the Annual Town Election on Monday, May 18 from 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Although there are no other contested races on the ballot, Lucille DiLeo is a write in candidate for a two year term to the Board of Health. Susan Collette, who took out nomination papers,



Donald A. Haapakoski



Frederick J. Gehring, Jr.

is on the ballot for the two year Board of Health position.

Barbara A. Piucci is a candidate on the ballot for a three year term to the Board of Health. Mark M. Turnbull is on the ballot for a three year term as Moderator.

Other candidates running unopposed are Dawn R. Thistle, three year term Library Trustee; Matthew A. Broderick, five year Planning

Board; Matthew Zebadiah Brunelle, three year term Cemetery Commission and Walter H. Nutter, three year term Quabbin Regional School Committee.

A two year term of Constable has no one running for that position. The Oakham

Historical Association sponsors a candidates night on Tuesday, May 12 at 7 p.m. in the Oakham Center School, Deacon Allen Drive.

The two candidates for the contested position on the Select Board provided statements for print in this edition of the paper.

Frederick J. Gehring Jr.
Candidate for Select Board
I am running for the

Board of Selectmen to continue serving Oakham and supporting its future.

As a longtime resident, I have dedicated my career to public service, including 34 years with the Oakham Police Department, rising to Chief, and 30 years with the Clark University Police Department as second in command.

I also studied command and business administration at Roger Williams University and completed extensive leadership and budget training, preparing me to manage people, resources and complex challenges.

Through this experience, I understand how local government decisions affect residents, staff, and essential services. I value Oakham's rural character and believe we must balance fiscal responsibility with maintaining the

services that keep our community strong.

Oakham faces financial pressures and increasing service demands that require steady, thoughtful leadership. I am committed to clear communication, careful listening and making informed decisions based on fairness and long-term impact.

Transparency and accountability are essential, along with greater public access to information and participation, while respecting the Select Board's role in setting policy and providing oversight.

Addressing financial challenges will require a balanced approach—evaluating spending, improving efficiency, and pursuing new revenue without overburden-

See CANDIDATES page 7

Historical Commission presents counterproposal to DCR

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis
Staff Writer
zachf@turley.com

RUTLAND – The Historical Commission presented a counterproposal to the Department of Conservation and Recreation regarding the DCR's proposal to demolish the cell blocks at the Rutland Prison Camps, and fill in the root cellar.

The DCR has cited safety concerns and graffiti as reasons for demolition. The counterproposal follows months of meetings with residents and town officials to gather ideas for the preservation of the structures.

At the April 28 meeting, Historical Commission member Lindsay Maus read through the counterproposal, and the ideas they have come up with to address the DCR's concerns. She said that placing signs that say “do not climb” would remove liability from the DCR should someone get injured from a fall.

For the concerns about hateful graffiti, Maus said the commission is proposing community paint days, or volunteers to paint a mural on the site.

Until then, Maus said, the commission can paint over the graffiti and cover the building in anti-graffiti

coatings. She said the commission has the supplies, and are willing to provide them to reduce costs to the DCR.

Maus said there are studies that say art made by a muralist, or by community members is more likely to be respected by other graffiti artists, limiting the chances of hateful or inappropriate vandalism.

She said the commission also supports installing additional cameras, as well as “dummy cameras” to provide additional deterrence from committing any crime on the site. She said dem-

See RUTLAND page 6

Select Board, FinCom discuss ATM, budget

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis
Staff Writer
zachf@turley.com

HARDWICK – The Select Board held another joint meeting with the Finance Committee to discuss warrant articles, the fiscal 2027 budget and to weigh options on potential cuts for next fiscal year.

At the April 30 meeting, the boards discussed that there are a couple one time revenues built into the FY 27 budget, including \$100,000 from Kearsarge Solar, and at least \$100,000 from the selling of gravel.

Town Administrator Justine Caggiano said she

is projecting the gravel to generate up to \$300,000, but conservatively budgeted the revenue at \$100,000 for the budget.

There were concerns among the board about using at least \$200,000 to fund the budget, as Finance Committee Chair Christopher Culross explained that will lead to a \$200,000 deficit in FY 28. Culross said one-time revenues should be used for things like funding articles, capital projects and snow and ice.

He said they should not

See HARDWICK BUDGET page 12

Select Board heard presentations for zoning bylaws, capital planning

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

HARDWICK – The Select Board had a couple of guest presentations to hear during the April 13 open session meeting.

The first guest presenter was Mark Korzec regarding updates from the Capital Planning Committee.

Korzec had a report to share with the Select Board involving a vote taking during the Capital Planning Committee's meeting on March 30. A vote was taken and unanimously passed by the Capital Planning Committee to recommend a purchase of a boiler to replace a boiler at the elementary school that is no longer in service.

This matter would be discussed at the Annual Town Meeting where the voters will discuss and vote on a decision.

Korzec listed several needs the school has in his report. The school is in need of completing various projects including ones for the roof, windows, and heating

of the building.

There is more to discuss on this matter that was brought up later in the Select Board meeting.

“We're going to talk about this later in this meeting,” said Select Board Vice-Chair William Tinker.

The next guest presenter was William Cole of the Planning Board to present updates to the zoning bylaw. Cole provided sheets for the board and the Town Administrator which include summaries of a process that has been ongoing in the town for years.

This process would lead the town to vote on the proposed bylaw amendments that were in last year's town meeting in the spring of 2025. These were later approved by the town and by the Attorney General.

Cole said, “there are others to get to this year.”

Cole wanted to address a step in the process where the Planning Board is one of multiple groups that can present to the Select Board a request for a warrant at a special or annual town meeting.

This summary provided by Cole was only an outline and nothing had been finalized yet. Cole said there is language in these bylaw updates that need to be edited

for the articles, which would also have to go back to the Planning Board.

Cole wants to have this process in place because any zoning bylaw has to go through a process in order to be amended. One of the bylaws in the summary is for accessory dwelling units. Language is being worked on for a phased residential development with an ADU.

For example, a small house that can stand on its own in either a garage or barn. This bylaw should be revised and protect the uses of ADUs.

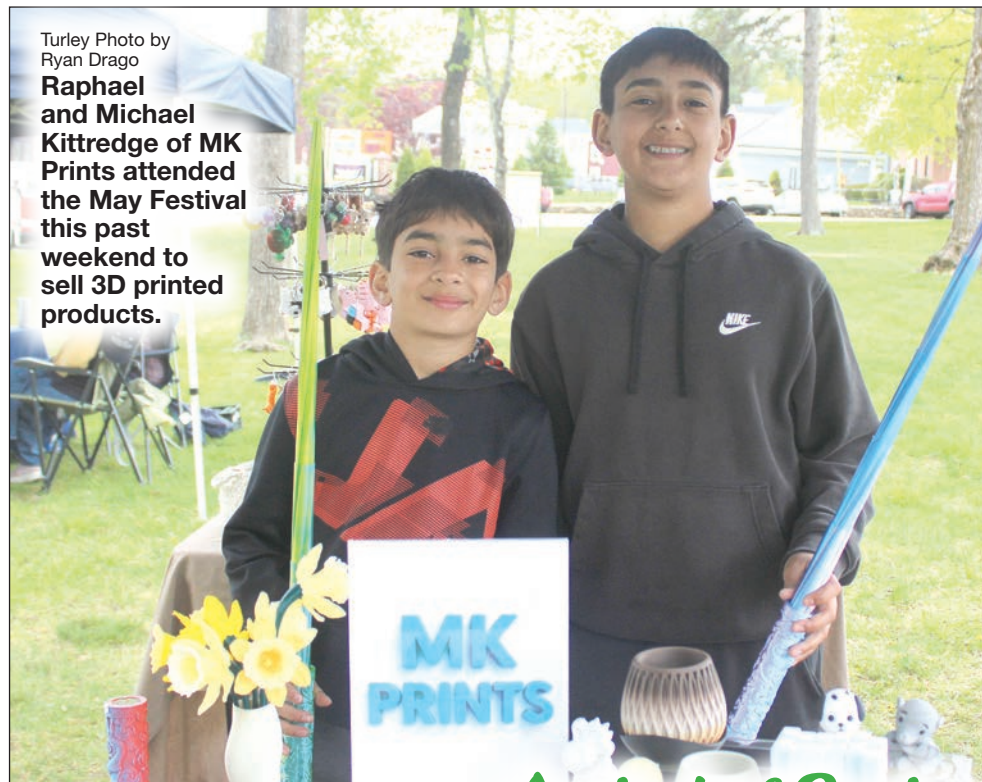
There is also an earth removal bylaw and a bylaw for farm animals. What Cole is seeking is an approval vote from the Select Board so the Planning Board can have a public hearing to allow public input discussing these bylaw updates.

The Select Board voted unanimously to approve this process.

Increasing building fees

The Select Board had a discussion with Building Inspector Paul Stringham to discuss an increase in building fees. Stringham presented the Select Board with a

See HARDWICK SB page 10 and 15



Turley Photo by Ryan Drago
Raphael and Michael Kittredge of MK Prints attended the May Festival this past weekend to sell 3D printed products.

May Festival celebrates Arrival of Spring

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Spring has arrived as the annual May Festival took place this past weekend.

This annual event was made possible by the Friends of the Haston Free Public Library. Members of the Friends of the Haston Free Public Library were present during this year's May Festival and were excited to have it back after

last year's festival was cancelled by weather.

Ann Kidd and Ellen Smith of the Friends of the Haston Free Public Library describe the May Festival as a community event used to celebrate spring. The May Festival started around 2010 after a town-wide reading program was put together by the library.

With workshops being held, the Friends came to a decision that they “needed to have some sort of culminating activity.” Therefore,

the May Festival was born into an exciting event to celebrate spring.

Despite the unfortunate cancellation of the May Festival last year, Kidd and Smith shared they got more sign-ups this year for the festival.

“This is a community event,” Smith said. “A celebration of spring.”

The theme for the May Festival was around reading,

See MAY FESTIVAL page 5



News of the Towns



ROUND TOWN
by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

EQLT hosts birding walk

The East Quabbin Land Trust host a birding wellness walk on Saturday, May 9 from 7:30-9 a.m. at the Prince River Preserve, Flaherty Road. All ages and abilities are welcome. The one mile route is a single track trail on uneven ground with little elevation change and skirts the old Reservoir. People should bring binoculars if they have them. EQLT provides snacks. People should RSVP by emailing atrevvett@eqlt.org.

American Legion Auxiliary

The American Legion Auxiliary May meeting for the unit will be held on Monday, May 11 at 7 p.m. at the American Legion Post #2 quarters, 450 South Barre Road. The refreshment committee consists of Helene, Melinda and Laurie.

Circle of Song concert

Circle of Song completes the vocal groups 25th anniversary season with a concert on Saturday, May 16 at 7 p.m. in the Barre Town Hall, 2 Exchange St., Barre at 7 p.m. On the docket this concert are the following songs: "Down By the Riverside," a traditional African-American spiritual; "No One is Alone" from "Into the Woods;" "The Promise of Living" from "The Tender Land;" "Les Miserables" medley from the musical of the same name; "Make Our Garden Grow" from "Candide;" "Brightly Dawns Our Wedding Day" from the Mikado; "Solitude" by Duke Ellington; "Waltzing Matilda," traditional Australian; "Total Praise" by Richard Smallwood and "Till There Was You" from "The Music Man." This is a free concert and refreshments will be served. For more information, people may email Julie Rawson at julie@mhof.net or call 978-257-1192.

Food Pantry distributions

The next two Barre Food Pantry distributions will occur on Wednesday May 13 from 10-11:30 a.m. and on Thursday, May 21 from 5:30-7 p.m. Clients are invited to pick up groceries from the food pantry either in the morning on Wednesday, May 13 or in the evening on Thursday, May 21, whichever is more convenient for them. In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and clients May 13 and 21 will again be "drive-through" style distributions. Clients will line up in their vehicles on Park Street and proceed into the right hand (east) entrance driveway of the Barre Congregational Church. They will remain in their cars. They'll drive up and be checked in by a volunteer, then continue up to the church building where their groceries will be put into the trunk or wayback of their vehicle by volunteers at multiple stations.

Clothes Encounters'

Clothes Encounters, a step into the past with historian Sally Cragin, takes place on Tuesday, May 12 at 6:30 p.m. in the Woods Memorial Library, 19 Pleasant St. She presents an interactive program on the history of fashion. This engaging program examines how clothing reflected social class, gender roles and cultural expectations from the mid-19th century through the Jazz Age and beyond. Attendees will have the rare opportunity to see authentic historical garments and accessories from her extensive collection. Participants will be able to closely examine a variety of items, including shoes, wool and cotton undergarments and uniforms worn by shop girls, waitresses and housewives. The collection also features eye-catching flapper outfits and men's hats and apparel from the early 20th century. Select pieces will even be available for audience members to try on, offering a hands-on way to connect with the past and experience how clothing shaped everyday life. In addition to garments, Cragin's collection includes a stunning assortment of antique handbags, each reflecting the craftsmanship and style of its era. This lively and educational program offers a unique opportunity to experience history through the clothing people wore and the stories those garments tell. For more information, people may call the library at 978-355-2533, extension 102.

See ROUND TOWN page 7

Food Pantry holds May distributions

BARRE – The next two Barre Food Pantry distributions will occur on Wednesday May 13 from 10-11:30 a.m. and on Thursday, May 21 from 5:30-7 p.m.

Clients are invited to pick up groceries from the food pantry either in the morning on Wednesday, May 13 or in the evening on Thursday, May 21, 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 has considered changing how the pantry currently

operates, but has decided that the most responsible path forward is to continue to operate as we have since March of 2020.

In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and clients May 13 and 21 will again be "drive-through" style distributions. Clients will line up in their vehicles on Park Street and proceed into the right hand (east) entrance driveway of the Barre Congregational Church.

They will remain in their cars. They'll drive up and be checked in by a volunteer, then continue up to the church building where their groceries will be put into the trunk or wayback of their vehicle by volunteers at multiple stations.

Based on the success of 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 12 at 5 p.m. the Barre Food Pantry will be gathering volunteers at the Barre Congregational Church to unload incoming groceries from their truck, to sort through donated groceries, to pre-fill grocery bags and in other ways to prepare for the distribution the following morning. If people can help pitch in for an hour on the May 12, they should call Sonja Blaney at 978-355-6921.

Volunteers should not arrive on May 12, 13 or 21 without first calling either Sonja Blaney at 978-355-6921 or Chuck Radlo at 978-355-6463.

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

Annual plant, bake, craft and tag sale to be held next weekend

HARDWICK – The Tri Parish Community Church welcomes the public to its 20th annual plant, bake, craft and tag sale Saturday, May 16 and Sunday, May 17 from 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. on the beautiful Hardwick common.

The sale will feature traditional, favorite, and connoisseur perennials, plus selected annuals, heirloom vegetable plants and herbs. There is a wonderful variety in plants offered through Inishowen Farms of North Brookfield, Stillman's Farm and Howe's Farm & Garden both of New Braintree, and "homegrown lovelies" from private gardens.

A delicious assortment of home-baked desserts and breads will also be sold.

The church will be holding a drawing featuring the "best" of the plant sale. No purchase is neces-

sary to win. Several outdoor activities and games will be available for children.

A number of craft vendors have rented space on the common for the event. The Friends of the Stone Church will also be on hand, highlighting their preservation of the Stone Church Cultural Center in Gilbertville, as well as the upcoming programs that are offered at the center.

The Tri Parish Community Church's Pastor, Duncan Washburn, will lead a brief prayer service Sunday morning on the common in lieu of the 10 a.m. Sunday worship service.

The proceeds from the plant and bake sale support the operational expenses of the church. Come spend the day enjoying all that Hardwick has to offer while supporting the fund-raising efforts of the

church.

Browse the plants and vendor booths, connect with old friends, visit the Hardwick Historical Society, open from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. both days, and the 1906 Paige Memorial library which will be open from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday. Both buildings are located near the common, a short walk from the plant sale venue.

Bring your bicycle and tour some of the great riding routes in the east-Quabbin area and scenic vistas preserved through the East Quabbin Land Trust such as the Mandell Hill property located just one mile east of the Hardwick common (the church will hold your plants for you), and top it all off with a bite to eat at Mimi's Coffee House overlooking the common.

All are welcome. This is a rain or shine event.

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 11. 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 – Honey mustard pork, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, fresh fruit, Italian bread

TUESDAY – Burger with chili and cheese, herb potatoes, green beans, Lorna Doone cookies, sandwich roll

WEDNESDAY – Jambalaya, rice pilaf, peas and carrots, pineapple, pumpkin bread

THURSDAY – Garlic herbed chicken, cranberry stuffing, California blend vegetables, tapioca pudding, diet = sugar free tapioca, whole wheat bread

FRIDAY – Beef stir fry, steamed rice, roasted broccoli, baked cinnamon pears, marble rye 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.

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 edowner@turley.com or call 413-283-8393. Corrections may also be requested in writing at Barre Gazette, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.



OAKHAM
by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

Summer band concerts start June 25

The summer band concert series begins on Thursday, June 25 from 6:30-8 p.m. on the Oakham. The Friends of the Oakham Bandstand sell popcorn, drinks and ice cream. Other

Thursday concert dates include: July 9 The Traveling Homebodies, July 23 The Long Run: Songs of the Eagles, Aug. 13 The Cropdusters and Aug. 20 The Otters.

OHA open house

The first open house by the Oakham Historical Association takes place at the Oakham Historical Museum, 1221 Old Turnpike Road, on Sunday, May 24 from 1-4 p.m. At 1 p.m. Andrew Boone, local author of the book "Bathsheba Spooner," presents a reading and shows slides of the book.

Known as "a most horrid piece of villainy" one observer wrote upon hearing of what is now recognized as the most sensational crime of the American 18th century. It is the Revolutionary counterpart to the Lizzie Borden case from the next century. Open houses are the last Sunday of the month. Other dates are June 28, July 26, Aug. 23, Sept. 27 and Oct. 25. There is a virtual tour of the Quabbin Cemetery on June 28 at 1 p.m.

Ordination of Carissa M. Rodriquez

The Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road, will hold an ordination service for Carissa M. Rodriquez, lay pastor, on Saturday, May 16 from 1-2 p.m. A reception follows in Fellowship Hall.

COA events

The monthly Council on Aging meeting will be held Friday, May 8 at noon in the voting room at the Oakham Town Hall. Lunch Bunch will meet Friday May 15 at Scruffy Murphy's in Tatnuck Square in Worcester at 12:30 p.m. Note: the location was incorrect in last week's edition. Podiatry Clinic will be held Monday, May 18 from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; an appointment is required. Blood pressure and glucose screening will be held Tuesday, May 26 from 11a.m.-1 p.m.; no appointment is needed. Ongoing activities include puzzling Monday through Thursday at 9 a.m., regularly scheduled yoga Tuesdays at 1 p.m., Zumba Gold in New Braintree Town Hall Wednesdays at 8:45 a.m. \$3 per class and Functional fitness class Fridays in New Braintree Town Hall at 10:30 a.m., \$3 per class Walking groups and weigh in on Thursdays at noon.

Congregate hot meals

Congregate hot meals are held Monday through Thursday at 11:15 a.m. Reservations are needed at least two days in advance and can be made through the Congregate Meal Coordinator from 9 a.m.-12.15 p.m. by calling 508-882-4072.


New Braintree church holds strawberry festival

NEW BRAINTREE – The Annual Strawberry Festival sponsored by the New Braintree Congregational Church takes place Saturday, June 13 at 5:30 p.m. in the New Braintree Town Hall, Memorial Drive.

This family-style meal consists of baked ham, baked beans, potato salad, coleslaw, rolls and beverages followed by strawberry shortcake for dessert. Tickets are \$20 for adults; \$12 for children ages 5 to 10 and free for children four and under. There will be one sitting. People may make reservations by calling 508-410-7424 or 413-477-6653.

Editorial deadline reminder

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

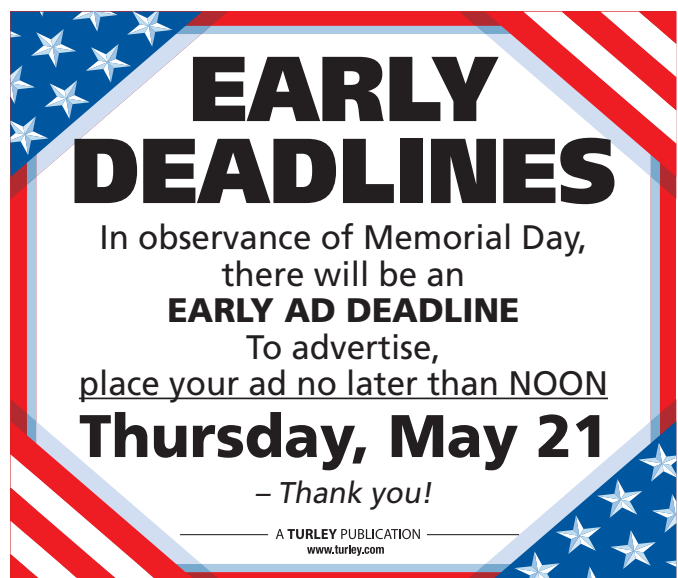


THE CENTERED PLACE
SINCE 1988
Yoga & Meditation Classes
Offering both onsite and online classes
Voted Best Yoga in the region by Town & Country Living Magazine

YOGA FOR EVERY BODY

Yoga leaves you more relaxed, centered, open and energized. Come experience this for yourself.

413 436 7374
286 BRIDGE ST, WARREN MA
WWW.THECENTEREDPLACE.COM



EARLY DEADLINES
In observance of Memorial Day, there will be an **EARLY AD DEADLINE**
To advertise, place your ad no later than **NOON Thursday, May 21**
– Thank you!
A TURLEY PUBLICATION
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.

News of the Towns

Quabbin Regional School District where we are

From the desk of the Quabbin Regional School District Superintendent Colleen Mucha

BARRE – The Fiscal Year 2027 budget process began in the late fall of 2026, well before the district had any idea of how funding may change or stay the same at the state or federal level.

However, Quabbin Regional School District understood that it would be another challenging year with such volatile costs of goods and services. The first FY'27 budget proposal was \$43,887,444.00 and it included several reductions from the start.

At that time, only one position had been added and it included one reduction. It also included reductions based upon cost savings measures such as revisiting contracts like special education transportation. At this time, the budget was reduced to \$42,545,128.53.

Where Have We Been

By 2024, after the Covid-19 pandemic, the ESSER funds had fully expended and expired. We knew we would need to make some difficult decisions over the next few years. QRSD worked tirelessly to build a more sustainable budget foundation while protecting student learning outcomes. The district prioritized

fiscal responsibility through a combination of proactive planning and strategic reductions.

In the way of proactive planning, QRSD has utilized Rural School Aid to build "programs" that are allowing them to keep their own students in the district. These programs include therapeutic classrooms, language based classrooms and their New Horizon Academy – Alternative High School program.

Quabbin has several successful programs such as the Lifeskills programs and Autism programming for many years. If they were unable to provide these educational opportunities for our students, the cost for an out of district placement per student is substantial.

Most day placements are \$60,000/year plus transportation. Some are well above \$100,000/year plus transportation. Not only are these programs good for students, as they are able to stay in the district with their peers, but they make financial sense.

As for strategic reductions, QRSD has been carefully watching student enrollment and interest. One of the challenges with declining enrollment is that

while we may have a decrease of 25 students, for example, that does not equate to being able to reduce one teacher because oftentimes those students are from different grade levels and attend different schools.

In the past two years, the QRSD reduced 14 positions and for FY '27 SY we are reducing an additional 20 positions. These reductions were a necessary step to address ongoing budget challenges following the loss of federal aid and lower than promised state aid. The tremendous increase in costs of goods and services is also playing a significant role. These reductions will help to ensure the district's spending is aligned with long-term resources.

Where We Are Going

The Quabbin Regional School District is committed to sustainable financial management and with a proactive approach we will address potential deficits before they escalate. With the FY 27 budget, we identified necessary reductions that we believe will allow us to weather any future unexpected increases and costs. QRSD will

continue to monitor spending closely, seek to increase revenues, and keep our focus on student learning.

These budget decisions are difficult and they directly affect students, staff, programs and the morale. Many of their employees live right here in the five communities and with reductions like these, they take a toll.

The administration is aware that the budget landscape remains challenging and that more difficult decisions are anticipated over the next few years. By beginning the budget process early and making reductions strategically, QRSD is working to maintain its financial health while ensuring its core mission, student learning, remains the top priority.

In the last article in this series, the district will address Frequently Asked Questions related to topics like: Net School Spending, Transportation, Per Pupil Spending and more. Should people have a specific question, they may cmucha@qrdsd.org and the superintendent will try to get it answered in the next article.

HUBBARDSTON

by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

Benny Meagher gets Boston Post Cane

The Hubbardston Historical Society presents the Boston Post Cane to Hubbardston's oldest resident Robert "Benny" Meagher on Saturday, May 9 at 2 p.m. in the Hubbardston Senior Center 7 Main St.

Hubbardston Fair

The Hubbardston Fair takes place Saturday, June 6 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Curtis Recreation Field, Gardner Road, Route 68. Rain date is Sunday, June 7. There will be a band, Neon Alley, playing from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and lots of food trucks, activities and different vendors.

Summer concert

On Thursday, July 23 from 5-8 p.m. the Parks Department holds a summer concert on the bandstand at Curtis Recreation Field, Gardner Road, Route 68. There will be more details later.

Wellness walk

The East Quabbin Land Trust in collaboration with Hubbardston Open Space Committee will hold a wellness walk, birding and spring ephemerals on Sunday, May 17 at 7:30 a.m. at Henry's Grove, Lombard Road. The walk includes birding with Steve Lofgren, a grandson of the Henry in Henry's Grove and spring ephemerals with Mike Stoll, steward of Henry's Grove and Hidden Meadow Preserves. The walk will last one to one and a half hours. There is parking along one side of Lombard Road. People should RSVP by emailing atrevett@eqlt.org.

Meeting House plant sale

The First Meeting House, 2 Main St., will hold a plant sale on Saturday, May 9 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Perennials from early spring flowering to late fall flowering and seasonal long. Edible plants some annuals like geraniums and some woody plants. Most plants grew in local gardens. This is a great way to add to an existing garden or start a new one. Plants make wonderful Mother's day gifts. Donations of extra garden plants are gratefully accepted. This historic Meeting House needs help in preserving its history. Donation may be dropped off on Saturday, May 9 at 8 a.m. People should label names of plants.

Legislators staff office hour

State Rep. Donnie Berthiaume and Chief of Staff, Donna and Senator Peter Durant's offices invite constituents and town officials to meet them to express any concerns, ideas or issues that they may need assistance with. On Monday, May 11 office visit times are: Hubbardston Senior Center from 9-10 a.m. People may call Donna at 774-402-4742 if they would like a private meeting.

Senior Center events

All artists are welcome to attend the art group at the Hubbardston Senior Center every Friday from 9-11 a.m. A new activity at the Senior Center is the Creative Needle and Thread activity every Friday from 9 a.m.-noon. All are invited to bring projects, such as embroidery, cross stitch, sewing and quilting. Questions may be directed to Michelle at 508-450-4476. Yarn-It-All group

See HUBBARDSTON page 7

PUBLIC MEETINGS

BARRE

Quabbin Regional School District Committee – May 7 at 6:30 p.m.
Board of Health – May 11 at 5 p.m.
DPW Commission – May 11 at 6 p.m.
Library Trustees – May 13 at 6:30 p.m.
Conservation Committee – May 12 at 7 p.m.

Barre Common Oversight Committee – May 13 at 7 p.m.

Barre Housing Authority – May 14 at 1 p.m.

Zoning Board of Appeals – May 14 at 7 p.m. and June 18 at 6 p.m.

Select Board – May 18 at 5 p.m.

Water Commission – May 18 at 5:30 p.m.

Planning Board – May 19 at 7 p.m.

Cemetery Commission – May 28 at 11 a.m.

Cable Advisory Committee – June 9 at 7 p.m.

HARDWICK

Paige Library Trustees – May 7 at 7 p.m.

Planning Board – May 12 and May 19 at 6:30 p.m.

Gilbertville Public Library – May 13 at 3 p.m.

Hardwick New Braintree Cultural Council – May 13 at 6:30 p.m.

Master Plan Steering Committee – May 14 at 6:30 p.m.

Capital Planning Committee – May 18 at 3 p.m.

Gilbertville Water District – May 19 at 5:30 p.m.

Conservation Commission – May 20 at 6:30 p.m.

Wheelwright Water District – May 20 at 7 p.m.

Town Meeting – June 6 at 9 a.m.

HUBBARDSTON

Memorial Day Committee – May 7 at 10 a.m.

Town Administrator Search Committee – May 7 and May 8 at 5:45 p.m.

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

Cemetery Commission – May 11 at 5 p.m.

Board of Health – May 12 and May 26 at 7 p.m.

Board of Assessors – May 13 and May 20 at 6 p.m.

Board of Park Commissioners – May 14 at 6 p.m.

Council on Aging – May 20 at 4 p.m.

Planning Board – May 21 at 6:30 p.m.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

Parks and Recreation – May 7 at 6 p.m.

Rep. Berthiaume Office Hour – May 11 from 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Planning Board – May 20 all day

OAKHAM

Board of Health – May 12 at 6 p.m.

Rep. Berthiaume and Sen. Durant Staff Office Hour – May 20 from 12:15-1 p.m.

PETERSHAM

Select Board – May 7 at 5:30 p.m., May 8 at 9 a.m., May 12 at 8:30 a.m., May 14 at 5:30 p.m., May 19 at 8:30 a.m. May 21 at 5:30 p.m., May 26 at 8:30 a.m., May 28 at 5:30 p.m. and June 11 and June 18 at 5:30 p.m.

Advisory Finance Committee – May 7 at 5:30 p.m. and May 14, May 21, May 28 and June 1, all at 6 p.m.

Petersham School Committee – May 11 at 10 a.m.

Council on Aging – May 11 at 10:30 a.m.

Cemetery Commission – May 12 at 11 a.m.

Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Committee – May 16 at 11:30 a.m.

Petersham Historic District – May 21 at 6 p.m.

Board of Assessors – May 22 at 9 a.m.

RUTLAND

Finance Committee – May 7 at 6 p.m. and May 9 at 5:15 p.m.

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

Rutland Development and Industrial Commission – May 7 at 7 p.m.

Planning Board – May 9 at 5:30 p.m.

Select Board – May 9 at 5:30 p.m.

Planning Board Public Hearing – May 12 at 6:30 p.m. and 6:45 p.m.



Clean Out Solutions
Basement, Attic, Shed & Whole House Cleanouts
Shed, Pool & Hot Tub Removals
Arthur "Skip" Gervais
(774)397-6500

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

Opening for the Season
Wednesday, May 13
DINE IN or TAKE-OUT
Still 4 Corners
Route 122, Rutland
508-886-6666 • www.stillfourcorners.com
Open: Wed.-Sun. 11am-9pm; Closed Mon. & Tues.

FOR RENT
Quabbin Estates
41 Church Lane, Wheelwright, MA 01094
Accepting applications for wait list.
The apartment features - w/w carpeting, kitchen appliances, maintenance coverage, laundry facilities. We specialize in Senior Housing and "Barrier Free" accessible units. Rent is \$810/mo. or 30% of income, whichever is lower.
RD regulations. Handicap Accessible apartments when available.
CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT
413-477-6496
TDD (800)439-2379

25+ Years
BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS
"Quality counts when no one is looking."
Asphalt paving for over 50 years!
Bill Keyes
ASPHALT PAVING INC.
SPENCER, MA
Established 1963
774-261-5181
Driveways
Parking Lots
Seal Coating
Free Estimates
KeyesPaving.com
508-347-7499
Fully Insured • Owner/Operator

Opinion

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor

I want to do everything right when I claim Social Security

Dear Rusty:

I will be 62 in two years. I plan on signing up for SS at age 62, but I have heard there are details that are important when signing up. When it comes time, I want to make sure I do everything right. Can you help me understand?

Signed: Claiming Soon

Dear Claiming Soon:

Deciding when to claim your Social Security benefit is a decision you should make only after careful consideration of your personal circumstances. And details are, indeed, important. For example, if you claim at age 62 (when you first become eligible), your monthly SS benefit will be only 70% of the amount you would get by waiting until age 67 to claim. And there are other considerations as well, including:

If you are still working and claim at 62, you will be subject to Social Security's Annual Earnings Test (AET) which limits how much you can earn from working while collecting early SS benefits. The earnings limit changes each year, and for 2026 it is \$24,480. If the annual limit after you claim early is exceeded, SS will take back \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit. And, if your work earnings substantially exceed the annual limit, you may even be temporarily ineligible for early SS benefits (until you either stop working full time or reach your SS full retirement age). FYI, the AET lasts until you reach your FRA (age 67).

The benefit reduction for claiming SS early is permanent. After you claim, you will only get increases for Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA) which occur annually according to inflation. FYI, the average annual COLA adjustment is about 2.5%.

If you are married, the reduced benefit you get by claiming early will potentially be the basis of your spouse's survivor benefit if you pass first. Surviving spouse benefits are based on the amount you are receiving at your death, thus waiting longer for a higher person-

al benefit may also provide your spouse with a larger survivor benefit as your widow.

If you wait longer than age 62, your monthly benefit will continue to increase (by approximately 6% per year) until you reach your FRA, when you get 100% of the amount you are entitled to from a lifetime of working. FYI, you can even wait longer - up to age 70 - to claim an even higher monthly amount (8% more for each year of delay after FRA). At age 70, your SS benefit would be about 75% more than your age 62 benefit amount.

If you haven't already done so, I suggest setting up your personal online "my Social Security" account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount to see what your SS benefits are estimated to be at various ages. Then, when you are closer to age 62, contact us again to talk about your specific personal circumstances at the time, and we can provide you with everything you need to know about applying for Social Security.

In the end, when claiming your Social Security benefits, you should consider your financial need, your health and life expectancy, your plans for working, and your marital status. We commend you for exploring this well in advance of becoming eligible and we will be here to assist when it is time for you to apply.

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



In Past Pages

Look Back Tree on Barre Common – 1995



Turley Publications File Photo

Workers from Quaboag Tree Service remove a damaged tree from Barre Common. In the past few years, several trees on the Common have been lost to disease. Although they will be replaced with new trees, residents will miss these gnarled old sentinels.

5 years (May 13, 2021)

The Barre Finance Committee went over town administrator Jessica Sizer's proposed FY22 budget at its May 6 meeting. The town administrator said she estimated new growth conservatively at \$50,000. New growth included new construction, additions, swimming pools, etc. The town's maximum levy limit under proposition 2 ½ was \$9,201,953. Claire Adomaitis, finance committee chair, said she pushed out the date of the committee's public hearing from Thursday, May 27 to Thursday, June 3 to allow the committee more time to present a balanced budget at town meeting.

At its April 26 meeting, the Hubbardston Select Board approved a temporary sign to mark the spot where a proposed Vietnam Veterans Memorial will be located. Bill Shea of the

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Committee said the sign would say "Future Location of Our Vietnam Veterans Memorial" and would fall within the size limit of the town's sign bylaw. He said the sign would be in place until the end of May 2022, the goal for the placement of the memorial on the town common.

Shea said there was an unprecedented number of applications for the Veterans Heritage grant program and the committee did not receive a grant. The committee planned to apply again next year for the grant. He said the committee needed about \$30,000 for a memorial similar to those already on the common.

The Hardwick Board of Selectmen held a joint meeting with the Finance Committee on Monday, May 10, at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. The meeting was to further review the preliminary bud-

get for fiscal 2022.

Quabbin Regional School District Superintendent Dr. Sheila Muir presented the school budget for fiscal 2022. Hardwick's assessment is \$2,594,615.08. Muir said grants helped cover a lot of their unexpected costs associated with the pandemic, including technology needed to make remote and hybrid learning possible. "We purchased a lot of technology," she said. "Each member town was generous with sharing their CARES Act funding," she said, to help secure the needed technology.

Muir said they are again, "building a budget for an unknown school year." She said they are doing their best to plan for a somewhat uncertain future. Muir said she imagines school will be closer to "normal," but the needs of the students will

See PAST PAGES page 5

The Garden Lady takes on spring bulb woes

Debi, who gardens in Hardwick, reached out to the Garden Lady with concerns over her daffodils.

They didn't bloom well this year, and she wonders if they need fertilizer.

"Dear Garden Lady, sorry to bother you in this busy season but our daffodils aren't doing well. I'm guessing they need food. What would you suggest?"

I am happy to answer your question! There are typically four reasons why daffodils don't bloom.

Probably the first mistake gardeners make is removing the foliage too soon after the flowers go by. Foliage needs about six-eight weeks of ripening before it can be removed.

While it is still green, it is photosynthesizing and making energy for next year's flowers.

It can get unsightly as it starts to yellow and finally turn brown and dry up, but we must be patient.

It is ready when it comes off with a gentle tug. Some gardeners get strategic with nearby plants so that the eye moves away from the foliage and to another plant taking the

stage in full bloom.

Another reason why daffodils may be stinging with their flowers is that the clumps are overgrown and need to be divided. Wait until the foliage has turned brown, then dig up the bulbs, pry them apart and replant them twice their width from one another and about two to three times their height deep.

I recommend using a pointed shovel, not a trowel. Sometimes they can be down deep and you want to make sure you get the bulb out intact.

Do this while the brown foliage is there so that you can find them. While it may feel "off" to be replanting in early summer, it is a perfectly fine time to do it.

Debi's bulbs could also need fertilizer, like she suggested. A sprinkling of granular fertilizer with low nitrogen, but sufficient phosphorus and potassium for blooming and rooting, respectively, would be ideal.

The two best times to feed are when the bulbs are up a



few inches and now, just past bloom. Daffodils do require less fertilizer than tulips and hyacinths, and sometimes bloom for years without the addition of fertilizer.

I am wondering if the trees or the ground cover adjacent to Debi's daffodils were fertilized with a high nitrogen blend and it affected the bulbs? I have a few daffodils near an apple tree that is close to my compost pile, where I mix chicken bedding with vegetable scraps, etc.

I think the high nitrogen run-off from the pile affected my blooming, just as an example. Of five possible clumps I had a measly two flowers. Bone meal, high in phosphorus, is in order to rebalance the soil.

Knowing Debi's sun expo-

sure, I don't think this is an issue, but it is worth the mention for other readers who may struggle with sparse blooms. Daffodils won't bloom in deep shade. Dappled sunlight is fine.

Planting under deciduous trees is also fine. If you think shade is the culprit, wait until the foliage ripens and move them using the guidelines I provided for bulbs that are overcrowded.

I sure hope one of these suggestions will help your daffodils regain their former glory.

Rose, who reads the column in the Ware River News, was concerned that a number of her hyacinths were broken off at ground level when just buds, and she wondered what or who could the culprit be.

"This is so disheartening, I don't want to even grow them any more."

I was astounded to hear this, because the same thing happened to me in one of my gardens at Old Sturbridge Village where I have a multi red, white and blue planting of hyacinths and tulips. Grooming last week yielded at least 10 hyacinth buds that

looked as if they were but off at ground level.

Although the experts say rodents could be the cause, the cut was almost perfect, not gnawed in any way, plus hyacinths contain natural deterrents making them rodent proof, typically. I did cultivate the bed awhile back, my thought being that I may have cut a few of them off under ground.

As the stems elongated, they could have forced the bud above ground even though it was already dislodged, but the mystery remains. I'm sorry this happened, Rose, and I wish I had a definite answer for you, but at least know you are in good company with your hyacinth woes.

If anyone has any answers I would love to hear them.

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

BARRE GAZETTE

We Want to Hear From You

EDITOR

Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

ADVERTISING SALES

Dan Flynn
dflynn@turley.com

SPORTS EDITOR

Greg Scibelli
sports@turley.com

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



WEB

barregazette.turley.com



PHONE

(413) 283-8393



ADDRESS

24 Water Street
Palmer, MA 01069

Turley
Publications, Inc.

www.turley.com

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

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, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 or via email to edowner@turley.com. The deadline for submissions is Friday at noon.

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

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

Letter to the Editor

Lucille DiLeo runs write-in campaign for BOH

To the editor

I am writing to you as Editor of the Barre Gazette regarding my write in campaign for a two-year term on the Oakham Board of Health.

As you know, Oakham residents did not choose to have our quiet rural town turned into an industrial site due to the construction of a stand-alone Battery Energy Storage System. However, a private corporation selected our town to install a BESS.

We were forced to fight to preserve our rural life. That corporation filed a Petition with the Department of Public Utilities Energy Facility Siting Board

requesting an exemption of our Zoning Bylaws allowing the construction of a BESS at 358 Coldbrook Road.

Our town counsel along with witnesses participated in an evidentiary hearing at the EFSB to contest this BESS. The EFSB decision will be made sometime in June. At this time, our Board of Health can take action to protect our rural community.

I have a Bachelor of Science in nursing with a work history of seven years. I also have a Law Degree with 32 years of work experience. The combination of these two disciplines will greatly benefit the BOH.

My decision to run for a

position on the BOH came after the deadline for submitting nomination papers for the upcoming election. Therefore, I am a write in candidate. My letter of introduction was already mailed to Oakham residents.

One week before the election, a second mailing will be made enclosing stickers to use on the ballot with instructions on how to use it. I hope my write in candidacy is successful. It would be my honor to serve our town to continue fighting this invasion.

Sincerely,
Lucille A. DiLeo
Oakham

Paige Memorial Library lists events

HARDWICK – The Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, hosts a Mother’s Day tea on Saturday, May 9 from 11 a.m.-noon.

Participants enjoy tea, lemonade and art making. All are welcome.

On Tuesday, May 12 at 6 p.m. and Saturday, May 16 at 11 a.m. Mindful Mandalas: Art and Creativity happens. They

will create drawn mandala art and relax in a rhythm of pattern and color. Materials provided.

Ongoing library activities include story time with an activity every Wednesday, 10:30 a.m.-noon, the Paige Book Club, the Cookbook Club, Celebrate Hardwick, the ongoing book sale, the Paige Writers, the Page to Screen book to movie

discussion group and the Movie Festival Committee. More events are coming. People may visit their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/paigelibrary/> and website at <http://www.paigelibrary.com/>.

Paige Memorial Library hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2-7 p.m., Wednesday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

I hope you had a nice May Day.

Did anyone deliver you a May basket? Those were the days. I made a few hundred of them in my days as did my mother. I can’t get the nice crepe paper to make them with any more. Sometimes I put flowers in them and other times candy like the orange marshmallow ones.

I was going through my recipe boxes this week looking for a recipe for Fiddlehead Ostrich Ferns. I picked a good batch of them from the garden in the front yard. I have to pick them every day now as they grow so fast.

I wash them and remove the brown skin and boil them changing the water at least three times. I serve them with butter and salt, but you can make a Hollandaise sauce.

While looking for that recipe I found my favorite apple crisp recipe. Seeing I have a few apples left from the last apple pie I made thought I would whip up one of these as it is quick.

APPLE CRISP

- 3/4 cup flour
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1/8 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 cup salad oil

3 apples, peeled and sliced
Place 1/2 cup flour with sliced apples in a pie pan. Place remaining flour, sugar, cinnamon and oil over the top of apples. Bake in 375 degree oven for 30 minutes.

This and That

I watched a big deer in our back yard, just waiting for the hosta plants to emerge. They love to eat them.

I did divide a few hostas and put them in large pots hoping they would not eat them. Most of the front yard has them and they don’t seem to go into that part of the yard.

I ordered some new watercolor blank cards, but I did not notice they were note card size so I have been using them.

Most of the yard has the leaves removed. It was a job I am glad is done as the pesky bugs are now out.

Each day something new in the flower gardens pops through the gardens. Because of my old age I am glad I have some of things labeled as my memory is not as good as it used to be.

I do have a couple of mystery things. I took out my flower books, but I still can’t

find what they are. When my gardening friends come, I will have to get them to see if they know.

The primroses are in full bloom, but they are all red. The blood root is just about past. There was a lot of it.

I am still waiting for the Japanese ferns and the maiden hair ferns to come through the soil. Lots of hostas are appearing now so the gardens are getting filled in.

I did fertilize and lime some things. The leaves are coming out on the trees and that means spring is here. I will be glad when I can put out the house plants as the living room is getting crowded. The Clivia plant has a huge blossom, which is unusual as it usually blooms once I put it outside.

I finally got the Anderson door man here to adjust the doors so they now lock and the screens are working nicely. Now to get the plumber to fix the tub faucet. There always seems to be something that needs to be fixed. Serenity Hill is now 35 years old so things are wearing out. Even the owners....ha ha.

I heard a lady at Madison Greens likes this column. I keep writing as I enjoy doing it. Have a nice week.

MAY FESTIVAL from page 1

growing and eating. In other words, a festival centered around farms, food, gardens and learning.

The festival featured local foods, farms, nurseries, artists, artisans and crafters.

The Friends group kept busy by hosting children’s activities, a free plant swap and had tote bags for sale. Door prizes were also available and were donated by the vendors of this year’s May Festival.

The vendors were across the street from the library on the front lawn of the First Congregational Church.

One of the vendors was Night Owl by Bri, operated by Brianna Lamb. The name is inspired by Lamb’s after midnight crafting.

Night Owl by Bri offers unique items such as handmade jewelry, needle felting products, and literary character earrings. These neatly crafted earrings feature adorable book characters such as Winnie the Pooh and Mr. Toad.

Lamb goes to the May Festival every year and has a little bit of everything to offer through her business, Night Owl by Bri.

The East Quabbin Land Trust was also at the May Festival highlighting their natural reserve locations throughout the area. There was also EQLT merchandise and maps available during the May Festival.



Sparky the Fire Dog visited the North Brookfield Fire Department, which celebrated its 175th anniversary.

This year’s May Festival also featured some young entrepreneurs. Michael Kittredge, age 12, is the founder of MK Prints. This creative business focuses on 3D printed items.

Kittredge alongside Raphael Kittredge were giving customers of the May Festival something unique to see at their booth.

Kittredge is enthusiastic about 3D products after receiving his first 3D printer last year. MK Prints was invited to do fairs at the Pine Acres Campground.

During the May Festival the North Brookfield Fire Department was holding an open house in celebration of their 175th anniversary. The

Fire Department was cooking some hot dogs and hamburgers and shared some information about the department.

Giving the tour of the fire station is North Brookfield Firefighter Anne Adams, who is also the Emergency Management Director of North Brookfield. The town’s Fire Department was established in 1878, which currently serves as the headquarters for the department.

This building used to be the apparatus bay and at one point used to house horses. The project was made possible by a building committee to further expand the Fire Department, including an expansion of the parking lot.

The old highway barn



Author Kevin Flanders is shown with copies of his books during the May Festival.

that used to house highway department equipment and vehicles would be acquired by the Fire Department and would become the new apparatus for the Fire Department’s vehicles and gear. This project was done a few months ago and was a big benefit for the department as the old highway barn is next to the original fire station.

Hanging out with the Fire Department was Sparky the fire dog mascot. Sparky did a few dance moves and took pictures with some of the children who visited the fire station and spent the day exploring the May Festival.

All the vehicles were parked outside of the appa-



A plant swap was held in front of the Haston Free Public Library in North Brookfield.

ratus and were explored by visitors. The fire department also had junior firefighter helmets to give to the kids.

Visitors got to dine inside the apparatus and play some fun games including corn-hole.

PAST PAGES from page 4

are unknown. They are proposing to eliminate some positions and add some new ones. The district is hoping to add an intervention program in the middle school, like the one on the elementary level. “It has been much needed for many years, but never makes it through the budget process,” she said.

10 years (May 12, 2016)

Oakham Selectmen opened the Annual Town Meeting Warrant Monday night and will close it the following Monday, May 16 at 7:30 p.m. The board selected three possible dates for the ATM: Monday, June 13; Tuesday, June 14 or Wednesday, June 15 at 7 p.m. at the Oakham Center School. They will check with town clerk Christine Mardirosian and moderator Jeffrey Young to find out what date works best for them.

Oakham Selectmen continued the discussion on the Maple Street sidewalk project. They will research the deeds to see who owned the sidewalk, the town or the property owner. They also planned to hold a public hearing to get input from the neighbors. They also mentioned the need to address the low driveways so the water stays on the road and does not come onto private property. The board opted to wait on holding a public hearing until after the Annual town Meeting.

On Monday morning, during February break, the Envirothon team arrived at Mandell Hill to get their first taste of removing invasives. The cold weather and snow on the ground didn’t stop them from grabbing loppers and heading into the giant bushes of multiflora rose that invaded a pasture. They spent the morning clearing a path along one side of the

rock walled pasture. The students gained an appreciation of mechanical removal methods and learned of plans to incorporate biological pressures by allowing llamas to graze in the fields and push back the invasive growth. The students then visited Deer Park to collect samples of phragmites in the wetlands and after lunch we went to the gazebo overlooking the Ware River next to the Gilbertville Fitness Trail to see the Japanese knotweed along the riverbank. They discussed the Hardwick Conservation Commissions plans to control the knotweed beginning this summer.

25 years (May 10, 2001)

About eighty family, friends, members, delegates from other churches and fellow clergy attended the installation of Victoria Marie Snow as the settled minister of the Oakham

Congregational Church, on Sunday, April 29 at 1 p.m. The Rev. Snow was called to be pastor the Oakham Congregational Church and began her ministry on July 7, 2000. Chairman of the Pastoral Search Committee, Gary Fleming, led the call to worship.

The Barre Board of Selectmen discussed renovations to the Henry Woods Building. Now that the Woods Building will be handicapped accessible on the second and third floor with the installation of an elevator, Selectmen talked about expanding the Police Department office space on the first floor and moving offices now on the first floor to the second floor. The move to the second floor will be possible when the Quabbin Regional School District offices move to their new building sometime in January 2022.

With all bids coming in

greatly over the \$4,250,000 figure appropriated for the new Center School, the Petersham Selectmen, School Building Committee and architects have been investigating possible scenarios for the future. The firm of Bannister and Greenberg stated “I have to say this is a failure on our part to predict what the cost of the project will be.”

38 years (May 12, 1988)

Applying the legal doctrine of “attractive nuisance,” the Barre Zoning Board of Appeals in a split decision last week upheld the order of Harold S. Nichols, Zoning Enforcement Officer and ordered the removal of a railroad car bought to Barre by a Maynard resident several months ago, which was placed on a lot off Mill Road adjacent to Gaston Pond. The Board held a railroad car fails to meet the defini-

tion of an accessory building as described in the Barre Zoning bylaws. Also rejected was the “hardship” doctrine raised by the petitioner, Paul Lukashuk, saying the hardship was self-created.

Barre Selectmen made their annual appointments at their regular meeting last Monday. Thirty-three people were appointed to fill the 57 seats available, but several posts remain vacant. Anyone interested in filling the vacant posts are urged to contact the Selectmen’s office.

An Arbor Day celebration was held at Barre’s Felton Field on Saturday when the Felton Field Commission planted 52 sugar maple trees around the field. Commissioners William Thorng and Brian Young planted the first of the trees. They, along with fellow Commissioner Jay Clark and a few other, planted the rest of the trees.

N BROOKFIELD from page 1

for seniors, but they can improve it by creating other opportunities such as Early College, or internships with police, fire and EMS.

McCormick said the high school has a successful career fair each year, and he would like to expand it to include a monthly career speaker series.

"Those are some things we continue to look at and talk about," he said.

In terms of student belonging and school culture, the students feel supported overall, he said. He said he wants to expand clubs, and continue to include the student voice in decision-making, and celebrate student success.

McCormick said the daily schedule has changed several times the past few years and he would like to see it stay consistent.

He said he wants the school district to continue to hold students accountable and have high expectations for their success.

"This is a starting point," he said. "This will guide us to our next steps, our next conversation with additional stakeholders."

McCormick said he will send out emails to school district families and invite them to a similar listening session like the one he held with the staff.

Budget update

McCormick spoke about the proposed fiscal year 2027 budget, which he presented to the Finance Committee on April 14.

"We're in very good space right now as a school district," he said. "We're going into the next fiscal year without making any cuts to either personnel or programs...we are at a very good place for the students of our school district."

McCormick said this is based on 100% Net School Spending; and that the school

district is not getting extra money from the town right now.

"We're getting kind of the bare minimum and we're still able to make it work," he said.

McCormick said the School Committee will need to hold a budget hearing prior to the annual town meeting.

Administrators' reports

High School Principal Brian Beck said over 120 families attended parent/teacher conferences recently.

He said the National Honor Society's Damian Sarrette Memorial Food Drive was held in honor of the late teacher to restock the school's food pantry. The NHS and the National Junior Honor Society will hold its induction on May 6.

Beck said the sixth grade students attended Outdoor Classroom and they received "a number of compliments regarding the behavior and interactions" of the students.

The Class of 2027 will hold its prom on May 7 at the Publick House.

Elementary School Principal Arthur Murphy said the PTO helped organized a March Madness food drive to stock the school's food pantry.

"It was inspiring to see our school community come together and make a positive difference," he said.

Winners were able to "pie" staff and administrators in the face during an assembly.

Director of Student Services Dr. Michael Baldassarre said planning is beginning for the extended school day program, to continue learning through the summer vacation.

"It's one of the great equalizers in special education," he said. "That our children have the opportunity to continue learning through the summer."

He said they are working with special education fami-

lies to determine which students will be attending the extended school day program.

Baldassarre said the Nurturing Emotional Support and Teaching program for students with social emotional and behavior health learning challenges has grown from one student to three.

"We do the program because it's the right thing to do for our kids," he said. "To keep them close to home... and really participate in the school...and continue to learn and grow in their community."

Baldassarre said keeping these students in the school district also reduces the cost of transportation and out-of-district tuition. He said they will continue staff training over the summer to continue to grow the NEST program, and possibly open it up to neighboring communities.

McCormick said students from neighboring communities could attend the NEST program as early as next year.

Restraint policy School Committee member Tim Canada said the policy subcommittee reviewed revisions to the restraint policy.

He said the goal is to eliminate restraints in nearly every circumstance.

McCormick said 18 staff members have been trained in Therapeutic Crisis Intervention System de-escalation techniques.

The new policy talks about the shift to eliminate the use of time-out rooms and to focus on de-escalation of a student in crisis. He said the students receive this crisis support while in the classroom.

McCormick said restraints are used only when "extremely necessary."

"We want to emphasize de-escalation first before we ever go hands-on," McCormick said. "I think we've done a fantastic job of really making that a purposeful shift."

The School Committee

will vote on the revisions to the restraint policy at its next meeting.

Superintendent's report

McCormick said he attended a legislative breakfast with other school districts in the area.

"This again was an opportunity for us to talk to our state reps., our state senators, about kind of where we're at in this part of the state," he said. McCormick said there was discussion about Chapter 70 and Rural School funding, and how changes to the formula needs to be made.

"There's a real urgency now to get some changes made," McCormick said. McCormick said himself and other staff attended the One8 Applied Learning kick-off meeting. The One8 Foundation has supported several projects in the school district through grant funding.

McCormick said he has been discussing Early College exploration with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

"What we're trying to do...is how can North Brookfield bring in a program where we give our students early college credit access," he said. "Some students want AP classes, some students also want to kind of dip their toe into college and see what it's like."

He said the school district should be able to connect with local colleges such as Quinsigamond Community College. He said the Early College designation process could take a year or two to complete.

"I'm excited about this opportunity for our kids," McCormick said.

Student Council report

Student Council representative Noah Gillette spoke about Spirit Week events that occurred prior to April vacation, including themed days and a lip sync competition.

He said the Student Council spring conference was held at Medfield High School.

The Student Council Executive Board election will be held on May 4 to elect board members for the 2026-2027 school year.

Class elections will be held late May or early June for rising seventh-12 graders and rising sixth graders will have elections in the fall.

Gillette said Teacher Appreciation Week will be held May 4-8.

"Each day we'll be giving out gifts for the teachers and at the end of the week we'll hold our teacher appreciation breakfast for all staff along with giving our staff their superlatives for the year," he said.

Gillette said class day/field day will be held on June 5.

A lock-in for Student Council members is planned for June 18-19. He said Student Council members will participate in workshops and team building activities throughout the night.

Gillette said the Student Council is also looking to send a delegation of members to the national Vision Conference June 21-24.

He invited all community members to follow the Student Council on social media and attend meetings, which are typically held every other Monday in the high school kiva.

Washington D.C. trip

Margaret Hanson gave a presentation to the School Committee about the spring 2027 trip to Washington D.C. This trip is open to students in seventh-12 grade.

She said next year's trip will include a tour of the nation's capital, as well as a visit to Mount Vernon, the national zoo and an aquarium. She said the trip will be five days instead of four.

"We can add things into the trip by doing that," she said.

Hanson said the cost of

the trip is based off of 38 participants, including students and parent chaperones. She said two staff members and a nurse will also attend.

"It's definitely an exciting trip," she said.

The School Committee voted to approve the trip.

Recognitions

McCormick thanked faculty, staff and community members at both schools for organizing and putting on the annual Earth Day celebration held prior to April vacation. He also thanked the Student Council for hosting the lip sync competition, which is a popular tradition at the high school.

"I just want to give out a shout-out to all those teachers and students who were part of that planning organization for those two very big and meaningful events," McCormick said.

McCormick also recognized the Joe Holway of the facilities crew and custodians who worked to paint safety lines and crosswalks and spread mulch around the elementary school.

"Really making the whole entire district a very beautiful place for our kids to return, our teachers to return, today, on the first day back from vacation," he said.

Last meeting

Canada said this was his last meeting as a member of the School Committee, as he did not seek re-election this term.

"It's been an honor working here for six years," he said. "I think this school has a lot to offer...the stuff that we've made happen on a shoestring budget is really impressive."

Canada said he appreciates all of the efforts of the administration and the students for being engaged in the school district.

School Committee members Dan Riendeau and Maggie Woodward also did not seek re-election this term.

RUTLAND from page 1

olition is "unnecessary and irreversible," and the commission believes that these ideas fully address the DCR's concerns, and will help preserve the structures.

Maus also cited Police Chief Nick Monaco, who has said the prison camp area has a low call volume, and has no history of injuries, drug use or parties.

Monaco echoed this at the meeting, saying the depart-

ment has not investigated any activity at the camps other than graffiti. He said graffiti has only started being enforced in the past two years, as the sites were historically viewed as an acceptable spot for it.

State Sen. Peter Durant was in attendance, and said that if the structures are removed, the result cannot be changed.

He said to "look long and hard at what it means to the community."

One resident asked what prompted the decision to propose demolition.

John Scannell, a division director with the DCR was in attendance, and said there are concerns about someone climbing on the structures and sustaining an injury. He said if that happened, they could sue the DCR.

Resident Alex Maus said it seems like the proposition to demolish the prison camps was borne from a hypothetical. Scannell said there is always the chance of a first time where someone sustains an injury.

Durant said there does not appear to be a need to demolish the structures. He also said there are frustrations about the lack of history of people getting hurt.

He said proper signage can mitigate liability.

"If someone breaks into a car at the rail trail, you don't shut the rail trail down, if somebody drowns in a lake, you don't shut the lake down," Durant said.

Resident Bob McLaughlin said we are supposed to be stewards for the preservation of historical sites, and that the prison camps connect generations.

"Once you lose it, you lose it for good," he said.

Resident Sheila Dibb said a lot of the problems the DCR cites in their proposal to demolish the structures are what got the prison camps featured in Atlas Obscura, and that there are many members of that site who are planning on visiting the camps in the future.

Resident Leah Whiteman, who is also a member of the Select Board, said the prison camp sites play a role in the Rutland master plan.

DCR response

Dan Clark, a regional director with DCR said some of the safety concerns that led the DCR to propose demolition stemmed from the hiring of a structural engineering firm, who did an investigation. He said the results found the prison camp structures to be a hazard, and structurally unsound.

Clark said the structural report did not take into consideration the historical significance of the prison camp sites.

Scannell said the Massachusetts Historical Commission approved the demolition, finding the structures of historical insignificance.

Members of the Historical Commission said they had gotten conflicting reports from the state, and are unsure of the validity of that statement. Maus said the commission is currently working to get the prison camps onto the Massachusetts Registry of Historic Places.

A resident asked if the report had been put online for the public to see. Clark said it had not, but the Historical Commission was able to review it when it was done.

Clark and Scannell were also asked if the meetings to decide whether to go through with demolition or not would be held in public. They said they would not be. Scannell said the DCR does not have a clear plan for the future of these discussions, and did not comment further.

A resident asked if these sessions would make a difference in their decision, and Scannell said the DCR regularly listens to concerns. Clark said the counterproposal will be taken into consideration.



Waterwheel Realty
We Keep Things Turning!
Paul Varney Sr.
Realtor / Broker / Veteran
Ph. 978-355-4438
paulraymondvarney@gmail.com
12 Nichewaug Rd., P.O. Box 339, Barre, MA 01005



Abby Montalto
Real Estate Agent
508-579-9897
abby@cmscllc.com



Brendan McDonald
Real Estate Agent
978-549-4582
brendan.wvr@gmail.com



Paul R. Varney Jr.
Real Estate Agent
978-771-3492
paulvarney73@gmail.com

Another family operated business ... **978-355-3454**

Waterwheel Village
A unique 55 & Better
Mobile Home Community in Barre



Parents, Grandparents & Friends **SPECIAL!**

Congratulate YOUR Graduate



Class of 2026

We are offering a great deal for you to **CELEBRATE YOUR GRADUATE** in your community graduation issue. Submit a photo and a brief message.



DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION MAY 29th

EMAIL YOUR AD TO: dflynn@turley.com

SPECIAL! \$55.00

MAIL YOUR AD WITH PAYMENT TO:
Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069
Pay by check or credit card: Checks Payable to Turley Publications, Credit Cards be sure to include: Paper, Name, Address, Phone, Credit Card Number, Exp. Date & CVV

2x3 Black & White Grad Ad

Congratulations Karly Smith! We are so very proud of you and your accomplishments. Good luck at Springfield College!

Love, Mom & Dad



SAMPLE

CANDIDATES from page 1

ing taxpayers. A Proposition 2½ override should be a last resort, considered only with a clear and transparent plan. Maintaining public safety, infrastructure, and essential services must remain priorities.

We must also seek fair state support, expand grant opportunities, and collaborate with neighboring communities where it makes sense. While regionalization of services is often discussed as a cost-saving measure, it can come with trade-offs such as reduced local control, slower response times, and less flexibility to meet Oakham's specific needs.

It can also lead to unexpected cost increases over time, with decisions made outside the town's direct oversight or control. Regional agreements may limit our ability to respond quickly to changing conditions or community priorities.

For these reasons, any regionalization efforts must

be approached cautiously, with a full understanding of both the benefits and the potential long-term impacts.

Supporting town employees and maintaining strong operations are equally important. Looking ahead, I support creating a long-term strategic plan focused on financial sustainability, infrastructure, and preserving Oakham's character.

Public safety remains a core responsibility, and any consideration of service changes must protect the quality and responsiveness our residents rely on.

I am committed to responsible, balanced leadership and to making decisions that support Oakham's long-term health and future.

Donald A. Haapakoski
Candidate for re-election
Select Board

I'm Don Haapakoski a resident of Oakham and I am running for re-election to the Oakham Board of Selectmen.

I've lived in Oakham for 22 years. My background is as follows; I started working

in municipal government in 1974, and had a rewarding career in law enforcement for 42 years, 32 years of which were in in management. I held the rank of Chief in four communities, one of which was Oakham.

I've worked in a number of communities both large and small and have observed many different forms of governing and municipal management. While serving in these communities I also volunteered to give back to the community by serving on citizen boards.

For example, in the town of Ayer, I served as the Treasurer of the Ayer Industrial Finance Authority which provided small business loans to upstart companies. Also in Ayer, I was a member of the Ayer Personnel Board which created human resources policy and procedures, as well as, pay classification systems. While living in Worcester I was appointed as one of seven commissioners for the City Human Rights Commission.

Civic service is in my

blood, so when I retired from my career I decided to give back to Oakham by running for the Board of Selectmen. I've been elected to the Board of Selectmen and served for two terms. In serving for the past six years, I have worked in cooperation with other board members in re-organizing town operational functions.

Having relevant coursework and professional development in public administration plus years of management experience has certainly proved valuable in looking at issues as a whole and problem solving. I often seek out grant opportunities for the town in which the Board, as well as, Fire, Highway, Police and Library have been able to secure around one million dollars in state and federal grants over the past five years. If re-elected, I look forward to making Oakham a better place to live and raise a family while keeping controls on expenses.

I originally ran for selectman six years ago to work on transparency issues. Along

with my fellow board members we secured grant funding to have our meetings and other town meetings available to the public by live stream and You Tube recordings. We also needed to upgrade the town website and post agendas and minutes for the public to review.

Oakham, like many other small communities is facing a number of issues that will affect life in our towns. Oakham is fighting the installation of a battery storage facility on Coldbrook Road. While I'm open to alternative sources of energy, lithium-ion battery storage is too dangerous in its present form and not a good fit in Oakham.

Also, facing Oakham is the constant increases in costs of services and supplies to run the town, yet we see slow to no growth in local and school aid but, we must meet all the state-imposed mandates. We need to look at securing the

financial foundation of the town going forward with less dependency on the state.

That is a difficult task, as it will require raising more funds, but it is a long-term investment in our community. We need to embrace growth and attract small businesses to town. We should also be looking at senior housing as a third of our population is over age 60.

I'm also a senior citizen living on a fixed income and fully understand the challenges posed by increasing property taxes and reduced town services. These are only a few of project areas that I would like to be involved in during another term on the board of selectmen.

Hopefully those reading this will agree and we can move the town forward, while maintaining the small-town feel. Thank you for taking the time to read this and I ask for your vote on May 18.

'Growing Up Grubby' event to be held on May 16

NEW BRAINTREE – "Growing Up Grubby" with Todd Goodwin takes place Saturday, May 16 at 7 p.m. at the New Braintree Town Hall, 20 Memorial Drive.

This free event is sponsored by the New Braintree Library and the Friends of the New Braintree Library. New England Storyteller Todd Goodwin offers a

humorous set of stories of his childhood growing up with his three colorful brothers in the 1950s and 1960s.

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

ROUND TOWN from page 2

Designer pancake breakfast

Cradle Rock Chapter Order of Eastern Star will hold a designer pancake breakfast on Saturday, May 9 from 7:30-10:30 a.m. at Mt. Zion Lodge, 71 Pleasant St. Cost is \$9 per adult

and \$6 for children six and under. It features a complete breakfast including select your own designed pancake using chips, nuts and fruits, waffles, sausage gravy and biscuits, bacon, sausage, juice and coffee.

Everyone is welcome. Celebrate Mother's Day by treating mom to this breakfast.

HUBBARDSTON from page 3

meets from 10 a.m.-noon. Knitting and crocheting projects will be worked on, and those who have questions will get help from others who attend. Games of Pitch are held the second and fourth Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. and the first

and third Fridays at 6:30 p.m. Cribbage is played every Thursday at 12:30 p.m., Bingo is every Monday at 12:30 p.m. and Wii Bowling is every Monday and Thursday at 9 a.m. Functional Exercise Classes are held at the Senior Center Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Happy  Mother's Day is Sunday, May 10

MOTHER'S DAY!

Stars & Stripes Diner
32 Main St., Hubbardston • 978-820-1600

Happy Mother's Day! 

Check Out Our Facebook Page For Mother's Day Specials
Like Us On Facebook@starsandstripesrestaurant

MOTHER'S DAY SALE
One Week Only... May 5th thru 9th
20% OFF* ENTIRE STOCK

Hours:
Tues.-Fri. 9-5
Thurs. 9-6
Sat. 9-2

TANGUAY JEWELERS
19 Connors St., Gardner
(978) 632-1362

Excluding Estate & Antique Jewelry

Celebrating 50 Years in Business

 **The Country Gourmet**

"Everything for the Discriminating Cook"

Gift Baskets • Linens • Candles • Coffees
Custom & Ready Made To Gift Baskets

547 Summer Street, Barre, MA 01005
Tel. 978-355-6999
www.facebook.com/country.gourmet.barre

BRUCE'S WATCH AND JEWELRY

The Cape Cod Jewelry Collection
20% OFF

6 West Lynde St. Downtown Gardner
978-632-5715
Open Tues.-Fri. 9am-5pm
Thurs. 9am-6pm

Remember Mom, May 10th

A Great Gift For Mother's Day, Graduation, Birthday, Anniversary, or any special occasion. One bracelet, just change the clasp!



LESTAGE CONVERTIBLE COLLECTION

Cormier Jewelers
152 Main Street • Spencer, MA 01562
www.cormierspencer.com • 508-885-3385

J & J Family Restaurant
815 Worcester Road, (Route 122), Barre
978-355-2122

Open Mother's Day
8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Check Out Our Facebook Page for Mother's Day Specials

Regular Hours: Tuesday-Thursday 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Friday & Saturday 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.; Sunday 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

GIACOMO'S GOURMET FOODS
"Cucinare con amore"
Jim & Laurie Del Garbino Partners

GRAB N GO MEALS, BAKERY, LOCAL FOOD & ARTISAN VENDORS

★ We Won the Best of Central Mass/Community Choice Award for Catering, Vegetarian/Vegan/Gluten Free Offerings ★
★ Jim Del Garbino was Voted Top 3 Chefs for the Same Award ★

32 Main St., Suite 2, Hubbardston, MA
508-826-8808/508-826-2133
giacomogourmetgranola@yahoo.com
www.giacomogourmetgranola.com

For Mother's Day, show Mom how "Sweet" she is with a box of Priscilla's chocolates.

Open Mother's Day May 10th, 10am-2pm

Priscilla Candy Shop
Celebrating 90 Years in Business

4 Main Street Gardner, MA 01440
(978) 632-7148
Hours: M-F 9:30-5:30; Sat. 9-4; Sun. Closed

19 Walden Street Concord, MA 01742
(978) 371-0585
Hours: M-F 10:5-5:30; Sat. 10-5; Sun. Closed

www.priscillacandy.com

Dioguardi Jewelers

Your Perfect Destination For A Mother's Day Gift!

A Full Service Jewelry Store and Area Exclusive Retailer of Fire & Ice Diamonds (World's Most Brilliant Cut Diamond)

95 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082
413-277-0364 | dioguardijewelers.com

Have A Happy Safe & Healthy Mother's Day

– from –

Parker House of Pizza
17 Pleasant Street, Downtown Gardner
The Building with the Blue Awning
978-632-9383
HRS: MONDAY-SATURDAY 11AM-9PM; CLOSED SUNDAY

Calendar of Events

THURSDAY, MAY 7

ARTIST EXHIBITION takes place now through Sunday, May 10 at The Petersham Art Center, 8 North St., Petersham. The public is invited. This opens the 2026 season with a new exhibition, "Paper & Print One Couple's Cottage Collaboration: Elisabeth and Darrell Hyder's Paste Paper and Letterpress Lives." Regular Art Center hours are Thursdays through Sundays, noon -4 p.m. For more information about the exhibition and the Center, people may call 978-724-3415.

THEATRE GUILD OF NORTH BROOKFIELD presents "Bonnie and Clyde The Musical" today at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, May 10 at 2 p.m. in the auditorium at the North Brookfield Elementary School, 10 New School Drive. Tickets are available by visiting their website at <https://theatreguildofnorthbrookfield.com/> or at the door. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for seniors and students 12 and under.

KIDS CORNER WORKSHOP takes place at Ware Grange, 297 Belchertown Road, Ware today at 10 a.m. The workshop will focus on the many working tools on the farm. Children will learn about tractors, trucks and other tools that farmers use to grow the food that everyone eats. Kids' Corner Workshops are led by preschool teacher Jen McNally and teach preschool through elementary school-aged children about nature and the environment through stories, songs and fun activities.

EQLT BIRDIN WELLNESS WALK will be held today at 7:30 a.m. in the Prince River Preserve, Flaherty Road, Barre. All ages and abilities are welcome. People may email atrevett@eqlt.org to register.

DESIGNER PANCAKE BREAKFAST sponsored by Cradle Rock Chapter Order of Eastern Star will take place today from 7:30-10:30 a.m. in Masonic Hall, 71 Pleasant St., Barre. Cost is \$9 per adult and \$5 for children age six and under. Complete breakfast includes own designed pancake using chips, nuts and fruits, waffles, sausage gravy and biscuits, bacon, sausage, juice and coffee. Everyone is welcome.

SPRING PLANT SALE will be held today from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at The First Meeting House, 2 Main St., Hubbardston. Perennials from early spring flowering to late fall flowering and seasonal long. Edible plants some annuals like geraniums and some woody plants. Most plants grew in local gardens. This is a great way to add to an existing garden or start a new one. Plants make wonderful Mother's day gifts. Donations of extra garden plants are gratefully accepted. This historic Meeting House needs help in preserving its history. Donation may be dropped off on Saturday, May 9 at 8 a.m. People should label names of plants.

TUESDAY, MAY 12

CLOTHES ENCOUNTERS, a step into the past with historian Sally Cragin, takes place today at 6:30 p.m. in the Woods

Where is this?



This week's mystery photo is from Hubbardston. If any readers know where this photo was taken, they may email edowner@turley.com with their answer by noon on Monday, May 11. Robert Augustine, Bill Bowles, Peggy Civilik, Stephen Craven, Jessica Geary and James Laramee correctly identified the photo. The photo last week was the substation and high tension lines on South Barre Road, Barre.

Turley Publications photo by Ellenor Downer

Memorial Library, 19 Pleasant St., Barre She presents an interactive program on the history of fashion. This engaging program examines how clothing reflected social class, gender roles and cultural expectations from the mid-19th century through the Jazz Age and beyond. Attendees will have the rare opportunity to see authentic historical garments and accessories from her extensive collection. Participants will be able to closely examine a variety of items, including shoes, wool and cotton undergarments and uniforms worn by shop girls, waitresses and housewives. The collection also features eye-catching flapper outfits and men's hats and apparel from the early 20th century. Select pieces will even be available for audience members to try on, offering a hands-on way to connect with the past and experience how clothing shaped everyday life. In addition to garments, Cragin's collection includes a stunning assortment of antique handbags, each reflecting the craftsmanship and style of its era. This lively and educational program offers a unique opportunity to experience history through the clothing people wore and the stories those garments tell. For more information, people may call the library at 978-355-2533, extension 102.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

BARRE FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTIONS take place today from 10-11:30 a.m. and tomorrow, May 21 from 5:30-7 p.m. Clients are invited to pick up groceries from the food pantry either in the

morning on Wednesday, May 13 or in the evening on Thursday, May 21, whichever is more convenient for them. In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients May 13 and 21 will again be "drive-through" style distributions. Clients will line up in their vehicles on Park Street and proceed into the right hand (east) entrance driveway of the Barre Congregational Church. They will remain in their cars. They'll drive up and be checked in by a volunteer, then continue up to the church building where their groceries will be put into the trunk or wayback of their vehicle by volunteers at multiple stations.

SATURDAY, MAY 16

CIRCLE OF SONG CONCERT completes the vocal groups 25th anniversary season today at the Barre Town Hall, 2 Exchange St., Barre at 7 p.m. On the docket this concert are the following songs: "Down By the Riverside," a traditional African-American spiritual; "No One is Alone" from "Into the Woods;" "The Promise of Living" from "The Tender Land;" "Les Miserables" medley from the musical of the same name; "Make Our Garden Grow" from "Candide;" "Brightly Dawns Our Wedding Day" from the Mikado; "Solitude" by Duke Ellington; "Waltzing Matilda," traditional Australian; "Total Praise" by Richard Smallwood and "Till There Was You" from "The Music Man." This is a free concert and refreshments will be served. For more information, people may

email Julie Rawson at julie@mhof.net or call 978-257-1192.

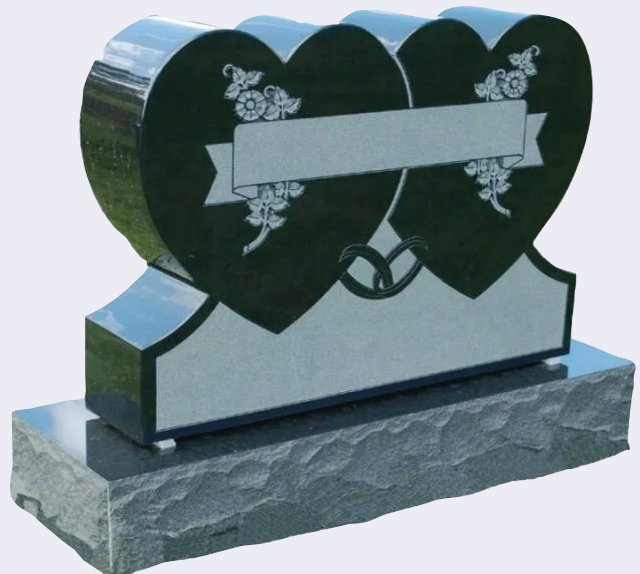
"GROWING UP GRUBBY" with presenter Todd Goodwin will be held tonight at 7 p.m. at the New Braintree Town Hall, 20 Memorial Drive, New Braintree. This free event is for adults looking for an evening of nostalgia and is sponsored by the New Braintree Library and the Friends of the New Braintree Library. Beloved New England storyteller Todd Goodwin offers a humorous set of stories of his childhood growing up with his three colorful, some might say kooky, brothers in the 1950s and 1960s. From weekly baths that explain their nickname, to the "covered wagon" that ended up in the backyard, to road trips, holidays and the dumb things all did as children which they laugh at now. There will even be a few classic songs from those days. People may plan to attend and see if any of the stories bring back their childhood. This program is supported in part by a grant from the Hardwick/New Braintree Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

WINGS OF SONG CONCERT will be held today at 7:30 p.m. in St. Joachin Chapel, 16 Church St., Fiskdale (part of Sturbridge) and on Sunday, May 17 at 3 p.m. at Elm Street Congregations Church, 61 Elm St., Southbridge. Admission is free with a free-will offering taken at intermission. As always socializing and yummy refreshments will follow each concert. This concert will take a deep dive into rural England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales in the 13th to 20th centuries as it sings of "Spring and Summer in the British Isles. All are invited.

20TH ANNUAL PLANT, BAKE, CRAFT AND TAG SALE sponsored by the Tri Parish Community Church takes place today and Sunday, May 17 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on Hardwick Common. The sale features traditional, favorite, and connoisseur perennials, plus selected annuals, heirloom vegetable plants, and herbs. There is a wonderful variety in plants offered through Inishowen Farms of North Brookfield, Stillman's Farm and Howe's Farm & Garden both of New Braintree, and "homegrown lovelies" from private gardens. A delicious assortment of home-baked desserts and breads will also be sold. The church will be holding a drawing featuring the "best" of the plant sale. No purchase is necessary to win. Several outdoor activities and games will be available for children. A number of craft vendors rented space on the common for the event. The Friends of the Stone Church will also be on hand, highlighting their preservation of the Stone Church Cultural Center in Gilbertville, as well as the upcoming programs that are offered at the center. Tri Parish Community Church's Pastor, Duncan Washburn, will lead a brief prayer service Sunday morning on the common in lieu of the Sunday 10 a.m. worship service. The proceeds from the plant and bake sale support the operational expenses of the church. This is a rain or shine event.



Two convenient locations to serve your memorial needs anywhere in the Quabbin region



- Headstones & Grass Markers
- Custom Designs & Styles
- Monument Cleaning & Maintenance
- Commercial Granite Signs
- Cemetery Lettering
- Bronze Memorial Plaques

- Laser Etching
- Benches & Urns
- Veteran's War Memorials
- Boulders & Irregular Shapes
- Mausoleums & Columbarium

T.S. Mann Memorials
 199 Petersham Road, Rt. 32 • Athol, MA • 978-249-2206
www.MannMemorials.com
 Mon.-Fri. 8-5 • Sat. 8-2

Dorsey Memorials
 707 Main Street, Amherst, MA • 413-253-5212
www.DorseyMemorials.com
 Mon.-Fri. 10-4 • Sat. 9-Noon

SPORTS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

SEND US YOUR SPORTS SUBMISSIONS

www.sports.turley.com

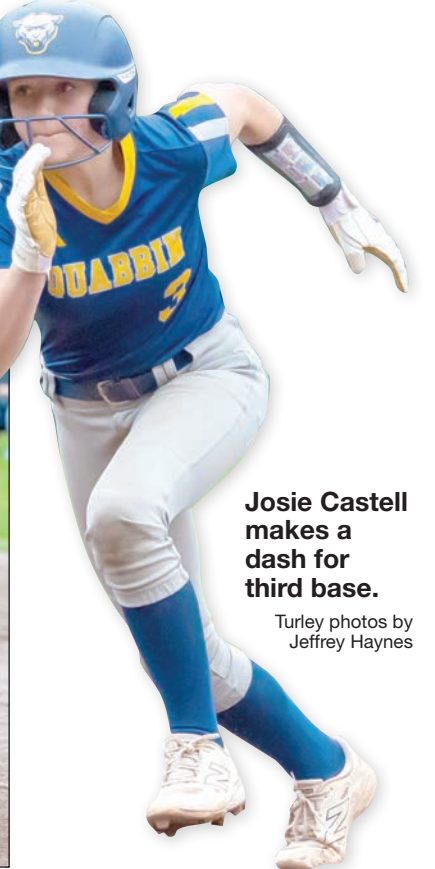


Raegyn Wnek connects for a hit.

Quabbin softball falls to Oakmont



Aubrey Pope launches herself forward to deliver a pitch.

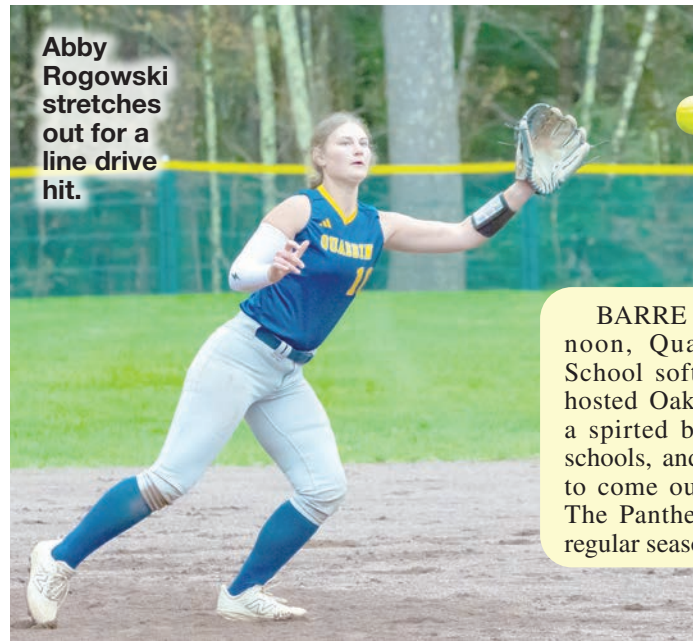


Josie Castell makes a dash for third base.

Turley photos by Jeffrey Haynes



Jenna Roseberry slides safely into home plate.

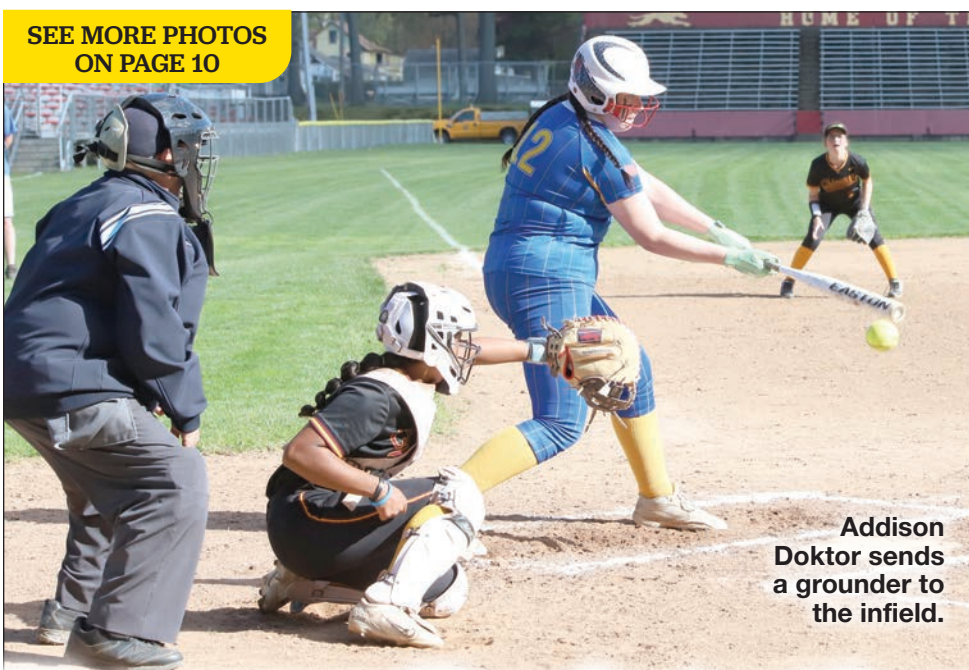


Abby Rogowski stretches out for a line drive hit.



Kelsey Allen makes the catch on a pop fly to center field.

BARRE – Last Thursday afternoon, Quabbin Regional High School softball beat the rain and hosted Oakmont Regional. It was a spirited battle between the two schools, and Quabbin was not able to come out on top, falling 12-7. The Panthers are now 3-5 on the regular season.



Addison Doktor sends a grounder to the infield.

Pioneers suffer shutout loss

CHICOPEE – Last Friday afternoon, Pathfinder softball was shut out on the road by host Chicopee High School at Szot Park 12-0. The game ended in

the fifth inning due to the mercy rule. Sam Prouty and Addison Doktor had hits for the Pioneers while Adeline Olbrych had three hits for the Pacers. Raelyn Loud

pitched a five-inning shutout for the Pacers.

Pathfinder fell to 1-10 for the season while Chicopee High is a perfect 13-0 on the season.



Emily Forcier takes a swing.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli



Addy Harmon tracks the ball as she readies her backhand in doubles.



Madelyn Stauder fires a backhand return from the baseline in doubles.



Turley photos by Jeffrey Haynes
Elizabeth Matheson leans into her serve.



Farrah Wojcik rushes forward for a forehand return in singles.



Addison Surprenant scrambles to hit the return in doubles.

Clean sweep for Panthers girls tennis

Kalina Dyer leaves her feet to return a shot in singles.

BARRE – Last Friday afternoon, it was a perfect match for the Quabbin Regional High School girls tennis team, who swept Tyngsborough 5-0 and improved to a perfect 10-0 on the regular season. Farrah

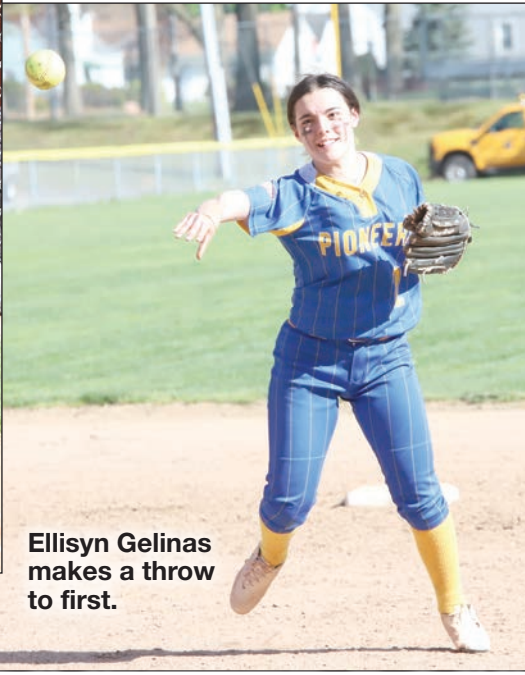
Wojcik, Kalina Dyer, and Elizabeth Matheson all had sweeps of their matches. Dyer and Matheson both won straight sets of 6-0, 6-0. Both doubles teams were also successful, sweeping their matches.

SEE MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 10

Sports



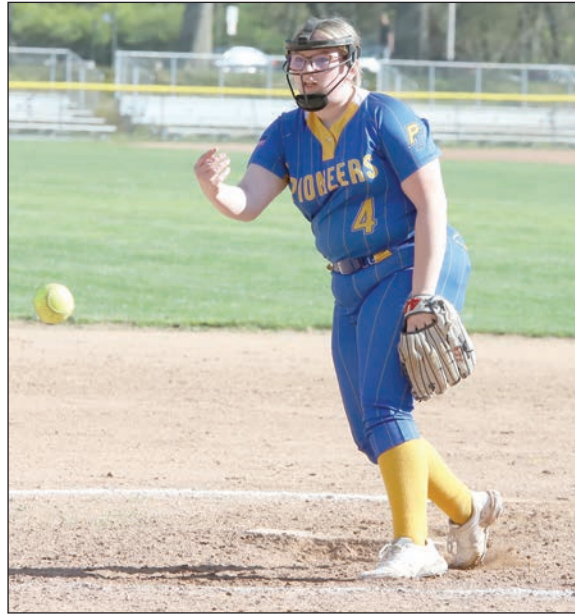
Emily McNeaney makes contact.



Ellisyn Gelinas makes a throw to first.



Julieta Tweedell takes a lead off first base.



Taylor Thorton sends a pitch away.

PIONEERS SUFFER LOSS

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

T-Birds defeated in series opener with Bruins

PROVIDENCE, R.I. - The Springfield Thunderbirds and Providence Bruins fought tooth and nail in another stingy contest, with the Bruins prevailing 2-1 in Game 2 of the Atlantic Division Semifinals on Sunday night inside Amica Mutual Pavilion. With that, the series shifts back to Springfield tied at one game apiece in the best-of-five set.

All of the scoring in the game came in a window of less than six minutes' time in the opening period. For a fifth straight game in these playoffs, Springfield succumbed to a 1-0 deficit within the opening half of period one. Frederic Brunet geared a slapper toward Georgi Romanov, who made the initial save. However, the rebound bounced over to a waiting Matej Blumel on the right wing, and the 2024-25 AHL goal scoring leader rifled it into an empty cage to make it a 1-0 game at 8:34 of the opening period.



The T-Birds were granted a power play and an opportunity to tie the score quickly, and at 11:30, Dillon Dube did just that, parking himself along the left post and guiding a Hugh McGing pass behind Michael DiPietro to even the slate, 1-1. Alek Kaskimaki picked up his second assist in as many games to round out the scoring play. The Bruins showed they, too, could answer in a hurry, as Brunet gathered a rolling puck along the right wing and geared a backhand pass across the slot to Georgii Merkulov, who beat Romanov with a quick release to put Providence ahead, 2-1, at 14:02.

Providence outshot the

T-Birds 25-14 over the first 40 minutes of the game, but both DiPietro and Romanov were taxed with special teams work in a second period that featured 10 minor penalties and eight combined power plays of varying lengths.

The T-Birds finally were able to give DiPietro a steady diet of scoring chances in the third, but the Springfield power play left two more opportunities on the table, going 0-for-6 in the final two frames after connecting on their first man advantage of the evening.

Springfield's netminding and penalty killing did everything in its power to buy the offense time for an equalizer. Romanov, for a fourth straight contest, kept his opposition to two goals or less.

The T-Birds' backstop has now stopped 116 of 123 shots for a .943 save percentage in the Calder Cup Playoffs.

Church

Local pastors offer sermons

Speak No Evil

"See no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil," a maxim popularized in 17th Century Japan, teaches us to avoid all manner of evil influences, fostering discretion in the pursuit of piety.

Though these words, and the associated image of three monkeys, cannot be found in Scripture, the truths they touch on certainly can. This week, let us close with the call to "speak no evil."

1) Significance

The phrase "speak no evil" means to use our words in a way that avoids harm. This would prohibit the practice of deception, gossip, slander and more. Positively, it calls for truthful, restrained or edifying expression. What does Holy Scripture posit?

2) Selections

The Bible abounds with texts regarding the use and power of our tongue(s). Let us note this brief sampling from Proverbs:

Proverbs 12:18 (NIV)

18 The words of the reckless pierce like swords, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

Proverbs 18:21

21 The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

Proverbs 21:23

23 Those who guard their mouths and their tongues keep themselves from calamity.

What did Christ and His disciples teach on the matter?

Matthew 12:34b-37 [Christ]

34 "... For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of. 35 A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him. 36 But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken. 37 For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned."

Ephesians 4:29 [Paul]

29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

Arguably, the Book of James deals most directly with our words. He writes bluntly, so brace yourself for the words of James.

James 1:26

26 Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves and their religion is

worthless.

Ouch, moreover, James offers this seminal selection: **James 3:3-12**

3 When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. 4 Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go. 5 Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. 6 The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

7 All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind, 8 but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

9 With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. 10 Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. 11 Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? 12 My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.

I realize that this publication has presented a lot of Scripture, but I deemed it fitting that my words be God's Word today! Take the time to review them, and explore the broader implications of the adage: "See no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil." Thank you for taking the time to read this publication.

Should you have any comments or questions, feel free to contact me at your convenience using the information below. Also, feel free to check us out online at www.NewLifeBarre.org or visit us each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. We hope to see you soon.

Pastor James Foley

New Life Assembly of God

60 Main St. South Barre

jamesfoley

@newlifebarre.org

978-355-6407

Fifth Sunday of Easter

"You made me a Living Stone"

Scripture Reading:

1 Peter 2 v 2-10

I. Introduction

I would not profess to know much about building

construction, especially not here in the Northeast where homes are built with various building materials and where wood is a prominent component of the building materials.

Where I come from, and I presume in some parts of the U.S., bricks are being used for the exterior walls of buildings. When I was about nine years old, I remember joining my siblings in helping my father and his team build our house. We would push the wheelbarrow filled with bricks and fetch certain tools my father requested.

It is a wonderful memory to have, especially visiting the family home where my mother still lives and how she speaks fondly and with pride how well the roof was constructed. My father was a jack of all trades and specialized in constructing and building roofs, was a talented carpenter, and decided to take on the project of building our family home.

Those of you with expertise in building construction will agree with my limited knowledge that the foundation of a house is fundamental to its structural integrity. Bricks or stones are an important material to build foundations with. I have also learned that the cornerstone of a foundation is key for the alignment and anchoring of the foundation.

II. You made me a Living Stone, Oh Lord

In reflecting upon this cornerstone concept, I can see how this metaphor was significant for both the apostle Peter and the Old Testament, where it symbolized the Messiah; Jesus also referred to Himself as the rejected stone.

Peter in his sermon in Acts Chapter 4 accused "those builders" who rejected the Stone, Jesus. In this section, Peter describes Christ as the Cornerstone, serving as a foundation of strength for all who believe. These believers, referred to as living stones, are part of constructing a spiritual home with Christ positioned at its center.

Peter spent quite a bit of time in the first chapter explaining the new life in Christ, encouraging them to set their minds fully on Christ and the life of grace, to be holy in their new life, to love one another earnestly and to crave the pure spiritual milk like a newborn baby crave their mother's milk.

Their whole lives need to be transformed according to the will of God, so that they will fit right into the spiritual

See SERMONS page 12

HARDWICK SB from page 1

handout, which lists current fees and what needs to be increased.

This proposal is based on Stringham's expertise and is within fairness of setting fees that have been the same for many years. Stringham wants to set these and put them in the fee schedule. The Building Inspector did

address individually what is staying the same and what has to go up in cost.

Town Administrator Justine Caggiano said the fees are considered revenue for the town.

Some examples listed by Stringham are above ground pools, for which the fee will stay the same. Anything for demolition on the residential

side is currently \$50 is going up to \$100. The current rate for building permits is \$7.50 per \$1,000 in construction cost is going up to \$8 per \$1,000. Temporary structures such as tents, fee is \$50 plus \$10 for each additional tent, that is staying the same.

The Board voted to approve the new fee schedule for the building department.

STM petition

While discussing the Special Town Meeting petition, a letter from the Town Clerk was presented to the Select Board, which involves the town securing approximately \$120,000 in their supplemental budget. The town is waiting for the Governor to sign.

Caggiano wanted to acknowledge state Sen. Peter Durant and state Rep. Donnie Berthiaume for acting on this quickly and helping the town out with this situation. What the board wanted to know if these funds could be used to purchase a boiler at the elementary school. The board also discussed if it's possible to put an article in for the Annual Town Meeting.

Korzec of the Capital Planning Committee wants the board to understand the timing of this project and maybe want to get the boilers replaced in the summer before the winter months. This way, the school has proper heating in place during the school year.

Korzec brings this up because there is the possi-

bility that the town may not get the funding in time. The board and the Town Administrator seemed confident that they will have money for these boilers.

If the board hears an answer from either Durant or Berthiaume ahead of time, Tinker said, "we're going to move forward with procurement." The board will look to get a cost estimate and a scope of work to replace the boilers. It's also a matter of when the Governor signs.

The board tabled this item for now as they are working on getting pricing together.

Declaring surplus gravel

Working with the Highway Superintendent and Harry Comerford of the Planning Board, Caggiano discussed a new solar field that is being placed on a leased piece of land. On this land is approximately 100,000 yards of gravel that the board must declare as surplus under Massachusetts procurement laws.

Comerford provided maps of the area that show

the location of the solar panels. The company is leasing the land but currently has a lot of quality gravel. Comerford said there is approximately 102,000 square yards of gravel. The town could do an invitation to bid for this gravel.

Highway Superintendent Martin Grysowka wants to keep 40% of the gravel and the remaining 60% can go out to auction.

"This is a creative way for the town to bring in revenue," Caggiano said.

It seems best for the board to declare as surplus and get the auction going. However, the board wanted to know if it was explored on how to measure the volume of the gravel, so they know exactly how much they have.

Select Board Clerk Jeffrey Schaaf pointed out that Comerford doesn't seem to have a good figure on it yet. The 60% is an estimated amount they've come up with.

The board felt comfortable moving onto the next phase of this project and voted to declare surplus gravel.



FIVE ISLANDS

Georgetown, Maine

2 Bedrooms, 2 Bathroom
Washer/Dryer, Fully Equipped

- Walk to Five Islands Wharf and Ledgewood Preserve Beach
- Close to Reid State Park



\$1200/week

207-607-9333

Public Notices

Form 299

Date: May 1, 2026

Attorney General's Notice
Pursuant to G.L. c. 40, § 32
Town of Barre -- Case No. 12187

Special Town Meeting of December 16, 2025 Article# 5
Attorney General's Limited Authority to Waive Procedural Defects in the Notice of the Planning Board Hearing

Pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 40, § 32, if the Attorney General finds there to be any defect in the procedure of adoption or amendment of any zoning by-law relating to the form or content of the notice of the Planning Board hearing prescribed by G.L. c. 40A, § 5, or to the manner or dates on which said notice is mailed, posted or published as required by that section, then instead of disapproving the by-law or amendment by reason of any such defect, the Attorney General may elect to proceed under the defect waiver provisions of G.L. c. 40, § 32. Under those provisions, the Attorney General is conditionally authorized to waive any such defect.

Defect Determined in Notice of Planning Board Hearing

The Attorney General has determined that the planning board hearing notice relating to the above Article failed to comply with the notice requirements for such hearing established by G.L. c. 40A, § 5. Section 5 provides in part (with emphasis added):

No zoning ... by-law or amendment thereto shall be adopted until after the planning board in a ... town has ... held a public hearing thereon ... at which interested persons shall be given an opportunity to be heard...Notice of the time and place of such hearing, the subject matter, sufficient for identification, and of the place where texts and maps thereof may be inspected shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the ... town once in each of two successive weeks, the first publication to be not less than fourteen days before the day of said hearing, and by posting such notice in a conspicuous place in the ... town hall for a period of not less than fourteen days before the day of said hearing. Notice of said hearing shall also be sent by mail, postage prepaid to the executive office of housing and livable communities, the regional planning agency, if any, and to the planning board of each abutting city and town ... In cases involving boundary, density or use changes within a district, notice shall be sent to any such nonresident property owner who has filed such a request with the city or town clerk and whose property lies in the district where the change is sought.

Based on the materials submitted to this Office, we have identified the following defect: the first notice of the Planning Board hearing was published in a newspaper of general circulation on October 9, 2025 for a hearing on October 21, 2025 which was only twelve days prior to the hearing, not fourteen days as required by G.L. c. 40A, § 5. For this reason, the 90-day period prescribed for the Attorney General's review of Article 5 is suspended in accordance with G.L. c. 40, § 32.

Attorney General's Election to Proceed Under the Waiver Provisions of G.L. c. 40, § 32

The Attorney General has elected to proceed under the limited defect waiver authority conferred by G.L. c. 40, § 32.

Suspension of Review of Zoning By-Law Amendments

The 90-day period prescribed by law for the Attorney General's review of local by-laws is therefore suspended in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 40, § 32.

Posting and Publication of This Notice

The Town Clerk shall post a true copy of this Notice in a conspicuous place in the Barre Town Hall for a period of not less than 14 days and shall publish a copy once in a newspaper of general circulation in the Town of Barre.

Filing of Claim That Defect in Notice Was Misleading or Otherwise Prejudicial

Within 21 days of the date on which this Notice is published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Town of Barre, any resident of the Town of Barre, or the owner of any real property in the Town of Barre or any other party entitled to notice of the planning board hearing may file with the Town Clerk a written statement that the notice defect was misleading or otherwise prejudicial. The statement must include the reasons supporting the claim that the defect in the Planning Board Notice was misleading or otherwise prejudicial. This statement must be actually on file with the Town Clerk not later than 21 days from the date on which this Notice is published in the newspaper.

Town Clerk's Certification of Compliance with This Notice

After the expiration of the 21-day period, the Town Clerk shall submit to the Attorney General a true copy of this Notice with a certification of compliance with the publishing and posting requirements of the preceding paragraph, and a certification that either (a) no claim was filed within the 21-day period, or (b) one or more claims were filed within the 21-day period. The Town Clerk shall submit to the Attorney General true copies of any such claim(s).

Resumption of Attorney General's Review

Upon receipt of one original copy of this Notice with the Clerk's certification, the 90-day period provided for the Attorney General's review under G.L. c. 40, § 32, shall resume. If no claim is made, the Attorney General has the discretion to waive any such defect; if any claim is made, however, the Attorney General may not waive any such defect.

Note: By not filing a claim under this provision, a person shall not be deprived of the right to assert a claim of invalidity arising out of any possible defect in the procedure of adoption or amendment, as provided in G.L. c. 40, § 32, and in G.L. c. 40A, § 5.

Date: May 1, 2026

Very truly yours,
ANDREA JOY CABELL
ATTORNEY GENERAL
By: Nicole B. Caprioli
Assistant Attorney General
Deputy Director, Municipal Law Unit
10 Mechanic Street, Suite 301
Worcester, MA 01608
(774) 214-4418

A TRUE COPY ATTEST
Ellen M. Glidden
BARRE TOWN CLERK
05/07/2026

BARRE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Barre Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, May 14, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Henry Woods Municipal Selectmen Meeting Room, 1st Floor, 40 West Street, Barre, MA requested by Phoebe Siter for a variance from zoning setback requirements at property located at 69 Hubbardston Road, Assessors Map EA, Parcel 422 and recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds Book 72390, Page 247.

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

Joshua Smith, Chairman
4/30, 05/07/2026

BARRE PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the provision M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 6, the Barre Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, May 19, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Henry Woods Municipal Building, 40 West Street, Boards' Office, 3rd Floor, requested by Jonathan and Chelsea Abram for a special permit for a noncommercial kennel for property located at 176 Station Road, Assessors Map G, Lot 104 and recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds Book 73195, Page 266.

All interested parties who wish to comment on this matter should attend the hearing, or submit comments in writing prior to the hearing to the Planning Board.

Floyd Kelley, Chairman
05/07, 05/14/2026

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Frank W. LaRange to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Northpoint Mortgage, Inc., dated November 16, 2016 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 56343, Page 90, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Northpoint Mortgage, Inc., its successors and assigns to PennyMac Loan Services, LLC, recorded on June 28, 2022, in Book No. 67821, at Page 147 for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at **10:00 AM on June 5, 2026**, on the mortgaged premises located at 711 South Barre Road, Barre, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage.

TO WIT: The following described parcel of land, and the improvements and appurtenances thereto in the County of Worcester (Worcester District), Commonwealth of Massachusetts to wit: Commonly known as: 711 South Barre Road, Barre, MA 01005 Parcel No.: Map H, Lot 451

Legal Description: Land with the buildings thereon in that part of Barre, Worcester County, Massachusetts, known as South Barre, on the easterly side of South Barre Road, known as Route 32, being shown as Lot 1 on a Plan entitled "Plan of Land in Barre, MA owned by D.A. Robinson Contracting, Inc., Scale 1"=50'," dated February 23, 1999, drawn by Donald A. Para, Land Surveyor, Inc., New

Braintree, MA and recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 739, Plan 18, to which plan reference is hereby made for a more particular description. Lot 1 contains 0.619 Acres. For mortgagor's(s') title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 52145, Page 219.

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of Ten Thousand (\$10,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC
Present holder of said mortgage
By its Attorneys,

HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.
150 California St.
Newton, MA 02458
(617)558-0500
22145
05/07, 05/14, 05/21/2026

Barre Conservation Commission

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 131, Section 40, The Wetlands Protection Act, that a public meeting will be held on a **Request for Determination of Applicability** requested by TEC Associates for Massachusetts Central Railroad Right-of-Way vegetation control.

From: TEC Associates
40 Mechanic Street
South Portland, ME 04106
To be held on **Tuesday, May 12, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Conservation Commission Office, Third Floor, of the Henry Woods Building, 40 West Street, Barre, MA 01005.

Ronald Rich, Chairman
05/07/2026

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

Celebrating 52 Years In Business

Mother's Day Gift Cards
Perennials & Annuals • Statuary
Herbs • Flowering Shrubs
Fruit Trees • Blueberries

Open: Mon. - Sat. 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Sun. 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Noel's Nursery

77 Tully Road, Orange
978-575-0570

Quality Nursery Stock Landscaping Supplies

McNeely Tree Service
Insured • References

- Hazardous Tree Removal
- Bobcat Work
- Lot Clearing
- Emergency Services
- Firewood \$285/cord
- 101 ft Aerial Lift Rental POR
- Credit Cards, Cash & Venmo Accepted
- 100% Workers Compensation • 60 Ton Crane

H: 508-867-6119 • C: 978-888-1693

Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation
& Quaboag Valley Business Assistance Corporation

QVCDC IS HIRING!

We are hiring for the following positions:

- Credit Assistant** (25 - 30 hours per week)
- Accounting Assistant** (30 - 40 hours per week)
- Loan Program Coordinator** (40 hours per week)
- Community Specialist** (35 hours per week)

For more information, please visit
<https://qvcdc.org/employment>

The Quaboag Valley CDC/BAC is an equal opportunity employer, lender and provider and does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, family/parental status, national origin, race, religion, sex, gender identity (including expression), sexual orientation, marital status, income derived from public assistance programs, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Visit us at

www.turley.com

Highway Dept. Skilled Laborer / Truck Driver

The Town of New Braintree Highway Dept. is seeking qualified applicants for the immediate full-time position of Skilled Laborer / Truck Driver. Applicants must have a valid Massachusetts Driver's License, Class B (CDL) with DOT Medical Examination Certification and a Hoisting Engineer License Class 2B with DOT Medical Examination Certification. Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest and an employment application to: Highway Department, 110 West Brookfield Road, New Braintree MA 01531.

Highway Dept. Seasonal Laborer

The Town of New Braintree is seeking a qualified candidate to perform seasonal work in the maintenance of town commons, roadways, grounds and cemeteries. Applicants must have a valid Massachusetts Driver's License (Class D). This is a seasonal position for 20 hours per week with a flexible schedule, May through October. Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest and employment application to: Highway Department, 110 West Brookfield Road, New Braintree MA 01531.

For further information, please contact Richard Ayer, Highway Superintendent, at 508-867-2451, or via email at Highway@newbraintree.gov.

A.A./E.O.E.

EARLY DEADLINES

In observance of Memorial Day,
PUBLIC NOTICES
EARLY AD DEADLINE
Place your public notice
no later than **NOON**
Thursday, May 21
- Thank you!

Public Safety

Rutland Police Log

Sunday, April 5
 9:26 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Autumn Roads Drive, Transported to Hospital
 9:31 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Adams Road, Transported to Hospital
 3:09 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Ridge Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 7:28 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Memorial Drive, Transported to Hospital
 7:52 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Breezy Lane, Mutual Aid Transport

Monday, April 6
 12:57 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 1:21 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
 3:52 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 4:10 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Maple Avenue, Transported to Hospital
 7:13 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Beechwood Drive, Transported to Hospital
 9:30 a.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Bullard Road, Fire Extinguished
 9:53 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Central Tree Road, Unfounded
 11:16 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
 11:33 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
 12:28 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 12:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Pereira, Carla, 49, Leominster
 Charges Uninsured Motor Vehicle, Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With, Speeding Rate of Speed Exceeding Posted Limit
 1:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 1:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
 1:21 p.m. Assault and Battery, Grizzly Drive, Report Filed
 1:28 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 1:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
 1:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 5:52 p.m. Assault and Battery, Main Street, Report Filed
 6:26 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, East County Road, Transported to Hospital
 8:17 p.m. Erratic Operator, Barre Paxton Road, Negative Contact
 9:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

11:35 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Turkey Hill Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Tuesday, April 7
 12:25 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Turkey Hill Trail, Public Assist
 11:25 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Written Warning
 11:27 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 11:28 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Brunelle Drive, Officer/Chief Advised
 11:32 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 11:45 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 11:49 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Memorial Drive, Citation Issued
 12:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 12:07 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 12:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 12:25 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Maple Avenue, Transported to Hospital
 12:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 12:37 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning
 12:59 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning
 1:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 1:08 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
 1:13 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Citation Issued
 1:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 1:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 1:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 1:48 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 2 p.m. Lookout (Home or Vehicle) Main Street, Entry Gained
 2:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 2:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 2:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 3:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Written Warning
 3:52 p.m. Property Dispute or Exchange, Grizzly Drive, Officer Spoke to Party

5:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Sanchez, Enrique Pirez, 65, Princeton
 Charges Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With, Uninsured Motor Vehicle
 4:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning
 4:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Citation Issued
 4:26 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Country Road, Written Warning
 5:12 p.m. Juvenile Runaway, Main Street, Negative Contact
 5:16 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Citation Issued
 8:57 p.m. Juvenile Runaway, Main Street, Returned
 11:20 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Miles Road, Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, April 8
 6:04 a.m. Animal – Wildlife, Kenwood Drive, Call Transferred
 8:06 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Soucy Drive, Written Warning
 8:22 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 10:44 a.m. Fire – Fumes/Odor/Gas Leak, Miles Road, Investigated
 12:27 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Winifreds Way, Officer/Chief Advised
 12:41 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Citation Issued
 3:05 p.m. Burglary/Breaking and Entering, Turkey Hill Trail, Report Filed
 3:16 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 3:24 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 3:44 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Oakridge Drive, Transported to Hospital
 4:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 4:27 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 4:41 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Citation Issued
 4:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 5:05 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 5:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 5:58 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Maple Avenue, Officer Spoke to Party
 7:54 p.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Glenwood Road, Returned
 10:47 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 11:42 p.m. Juvenile Runaway, Miles Road Transported to Hospital

Thursday, April 9
 4:35 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Wachusett Street, Negative Contact
 8:52 a.m. Animal – Wildlife, Woodside Avenue, Information Given
 10:06 a.m. Lockout (Home or Vehicle), Main Street, Entry Gained
 12:17 p.m. Fire – Brush and Wildland Fires, Trafalgar Square, Fire Extinguished
 2:21 p.m. Landlord Tenant/Neighbor Dispute, Helen Avenue, Information Given
 2:42 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Connecticut State Police, Officer Spoke to Party
 3:46 p.m. Complaint, Miles Road, Negative Contact
 4:10 p.m. Fire – Illegal Burn, Glenwood Place, Fire Extinguished
 4:20 p.m. Erratic Operator, Barre Paxton Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 4:54 pm. Fire – Brush and Wildland Fires, High South Street, Fire Extinguished
 6:24 p.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issue, Welch Avenue, Officer Spoke to Party
 6:53 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Pursuit, North Brookfield Road, Report Filed
 Summons Norman, Lawrence Taylor Donnell, 47, North Brookfield
 Charges Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle c90 S24 (2) (A), Marked Lanes Violation * C89 S4A, Stop for Police, Fail C90 S25
 6:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Hit and Run, Barre Paxton Road, Report Filed
 Summons Norman, Lawrence Taylor Donnell, 47, North Brookfield
 Charges Leave Scene of Property Damage C90 S24 (2) (A), Uninsured Motor Vehicle C90 S34J, Destruction of Property +\$1,200, Wanton c266 §127
 7:08 p.m. Erratic Operator, Barre Paxton Road, Call Transferred
 8:38 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Bushy Lane, Report Filed
 Summons Otero, Jazlyn Solines, 24, Worcester
 Charges License Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With, Stop/Yield, Fail to
 9:32 p.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Oak Street, Fire Extinguished
 10:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 11:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning

Friday, April 10
 1:48 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Worcester Road, Transported to Hospital

2:42 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Village Way, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 4:34 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Rodriguez Alvarez, Christopher, 44, Barre
 Charges Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle
 9:09 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Adams Road, Transported to Hospital
 9:58 a.m. Complaint, Barre Paxton Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 10:37 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Juniper Lane, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 11:12 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 11:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 11:39 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 11:48 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
 11:49 a.m. Stolen Vehicle, Maple Avenue, Investigated
 11:55 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
 12:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 12:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 12:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 12:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 1:07 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Jonathan Circle, Transported to Hospital
 1:15 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 1:32 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 1:32 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 1:41 p.m. Fire – Brush and Wildland Fires, River Road, Fire Extinguished
 1:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Citation Issued
 1:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 2:13 p.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Highland Park Road, Investigated
 2:54 p.m. Juvenile Runaway, Main Street, Officer/Chief Advised
 3:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 3:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Citation Issued
 3:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Barre Paxton Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 3:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue Citation Issued
 4:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

4:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 4:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 4:41 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 4:47 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
 4:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Citation Issued
 5:44 p.m. Complaint, Prescott Street, Negative Contact
 6:07 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Pommogussett Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 7:06 p.m. Erratic Operator, Pommogussett Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 7:20 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Old Princeton Cutoff Road, No Transport Required
 7:23 p.m. Unwanted Party, Old Westminster Road, Report Filed
 7:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 9:33 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Maple Brook Drive, No Transport Required
 11:16 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

Saturday, April 11
 12:08 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 12:34 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, Princeton, Officer/Chief Advised
 1:58 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Colonial Drive, Negative Contact
 2:13 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Maple Avenue, Officer Spoke to Party
 2:45 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Ten Rod Road, Citation Issued
 9:08 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Pleasantdale Road, Transported to Hospital
 1:17 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, Pommogussett Road, Information Given
 1:36 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Trauma, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
 3:24 p.m. Fire – Smoke Investigation, George Howard Road, Fire Extinguished
 3:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Thibault, Kristi L., 53, Rutland
 Charges Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With, Uninsured Motor Vehicle, Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle, License Not in Possession
 6:09 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Barre Paxton Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 8:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 8:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning

Barre Police Log

Sunday, April 5
 8:37 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Stroke (CVA), South Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 2:45 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Wheelwright Road, Officer Chief Advised
 5:02 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Overdose/Poisoning, Root Road, Transported to Hospital
 8:47 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Cutler Road, Vehicle Towed

Monday, April 6
 9:30 a.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Bullard Road, Fire Extinguished
 1:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 2:56 p.m. Fire – Brush and Wildland Fires, South Street, Fire Extinguished
 4:25 p.m. Property – Lost/

Found/Surrender, South Street, Returned
 6:26 p.m. Disturbance/Disorderly, Valley Road, Report Filed
 6:29 p.m. Lockout (Home or Vehicle), Summer Street, Entry Gained
 7:56 Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Wauwinet Road, Transported to Hospital
 8:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Summer Street, Officer/Chief Advised

Tuesday, April 7
 6:14 a.m. Animal – Wildlife, Hubbardston Road, Removed from Scene
 1:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Citation Issued
 1:22 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Ruggles Lane, Transported to

Hospital
 1:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Elm South Street, Citation Issued
 2:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Barre Road, Citation Issued
 3:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Walnut Hill Road, Citation Issued
 5:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Barre Road, Citation Issued
 7:55 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Lockwood Road, Transported to Hospital
 11:41 p.m. Erratic Operator, Dana Road, Negative Contact

Wednesday, April 8
 12:13 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Dana Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 12:35 p.m. Narcotics Use, North Brookfield Road, Report Filed

Thursday, April 9
 8:29 a.m. Animal – Wildlife, Everett Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 11:21 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Mutual Aid Ambulance, New Braintree, Cancelled
 12:17 p.m. Fire – Brush and Wildland Fires, Trafalgar Square,

1:02 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Barre Road, Citation Issued
 2:09 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hubbardston Road, Citation Issued
 3:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Barre Road, Citation Issued
 4:32 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Barre Road, Citation Issued
 7:53 p.m. Fire – Smoke Investigation, New Braintree Line, Investigated

Friday, April 10
 1:36 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Wauwinet Road, Transported to Hospital
 1:41 p.m. Fire – Brush and Wildland Fires, River Road, Fire Extinguished
 2:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident – No Fire Department/EMS Response, Old Coldbrook Road, Report Filed

4:20 p.m. Erratic Operator, Barre Paxton Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 4:54 p.m. Fire – Brush and Wildland Fires, High South Street, Fire Extinguished
 6:57 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Old Coldbrook Road, Report Filed
 9:32 p.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Oak Street, Fire Extinguished

Saturday, April 11
 1:04 p.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, Hubbardston Road, Information Taken
 3:24 p.m. Fire – Smoke Investigation, George Howard Road, Fire Extinguished
 4:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Vernon Avenue, Written Warning
 4:20 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Summer Street, Written Warning
 4:27 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Written Warning
 4:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Barre Road, Written Warning
 7:03 p.m. Fire – Fumes/Odor/Gas Leak, Barre Road, Investigated
 9:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Written Warning

Oakham Police Log

Sunday, April 5
 9:31 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Adams Road, Transported to Hospital

Monday, April 6
 8:54 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
 9:12 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Criminal Complaint
 9:30 a.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Bullard Road, Fire Extinguished
 12:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old Turnpike Road, Written Warning
 12:47 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Written Warning
 2:56 p.m. Fire – Brush and Wildland Fires, South Street, Fire Extinguished

4:11 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Barre Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Thursday, April 9
 12:17 p.m. Fire – Brush and Wildland Fires, Trafalgar Square, Fire Extinguished
 4:54 p.m. Fire – Brush and Wildland Fires, High South Street, Fire Extinguished
 6:53 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Pursuit, North Brookfield Road, Report Filed
 Summons Norman, Lawrence Taylor Donnell, 47, North Brookfield
 Charges Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle 90 S24 (20) (A), Marked Lanes Violation * C89 S4A, Stop for Police, Fail C90 S25
 9:32 p.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Oak Street, Fire Extinguished

Friday, April 10
 9:09 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Adams Road, Transported to Hospital
 1:41 p.m. Fire – Brush and Wildland Fires, River Road, Fire Extinguished
 2:08 p.m. Be On the Look Out Notification, North Brookfield Road, Area Search Negative
 8:19 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Gray Oaks Lane, Officer Spoke to Party

Saturday, April 11
 10:47 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle/Parking Issues, Parmenter Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 12:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
 3:24 p.m. Fire – Smoke Investigation, George Howard Road, Fired Extinguished

SERMONS from page 10

III. Conclusion
 We have seen in recent times how vulnerable our homes have become to the strong weather patterns. The destructive impact of storms, fires, and floods has caused tremendous harm to countless lives and homes, resulting in significant losses for those affected. We understand that new ways of improving the structures of our homes are important, because we know that our homes are the places where we feel safe and comfortable.

But this passage takes us further into the spiritual home where Christ is our strength as the Living cornerstone of our lives. Christ is never far away and wants us to know that whatever we go through, and however vulnerable we feel, or how difficult our lives can be, that He is with us, taking our hand.

Peter is also encouraging us to be that spiritual home where we are in relationship with God and each other, living holy lives, and supporting one another in this new relationship where the Living Christ and the Holy Spirit live within us, transforming us and making us continuously into the image of God. May God help us to build our church together as Living stones with the Cornerstone of our lives, Jesus Christ.

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

building as living stones with Christ as the Cornerstone. He also gives them the hope that as believers who have been verbally abused and discredited for their faith, they will not be shamed by God, but those who reject Christ will suffer shameful judgment by God, says Karen Jobes in the commentary on 1 Peter.

Christ is their strength and their hope. They can lean on Him, because He made them part of His community where they experience love and acceptance, and where the spiritual home consists of Him and them together, creating a unified building and where they all are in a loving relationship with Him and with each other.



Clyde after gunning down a police officer with the ensemble looking on in fright.



Bonnie & Clyde robbed the bank as they're on the run from the law.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY RYAN DRAGO



Jay Valencourt as Clyde, robbing his way during the ensemble's musical performance.

'BONNIE & CLYDE' steal the stage

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The Theatre Guild of North Brookfield will offer two more performances of “Bonnie & Clyde: The Musical”, on Saturday, May 9 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday,

May 10 at 2 p.m. in the auditorium of North Brookfield Elementary School.

The show brought music and history together as this musical tells the story of the notorious criminal couple,

Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow. The music in the show consists of a blend of blues, gospel, and rockabilly and really captured the love and sorrow these characters endure.

For tickets and information, visit theatre-guildofnorthbrookfield.com and select “Buy Tickets Now” under “Bonnie and Clyde: The Musical Tickets”.



The entire cast and crew of “Bonnie & Clyde: The Musical” stood on stage in the North Brookfield Elementary School auditorium.



Clyde, played by Jay Valencourt, behind bars after committing a serious crime.



The ensemble with their hands held high as they sing during “Bonnie & Clyde: The Musical”.



Bonnie, Clyde, Buck, and Blanche in the middle of a gunfight with police.



Blanche, left, is shown trying to talk her husband Buck Barrow, played by Jack Gaudette, to not choose a life of crime.



Jack Gaudette, left, and Jay Valencourt as Buck and Clyde with guns in hands during their song.



The Theatre Guild of North Brookfield presented “Bonnie & Clyde: The Musical”, which took to the stage last weekend. Shown are Sarah Priestley, left, as Bonnie Parker and Jay Valencourt as Clyde Barrow.



The ensemble performed with a preacher, played by Daniel Demars, singing in the back.



The police check in at Blanche's hair salon looking for her husband, Buck.

Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

FOR SALE

ESTATE SALE

HUGE ESTATE SALE DON'T MISS IT!
2 Christopher Lane, Wilbraham Saturday, May 9 only, 9am-3pm
 Everything is priced to sell - and it all must go! Browse a wide variety of items including: extensive holiday decor, Beanie Babies, household items, furniture, Disney collectibles, New England sports memorabilia. Come early for the best selection!

FIREWOOD

FIREWOOD

Fresh cut & split \$240.00
 Seasoned cut & split \$375.00
 All hardwood.
 Tree length available
 *Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & volumes **guaranteed!!** New England Forest Products (413)477-0083

MISCELLANEOUS

2022 LOADRITE BOAT TRAILER. Model C650-1T. Capacity 650 lbs. Used two seasons with canoe. Adjustable for conventional boat. Original owner, \$1500, **413-244-4520.**

SIT-IN KAYAK, Santee Hurricane 126. \$300.00. Call **413-583-5278.**

WHEEL HORSE COLLECTORS: 4 old models, 312-8 (2), C-81 Elctro 12. Call Eleanor **413-283-3540.**

TAG SALE

FRIDAY, MAY 8 AND SATURDAY, MAY 9, 8am-3pm. Rain/shine.
63 Walker Rd., Wales.
 Antiques, furniture, plants, arts, rare finds.

HUGE ESTATE SALE DON'T MISS IT!
2 Christopher Lane, Wilbraham Saturday, May 9 only, 9am-3pm
 Everything is priced to sell - and it all must go! Browse a wide variety of items including: extensive holiday decor, Beanie Babies, household items, furniture, Disney collectibles, New England sports memorabilia. Come early for the best selection!

WANTED

WANTED TO BUY

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

WANTED

ALWAYS BUYING ALL ANTIQUES:
 Musical instruments, guitars, horns, keyboards, vintage electronics, jewelry, coins, watches, military cameras, sports memorabilia, art, sterling, signs, automotive, hunting, advertising, radios, ham radio equipment, audio equipment, toys, one item or entire estate.
 Call Paul 413-206-8688

JUNK REMOVAL

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

ARA JUNK FURNITURE REMOVAL

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

SERVICES

A B Hauling and Removal Service

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

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

ELECTRICIAN

LICENSED ELECTRICIAN
 I offer good quality electrical work, no project too small. Service upgrades, pools, trustworthy, dependable & insured.
 Master Elec. #20773A.
 Text/call Luis 413-218-3301.

ZEN ELECTRIC COMPANY LLC
 Fully licensed and insured; Master Electrician on staff. Call for all your electrical needs. No job too small. Senior citizen and Veteran Discount. A veteran owned company. MA License #8101A1.
 Call John at (413)206-6509

SERVICES

HOME IMPROVEMENT

HOME IMPROVEMENT SPECIALIST
 Decks, porches, repair service, roofing and siding contractor.
 Tim 413-563-2229. Licensed/insured. 35 year construction supervisor.

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

CHAMELEON PAINTING & REMODELING
 INTERIOR/EXTERIOR
Remodeling & Deck Specialists
 Residential/Commercial
 Fully Insured • Free Estimates
413-351-1147

LANDSCAPING

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

****ALL SEASON****
 Specializing in shrub trimming, pruning, design, deliveries, loader, backhoe, insured. Professional. Please call Bob (413)537-5789.

MATT GUERTIN LANDSCAPING
 Landscape Design and Installation
 Paver Patios, Walkways
 For more services visit
mattguertinlandscaping.com
 Call or text 413-266-9975
 Insured - Commercial - Residential

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Handyman Services

Walker Home Improvement

Finish Carpentry • Framing • Drywall • Painting • & more!

(413) 687-5552

Licensed & Insured

SERVICES

LAWN & GARDEN

A.A.A. ROTOTILLING Yes time to till gardens and flower beds too. Be safe grow your own. Call for appointment, fair and reasonable rates. Suburban residential only. **413-626-1927.**

"RANDY and RICKY Spring Cleanup, Call Paul Amherst"

MASONRY

STOP WET BASEMENTS

ABC MASONRY & BASEMENT WATERPROOFING

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

PAINTING

KEN'S PAINTING SERVICES. Interior painting/staining, wallpaper removal, wall/ceiling resurfacing, cabinet painting. Quality workmanship, fully insured. Free estimates. Call **413-896-8264.**

PRO PAINTING
 Low, low prices. All phases interior, exterior painting and wallpapering. Also minor carpentry. **413-310-5099.**

PLUMBING

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

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES
FRIDAY AT NOON

SERVICES

PRESSURE WASHING

HOT WATER PRESSURE WASHING. We use brushes and state of the art equipment. We remove grime and mold from homes, patios, fences, walkways, all decks, concrete & driveways. Senior Discounts. For free estimates call Bill (413)519-9800.

RUBBISH REMOVAL

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

TREE WORK

AAA-TROM'S TREE SERVICE PROFESSIONAL SERVICE. Residential removal of trees, Free estimates, Fully insured W/Workman's Comp. Remove them before the wind takes them down. Cordwood, stump grinding. Call **413-283-6374.**

AFFORDABLE STUMP GRINDING Fast, dependable service. Free estimates. Fully insured. Call Joe Sablack **413-436-9821, Cell 413-537-7994**

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

TUNE-UPS

LAWNMOWER TUNE UP & REPAIR
A&M TUNE-UPS
 Push Lawnmowers, Riding Mowers and Small Engine Repair.
Work done at your home.
FREE PICKUP OF UNWANTED LAWN EQUIPMENT
 Call Mike (413) 348-7967

STUMP GRINDING

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

AUTO CAMPERS

2011 KEYSTONE MONTANA MOUNTAINEER MODEL RKD
 LENGTH 33'; 2 SLIDE-OUTS, REAR KITCHEN, SLEEPS 4, LOTS OF STORAGE. \$8000. BRIMFIELD - (413)374-1880

HELP WANTED

LABORERS AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR
 Positions available with local work. Proper licenses required including OSHA compliance. Compensation will commensurate with experience. Transportation required.
 Email: **bradwayconstruction@yahoo.com**
 with your resume and for more information.

SEEKING YOUNGSTER(S) for assisting older couple with organizing/moving items for tag sale/clean-out. Computer skills a plus. Call Bob at Hilltown Animal Control, **413-374-8451.**

REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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

Post your job openings in our classifieds. **WE GET RESULTS!**
 Call **1-413-283-8393**

Advertise your **HOME IMPROVEMENT SERVICES** in our classifieds. **WE GET RESULTS!**
 Call **413-283-8393**



STAY ON TOP OF IT ALL!
 Subscribe Today!

FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

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

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40

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

Quabbin Village Hills
 Circulation: 50,500

Hilltowns
 Circulation: 9,800

Suburban Residential
 Circulation: 59,000

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

GREAT VALUE!
ALL 3 ZONES NOW FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!
 Make checks payable to Turley Publications

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

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

C4R hosts birding paddle May 16

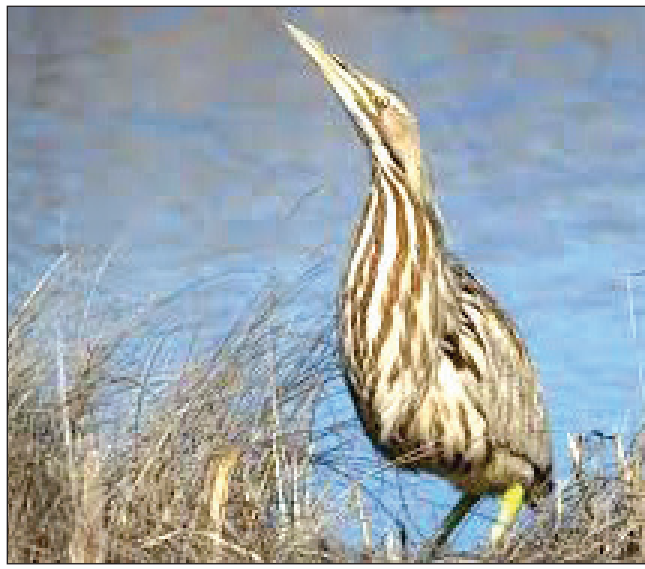
BROOKFIELD – Join C4R for a special Birding on the Quaboag paddle on Saturday, May 16 from 8:30-11 a.m.

The Quaboag Marsh offers a special habitat for spring birds. Participants will listen for and perhaps see the American Bittern.

Meet at the Route 148 state boat launch, then park nearby. Limit is 15 paddlers.

RSVP required by emailing chicopeewatershed@gmail.com.

C4R is also seeking volunteers to conduct water quality sampling at sites in Wilbraham and Palmer twice a month on Thursday mornings in June, July and August and once in September.



Submitted Photo

An American Bittern is just one of the birds that could be seen while paddling the Quaboag Marsh.

HARDWICK BUDGET from page 1

be used to fund the operating budget, and the Finance Committee would not support it.

Culross also suggested a new article on the Annual Town Meeting warrant to designate the capital stabilization to pay for a truck used by the Highway Department, which was originally being paid out of the operating budget.

Caggiano said with that article being put on the warrant, the FY 27 budget is officially balanced.

Select Board Vice-Chair William Tinker said it is not balanced, because it is being funded by these one-time revenues. Caggiano said the budget has been historically funded by one-time revenues, but Finance Committee member Mark Korzec said this year's one-time revenues are up over 20% from last year.

Because of this discrepancy, the boards discussed that there may be cuts necessary from the operating budget of \$200,000 to balance the budget. They discussed that there are vacancies in the Highway Department and Recycling Center.

The board discussed putting a hold on all hiring not funded by the state.

Caggiano said for example, the IT budget is at \$38,000 but it pays for nine different items, but the IT services costs almost \$38,000 and is over budgeted every year. Tinker said there should be an IT services audit to make sure they are not charging every time they come out for recurring problems they are failing to address.

The Select Board voted

to conduct an audit in FY 27, and to cap the cost at \$2,000 if there is one.

Caggiano said the town is also cutting costs by implementing 100% direct deposit for paystubs, saving \$45 a month.

Select Board member Jeff Schaaf said the town needs to look at water rates, since water is costing the town more than what they are getting in revenue. Schaaf said he is the chair of the Wheelwright Water District, and they are continuing to raise rates.

Discussion on cuts

The Treasurer Collector expense, which was budgeted at \$19,500 at the last meeting, was reduced to \$9,500 by the Select Board.

At the April 30 meeting, the line item was back at \$19,500. Caggiano said this is because treasurer expense, collector expense, and payroll added up and combined into one line item. The boards calculated the expenses, and found that it does not add up to \$19,500, rather about \$16,000.

The Select Board voted to reduce the budget to \$16,000.

The board said it would be advisable to ask the department heads if they can cut their budgets by 10%, and review their findings at a meeting on May 21. Caggiano and Tinker said they would meet with department heads the week of May 11.

Warrant article discussion

Caggiano said there is an article on the ATM warrant about adjusting snow and ice deficits. She said the state is in the process of negotiating a winter relief package to go out to

towns to assist with overdrawn snow and ice budgets because of the last harsh winter.

She said the town is about \$224,000 over budget for snow and ice, and they have about \$74,000 in free cash.

Caggiano also presented two article requests made by Tinker. Article 16 would have been to have the town pay a portion of the principal on the fire truck this year, but the other Select Board members said it was "unnecessary."

Article 24 would have been for the recording of all board meetings when practical. Schaaf said it was premature to ask for this because only the Select Board meeting room is set up with a camera, and there are many boards that meet in various places in town.

Tinker said the language makes it subject to available resources, and it is not meant to be a mandate.

Tinker said the article is about transparency. Schaaf said it's an "admirable goal," but it is too early.

Tinker said that there are five days in a work week, and the Select Board only uses the room once a week. He said other boards and committees could book the room. Select Board Chair Eric Vollheim said it was not a good idea since it was not brought up to boards. The motion made by Tinker to include this on the annual town meeting warrant was not seconded.

Water abatements

The Select Board approved water abatements for 18-20 Duhamel Court in the amount of \$500.08, and 1820-1822 Barre Road in the amount of \$1,199.75.

Obituary

Grace V. Reidy, 94

WARE – Grace V. Reidy, 94, passed away peacefully on Friday, April 24, 2026 in Ware. She was born on Dec. 6, 1931 in South Barre to Margaret (Tomassello) Valardi and John



superior ensemble became the foundation of Grace's professional pattern of excellence, benefiting all students who experienced her as a teacher and conductor.

She, along with Quabbin band director John Hansen founded the Quabbin Valley Music Educators Association, a professional teacher's group which is still active in hosting a yearly music festival for students, now in its 54th year.

In 1972 Grace became the director of choral music at Wachusett Regional High School in Holden, introducing a choral program that did not previously exist and developing it into a nationally recognized standard over her 22-year tenure. A very special lasting legacy for Grace at Wachusett was her creation of the annual Madrigal Dinner.

Begun in 1982, the current music faculty (led now by a former student of Grace) celebrated its 44th production this past January. Another hallmark of Grace's career was her volunteerism. Grace served as Central District Chairperson and later as President of the Massachusetts Music Educators Association. She was also the first woman to become President of the New England Music Festival Association, an organization she herself participated in as a student, with a certificate signed by John Philip Sousa.

She was a dedicated member of the American Choral Directors Association, Sigma Alpha Iota music fraternity and served as an officer to the Quabbin Valley festival for the entirety of her high school teaching career.

Upon retirement in 1993 Grace was named a recipient of the Massachusetts Music Educators Association Lowell Mason Award and in 1999 she was presented with the state's highest indi-

vidual award, the MMEA Distinguished Service Award. Impressively, even before she retired, in 1988 Grace founded the United States Youth Ensembles European Concert Tour, with great support and assistance from her husband Jack. The chorale, wind and string ensembles were made up of talented high school students from across the USA, gathered via audition each summer to travel throughout Europe, presenting concerts and touring cultural landmarks. Grace and Jack retired from running the tour in 1998 and fully enjoyed becoming "snow birds" living half the year in Tampa, Florida and the other half in Wheelwright and later spent summers at Summer Hill in Wells, Maine. Grace and Jack loved traveling in their retirement years, enjoying many cruises and literally traveling around the world.

After Jack's passing, Grace moved to Saco, Maine where she lived at Atlantic Heights. In 2020 she returned to Ware, moving into Cedarbrook Village, a senior living community built on the site of the former elementary school where Grace began her career. The Reidy family would like to thank the compassionate and caring staff at Cedarbrook Village as well as Brookhaven Hospice.

There will be a memorial Mass at 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 13, 2026 at St. Augustine's Church in Wheelwright.

Because Grace was such an active member of St. Augustine Church in Wheelwright and served as organist and choir director at St. Aloysius in Gilbertville for many years, in lieu of flowers donations may be sent to the St. Augustine Mission, Care of St. Aloysius Church, P.O. Box 542, Gilbertville, MA 01031.

Arrangements are by Cebula Funeral Home, Inc., 66 South Street Ware. For more information, people may visit cebulafuneralhome.com.

DEATH NOTICE

Reidy, Grace V. (Valardi) Died April 24, 2026 Memorial Mass Saturday, June 13 at 10 a.m. St. Augustine Church in Wheelwright

LOCAL BUSINESS

ADVERTISING SPECIALS

CONTACT US TODAY FOR DETAILS



12 HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS

www.turley.com • 413.283.8393

Barre Gazette OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief

Death Notice

listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a

Paid Obituary,

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

Death Notices & Paid

Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

THE SPAGS OF SPENCER!

HUGE KITCHEN PACKAGE & LAUNDRY REBATES

GAS GRILL SALE!

PRE-SEASON SAVINGS!

Great Selection! A/C's

BIKE SALE!

1000's IN STOCK! WE REPAIR BIKES!

E-BIKES IN STOCK!

SPRING BIKE TUNE-UP: \$49.99!

END OF THE YEAR TV SALE!

2025 THE OFFICIAL COMMUNITY'S CHOICE AWARDS Best of Central Mass

43" Smart TV.....\$199.99 Regularly \$249.9

50" HDTV Television..\$229.99 Regularly \$269.99

65" HDTV Television..\$329.99 Regularly \$599.99

75" HDTV.....\$499.99 Regularly \$699.99

MATTRESS SALE!

TWIN: \$199 / FULL: \$269 / QUEEN: \$299 (REG. \$299) (REG. \$499) (REG. \$599)

BETTER THAN ANY BIG BOX STORE!

DELUXE AIR FRY RANGE - Reg. \$699.99 \$749

FRIGIDAIRE DISHWASHER - Reg. \$699.99 \$299

21 CU. FT. FREEZER - Reg. \$999.99 \$799

G.E. 27 CU. FT. FRENCH DOOR REFRIGERATOR - Reg. \$1999.99 \$1,399

5 CU. FT. CHEST FREEZER - Reg. \$699.99 \$189

AMANA WASHER OR DRYER - Reg. \$599.99 \$489.99

FRIGIDAIRE 18 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR - Reg. \$699.99 \$599.99

FAMOUS MAKER OVER THE STOVE MICROWAVE - Reg. \$249.99 \$229.99

LG WASHER & DRYER - Front Load, Reg. \$1599.99 \$1,399.99

MAYTAG DELUXE WASHER OR DRYER - Reg. \$699.99 \$499.99

WHIRLPOOL SIDE BY SIDE - Reg. \$1,499.99 \$1,049.99

weber

INSTANT FINANCING UP TO \$10,000!

WHITCO

140 MAIN STREET, SPENCER, MA 508.885.9343 SEE WHITCOSALES.COM



Store Hours: Mon. thru Fri: 10am-8:30pm • Sat: 9am-8pm • Sun: 12 Noon-7pm

FOR 100's OF DEALS!

Your BUYLINE CONNECTION

DON'T BUY 'TIL YOU SEE US!!!!
PRE-SEASON A/C SALE!!!
GIANT APPLIANCE REBATES!!!
MATTRESS SALE!!!
BIKES, E-BIKES!!!
WE REPAIR BIKES!!!
SEE AD INSIDE!

12 MONTHS 0% FINANCING
WHITCO
 140 Main St., Spencer
 www.whitcosales.com
508-885-9343

Open: Mon.-Fri. 10am-8:30pm, Sat. 9am-8pm, Sun. 12pm-7pm

POST ROAD REALTY
 BUYING OR SELLING... WE HAVE THE PERFECT FIT FOR YOU!
 www.PostRoadRealty.com

NEW LISTING!
10 FOSTER ROAD WEST BROOKFIELD \$559,900

OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY, MAY 9 11:00 to 12:30

FEATURES:
 3 BEDS
 2.50 BATHS
 2 CAR GARAGE
 BACK DECK
 CENTRAL AIR
 FULL BASEMENT

Cassie Paolucci
774-200-3523

NAPA REWARDS
 Join NAPA Rewards today for your chance to win a YETI® Rambler Travel Mug 35 oz.

Scan the QR code or visit <https://congrsre.io/d/SswvEL> for more details.

DO Sign up for a NAPA Rewards account today.
EARN Receive points for every purchase online or in store.
REDEEM Receive Rewards each time you reach 100 points.

No purchase necessary. *25 YETI® Rambler Travel Mugs will be given away. Must be 18+. Join NAPA Rewards for a chance to win and see official rules.

NAPA AUTO PARTS® WARE-WEST BROOKFIELD
 175 West St., Ware 413-967-5121 • 967-3184
 116 Federal St. (Rt. 9) Belchertown 413-323-7661 • 323-9296
 117 West Main St., W. Brookfield • 508-867-9947
 Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8-7, Sat. 8-3; Sun. 9-2

WHERE EVERYONE GOES FOR THEIR PIECE OF THE EARTH!
LANDSCAPE STONE
 White • Blue • Purple • Red
 Lt Gray • Dark Gray • Beige • Rip Rap

SCREENED LOAM STORED IN BUILDING

Construction Stone • Title V & Presby Septic Sand
 Concrete Sand • Chicken Coop Sand • Utility Sand
 Pool Liner Sand • Stone Dust • Silt • Crushed Gravel
 Crushed Asphalt • Crushed Concrete • Cold Patch

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

Bond Sand, Gravel & Asphalt
 98 North Spencer Rd., Spencer
 bondsandandgravel.com
508-885-6100
508-885-2480

Are you ready to buy or sell?

Lisa Caron Realtor®
 Broker, Owner GRI, ABR, SRS, RENE, C2EX, SRES, MRP, PSA, LMC, COPE, E-PRO

Call today to get started!
508.341.8299

Country Canine KENNELS

Boarding, Grooming, Daycare

Boarding starting at \$40 a night
 Daycare starting at \$26 a day

84 Greenwich Plains Road
 Ware, MA 01082
 (413) 277-0334 Office Phone
 countrycaninekennels@gmail.com

Flint Signs
 149 Broad St., Barre, MA
 978-355-3080
 www.FlintSigns.com

Hand Painted - Hand Carved - Gold Leaf - Custom Artwork

Adventure tours of Warren
 Share the Adventure with us!

Boothbay Harbor Vacation

June 9-12 4-Day Boothbay Harbor Vacation\$899
 June 27....Lake George Cruise & Lunch\$185
 July 11....Provincetown by Fast Ferry.....\$220
 Sept. 26...Pickity Place Lunch.....\$130
 March 1...12-Day Caribbean Cruise Balcony \$2499

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

JARS Café & Bakery

23 Summer Street
 North Brookfield
 MA 01535

TEA FOR TWO
 1st Sunday Every Month
 Reservations Required

508-637-1577
 OPEN NOW
 7 DAY A WEEK!
 8am-2pm
 Mon-Fri
 8am-3pm
 Sat. & Sun.

In-House Fresh Bakery
 All Occasion Cake
 Cupcakes and Cookies

See website for specials
JARSCafe.com

Future Events
 Contact us to plan your next private event.
508-637-1577

BRING IN ENTIRE AD FOR \$5 OFF
 with \$10 minimum purchase.

BUYLINE CONNECTION

3 Ads for 1 Low Price!!!

Ware River News, Barre Gazette
 & Quaboag Current

Over 16,000 copies • Prints every Thursday

Special Ad Size Pricing
 3" x 1" ... only \$33
 3" x 1.5" only \$48
 3" x 2" ... only \$66
 3" x 2.5" only \$82
 3" x 3" ... only \$99

FULL COLOR INCLUDED!

Contact
Dan Flynn
 413-297-5886
dfflynn@turley.com

HANNA'S ON MAIN
 91 Main Street
 Ware, MA 01082
 413-277-0009
 www.hannasonmain.com

Mon & Tues Functions Only • Wed & Thurs 11:00 AM- 9PM
 Fri & Sat 11:00 AM - 10pm • Sun 8AM - 9PM

Complete Catering Services!
 Hot Foods • Cold Foods
 Salads • Sandwich Trays

Graduations • Holidays • Anniversaries
 Business Events
 Birthdays • Retirements • Reunions

www.hannasonmain.com
413-277-0009

Function Room Available

Mother's Day at Hanna's on Main

TREAT MOM
 Sunday, May 10th
 9am - 6pm

Treat Mom to a day out with her favorites, from morning favorites to evening specials

9am - 12pm
 Full breakfast menu
 Chef's Specials

12:30pm - 6pm
 Full dinner menu
 Mother's Day Dinner
 Specials

hannasonmain.com

Call to reserve your table
413-277-0009