

BARRE GAZETTE

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Veterans receive *Quilts of Valor*

BARRE – Ten veterans received Quilts of Valor at a ceremony held in the Senior Center on Saturday, July 11.

The senior center quilting group made all the quilts. Members of the Barre Senior Center quilting group included Eileen Bohigian, Linda Eastwood, Pam Hinckley, Cathy Miknaitis, Ann Mitus,

Carole Stanley and Judy Wypych.

The mission of the Quilts of Valor Foundation is to cover Service Members and Veterans touched by war with comforting healing Quilts of Valor. Quilts of Valor Massachusetts State Coordinator, Theresa Pereault officiated at the ceremony.



Turley Publications Photos by Ellenor Downer
Dennis G. Fleming, Massachusetts Army National Guard, gets wrapped in his Quilt of Valor quilt with help from his sister, left and Quilts of Valor Massachusetts State Coordinator Theresa Pereault at a ceremony held at the Barre Senior Center on Saturday, July 11. A story and photos of some of the recipients appeared in the July 23 edition. Photos of the remaining recipients will appear in the next edition.



Pamela J. Gonsalves, U.S. Marines, gets wrapped in her Quilt of Valor quilt with help from Betty Jo O'Brien, Senior Center Director and a U.S. Air Force veteran, from left and Theresa Pereault.



David R. Hardaker, U.S. Seabees, gets wrapped in his Quilt of Valor quilt with help from his wife, Anne Hardaker and Theresa Pereault. Ten veterans received Quilts of Valor at the July 11 ceremony.

Override fails for DPW truck purchase

BARRE – Town Clerk Ellen Glidden announced the unofficial Tuesday, July 28 special election results.

There was one question on the ballot which sought exemption from Proposition 2 ½ for the amount to purchase a 10-wheeled dump truck for the Department of Public Works. It failed to pass.

Two hundred fourteen (118 precinct 1 and 96 precinct 2) voted no and 170 (89 precinct 1 and 81 precinct 2) voted yes.

Voter turnout for the spe-

cial election was 8.67% with 384 (207 precinct 1 and 177 precinct 2) of the town's total 4,428 (2,170 precinct 1 and 2,258 precinct 2) casting ballots.

Of the total 384 ballots cast 21 (16 precinct 1 and 5 precinct 2) were by absentee ballots and 60 (38 precinct 1 and 22 precinct 2) by early voting. Two absentee ballots, one from each precinct, were not returned and 40 (27 precinct 1 and 13 precinct 2) early ballots were not returned.

Town administrator position posted

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis
Staff Writer
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HUBBARDSTON – Hubbardston will be opening another search for a town administrator, as the Select Board held a special meeting last Monday to post the job description for an interim town administrator.

According to the board, they are looking for a three to six month option.

As of the July 20 meeting, interim Town Administrator Sean Fitzgerald was still employed by the town. He was hired in January of this year to serve a term ending on June 30 while the board looked for a permanent town administrator.

The board opened up a search committee in March in anticipation of the end of Fitzgerald's term. The committee brought forward three candidates in May, including Elizabeth Kazinskas, Allyson Mitchell and Alex Magee.

Following the interviews of these candidates on May 15, the board voted to offer the job to Magee. After about a month of contract negotiations with him, he accepted a position in another town.

On June 29, the board extended Fitzgerald's term until the end of December.

However, at the July 20 meeting of the Select Board, chair Katie Young said as

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ADMINISTRATOR, page 6

Select Board hears updates on parking and recent break-ins

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis
Staff Writer
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HARDWICK – Police Chief Kevin Landine attended the Select Board meeting Monday to discuss illegal parking near Rose 32 Bakery along with a recent incident of vehicle break-ins in the Wheelwright village of town.

During the last Select Board meeting, a resident raised concerns about safety risks as a result of cars parking near the bakery, noting there are signs that prohibit it. Landine said he understands the concerns, but parking on that stretch of road had been common for many years, and there were only signs put up around 2020 at the order of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation.

Landine said officers will move cars along when possible, and an officer was handing out warning parking tickets between the last meeting and the July 27 meeting, but there are cases where the officer has their blue lights on and motorists still park along the road.

He said the police are doing what they can to help the issue.

He said there is another issue with motorists parking

at the municipal building to access the bakery, since there is no crosswalk between the two buildings, and there are also residents living in the apartments on Main Street who regularly walk and do not have a crosswalk to use.

Landine suggested the board send a letter to MassDOT highlighting these concerns, along with concerns about getting better signage. He said MassDOT did not allow painting the road because of a state or federal law.

Another suggestion from the board was to allow parking on the side of the road the bakery is not on.

Landine also gave an update on some vehicle break-ins in Wheelwright on the weekend of July 18, where 11 cars were broken into including one car stolen. He said the perpetrators were likely driving a stolen car out of New Britain, Connecticut, and they wear masks and gloves to conceal evidence.

Landine said they also have a juvenile drive the cars so traffic charges get dropped. According to Landine, there was an arrest made on Route 20 recently where two of the three perpetrators were detained.

He urged residents to lock their doors, saying the perpetrators only target unlocked vehicles.

allow public comments for this meeting, but discussed how the session can be managed more effectively in the future. Board members said the last meeting got out of control with personal attacks.

Select Board Chair Jeff Schaaf said he was reluctant to take public comment away. According to Town Administrator Justine Caggiano, some other towns limit speakers to two minutes each, along with limiting the time of the public comment session.

Warrant policy

The board continued discussions on the signing of financial warrants, with Select Board Vice-Chair William Tinker saying two out of the three board members should be required to sign the warrants, since they require a majority vote of the Select Board. He also brought up that the warrants need to be signed by 3 p.m. on Wednesdays and they sometimes do not show up until noon, giving the board only three hours to analyze and sign them.

He said two signatures is acceptable and one should be only in emergencies.

Tinker also said he is not being consistently included on email chains concerning warrants and other Select Board business.

Caggiano noted the short

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page 6

Meetinghouse Committee discussed building repairs

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis
Staff Writer
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HUBBARDSTON – The First Meetinghouse Preservation Committee met last Tuesday where they discussed repairs that are needed for the building, and cost estimates members have received.

Committee member Betty Ann Sharp said she met with Department of Public Works Director Travis Brown along with two companies to get quotes on needed areas of repair such as water infiltration. Sharp said a company called Groundworks gave a

verbal estimate of \$75,000-\$100,000 for the repairs while another company called Erickson Foundation Solutions quoted the repairs at \$67,000.

Sharp said both of the companies gave generally the same information, including part of the floor needing to be removed because there is a small crawlspace that makes access difficult. Sharp said the size of the space is about 41 feet by 63 feet, and the next step is to engage a structural engineer.

Committee member Gary Kangas noted there was another church on

Pitcherville Road that had a water problem, and they filled the space with concrete.

Other committee members, including Sharp, noted the wood floors are historic, with member Susan Worth saying there is a preservation restriction on the building. Committee member Katie Young also noted water can still make it through concrete.

Another issue brought up was water flow, and making sure it is redirected from the building. The commit-

See MEETINGHOUSE,
page 6

Nine ADA Commission members appointed by Rutland Select Board

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis
Staff Writer
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RUTLAND – The Select Board seated nine members to a newly approved Americans with Disabilities Act commission, which was formed following the May 9 annual town meeting.

According to a post made on the town website (rutlandma.gov), the ADA commission must consist of a majority of members with a disability, a member who is the immediate family member of someone with a

disability and a town official, elected or appointed. The maximum number of members for Rutland's commission is 13.

Some of the applicants attended the July 20 meeting, including Christine Drolet, who said her husband has hearing difficulty and requires special considerations for his work as a firefighter, and she is looking to help out others with disabilities.

A similar sentiment was shared by applicant Ian Campbell, who said he is looking forward to not only

advocating for people with disabilities, but to informing the public. He said disability is something that affects everyone.

George Farrington is another newly appointed member to the commission. Farrington said he is a brain tumor survivor, and has spent 11 years as a disability advocate and inclusion leader. Jenna Leary is another member who attended the meeting, who said she has a daughter with a disability, and is looking to make sure

See RUTLAND, page 7



Public comment guidelines
The board opted to not

News of the Towns



ROUND TOWN

by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

National Night Out set for Aug. 4

National Night Out takes place Tuesday, Aug. 4 from 4-7 p.m. at Quabbin Regional High School, 800 South St., Barre. This is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. Businesses and programs from the Quabbin Community are invited to participate. If they are interested in setting up at this fun family event, they should complete a short form, which is found by visiting www.QuabbinCommunityCares.org. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great way to bring communities together to showcase the opportunities that are available in our region for children and families. This event is intended to be a free family event, with activities and fun to introduce children and families to what hobbies, groups, fun, safety systems and varied supports are available in the Quabbin Region. Quabbin Community Cares, formerly known as Q-DRUG, will be providing hotdogs for families who attend, and invite local restaurants to join them in providing free taste tests.

Purple Heart Day

A Purple Heart Day Ceremony takes place Friday, Aug. 7 at 9 a.m. at Barre Plains Prisoner of War Corners, Barre. Purple Heart Day is observed on Aug. 7 each year and is a time for Americans to pause to remember and honor the brave men and women who were either wounded on the battlefield or paid the ultimate sacrifice with their lives. Purple Heart Day is also known as National Purple Heart Day, Purple Heart Recognition Day and Purple Heart Appreciation Day. Purple Heart Towns across Massachusetts typically hold official ceremonies and flag-raising on or around Aug. 7 to recognize the date in 1782 when General George Washington created the Badge of Military Merit. Barre is officially designated as a Purple Heart Town, a title recognizing local combat-wounded veterans and honoring their sacrifices.

Quabbin Community Band

Sunday, Aug 2, beginning at 6 p.m. the Quabbin Community Band hosts a world premiere performance at the Harding Allen Bandstand of “Pakachoag Hill March,” written and conducted by QCB band member Peter Pasierb on the Harding Allen Bandstand, located on the Common in Barre Center. In case of rain, concerts move to the Barre Town Hall, Exchange Street.

Nornay Park concerts

Nornay Park, Main Street in South Barre hosts The Other Guys on Saturday, Aug. 8 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. The final concert is Saturday, Aug. 22 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. with Alive’n Kickin.’ The Barre Lions Club runs a concession stand at these concerts. The concerts are supported in part by the Barre Cultural Council and the Barre Recreation Committee.

The Other Guys to perform Aug. 8

SOUTH BARRE – The Other Guys Saturday, Aug. 8 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Nornay Park, Main Street.

The final concert, Alive’n Kickin’ is Saturday, Aug. 22 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. The Barre Lions Club will run a concession stand for the concerts. The concerts are supported in part by the Barre Cultural Council and the Barre Recreation Committee.

CHECK OUT ALL THE

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Submitted photo

Quabbin Community Band to present World Premiere Performance Aug. 2

BARRE – The Quabbin Community Band features a world premiere performance at the Harding Allen Bandstand of “Pakachoag Hill March” on their Aug. 2 program, written and conducted by QCB band member Peter Pasierb.

The piece was composed for the centennial of Dr. Robert H. Goddard’s first launch of a liquid-propelled rocket in Auburn.. Pasierb holds a Master’s

Degree in Music Education from the University of Massachusetts and has been teaching music at the elementary level in the Worcester school system since 2009.

He has been a member of the Quabbin Community Band for two seasons, performing primarily on saxophone. The theme for Sunday’s concert is, “Hats Off To Broadway” and will feature selections

from the following shows: “My Fair Lady,” “Beauty and the Beast,” “Ragtime,” “South Pacific,” “Phantom of the Opera,” “Chicago,” “Aladdin” and “Les Miserables.”

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

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 Aug. 3. 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 – Vegetable cheese bake, seasoned potatoes, green beans, fresh fruit, whole wheat bread

TUESDAY – Ranch chicken, veggie couscous, spinach, Rice Krispy Treat, pumpernickel bread

WEDNESDAY – Hot dog, baked

beans, Coleslaw, baked apples, mustard, hot dog bun

THURSDAY – Braised beef, mashed potatoes, green beans, blueberry streusel cake, diet = cookies, Italian bread

FRIDAY – Jambalaya, rice pilaf, mixed vegetables, Mandarin oranges, marble rye bread

*Higher sodium entree Meal includes milk and margarine. Menus are subject to change. All meals are served at about 11:45 a.m. each week-day. 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.

Finnish Heritage Society hosts ‘Coffee with the Finns’ on Aug. 23

RUTLAND – The Finnish Heritage Society Sovittaja, Finn Park Road, will host Coffee with the Finns on Sunday, Aug. 23 at 2 p.m.

Finns are the world’s heaviest coffee drinkers, averaging 3-4 cups daily, with consumption so vital to the culture that the law mandates two daily coffee breaks for workers.

They know their coffee and invite everyone to join us on August 23 at 2 p.m. at their park.

There will be coffee

imported from Finland and Finnish foods including: homemade pulla or nisu, coffee bread; rye bread; cheese and butter; cookies; Karelian piirakkas and other treats.

Featured speaker Lisa Tarkiainen Steele will speak about traditional Finnish egg coffee. She is a fifth-generation chicken keeper, author, Maine master gardener and “coop to kitchen” cook.

She has been featured on The View, Martha Knows Best on HGTV and

her own show, Welcome to My Farm on PBS/Create TV.

After a brief presentation she will be available to answer questions about raising fowl, cooking and gardening. Lisa grew up in Central Massachusetts and currently lives in Maine.

This program is supported by the Finnish Heritage Society Sovittaja’s culture fund. There is no charge, but donations will be appreciated.

Corrections policy

The Barre Gazette will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 2. To request a correction, send information to Editor Ellenor Downer at edowner@turley.com or call 413-283-8393. Corrections may also be requested in writing at Barre Gazette, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

Petersham Brass Band performs Aug. 2

PETERSHAM – The Petersham Brass Band performs its last concert of the season Sunday, Aug. 2 at 7 p.m. on the bandstand on Petersham Common, Route 32.

Sunday’s performance marks the band’s 864th concert since being

formed in 1914. Joseph Gougen directs the band.

Concerts are held rain or shine. In the event of rain, the concert moves inside to the Town Hall. The Lions Club sells popcorn.



OAKHAM

by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

Town wide yard sale set for Aug. 22

The town wide yard sale sponsored by the Oakham Historical Association will be held Saturday, Aug. 22 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m.. To be on the map, people should send \$15 to Oakham Historical Association. P.O. Box 236, Oakham, MA 00168. Checks must be received by Monday, Aug. 17 to be placed on the map. People may call Kathy Young at 508–882–3137 with any questions.

Glass dish at senior center

A while back Oakham seniors enjoyed a delicious and beautifully arranged lemon and blueberries tortes. The empty glass dish is available in the Senior Center room located in the lower level of the Oakham Town Hall for the owner to pick it up.

29th Annual GABB Memorial Golf Tournament

The 29th Annual GABB Memorial Golf Tournament takes place Monday, Aug. 10 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Quail Hollow Golf and Country Club, Old Turnpike Road, Oakham. Registration is \$100 per person or \$400 for a team of four and includes 18 holes of golf, a cart and Italian buffet. Registration and putting contest is 7:30-9 a.m. A Florida style shotgun start is at 9 a.m. An Italian buffet, silent auction, raffle prizes and awards are at 2 p.m. Checks should be made out to the Oakham Congregational Church and mailed to Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road, Unit 12, Oakham, MA 01068. For more information, people may call either Dawn Thistle at 774-479-6697 or George Paradis at 508-882-3068.

This family-oriented tournament has raised thousands of dollars for local charities (2025: over \$14,000) in memory of four beloved community members: Gretchen Nahkala, Art Gray, Bob Tyck and Bob Lajoie. Tournament play is followed by a delicious banquet and lots of raffles and prizes.

Senior Center news

Blood pressure clinic will be held Thursday, Aug. 13 at 11:15 a.m. in the Senior Center, located in the lower level of Town Hall, 2 Coldbrook Road. The monthly Council on Aging meeting takes place on Friday, Aug. 14 at noon in the voting room of Town Hall.

Podiatry clinic meets Monday, Aug. 17, and Monday Aug. 25, from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. by appointment only. People should call 508-882-4073 to schedule an appointment. Lunch Bunch is meeting at The Flight Deck at Southbridge Airport on Friday, Aug. 21 at 12:30 p.m. People should call 508-882-4073 to sign up and make reservations. Blood pressure/glucose screening clinic takes place Tuesday Aug. 25 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. no appointment is required. The COA will be hosting a Labor Day cookout Friday, Sept. 4 at 12:30 p.m. People should call the Senior Center at 508-882-4073 call to sign up for an accurate head count.

Ongoing activities include puzzling Monday through Thursday at 9 a.m., regularly scheduled yoga Tuesdays at 1 p.m., Zumba Gold in New Braintree Town Hall Wednesdays at 8:45 a.m. \$3 per class and Functional fitness class Fridays in New Braintree Town Hall at 10:30 a.m., \$3 per class Walking groups and weigh in on Thursdays at noon.

Congregate hot meals

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

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News of the Towns

PUBLIC MEETINGS

BARRE

Quabbin Regional School District Committee – July 30 at 6:30 p.m.
Felton Field Commission – Aug. 4 at 6:30 p.m.
Planning Board – Aug. 4 at 7 p.m.
Council of Aging – Aug. 5 at 12:30 p.m.
Water Commission – Aug. 10 at 5:30 p.m.
DPW Commission – Aug. 10 at 6 p.m.
Cable Advisory Committee – Aug. 11 at 7 p.m.
Conservation Committee – Aug. 11 at 7 p.m.
Library Trustees — Aug. 12 at 6:30 p.m.
Barre Housing Authority – Aug. 12 at 1 p.m.
Barre Common Oversight Committee – Aug. 13 at 5 p.m.
Cemetery Commission – Aug. 27 at 11 a.m.

HARDWICK

Council on Aging – Aug. 5 at 12:30 p.m.
Paige Library Trustees – Aug. 6 at 7 p.m.
Gilbertville Public Library – Aug. 12 at 3 p.m.
Town Meeting – Aug. 12 at 6:30 p.m.
Master Plan Steering Committee – Aug. 13 at 6:30 p.m.
Capital Planning Committee – Aug. 17 at 3 p.m.
Conservation Commission – Aug. 19 at 6:30 p.m..

HUBBARDSTON

Open Space Committee – July 30 at 7:15 p.m.
Select Board – Aug. 3 at 6:30 p.m.
Local Emergency Management Planning Committee – Aug. 4 at 2 p.m.
Conservation Commission – Aug. 4 at 7 p.m.
MPHN/Board of Health – Aug. 5 at 1 p.m.
Planning Board – Aug. 5 and Aug. 20 at 6:30 p.m.
Community Preservation Committee – Aug. 5 at 7 p.m.
Conservation Commission – Aug. 7 at 7 p.m.
Board of Library Trustees – Aug. 6 at 7 p.m.
Cultural Council – Aug. 12 at 7 p.m.
Council on Aging – Aug. 19 at 4 p.m.
Board of Assessors – Aug. 19 at 6 p.m.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

Cultural Council – July 30 at 6 p.m.
Cemetery Commission – Aug. 3 at 6 p.m.
Board of Assessors – Aug. 5 at 9 a.m.
Planning Board – Aug. 12 at 6 p.m. and Aug. 19 all day

PETERSHAM

Open Space and Recreation Committee – Aug. 4 at 6 p.m.
Conservation Commission – Aug. 4 at 7 p.m.
Council on Aging – Aug. 10 at 10:30 a.m.
Cemetery Commission – Aug. 11 at 11 a.m.
Board of Assessors – Aug. 14 at 9 a.m.
Petersham Historic District – Aug. 20 at 6 p.m.
Select Board – Sept.12 at 9 a.m.



Photo by Guy Biechele

Shown here working on site, photographer Guy Biechele is featured at a new exhibition at the Petersham Art Center. The public is invited to an opening reception with the artist on Sunday, Aug. 2, from 4-6 p.m., at 8 North St. in Petersham center.

Photographer holds exhibition

PETERSHAM – The Petersham Art Center, 8 North St., presents a new exhibition by photographer Guy Biechele.

All are invited to join the artist for an opening reception of “‘Guy Biechele - The Luminous Shore: Maine Seacoast in Infrared Light” on Sunday, Aug. 2, from 4-6 p.m.

Along with meeting the artist and enjoying a gallery full of his recent photographs, the reception offers delicious refreshments and a time to see friends and meet new people from the area.

Award winning photographer and long time Athol resident Guy Biechele’s work has been exhibited in galleries across New England and the United States along with being included in many person-

al collections. His images has been featured on book, magazine and catalog covers; in corporate advertising campaigns; and in magazine and newspaper articles.

Biechele’s vision and talent elevates what might seem like ordinary landscapes to extraordinary and evocative ones.

The Art Center exhibition will focus on his use of infrared photography as a method, which transforms his exceptional eye for capturing nature’s drama using his talent for timing, composition, color, and motion combined with his technical perfection, to another level of other worldly experience for the viewer.

Biechele notes, “I am most likely to be photographing outdoors. My favorite subjects include

New England landscapes, Maine coast seascapes, lighthouses, architecture and wildlife. My goal is to better ‘see’ the world around me and capture New England’s unique beauty in a way that can be shared and provide inspiration to others.”

The exhibition runs through Sunday, Sept. 6. Regular Art Center hours are Thursday through Sunday noon-to 4 p.m. For more information about the exhibition and the art center, people may call 978-724-3415.

Since 1912, the Petersham Art Center, located a short distance from Petersham Common, has been home to regional fine art and craft through its shop, gallery, classes and special events .

Library gets ready for Hardwick Fair

HARDWICK – Paige Memorial Library’s Summer Reading program, “Dig in and Read,” is keeping patrons busy with activities and good books.

There are prizes for adults and children who keep up with their reading. Come join the fun.

This year’s theme encourages you to explore history, science and culture and to dig-in to dinosaurs, paleontology, archaeology, American history, plants, nature and gardening.

Summer Reading ends with a fun filled field day on Aug. 22.

The Hardwick Community Fair is fast approaching. Volunteers are preparing books for the Annual Friends’ Book Sale, and the Paige Memorial Library is where to bring entries for the Literary Competition.

Find the entry form here: [https://www.hard-](https://www.hardwickfair.com/fair-forms)

[wickfair.com/fair-forms](https://www.hardwickfair.com/fair-forms).

Entries can be poetry (free verse or rhyme), books (no longer than 20 pages: picture/comic/graphic art, computer generated and hand-drawn), fiction, nonfiction (such as editorial, essay, school paper, scientific paper, biography, editorial, or personal perspective piece such as blog post or memoir excerpt) submitted by children up to 8 years old, youth ages 9-12 years old, teens ages 13-16 years old, and adult, age 17+ years.

Download the form, fill it out, deliver it to the Paige Memorial Library, or mail it to: Literary Competition, Paige Memorial Library, P.O. Box 413, Hardwick, MA 01037. All entries, mailed or delivered, must be received by 7 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 7. Please note this is a week earlier than the fair weekend.

Come create Fairy Houses on Aug. 4 at 4 p.m., Aug. 5 at 10:30 a.m. and Aug. 6 at 4 p.m. Check your house for old jewelry, tiny figures, orphaned toys and more to make your creation personal and special.

Since space is limited appointments can be made to cut down on wait time by calling 413-477-6704.

On Aug.15 come to the Hardwick Community Fair, the “Oldest Fair in the United States” since 1762.

The Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, will be closed for borrowing on Aug. 15 but will open downstairs from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. for the Annual Book Sale. From 9 am.-3 p.m. view the Hardwick Fair-y Village and visit with Ambrosia, the Hardwick Village Fairy. There will be glitter tattoos and face painting by Miss Elizabeth.

HUBBARDSTON

by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

Dinghy Dash happens Aug. 22

The ninth annual Dinghy Dash takes place on Saturday, Aug. 22 on Brigham Pond at 10 a.m. This year, there are three categories to choose from: single occupant adult, single occupant youth and group vessel. People may visit the town website at www.hubbardston-ma.gov for official entry forms and rules. The entry deadline is Monday, Aug.17.

Citizen of the Year

The annual Hubbardston Citizen of the Year award nomination window has opened. People may place their nomination for Hubbardston’s 2026 Citizen of the Year. Deadline is Monday, Aug. 31 to submit a nominee. To make a nomination, people should complete a nomination form. This year’s winner will be announced at fall Town Meeting, date to be determined and the winner’s name will be engraved on the plaque in Town Hall. People should visit <https://hubbardstonma.form.transform.civicplus.com/49392> to make a nomination. The plaque is displayed in the Town Clerk’s office and shows winners for the last two years, since the Award’s inception in 2024.

Cable Advisory Committee

Hubbardston’s current cable license is expiring and before the town negotiates a new agreement, the town needs to determine whether the cable company has fulfilled its obligations under the current license and identify what the town and its residents will need over the next ten years. The committee will gather input from town departments and the public, hold a required public hearing and then use that information to negotiate funding, equipment and other terms for the new cable license. The Town is seeking individuals who are interested in joining the Cable Advisory Committee to help ensure the town and residents needs are met during this renewal process. Anyone interested in applying for this important committee should fill out an application and it will get sent to the Executive Assistant/Select Board. They should visit <https://hubbardstonma-hubconnect.app.transform.civicplus.com/forms/hubbardston-appointments?parentTile=Hub-BRESIDENTS> for the application.

Library 5K run/walk

The 29th Annual Hubbardston Library 5K run/walk takes place Saturday Sept. 12 at 9 a.m. sharp, rain or shine. This annual event represents more than a quarter century of community support for the library, approaching \$95,000 raised for ongoing operations. The race is an out and back course starting and finishing at the Hubbardston Center School. Applications for the event will be available online at the Hubbardston Library website. The registration fee for the fund-raising event is \$25 and \$30 for those who register after Sunday, Aug. 2. Long sleeve cotton race shirts will be provided to the first 100 registered runners. Awards to overall 1st place Male/Female Runners and Walkers as well as medals/prizes to age group winners will be provided. Prizes are possible due to the generous donations of local businesses and individuals. For additional information on this event, interested runners/walkers or donors may call Mark Wigler, Race Director at 978-928-5120 or email MTWigler@gmail.com. The 2025 Race/Walk raised over \$4,100 for support of the library’s activities and Scholarship Fund.

Senior Center events

All artists are welcome to attend the art

See HUBBARDSTON, page 6

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

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

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

Please contact **Pat James 413-726-8661.**



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The joys of harvest

It's been a fun week in the garden! I love it when the harvest starts to roll in.

This week I picked broccoli, kale, green beans and zucchini. I also replanted a few crops in hopes of a second harvest prior to the first frost.

Read on to hear about my adventures.

You may remember my column from a few weeks back, where I was having a hard time getting "into it" this year. I guess like building any relationship, the more time you spend, the more time you may want to spend as things start to progress and go well.

Anyway, I am happy with my garden again and it feels good to spend time out there. Back to the harvest.

I enjoy harvesting broccoli. It's always fun to see just how big you can get the heads to grow before they want to flower.

The first one I cut was maybe six inches in diameter. Not bad, but the second one was closer to nine inches.

More heads will be ready in the coming weeks. After that I will be harvesting side shoots.

This year, cabbage moths were kept at bay by using a tightly woven bug netting draped over the plants and supported by wire hoops and secured at the base by old wooden planks or stones. So far so good; no worms of any kind in the water left over after steaming.

Kale is broccoli's cousin and is subject to the same pests. Because of that I also grow it under the netting.

I've been harvesting the kale for well over a month and we already have several bags of it in the freezer. I am starting to rethink my use of plastic baggies, but for now the leaves are washed, patted dry then ripped into pieces and stuffed into baggies pushing out as much air as possible. When my husband makes

his vegetable juices and stews, all he does is empty the contents into his creation.

I noticed that the older leaves of the kale were starting to have a yellow cast, so I got out the organic granular fertilizer and gave the plants a sprinkle and a good watering. Hopefully that will reinvigorate the plants for picking well into the fall.

My bush bean seeds got planted late; well after Memorial Day. The harvest is just starting. I will be sure to pick often to keep the plants producing.

I have been saving my own bean seeds for a few years now. It's easy, just harvest the dry pods of "the ones that got away." Make sure they are crispy dry.

Break open the seed pods and store the seeds with a packet of desiccant (usually in a bottle of vitamins or with leather shoes) in a jar. If you are growing open pollinated or heirloom, non-hybrid varieties you will reliably get the same variety back again. They don't cross pollinate with neighbor beans.

This week I was happy to harvest four zucchinis with more coming. It's funny that already I see freebies at the end of drive-ways on my commute. I truly hope I have an abundance.

To avoid "boat-sized" squash, pick them small, say six to eight inches long. The seed cavity won't be too big that way and you will encourage the plant to keep producing.

No doubt the vine borer will do in my early sowing soon enough, but never fear, I have sown additional seeds under cover to hopefully have a later harvest once this one expires. I try and keep them covered until the plants bloom, at which time the cover needs to be removed so that the flowers

See GARDEN page 5

Letter to the Editor

Second Chance thanks golf tournament supporters

To the Editor:
On behalf of everyone at Second Chance Animal Services, I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the many golfers, volunteers, donors, sponsors, and community members who made our 14th Annual Charity Golf Tournament such a tremendous success.

When a community comes together, amazing things happen for pets in need. The funds raised will help provide affordable veterinary care through our Community Veterinary Hospitals, ensuring more pets receive the medical care they need while staying with the families who love them.

We are especially grateful to our generous sponsors whose support helped make this event possible.

Our sincere thanks to Tito's Handmade Vodka, Teddy Bear Pools & Spas, The Republican, and Herlihy Insurance Group for their leadership support. We also thank Cornerstone, Embie Industries, IDEXX,

Southbridge Credit Union, and SEM (Security Engineered Machinery) for their valued partnership.

We're equally grateful to the businesses and individuals who donated auction and raffle items, the volunteers who gave their time, Cold Spring Country Club for hosting another outstanding tournament, and everyone who chose to spend the day supporting our mission.

Together, you are helping ensure that families facing financial challenges can still access quality veterinary care for their beloved pets. Your generosity truly makes a difference, and we are honored to have such compassionate supporters standing beside us.

Thank you for helping pets receive the second chance they deserve.

Sincerely,
Lindsay Doray
Chief Development Officer
Second Chance Animal Services

Opinion



In Past Pages

Look Back- Barre Thief and Rogue Society - 1991



Charles Wyman, right is being sworn in as the Barre Thief and Rogue Society's 1991 president by Charles Connington.

5 years (Aug. 5, 2021)
Representatives from the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission recently met with the town of Barre of Selectmen to discuss a proposed fiscal year 2021 Community Development Block Grant application due on Sept. 10. It was determined that a housing rehabilitation program will be part of the application as well as infrastructure and public facility planning studies for the South Barre area. "For Barre residents, this particular grant will focus on the South Barre/Barre Plains section of the town where there is significant need due to the age and condition of housing stock, infrastructure and public facilities," said Christopher Dunphy of the CMRPC, who is working with both Barre and Leicester officials on the grant application. In preparation of the application, efforts are under way to inform residents that

housing rehabilitation assistance may become available. "Major repairs at older homes are often beyond the financial ability of many seniors and other residents. This program can really help."

The Hardwick Board of Selectmen met on Monday, Aug. 1 at 5:30 p.m. Town Administrator Nicole Parker said she contacted Eagle Hill School Headmaster Dr. PJ McDonald last Friday regarding the agreement to accept \$1.8 million, as outlined in the USDA's Letter of Conditions. Parker said McDonald signed the original agreement town counsel drafted months ago, which the USDA previously approved. Parker sent the signed agreement to the USDA and received confirmation that they received it. Parker said the USDA notified her they will respond by Friday, Aug. 13. Parker said the USDA also requested copies of the recorded meet-

ings pertaining to the sewer project. BOS Vice-Chair Julie Quink said she can send the recordings, but the Zoom files are too large to submit through email. Quink asked permission to purchase a terabyte drive in order to submit the recordings. The board approved her request.

The Hubbardston Select Board at its July 26 meeting voted to create a five-member American Rescue Plan Act Committee on the recommendation of acting town administrator, David Nixon. The ARPA Committee will consist of two Select Board members, one finance committee member, one planning board member and one community member. Since only three of the five-member select board was present, the board will wait to make the appointments to the new committee. Select board member, Katie Young, said

See PAST PAGES, page 5

Guest Column

A clarion call for community service

By A.B. Splaine

Editor's Note: In the Middle Ages, clarion was a noun, the name for a trumpet that could play a melody in clear, shrill tones. It has since been used for the sound of a trumpet or a similar sound.

Two hundred and fifty years ago, Thomas Paine penned a clarion call to citizens of his adopted country called "Common Sense."

Today our nation is calling us again in cities and towns across this land to stand side by side as Americans and do what we can for our fellow countrymen.

On Sundays at noon, an intrepid group of committed American's stand together

to peacefully exercise their first amendment right of free speech.

The recent passing of a longtime, and fairly well known, Barre resident has rung a similar clarion call to address a need for local men and women of good faith to help fill a need for first responder volunteers in fire and emergency medical help areas, which have become sorely short-handed.

A close friend, whose deceased brother's body was dangerously carried from a second-floor bedroom to a waiting hearse, became alerted to this need. He responded by offering financial support to fund a safer means of removal for the responders.

In seeking to be informed by these local volunteer units

who put themselves in harms way to offer help to their neighbors, my friend realized that this need is at a crisis level in the Barre area.

He asked me to write this piece with the hope of stirring some of the fine citizenry to volunteer their help with this valuable community service.

I would also ask that local businesses in town provide ad space as a means of backing this call to service.

With the help of all Barre area residents and in each of the surrounding towns as well, these vital services will remain available to those in need and provide an opportunity to get to know more of our neighbors in a "Common Cause" effort that all can be proud of.

BARRE GAZETTE

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Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

It is hard to believe July is just about over.

The weather has been very changeable. The evenings have been cool and the days in the 70s. At least the smoke from Canada has subsided.

I am writing this on Sunday morning and my two daughters are giving me a 90th birthday party today. I will have to tell the readers about it next week.

This week several good projects have been completed. One was done by a very nice gentleman and it was sealing the chimney with two coats of sealer. The front door lock had broken so a man came and repaired that and fixed the handle on the back door.

The case worker came and is going to try to get me some more help which is needed. The handyman mowed the lawns and took care of the rubbish.

I received a beautiful bouquet of potted petunias in red, white and blue and put them in a raised stand on the front deck.

The flower gardens are starting to brighten up with a lot of cone flowers. The tomatoes are growing well in the deck planter and the pepper plants are finally making blossoms.

We have been picking lettuce from the planter on the deck.

My handyman gave me some blueberries and I made a blueberry pie.

I plan to make this recipe this week with the rest of the blueberries. I got this recipe from Sue Vaida many years ago and it is very easy to make. She called it blueberry something.

Blueberry Something

Blueberries I usually use 2 cups, but can use as many as want

1 cup flour

1 cup sugar

1 stick butter

1 teaspoon cinnamon or add more cinnamon if use more than two cups blueberries

Into a 1 3/4 quart casserole pan put some blueberries. Sprinkle with cinnamon. In a separate bowl put one cup of flour, one cup sugar and one stick of butter. Blend together and put on top of blueberries. Bake for one hour at 325 degrees. May serve warm with vanilla ice cream.

This and That

Raked up two wheelbarrows full of pine needles off the driveway near the house. A large beech nut branch came down from the only beech nut tree we have on the property. We have a wood lot of mostly oaks. Glad it did not go across the long driveway to the main road as

we have had two that landed across the driveway and the electric wires. I had to call the electric company twice to remove big branches that fell on the wires.

I have been working in the garage filing articles and papers that need to be put into file cabinets and notebooks. Have been finding some interesting articles I had forgotten I had. Made copies of many articles on the Morgan Farm and called Bill and Donna Shea and they came and got them. They have a museum in one of the barns which tell about the Morgan Farm and the old Wheeler's Store. We had very nice visit with them.

All the notebooks and file folders I have on the history of Hubbardston will eventually go to the museum. I keep files on houses, people, businesses, schools etc.

I have been told I am the Town Historian and was curator of the museum for over 20 years but can't climb the stairs to the museum in the library any more. Joyce Green has taken my place. My Mother did it for many years before me. She was the founder of the Hubbardston Historical Society. Hopefully some day it will have a new home where the public can view the collection.

Have a good week and enjoy the good weather.

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.

GARDEN from page 4

can be pollinated and fruit can form.

I hope you are enjoying the start of the harvest season as much as I am.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 34 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village.

PAST PAGES from page 4

of the American Rescue Plan Act funds, "We get one shot to do something right, [we] need to do something very select with it." The town of Hubbardston will receive about \$1.3 million. The acting town administrator said the town received its first payment of \$250,000 from the U.S. Treasury and can start spending the money now

10 years (Aug. 4, 2016)

Dry conditions throughout the region resulted in extra work for local fire departments. Departments responded to numerous brush fires either at home or in neighboring communities through mutual aid.

Barre Fire Chief Robert Rogowski said, "Brush fires in July are rare and this was one of the busiest weeks I can remember for fires." He stated that the Barre Fire Department responded to 10 brush fires and five other emergencies between Sunday, July 24 and Saturday, July 30. The chief explained that most of the fires burned deep into the ground and required a lot of manpower and time due to the drought conditions this summer. Four of the ten fires required mutual aid from the surrounding communities and from the state DCR to help extinguish. A heat wave during the last week of July made the fighting of the brush fires harder. The high took a toll on the firefighters working the fires and that increased the need for mutual aid, ensuring sufficient firefighters to rotate companies to give firefighters needed breaks from battling the flames.

A special town meeting scheduled in Oakham for Wednesday, Aug. 24 will have only two articles. One article seeks a 2 1/2 override and the other a debt exclusion. Selectmen met last week with the finance committee regarding the Quabbin

Regional School budget, what options to follow and to set a special town meeting. Selectmen voted to close the warrant Monday night. The override article asks voters to approve the new assessment amount presented to the member towns by the Quabbin Regional School District contingent on passing of a 2 1/2 override to fund it. A second article seeks to fund the balance of the municipal building debt through a so-called debt exclusion. Currently, the annual debt and interest costs for the building come out of the tax levy. Since the town was at levy limit, this measure would free up some money in the town that has very little new growth that is part of the 2 1/2 formula.

An override and debt exclusion both require a yes vote at town meeting and then must obtain a yes vote in a ballot election. Selectmen plan to include a separate ballot for the override and debt exclusion questions at the state primary election Thursday, Sept. 8.

From the youngest to the oldest of the young people exhibiting at the Oakham Youth Fair, pride and dedication was evident. The youngest exhibitor, Ryleigh Sullivan of Oakham, entered her vegetables in the clover bud class. Although not old enough to receive prize money, she did go home with some blue ribbons for yellow squash, cucumbers, green peppers and zucchini squash. This past Saturday about 25 youths, many of them siblings, entered over 20 head of cattle, both dairy and beef, as well as flowers and vegetables. The weather was perfect and many people came to watch the exhibitors in the show ring. Lunch also was available at the snack shack.

25 years (Aug. 2, 2001)

It was a beautiful day for the Barre Fair that was held at Felton Field on Sunday,

July 29. This popular agricultural fair had something for everyone. For those who love animals there was a horse show, oxen pull and judging of sheep, cattle and rabbits. For the crafted or artistically inclined an exhibit of crafts, art, photography, sewing, woodworking, knitting and even holiday decorations held in the Joseph A. Pitisci Building. The late Joseph Pitisci for many years was involved in the Barre Fair and the building was dedicated to him at the 1999 fair.

An open house for Gene Kennedy on his retirement for the Barre Gazette will be held Sunday, Aug. 5 from 2-4 p.m. at the Blue Dog Cafe on South Street at Listening Center. Refreshments will be served. The event is arranged by the Barre Lions Club.

The Oakham Youth Fair was Saturday, July 28 under sunny skies. Eva Grimes and the late Doris Warner founded the fair in the early 1960s. Although in years past, there were more exhibitors, the number of exhibitors this year was greater than in the past two or three years. A total of 25 youths showed 59 beef and dairy cattle. The dairy breeds were well represented with the five major breeds exhibited – Holstein, Jersey, Guernsey, Brown Swiss and Ayrshire. However, there were very few beef animals shown. There were four sheep mostly Hampshire, Dorset and Suffolk and nine rabbit exhibitors with 34 rabbits of various breeds. Flowers and vegetables had 15 entries with four exhibitors.

38 years (Aug. 6, 1988)

If the chicken barbecue and fireworks display held Saturday night are any indication of the celebration year when Barre observes its 225th anniversary should be spectacular. Richard C. Stevens, 225th anniversary committee chairman said that 468 chicken barbecues were



For your wallet and the planet: reduce food waste

By Lisa Marselle

In America, about 35% of our produced food ends up in landfills taking up space, producing methane gas, and wasting our grocery dollars.

As one researcher put it, it's like going grocery shopping, buying three bags of groceries, then tossing one bag right into the trash as you exit the store.

The Environmental Protection Agency also reports, "that preventing wasted food altogether is the most preferred action to reduce the environmental impact of food waste." So now is a good a time to share info and dispel any confusion on those interesting little numbers stamped on our food.

Understanding food date labels such as "Sell by," "Best by," "Use by," and others, may help extend our food dollars, so we're not tossing out perfectly good food if handled and cooked properly.

This helps us and our planet now and for future generations. Food dates inform us.

Most of those dates though are surprisingly not expiration dates except those on baby formula, food and products.

No baby products should

be used after these dates. For all other foods though, as dates are not required by federal law, it's food producers, who voluntarily determine all of these dates.

And, dates have more to do with product quality and nothing to do with product safety. Many folks (9 out of 10 from one study) will trash items once they see that the product's date is past, but needless to say, this practice could be wasting food.

The following information gathered from The University of Maine Cooperative Extension, University of Georgia, the USDA and other sources, tell us exactly what these dates and numbers describe. Known as "open dates," the most commonly used food date labels are: Sell by Date.

This date label tells the store how long to keep an item on the shelf or on display for the best flavor and peak quality. It's not a safety date. You'll often find this label on foods such as dairy products, eggs, meat, poultry, seafood, bread and baked goods.

Best if Used by (or Before) This date label also has nothing to do with safety of the product, but again, indicates peak quality and best flavor.

Use by – This date label also does not indicate safety, but stresses that this is the last date of peak quality. Freeze by – this date indicates when a product should be frozen to maintain peak quality. Again, it's not a purchase or safety date.

Expiration date – These dates are rare in the US, except for the baby items. So if a date notes "expiration," simply do not use this product beyond this date.

"Closed or coded dates" are all the extra numbers and letters found on shelf stable products, generally after one of the phrases above. This information tells manufacturers when and where a product was made, canned or boxed.

See the trend? These dates indicate peak quality, not safety. Again, food must be handled properly, but overall, a past date does not mean that the food is bad. So if we are not going by these dates, what do we as consumers do about safety?

The USDA and others urge folks to use their senses. If it smells bad, looks bad, feels bad (slimy), toss it.

Thus the saying, "When in doubt, throw it out." Additionally, Foodsafety.gov has information to help us stay safe.

Their Food Keeper page and app give some safety guidelines. While using this information, there are folks deemed as "People at Risk" including children under five, folks over 65, sick people or those having treatments like chemotherapy and pregnant women.

Here safety is imperative as these folks have a greater chance of becoming seriously ill by poor food safety. But using this new information, let's stop food waste and save our dollars.

served and more than 1,000 attended the fireworks display – 18 minutes of awesome lighting of the night sky. A DJ provided music for dancing while the crowd awaited the fireworks. The committee hopes to raise \$40,000 for next year's event, which will feature a huge parade, Old Home Day and a bigger fireworks display, probably twice as log as this year's. Stevens said the committee has a great head start on its goal. With the town's donation added to other donations and fundraiser proceeds, the fund has reached \$25,000.

The Barre Board of Health recently adopted recycling regulations and some residents expressed concerns

about compliance. Based on calls to the health board office, it appears that there is some confusion about how to separate trash and residents fear they will be fined or have landfill privileges revoked if they don't comply with the new rules. Richard C. Stevens Board of Health member and landfill monitor said, "We're starting to do random bag tests at the landfill. We're trying to do it (force compliance) gently. We'll warn people a couple of times before we take away their landfill permits." He continued, "We know it won't happen overnight, but we're already seen a big recycling since the new rules have been announced.

In two separate, heated

meetings, both the Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board denied contractor David A. Robinson a permit that would allow him to dig up South Barre Road for a new building project. Selectmen met Aug. 4. The Planning Board met the next night with representatives from the Conservation Commission, the Board of Health and the Selectmen. The boards indicated they would not grant the permit, which would allow Robinson to make a necessary connection the the sewer system, until all concerned boards reviewed and approved detailed plans. The Planning Board also decided not to make its decision without Town Counsel James Baird present.

SEPTEMBER 2026

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Local Residents participate in 2026 Pan-Mass Challenge

NEEDHAM –This Aug. 1 and 2, the Pan-Mass Challenge will bring together more than 6,000 cyclists and 4,000 volunteers on Aug. 1-2 to raise money for cancer research and patient care at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Participants from local communities will be among those helping support the PMC’s mission to fund life-saving cancer research and treatment. Local participants Include: Pam Rockwood of North Brookfield (https://

profile.pmc.org/PR0153), Sean Sullivan of Rutland (https://profile.pmc.org/SS0662), Karen Sharpe of Rutland (https://profile.pmc.org/KS0607), John Bubello of Rutland (https://profile.pmc.org/KB1200), Carol Benoit of Rutland (https://profile.pmc.org/CB0140), Charles Bateman of Rutland (https://profile.pmc.org/CB0350), Lisa Kelly of Rutland (https://profile.pmc.org/LK0233). Seth Cormeir of North Brookfield (https://

profile.pmc.org/SC0377), David Larson of Hardwick (https://profile.pmc.org/DL0322) and Dena Brayson of Ware (https://profile.pmc.org/DB0232). The PMC, which raises more money for charity than any other single athletic fundraiser in the world, is aiming to raise more than ever this year, with a fund-raising goal of \$79 million. This year’s PMC comes at an especially critical time, with federal research support shrinking, grant approval

rates reaching historic lows, and cancer cases continuing to rise. For the 20th consecutive year, 100% of every rider-raised dollar will go directly to Dana-Farber, one of the nation’s top three hospitals for cancer research and care. Since its inception in 1980, the PMC has raised \$1.125 billion for Dana-Farber, making it the organization’s largest single contributor and accounting for 67 percent of the annual revenue of The Jimmy Fund, Dana-Farber’s com-

munity-driven fundraising arm. This unrestricted annual funding has empowered and accelerated advancements in cancer research, deeply benefiting patients across the world. During each annual PMC weekend, thousands of cyclists and volunteers come together from across the world, hailing from 47 US states and 12 countries, with a shared purpose of raising as much money as possible for Dana-Farber. Cyclists ride routes ranging from

25 to 177 miles. Included among these participants is the PMC Living Proof community, riders and volunteers who were previously treated or are currently undergoing cancer treatment and serve as Living Proof of the progress made through raising funds for cancer research and treatment. There is still time to participate in this year’s Pan-Mass Challenge. Folks interested in getting involved can learn more and register at PMC.org.

Oliveira secures funding for Palmer rail stop

By Kevin Flanders
Staff Writer

PALMER – Plans to bring a passenger rail stop to town remain firmly on track after a major funding announcement last week. On July 22, state Sen. Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow) announced that he secured \$5 million in state funding to advance the future Palmer rail stop. The funding marks one of the most significant milestones to date for the project, as well as the state’s overall west-east rail initiative. “For years, we’ve worked to move west-east rail from a vision to a reality,” Oliveira said. “MassDOT has completed the planning, selected the site, and finished the conceptual design. My priority was making sure we didn’t lose momentum. By securing this \$5 million investment, we’re giving the Healey-Driscoll Administration the resources and authority needed to move the Palmer passenger rail stop forward.” The funding was secured after the Massachusetts Senate adopted Oliveira’s

amendment to the Senate’s \$325 million Economic Development Bill, which was passed last week. The amendment provides the Healey-Driscoll Administration with the funding necessary to advance the Palmer rail stop as part of Phase I of the Commonwealth’s Compass Rail initiative. The investment supports planning, design, engineering, site preparation, accessibility improvements, parking, pedestrian access, utility work and other infrastructure projects needed to move the project toward construction. “That’s a tremendous win for Palmer, for western Massachusetts, and for everyone who has worked to make west-east rail a reality,” Oliveira said of securing the funding. MassDOT first launched the Palmer station planning process in 2024, evaluating multiple potential locations through technical analysis, public meetings and community engagement. In February 2025, Governor Maura Healey and the Massachusetts

Department of Transportation selected the South of Palmer Yard site (1199 South Main St.) as the preferred location for the station. Over the past year-plus, MassDOT has completed the station’s conceptual designs and other critical pre-construction work, positioning the project to move into its next phase. Throughout the entire process, Oliveira has worked closely with MassDOT leaders, local officials, and legislative colleagues to help keep the project on the rails. The ultimate goal is to see a completed project that opens new pathways in accessibility and economic development. “West-east rail is about far more than getting from one place to another,” Oliveira added. “It’s about reconnecting communities and expanding access to jobs, higher education, and healthcare, while creating new economic opportunities across western Massachusetts.” Strategically located at the crossroads of the Massachusetts Turnpike

and major rail transportation corridors, Palmer is uniquely positioned to serve as a regional transportation hub. Now, with the latest advancement in the project, a town steeped in railroad history is one step closer to connecting residents and businesses throughout the area with a new station. The Palmer rail stop is slated to serve both the proposed Boston & Albany Corridor and the Inland Route, strengthening connections between Springfield, Worcester and Boston as part of the Commonwealth’s Compass Rail network. “Reliable passenger rail will help revitalize our downtowns, attract private investment, strengthen our workforce and position our region to compete and grow for decades to come,” Oliveira said. “Today’s investment moves us one significant step closer to making that promise a reality.” Oliveira’s amendment builds upon more than \$270 million in previous state and federal investments

that have steadily advanced west-east rail plans. These include funds for corridor improvements, Springfield Union Station, project planning, engineering, environmental reviews, and rail infrastructure improvements. Now, by securing the first major legislative investment dedicated specifically to advancing the Palmer rail stop, the amendment represents the next milestone in returning passenger rail service to Palmer. Earlier this month, the State House of Representatives passed its own version of the Economic Development Bill. Looking ahead, a conference committee will reconcile the differences between the House and Senate versions. “West-east rail has never been about a single vote or a single funding bill,” Oliveira said. “It’s been about making steady progress, one milestone at a time. There’s still work ahead, but we’re closer than ever to welcoming passenger rail back to Palmer and creating new opportunities for generations to come.”

Vendors wanted for fall Flea Market

WEST BROOKFIELD – The First Congregational Church of West Brookfield, UCC, 36 North Main St., has been hosting their Flea Market on the town common for more than 50 years. This year the Flea Market will be held on Saturday, Sept. 12 from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (vendor check-in 6:30-8:30 a.m.). Sellers of all kinds are welcome – flea folk, antique dealers, crafters, product vendors and those emptying out basements and attics. No food vendors, please. Spaces are available for \$40 for a 20 x 20 grassy spot. Vendors must bring their own tables and tents. The church will sponsor a food tent with grilled food, cold drinks and sweet treats. Email to fccofwbfleamarket@gmail.com for an application or call Karen at 508-801-7692.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR from page 1
the town was looking to move forward with Magee, Fitzgerald had submitted applications in other towns, and one of the towns closer

to his residence brought him on. The deadline for candidates to send an application to the town is July 31, and the Select Board has also opened up applications for another town administrator

search committee, who will conduct interviews with certain applicants before bringing candidates forward to the select board. The Select Board will meet next on Aug. 3.

MEETINGHOUSE from page 1

tee discussed looking for a dry well, but members said once the ground is dug a few feet in Hubbardston, there is water everywhere, including a natural spring near the building. There are also structural integrity issues with the building, as some of the columns are not on solid footing and not up to current building code, according to committee member Mike Stoll. He said it is “critical” to get a structural assessment, as there have also been powder post beetles observed,

along with there being loose laid stone as a foundation in areas. Some other goals brought up for the building include reducing mold and repairing the windows, and looking into MassSave to see if they can help with other parts of the building, since committee chair Lori Gill said they do not cover windows. **Other updates** Gill said there is a new grant specific for historic preservation in central Massachusetts, and asked if it would be something to pursue, which the committee agreed would be beneficial.

HARDWICK from page 1

turnaround between the warrants coming out and having to be signed is a result of limited hours from the accountant, and when asked if it may be possible to get them in earlier, she said not at this time. She also said Hardwick’s warrant signing system is standard operating procedure in other towns, and it is not a conversation elsewhere. **STM** The board voted to update the location of the special town meeting scheduled for Aug. 12 at 6:30 p.m. at the Town House. The new location will be the Myron Richardson Municipal Building at the same date and

time, with articles including the Quabbin Regional School District regional agreement, zoning bylaw articles and a sewer article. **Early voting** There was a public hearing to reduce the early voting hours for the Sept. 1 state primary. Town Clerk Ryan J. Witkos said only a handful of residents utilized early voting in recent years. All dates are not official yet, but Witkos said it is likely Aug. 22 will be available from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. along with some weekdays, potentially from 3-7 p.m. **Appointment** The board appointed Sinead Tinker as a MART driver.

HUBBARDSTON from page 3

group at the Hubbardston Senior Center every Friday from 9-11 a.m. A new activity at the Senior Center is the Creative Needle and Thread activity every Friday from 9 a.m.-noon. All are invited to bring projects, such as embroidery, cross

stitch, sewing and quilting. Questions may be directed to Michelle at 508-450-4476. Yarn-It-All group meets from 10 a.m.-noon. Knitting and crocheting projects will be worked on, and those who have questions will get help from others who attend. Games of Pitch are held the second and fourth Wednesdays at

Brown is taking down some playground equipment and fences to start making a parking area in the back of the building, and a dusk to dawn light has been installed on one of the doors of the building at a cost of \$15.41 from the committee’s budget. The committee announced there will be a game night on Aug. 28 at the meetinghouse from 5-8 p.m. with a suggested donation along with a fall fun day on Oct. 24 at the meetinghouse from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. with scarecrow and pumpkin contests, with a \$5 fee for scarecrows and \$1 for pumpkins, with tickets available for purchase to vote.

Quarterly billing The board, also acting as the sewer commission, approved quarterly billing for the sewer bills to make payment easier for users, and they also discussed potentially seating a new sewer commission who can focus on only sewer related issues.

Town Administrator’s report Caggiano said construction has started on Highland Terrace. She said 179 Main St. is being re-bid and there was also a Police Department interview. The new town website will launch on Aug. 3 and the Hardwick Community Fair is Aug.14-15.



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RUTLAND from page 1

the town she grows up in is accessible.

Town Administrator Heather Butler will serve as the town official, and she said the rest of the members who applied submitted letters of interest and are qualified for the position.

Events Committee communication

The Select Board held an inter-board communication session with the Events Committee, including chair Jeanne Scigliano, Sondra Thomas, Barbara Ruchala, Samantha Green, Brian Green, Harriet Klayman and Drolet.

Scigliano outlined the history of the committee, saying it was formed three years ago to continue putting on concerts and raising money for events. She said they started surveying the community about other events they wanted put on, and developed the community expo to showcase what was happening.

She said some of the regular events the committee has started hosting include maker's markets, decades dances, and a summer send off coming Sept. 5.

Scigliano said some of the highlights of the send off include arts, music, programs from the Department of Conservation and Recreation, farm animals and inflatables. The committee also organized the Army Band concert on July 10.

One of the aspects the committee cited needing assistance with was getting the word out about their need for donations and revenue. Some suggestions shared by the Select Board included reaching out to the schools, along with the council on aging to be included in their newsletter.

The events committee is also considering requiring food trucks that attend their events to contribute some money.

Auto dealer license

The board held a public hearing requiring the application from Daigle Motorsports LLC for a class 2 auto dealer license to allow them to sell used cars. The property is located at 206 Barre Paxton Road. There was no public comment, and the board approved the request, with member Leah Whiteman saying it was great to see economic development on that road.

Conservation restriction

Helen Castles, a Senior Conservation Project Manager with the Mount Grace Land Trust said she was looking for the Select Board's support to place a conservation restriction on the Dolan Farm property of 122 Pleasantdale Road. Castles said the Conservation Commission wrote a letter of support already.

Castles said this restriction keeps the farm a working farm. She said it also fits with Rutland's open space plan by protecting important soil, wetlands, streams and habitats.

She also said the land will be turned over to the Nipmuc tribe, who she said plan on still paying taxes to the town.

Meeting space

The board continued discussions on meeting space, and received correspondence from Glenwood Elementary School stating the library is open for meetings after most of the staff vacate by 4 p.m. The correspondence said there are custodians there until 10 p.m.

Butler also said an opinion came in from KP Law on the ownership of the library, summarizing it by saying the trustees have full control over the hours and activities that happen in it.

In a correspondence with library trustees chair Ruth Rovezzi, she wrote the library's budget took a 21% cut over last year, and is overall less than 1% of Rutland's whole operating

budget. She said as a result of this, they reduced the hours from 40 to 32.

She wrote that while there are no staffing costs to open the building for meetings after hours, there are utility costs, which come out of the library budget.

Rovezzi wrote the operating budget never fully funds the library, and by the last quarter they rely on state aid and donations to pay for utilities, which are not guaranteed every year.

Rovezzi continued, writing the cost savings from limiting utility costs are going to be used to better serve the patrons of the library, writing in part, "the board of library trustees has a single mission: to support the library and ensure our community has a lifelong center for learning."

Rovezzi wrote that the board understands the decision creates hardships for the town, but they had been transparent on the impacts the library would face from a budget cut. She said without additional funds, they would be unlikely to offer meeting space after hours.

Welcome sign policy

The board continued a discussion on the purchases of town welcome signs, of which there are nine at various town lines. Businesses are able to purchase a location to place their own sign to help advertise their businesses, and the board worked to finalize a policy for those purchases.

There were some lines in the draft policy that drew discussion, including line two which states, "maintenance includes upkeep of the welcome signs, landscaping at the base of the signs and any necessary repairs to the wood signs."

Board member Harry Sechman asked whether the maintenance includes the big sign or the smaller ones the businesses buy. Select Board Chair Sheila Dibb said they could remove the plural so it

would only include the big sign.

There was also a stipulation in the policy that sets the term of purchase to align with the fiscal year, but Dibb said it could be more flexible. She also brought up line nine, which states "if greater than nine applicants are received, there will be no preference given to existing sign sponsors, a waiting list will be established for any applicants that do not receive a sign placement."

Dibb said the board agreed for there to be a lottery from the start.

Line 14 forbids inappropriate language on the sign and mandates the sign include the name of the business. The board agreed to give Butler final discretion over the designs, before it is sent to the Select Board for approval.

Some other rules and information about the sign include the length of term is two years, a business gets to purchase one sign unless less than nine are purchased, where they can purchase a second, the size is five feet by one foot, and the price ranges from \$750-\$1,250. The draft policy also states there will be a perpetual care fund for revenue from purchase.

Committee charges and policies

The board approved charges for both a Communications Advisory Committee and a Town Building Committee. According to Dibb, the advisory committee would, in part, advise the Select Board on what to include on the website, but would not have access to the site itself.

According to the charge, the committee would also "support efforts to improve transparency, community engagement, public awareness, and access to information."

It will be a five member committee with members serving three year staggered

terms. The board approved the charge.

The board also analyzed the Town Building Committee, which would be designed to evaluate and look at priorities for town buildings. Butler specifically brought up Glenwood Elementary School, as she said there were some modifications to the construction of it that were "disastrous."

Whiteman also brought up that the roof at Naquag Elementary School needs to be repaired.

According to the draft policy, which was approved, the committee will also have five members serving on three year staggered terms.

Part of their responsibility will be community engagement and making recommendations to the Capital Improvement Planning Committee. They will also be made to give a report to the Select Board yearly.

The Select Board also approved a board and committee board of conduct, which will be circulated among appointed boards, and shown to elected boards so they can make their decision on adopting it.

4th of July

The board discussed how they could support a new Fourth of July Committee, as the current members of the committee decided to resign following this year's limited events, and the negative response from the public they faced.

Dibb said the town needs to make sure it is supportive and shows them the structure, saying the committee is losing a lot of institutional knowledge with the departures.

There was also a discussion as to why the town did not take the offer from the Worcester County Sheriff's Office to offer support so the event could go on. Butler said the town never asked the union, but they did ask KP Law if it would be a violation of the fair labor portion of

their contract, and she said the opinion of KP Law was that it would have been.

She said the cancellation was made by the 4th of July Committee based on recommendations from the police and fire chiefs.

Some members of the Select Board expressed concern that the decision never came to them, including Sechman, who said it was partially the board's fault for allowing the committee to make the decision without consulting with the board.

He said the police chief could have "easily directed individuals" for the parade.

4th of July Committee member Karen Greenwood said she is thinking of serving on the committee for next year, and said she has ideas on things to change from this year. Greenwood said the committee will try to put on a parade for next year.

As for this year's decision, Greenwood said they met with public safety officials, who told them they did not think all of the events could come together.

"I think we made a very informed decision," Greenwood said.

Butler also addressed the 17 layoffs as a result of the failed override, saying that was the worst thing that happened as a result of it, not the lack of events for the holiday. "We cannot continue to say that losing fireworks was the worst thing that happened," Butler said.

She said the police and fire departments made the decision they did for the best interest of the town plus the 12,000 residents who visit.

FY 28 budget

The board started discussions on the fiscal year 2028 budget, discussing why residents may have not wanted to vote for the override this year. The board suggested putting out a survey to residents so they could check boxes about why they made the decision they did at the polls.

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The Hidden Danger of Investing Too Cautiously

One of the most significant risks investors face isn't losing money in a market dip; it's failing to reach their long-term financial goals.

Many people focus heavily on short-term losses in the stock market and try to protect their savings by investing conservatively or avoiding stocks altogether. But that runs the risk that their savings won't grow enough to keep up with inflation or support future needs.

Understanding what investment risk really means helps you make smarter financial decisions, considering these three key aspects.

• **Risk tolerance** describes your emotional comfort with risk. If you'd want to pull your money out of the market during a downturn, that reveals something about your tolerance. Many financial advisors use questionnaires to help clients understand how they might react in different market conditions.

• **Risk capacity** refers to how much risk you can afford to take. Your timeline matters. A 35-year-old saving for retirement has decades to ride out market swings. A retiree drawing income from their portfolio doesn't have that same cushion.

• **Required risk** describes how much risk you may need to take to reach your financial goals. Higher returns generally come with higher risk, though higher risk does not guarantee higher returns. If you need strong growth to retire comfortably, you may need to accept more short-term volatility.

Sometimes these elements don't line up. You might be uncomfortable with risk but need strong growth to meet your goals.

Balance and diversification matter: Finding the right balance matters more than you might think. A small difference in your annual rate of return, from 5% to 7% for instance, doesn't just add up a little. It multiplies. That's the power of compounding — returns earning their own returns, year after year, building on an ever-growing base. Over 30 or 35 years, that can become significant.

You needn't choose between playing it so safe your money barely keeps up with inflation and taking on more risk than you're comfortable with. Instead, a balanced mix can fit your comfort level and still help grow your money over time.

The age factor: You'll want to adjust your approach to risk as you get older. If retirement is years away, your portfolio may lean toward growth investments like stocks and stock mutual funds; you have time to absorb short-term losses and benefit from long-term gains. Lower risk investments like bonds still play a role because they can help smooth out changes in your portfolio's value.

As you near retirement, your portfolio may shift toward a more even mix of stocks and bonds to limit exposure to large market swings. The goal is to protect what you've built while still generating enough growth to fund a retirement that could last decades.

Investing well isn't about eliminating risk; it's about taking the right amount of it. Too little risk can be just as damaging as too much. A financial advisor can help you find the balance that matches your comfort level, your financial situation and your long-term goals.

Investors should understand the risks involved with owning investments, including interest rate risk, credit risk and market risk. The value of investments fluctuates and investors can lose some or all of their principal.

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Quabbin Area Little League competes in playoffs

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

BARRE—Nine of the 13 players on the Quabbin Area 12U Little League All-Star roster are headed for the full-size baseball diamond next spring.

Even with two losses in the state sectional tournament, Quabbin walked away with moments the players and coaches won't soon forget.

Because neither Leominster nor Athol/Orange were able to field All-Star teams, the District 3 tournament wasn't held this year. Quabbin automatically advanced into the sectional tournament for the first time as the District 3 representative.

"We didn't get to compete in the District 3 tournament, but I think we have enough talented players to win it. We've been building to get to this point during the past couple of years," said Quabbin manager Matt LaPointe. "We received our championship banner a couple of days ago. We took a team picture with the banner before tonight's game. We hosted a sectional state tournament game for the first time and I'm very proud of



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Hunter Mitus fouls off a pitch.

these kids."

Quabbin hosted Holden at Felton Field in a first round game of the double-elimination tournament on July 22.

Holden, who scored four runs in the top of the first inning, celebrated a 6-0 victory.

One of Quabbin's 12-year-old players is Richie Valcourt, who was the start-

ing pitcher against Holden.

After allowing four runs on five hits in the opening frame, the righthander only allowed two runs (one earned) on seven hits during the final six innings he was standing on the mound. He struck out two.

"They're just a powerhouse team and they were able to take the lead in the



Richie Valcourt fires home with a pitch.

first inning," LaPointe said. "I thought Richie did a fantastic job of keeping them off balance after the first inning. We also made a couple of very nice plays defensively."

Following the game, Valcourt, who's been playing baseball since the third grade, talked about playing in the state sectional tournament for the first time.

"We're a very good team and it's very exciting playing in this tournament for the first time," he said. "I was nervous before the start of the game. I'm excited to be moving up to the bigger field next year, but it's going to be challenging."

The other 12-year-olds listed on the Quabbin All-Star roster are Clayton



Dylan Mace makes a throw to third.

Cranston, Noah Carrier, Lukas Lance, Michael Leslie, Dylan Mace, Hunter Mitus, Deklan Sampson, and Mateo Serra.

The other four members of the squad were Jack Bowen Murphy LaPointe, Jake Pimental, and Lukas

See LITTLE LEAGUE, page 10

Blue Sox nearing end of regular season

HOLYOKE – The Valley Blue Sox went 1-for-2 in a doubleheader against the Mystic Schooners on Saturday. Entering Saturday's doubleheader against the Schooners (22-17) Valley sat at 16-18-1, sixth in the South Division and outside the playoff picture, trailing both Danbury and Bristol for one of the division's postseason spots. The Blue Sox (17-19-1) responded with a convincing 10-3 victory in Game 2 to split the twin bill and remain in the postseason hunt.

Mystic struck first in the first game and opened the inning when Bryce Detwiler lifted a sacrifice fly to right field after consecutive singles from Jack Harley and Anthony Belisario put runners on the corners.

The Schooners added another run in the fourth as Chris Walsh lined a two-out single before Adam Troch followed with an RBI double down the left-field line, giving Mystic a 2-0 advantage. Valley answered immediately in the bottom half; however, Chris Cancel launched a solo home run to left field to cut



Trey Spees swings and makes contact.

the deficit in half.

Andrew Oppenheimer kept the Blue Sox within striking distance throughout his six-inning start, allowing three runs, only two earned, while striking out four. But Mystic manufactured what proved to be the decisive run in the sixth after a hit batter, a walk and a Valley

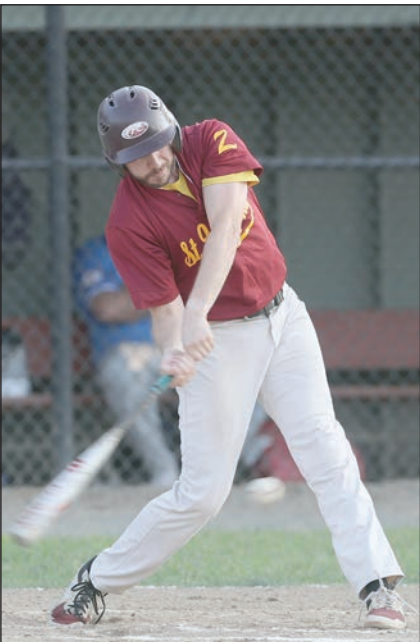
error loaded the bases. Walsh singled to center to score Detwiler and extend the lead to 3-1.

Valley mounted one final rally in the seventh. Chris Carson doubled to center before pinch-hitter Alex Hill delivered an RBI single to trim the deficit to one. With the tying run aboard, Mystic closer MJ Bollinger recorded the final two outs to preserve the 3-2 victory. Despite matching the Schooners with seven hits, the Blue Sox came up just short.

The Blue Sox wasted little time putting the loss behind them in the nightcap.

Nick Tomasetto ignited the offense with a solo home run in the first inning before Michael Iannazzo added a sacrifice fly later in the frame to give Valley a 2-0 lead. Tomasetto drove in another run with an RBI single in the second, and after Mystic answered with one of its own, Valley broke the game open in the third.

Nick Spaventa blasted a solo home run to center before Chris Carson added an RBI single. A wild pitch later scored Michael Iannazzo to cap a three-run inning and extend the Blue Sox's lead to



Brandon Magni swings and connects for the Saints.



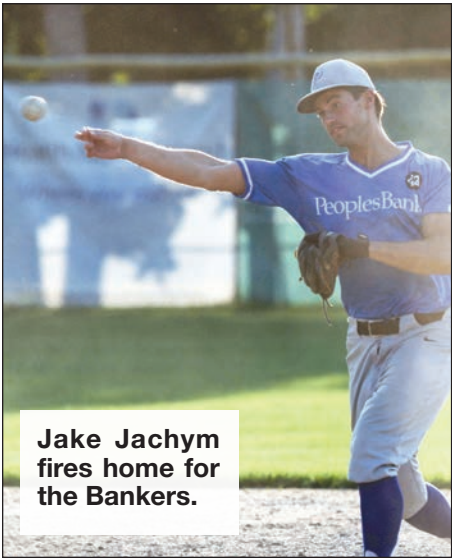
Tre Yesu, of Monson, fires home for St. Joe's.

Saints beat rival PeoplesBank

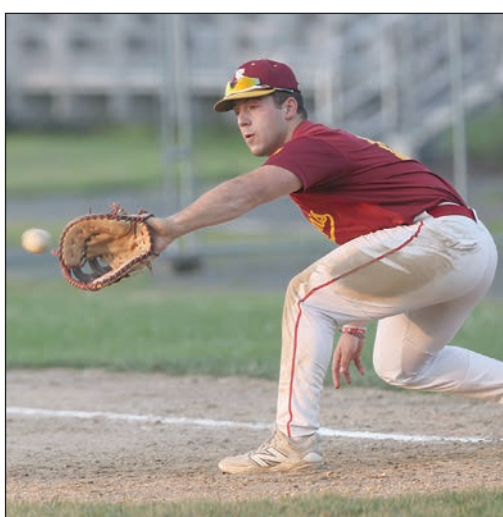
HOLYOKE – Last Thursday night, the pennant race stepped up with rivals PeoplesBank and St. Joe's matching up at Mackenzie Stadium. While PeoplesBank trailed early in the game, they nearly came all the way back, but St. Joe's prevailed 9-7. The playoffs are on the horizon in the league with St. Joe's and PeoplesBank likely drawing top seeds for the six-team playoffs.

Turley photos by David Henry
www.sweetdogphotos.com

Dave Clark sends a throw to first for PeoplesBank.



Jake Jachym fires home for the Bankers.



Joe DeMichele makes a catch at first.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Nick Tomasetto looks to turn a double play during recent action last week at Mackenzie Stadium.

See BLUE SOX, page 10

Sports

Jack Emerson grabs win at Thompson Speedway

THOMPSON, CT — The Crown Vics began Wednesday’s showcase with multi-time winner Ethan Williams showing the way early before youth prevailed. Upon his first time at the Thompson 5/8-mile, young Jack Emerson would take over the lead with eight laps remaining and never looked back to take the win over Williams and Ty Mello.

Jared Materas and Jason Williams may have brought the Late Model field to green but it was Matt Lowinski-Loh who quickly took over the top spot within the first lap. Materas would bring out the first caution on lap 10 after spinning across the nose of Jared Roy’s #1CT. Things went sideways once again on lap 18 with a mechanical issue slowing Jake Johnson leaving Williams and Mike Benevides to pile in for a massive wreck into the turn four wall. Back to green, Lowinski-Loh drove away with the 25-lap win over rookie Travis Hydar and Jared Roy.

Todd Douillard ran away with the lead at the start of the SK Light Modified feature before Austin Goff made it a two-man show by lap four. RJ Marcotte, John O’Sullivan, Kevin Davis and Daltin McCarthy ran nose-to-tail behind the leaders, keeping them honest before Goff was shuffled back on the inside groove. Motoring into turn one, Davis and O’Sullivan launched sideways into the corner to bring out the lap nine caution that also ended the day for newcomer Brandon Michael with a

hard lick into the turn one wall.

Douillard would be next on the wrecker on the restart with Marcotte leaving no room to race, making hard contact with the turn one wall to end his day. Back to green, McCarthy, Goff and Eddie Gomarlo ran nose-to-tail at the head of the field. The busy night for the Thompson Speedway wreckers continued on lap 13 with McCarthy and O’Sullivan piling into the turn three wall. Under green for the final time, Austin Goff would run away with the win followed by RJ Marcotte and rookie Milania Shilosky.

Dan Bowes took off at the start of the Twisted Tea 40 for the New England Supermodified Series with hopeful winner Jon McKennedy dropping out on lap five with mechanical issues. All the while, Jeffrey Battle began reeling in Bowes out front as Ben Seitz lay in wait back in third. Battle would finally nab the lead on lap 22 while Seitz and PJ Stergios went to war for third behind him. Stergios would win that battle and one more against Bowes as the right-rear tire on the #25 was all but expired through the final fifteen circuits. Jeffrey Battle lambasted the field for the win with PJ Stergios coming home second and Dan Bowes holding on for third to round out the victory lane podium.

Ryan Lineham would bring out the lap one caution in the Street Stocks when a three-wide move in the first corner didn’t pan

out. Back under green, Nick Anderson and Mike Viens showed the way up front with Jerrod Soucy and Al Stone III keeping the pressure on behind them. Soucy would make his way around to lead the halfway marker and never looked back for win number one on the season ahead of Lineham and Viens.

The Thompson Sunoco Modifieds rounded out Wednesday’s racing program under the leadership of Nathan Pytko and Derek Ramstrom at the head of each lane under the initial green flag. Keith Rocco and Todd Owen made their way to the front by lap five just as contact between Bryan Narducci and Ramstrom sent the #35 into the turn one retaining wall. The remainder of the 50 lap feature saw Rocco and Owen wage their classic over-unclear battle for position before Owen finally began to drove away with fifteen laps remaining to take his first Sunoco Modified victory of the season. Keith Rocco came home second with Narducci coming back from his penalty for the lap five caution to claim third.

The NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour returns to Thompson Speedway on Wednesday, August 5 for the Thompson 150 presented by FloSports.com. The August midweek showdown at the Big-T will also feature the Thompson Sunoco Modifieds, Late Models, SK Light Modifieds, Street Stocks and Crown Vics with a 6:00pm Post Time. Event schedule will be released in the near future.

In the Classroom

Colleges and universities announce President’s and Dean’s list

President’s list
Dean College, Franklin
Billie Comeau of Rutland

Miami University
Oxford, Ohio
Avery Heppenstall of Rutland

Nichols College
Dudley
Riley Bassett of Gilbertville
Alyssa Senecal of Rutland
Brenna Patenaude of Rutland

Salve Regina University
Newport, Rhode Island
Jonathan Santimore of Rutland

University of Rhode Island
Kingston, Rhode Island
Raymond Owusu-Ansah of Rutland
Brenna Ward of Rutland

Dean’s list
Clark University, Worcester
First honors
Dominic S. Molinari, of Rutland
Zoey L. Lenahan, of South Barre

College of Holy Cross, Worcester
Jorji LaViolette of Barre, Class of 2026
Jenna Dupell of North Brookfield, Class of 2026
Caroline Bierfeldt of Rutland, Class of 2028
Benjamin King of Rutland, Class of 2028
Timothy King of Rutland, Class of 2028
Lily Staiti of Rutland, Class of 2029

Dean College, Franklin
Lauren Orne of Barre
Kyulan Tremblay of Rutland

Essex Community College
Haverhill
Anna DiFiore of Rutland
Sara DiFiore of Rutland

Holyoke Community College, Holyoke
Micah Cerezo of Barre
Roxann Teresa Banks of North Brookfield
Morgen Alan Swallow of Oakham
Lindsey Brown of Rutland

Nichols College, Dudley
Colin Wallace of North Brookfield

Kyle Patenaude of Rutland
Joseph Collard of Rutland

Plymouth State University
Plymouth, New Hampshire
Jake Leazott of Barre

Rogers Williams University
Bristol, Rhode Island
Benjamin Auger of Rutland
Caden Francis of Rutland
Nathan Goozey of Rutland
Patrick McGugan of Rutland
Dominic Mogavero of Rutland

University of Rhode Island
Kingston, Rhode Island
Addison Brooks of Rutland
Haley Fallon of Rutland
Sophia Landeo of Rutland
Grace Marrier of Rutland

Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester
Annabelle Magill of Oakham class of 2028, civil engineering major
Brenden Lee of Rutland, class of 2027, interactive media and game development major
Brycen Pina of Oakham, class of 2026, computer science major
Bryn Dillon of Rutland, class of 2029, mechanical engineering major
Christopher Muldoon of Hubbardston, class of 2028, electrical and computer engineering major
Emerson Allyn of Rutland, class of 2027, biomedical engineering and mechanical engineering major
Frederick Smith of New Braintree, class of 2026, civil engineering major
Heather Stuart of Petersham, class of 2028, majoring in Mechanical Engineering
Matthew Erickson of Barre, class of 2029, electrical and computer engineering major
Samantha Houle of Hubbardston, class of 2028, environmental engineering major
Taylor Meier of Rutland class of 2027, data science major
Tyler Clark of Barre, class of 2027, environmental engineering major
Vanessa Peloquin of Rutland, class of 2027, electrical and computer engineering major
Vinam Nguyen of Rutland, class of 2027, computer science major
Yasmin Issa of Rutland, class of 2027, biology and biotechnology major



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CLUES ACROSS

1. Egyptian bull god

5. Romanian monetary unit

8. Santa’s helper

11. Fictional Pink Floyd corporal

13. Sea eagle genus

14. Broad volcanic crater

15. Minneapolis suburb

16. Actual commercial worth (abbr.)

17. Exchange rate

18. Ethnic peoples in Guinea

20. Men’s fashion accessory

21. Craft material

22. Offerings

25. Early

30. Large room

31. Soviet Socialist Republic

32. One who hauls

33. Shorthand for accepting

38. Promotional materials

41. Loss of memory

43. One who beheads

45. Photographers

48. Small, rich sponge cake

49. White clerical vestment

50. Partner to “oohed”

55. Abba __, Israeli politician

56. Zero

57. Owl monkey genus

59. Lace bug genus

60. Mild expression of surprise

61. Storage devices

62. Keyboard key

63. Make a mistake

64. One-time Korean president

CLUES DOWN

1. Bridge building degree

2. Expression of sorrow or pity

3. Large, stocky, lizard

4. Rumanian river

5. Missive

6. Stout-bodied moths

7. Brings out

8. Bird of prey

9. King of Thebes

10. Cleaving tool

12. African antelope

14. Three are particularly famous

19. Satisfy

23. C. European river

24. Dictator

25. Portion of (abbr.)

26. The 17th letter of the Greek alphabet

27. Consume food

28. Woman (French)

29. Scrape or wear away by friction

34. Popular vegetable

35. Pacific Standard Time

36. Brazilian state capital

37. Paddle

39. Cause to become insane

40. Drier and flakier

41. Mimic

42. ESPN host Kimes

44. One who moyses

45. Secret political clique

46. Behind the stern of a ship

47. Supernatural force

48. Sanctuary in Orthodox churches

51. Swiss river

52. Grayish white

53. Engrave

54. UNC’s chief rival

58. Midway between south and southeast

ANSWERS ON PAGE 12



Jake Pimental hustles for first base after making contact.



Deklan Sampson throws back to the infield after making a play.

LITTLE LEAGUE from page 9

Valcourt, who’s the only ten year old player listed on the roster.

Mace led off the bottom of the first inning by hitting a ground ball to Andrew Charest, who was Holden’s starting pitcher. Mace was safe at first base with an infield hit and advanced to second base on a throwing

error. Charest retired the next three batters.

With two outs in the second, Lesile also had an infield hit against right-hander Ryan Sturrock, who relieved Charest at the start of the inning. Sturrock, who didn’t allow any runs on four hits in three innings, wound up being the winning pitcher. He also had six strikeouts.

After Holden scored a run

in the third, the home team loaded the bases on singles from Lukas Valcourt, LaPointe, and Richie Valcourt with two outs in the fourth.

Sturrock escaped the jam without allowing any runs following a flyball out.

It was Quabbin’s best scoring chance.

Their only other base hit was a single by Pimental in the fifth inning.

BLUE SOX from page 9

6-1. Valley continued to add insurance the rest of the way, highlighted by Tomasetto’s two-run single in the fifth, an RBI single from Iannazzo in the sixth and Nico Soul’s sacrifice fly in the seventh. The Blue Sox finished with 10 runs on 14 hits.

Earlier, Carson was named an NECBL All-Star, and the outfielder backed up

the honor with another productive performance. Carson finished the doubleheader 3-for-7 with a double, an RBI and two runs scored, helping pace a Valley lineup that received contributions throughout the order. Tomasetto led the way by going 3-for-5 with a home run and four RBIs, while Iannazzo collected two hits and two RBIs. Spaventa also homered as the Blue Sox sal-

vaged the split.

Four Valley pitchers combined to secure the Game 2 victory. Lukas Jachens started before Niall Todd earned the win with two scoreless innings in relief. Jon Shields and Jason Pinonnault closed out the final three innings as the Blue Sox improved to 17-19-1, keeping themselves alive in the NECBL playoff race entering the final week of the regular season.

REMEMBER TO SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SPORTS TEAMS

Church News

Local pastor offers sermon

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

“The Precious Nature of the Kingdom of Heaven.”

Scripture Readings:
Matthew 13 v 31 – 33
and 44 - 52

I. Introduction

I imagine we all understand what it means to be loved, to cherish the gift of close friendships, to find peace at home, and to experience fulfillment in our earthly calling through our work, gifts, and talents.

We also know what it is like to lack close friendships, to be disappointed by others, to face difficulties at home and at work, and to struggle to fulfill our dreams and abilities. Let us consider what Christ teaches His disciples and the crowds about the Kingdom of Heaven—its beauty, its precious nature, and its worth beyond even the things we treasure in our lives.

II. Why did Jesus speak in Parables?

When the disciples asked Jesus in Matthew 13 v 10 why He spoke to the crowd in parables, He answered by saying, “The knowledge of the secrets of the Kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. Whoever has, will be given more, and they will have abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. This is why I speak to them in parables: Though seeing they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand.”

Then, in verse 16, He told the disciples, “Blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear.” Jesus was speaking within the context of His ministry that was well received by His disciples and the few who followed Him, and whose lives were transformed by Him, but at the same time His message of the Kingdom

of Heaven, of love, peace and forgiveness was not received in openness by some of those in the crowd but was treated with disdain and disrespect.

I can only imagine that He understood how demanding His work was, giving Himself each day to bring the message of the Kingdom of Heaven into the kingdoms of this earth. Though He was called to this work, it was exhausting, and at times He must have been dismayed by the people’s lack of understanding and the closedness of their ears, eyes, and hearts.

Parables kept those with closed hearts from fully hearing, seeing and understanding. It was only by allowing Him to break through their resistance that they would understand the deep mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven.

III. The Precious Nature of the Kingdom of Heaven

To show the crowd the precious nature of the Kingdom of Heaven, Jesus compared it to a mustard seed that grows into a great tree where birds find shelter; to leaven that a woman mixes into flour to make bread for many; to a hidden treasure that leads a man to sell everything to buy the field; and to a pearl of great value for which a man sells all he has.

The Kingdom of Heaven may seem small and insignificant to some, but when people truly receive it, embrace it, and allow the Spirit of God to transform them, its beauty permeates their lives and draws them into a life with God that is awe-filled, peaceful, joyful, and inclusive—welcoming more and more into this beautiful divine space.

After this beautiful explanation, Jesus then turns to the sobering reality of what it means to reject the Kingdom of Heaven with disdain. He told the parable of the net that gathered every kind of fish: the fishermen kept the good fish and discarded the bad.

In the same way, He says, at the end of time the angels will separate the righteous, who surrendered to the Kingdom of Heaven and will dwell with God forever, from the wicked, who rejected it and, by their own doing, will be handed over to the fiery furnace.

IV. Conclusion

Imagine ourselves among the crowd listening to Jesus today. We are invited to reflect on how open we are to the lessons of the Kingdom of Heaven and to the Spirit of Christ shaping our hearts, minds, and spirits so that we may live according to the Kingdom’s values: loving God and one another as ourselves; practicing the humility, mercy, purity of heart, righteousness, peacemaking, described in the Sermon on the Mount; and rejecting attitudes and actions that diminish, disrespect, or oppress others.

Christ knew the crowd in His day and He knows us in the crowd today. Through His sacrifice on the cross, Christ opened the way for all of us to be saved and to enter the Kingdom of Heaven in all its mystery, beauty and loving kindness.

When we accept Him as our Savior and allow the Holy Spirit to cleanse our hearts, minds, and souls, God begins transforming us and deepening our understanding of Christ’s lessons for us. May God help us today, this week and beyond to reflect and open our eyes, ears and hearts to hear what He has to say to us individually and surrender our lives fully to Him.

As we do, may we heed Christ’s warning about the end times, turn away from harming others, and choose instead a life of love, peace, and unity.

Amen.

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

Public Notices

PUBLIC AUCTION
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
PURSUANT TO THE
PROVISIONS OF
M.L.C. 225 SEC.39A
THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES
WILL BE SOLD ON
August 1, 2026.
AT A SALE TO SATISFY OUR
GARAGE LIEN THEREON
FOR TOWING & STORAGE
CHARGES AND EXPENSES
OF SALE AND NOTICE:
2018 Nissan Altima
VIN 1N4AL3AP8JC101513
2015 Acura TLX
VIN 19UUB1F58FA007285
2014 BMW 3 Series
VIN WBA3K5C5XEKT33553
2020 Nissan Sentra
VIN 3N1AB8CV7LY287127

2021 Chevrolet Trailblazer
VIN KL79MUSL7MB153038
2015 Honda Civic
VIN 19XFB2F59FE214729
2018 Hyundai SONATA
VIN SNPE24AF5JH706590
2008 Nissan Quest
VIN 5N1BV28U98N107538
THE SALE WILL BE HELD AT
Early’s on Park Ave.
at 536 Park Avenue
Worcester, MA 01603
07/16, 07/23, 07/30/2026

Sale of Motor Vehicle
under MGL Ch 255 Sec 39A
Notice is hereby given by:
Dave’s Tow & Transport, Inc
pursuant to the provisions of
MGL C.255 sec 39a, that on
8/7/26 at 843 Worcester Rd.,

Barre, MA the following motor vehicle will be sold by private sale to satisfy the garage keeper’s lien thereon for storage, towing charges and other expenses incurred, including sales costs.
2014 Subaru Forester
VIN: JF2SJAHC0EH424475
John Francis Tambeau
48B Mechanic St, PO Box 364
Barre, MA 01005
07/23, 07/30, 08/06/2026



Lions Club hosts online Pampered Chef party

PETERSHAM – The Lions Club sponsors an online Pampered Chef party now through Monday. Aug. 31.

Based on product sales,

20 to 30% will be donated to the Petersham Lions Club.

People may visit <https://table.pamperedchef.com/party/3486703kyv> to order.

People may email lynne-shaw@gmail.com with non Pampered Chef questions and email sleblanc_pc@hotmail.com for Pampered Chef questions and/ or to book a party.

Obituaries

Kay (Petersen) Boothman, 94

W O R C E S T E R / HARDWICK – Kaye (Petersen) Boothman, 94, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, July 21, 2026, with her family by her side.

Her husband, Donald Boothman predeceased her in 2016. She is survived by her sons: Glenn Styron of Long Beach, California and Rodrick Styron of Seattle, Washington; her stepdaughters: Barbara Grofic and her husband Barry of Maryland and Laura Stamm and her husband Mark of Hawaii; her grandchildren: Dylan Styron of California, Kelsea Styron of Nevada, Pearl Marie Styron and Morgan Styron of Washington; great-grandchildren: River Styron and Mordecai Arric Dylan Styron; her sister, Lois Huffman of Silver Lake, Washington along with several nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Her sister Claire Purnell and her first husband Douglas Styron predeceased her.

Kaye was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota the daughter of the late Ralph P. and Frances L. (Oltman) Petersen.

She earned her bachelor’s degree from Syracuse University and settled in

Northport and Centerport, Long Island, New York where she raised her sons.

She was a successful real estate agent working with Merrill-Lynch and Gravel Real Estate for many years.

Kaye was a talented gardener, painter and knitter.

When living in Hardwick, she and Donald raised llamas, and they were founding members of the Friends of the Stone Church in Gilbertville, along with good friends Mary and Phil Warbasse and other community members, a cause she was active in until her passing.

She was an amazing athlete who enjoyed sailing in her earlier years and playing tennis into her 80s (winning Hardwick Fair tournaments frequently).

All who knew and loved Kaye will miss her dearly.

All are invited to celebrate Kaye’s life on Sunday, Aug. 16, 2026, at 2 p.m. at The Stone Church Cultural Center, 283 Main St., Gilbertville, MA 01031. Burial will be private.

Donations in her memory may be made to The Friends of the Stone Church, P.O. Box 347, Main Street, Gilbertville, MA 01031.



Joan Ann (Martin) McDonald

HARDWICK – Joan Ann (Martin) McDonald, of Hardwick, passed away peacefully on July 24, 2026 in the loving home of her daughter, surrounded by family.

Born to Joseph L. Martin and Emily D. (Lacombe) Martin of Ware, Joan lived a life defined by strength, resilience, kindness and unwavering love for her family.

Joan is survived by her children: Karen Majka, Sharon Long, Darryl Boudreau, Shelley Boudreau, Sherry Gould, Darren Boudreau and Ricky Boudreau. She also leaves behind 23 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husbands, Harold G. Boudreau and Thomas McDonald; her parents, Joseph L. Martin and Emily D. Martin; her sister, Jean A. Perron; her sons, Harold G. Boudreau and Derrick J. Boudreau; her daughter, Cheryl J. Lemoine; her grandson, Jason Berthiaume; her great-grandson, Ryder A. Demers; her great-great-granddaughter, Ella Skye Kline; and her beloved furry companion, Ginger, who held a special place in her heart.

Joan embraced life

with passion and determination. She loved traveling, especially her cross-country adventures out west, and looked forward each year to spending winters at her home in Florida.

She found peace and fulfillment working in her yard, often tending to it from sunrise until sunset.

She enjoyed reading romance novels, creating Native American inspired crafts, painting, horseback riding, and hunting with her boys at hunting camp.

Whether she was building, repairing, or creating, there was truly very little Joan couldn’t do. She was remarkably resourceful, independent, and never afraid to tackle a challenge herself.

Throughout her career, Joan worked at Diamond National, where she repaired machinery, showcasing her exceptional mechanical ability and work ethic. She later served as the Head Telephone Operator at Belchertown State School, where she dedicated many years before retiring.

Above all, Joan had a generous heart and was always ready to lend a helping hand to her children, grandchildren, friends, or anyone in need. She pos-



DEATH NOTICES

Boothman, Kaye (Petersen)
Died July 21, 2026
Services Aug. 16, 2026

McDonald, Joan Ann (Martin)
Died July 24, 2026
Services Aug. 5, 2026

OBITUARY POLICY

Barre Gazette

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice**

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

The other is a **Paid Obituary**,

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

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

sessed a rare combination of quiet compassion and fierce determination.

Strong-willed, hardworking, and endlessly capable, Joan met life’s challenges with courage and grace. Her beauty radiated not only through her smile but through the strength of her character, her resilience.

Joan’s legacy lives on through the generations she nurtured, the countless lives she touched, and the enduring memories of a woman whose love, strength and spirit will never be forgotten. She will be deeply missed and forever cherished.

All are invited to her calling hours on Tuesday, Aug. 4, 2026, from 4-8 p.m. at Charbonneau Funeral Home, 30 Pleasant St., Ware, MA 01082. Her funeral service is Wednesday, Aug. 5, 2026, at 10 a.m. at United Church of Ware, 49 Church St., Ware, MA 01082 followed by burial in Mt. Carmel Cemetery, Greenwich Road, Ware.

NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue’s relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for the Barre Gazette, please email edowner@turley.com.

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

Public notice deadlines are Friday at 3 p.m.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

Barre Gazette

OBITUARY POLICY

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Public Safety

Barre Police Log

Sunday, June 21
12:45 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Williamsville Road, Mutual Aid Transport
2:18 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Summer Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal
2:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Vernon Avenue, Written Warning
6:47 p.m. Missing Person, Austin Street, Returned
8:17 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Overdose/Poisoning, Malone Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
9:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Wheelwright Road, Written Warning
11:58 p.m. Abandoned Vehicle/Parking Issues, Cutler Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Monday, June 22
12:38 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, West Street, Returned
3:21 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Williamsville Road, Mutual Aid Transport
8:19 a.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Walnut hill Road, Returned
11:24 a.m. Harassment, Lane Road, Officer Spoke to Party
11:51 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Barre Road, Written Warning
2:03 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Pleasant Street, Transported to Hospital

Tuesday, June 23
12:34 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, West Street, Transported to Hospital
9:48 p.m. Noise Complaint, Valley Road, Investigated

Wednesday, June 24
8:16 a.m. Erratic Operator, Farrington Road, Call Transferred
8:59 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Old Coldbrook Road, Information Taken
3:19 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Root Road, Mutual Aid Transport
6:14 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Lane Road, Transported to Hospital

Thursday, June 25
6:36 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Trauma, Marsh Road, Mutual Aid Transported
12:21 p.m. Complaint, Valley Road, Negative Contact
12:30 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, South Street, Canceled
3:42 p.m. Complaint, Ruggles Lane, Officer/Chief Advised
6:39 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Wheelwright Road, Transported to Hospital
9:11 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Lethargic, Hubbardston Road, Transported to Hospital
9:16 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Written Warning
10:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Vernon Avenue, Written

Warning

Friday, June 26
8:41 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, West Street, Transported to Hospital
9:34 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, James Street, Officer/Chief Advised
11:05 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Hardwick Road, Officer/Chief Advised
11:36 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, School South Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal
6:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Barre Road, Written Warning
7:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Written Warning
7:06 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Stetson Road, Checked/Secured
8:35 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Station Road, Transported to Hospital
9:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
11:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Hubbardston Road, Vehicle Towed

Saturday, June 27
8:34 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Vernon Avenue, Written Warning
8:38 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Oakham Road, Transported to Hospital
2:09 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Wheelwright Road, Written Warning
2:32 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Allergic Reaction, Worcester Road, Mutual Aid Transport

Hubbardston Police Log

Sunday, June 21
12:45 a.m. Emergency Medical Service Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Williamsville Road, Mutual Aid Transport
9:34 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Gardener Road, Mutual Aid Transport
5:42 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, Main Street, Gone on Arrival
8:17 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Overdose/Poisoning, Malone Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Monday, June 22
3:21 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Williamsville Road, Mutual Aid Transport
2:16 p.m. Property – Lost and/or Found, Gardner Road, Information Taken
5:25 p.m. Fire – Power Lines/Wires, Barre Road, Area Search Negative
11:31 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Cross Road, Transported to Hospital

Tuesday, June 23
7:35 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Old Princeton Cutoff Road, No

Transport Required
3:33 p.m. Property – Lost and/or Found, Gardener Road, Call Transferred
6:40 p.m. Landlord Tenant/Neighbor Dispute, Pine Tree Lane, Report Filed
7:09 p.m. Complaint, Madison Way, Officer/Chief Advised
11:26 p.m. Safety Concern, Madison Way, Public Assist

Wednesday, June 24
3:55 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Underwood Road, Negative Contact
11:09 a.m. Gunshots, Old Colony Road, Office Spoke to Party
2:57 p.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, Main Street, Officer/Chief Advised
3:19 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Root Road, Mutual Aid Transport
8:50 p.m. Assault and Battery, Malone Road, Report Filed
9:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, New Westminster Road, Vehicle Towed

Thursday, June 25
2:59 p.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Barre Road, Referred to Other Agency

Friday, June 26
8:32 a.m. Disturbance/Disorderly, Gardner Road, Report Filed
3:41 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Worcester Road, No Transport Required

Saturday, June 27
6:57 a.m. Serve Warrant, Gardner Road, Removed to Court/Lockup
Arrest Tomer, Christopher L. Sr., 55, Hubbardston Charges Warrant
8:36 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Main Street, No Transport Required
5:27 p.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Worcester Road, Information Taken
6:03 p.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Worcester Road, Public Assist
7:04 p.m. Safety Concern, Old Westminster Road, Report Filed
9:33 p.m. Erratic Operator, Main Street, Negative Contact

Rutland Police Log

Sunday, June 21
12:24 a.m. Missing Person, Miles Road, Located/Found
1:23 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Main Street, Officer/Chief Advised
6:04 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Bleeding (Non-Traumatic), Village Way, Transported to Hospital
6:29 a.m. Emergency Medical Service– Bleeding (Non-Traumatic), Pommogussett Road, Mutual Aid Transport
9:52 a.m. Harassment, Barre Paxton Road, Officer Spoke to Party
1:22 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Turkey Hill Trail, Ambulance Signed Refusal
1:49 p.m. Larceny or Theft, Maple Avenue, Officer Spoke to Party
2:17 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Bleeding (Non-Traumatic), Transported to Hospital
2:43 Complaint, Glenwood Road, Officer Spoke to Party
4:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident – No Fire Department/EMS Response, Barre Paxton Road, Report Filed
6:26 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Main Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal
7:10 p.m. Complaint, Arline Drive, Negative Contact
7:13 p.m. Complaint, Maple Avenue, Negative Contact
8 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Main Street, Call Transferred

Monday, June 22
2:05 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, Stevens Way, Officer Spoke to Party
6:55 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Main Street, Officer/Chief Advised
9:35 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Lewis Street, Transported to Hospital
10:55 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, North Brookfield Road, Transported to Hospital
12:01 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Mental/Emotional/Psychological, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
2:27 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Sycamore Drive, Transported to Hospital
2:58 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Seizures, Woodside Avenue, Mutual Aid Transported
8:19 p.m. Juvenile Runaway, Main Street, Returned
9:09 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Fisherman's Road, Officer/Chief Advised

Tuesday, June 23
12:04 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Barre Paxton Road, Officer Spoke to Party
4:48 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Olivia Lane, Transported to Hospital
11:25 a.m. Erratic Operator, Pleasantdale Road, Negative Contact
1:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
1:50 p.m. Fire – Power Lines/Wires, Sunnyside Avenue, Investigated
2:37 pm. Harassment, Campbell Court, Report Filed
3:33 p.m. Erratic Operator, Wachusett Road, Negative Contact
4:45 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Watson Lane, Transported to Hospital
7:11 p.m. Property Dispute or Exchange, Main Street, Returned
7:15 p.m. Complaint, Rutland

Heights Way, Report Filed
7:20 p.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Central Tree Road, Returned
7:29 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Gaffney Road, Transported to Hospital
Summons Stowers, Addison Lee, 26. Oakham
Charges Operating Under the Influence – Liquor OR .08% C90 S24 (1) (A) (1), Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle C90 S24 (2) (A)
8:31 p.m. Juvenile Runaway, Main Street, Located/Found

Wednesday, June 24
8:27 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Miles Road, Officer/Chief Advised
11:04 a.m. Assault and Battery, Barre Paxton Road, Officer Spoke to Party
11:37 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
11:55 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
12:37 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
1:26 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Written Warning
1:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
1:57 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
2:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
2:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
3:19 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Root Road, Mutual Aid Transport
4:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning
4:20 p.m. Erratic Operator, Pommogussett Road, Negative Contact
4:27 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning
4:49 p.m. Complaint, Maple Avenue, Officer/Chief Advised
5:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Criminal Complaint
Summons Dilworth, Arthur G., 23, Yorktown Heights, New York
Charges Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle, Unregistered Motor Vehicle
9:28 p.m. Erratic Operator, Barre Paxton Road, No Action Required

Thursday, June 25
6:36 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Trauma, Marsh Road, Mutual Aid Transport
9:41 a.m. Property Damage, Main Street, Report Filed
10:14 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident – No Fire Department/EMS Response, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party
3:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
4:05 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Citation Issued
4:38 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
Summons Rodrigues Ordonez, Luis Alberto, 43, Worcester
Charges Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With, Uninsured Motor Vehicle
5:22 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Swollen Legs, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
6:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
9:45 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, East County Road, Negative Contact

Friday, June 26
12:15 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
7:59 a.m. Erratic Operator, Main Street, Unfounded
11:05 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
11:17 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
11:25 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
11:34 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
11:41 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
11:54 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
12:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
12:20 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
12:20 p.m. Identity Theft, Forest Hill Drive, Report Filed
12:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
1:55 p.m. Harassment, Ridge Road, Report Filed
4:13 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Maple Avenue, Verbal Warning
4:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
5:21 p.m. Safety Concern, Glenwood Road, Officer Spoke to Party
5:40 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Central Tree Road, Transported to Hospital
5:46 p.m. Fire – Power Lines/Wires, Grizzly Drive, Investigated
6:05 p.m. Complaint, Pommogussett Road, Negative Contact
8:06 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Inwood Road, Transported to Hospital
8:09 p.m. Threats, Miles Road, Report Filed

Saturday, June 27
6:57 a.m. Serve Warrant, Gardner, Removed to Court/Lockup
Arrest Tomer, Christopher L. Sr., 55, Hubbardston Charges Warrant
7:27 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
8:11 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Bethany Drive, Mutual Aid Transported
8:36 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Main Street, No Transport Required
9:19 a.m. Larceny or Theft, Wilson Way, Officer Spoke to Party
10:43 a.m. Landlord Tenant/Neighbor Dispute, Wilson Way, Officer Spoke to Party
11:01 a.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, Pleasantdale Road, Information Taken
11:55 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Lift Assist, Soucy Drive, No Transport Required
1:13 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Sanders Road, Mutual Aid Transport
1:48 p.m. Juvenile Runaway, Miles Road, Officer/Chief Advised
5:41 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Clinton, Negative Contact
7:43 p.m. Noise Complaint, Maple Avenue, Officer Spoke to Party

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James Caldwell named July Artist of the Month

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The Friends of the North Brookfield Town House have chosen James “Jim” Caldwell as their Artist of the Month for July.

Caldwell, who has called North Brookfield his home for 37 years, is described as a man of many talents. Though he has never considered himself an artist, Caldwell had taken up a hobby at a young age that has brought out memorable work that has touched many lives.

Caldwell started with woodworking, which he learned from his grandfather, Wayne Earl, who was a machinist for the railroad and did a lot of building as a farmer. While woodworking,



This box made by James Caldwell featured an intricate inlay.

his grandfather loved using old hand tools and did everything by hand.

The skilled work of using wood was something Caldwell picked up and learned at an early age.

Later in life, Jim began to enjoy woodworking more from a historical value. Thanks to the knowledge of his grandfather, Caldwell has stuck with the traditional hand tools of woodworking, using hand tools used by the trades for hundreds of years. A time before the invention of power tools.

When it comes to deciding on a project, Caldwell starts with an idea or a mental image that will pop into his mind. Once deciding on a project, Caldwell sticks to it and applies his skilled craftsmanship.

“If I could figure it out,

I would make it,” Caldwell said.

His common wood projects consist of crafting cases, boxes, toolboxes, jewelry boxes, wood bowls, small tables with drawers, chests, shelves and keepsake boxes. Many woodcraft items Caldwell makes are with a lathe and many are made and are kept as heirlooms.

Many of Caldwell’s pieces have been given away to people who have a need. For example, he has made items given to people who have lost a loved one.

This hobby of Caldwell’s gave him the opportunity to give away items that could be useful for people who want to store their cherished belongings.

Caldwell was involved in contracting for many years and began designing cabinets and working on interior woodwork. As time passed, Caldwell began to explore other woodworking processes, including inlay work. This form of woodworking is a decorative and detailed process where pieces of contrasting material are set into shallow, recessed pockets carved into wood.

Caldwell is also interested in trying marquetry, a woodworking technique in which images are made by cutting and assembling different pieces of veneer. Caldwell says there are woodwork-



James Caldwell is the North Brookfield Town House’s Artist of the Month for July.

ers in Italy that specialize in marquetry.

Caldwell is also a volunteer at Old Sturbridge Village, where he works as a tinsmith and as a bookbinder. During his time at the historic village, Caldwell applied his woodworking skills by designing a wooden guitar case for one of the Village musicians.

Since high school, Caldwell has also been involved in restoring vintage automobiles. He works on vintage vehicles at Parker’s Packards.

The most unique vehicle he ever worked on was a Derham Body car from 1934 that was owned by the Vanderbilt Family. The car was a high school graduation gift to the grandson of Cornelius Vanderbilt.



Shown is one of James Caldwell’s wood turned bowls.

Caldwell got to work on restoring the body work of the car, which had a rare body style.

Out of all his skilled work, Caldwell finds woodworking to be his most comforting.

“I’m comfortable doing it,” Caldwell said.

Caldwell recently finished an 1830s period book-

case, which is all held together by dovetail joints. Without the use of glue or nails, which were expensive back in the 1830s, woodworkers would craft these wooden joints to hold the entire case together.

Examples of Caldwell’s work can be found at nbtownhouse.com/featured-artists.

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