

BARRE GAZETTE

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Budget and by law articles garner much discussion

By Ellenor Downer
Editor
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HARDWICK – Two articles on the Annual Town Meeting warrant had the most discussion on Saturday, June 7.

The 119 registered voters present acted on all 18 warrant articles in about 1 ¼ hours. Following considerable discussion and an amendment to the budget, Article 9, the omnibus budget, passed an amended amount of \$7,141,813.98 for Fiscal Year 2026.

The amendment brought forth by the Planning Board raised the Planning Board clerk's salary from \$5,000 to \$8,000. This was a \$3,000 increase over the line item amount presented to voters. The amendment carried with 57 yes and 29 no votes. This was against the Finance Committee recommendation to address the salary increase at a Special Town Meeting.

The \$7.1 million plus budget included using \$62,354.57 from the Overlay Fund toward the total figure, the bulk of which was raised and appropriated. The Finance Committee was not in favor of using overlay reserves to help fund the town's budget. The committee chairman Christopher Culross said this was not fiscally sound and if the town uses

overlay fund this year he questioned where would it come from next year?

Since the Select Board and Finance Committee were not in agreement on the use of overlay funds, Moderator Ryan Witkos called for a recess so he could "resolve" the issue with them. Several residents said the Selectmen and Finance Committee should have resolved this issue before the town meeting and not on the floor of town meeting. The moderator reconvened the meeting and announce the Finance Committee agreed to use the proposed amount of \$62,354.57 from the Overlay Fund. Voters then approved the amended budget total, which included an increase for the Planning Board clerk.

The other article involving considerable time was Article 17 sponsored by the Select Board. This article would amend the town of Hardwick General Bylaws to regulate internal procedures, consistent with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40A, Section 5, the "Zoning Act." The purpose of this bylaw as printed in the article "was to establish a transparent, consistent and legally sound process for the review of proposed amendments to the town procedural bylaw."

See HARDWICK, page 6



Turley publications photo by Mary Whitelaw
It is a graduation tradition at Quabbin Regional High School for the new graduates to toss their caps in the air following the turning of the tassels.

By Ellenor Downer
Editor

BARRE – One hundred two seniors graduated from Quabbin Regional High School on Friday, June 6.

The rain and thunderstorms forced the event to move into the gymnasium. Despite the change of plans from an outside to an inside graduation the gym was set

up to hold the event in the largest indoor venue, the school gym.

The soon to be graduates processed into the gym wearing blue caps and gowns with the Symphonic Winds playing "Pomp and Circumstance" by Edward Elger. Senior class president Luke Salvadore and valedictorian Iren Stolgitis led fellow members of the class.

Once the Class of 2025

reached their seats in the front, Irene Stolgitis as senior class secretary led the audience in saying the Pledge of Allegiance. Class president Salvadore in his welcome declared the Class of 2025 to be the greatest Quabbin class of all time. He had his "future self" call his cell phone. He hung up the first time, but he took the call on the second attempt. His "future self"

gave him some snippets of the future. He also thanked the facilities department for setting up the indoor graduation venue. He said they even placed an inflatable goat, a class mascot in one corner.

Principal Purnima De Morais said tonight marks the beginning of the story ahead of you. She said the

See GRADUATION,
page 11

Planning Board responds to Select Board member's complaint

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
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HARDWICK – The Select Board members had a discussion regarding Vice-Chair William Tinker's written complaint to the Planning Board and the response from that board.

Prior to this discussion, Tinker excused himself from the meeting and Select Board Chair Eric Vollheim and Clerk

Jeffrey Schaaf began the discussion. Vollheim asked if there was anyone from the Planning Board who wanted to talk about this complaint.

Bill Cole of the Planning Board attended the June 9 meeting and explained what happened that initiated this letter of complaint by Tinker. At one of its meetings, the Planning Board reviewed the letter, and its members were disappointed to see some of the language that was used in

it as well as making claims to how the Planning Board members operate in their process.

Vollheim asked if he could see a copy of the letter and read it out loud for the record. It was stated in the letter by Tinker that he believes three of the five Planning Board members have a conflict of interest involving projects done on the property at Eagle Hill School.

Tinker also stated that he had attended one of the

Planning Board meetings and was "denied the opportunity to speak." In his letter, Tinker strongly urges the board to postpone any actions related to placing any zoning bylaw articles on the town meeting warrant.

Cole said after the Planning Board members reviewed the letter they felt as if it was questioning the board's independence and integrity. The board members chose not to discuss the letter

further until their next meeting and developed a response to the letter.

Cole brought a copy of the response to share with the Select Board before being submitted, which Vollheim read for the record. This response addressed the complaint made by Tinker about alleged conflicts of interest tied to Eagle Hill School.

Cole said that any conflicts have been disclosed by board members.

As stated in the letter, the Planning Board found these claims unwarranted and insulting. The board believes there is no conflict of interest involving these members and any zoning bylaw changes or adjustments do not directly affect Eagle Hill School.

After the response was read, Cole said he believes there are no issues or con-

See PLANNING BOARD,
page 6

Time capsule brings back memories of the 70s

By Ellenor Downer
Editor
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HARDWICK – A small box sat on a shelf in the town safe for 50 years, waiting to be opened the first week of June as instructed by the Hardwick Elementary School sixth grade in 1975.

As per the students' instructions, Select Board Chairman Eric Vollheim had the honor of opening the tightly sealed box. Members of that class and more recent Hardwick Elementary School students waited in anticipation. Penny Ouimette, a fifth grader at the present day Hardwick Elementary School attended along with her sisters, Sadie



and Quinn Ouimette, graduates of Hardwick Elementary School. They dressed in clothes of the 1970s era.

Vollheim handed each item to the school principal at the time Charles Lemaitre, who came for the event. Former principal Lemay gave the background on many of the items. Michelle



One of the items in the time capsule was a copy of the June 1, 1975 Ware River News, which is still published today. The capsule also contained a copy of the Evening Gazette, a newspaper no longer printed.

included some of her embroidery work. Russell Prouty included some of his math work in the capsule. On a non-school related theme, Rodney Witkos placed a col-

lection of bottle caps secured to a piece of cardboard.

There was a cassette tape

See TIME CAPSULE,
page 8

Selectmen hear plans to address sidewalks

By Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Jeff Howland, Senior Transportation Planning Engineer for Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission, has been working with the town to seek a state grant to replace sidewalks on North Main Street up to Route 148.

"We are working in conjunction with MassDOT," Howland said at the Board of Selectmen's June 3 meeting.

Howland said the Department of Transportation is currently working with the town to complete re-pavement of Route 67 from the New Braintree/North Brookfield town line to Spring Street. He said it is a state numbered route, but it is municipally owned.

He said in a recent meeting with town officials, it was discussed having MassDOT pause the paving project at the intersection of Route 148 in order to complete the sidewalk project with the state grant. He said the town would be notified if it was awarded the grant by November of this year.

"Construction of the sidewalks would be done in '26," Howland said.

Howland said the state grant would allow them to reset the existing granite curbing, and either replace the bituminous curbing or put in granite curbing instead. He said noncompliant crosswalks will also be relocated.

"A crosswalk cannot enter into a driveway...also

See NB SELECTMEN,
page 8



News of the Towns



ROUND TOWN
by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

Quabbin Community Band holds 'Kids Night at Bandstand'



Submitted photo

The Quabbin Community Band rehearses Monday evenings in the Barre Town Hall from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

BARRE – The June 22 concert theme presented by the Quabbin Community Band at Nornay Park in South Barre is “Kids Night At The Bandstand.”

This program is funded in part by a grant from the Barre Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agen-

cy. In addition to some great young audience favorites such as, “The Bare Necessities” from The Jungle Book, “The Pink Panther” and, “Captain Marvel” being played by the band, there will also be an Ice Cream Truck providing free ice cream novelties compliments of Fidelity Bank. Lawn games will be on

hand for children to enjoy and there will be fun balloon making and antics by Maggie the Clown.

All summer concerts begin at 6p.m. Should there be rain on any Sunday evening, the concerts are moved indoors to the Barre Town Hall, Exchange Street.

HUBBARDSTON

by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

Fobes library lists events

The Fobes Memorial Library, 4 Maple St., announces June events. Weekly read and play is held Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. On Tuesday, June 24 from 4-6 p.m. Dungeons and Dragons Jr. Guild meets. On Thursday, June 26 at 11 a.m. there is a Homeschool Do It Yourself. Registration is required for Dungeons and Dragons and Homeschool DIY. To register, people should visit the library website at <https://www.oakham-ma.gov/fobes-memorial-library>. Kids’ Fest will be held on Saturday, June 28 at 10 a.m.

Concert series

Summer concerts are held on Thursday evenings from 6:30-8 p.m. in the gazebo located on the Oakham Common, corner of Maple Street and Coldbrook Road. Concerts are June 26 Holdin Back, July 10 Quabbin Community Band, July 24 Eagles Nest, Aug. 7 The Otters and Aug. 21 The Bad Tickers. People are encouraged to bring a blanket or a lawn chair to listen to this free concert. People may also visit the town website at www.oakham-mass.gov for the concert schedule. Concerts are not held in bad weather and will be postponed if possible.

Senior center news

On Monday, June 23: Podiatry clinic will be held from 9 a.m.-2.30 p.m. Reservations are required by calling the Oakham Senior Center at 508-882-4073 and leave a message and number. Someone will call them back.

On Thursday June 19 someone from Serving the Health Needs of Everyone will be at the Senior Center from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Reservations are required by either stopping in and signing up or calling the number listed above. On Tuesday, June 24 blood pressure/ glucose testing will take place from 11 a.m.-noon. On Tuesday, June 24 SNAP benefits information will be available from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. All are welcome; there is no age restrictions.

On going activities include Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-noon puzzling, Monday through Thursday at 9 a.m. walking group meet at Senior Center ad Tuesday through Thursdays at 11 a.m. Walking Group meet at Senior Center. Those that would like to join the walking groups should ask to be added to the text message group by calling the Senior Center at 508-882-4073 and leave their cell phone number.

On Wednesdays at 9 a.m. Zumba Gold meets in the Rutland Senior Center. The donation is \$3 per class

Thursdays at noon is Weigh in at the Senior Center with the support weight loss group. Fridays at 10.30 a.m. and Functional Fitness meets at the New Braintree Town Hall. Cost is \$3 per class.

Hot lunches are offered at the Senior Center dining area Monday through Thursday at 11.30 a.m. Reservations are needed at least two days in advance and can be made through the Congregate Meal Coordinator from 9 a.m.-12.15p.m. by calling 508-882-4072.

On Friday, June 13 COA meeting at noon. Lunch for Brunch meets the third Friday. On, June 20 the group will go to Charlie’s Diner in Spencer. There is a sign up sheet at the Senior Center in the Main Room. Bemis Farm is coming Tuesday, June 10 at 1 p.m. at the Fire Station, located on Barre Road. They will make “The Flying Flower Café.” The pot that attracts butterflies and hummingbirds. Cost is \$15 per pot People should sign up by stopping at the senior center, e-mailing COA@Oakham-MA.gov or calling the Senior Center at 508-882-4073 and leave a message.

CORRECTION

Lawrence Begin’s name was omitted on the list pf departed veterans printed in the May 29 edition of the paper.

Concert season opens June 15
Quabbin Community Band will open their 2025 season on Father’s Day, Sunday, June 15 with the concert theme, “Summer is Here.” This year’s band includes more than fifty players. At their first concert they will feature such favorite medleys as, “The Sound of Music” by Rodgers & Hammerstein, “Beach Boys Forever” arranged by Robert Brubaker and “Highlights from the Music Man” by Meridith Wilson. The Quabbin Community Band has upheld a great New England tradition of presenting concerts on the Common for more than 50 years. The group looks forward to presenting programs on Sunday for the next nine weeks. The first three concerts on June 15, 22 and 29 will be held at Nornay Park in South Barre. All remaining concerts from July 6 through Aug. 10 will be in Barre on the Harding Allen Bandstand. All concerts begin at 6 p.m. and generally run 90 minutes in length. Summer is here, so come out and enjoy the gift of live community music.

Historical Society yard sale

The annual yard sale will be held Saturday, June 14 at the Barre Historical Society building on Common Street. There will be an early bird shopping time for members at 8 a.m. Shopping for the public and non-members starts at 9 a.m. This is a major fundraiser for the Historical Society. If it rains on June 14 the yard sale will be postponed to late summer. They have a variety of small furniture items, kitchen and other household items, Barre items, collectibles, games, holiday decorations, figurines, electronic items, books, cookbooks and magazines, albums and more. They also have a merchandise table of new items for sale including long sleeved tee shirts Barre maps, glassware, postcards and Barre history books too.

Barre Food Pantry

Barre Food Pantry distribution will occur on Thursday, June 19 from 5:30-7 p.m. In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients June 19 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.

Concerts on the Common held monthly in North Brookfield

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Concerts on the Common will be held on select Saturdays on the town common from 6-8 p.m.

Upcoming dates and performers include June 28, DJ Tabby Leblanc, dance party and karaoke; July 26, Stan Matthews and the Rough Riders; and Aug. 30, Superchargers.

These concerts are free, but tips for the band and free will donations toward future events are appreciated. Food trucks will be available, or people are welcome to bring their own.

Chairs, blankets or something to sit on are encouraged, as well as insect, sun and weather protection.

The Concerts on the Common series is made possible by the North Brookfield Parks and Recreation and the North Brookfield Cultural Council.

Barre Food Pantry distribution June 19

BARRE – The Barre Food Pantry distributions will occur on Thursday, June 19 from 5:30-7 p.m.

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

In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers

and clients June 19 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 saf-

est possible way to get food to clients and to help keep everyone well.

Volunteers should not arrive to volunteer on June 19 without first contacting Sonja Blaney at 978-355-6921 or Chuck Radlo at 978-355-6463.

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

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 June 16. 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 – Beef stir fry, steamed rice, roasted broccoli, tropical fruit, whole wheat bread

TUESDAY – Hot dog, baked beans, Coleslaw, baked apples, hot dog bun. mustard

WEDNESDAY – Garlic herbed chicken, cranberry stuffing, cabbage and carrots, chocolate pudding, diet = sugar free chocolate pudding, pumpernickel bread

THURSDAY – Junetenth no meal served
FRIDAY – Ham salad, pasta salad, tomato and onion salad, fresh fruit, hot dog bun

*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.

Ware River Nature Club to host local walks

Ware River Nature Club will host an insect quest at the Department of Conservation and Recreation Watershed Prison Camp area in Rutland on Saturday, June 21 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

People should grab their binoculars, camera, magnifying lens and/or favorite insect identification guides to look for a variety of invertebrates at this interesting locale. They should find dif-

ferent species of butterflies, dragonflies, beetles, bees and many more. There is no capture or collecting, just close-up viewing and photography. People should dress for the weather and bring snacks and beverages if they wish. They should use insect repellent with natural ingredients only. They must pre-register: by emailing warerivernatureclub@yahoo.com. On Sunday, June 29 from 9 a.m. to mid-

day the nature club will hold a birding and nature walk to Rum Rock and Osgood Swamp at Massachusetts Audubon Society Rutland Brook Sanctuary in Petersham. They can expect to encounter a variety of resident bird species along the way and watch for interesting plants, animal sign and more. They must pre-register by emailing warerivernatureclub@yahoo.com.

Editorial deadline reminder

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

Corrections policy

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

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News of the Towns

PUBLIC MEETINGS

BARRE

Quabbin Regional School Committee – June 12 at 6:30 p.m.
 250th Anniversary Committee – June 15 at 5 p.m.
 Barre Housing Authority – June 12 at 1 p.m.
 Select Board – June 16 at 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. and June 17 at 6:30 p.m.
 Board of Assessors – June 17 at 6 p.m.
 Finance Committee – June 17 at 6:30 p.m.
 Planning Board – June 17 at 7 p.m.
 Town Meeting – June 24 at 6:30 p.m.
 Cemetery Commission – June 26 at 11 a.m.
 Felton Field Commissioners – July 1 at 6:30 p.m.
 Council on Aging – July 2 at 12:30 p.m.
 911 Memorial Development Committee – 5 p.m.

HARDWICK

Capital Planning Committee – June 16 at 3 p.m.
 Gilbertville Water District – June 17 at 5:30 p.m.
 Council on Aging – July 2 at 12:30 p.m.
 Paige Library Trustees – July 3 at 7 p.m.
 Board of Health – July 31 and Sept. 11 at 6:30 p.m.

HUBBARDSTON

Community Preservation Committee – June 12 at 7 p.m.
 Annual Town Election – June 17 from 7 a.m.-8 p.m.
 Cemetery Commission – June 25 at 3 p.m.
 Board of Parks Commissioners – July 9 at 12:22 p.m. and July 16 at 12:23 p.m.

NORTH BROOKFIELD.

Annual Town Meeting – June 13 at 7 p.m.
 Board of Selectmen – June 17 at 6 p.m.
 Planning Board – June 18 at 6 p.m.
 Rep. Berthiaume's and Sen. Durant Office hour – June 24 from 10-10:45 a.m.
 By Law Committee – June 30 at 2 p.m.
 Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearing – Jun 30 at 6 p.m.

PETERSHAM

Select Board – June 12, June 26, July 24 and Sept. 4 at 5:30 p.m.
 Board of Health – June 18 at 7:30 p.m.
 Open Space and Recreation Committee – July 1 at 6 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – July 1 at 7 p.m.
 Board of Assessors – July 9 at 11 a.m. and Aug. 1 at 9 a.m.
 Petersham Historic District – July 17 at 6 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Aug. 11 at 10 a.m.

RUTLAND

Capital Improvement Planning Committee – June 12 at 6 p.m.
 Events Committee – June 13 at 6:30 p.m.
 Library Board of Trustees – June 16 at 7 p.m.
 Planning Board Public Hearing – June 24 at 6:30 p.m.

Camping resort picks Karen Wellington Foundation as season charity

OAKHAM – Every season Pine Acres Family Camping Resort chooses a charity to raise funds for throughout the camping season.

In the past this family-owned campground has chosen to support local causes as well as charities chosen by their campers or employees. This season as Pine Acres celebrates 65 years of family camping, they announce they are again working with the Karen Wellington Foundation.

This year the choice is not a typical fundraiser, it was chosen in memory and honor of Tessa (Packard) Wisniewski, who passed away in December 2019 after fighting a courageous battle with Stage IV Metastatic Breast Cancer. She was a wife, daughter, granddaughter and sister of the Packard

Family, owners and operators of Pine Acres.

Previously in 2020 the Karen Wellington Foundation was the recipient of just over \$25,000 raised by their campers, staff and business partners. This foundation focuses on fun for women going through breast cancer treatments. Recipients are gifted experiences like trips, concerts and spa days.

Plans are in place for several different fundraising events throughout the camping season. These events include raffles, contests, crafts and more. Anyone interested in helping them raise funds for this worthwhile cause may click the following link <https://tinyurl.com/TessaFUNdKWF> or scan the QR code included with this article.

Previous organizations that Pine Acres

Family Camping Resort has partnered with include Project New Hope, Why Me & Sherry's House, Compassionate Cares ALS, Pawsitively 4 Pink and Veteran's Inc.

For questions or information about donating, people may call Meghan McGinn of Pine Acres Family Camping Resort at 508-882-9509 or email camp@pineacresresort.com.

People who would like to donate to the Karen Wellington Foundation fundraiser sponsored by Pine Acres Family Camping Resort should scan this QR code.



OAKHAM

by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

Town election takes place June 17

Hubbardston's Annual Town Election will be Tuesday, June 17 from 7 a.m.-8 p.m. at Hubbardston Center School Gym, 8 Elm St. The following offices, candidates and questions are on the ballot:

Moderator (one 3-year term) - René M. Lafayette, Select Board (two 3-year terms) - Kris E. Pareago and Peter J. Walker, Board of Assessors (one 3-year term) - John Kenneth Prentiss, Board of Library Trustees (two 3-year terms) - Morgan T. Brinker, Christine Mary Kiesel, Board of Library Trustees (one 1-year term) - Maria D. Tourigny, Cemetery Commission (one 3-year term) - no candidates, Planning Board (one 5-year term) - no candidates, Finance Committee (one 3-year term) - Amit Kaul, Finance Committee (one 2-year term) - Rosemary Southwick, Finance Committee (one 1-year term) - Hunter Allan Young, Board of Health (one 3-year term) - no candidates, Board of Health (one 2-year term) - Dianna Johnson, Board of Health (one 1-year term) - no candidates, Quabbin Regional School Committee (one 3-year term) - Mark T. Wigler, Board of Parks Commissioners (one 3-year term) - Joshua Tenpenny, Board of Parks Commissioners (one 2-year term) - no candidates and Board of Parks Commissioners (one 1-year term) - no candidates.

Question 1: Shall the Town of Hubbardston be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a new Fire Truck for the Fire Department?

Question 2: Shall the Town of Hubbardston be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a used Plow Truck for the Department of Public Works?

Question 3: Shall the Town of Hubbardston be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a new Brush Mower for the Department of Public Works?

For more information about Hubbardston's Annual Town Election or to find out who is running write-in campaigns, people may call the Town Clerk at 978-928-1400, extension 202, email townclerk@hubbardstonma.gov or visit <https://www.hubbardstonma.gov/town-clerk/pages/election-and-voting-information>.

Historical Society holds pie sale

On Saturday, June 14 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., the Hubbardston Historical Society will hold a pie sale along with other baked goods at the Williamsville Chapel, 4 Burnshirt Road, Hubbardston. Proceeds benefit the Hubbardston Historical Society. People should arrive early because the baked goods sell out fast.

Senior Center

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

Peter Krasinski to play at Stone Church

GILBERTVILLE – Peter Edwin Krasinski, who is renowned for his stunning and seamless performances, will accompany "The Last Command," a 1928 silent film starring Emil Jannings, on the historic pipe organ at the Stone Church Cultural Center, 283 Main Street, Gilbertville, on Friday, June 27 at 7 p.m.

Presenters Friends of the Stone Church will serve free popcorn and snacks. Tickets may be purchased ahead of time by visiting <https://buytickets.at/friendsofthestonechurch/1256717> or purchased at the door for \$20 per person. Youth under 18 and those eligible for the Massachusetts Card for Culture are admitted free. This concert was re-scheduled due to a widely distributed power outage on May 3.

According to film critic Michael Elliot or Rotten Tomatoes, The Last Command is "one of the most powerful movies from this era offering 'a final thirty minutes that range among the best ever seen.'"

The film is based on the life of a former general in the army of Czar Nicholas, who fled Russia 1917 and ended up working as a movie extra in Hollywood. Jannings won the 1929 Oscar for Best Actor in a Leading Role for this and another performance. William Powell and Evelyn Brent co-star.

Peter Krasinski specializes in live improvised silent film accompaniment,



Submitted photo

Peter Krasinski on the organ at the Stone Church Cultural Center will play for the silent film, "The Last Command."

worldwide. He received the First Prize in Improvisation from the American Guild of Organists National Competition. House Organist of the Providence Performing Arts Center and Principal Organist of Mechanics Hall, Worcester, Mr. Krasinski is a past Dean of the Boston Chapter AGO. He is organist at First Church of Christ Scientist in Providence, Rhode Island, accompanist at Beth El Temple Center in Belmont and recently presented Master Classes at the Sibelius Academy, Helsinki, Finland. Krasinski also appears in his own cameo in the Oscar-nominated film "The Holdovers". He holds both a Bachelor of Music Degree in Music Education and Organ Performance and the Master of Sacred Music Degree from Boston University.

The film's director Josef von Sternberg split

his childhood between Vienna and New York. His first big success as a director, Underworld in 1927, is regarded as the first 'gangster' movie and was an enormous box office hit. With The Last Command, von Sternberg entered a decade as one of the most celebrated artists of world cinema. The upcoming Gilbertville concert will open with Tchaikovsky's Valse from The Serenade for Strings.

Recordings of selected concerts by Peter Krasinski including two accompanied silent films, the 1924 original Peter Pan, and the 1929 film It, starring Clara Bow, are available to watch online through the Friends of the Stone Church website: FriendsoftheStoneChurch.org/music/ or YouTube channel.

Spring 2025 concerts at the Stone Church are supported in part by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency and by grants from the Cultural Councils of Barre, Hardwick-New Braintree, North Brookfield, Oakham, and Petersham.

FOSC participates in the Card to Culture program of the Mass Cultural Council, by extending discounts to EBT, WIC and ConnectorCare health plan insurance cardholders. Eligible participants may request up to two free tickets at the box office on the day of the event. They should bring EBT, WIC or Connector Care health plan card for 2025.

LAND FOR SALE

Belchertown	7.5 acres with tw n util.	\$149,900
Belchertown	4.2 acres with tw n util.	\$99,900
Hampden	6.95 acres	\$80,000
Monson	63 acres, frtg 2 roads	\$280,000
New Salem	5.8 acres, perc	\$94,900

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Opinion

Letter to Editor Reader supports 'No Kings' rally

It's ironic that Donald Trump has ordered a military parade for his birthday, June 14, which is coincidental with Flag Day, a time to commemorate the most salient symbol of our nation, a day when school children across the land circle around the pole, standing at attention, hands over heart, while one of them is honored to pull the rope that raises Old Glory up into the breeze.

The pledge of allegiance follows, an oath taken, not to a red, white and blue cloth, but to one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. The irony is that for all his flag-hugging, quite literally, there is likely no one who has so thoroughly disrespected that, "for which it stands," than Donald J. Trump.

On June 14, while the President of the United States, puffing out his chest,

rolling tanks out onto the streets of the nation's capitol, all the while singing Happy Birthday to Me, millions of we Americans across the country, who recognize the threat he poses to American democracy and all the ideals for which that flag stands, and for which millions of true patriots have sacrificed, will be taking to the streets to reclaim that flag, so that we as a nation may continue our struggle for a more perfect union with liberty and justice for all.

If you agree with us, please join the "No Kings" rally closest to you, no matter how small or large and peacefully demand that those in power respect and follow the rule of law to ensure the flag continues to fly proudly for democracy and not for phony patriotism.

Kevin Canterbury
Barre



Social Security questions asked over coffee

Dear Rusty:

My coffee conversations among a group of friends have resulted in several questions about Social Security.

1. What happens to the Social Security account of someone who dies before retirement age. What happens to that money and where does it end up?

2. How does the decreased birth rate of the USA affect future Social Security benefits?

3. Is a person, who has never contributed to the Social Security System entitled to any benefits from the Social Security Administration?

4. Is there a central location online that a person can access that explains the history and current status of the Social Security System, that explains all of it in simple terms. I would like to be able to give this location to people I talk with about Social Security.

Most of the articles we read are like slogging through mud. I enjoy AMAC articles and am college educated, but the average reading level in the U.S. is less than sixth grade. Thank you for considering these questions.

Signed: Curious Reader

Dear Curious:

Thank you for your readership and I'll be happy to tackle your "over coffee" questions about Social Security.

1. Social Security is a "pay as you go" program, where all money collected from workers is used to pay benefits for all those, who are currently receiving Social Security. In other words, all money contributed is used to pay benefits to others already receiving benefits. It is not put into a separate account for each person

See SECURITY, page 5



In Past Pages

5 years June 18, 2020)

Barre Moderator Joshua Smith and Town Clerk Ellen Glidden discussed a quorum reduction with Selectmen at the Monday night meeting. Smith said the legislation to lower the town meeting quorum due to COVID-19 give the authority to do so with the Moderator and Board of Selectmen. The current quorum for Town Meeting is 50. The legislation allows up to 10% reduction. The Town Clerk said she believed the quorum number should not go lower than 25. The Moderator recommended reducing the quorum to 25. Selectman Chairman Gregory O'Sullivan said he was against reducing the quorum; he believed the present quorum number was too low. Selectman Vice Chairman Matthew Urban said he was not a fan of reducing the quorum. Selectman Dylan Clark said he was okay with leaving the number at 50.

The Annual Town Election will be held Tuesday, June 23. Selectmen rescheduled the election from Monday, April 6 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The polls in precinct one (Barre Senior Center, 557 South Barre Road and precinct 2 (Barre Post 2, 45 South Barre Road, will be open 8 a.m.-8 p.m. In response to the State of Emergency and concerns about COVID-19 and its implications on election administration, the Governor signed a law authorizing the

Look Back Hardwick Fair – 1993



File photo
Kellie Ruggles and Tara Kelly get Oscar ready for the frog-jumping contest.

Board of Selectmen to vote to postpone the local election. At its meeting on April 21, the Barre Board of Selectmen voted to postpone the election to Tuesday, June 23.

Director of Administrative Services Cheryl Duval said the school was still distributing food at three sites, Hardwick Elementary, the Quabbin Regional Middle High School and Hubbardston Center School. She said at last Thursday's Quabbin Regional School Committee meeting the district received a waiver from the United States Department of Agriculture would be able to offer summer meals at all three sites. Normally, only schools with 50 % or higher students

enrolled in free or reduced lunches could serve summer meals. The only school in the district that fit the original guidelines was the Hardwick Elementary School.

10 years (June 18, 2015)
It took the 176 Barre voters in attendance to about 2 ½ hours to conduct town business at the Annual Town Meeting. Articles to accept a gift of land on South Street ad to adopt a special permit bylaw had the most discussion. Seven Hills Foundation, Inc. and/or Stetson Home offers a parcel on South Street of 4.017 acres more or less, as a 30-year Payment in Lieu of

See PAST PAGES, page 6

Bush beans are a great succession crop

I was "late" planting my bush beans this year, at least according to the calendar. But with the garden being under water for awhile and then mucky for days on end, this past week was the first time conditions were favorable.

We want to grow a lot of beans this year. The kids like them steamed, then stir-fried with garlic. My hope it to have lots of them to freeze, and to do that it will require multiple plantings.

Bush beans are a good example of a vegetable that works well as a succession crop. What that means is that they can be sown multiple times throughout the summer.

Why? Because unlike most other vegetables, beans produce less than 8 weeks from sowing, are not finicky about heat, and as long as you have full sun and average garden soil they can be grown with relative ease.

Consider making additional sowings of this versatile vegetable now before you get busy with the harvest. That way you can enjoy a continuous supply all summer long.

You might still refer to snap or bush beans as "string

beans" even though the tough strings that connected the two halves of the pod were bred out of the snap bean beginning in 1884 with Calvin N. Keeney's introduction of the Stringless Refugee Wax Bean.

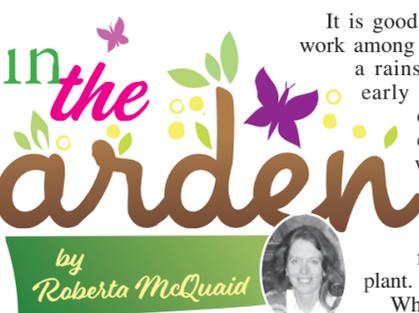
Today's modern stringless beans are a result of those early breeding efforts.

All types of beans require warm soil in which to germinate; 60 degrees at least. White seeded varieties are especially picky about soil temperatures.

Black and tan seeds regulate moisture intake more effectively, and therefore are less likely to rot in cool, wet soils. If you want to gamble with an early sowing, sow these instead.

Many seed companies even tell you the seed color in a description. Usually by May 20 the ground is warm enough to sow all types of beans.

Succession plantings can be made every 10 days



through July 30. After that it is unlikely that plants will produce a viable crop before frost hits.

Rather than sowing bean seeds in rows, I make good use of garden space by planting them in a four-foot wide block. Anything wider than four feet would make it difficult to reach in among the plants to harvest.

If soil has been turned over or rototilled first it is easy to simply place the bean seeds on top of the soil four inches apart and push them into the ground with your index finger, up to the first knuckle. Pat the surface of the soil with your palm to firm, and water well. Germination will take place in a week to 10 days.

It is good practice not to work among the plants after a rainstorm or in the early morning when dew is present. Touching wet foliage can encourage diseases and spread them from plant to plant.

When the foliage is dry you will want to be on the look out for the Mexican Bean Beetle. A bit larger than ladybugs, and all brown, these pests and their fuzzy yellow larvae can decimate a stand of bean plants. Vigilance is the key.

If squashing bugs isn't for you, dropping them into soapy water will also do them in. Try planting marigolds nearby to deter them.

I have also found through experience that subsequent sowings are best sited away from one another. It will take the beetles a longer time to find the new plants than if they are planted side by side.

Harvest beans when they are still relatively thin. Depending on the variety, pods can average five to seven inches long at maturi-

ty. When inner seeds start to swell and fatten up the bean they aren't nearly as tasty.

As mentioned, bumper crops are possible, and sometimes it may be difficult to keep up with the harvest. One variety known especially for its holding power is Jade. Beans from this variety retain a deep green color and sport thin pods.

I have also enjoyed growing French beans "Haricot Verts" because they are very long and thin, never tough.

Fresh beans are easy to freeze. Blanch in boiling water for three minutes then plunge into ice water until cooled. Air-dry thoroughly, pack in plastic bags, and place in the freezer. Easy breezy.

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.

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Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

Today is my only grand-daughter's birthday and her father's birthday..

When Mikayla was born, her father said he did not want to share his birthday, but he has. We all laughed.

June has been a rainy month, but the plants love it. My neighbor has been trying to put siding on his new garage and it has been difficult to do with this weather.

I did find two days of no rain and painted the upper part of the deck railings. The next time I have two days of no rain I need to touch up some of the trim on the house that I can reach. The paint on this house has lasted about 10 years, which is amazing.

The back lawn has turned into moss so we will not have to mow it. Half of the front lawn has turned into ajuga and flowering shrubs. The hydrangea's, deutzia, weigelia, dogwood and viburnum are making a wonderful show right now.

I only had a few iris blooms and oriental poppies. I'm waiting for the peonies to come out. I was given a gift of a purple butterfly bush, wild columbine and a white ajuga, which I have planted. I ordered four very pretty daylilies and have to decide where to plant them as they need sun. The Stella de Ore daylilies need to be divided as I have not seen any buds yet.

My helper bought two large tomato plants for our

back deck and we will share the produce. I bought an Early Girl tomato as I like to get tomatoes early.

I went to the hospital and doctor and got x rays this past week trying to find out why I limp so badly. The x rays showed no damage to the hips. Next step will see if there is damage to the muscles.

I was happy to hear the town voters approved the gift of the First Parish Unitarian Church. Now to find out what they plan to do with it. Seeing they recently purchased Breezy Hill Corners and some of the town offices have moved there from the Slade building and the library building, how will those buildings be used. The Senior Center remains at the Slade building and the police department.

I have been picking over and filing recipes and came across this recipe I plan to try for supper. Corn is plentiful in the stores right now so I boiled some and took it off the cob. Using a couple of cups of it I will make this recipe that was my Mother's. She used pancake mix to make the corn fritters.

CORN FRITTERS

- 1 egg
- 1/4 cup milk
- 1 cup pancake mix
- 1 can or 2 cups whole kernel corn, drained
- salad oil for frying

Mix above and fry in oil for 4 minutes. Makes 24 small fritters. I like to serve

them with maple syrup. I remember the ones they served at the Old Mill in Westminster.

This and That

I was having trouble with sugar ants on the kitchen counters. My youngest daughter bought me some Bell and Howell ultrasound pest Repeller's, which I plugged into a socket on the wall in the kitchen and whoopee no more ants. I have one plugged into the livingroom and the garage. Will it repel the mice that have gotten into the garage? I have not learned to set the wooden traps yet so hope this works.

I saw a black bear and her baby cub go across our back yard. I hope they were not the ones who got into our rubbish barrels. The Handyman put some bungee cords on the cover and hope that deters the raccoons or deer from making a mess. Bears have been a problem in chicken coops lately also.

I hope the Historical Society at the Williamsville Chapel has a successful pie and bake sale on Saturday, June 14 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. The pies go fast I heard. Some of my watercolors will be for sale there also. The East Quabbin Land Trust recently auctioned off two dozen of my watercolor cards.

I hope everyone has a good weekend and hope the sun shines.



By Ellenor Downer

Western bluebird



I received an email in May from a woman, who had a couple of Western bluebirds nest in her backyard birdhouse.

Western bluebirds are small thrushes, who usually perch upright. They are 6 to 7 inches long, larger than a sparrow and smaller than a robin. These bluebirds have thin, straight bills and short tails. The male Western bluebird is shiny blue above with rust orange on the breast and back. The throat is blue in males and the lower belly is whitish. Females are gray-buff with pale orange on the breast. Their throat is gray-buff. They have a blue tint on the wings and tail.

They inhabit open woodlands, both coniferous and deciduous and burned areas. They commonly use bird baths. The female lays two to eight pale to bluish white eggs per clutch. They pounce on the ground when looking for worms and berries. They also catch insects. Their primary diet is insects and berries and will come to feeders for mealworms.

Compared to the Eastern bluebird, the male Western bluebird has a blue rather than the bright white belly like the Eastern bluebird. The orange also extends to the shoulders. Western bluebirds are not typically found in Massachusetts.

Eastern bluebirds

A Barre resident puts out

mealworms for the Eastern bluebirds. He has a pair coming to feast on the mealworms.

Mute swans and cranes

A Barre woman reported seeing a pair of mute swans on Long Pond in Rutland. I saw one of the swans this week on the same pond. She also reported seeing a sandhill crane. An Oakham resident thinks a pair of sandhill cranes have nested. He now only sees one in his field or flying overhead between Adams Pond and the Wolf Swamp area of Oakham. The last time I saw a sandhill crane in my hayfield, there was only one. Earlier this spring I saw a two cranes in the field, which is near Wolf Swamp.

Titmouse and robin

An Oakham resident reported, "There was a lot of commotion at the robin nest and I went to the window to see what was going on. A titmouse was gathering the soft fuzzy from under the three eggs. Dad robin came along and drove the titmouse off." She said, "I put out lots of nesting materials, but as always, someone else's looks better."

Loon fact

The Loon Preservation Committee offer loon facts in their newsletter. The newsletter said, "Generally, loons will remain on the ocean until they reach adulthood at age three. This is not always the case, each year here in New Hampshire, the committee volunteers observe the presence of five to ten immature loons on the lakes during the breeding season. Upon their return as adults, these loons begin to look for a breeding territory of their own."

They will acquire their first territory in one of three

ways: by passively replacing a territory owner that has died or is otherwise missing, by establishing a new territory on a lake that is not currently occupied by loons or by fighting and evicting another loon from its territory and taking its place.

One of the ways a loon can acquire a breeding territory is to intrude upon an already-occupied territory and engage in territorial battles with the member of the pair that is the same sex. If the intruder wins, it will evict the resident loon and take its place as a pair member on that territory.

The article said, "Research has shown that while selecting their first breeding territory, loons tend to look for lakes and ponds that are similar, at least in terms of size and pH, to the lake they hatched on. This may be a result of increased chance of survival due to familiarity, if, as a chick, a loon learned to forage and evade predators on a lake with certain characteristics, it makes sense that it would seek out those same characteristics, to which their skills are well suited, to breed on."

Another factor that has been shown to influence territory selection is previous chick production. Territorial intrusions tend to increase following successful hatches, indicating that loons without a territory of their own may use the production of chicks as an indicator of territory quality and target those successful territories for takeover.

Because they stay on the ocean for the first years of their lives and then must spend time, sometimes many years, acquiring a breeding territory of their own, most loons will not hatch chicks of their own until they are six-seven years old.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100, emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

Paige Memorial Library upcoming events

HARDWICK – The Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, on Saturday, June 21 at noon presents "The Theft of Dignity."

This program raises awareness of peer bullying in an absorbing presentation that draws on examples from popular culture, movies, TV shows and novels such as "On Your Side" to encourage a respectful community and to offer solutions. Presented by young adult novelist Dennis Wise, this program is funded in part by a grant from the Hardwick-New Braintree Cultural Council, a local agency which is sup-

ported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency, is open to teens, educators, and parents, to understand the challenges and to suggest practical tools for positive change.

On Tuesday, June 24 at 6:30 p.m., teens and adults are invited to a drumming class with the Wendell Warriors, a West African rhythms drumming ensemble and teacher Jafar Manselle. 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.

Drums and percussion instruments will be provided; however, if anyone has their own drum, feel free to bring it. This will take place in the Town House if it rains or on the Common in good weather.

People may sign up for Summer Reading at the Paige Memorial Library beginning on Tuesday, June 24. There will be programs, activities, games, prizes and lots of good books to borrow to "LevelUp" their reading. They should sign up with Nancy Lamb, Coordinator of the Paige Memorial Library Summer Reading program for fun and learning.

SECURITY, from page 4

and that is a good thing. Most people get more from Social Security than they ever contributed, but benefits are paid for life, regardless of how long one lives. The specific answer to your question is that if someone dies before retirement age, the money contributed has already been used to pay benefits to others. Keep in mind though, that a surviving spouse or minor or disabled adult child may also collect benefits on a deceased person's Social Security record.

2. The decreasing birth rate in the U.S. hurts Social Security. That's because fewer babies mean fewer future workers contributing to the Social Security program. FYI, in 1950 there were about 15 workers contributing to SS for every one person collecting benefits, but today there are less than three workers for each SS beneficiary. That problem is exacerbated by the steadily increasing U.S. life expectancy. Beneficiaries are now often collecting SS benefits for decades from a program designed to pay benefits for only a few years.

3. Only those who have worked and contributed to Social Security through payroll taxes for about 10 years (40 quarters of SS credit) are eligible to collect SS Retirement benefits. However, some dependent spouses and/or dependent minor or dependent disabled children who have never worked might also be eligible for benefits from the worker's Social Security

record. Along with each U.S. state, the SSA also administers another program, known as Supplement Security Income, on behalf of the federal government. However, federal "SSI" benefits are not paid with Social Security funds. "SSI" is a separate government benefit program, with federal benefits paid from the general U.S. Treasury.

4. There are lots of places to get information about Social Security, but I suggest you start at our AMAC Foundation Social Security information website, which can be found at www.socialsecurityreport.org. Here you will find numerous articles about Social Security, retirement, Medicare, etc., as well as all the Ask Rusty articles I have published weekly over the last 8 years. You can also find excellent Social Security information on our AMAC Foundation main website, www.amacfoundation.org. And, of course, you can always ask any questions you have via email to SSAdvisor@amacfoundation.org. Or, if you prefer, you can just call us on 1-888-750-2622 if you have questions about Social Security or about Medicare enrollment.

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.

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WARE PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAM 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

<p>School Choice openings for the 2025-2026 school year:</p> <p>Kindergarten.....2</p> <p>Grade 23</p> <p>Grade 35</p> <p>Grade 45</p> <p>Grade 75</p> <p>Grade 815</p> <p>Grade 925</p> <p>Grade 1025</p> <p>Grade 1125</p> <p>Grade 1215</p>	<p>The School Choice application can be downloaded at www.wareps.org or picked up at Central Office 239 West Street, Ware, MA 01082</p> <p>Deadline to submit applications is June 16, 2025</p> <p>The selection of non-resident students for admission will be in the form of a random drawing, when the number of requests exceed the number of available spaces. The drawing, if needed, will take place on June 17, 2025.</p>
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The Ware Public School District strives to work with parents and the wider community to educate all students in an environment that supports high academic achievement, instills respect and fosters civic responsibility.

We believe that the ultimate goal of education is to support students as successful lifelong learners.

It is the policy of the Ware Public Schools not to discriminate on the basis of age, sex, race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, homelessness, military service, union activity or genetics in its educational programs, activities or employment policies as required by Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments, Chapter 622 of the Massachusetts General Laws, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Equal Educational Opportunities Act of 1974, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, M.G.L. c. 71A and c. 76, s. 5.

Hardwick students recognize Memorial Day

By Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

HARDWICK – Just prior to Memorial Day, students at Hardwick Elementary School participated in a tradition that is now in its second year, under the direction of retired Principal Sue Musnicki.

Last year, Musnicki, who served as the acting principal at the school at that time, gathered the students to form a field of flags at the school's entrance, and she returned to do the same this year.

Musnicki brought this tradition to the Quabbin Regional School District a few years ago when she was Co-Principal of Ruggles Lane Elementary School in Barre. Like the one in Barre, Musnicki hopes that Hardwick's field of flags will continue to serve as a reminder of the solemnity of Memorial Day.

"When we go home today, we can look at all the flags we put out," Musnicki said to the students. "The flags represent veterans who fought in wars."

Joining Musnicki at this year's field of flags ceremony was 31-year U.S. Army veteran and Sons of the American Revolution member Christopher Tourtellot.

Tourtellot spoke to the students about the American Revolution and its approaching 250th anniversary.

"Events are happening all around the U.S. and especially in Massachusetts, where it all began," he said.

He explained the details of his uniform, and demonstrat-



Sue Musnicki showed students where to place American flags in the field of flags in front of Hardwick Elementary



Students each placed two American flags in the field of flags.



Music teacher Eric Blumenthal performed "Taps".

ed how his Brown Bess musket operated. His uniform is based off of the one worn by military officer Henry Knox, who was ordered by George Washington to bring cannons

from Fort Ticonderoga to Boston and place on a hill to push the British out on what is now known as Evacuation Day.

"It's based off of the offi-

cer's uniform," Tourtellot said. "They didn't have the uniforms we have now... they wore lots of layers and a lot of them didn't even have shoes."



The field of flags will be in place through the 4th of July.

Tourtellot then explained how the Brown Bess musket worked, from pouring the black powder cartridges down the barrel, to loading the lead ball with a ramrod. He said once the black powder and lead ball are loaded, the flintlock is struck to produce a spark.

The long and heavy musket was challenging to use in battle, and prone to misfiring.

Tourtellot fired a salute with the musket using just black powder, before reciting a poem to honor the American flag.

The following day, students at Hardwick Elementary School invited their families to participate in a Memorial Day ceremony, complete with patriotic poems, readings and songs.

With the help of Principal Emily Soltysik, several students led the ceremony and the Pledge of Allegiance from the podium and recognized military servicemembers in attendance.



U.S. Army veteran Christopher Tourtellot, who is a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, talked about his uniform and his Brown Bess musket.

32nd annual Strawberry Festival is June 14

NORTH BROOKFIELD – St. Joseph's Parish in North Brookfield will be having its 32nd annual Strawberry Festival on Saturday, June 14 from 5-6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall, 296 North Main St.

The menu will offer baked ham, homemade baked beans, homemade potato salad,

homemade coleslaw, rolls, iced tea, coffee, water, and the always delicious strawberry shortcake.

Tickets can be obtained by calling the parish office at 508-867-6469. Tickets are \$15 adults and \$7 children ages 5-10. Take out is also available.

Church hosts annual chicken BBQ

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Christ Memorial Episcopal Church, 133 Main St., will hold its annual chicken BBQ on Saturday, June 14, from 1-2 p.m.

The meal includes a half chicken, baked potato,

coleslaw, roll, drink, and fresh strawberry shortcake. Take-out or eat in available.

Tickets are sold at the door or call Sandi at 508-867-3272 or Mary at 508-662-8174. Tickets are \$20 per person.

HARDWICK, from page 1

The Planning Board was not in favor of this article. Town Counsel also had some concerns with it as well. She said the Attorney General may have some issues approving this article as it had "inconsistencies" with Massachusetts General Law. She said Hardwick was a non-charter town and performed under MGL.

Newly elected Select Board member Jeffrey Schaff said he was not in favor of Article 17 and was not on the Board when they approved

this bylaw placement on the Annual Town Meeting warrant. Select Board Vice Chairman William Tinker said the proposed bylaw worked hand in hand with MGL and was approved by Town Counsel. He said it would allow voters to be more informed.

The Planning Board Chairman said originally their board recommended to table the article, but he hoped it would be voted down. He said the Planning Board was not previously notified of the bylaw amendment and found out about it when the warrant

was posted.

Hardwick voters heeded his advice and voted overwhelming against it with six yes and 94 no. Voters voted to indefinitely postpone the final article on the warrant, a citizen petition to either raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or borrow or a combination thereof \$10,000 to be used to supplement the salaries of the Gilbertville Library. Voter approved to table three articles involving putting money in Stabilization Fund, Capital Stabilization Fund and Finance Committee Reserve Fund.

Residents aged 70 or over will no longer have to pay to license their dog. Voters approved an article to allow no fee to be charged for those aged 70 or over.

They also approved routine articles to authorize the treasurer with Select Board approval to borrow money in anticipation of revenue, to accept town reports of all officers and committees and to allow the Board of Assessor to appoint one of their members to a full-time position allowed by MGL Chapter 268A, Section 21A.

PLANNING BOARD, from page 1

cerns. Though it is true one member of the board is a trustee of Eagle Hill School and another member has a child enrolled at the school, Cole and the entire Planning Board believe there is no conflict of interest.

"I'm glad to see more people know about what is going on," Cole said.

Cole said the bylaws lack some clarity in some areas, but any amendments made have nothing to do

with the school. This was brought up when The Zoning Enforcement Officer came to one of the meetings and asked about the building being issued for houses on a parcel at the Eagle Hill School campus.

Schaaf said there is no clear evidence that there are any issues tied to the school and the Planning Board members.

"There isn't any clear conflict of interest," Schaaf said. "I don't see anything here that really regards the school."

Cole said the Planning Board members did their due diligence to carefully review the bylaws and do their best to discuss what should be added or eliminated and give a definition for something that is appropriate.

The discussion ended as the Select Board went into executive session.

STM for snow/ice deficit

The Select Board had a discussion to hold a special town meeting for the snow and ice appropriation. Town Administrator Justine

Caggiano met with other departments and says so far there is only one article for this meeting revolving around the town's snow and ice deficit.

The town is \$155,000 over the snow and ice budget this year. The Highway Department budget was able to absorb some of it and the town is looking to use \$65,000 in free cash to cover the remainder of the deficit.

The special town meeting will be held on June 30 at 6:30 p.m.

PAST PAGES, from page 4

Taxes to build a public safety complex.

The Barre Board of Selectmen awarded No. 2 fuel, propane and 22X diesel to R.J. McDonald, Inc. of Barre. Peterson Oil Company was the low bidder for heating oil, but Town Administrator Heather Lemieux said the town had Peterson for its supplier last year and switched providers after the town ran out of oil several times.

Social worker Debbie Ennis of Barre launched the first session of her new program, Wheels in Motion, at Listening Wellness Center on Wednesday, June 3. Ennis's groundbreaking initiative is sponsored by Baystate Mary Lane Hospital, Saint Vincent's Hospital, the Barre Recreation Commission and the Listening Wellness Center, provides local youth with opportunities to build their social skills,

increase their physical fitness and explore healthy eating habits.

25 years (June 15, 2000)

At 7:15 this evening, the Barre Planning Board will be meeting in the conference room of the Henry Woods Municipal Building. Their goal is to render a decision with regard to the pending cell tower applications. Although the town passed Article 43 at the Annual Town Meeting this past Monday night, the board is under a legal time limit to respond to the pending applications.

The Barre Annual Town Meeting was held this past Monday night in the cafeteria of the Ruggles Lane School. Although there are over 3,000 registered voters in Barre, only about 163 attended the meeting. This figure represents a mere 5% of Barre's voting population. Moderator Paul Cranston with memories of past midnight meetings

in the back of his mind, kept things on track and moving along smoothly. All 52 articles were addressed and the meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

It took the 77 voters present at the Oakham Annual Town Meeting held Monday about two hours and 20 minutes to pass all of the 43 articles on the warrant. Voters approved a \$1,755,279 operating budget for Fiscal 2001.

38 years (June 18, 1987)

Barre may be the site for a GWEN Tower according to Richard C. McCluskey, an Air Force spokesman. Barre and Amherst are the two finalist for the project that will be made up of 56 towers nationwide. Both towns have voiced objections to the tower construction. The towers make up the Air Force's communication system called the Ground Wave Emergency Network.

Holding one of the most protracted hearings in recent

years, the Barre Zoning Board of Appeals hears over three hours of testimony last Friday evening at the Henry Woods Building involving alleged zoning violation charges against Thomas Pettee. An appeal had been filed with the ZBA by Mr. and Mrs. Lionel Galipeau, Mr. and Mrs. Irving Hale, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Carroll and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Doyle, all of Broad Street, stating that Pettee an abutter was violating the town's zoning by law.

Superintendent of School Maureen M. Marshall has reported that Maureen L. LaCroix of Brockton has been elected the the position of principal of the Quabbin Regional Junior Senior High School at a meeting of the Quabbin Regional School District Committee on June 11. Ms LaCroix is currently an assistant principal at Marshfield High School where she has been employed sine 1985.

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Public Safety

Barre Police Log

Sunday, May 18
 6:12 p.m. Harassment, Elm South Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 8:45 p.m. Tree Incidents (No Wires) Silverbrook Road, Investigated
 9:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Investigated
Monday, May 19
 7:50 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Mechanic Street, Citation Issued
 8:13 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Mechanic Street, Citation Issued
 9:18 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 10:25 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Sunrise Avenue, Citation Issued
 11:41 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Barre Road, Citation Issued
 12:28 p.m. Unwanted Party, North Brookfield Road, Arrest(s) Made
 Arrest Murphy, Kristen, 26, Worcester
 Charges Warrant
 3:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hubbardston Road, Citation Issued
Tuesday, May 20
 3:29 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, James Street, Transported to Hospital
 6:26 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Sunrise Avenue, Citation Issued
 6:34 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hubbardston Road, Citation Issued
 6:44 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hubbardston Road, Citation Issued

7:39 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Barre Road, Citation Issued
 8:18 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Vernon Avenue, Report Filed
 9:55 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Vernon Avenue, Citation Issued
 10:51 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Clem Court, Citation Issued
 10:57 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Ruggles Lane, No Transport Required
 1:43 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, James Street, Report Filed
 Summons Grandone, Emily, 32, Barre
 Charges Drug, Posses Class B, Drug, Posses Class E
 5:21 p.m. Harassment, South Street, Officer/Chief Advised
 6:10 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, South Street, Transported to Hospital
 7:18 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Worcester Road Arrest(s) Made
 Arrest Rae, Nicole Therese, 39, homeless
 Charges Warrant
Wednesday, May 21
 9:53 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Seizures, South Street, Transported to Hospital
 2:52 p.m. Stolen Vehicle, Old Turnpike Road, Returned to Family/Guardian
 3:16 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 3:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Cedar Street Citation Issued
 6:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Vernon Avenue, Written Warning
 6:39 p.m. Juvenile Runaway, South Street, Returned to Family
 7:26 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Bleeding (Non-Traumatic) Main Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 10:49 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, West Street, Transported to Hospital
Thursday, May 22
 1:10 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Ruggles Lane, Transported to Hospital
 2:41 p.m. Erratic Operator, Worcester Road, Negative Contact
 6:49 p.m. Juvenile Runaway, South Street, Report Filed
 7:33 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Town Farm Road, Transported to Hospital
Friday, May 23
 1:20 a.m. Complaint, Peach Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 4:15 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Vernon Avenue, Written Warning
Saturday, May 24
 5:02 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Stroke (CVA), Dana Road, Transported to Hospital
 2:36 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Walnut Hill Road, Transported to Hospital
 4:05 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Sunrise Avenue, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 9:49 p.m. Erratic Operator, South Street, No Police Service Necessary

Rutland Police Log

Sunday, May 18
 1:30 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
 5:08 a.m. Public Assist, Main Street, Information Given
 9:09 a.m. Tree Incidents (No Wires), Crawford Road, Referred to Other Agency
 11:06 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Memorial Drive, Transported to Hospital
 11:55 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Main Street, Negative Contact
 12:03 p.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, Main Street, Information Given
 6:28 p.m. Escort/Transport, Main Street Officer Spoke to Party
 11:25 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Pleasantdale Road, Officer Spoke to Party
Monday, May 19
 8:30 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
 10:23 a.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, Meadowbrook Circle, Message Delivered
 12:54 p.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Breezy Lane, Officer Spoke to Party
 1:24 p.m. Larceny or Theft, Bethany Drive, Officer Spoke to Party
 1:38 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Citation Issued
 2:28 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Written Warning
 2:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 3:13 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Attafah, Delvin Y., 23, Rochdale
 Charges License Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With c90 S23
 4:46 p.m. Erratic Operator, Main Street, Officer/Chief Advised
 5:43 p.m. Fire – Power Lines Down/Arcing, Oakridge Drive, Removed Hazard
 6:34 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Inwood Road, No Transport Required
 7:15 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Main Street Officer Spoke to Party

Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 Summons Santiago, Samantha L., 32, Rutland
 Charges Larceny Under \$1,200
 11:39 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Pommogussett Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 12:11 p.m. Threats, East County Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 2:20 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 2:27 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Citation Issued
 3:26 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 5:48 p.m. Juvenile Runaway, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 6:26 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Valley View Circle, Officer/Chief Advised
 7:18 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Worcester Road, Arrest(s) Made
 Arrest Rae, Nicole Therese, 39, Homeless
 Charges Warrant
Wednesday, May 21
 1:27 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Crestview Drive, Transported to Hospital
 4:11 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Laurelwood Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 7:43 a.m. Serve Warrant, Maple Avenue, Arrest(s) Made
 Arrest Jusino, Justin, 32, Rutland
 Charges Warrant
 11:24 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
 11:27 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Citation Issued
 11:30 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
 12:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Wachusett Street, Written Warning
 12:32 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 12:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 1:13 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Rutland Heights Way, Written Warning
 1:28 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Written Warning
 1:49 p.m. Serve Warrant, Kosta Avenue, Prisoner Bailed
 Arrest Distefano, Linda M., 62, Rutland
 Charges Warrant
 1:58 p.m. Larceny or Theft, Summerhill Drive, Officer/Chief Advised
 2 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
 2:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
 2:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 2:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 2:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
 2:48 p.m. Complaint, Irish Lane, Officer/Chief Advised
 4:37 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Glenwood Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 5:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Citation Issued
 5:28 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 5:51 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
 6:26 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Citation

Issued
 Summons Dower, John Edward, 50 Jefferson
 Charges Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With, Uninsured Motor Vehicle, Inspection/Sticker, No
 7:26 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Bleeding (Non-Traumatic)
 9 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, East Hill Road, Transported to Hospital
 10:31 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Barre Paxton Road, Area Search Negative
Thursday, May 22
 5:54 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Welch Avenue, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Aucoin, Frank Hervey, 52, Rutland
 Charges License Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With, Subsequent Offense
 6:33 p.m. Fire – Power Lines Down, Arcing, Bushy Lane, Referred to Other Agency
 1:35 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Kosta Avenue, Negative Contact
 3:29 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Pommogussett Road, Investigated
 4:43 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, River Road, Investigated
 5:41 p.m. Illegal Dumping, East County Road, Message Delivered
 6:17 p.m. Tree Incidents (No Wires), Skyline Drive, Investigated
 7:29 p.m. Erratic Operator, Maple Avenue, Investigated
 8:16 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Main Street, Officer/Chief Advised
Friday, May 23
 6:35 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Valley View Circle, Information Taken
 8:17 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Davis Street, Message Delivered
 11:32 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning
 2:05 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Sanders Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 2:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 3:17 p.m. Juvenile Runaway, Main Street, Returned to Family
 3:27 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Bonney, Chrislove, 34, Worcester
 Charges Uninsured Motor Vehicle, Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With
 3:47 p.m. Harassment, Lynwood Drive, Officer/Chief Advised
 4:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Citation Issued
 4:23 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, Edson Avenue, Officer/Chief Advised
 8:37 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Cedar Avenue, Transported to Hospital
 11:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
Saturday, May 24
 6:11 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Seizures, Memorial Drive, Transported to Hospital
 9:45 a.m. Harassment, Highland Park Road, Report Filed
 10:23 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Prouty Lane, Officer Spoke to Party
 7:19 p.m. Erratic Operator, Pleasantdale Road, Negative Contact

Oakham Police Log

Sunday, May 18
 8:23 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Old Turnpike Road, Officer/Chief Advised
Monday, May 19
 7:14 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Crocker Nye Road, In Custody of ACO
 7:38 p.m. Erratic Operator, North Brookfield Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 11:35 p.m. Fire – Alarm Activation, Bechan Road, Investigated
Tuesday, May 20
 3:50 p.m. Public Assist, Old Turnpike Road, Public Assist
Wednesday, May 21
 2:52 p.m. Stolen Vehicle, Old Turnpike Road, Returned to Family
 4:31 p.m. ACO Lost and Found/Wildlife, East Hill Road, Located/Found
 6:28 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old Turnpike Road, Written Warning
 9 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown,

East Hill Road, Transported to Hospital
 10:05 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Officer Spoke to Party
Thursday, May 22
 9:34 a.m. Court Duty, Oakham Police Department, Court Duty
 1:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
 1:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
 2:28 p.m. Erratic Operator, North Brookfield Road, Negative Contact
 2:44 p.m. Erratic Operator, Worcester Road, Negative Contact
 2:47 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
Friday, May 23
 6:37 a.m. Animal – Wildlife, Coldbrook Road, Information Given
 12:27 p.m. Landlord Tenant/

Neighbor Dispute, Hunt Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 2:05 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Sanders Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 2:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Citation Issued
 2:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
 3:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
 3:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
Saturday, May 24
 12:02 p.m. ACO Lost and Found/Wildlife, New Braintree Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 5:08 p.m. Fire – Structure Fires, South Road, Investigated
 7:20 p.m. Erratic Operator, Pleasantdale Road, Negative Contact

Hubbardston Police Log

Sunday, May 18
 3:02 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Williamsville Cutoff Road, Transported to Hospital
 3:49 p.m. Complaint, Morgan Road, Officer/Chief Advised
Monday, May 19
 6:48 a.m. Fire – Power Lines Down/Arcing, Old Colony Road, Referred to Other Agency
 9:48 a.m. Complaint, Old Princeton Road, Information Taken
 11:12 a.m. Complaint, New Templeton Road, Information Taken
 4:25 p.m. Fire Power Lines Down/Arcing, Old Colony Road, Investigated
Tuesday, May 20
 9:20 a.m. Trespasser or Prowler, Plum Tree Road, Report Filed
 11:12 a.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Elm Street, Officer/Chief Advised
 11:28 a.m. Tree Incidents (No Wires) Williamsville Road, No

Action Required
 1:30 p.m. ACO Lost and Found/Wildlife, Elm Street, Officer/Chief Advised
 5:23 p.m. Notification, Old Colony Road, Referred to Other Agency
Wednesday, May 21
 9:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Worcester Road, Information Given
Thursday, May 22
 10:16 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Seizures, Elm Street, Transported to Hospital
 8:59 p.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Birches Road, Investigated
Friday, May 23
 12:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Barre Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 1:37 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Barre Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 3:58 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Old Princeton Cutoff Road, Transported to Hospital
 4:52 p.m. Vandalism,

Worcester Road, Report Filed
 5:15 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Gardner Road, Public Assist
 9:20 p.m. Erratic Operator, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 10:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Worcester Road, Officer Spoke to Party
Saturday, May 24
 7:38 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Mt. Jefferson Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 11:19 a.m. Harassment, Ragge Hill Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 12:01 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Chicopee Drive, Transported to Hospital
 1:28 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Pitcherville Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 3:48 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Natty Pond Drive, Public Assist

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of June 2-9, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 49 building/property checks, 34 directed/area patrols, seven radar assignments, one traffic control, nine emergency 911 calls, two citizen assists, three assist other agencies, one investigation, one motor vehicle investigation, three complaints, one safety hazard, two trespass, one missing person, two motor vehicle accidents, three animal calls and six motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.
Tuesday, June 3
 1:29 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Red Bridge Road, Officer Handled
 4:30 p.m. Assist Citizen, Police Station, Spoken To
 9:15 p.m. Motor Vehicle Crash, Shunpike Road, Criminal Complaint
Wednesday, June 4
 7:35 a.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Main Street, Officer Handled
 10:12 a.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Main Street, Spoken To

12:06 p.m. Disturbance, Prospect Street, Peace Restored
 7:38 p.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Crash, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled
Thursday, June 5
 11:51 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Church Street, Officer Handled
 1:42 p.m. Utility Issues, Main Street, Negative Contact
 4:02 p.m. Fire/Other, Prospect Street, Unfounded
 7:58 p.m. Trespass, Thresher Road, Services Rendered
Friday, June 6
 4:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Written Warning
 5:37 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Petersham Road, Citation Issued
 5:55 a.m. Safety Hazard, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled
 12:28 p.m. Assist Other Agency, High Street, Officer Handled
 9 p.m. Fire Alarm, Prospect Street, Services Rendered
 10:03 p.m. Assault, Hardwick Road, Report Taken
 10:24 p.m. 911 Fire Alarm, Church Lane, Services Rendered
Saturday, June 7

12:45 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital
 12:39 p.m. Missing Person, Bridge Street, Investigated
 1:34 p.m. Medical Emergency, Old Petersham Road, Transported to Hospital
 5:15 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Greenwich Road, Transported to Hospital
Sunday, June 8
 12:17 a.m. Assist Citizen, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled
 10:22 a.m. Investigation, Maple Street, Officer Handled
 11:30 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pine Street, Written Warning
 1:50 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Main Street, Services Rendered
 2:05 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Lower Road, Unfounded
 2:43 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Lower Road, Unfounded
 8:49 p.m. Parking Complaint, Taylor Street, Services Rendered
Monday, June 9
 7:17 a.m. Welfare Check, School Street, Investigated

New Braintree Police Log

During the week of June 2-9, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 10 building/property checks, 10 directed/area patrols, four radar assignments, six emergency 911 calls, two illegal dumpings, two assist other agencies, three safety hazards, one complaint, one investigation, two fires, one harassment, one motor vehicle accident, two animal calls and three motor vehicle stops in the town of New Braintree.
Monday, June 2
 8:49 a.m. Illegal Dumping, West Brookfield Road, Services Rendered
 6:39 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Oakham, Services Rendered
Wednesday, June 4
 3:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Brookfield Road, Written

Warning
 5:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old Turnpike Road, Citation Issued
Thursday, June 5
 2:06 a.m. Medical Emergency, Gilbertville Road, Transported to Hospital
 8:27 a.m. Illegal Dumping, Utley Road, Report Taken
 8:22 p.m. Disturbance, Utley Road, Officer Handled
Friday, June 6
 12:16 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, West Road, Transported to Hospital
 2:19 a.m. Fire Alarm, West Brookfield Road, Services Rendered
 8:46 a.m. Safety Hazard, McEvoy Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
 12:40 p.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Crash, Barre Road, Services

Rendered
 3:33 p.m. Safety Hazard, Ravine Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
 5:29 p.m. 911 Welfare Check, McEvoy Road, Officer Handled
Saturday, June 7
 9:40 a.m. Safety Hazard, McKay Road, Unknown Outcome
 3:36 p.m. 911 Fire/Other, Unitas Road, Services Rendered
 4:13 p.m. Harassment, Utley Road, Spoken To
Sunday, June 8
 1:53 a.m. 911 Fire/Other, Goodfield Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
 12:56 p.m. Investigation, Unitas Road, Officer Handled
 5:12 p.m. Assist Other Agency, McKay Road, Officer Handled
 6:59 p.m. Complaint, Ravine Road, Officer Handled

Calendar of Events

SATURDAY, JUNE 14

BARRE FARMERS MARKET is open Saturdays from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on the Barre Common, Barre. The market is held rain or shine. The market runs May to October and has a wide variety of local farmers along with home made items.

PADDLE ON THE QUABOAG RIVER sponsored by the Chicopee Rivers Watershed Council will take place today at 9 a.m. at the state boat launch, Quaboag Pond, Quaboag Street, Brookfield. The group will paddle down to the Route 67/9 rest area below Lake Wickaboag with an option to go to Lucy Stone Park. Participants should bring their boat and life jacket. They may call Jim at 413-386-3623 or email jemerson9479@yahoo.com.

EXPLORING NORTH SIDE OF QUABBIN WATERSHED VIA GATE 22 will take place today from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Quabbin Reservoir Gate 22, Shutesbury. Participants will take part in a 4-mile out/back hike on Quabbin's north side of the watershed. They will be walking down to the water on a dirt road through the forest. Walking to the water, the hike covers 2-miles and drops 180 ft. in elevation. They will then backtrack uphill and head back uphill the way they came in. People should dress appropriately for the weather and bring water and snacks. The parking area for Gate 22 is located at the end of Shutesbury Road, Shutesbury. Dogs are not allowed. To register people may visit Exploring the North Side -Gate 22.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY PIE SALE will be held today from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., along with other baked goods at the Williamsville Chapel, 4 Burnshirt Road, Hubbardston. Proceeds benefit the Hubbardston Historical Society. People should arrive early because the baked items sell out fast.

FAMILY FIELD DAYS take place at Old Sturbridge Village, Route 20, Sturbridge today, June 15, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28 and 29 from 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Games and competitions include stilts walks, jump rope challenges, baseball, egg and spoon races and more. Activity times will vary. Family Field Days are included with standard daytime admission. Tickets are available by visiting <https://www.osv.org/event/family-field-days/>.

32ND ANNUAL STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL will take place today from 5-6:30 p.m. at St. Joseph's Parish, 296 North Main St. North Brookfield in the Parish Hall. The menu will offer baked ham, homemade baked beans, homemade potato salad, homemade Cole slaw, rolls, ice tea, coffee, water and the always delicious strawberry shortcake. Tickets can be obtained by calling the parish office by calling 508-867-6469. Tickets are adults \$15 and children 5-10 yrs. old \$7. Take out is also available.

ANNUAL YARD SALE will be held today at the Barre Historical Society building on Common Street, Barre. There will be an early bird shopping time for members at 8 a.m. Shopping for the public and



Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

Where is this?
This week's mystery photo is from New Braintree. If any readers know where this photo was taken, they may email edowner@turley.com or call the Barre Gazette at 413-967-3505, extension 100 with their answer by noon on Monday, June 14. Bill Bowles, Stephen Craven, James Laramee and Evelyn Luukko correctly identified the photo. The photo last week was near the entrance of the Army Corp of Engineers Barre Falls Dam in Hubbardston.

non-members starts at 9 a.m. This is a major fundraiser for the Historical Society. If it rains on June 14 the yard sale will be postponed to late summer. They have a variety of small furniture items, kitchen and other household items, Barre items, collectibles, games, holiday decorations/figurines, electronic items, books, cookbooks and magazines, albums and more. They also have a merchandise table of new items for sale including long sleeved tee shirts Barre maps, glassware, postcards and Barre history books too.

MONDAY, JUNE 16

QUABBIN COMMUNITY BAND REHEARSALS are held every Monday from 6:30-8:30 p.m. through Aug. 4, at the Barre Town Hall, 2 Exchanges St., Barre. They have concerts on nine Sunday evenings starting on Sunday, June 15, and ending on Sunday, Aug. 10 at 6 p.m. with June concerts in South Barre at Nornay Park and July concert in the center of Barre. Membership is free. It being a summer band, it is fine not to come to every rehearsal or every concert. Margaret Reidy, a lifelong musician and music educator, is the conductor.

U.S. ARMY FIELD BAND AND SOLDIERS CHORUS will perform a free concert today from noon-1 p.m. in at Mechanic's Hall, 321 Main St., Worcester in the Great Hall. Attendees may bring their own lunch or purchase additional beverage and food options at the event. The Great Hall, located on the third floor is accessible by

elevator from the Waldo Street entrance or by stairs from both the Waldo or Main Street entrances. This concert is in celebration of the 250th anniversary of the United States Army.

TUESDAY, JUNE 17

HUBBARDSTON ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION will be held today from 7 a.m.-8 p.m. at the Hubbardston Center School, Elm Street, Hubbardston.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18

30th YEAR GATHERING RAIL TRAIL will be held today at 5:30 p.m. at Trout Brook Reservation, 320 Manning St., Holden. People may bring a picnic supper and dessert and beverages will be provided. All are welcome at the picnic pavilion, sunshine or rain. Following the picnic, they are invited to share their connection to the Mass Central Rail Trail whether in words, a painting, a photograph, collage or a poem. The program will include with a brief annual review and board election. No RSVP is required. Together attendees will mark Wachusett Greenways' 30 years of connecting communities through the Mass Central Rail Trail. The trail connects the 30-mile section of the Mass Central Rail Trail through Sterling, West Boylston, Holden, Rutland, Oakham and Barre.

THURSDAY, JUNE 19

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION will take place at Old Sturbridge Village, Route 20, Sturbridge today from 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.. In

commemoration of this day, admission to the Village will be free; pre-registration is encouraged. To pre-register, people may visit <https://www.osv.org/event/juneteenth/>. Visitors will have the opportunity to hear a performance by gospel choir Anthony Smith and Fully Committed, as well as a drumming performance by the African Community Education group of Worcester. In addition, guests can join a discussion on New England's Black Abolitionists, participate in the Kids Freedom Parade and more.

FRIDAY, JUNE 20

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

SATURDAY, JUNE 21

COWPARADE opens at Old Sturbridge Village, Route 20 Sturbridge, today and will run into September. It features more than a dozen, life-size cow statues that have been transformed into imaginative works of art by a selection of New England artists. CowParade is the largest public art event in the world and has been to more than 100 cities, including Madrid, London and Tokyo. This Old Sturbridge Village exhibit will be unveiled to the public the weekend of June 21-22. Visitors will have the chance to meet these beautiful bovines up close and learn about their unique connections to Old Sturbridge Village and New England. Tickets are available by visiting www.osv.org/cowparade.

SATURDAY, JUNE 22

MUSEUM TOURS AND EXHIBITS will take place at the Ware Center Meetinghouse and Museum at 295 Belchertown Road, Route 9, Ware today and Saturdays, July 13, July 27, Aug. 10, Aug. 24 and Sept. 7 from 1-3 p.m. and by appointment. The featured display this year is a collection of dishes and pottery including examples of plates and serving pieces, flow blue and tea leaf patterns, and pottery for bed and bath.

FRIDAY, JUNE 27

SILENTS ARE GOLDEN with Peter Edwin Krasinski, who will accompany on organ the silent movie Emil Jennings in "The Last Command" today at 7 p.m. in the Stone Church Cultural Center, 283 Gilbertville St., Gilbertville.

SATURDAY, JUNE 28

QUABBIN PARK CEMETERY TOUR will take place today from 1-2 p.m. at Quabbin Cemetery, Route 9, Ware. The hike is easy, but on uneven ground. Participants will take a walk through the Quabbin Park Cemetery and learn about the history and lives of residents, both prominent and ordinary of the Valley towns. They will meet in the Quabbin Park Cemetery off Rte. 9, Ware and dress Exploring the Quabbin Park Cemetery.



Turley photo by Ellenor Downer

Some Hardwick Elementary students from 1975 to the present gather around the table containing the time capsule. Wearing clothing in style for the era as suggested, Penny Ouimette, a fifth grader at the school now and her sisters Quinn, left and Sadie are behind her. Fifth graders are now the highest grade attending the school today.

TIME CAPSULE, from page 1

and a 45 rpm record by Stevie Wonder. Some wondered if Margaret Reidy was the student, who included one or both of those items. A French horn player, she became a school music teacher and presently directs the Quabbin Community Band.

Several members of the class attended a Selectmen's meeting to get permission to make a time capsule, store it in the town safe and request it be opened 50 years later the first week in June 2025. One student wrote about going bowling with the class.

She read her essay. It said Margaret Reidy had the best bowling score among the girls.

Other items included a GI Marine doll, a Barbie doll, a smiley face, a blank unsigned check from the Ware Trust Co., a list of first aid facts, a crochet pattern, a letter from Principal Lemaitre dated June 9, 1975, a study guide on American history, a motorcycle license, several newspapers including a June 1, 1975 copy of the Ware River News, a J.C. Whitney catalog, drawings by Richard Perry and Krystal Minor, car keys, a drawing from a classmate no longer "with them" and much more.

NB SELECTMEN, from page 1

can't have a pole in them or a catch basin. So, they all have to get moved slightly," he said.

Howland said if the sidewalks were replaced after MassDOT finished its re-pavement of Route 67, the new road surface would need to be cut by about a foot in order to place the sidewalks, and then repaved.

Food Collaborative update

Karen Farrington of the North Brookfield Community Food Collaborative came before the board to discuss the organization's efforts to address food insecurity in town.

She said the collaborative was founded last summer, and they have partnered with the North Brookfield Public Schools, utilizing its existing food pantry space in the high school. Farrington said high school students help them unload a frozen food delivery each week.

Farrington said a survey was sent out to anyone with school age children, members of the Senior Center and residents at senior housing and low-income housing.

"The response we got was really overwhelming, to see the needs and how many people needed things," she said.

She said the collabora-

tive members began gathering donations and created a schedule so that residents know when food will be delivered. She said Connect Restaurant and the Pizza Palace donate 70 cooked meals to seniors each week.

Transportation is a major hurdle for people in need of assistance, Farrington said, with over 70 families getting home deliveries.

"We're unique in the sense that we deliver," she said.

Farrington said they are now helping over 120 households and it's just going to keep growing.

"The need for food is a struggle for a lot of people," she said.

She asked the board if it would be possible to have a free farmstand at the little park located downtown. She said she would be responsible for the farmstand and its contents.

"I think it's centrally located, it's handicapped accessible, it's easy for people to get to," she said.

Farrington said the common could also be a location for the free farmstand.

She said as the need for food assistance grows, so does the need for donations and volunteers to help deliver meals and groceries.

Farrington said non-perishable, unexpired food items can be dropped off in the box located at 70 Bates St., and monetary donations can be mailed to The Coalition for a Healthy NB, P.O. Box 98, North

Brookfield, MA 01535 with checks made payable to The Coalition for a Healthy NB.

Review of ATM/STM warrants

The annual town meeting will be held on Friday, June 13 at 7 p.m. in the North Brookfield Elementary School auditorium. The annual town meeting warrant has 17 articles with several related to bylaw changes, as well as the fiscal year 2026 budget.

A special town meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 24 at 5:45 p.m. in the Police Station to take action on an article to transfer money from free cash to Board of Selectmen Downtown Development Engineering Expense.

Spending requests

The board approved three spending requests received from the Cemetery Commission including \$647.70 for emergency repairs on a vehicle; \$1,000 for tree removal from Cutter Cemetery; and \$2,496 to excavate and repair an underground water leak at Walnut Grove Cemetery.

The board also approved a spending request in the amount of \$380 for emergency repairs to the rear window of the Highway Department's backhoe.

Transfer requests

The board approved the following line item transfers: Town Collector, \$61.20 from Collector Clerk's Salary to Postage; and Fire Department, \$1,857 from Fire Training

to Fire Salary;

The board also approved the following line item transfers for the Highway Department, \$2,000 from Care of Tree Warden Salary to Tree Maintenance, \$7,214.07 from Snow and Ice Vehicle Repair to Snow and Ice Salary, \$2,161.19 from Snow and Ice Sand to Snow and Ice Salary, \$2,838.81 from Snow and Ice Sand to Snow and Ice Salary and \$281.81 from Highway Salary to Highway Snow and Ice Gas, \$39,181.10 from Highway Salary to Snow and Ice Salt.

The Fire Department submitted a Reserve Fund request in the amount of \$6,000 to be transferred to Fire Salary to fill a negative balance. This request was approved by the board members.

Water Commission appointment

Water Department Superintendent Jamie Flamand said after the annual town election the Water Commission failed to fill a vacancy; and since then, the Water Commission has had three candidates come forward to fill the term. Flamand said the commission members selected Don Gillette due to his background in construction and water treatment plants.

The board voted in favor of appointing Gillette to fill the vacancy on the Water Commission.

SPORTS

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Panthers fall to Cougars in playoff opener

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

WARREN—The Quaboag girls' tennis team began the Division 4 state tournament with a home victory for the third consecutive year.

Led by seniors, Isabelle Aberle, Erin McGrath, and Norah Pennington-Russell, the 15th-seeded Lady Cougars defeated the 18th-seeded Quabbin Lady Panthers, 4-1, in a round of 32 match held at the Quaboag Regional tennis courts on May 28.

"We've won a home match in the state tournament during the past couple of years, and it feels very good to do it again this year," said Quaboag head coach Norm St. Denis. "I was a little bit worried before the start of today's match, but our three singles players had convincing victories, which was good to see."

The other Lady Cougars seniors are Norah Schwenker, Lila Broadley, and Skylar Cook.



Kalina Dyer comes forward to return the ball.

"All six of our seniors are starters and are very important play for us," Denis said. "They've been outstanding leaders to the underclassmen. They'll be very hard to replace next year."

Two years ago, the Lady Cougars defeated Millis in a round of 32 home match. They beat Sturgis East Charter in last year's round of 32 contest.

Quaboag (16-2) was scheduled to face the second-seeded Bromfield Trojans in a round of 16 road match on Tuesday afternoon. It was the third meeting between the two teams during the past year.

"It has been a lot of fun playing Bromfield," Aberle said. "They're a very good team, but it's been a friendly match whenever we do play them. I'm very glad that we won today's match."

The Lady Cougars lost at Bromfield, 4-1, in the round of 16 last June.

The two teams also faced each other during the 2025 regular season at Quaboag Regional. The Trojans squeaked out a 3-2 win in that contest.

Quaboag's only other loss this season was at Wachusett Regional, who qualified for the Division 1 state tournament.

"We lost to Wachusett 5-0, but three of our matches were



Turley photos by Sofia DiGrande

Haley Ayer makes a play on the run.

See TENNIS, page 10



Farrah Wojcik makes the serve.



Norah Schwenker goes overhand for a play.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Dave Clark fields a ground ball to second.

Bankers grab win as Tri-County opens season

HOLYOKE – The Tri-County Baseball League, which still contains the best quality adult baseball in the region, was back in action last week. Multi-time champion PeoplesBank opened up their season last Thursday at Holyoke's Mackenzie Stadium and defeated Hilltown Tents 15-5. James Flahive got the win while catcher Pete Hogan homered for the Bankers.



Cam Rivest catches a fly ball to right.



Catcher Pete Hogan slides safely into third

Mutiny return home to record win over Eagles

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—Even though the weather was miserable, it was still an enjoyable evening for the New England Mutiny players and their faithful supporters.

The Mutiny, who scored a pair of second half goals, defeated the Ole' Eagles, 2-0, in front of a large crowd on a rainy night at Lusitano Stadium last Saturday.

"It's always nice to win at home," said Mutiny head coach Federico Molinari. "I thought we played very well tonight, especially during the second half."

The Mutiny (2-0) began the regular season by posting a 4-1 home win over Maine Footy two weeks earlier. That match was stopped by the referee in the middle of the second half due to a thunderstorm.

The Ole' Eagles (0-1), who are from Trumbull Connecticut, is a first year member of United Women's Soccer, which is celebrating its tenth season.

A couple of the Mutiny players saw their first action in the second home match of the regular season.

Chloe Laizer, who's graduating this week from West Springfield High School, was the starting goalie.

During the second minute of the first half, Alexa Pino fired a shot from the left side of the box, but Laizer made the diving save keep the visiting team off the scoreboard.

"This was my first start



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Taylor Jenkins tries to out run an opponent.

with the Mutiny, and I was a little bit nervous before the game. I had a lot more confidence after making the early save," said Laizer, who'll be a freshman on the St. Michael's College women's soccer team in the fall. "Playing a game in the rain and wind is very challenging, especially as a goalie."

Pino, who'll be a freshman at the University of South Carolina in the fall, is the two-time Connecticut Gatorade Player of the Year.

The Mutiny back-up goalie was Maddie Riley, who's a member of the girls' varsity soccer team at Ludlow High School.

Both teams had several corner kicks during the first half, but the match was still scoreless at halftime.

The Mutiny finally broke the ice with a corner kick goal in the 56th minute.

Avery Galante sent the ball into the box from the left corner where Maya Mathis, who's a defender, sent a shot into the back of the net past goalie Emily Robinson for her first goal as a Mutiny player.

"Avery and I are best friends. We used to play on a club soccer team together," Mathis said. "My younger sister, Sadie, was also on the field when I scored my goal, so it was very exciting sharing that moment with them."

Maya Mathis, who graduated from Acton Boxboro Regional High School, was a member of the UConn women's soccer team during the past two seasons before entering the transfer portal. She'll be joining the University of Kansas women's soccer team this fall.

See MUTINY, page 10



Turley photo by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Several outgoing seniors were honored at a recent Pioneers game.

Western United pioneers celebrate 37 graduating seniors

By Abigail McCoy
Staff Writer
amccoy@turley.com

LUDLOW — The evening of May 31 was filled with pride, emotion, and celebration as the Western United Pioneers Football Club honored 37 graduating seniors during a special halftime ceremony at historic Lusitano Stadium. Held under the lights and light rain, the event brought together families, coaches, alumni, and soccer fans to recognize the achievements of student-athletes who have helped shape the club's legacy.

"These individuals have been more than just players on the field," said Western United Pioneers FC President Carlos Chaves in his opening remarks. "They have been

ambassadors of the club and pillars of our community. Their dedication, passion, and sportsmanship have left an indelible mark on our organization."

The evening's recognition ceremony honored graduating players from the club's junior academy, many of whom are continuing their athletic careers at the collegiate level. Chaves emphasized that the event was more than a send-off, it was a celebration of personal growth, commitment, and the role these players have played in the club's success.

Among the honorees were standout players such as Chloe Laizer, Abigail Toomey, and Hudson Manzolini. One graduate, Chloe Laizer, was even the starting goalkeeper for the night's match with the New England Mutiny,

the region's senior women's professional team that shares a deep connection with the youth academy.

"Most of the women on the Mutiny roster are NCAA Division I collegiate athletes," Chaves explained. "And Chloe, a high school senior, started in goal tonight. That tells you what kind of talent and commitment we're celebrating."

Founded with the mission of developing young talent, the Western United Pioneers program today serves around 800 athletes, half boys and half girls, from ages 4 through high school. The program has grown into a vital part of the regional soccer landscape, nurturing talent and fostering community spirit.

"Tonight is about all 37 of

See PIONEERS, page 10

TENNIS,
continued from page 9

close," Denis said. "We wanted to improve our non-league schedule this year."

The last time that Quabbin and Quaboag faced each other in a girls' tennis match was during the 2023 regular season. The Lady Cougars won that match 5-0 at home.

Quabbin finished the 2025 season with a 15-2 overall record. Their only other setback was a 3-2 non-league road loss to Doherty, who's a Division 2 team, on May 14.

"This was one of my favorite seasons since I've been coaching the tennis team," said Quabbin head coach Garth Weideman. "We have a bunch of juniors, who'll be returning next year. Our future does look very bright. Quaboag was the better team in today's match."

A year ago, Quabbin beat Randolph in the round of 32 before losing to second-seeded Manchester Essex in the round of 16.

The two seniors listed on the Lady Panthers tennis roster are Haley Ayer and Ellie Frost.

There wasn't very much drama in this year's round of 32 match.

Aberle defeated Quabbin junior Farrah Wojcik, 6-1,6-0 in the first singles match.

Despite losing the match, it was a very good learning experience for Wojcik, who also plays field hockey.

"My opponent made a lot of good shots, and I had trouble returning them," Wojcik said. "It was a good learning experience. We had an outstanding season and I'm hoping that we can make it a little bit farther in the state tournament next year."

In the second singles match, McGrath posted a 6-1,6-1 victory against junior Kalinia Dyer.

That match sealed the Lady Cougars' victory.

"It's very exciting to be moving on in the state tournament," McGrath said. "Quabbin is a very good team."

Pennington-Russell cruised to a 6-0,6-0, win over Ayer in the third singles match.

"Our singles players are very different players," Denis said. "Isabelle has the perfect stroke and she always done everything right. Erin has to fight for every point during her matches. Norah

has good instincts and ground strokes."

The two double matches were very close.

Schwenker and Broadley teamed up to beat junior's Maddy Stauder and Lizzie Matheson, 6-3, 7-6 (7-3) in first doubles.

The Lady Panthers captured the second doubles match, as Frost and sophomore Audrey Laursen posted a 7-7 (7-2),3-6, 10-3 win over Cook and junior Hayssa Freitas.

While the Lady Cougars seniors were able to win the final home match of the 2025 campaign, the returning Lady Panthers will be looking to make another trip to the Division 4 state tournament in 2026.



Lizzie Matheson makes perfect contact.

PIONEERS,
continued from page 9

our graduating seniors," said Chaves. "Whether they're going on to play in college or moving forward in life in other ways, we're proud of them. We want to recognize the dedication and passion they've shown not just to the sport, but to our community."

Names of all the graduates were read aloud during the halftime ceremony, receiving enthusiastic applause from the packed stands. The full list includes:

Katelyn Gilhooly, Caleigh Foley, Avery D'Amour, Allison Morris, Mia Carvalho, Evan Costa, Sophia Scyocurka, Brianna Ribeiro, Robert Bustamante, Ethan Sousa, Eleanor Leland, Colette Thayer, Taylor Colberg, Taryn Cariveau, Madeline Hockman, Parker Tunley, Gabriella Fialho, Lilliana Barkyoub, Derke Lonczak, Ryan Baublitz, Madison Rathbone, Norah Walsh, Nicholas Byrnes, Matthew Ryan, Loretta Petraszewicz, Carlos David, Thomas Wadas, Otis Chuan, Pasquale D'Ascoli, Helen Vissas, Casimir Pierre, Chloe

Laizer, Joey Borelli, Abigail Toomey, Ryleigh Remillard, Fallon Clancy, and Hudson Manzolini.

The evening also marked a confluence of tradition and celebration. Lusitano Stadium, one of the nation's oldest soccer-specific stadiums, served as a fitting venue for such an occasion. Built in the 1920s, the walled stadium is home to both the Western Mass Pioneers (USL League Two) and the New England Mutiny (United Women's Soccer), both of which maintain strong ties to the junior academy.

"What makes this place special is the culture," said Chaves. "It's intimate, it's family-driven. You've got volunteers in the kitchen and at the bar. You've got local beer and Portuguese sandwiches being served. It feels like home."

Despite dreary weather earlier in the day, spirits remained high following the club's spring picnic held before the match. Over 450 players, families, and supporters turned out for the event, which blended the grassroots spirit of the club with the professionalism of a matchday experience.

"Our kids had their picnic in the rain, and then they stayed for the game," Chaves said. "That's what community looks like."

As the Pioneers look to the future, leadership remains committed to fostering talent through experienced coaching and mentorship. The junior program's Director of Coaching, Federico Molinari, brings professional playing experience from Argentina and Italy and also serves as head coach for both the Mutiny and the men's pro team.

"We're a nonprofit, and what sets us apart is the soccer-specific culture and family atmosphere," Chaves said. "We're not just building players...we're building people."

As the night concluded, seniors posed for photos, hugged their teammates, and soaked in the applause one final time as youth players of the Western United Pioneers FC. The send-off was not only a tribute to past accomplishments but a call to future greatness.

"You will always be part of our family," said Chaves. "And we look forward to seeing the amazing things you'll accomplish next."

MUTINY,
continued from page 9

"I just wanted to make a change and go to a part of the country where I've never been before," Maya Mathis said. "I'm really excited about playing soccer at Kansas."

Sadie Mathis will be playing soccer at Boston College.

About twenty minutes later, the Mutiny were given a penalty kick following a foul inside the box.

Taylor Jenkins, who also plays at UConn, put the PK into the right corner making the score 2-0.

A couple of local players who played in the home match are Maddy Theriault

(Palmer), Tennessee Murphy (Monson) Kylie Ray (Minnechaug), Bella Meadows (Pope Francis/Chicopee) Olivia Crespo (Ludlow), and Avery Klingensmith (Belchertown).

The New England Mutiny will be one of the four teams competing in the inaugural Brandi Chastain Cup.

The Mutiny will be facing Richmond Ivy of the USL W-league at City Stadium in Richmond, VA. On Thursday night.

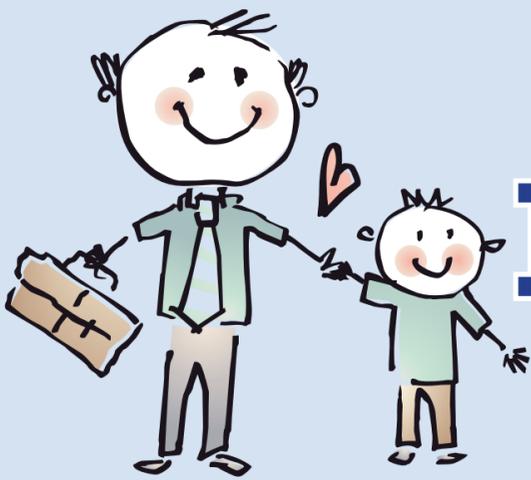
"It's really special for us to be regarded as one of the top teams in our league," said Klingensmith, who's is a member of the American University women's soccer

"We're very exciting about playing in that game. The team that we'll be playing has some quality players, so it'll be a challenging match for us."

If the Mutiny defeats Richmond Ivy, they'll be hosting the finals of the Brandi Chastain Cup on June 18 at Lusitano Stadium. The

California Storm beat Pan World Elite, 4-1, in the other semifinal, which was held in May.

The Mutiny will also play two regular season road matches against NJ Alliance and the Ole' Eagles before returning home to face Racing Power FC on June 14.



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Class of 2025 Graduates



Class of 2025 senior class president Luke Salvatore and Irene Stolgitis Valedictorian lead the soon to be graduates into the Quabbin Regional High School gym at Friday, June 6 graduation.



Due to rain and afternoon thunderstorms, the Quabbin Regional High School held their graduation ceremony inside the school gymnasium.



Twin brothers, Benjamin Bibek, left and Joshua Bibik will enter the military after graduation. Benjamin opted for the U.S. Air Force and Joshua, the U.S. Navy.



Choral teacher Julia Tuttle directs the Quabbin Singers at the Friday, June 6 Class of 2025 graduation. Senior chorus members joined to sing "Bridge Over Troubled Water: by Paul Simon.



Class of 2025 President Luke Salvatore gives the welcome from the Class of 2025. The inflatable goat can be seen on the roof of the entry in the right corner.

GRADUATION from page 1

most defining moments still to come.

Valedictorian Irene Stolgitis said her goal as a 13 year old was to be valedictorian of her class. She also said it was hard to celebrate when one realizes this is the final days of high school. She said not to look back to but what is to come. The rest is still unwritten.

A selection by the Symphonic Winds, "Choose Joy" by Randall Standbridge and directed by Toni Brown followed the valedictorian's address. Salutatorian Sydney Gagne then gave her address. She said in elementary school upon hearing the Class of 2025 seemed so far away. She said in 2023 she made the decision to participate in a dual enrollment with Quinsagmond Community College. She earned her Associate's Degree this year.

She said the program taught her discipline.

The first student speaker Amanda Samaha followed the salutatorian's address. She encouraged her classmates to face challenges head on and related she faced an illness.

The Quabbin Singers under the direction of Julia Tuttle sang "Bridge Over Troubled Water" by Paul Simon. Before the handing out of the diplomas, Superintendent Colleen Mucha addressed the group and then QRSD Committee member Kristyl Kelly followed.

Superintendent Mucha said 20% of the class were in Naval Junior Reserve Officer's Training Corps, 10% in chorus and/or band, 38% played multiple sports and 5% earned Eagle Scout rank. This class had 155 enrolled in freshman year, over the years some opted for other school and tonight 102 grad-

uated. She referred to them as risk takers and agents of change. She asked them to put to stand up wearing sunglasses while the Symphonic Winds played the theme from "Mission Impossible."

School committee member Kelly said she always finished the chapter rather than stop reading a book in the middle of a page. Following the handing out of diplomas by school committee member Vice Chariman Debra Chamberlain, Abigail Crawford, the second student speaker, said she was honored to be standing here as she finished up this chapter of her life.

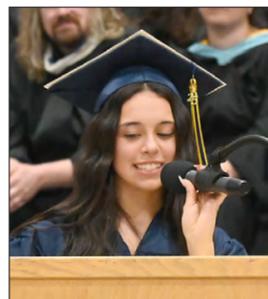
Class Vice President Ruby Gatulis, class vice president and Ellie Frost, class treasurer led their class in the turning of the tassels. Mortarboards then went flying into the air. Finally, the students recessed to "Fanfare and Recessional" by James D. Ployhar.



Quabbin Regional High School Principal Purnima DeMorais and QRSD Committee Chairman Mark Brophy process in during the beginning of the graduation ceremony.



Class Salutatorian Sydney Gagne spoke at the Quabbin Regional High School graduation.



Abigail Crawford was one of the student speakers at the graduation.



Quabbin Regional School District Committee Vice Chairman Debra Chamberlain, right, gets ready to hand out a diploma. QRSD Superintendent Colleen Mucha then congratulates the student.

Congratulations to Emma Cassano and the QRHS CLASS of 2025

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Love, Mom, Dad, Tyler, Wyatt & Ayla

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Kayleigh Strom
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Quabbin Regional High School **CLASS** of 2025



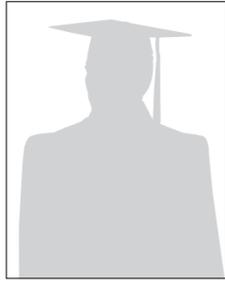
Andre Ampong
Westfield State University



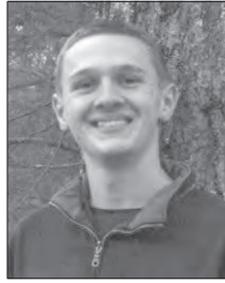
Eamon Arnold
Saint Anselm College



Haley Ayer
Springfield College



Alexander Bedard
U.S. Air Force



Benjamin Bibek
U.S. Air Force



Joshua Bibek
U.S. Navy



Jordan Blanchard
U.S. Navy



Kevin Boles
UMass Lowell



Kaeliana Boucher
Assumption University



Alisyn Bruso
Merrimack College



Sarah Butler
Wentworth Institute of Technology



Samantha Carlson
UMass Amherst



Emma Cassano
Mount Wachusett Community College



Jocelyne Chaves
Middlesex Community College



Kyle Clark
Worcester State University



Dennis Collette
Quinsigamond Community College



Ava Conlee
University of Vermont



Isabel Coviello
Bennington College



Abigail Crawford
Quinsigamond Community College



Jacquelyn Dahlstrom
Mount Wachusett Community College



Christiana Dunn
Saint Anselm College



Matthew Erickson
Worcester Polytechnic Institute



Adam Faulha
UMass Amherst



Angelina Feliciano
Massachusetts Maritime Academy



Lilly Flamand
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Ellie Frost
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Sophia Gagne
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Wishing This Year's Graduates
Great Happiness & Success

Hats off to the students whose hard work and dedication have led them to this milestone achievement. May the classroom and life lessons you've learned from your peers, parents and teachers here guide you toward continued success as you take the next step.

We're proud of your accomplishments, and we wish you all the best!

Peter Durant,
State Senator
Donnie Berthiaume,
State Representative

Quabbin Regional High School **CLASS** of 2025



Sydney Gagne
Worcester State University



Hailey Gallery
Gap Year



Ruby Gatulis
Keene State College



Madeleine Gaumont
Mount Wachusett
Community College



Quinn Geary
UMass Amherst



Kyle George
Mount Wachusett
Community College



Kyra Grummell
Southern Maine
Community College



Adrianna Hall
Gap Year



Rachel Harrington
Coastal Carolina University



Rylee-Anne Harty
Fitchburg State University



Mackenzie Holmes
Nail School in Wilbraham



Makaylah Kingsbury
UMass Boston



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Salem State University



Hunter LaBier
Providence College



Reagan Laprade
Framingham State
University



Travis LaRoche
Trade School



Goldkeng Lee
UMass Dartmouth



Lianna Leger
U.S. Air Force



Kun Liu
Operator at Great
Blue Heron



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Mount Wachusett
Community College



Veronika Mendrek
Worcester Polytechnic
Institute



Madison Mertzic
Quinsigamond
Community College



Benjamin Metcalf
Undecided



Cameron Mitchell
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Rhyann Orr
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UMass Lowell



Luke Salvadore
Union College



Amanda Samaha
Southern Maine
Community College



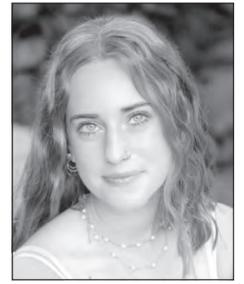
Zeke Santoro
Skidmore College



Frederick Schaaf
Mount Wachusett
Community College



Cameron Scherer
Quinsigamond
Community College



Kaylee Shaw
Westfield State University



Sadie Sheldon
Northeastern University



Sydney Slattery
University of North Florida



Isabella Smith
University of New Hamp-
shire



Julia Smith
Rensselaer
Polytechnic Institute



Devin Stein
U.S. Navy



Irene Stolgitis
Columbia University



Madeline Subik
Worcester State University



Vanecia Tarquinio
Assumption University



Ava Taylor
Assumption University



Kevin James Thompson
Hardwick Fire Department



Richard Tucker
Maine Maritime Academy



Jahzara Tweedell
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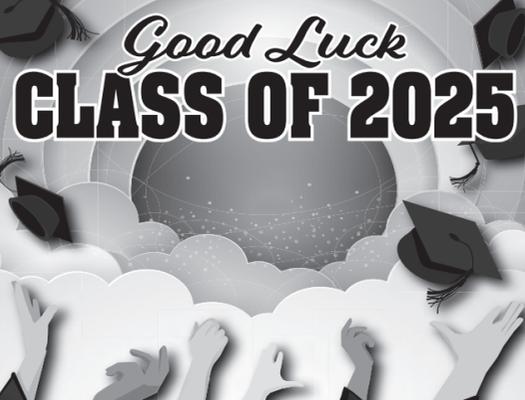
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Obituaries

Thomas R. "Tommy" Mucha, 63

BARRE – Thomas R. "Tommy" Mucha, 63, of Barre, Beloved Son, Brother, Friend – A Life Lived Full Throttle. Tommy passed away unexpectedly on June 2, 2025, leaving behind a lasting impact on the many lives he touched with his bold personality, sharp wit and fierce loyalty.

Born and raised in Oakham, Tommy was the kind of guy you didn't forget. He made his mark early as a skilled equipment operator and he never let anyone forget it. "All the good ones learned from me," he'd say with pride and most would agree. He trained and influenced countless operators, who went on to build careers on the foundation he helped lay.

Tommy had a lifelong love of racing, whether it was grass dragging snowmobiles or tearing around the oval at the local speedways. He never missed a chance to tell a story about

the cars he raced, the nights at the track and the trophies he brought home. When he was behind the wheel or holding court in the pits, he was right where he belonged.

Off the track, Tommy thrived on being around people. He was the life of the party, the guy who lit up the room and the one with a story for every occasion. With a Yukon Jack in hand and that trademark grin, he could turn an ordinary night into a legendary one.

He is survived by his brother and sister-in-law, William and Marna Mucha; his nieces, Carolyn, Laura, and Jennifer and his nephew, Mark. He also leaves behind a wide circle of friends who became family – all with memories that will live on long after the engines go quiet.



Calling hours will be held on Wednesday, June 25, 2025 from 5-7 p.m. in Pillsbury Funeral Home, 96 South Barre Road, Barre. Friends and family are encouraged to

come as they are, share a story and raise a toast to the man. who lived fast, loved fiercely and never turned down a good race, a good drink or a good time.

Rest easy, Tommy. The checkered flags, the trophies and the stories will live on.

DEATH NOTICE

Mucha, Thomas R. "Tommy"

Died June 2, 2025
Calling hours June 25 from 5-7 p.m. at Pillsbury Funeral Home 96 South Barre Road, Barre

West Brookfield Farmers Market is held on Wednesdays

WEST BROOKFIELD – The West Brookfield Farmers Market has returned on the beautiful West Brookfield Common for its 15th consecutive season.

The market is held on Wednesdays from 3-6 p.m.,

rain or shine, throughout the spring, summer and early fall.

The 2025 season the market will feature 17 vendors with a wide array of locally grown and made goods including three new

vendors sure to please the palate.

The West Brookfield Farmers Market is held every Wednesday afternoon from 3-6 p.m. on the common starting on June 4 through Oct. 8, rain or shine.

Public Notices

Town of New Braintree Conservation Commission Notice of Public Hearing

New Braintree Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, June 24, 2025 at 7 p.m.** at the Selectmen's office, New Braintree Town Hall, 20 Memorial Drive, New Braintree, MA to discuss a Notice of Intent filed by Matt Charleson, 0 Oakham Cutoff Rd., New Braintree, MA., Assessors Map # 404, Lot 84, to conduct work in the buffer zone, a copy of which is on file at the town hall. Anyone wishing to comment on this matter should attend the hearing or submit comments in writing prior to the hearing to the Conservation Commission.

James Brown, Chairman
06/12, 06/19/2025

PUBLIC AUCTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF M.L.C. 225 SEC.39A THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES WILL BE SOLD ON **June 28, 2025** AT A SALE TO SATISFY OUR GARAGE LIEN THEREON FOR TOWING & STORAGE CHARGES AND EXPENSES OF SALE AND NOTICE:

2012 Subaru Impreza
JF1GJAA64CH005315

2005 Toyota Corolla

VIN: 2T1BR32E55C468635

2001 Ford E-Series Chassis
VIN: 1FDXE45F11HB31571

2011 BMW X5
VIN: 5UXZV4C54BL740545

2007 Mercedes-Benz S-Class
VIN: WDDNG86X97A121933

2007 Mazda CX-9
VIN: JM3TB38C770110634

2009 Nissan Altima
VIN: 1N4AL21E79C106318

2002 Mercedes-Benz E-Class
VIN: WDBJF82J22X076707

The sale will be held at Early's on Park Avenue 536 Park Ave. Worcester, MA 01603
06/12, 06/19, 06/26/2025

NOTICE TOWN OF NEW BRAINTREE SEALED BID REQUEST

The Town of New Braintree Select Board requests sealed bids on gasoline, diesel, #2 fuel and services on heating equipment for FY 2026. For details and bid packet, please call 508-867-2071 ext. 100 or email: selectboard@newbraintree.org
06/12, 06/19/2025

Town of New Braintree Accepting Sealed Bids General Road Maintenance Materials FY2026

The Town of New Braintree will accept sealed bids for materials to be used in road construc-

tion and general road maintenance of various town roads. The estimated value provided in this Invitation to bid is for FY2026.

All bids signed with the name and address of the bidder should be submitted in a sealed envelope that is plainly marked in the lower left-hand corner of the envelope "Goods and Services FY2026".

All bidders are required to be in compliance with Mass. General Laws, Chapter 149, Prevailing wage rates, where applicable.

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

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

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

Bids will be received until 12:30 p.m., Tuesday July 08, 2025, and will be opened and read at 12:35 p.m. in the office of the Select Board. The bid shall include a statement of non-collusion.

06/12, 06/19/2026

Barre Gazette OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

Bluegrass Gospel Service will be held June 22

WEST BROOKFIELD – The George Whitefield United Methodist Church will host a Bluegrass Gospel Service at 10 a.m., June 22, at 33 West Main St.

The program themed "walking each other home" will feature traditional blue-

grass instruments of fiddle, guitar, mandolin, banjo, stand-up bass, harmonica, spoons and voices performing old time favorites along with background stories. All are welcome.

Any questions can be directed to Heidi Jeldres at 978-989-5736.



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- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

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Job Connection

HELPING YOU FIND HELP

HELP WANTED HOUSEKEEPING / CUSTODIAL POSITIONS

Eagle Hill School, a college-prep board school located in Hardwick, MA, seeks to hire highly motivated, hardworking, and energetic individuals to join our housekeeping team.

Essential Duties & Responsibilities:

- Window cleaning; Vacuuming; Dusting; Trash Removal; Restroom Cleaning; Floor cleaning with commercial machines

Required Qualifications & Skills

- Ability to work in a team environment; Proven ability to work independently with minimal supervision; Must be flexible regarding scheduling based on business demands; Successful completions of background check; Willingness to work flexible schedule including nights, weekends, and/or Holidays as needed

Physical requirements:

- Able to lift up to 50 lbs.; Able to push/pull up to 50 lbs.; Able to bend, stretch, and twist; Able to stand for long periods of time; Able to climb multiple flights of stairs on daily basis and walk frequently; Able to work with chemicals according to directions

Eagle Hill School is located in Hardwick, MA and is a private boarding school for high school students in grades 8 through 12. If interested, call Devon Jurczyk, 413-207-7021. Phone calls only.

HELP WANTED KITCHEN / DISHWASHING POSITIONS

Eagle Hill School, a college-prep board school located in Hardwick, MA, seeks to hire highly motivated, hardworking, and energetic individuals to join our kitchen staff.

Eagle Hill School is seeking full and part time kitchen staff for dishwasher positions as well as food preparation and serving.

- Ability to work in a team environment
- Ability to work independently with minimal supervision
- Must be flexible regarding scheduling, including nights, weekends, and/or holidays as needed
- Successful completion of background checks is required
- Physical Requirements and Work Environment
- Must be able to lift approximately 30-50 pounds
- Bend, kneel, push, pull, and other physical exertion
- Ability to stand and walk for extended periods of time
- Work in a hot and damp environment with moderate to high noise volumes

Schedule

Year round, full time schedule

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Sheriff warns of 'Smishing'scams surge

Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis is warns residents about a recent wave of "smishing" scams targeting cell phones across Massachusetts.

Smishing, a combination of "SMS" (Short Message Service) and "phishing," involves scammers sending fraudulent text messages with website links to residents' cell phones. According to the Federal Communications Commission, a typical smishing scam message may appear to be from their bank or another trusted organization.

These messages often contain a link or phone number

designed to entice you to click or call. If people engage with these messages, they risk falling victim to the scam. Once they interact with the scammers, they may manipulate their personal information, which they can sell or use for further scams. Additionally, "smishers" may try to lure people into downloading malware onto their personal electronic devices.

Recent reports state that the following scams have been identified:

MassDOT Toll Scam: In this scam, individuals receive a notification, often via email or text, claiming that they're

being contacted regarding unpaid highway tolls. The text may demand payment via fake payment links or phone numbers.

USPS Undeliverable Package Scam: In this scam, individuals receive a notification, often via email or text, claiming that a package sent through the United States Postal Service (USPS) could not be delivered. The message typically includes a link to resolve the issue, which leads to phishing sites designed to capture sensitive personal and financial information.

One-Ring Scam: This scam involves receiving

a phone call that rings only once or twice before hanging up. When victims return the call, they are connected to a premium-rate number, resulting in high charges that are billed to their phone. Many area code numbers used in this scam are international, leading to significant unexpected charges on victims' phone bills.

"Residents need to beware of any unsolicited calls that ask for their personal or financial information," said Sheriff Evangelidis. "These callers can sound convincing, may be aggressive and try to intimidate you with threats

of jail time or steep fines. We encourage anyone who gets a suspicious call to hang up and contact their associated institutions directly to verify any requests."

Finally, Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis is issuing a warning to residents regarding a "spoofing" phone scam involving the Sheriff's Office. The phone scammer poses as an employee of the Sheriff's Office and informs the victim that they have an arrest warrant, charges filed in their name, or missed jury duty. The scammer then demands payment of a fine to avoid being arrested and serv-

ing jail time. Sheriff Evangelidis says, "In general, if you do not initiate contact and an unknown caller is requesting money or making threats of arrest or loss of utilities, it's likely a scam."

The Worcester County Sheriff's Office encourages people to be aware of text and phone call scams like this and to never give personal or financial information to an unknown number soliciting payments. For more information on the Worcester County Sheriff's Office, people may visit www.WorcesterCountySheriff.com.

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