

# BARRE GAZETTE

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## Hardwick celebrates with 263rd Community Fair

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

HARDWICK – 2025 was the year of the 263rd Hardwick Community Fair, the oldest fair in the United States.

For two days, the town came together in celebration as the fair offered numerous agricultural and creative exhibits, demonstrations, food, live music, children's games, wagon rides, an antique tractor parade, chain-saw contest and so much more.

The fair takes place on the Hardwick Common and has been around since the 1760s. The Hardwick Community Fair is even older than the Declaration of Independence.

The fair began on Friday,

See **HARDWICK FAIR**, page 6



Devon Wentworth of Gilbertville made his cut during the Lumberjack Contest held on Friday night.

Turley Photo by Mary Whitelaw

## Board selects Town Administrator

They vote 2 to 1 for  
Melanie Jackson

By Ellenor Downer  
Editor  
edowner@turley.com

BARRE – Select Board Chairman Maureen Marshall said she received advice from Town Council on how to proceed with the selection of the Town Administrator.

Town Council listed steps for the Board to follow. Step one was to narrow the selection to two candidates. This could be done individually or collectively. Step two was to allow each member of the Select Board to discuss why he or she selected their choice of candidate. Step 3 was to either vote to extend a provisional offer to one of the final two candidates, to move to hold a second interview or to take no action on this. Town Council said

the Board had two candidates, who met the credentials sought in their advertisement – a minimum of a Bachelor's degree and experience as a Town Administrator: Melanie Jackson and Heather Munroe. The Select Board voted unanimously to not offer the position to John Bianke based on lack of educational requirements. Two Select Board members Richard Stevens and Chairman Marshal then voted to not offer the position to Fay Zukowski based on lack of educational requirements. Select Board Vice Chairman Mark Regienus abstained.

Select Board Chairman Marshall said she had difficulty getting references on Melanie Jackson. She called the candidate and requested additional references. She talked to the Select Board Chairman,

See **BARRE**, page 7

## Fire Dept. personnel earn promotions

Bessette appointed to  
Assistant Chief

By Paula Ouimette  
pouimette@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Fire Chief Darin Anderson and the Board of Selectmen formally recognized two members of the Fire Department with a promotion and an appointment.

At the Aug. 12 meeting, Shaun Adams was the first member of the department recognized. He has been running the department's state program and writing grants in order to purchase supplies for youth and senior citizens.

Adams is a full-time paramedic in Brookfield and a call firefighter.

"Shaun's been instrumental," Anderson said.

Anderson said Adams will be promoted to First Lieutenant of Training. He will be responsible for all new recruits and preparing them to respond to calls and fight fires.

Adams was pinned by his wife, Anne, who is also a firefighter and the North Brookfield Emergency Management Agency director.

Anderson also recognized Thomas Bessette and asked the board to appoint him to the position of Assistant Chief.

Bessette has served 18 years in the fire service and is an acting captain at Logan Airport.

"Without him, we could not have gotten done all the mandated NFPA testing... he does a ton of work," Anderson said.

Bessette's wife, Natalia, pinned him with his new badge.

### Moment of silence

Board of Selectmen Vice-Chair Jamie Gilman said the community lost two of its distinguished veterans recently; Rev. Ken Winters and Paul McQuaid. He said Winters dedicated 20 years of service to the U.S. Navy and McQuaid served four years in the U.S. Coast Guard.

Both were active mem-

See **N BROOKFIELD**, page 16



Submitted photo

Ben Metcalf is shown by his Eagle project at kiosk and bench in Hardwick.

## Benjamin Metcalf makes Eagle Scout

HARDWICK – Benjamin Metcalf of New Braintree was celebrated for receiving the Boy Scouts of America's Highest Rank of Eagle Scout during his Court of Honor this past Saturday, Aug. 16.

He is a recent graduate of Quabbin Regional High School and a member of Boy Scout Troop 144, in Oakham. He joined Cub Scouts in elementary school crossing over to Boy Scouts at 11 years old and journeyed through the ranks

of scouts earning 27 merit badges.

Achieving the rank of Eagle Scout requires 21 merit badges, demonstrating Scout Spirit, holding numerous leadership roles within the troop and a significant number of community service hours and completing a large community benefited project. Only 6% of all Scouts achieve Eagle rank.

Ben's Eagle project was designing, constructing and installing an informational

kiosk along with a bench for the town of Hardwick. The kiosk and bench provide a place for the Conservation Commission of Hardwick to provide more details of the historic mural placed along the trail. Ben along with many volunteers from the troop worked together to build the structure and install it last fall working over the course of many months.

See **METCALF**, page 7

## Friends of Mary Lane discussion held at Town House

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis  
Correspondent

HARDWICK – The Friends of Mary Lane Hospital organization held an update and discussion pertaining to the status of what is happening at the former site of the hospital, as well as the organization's efforts to preserve healthcare in Ware.

The discussion, hosted by Cynthia Allen Bourcier went over the will written by Lewis Gilbert in 1919, as well as the condition of the Mary Lane Hospital site, and what the future plans of the foundation are.

### Lewis Gilbert will

Lewis Gilbert was a landowner in Ware in the early 1900s, and he resided on the property that was eventually transformed into the hospital on South Street. It was thanks to him that the building of the hospital was possible, as he granted

See **MARY LANE**, page 18



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# 50 Anniversary CELEBRATION

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# News of the Towns



## ROUND TOWN

by Ellenor Downer  
edowner@turley.com

### 9/11 ceremony takes place Sept. 11

The 9/11 Memorial is having a ceremony at the Global War on Terror Monument on Thursday, Sept. 11 at 10:30 a.m. This is the first remembrance since the Global War on Terror Monument was dedicated on Memorial Day of this year.

### Designer pancake breakfast

A designer pancake breakfast sponsored by Cradle Rock Chapter Order of Eastern Star will be held Saturday, Sept. 6 from 7:30-1030 a.m. at Mount Zion Masonic Lodge Hall, 71 Pleasant St. People may create their own designer pancakes. The menu also includes pancakes, waffles, sausage gravy and biscuits, bacon, sausage, juice and coffee and always real maple syrup. Cost is \$9 per adult and \$5 for children 6 and under. People can come for breakfast then enjoy the Barre Lions Club Car Show on the Barre Common.

### Yard sale

The Barre Historical Society announces their annual major fundraiser a yard sale on Saturday, Sept. 20 beginning at 9 a.m. Rain date is Sunday, Sept. 21. Members shop first from 8-9 a.m. and shoppers receive free coffee. There will be something for everyone. determine the price you pay! Yes, for much of the For most items, people determine their donation for the treasures they want. As a non-profit, self sustaining organization, they depend upon the generosity of their buyers. Items include current dish sets, pans, utensils, etc., to games, winter sleds, electronics, and their collectibles' table too. where vintage items including jewelry, old medicine bottle, tins and more are all available.

### Rep. Berthiaume staff holds office hours

State Rep. Donnie Berthiaume and Chief of Staff, Donna, invite constituents and town officials to meet them to express any concerns, ideas or issues that they may need assistance with. People may call Donna at 774-402-4742 if they would like a private meeting. Rep. Berthiaume's chief of staff will be in Barre on Wednesday, Sept. 17 at the Barre Senior Center from 9:30-10:15 a.m.

### Autumn Kids Market

An Autumn Kids Market will meet on Saturday, Sept. 13 from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. with the regular Barre Farmers Market on the Common in Barre Center. The kids market is run by children. They should register now to participate. Shoppers will be able to shop from entrepreneurs ages 5 to 17 on Sept. 13. For more information, people may visit [ChildrensEntrepreneurMarket.com](http://ChildrensEntrepreneurMarket.com).

### Barre Food Pantry

The next Barre Food Pantry distribution will occur on Thursday, Aug. 21 from 5:30-7 p.m. In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients Aug. 21 will again be "drive-through" style distributions. Clients will line up in their vehicles on Park Street and proceed into the right hand (east) entrance driveway of the Barre Congregational Church. They will remain in their cars. They'll drive up and be checked in by a volunteer, then continue up to the church building where their groceries will be put into the trunk or wayback of their vehicle by volunteers at multiple stations. Based on the success of distributions so far, the Food Pantry volunteers believe this "drive-through" style is the safest possible way to get food to clients and to help keep everyone well.

## University of the Wild to hold Summer and Fall Programs

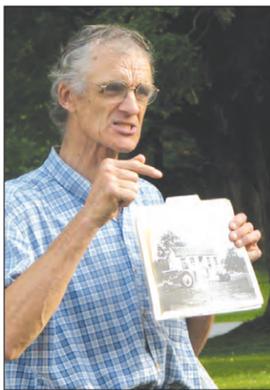
PETERSHAM – As the world becomes more complicated through the effects of climate change, cultural fragmentation, and social and environmental injustices, the University of the Wild is stepping-up its programs and services to help people to live, learn, and act through connection and harmony with the Earth and All Life.

To this end, all programs are at 73 Glasheen Road or on-line and include a series of programs at its Center includes Earth Alive, a 32 year Annual Summer Gathering on the weekend of Aug. 23 to Aug. 24 which includes Nature Connecting activities, music, story-telling and the building of an Earth-based community

People may visit <https://bradleygrovehyson.com/2025/06/earth-alive-2025-registration-to-register>.

In October there will be a UofWild Sampler to share the various components of the curriculum and training in how to initiate self-directed learning as a way to earn college credits and insights for living an Earth-based lifestyle.

In addition there will be an



Submitted photo

**Larry Buell local historian shares his "Sense of Place" and will include such content in the UofWild's Fall program offerings**

Honoring of the late Joanna Macy, author of "Coming Back to Life: Practice to Reconnect" a past visitor to Earthlands on Sunday, Aug. 24 at 4 p.m. at the UofWild's Elder's Circle. There will be announced a series of programs and podcasts, including: Putting-up Sacred Stone Work; Introduction to Self-directed Learning; Building Earth-based Community; Practices of EDI Equity,

Diversity, and Inclusion for the 21st Century; and the development of an international Community, called WECHI, Wild Earth Communities and Households International founded at the UofWild.

For Dr. Larry Buell, founder of the University of the Wild, the expansion of his work is aligned with other transformative projects of the Quabbin Bioregion, now and in the past, like Harvard Forest, the Trustees of Reservations, and Mass Audubon. Buell states, "It is a joy and a dream come true that my work is now recognized by a larger network and is a key component to the vital connection of people to the land, culture, and place." As a local Elder, Buell is writing his memoir, preserving stories of the land and local communities, and providing a physical place for people of all ages, circumstances, and persuasions to live, learn, and act for the Earth.

For information, people may visit [www.UofWild.org](http://www.UofWild.org), email Buell at [Larry@UofWild.org](mailto:Larry@UofWild.org) or call 978- 855-1420.

## OAKHAM

by Ellenor Downer  
edowner@turley.com



### COA to hold games and barbecue

The Oakham Senior Center is sponsoring a morning of lawn games on the town common followed by a barbecue at the Senior Center on Friday, Sept. 5. The games of croquet and corn hole will begin at 9 a.m. and last until 11 a.m. At 11.30 a.m., the barbecue begins at the Senior Center. They will be serving hot dogs, burgers, salads and desserts until 1 p.m. All seniors are invited.

People can choose to attend the games only, barbecue only or both. People may call 508-882-4073 to sign up to assist with planning. There is no charge for the cookout or the games. People should leave their name and what events they will attend. They must RSVP by Friday, Aug. 29.

### Library yard sale

Susan Turnbull will be managing the Fobes Memorial Library, 4 Maple St., yard sale during the town wide yard sale on Saturday, Aug. 23. If anyone has anything that they'd like to donate feel free to drop it off at the library. The only catch is that people come pick it any donations that did not sell.

### Church yard sale

The Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road, will be participating in the town wide yard sale rain or shine on Saturday, Aug. 23 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Maps will be available there as well. The church will sell hotdogs, egg salad and chicken salad sandwiches, sodas, bottled water and chips. Coffee will be available if the weather is cool. There will be tables set up in the Rood Room to eat your lunch.

### Senior Center

August activities at senior center include Tuesday, Aug. 26 blood pressure/glucose testing form 11 a.m.-noon and Tuesday, Aug. 26 SNAP benefits information from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. all ages welcome no age restrictions. Monday through Thursday there is puzzling from 9 a.m.-noon at the Senior Center.

Monday through Thursday at 9 a.m. walking group meets at Senior Center and Tuesday through Thursday walking group meets at 11 a.m. at Senior Center. People that want to be added to the text message group may call the Senior Center at 508-4073 and leave their name and cell phone number.

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

Thursdays at noon is weigh in at the Senior Center support weight loss group. Fridays at 10.30 a.m.: Functional Fitness meets at the New Braintree Town Hall; \$3 donation per class.

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

## 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. 25. 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 – Pork Rib-i-que, barbecue sauce, mac n cheese, green beans, pineapple sandwich roll

TUESDAY – Swedish meatballs, mashed potatoes, Scandinavian vegetables, vanilla mousse, pumpkinnickel

bread

WEDNESDAY – Sloppy Joe, red bliss potatoes, mixed vegetables, fresh fruit sandwich roll

THURSDAY – Chicken cranberry salad, three bean salad, Coleslaw, birthday cake, diet = small piece, hot dog bun

FRIDAY – Breaded mac & cheese, stewed tomatoes, roasted California vegetables, fresh fruit, Italian bread

\*Higher sodium entree Meal includes milk and margarine. Menus are subject to change. All meals are served at about 11:45 a.m. each weekday. Reservations should be made the day before by calling 978-355-5027 before 10:30 a.m. The donation of \$3.00 per meal helps keep the program running.

## Emily Aubuchont runs to support NEADS

OAKHAM – Emily Aubuchont of Oakham is running the Falmouth Road Race and raising money for NEADS World Class Service Dogs, a nonprofit based in Princeton.

NEADS offers an array of Service Dog programs and provides Service Dogs for Veterans with disabilities or PTSD, people with hearing loss, children and adults with a physical disability, and more.

Although the race is this weekend, fundraising is open through Sept. 30.

"If you've never heard of NEADS - they are a local non-profit located in Princeton, that breeds, raises, trains and places Service Dogs to those in need. Last year, I was able to visit the NEADS campus and witness first-hand what an amazing organization and operation they run. We were able to meet one of the service dogs

who services a woman with MS and witness what a difference this dog makes in her everyday life that wouldn't be possible without NEADS. Every dollar counts for NEADS to be able to continue to help and provide support to those in need.

Please considering donating to my page here to support the ongoing work NEADS provides to the community," said Emily Aubuchont.

### Have something to share?

Send your stories and photos to [edowner@turley.com](mailto:edowner@turley.com)

## Corrections policy

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

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**HARVEST CRAFT FAIR**  
SEPTEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> & 7<sup>TH</sup>  
10AM-4PM

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## NOTICE

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# News of the Towns

## PUBLIC MEETINGS

### BARRE

Planning Board – Aug. 21 and Sept. 16 at 7 p.m.  
 Conservation Committee – Aug. 26 at 7 p.m.  
 Cemetery Commission – Aug. 28 at 11 a.m.  
 9/11 Memorial Development Committee – Aug. 28 at 4:30 p.m.  
 Felton Field Commission – Sept. 2 at 6:30 p.m.  
 Council on Aging – Sept. 3 at 12:30 p.m.  
 Board of Health – Sept. 8 at 5 p.m.  
 Water Commission – Sept. 8 at 5:30 p.m.  
 DPW Commission – Sept. 8 at 6 p.m.  
 Library Trustees – Sept. 10 at 6:30 p.m.  
 Barre Housing Authority – Sept. 11 at 1 p.m.  
 Master Plan Steering Committee – Oct. 9 at 5:30 p.m. and Nov. 13 at 7 p.m.  
 Cable Advisory Committee – Oct. 14 at 7 p.m.

### HARDWICK

Town Hall Advisory Committee – Aug. 21 at 4:30 p.m.  
 Master Plan Steering Committee – Aug. 21 at 6:30 p.m.  
 Planning Board – Aug. 26 at 6:30 p.m.  
 Recycling Commission – Sept. 2 at 6:30 p.m.  
 Council on Aging – Sept. 3 at 12:30 p.m.  
 Paige Library Trustees – Sept. 4 at 7 p.m.  
 Gilbertville Public Library – Sept. 10 at 3 p.m.  
 Board of Health – Sept. 11 at 6:30 p.m.  
 Capital Planning Committee – Sept. 15 at 3 p.m.

### HUBBARDSTON

Planning Board – Aug. 21 at 6:30 p.m.  
 Cultural Council – Aug. 21 at 7 p.m.  
 Board of Parks Commissioners – Aug. 27 at 6 p.m.

### NORTH BROOKFIELD

Board of Selectmen – Aug. 26 at 6 p.m.  
 Special Town Meeting – Aug. 26 at 6 p.m.  
 Rep. Berthiaume Office Hours – Sept. 11 at 11 a.m.-noon  
 Planning Board – Sept. 17 at 6 p.m.

### PETERSHAM

Petersham Historic District – Aug. 21 at 6 p.m.  
 Select Board – Aug. 26, Aug. 28, Sept. 11, Sept. 18 and Sept. 25 at 5:30 p.m.  
 Board of Health – Aug. 26 at 7:30 p.m.  
 Open Space and Recreation Committee – Sept. 2 at 6 p.m.  
 Conservation Commission – Sept. 2 at 7 p.m.  
 Board of Assessors – Sept. 5 at 9 a.m.  
 Council on Aging – Sept. 8 at 10 a.m.  
 Cemetery Commission – Sept. 9 at 10 a.m.

### RUTLAND

Finance Committee – Aug. 21 at 6 p.m.

## Explore Lake Wallace with the Quabbin Photo Group on Aug. 25

**BELCHERTOWN** – The Quabbin Photo Group invites the public to an inspiring evening on Monday, Aug. 25, at 7 p.m. at the Belchertown Recreation Department, 66 State St., that will feature retired Belchertown educator and environmental advocate Louise Levy.

Levy is well known in the community as one of the visionaries behind the creation of the Lake Wallace Recreational Area (www.belchertown.org/lakewallace), a scenic spot tucked away in the heart of Belchertown. During her career as an educator, she brought countless students into the outdoors, using hands-on ecology lessons to help them connect with the natural world.

Today, as a leader of the Friends of Lake Wallace, she continues to champion

its environmental and educational importance.

At this special program, Levy will share her extensive knowledge of the lake – its history, its diverse plant and animal life, and why it's such a treasure for photographers and nature lovers alike. Following her talk, members of the Quabbin Photo Group will present a showcase of their favorite landscape and wildlife images taken at Lake Wallace, revealing the area's beauty through the eyes of skilled local photographers.

Adding to the evening's appeal, the lake itself is located directly behind the meeting venue, giving attendees the opportunity to step outside and explore the area for themselves after the presentation.

Founded by renowned nature photographer Les Campbell, the Quabbin

Photo Group was created to celebrate the natural beauty of the Quabbin Region.

The group holds monthly meetings open to the public, offering educational programs, guest speakers, and opportunities for photographers of all levels to share their work. Membership helps support QPG's mission of fostering appreciation for the region's landscapes and wildlife.

This free event welcomes everyone, whether you're an experienced photographer, a casual nature enthusiast, or simply curious about one of Belchertown's hidden gems.

For more information about the program, contact Program Chair Ed Comeau at [ecomeau@comeauphotography.com](mailto:ecomeau@comeauphotography.com). To learn more about the Quabbin Photo Group, reach out to President Mark Lindhult at [mlindhult@gmail.com](mailto:mlindhult@gmail.com).

## HUBBARDSTON

by Ellenor Downer  
[edowner@turley.com](mailto:edowner@turley.com)

### Field Day happens Sept. 11

Hubbardston Field Day will be held Saturday, Sept. 13 at the Curtis Rec Field in Hubbardston from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Rain date is Sunday, Sept. 14. Featured will be bounce house, obstacle course, Munchkin playland, baby contest at 10 a.m., chicken barbecue at noon, live music, pony rides, Capoeira demonstration, vendors, games, crafts, and more. Partial funding is provided by the Hubbardston Cultural Council through the Massachusetts Cultural Council. This annual fundraiser for the Hubbardston Lions Club provides an opportunity for the community to come together and support each other while having fun. More information is available by emailing [joyce.hubblions@gmail.com](mailto:joyce.hubblions@gmail.com) or looking for the full schedule of events on our Facebook page at Hubbardston Lions Club.

### Library 5K set for Sept. 6

The 28th Annual Hubbardston Library 5K Run/Walk is scheduled for Saturday Sept. 6 at 9 a.m. sharp. This annual event represents more than a quarter century of community support for the Library, approaching \$90,000 raised for ongoing operations. The race is an out and back course starting and finishing at the Hubbardston Center School. The race will be held rain or shine. Applications for the event will be available online at the Hubbardston Library website. The registration fee for the fundraising event is \$25 and \$30 for those who register after Aug. 2. Long sleeve cotton race shirts will be provided to the first 100 registered runners. Awards to overall first place Male/Female Runners and Walkers as well as age group winners will be provided. Prizes provided are possible due to the generous donations of local businesses and individuals. For additional information on this event, interested runners/walkers or donors can contact Mark Wigler, race director at 978-928-5120 or email [MTWigler@gmail.com](mailto:MTWigler@gmail.com). The 2024 Race/Walk raised over \$4,000 for support of the library's activities and Scholarship Fund.

### Dinghy Dash

The Eighth Annual Dingy Dash will take place on Saturday, Aug. 23 at 10 a.m. on Brigham Pond. This year there are three categories to choose from single occupant adult, single occupant youth and group vessel. Deadline to enter was Monday, Aug. 18. Sponsors are Hubbardston Police Association, J.P. McCarthy & Sons and The Ruptured Duck.

### Senior Center

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

## Paige Memorial Library lists events

**HARDWICK** – People, who missed the Paige Memorial Library's Annual Hardwick Fair Book Sale, there is still a chance to purchase books.

There are still have books available downstairs in the Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, on Tuesday and Thursday from 2-4 p.m., Wednesday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. They have fiction, special inter-

est non-fiction and lovely books for children; prices are reasonable.

The library staff thanks the fairy house makers. The Annual Hardwick Fair-y Village attracted many tiny fairies, one human size fairy and many appreciative visitors who made a wish, tied a ribbon on the Wishing Tree and left with a glittering tattoo. Peter Schmid's beautiful garden was enhanced by the art in the Hardwick Fair-y

Village.

There is no room to bring the fairy houses into the library because of the book sale and so they were all left outside for pick up. People should claim their beautiful fairy houses.

Wednesday morning story hour begins at 11 a.m. Children may come early to play and to meet friends. For more information, people may call 413-477-6704 or email [Director.paigebinary@gmail.com](mailto:Director.paigebinary@gmail.com).

## Rep. Berthiaume lists office hours

State Rep. Donnie Berthiaume and Chief of Staff, Donna, invite constituents and town officials to meet them to express any concerns, ideas or issues that they may need assistance with.

People may call Donna at 774-402-4742 if they would like a private meeting.

Office hour schedules include on Tuesday, Sept. 9 town of Ware at the Senior Center from 9-9:45

a.m.; town of Hardwick at the Town Hall from 10-11 a.m.; town of West Brookfield, at the Senior Center from 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. and town of Brookfield at the Town Hall, 12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m.; on Wednesday, Sept. 10 town of Leicester at the Center Center from 9-9:45 a.m.; town of Spencer, at Senior Center, from 10-11 a.m. with Tammy Ruda from Rep. Marsi's Office and town of East Brookfield

at the Senior Center from 11:15 a.m.-noon p.m.; on Thursday, Sept. 11 town of Oakham at Town Hall from 9-9:45 a.m.; town of New Braintree at the Town Hall from 10-10:45 a.m.; town of North Brookfield Town Hall from 11 a.m.-noon and on Wednesday, Sept. 17 town of Barre Senior Center from 9:30-10:15 a.m. and town of Hubbardston at Senior Center from 10:30-11:30 a.m.

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 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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 To Register And For More Information

## LAND FOR SALE

Belchertown	7.5 acres with twm util.	\$149,900
Belchertown	4.2 acres with twm util.	\$99,900
Hampden	6.95 acres	\$80,000
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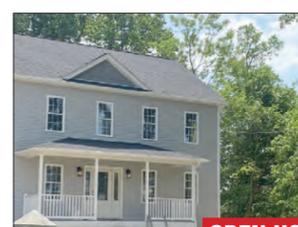
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# Opinion

## Letters to Editor

### Energy projects must follow National Historic Preservation Act

I respectfully submit this comment to express concern regarding the implementation of a commercial battery park projects and their potential implications for Indigenous lands, cultural landscapes and ecologically sensitive areas/water-shed aquifers.

While the state's commitment to clean energy is commendable, the accelerated siting of Battery Energy Storage Systems appears to be moving forward without consistent application of federal cultural review processes. Specifically, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires consultation with Tribal Historic Preservation Officers when a project involves federal funding, permits or oversight.

Many clean energy projects in Massachusetts receive federal support whether through grants, loan guarantees, or agency involvement, which would trigger this important review. However, it appears that some projects may be advancing without full compliance with Section 106,

particularly in areas with ancestral significance to the Wampanoag, Nipmuc and Narragansett peoples. This has been a statewide issue from Race Point Cape Cod to the Berkshires.

This raises important questions about whether the state is meeting its obligations under the Public Trust Doctrine, which affirms the government's responsibility to protect public resources including cultural and environmental heritage for the benefit of all communities. The absence of meaningful tribal consultation and cultural review risks overlooking sacred landscapes and eroding trust with Indigenous nations.

I respectfully urge all relevant agencies to ensure that federally supported energy projects in Massachusetts undergo proper consultation and review in accordance with Section 106. Doing so will help uphold legal obligations, foster transparency and honor the cultural stewardship of Indigenous peoples.

**Robert Kane**  
Barre

### Now is the time to put aside differences

Divide and conquer is a strategy that has won battles for thousands of years.

Now, Oakham faces the greatest battle of our time. At risk are our land, our drinking water, our property values and our health. The state government is trying to force a lithium battery park on our town, even though Oakham residents unanimously voted against it and passed a bylaw to stop it.

This is not democracy. This is dictatorship. Many people do not realize the dangers of lithium battery parks.

More than half of existing battery parks have caught fire. These fires cannot be extinguished. They burn for days or even weeks, releasing toxic smoke that travels for miles. When water is used to fight the flames, chem-

icals seep into the ground, moving quickly through the aquifer and contaminating wells.

Once the aquifer is poisoned, it cannot be cleaned. East Hampton, New York, saw its municipal water supply destroyed this very way. (<https://oswsouthfork.info/bess>)

To those in Oakham who have other grievances, I am not saying your concerns have no value. But right now, we must put aside our differences. This battery park threatens our very town, our homes and our lives. If we remain divided, the state will win.

Let's not let the dictators win by dividing and conquering ourselves. Let us protect Oakham. Failure is not an option.

**Eliot Starbard**  
Oakham

#### I DO LISTEN

*Note: A spoken word tribute to the rightful owners of the land*

I do listen, in our New England wood, where the rightful owners show me many things.

Not with words, but with wind through pine, with the hush of moss beneath my feet, with the sudden hush when the hawk passes overhead.

The trees speak in silence, their roots tangled in memory. The stones remember—they've held the weight of seasons, and the footsteps of those who walked here long before me.

The brook retells stories older than names, older than maps, older than fences. It sings of freedom, of movement, of belonging.

I walk gently, a guest among ancestors, among fox and fern, among shadow and light. I do not own this place. I am held by it.

They show me— how to wait without wanting, how to watch without judgment, how to belong without claiming.

The heath hen no longer drums here, but the silence it left is still sacred. The deer move like memory, and the owl asks questions I'm not ready to answer.

I do listen, and in listening, I begin to understand what it means to be home. Not to take, but to tend. Not to conquer, but to care. Not to speak, but to hear.

I do listen. And the land speaks still.

**Robert Kane**



## In Past Pages

**5 years (Aug. 27, 2020)**

A \$2,000 grant from the Massachusetts Dept. of Conservation and Recreation's Urban and Community Forestry Program will support new equipment for the Petersham Wood Bank, a volunteer firewood heating assistance program now in its sixth year of service to Petersham residents. In 2019-2020, the Wood Bank distributed 15 cords of wood to Petersham residents. Petersham households may apply for winter 2020-2021 vouchers once a month or as dry wood is available, at the Town Office starting in October. Wood allotments are picked up at the transfer station. "The Petersham Wood Bank is a team effort and incredible success story, made possible by dedicated volunteers and tremendous support from both the town and the Mass. DCR," says Jordan O'Connor, who wrote the new grant and co-manages the Petersham Wood Bank as a member of the Petersham Forest and Shade Tree Committee with tree warden Melissa LeVangie.

Sanda Barry and Ed Blanchard of the Hubbardston Lions Club requested the bandstand be named the David Tattan Jr. Memorial Bandstand at the Aug. 3 select board meeting. Blanchard said David Tattan Jr. was a "pillar of the community," a Lions Club member for 40 years and the engineer and main construction guy on the bandstand. He said the Lions Club also wanted to purchase and install a granite bench like the one for Louis A. Richards near the bandstand. The three selectmen present

### Look Back Top Runners – 1984



File photo

**Wayne Goddard, right, congratulates the winners in the cross country race at the recent Hardwick Fair. Left to right are Lou Panaccione, first, Mark Kimball, second and Roger Nataska, third**

approved a motion to support this and to work with the town administrator to make it happen.

Steve Meagher, a former resident of Hubbardston, said Hubbardston was one of the few towns that did not have a memorial for the Vietnam period and it was way over due. He said he would like to see it happen. He said a committee would need to be formed and raise about \$15,000. He said he would like the committee to be established by this Veterans Day and the memorial in place on the town common by Veterans Day 2021. The select board approved the establishment of a seven-member committee and support of the project.

**10 years (Aug. 27, 2015)**

Petersham Selectmen met with the Advisory Finance Committee to discuss arti-

cles and their order on the warrant for a Special Town Meeting set for Monday, Aug. 21. The Select Board and the Advisory Finance Committee decided to keep the first five articles in the order as presented. The articles included a routine one regarding reports officers and committees as well as a request for an easement on East Street, a grant for a conservation restriction for farmland currently in Chapter 61 and the second vote on Broadband.

The musical by Barre Players' Summer Youth Theater "Meet Me in St. Louis," begins with rolling music in subdued light. The year is 1903. The place is the Smith home in St. Louis, where everyone is eagerly looking forward to the World's fair. Neil Ericson as

See PAST PAGES page 6



### Rust is no joke

[This time of year I always get a few questions from gardeners who wonder what type of disease is afflicting their treasured hollyhocks.

Sadly, it's affecting mine too. Read on for more information on this malady.

Two years ago I planted Hollyhock seeds indoors. The plants grew wonderfully that first year with nice deep green basal foliage.

Being biennial in nature, year two is when they came into their glory with incredibly beautiful pink flowers on towering six to seven foot spikes. Now it's year three – a gift when biennials are concerned.

The plants started out fine and then I noticed a few

raised orange-brown spots on the leaves. By season's end, the plants are pale in color and covered with the rusty orange spots.

Most of the lower foliage has been destroyed and has dropped to the ground.

My hollyhocks are suffering from a fungal problem by the name of rust. It first appears as waxy orange blisters, known as "pustules" on the undersides of the lower most foliage. On the surface of the leaves small, orange-yellow spots form.

Hollyhock rust rarely kills its host, but it can make plants look quite unsightly. In a severe infestation like mine, premature leaf drop occurs.

Next spring, if I dare to

grow hollyhocks again, I'll have to do it in a different part of my landscape and escape any spores that the soil is harboring.

The best way to control hollyhock rust is to remove infected leaves and discard them in the trash. The quicker you act, the better.

Other members of the hollyhock family (Malvaceae) are prone to this disease as well, so scour your perennial bed for spotted leaves on Lavatera and Malva (Tall Mallow and Musk Mallow) and dispose of them.

A common weed that goes by the name "cheese weed" or "cheeses" is also a Malva and likewise is susceptible. Cut down on the chance of infestation next year by removing all foliage and debris from these plants prior to winter. Even go as far as to remove the bark mulch beneath them to further reduce the spore population. Proper cultural practices also make a difference in combating hollyhock rust and

See GARDEN page 5

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## Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

It was another hot and humid week, although Sunday was pleasant.

I ran the fans most of the week. I got a huge bag of potting soil at Walmart. One gentleman helped me put it in the car and a young lady put it in my shopping basket. I find when shopping I really have to ask for help. It seems I have shrunk and everything I need is on the top shelves.

After shopping at Walmart, they always ask on the computer how your shopping day was. Well this time I had to use the restroom and there was no toilet paper in my stall so I yelled to another customer to hand me some so I mentioned they need to check the toilet paper supply more frequently. Otherwise I gave them a good review. Another thing they are changing the store all around and it is hard to find the items, not the groceries.

With the potting soil I planted several pots of coleus that I rooted and a window box that I plan to plant some kind of veggie in. I put potatoes in one planter and they are 12 inches high so I may put more in the window box. I also have a hanging plastic bag that a tree came in and I should plant something in that.

My wood hyacinth has four blooms and a bud. Our Nonesuch Garden Club got those bulbs many years ago when Dot Salminen was a member. They were at a daughter's house in the woods and she shares some with us. Daniel Baxter has some and lets me know when they come in bloom. Mine are hidden in between some summer sunflowers so I have a hard time seeing them so they become a surprise.

Here is a recipe that those who have plenty of peppers may like to make. Peppers are so high priced in the stores it would not pay

to make it unless you have your own supply. My pepper plants are just blossoming now so hope I get some My faithful penpal from Oakham sent me this recipe.

### ZUCCHINI PEPPER RELISH

1 medium to large zucchini  
6 bell peppers in red, green or yellow  
4 sweet onions, diced  
3 1/2 cups sugar  
1 1/2 cups white vinegar  
2 T. cornstarch  
1 teaspoon ground turmeric  
1 teaspoon ground mustard

Grate zucchini to make 3 cups. In a stainless steel pot, combine all ingredients. Heat to a boil, stirring then maintain a simmer. Stir occasionally until onions are clear and relish is thick. Remove from heat. Pour into sterilized jars, seal and process in a boiling water bath for 10 minutes. Makes 6 to 7 pints.

### This and That

I know I am rushing the season but this week I did put out my fall decorations. This includes wall hangings, table runners, mantel decorations and door decorations. Gourds, pumpkins, crows, scarecrows, sunflowers, apples and wheat. It is fun to change things around. My helper said I was rushing the season too soon but I love fall.

I have made a new fall tablecloth and placemats and put the penny rug fall leaves and vegetable centerpiece on the dining room table.

In another project, I have been having a time with mice in the basement. I am leery about setting mice traps so have been using the sticky ones. I have caught five mice so far. I discovered they ate a whole bag of wheat rice I had stored with the extra canned goods.

Many of my friends have

suggested ways to catch them. My daughter who does not like to kill even a mouse suggested I send them away. I am sure the neighbors don't want them either.

I have a freezer in the basement that we are not using presently so she also suggested I store my extra things in it. The advice is good. Another friend suggested the Jawz traps. Will look those up and see if I could do that.

Mice can be a problem in cars also. Ask my son-in-law what he found.

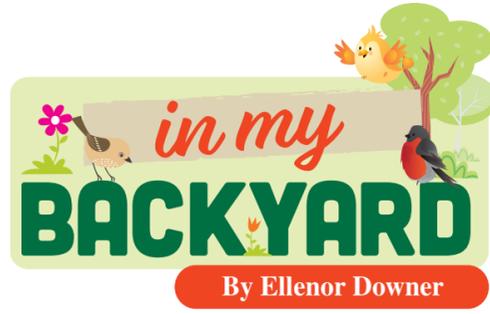
On a more pleasant note. I made a batch of stuffed peppers and a dish of meatloaf so that will give us three meals. I just have to warm them up. I enjoyed two meals of BLT's with the tomatoes we are growing. I really miss our vegetable garden but have some things in pots.

See in the Senior Newsletter that they are going to make house numbers for people. We really need one as we live far from the main road and our mail box is on the opposite side of the street. When we have help coming they end up in someone else's driveway. The GPS is wrong and direct them there. A sign at our driveway would be appreciated.

Bears have also been a problem lately. We try to compost our veggie peelings etc. and the bear took the top part right off the composter and threw it on the ground, not the cover but the top half. I saw the bear and two cubs go by our sliding glass doors. The baby cub took and climbed up our scarecrow in the backyard. Last year one cub hugged the scarecrow. It was so cute and then the Mother called him away.

That is what living in the country is all about.

Have a nice rest of summer.



Great egret



A Brimfield resident reported he visited Lake Wallace in Belchertown with a friend last week and saw a great egret.

They also saw a great blue heron, at least three green herons, a few Phoebes and an Eastern kingbird. There were also several ducks, mallards and wood ducks. The two male wood ducks were in eclipse plumage.

The great egret is slightly smaller than the great blue heron, but they are still large birds with an impressive wingspan. They hunt in the classic heron way standing immobile or wading through water to capture fish with their bill. At one point, egrets were hunted to near extinction for their feathers for hat decoration. The great egret is the symbol of the National Audubon Society.

Rivalry among nestlings is common and the larger chicks frequently kill their smaller siblings. The great egret is white with a yellow bill and black legs. During

breeding, a patch of skin on its face turns neon green and long plumes grow from its back called aigrettes. These aigrettes were prized for ladies hats.

Great egrets fly slowly, but powerfully with just two wingbeats per second at a speed of about 25 miles per hour. The oldest known Great Egret was 22 years, 10 months old and was banded in Ohio.

### Eagle sighting

A New Braintree resident and a friend went bass fishing on Brooks Pond in North Brookfield in a canoe recently. Half way out on the pond, they started to hear the seagull like calls of an eagle. As they rounded a little peninsula on the left side up in the top of a broken pine was a large eagle's nest.

The broken pine made a perfect platform for them to build a nest. They then saw the two mature adult pair with their white heads on a stump near the water. Up in the pine near the nest were two juvenile eagles, all dark brown. They weren't flying, but just squeaking for food.

They actually looked quite big for baby eagles. His friend said it was because they still had their fluffy feathers and developing new feathers.

They fished nearby and watched them hop around. They seemed unbothered by them being about 60 feet from the shore of the peninsula. Eventually the two

adult eagles flew off probably in search of a meal for their big babies. So neat to be able to see eagles fairly common now in Massachusetts.

### Male cardinal

I received this email, "I was just walking the dog after dark and my flashlight came upon this guy (male cardinal). I have seen him every night since. We just stare at each other for a few seconds and say good night."

### Loon census

The Loon Preservation Committee reported on Saturday, July 19 from 8-9 a.m., 566 volunteers simultaneously surveyed 135 lakes across New Hampshire for loons. Together, they counted 541 adult loons and 109 loon chicks during the census hour. The New Hampshire loon census is part of a larger regional effort. While N.H. participants were out surveying for loons on their lakes, hundreds of volunteers in Maine, Vermont, and New York were doing the same. This simultaneous survey of so many lakes helps create a "snapshot in time" of not just the loon population here in New Hampshire, but across the Northeast.

### Helping birds

A reader from South Hadley suggested I include a section about ways to help birds. She even provided several tips for future columns. Some people also continue to put out suet and that is so dangerous. It gets rancid in the heat and that's bad for birds. Perhaps even worse, it gets their feet and chest feathers greasy and when the preen, they spread the grease all over their bodies. This interferes with a bird's natural waterproofing and can also cause their nestling to be covered in grease.

See BACKYARD page 6

### GARDEN from page 4

most plant diseases. First, give perennials adequate space from one another to allow for good air flow.

In the case of hollyhocks, I'd recommend about 18 inches. We can't control when and how often it rains, but when we supply the moisture timing and application count. Water around the base of the plants, without it touching the foliage, and do so early in the morning so that leaves have a chance to dry before nightfall.

Apply new bark mulch each spring to cover spores that may be waiting in the soil. And lastly, when planting new seedlings, locate them as far away as possible from previously grown plants even if they didn't have a serious infestation.

Although I've never tried this myself, I have read a few testimonials from gardeners who had luck applying corn meal to their soil in an effort to control soil borne fungal diseases such as rust. Reportedly it stimulates beneficial organisms that feed on pathogens. Two pounds per one hundred square feet is recommended.

Even if it doesn't work, it probably won't hurt!

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



### Editorial deadline reminder

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



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# Hardwick's 263rd Community Fair



Luca made his way through the hay house in the children's obstacle course.



The Antique Tractor & Implement Parade made its way around the common.

## HARDWICK FAIR from page 1

Aug. 15 where there were several food trucks providing delicious food and Lost Towns Brewing offered a beer garden. The Tri-Parish Community Church provided a baked potato bar for visitors at the start of the parade.

The first day of the fair begins with an opening ceremony near the flagpole of the Town Common. William Cole sang the National Anthem as the flag was hoisted.

Every year the fair has a special dedication ceremony where the fair is dedicated to one person in the community. President of the Hardwick Fair Association Fay Butler made the special announcements and said the board wanted to acknowledge Billy Ward, Sr. for his dedication to the Hardwick Community Fair.

Joining in the celebration was state Rep. Donnie Berthiaume and state Sen. Peter Durant. Both Berthiaume and Durant presented the citations from the House of Representatives and the Senate to Ward and recognized him for his many years of unwavering dedication to the fair. Ward didn't remember the exact number of years he has been involved with the fair, but he estimates its been over 50 years.

When asked what this dedication meant to him, Ward



Hardwick Community Fair President Fay Butler held the microphone while Billy Ward Sr. talked about the fair. This year's fair was dedicated to Ward.

said it means "more than I can explain." What makes this year's fair even more special for Ward was "seeing my children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren all participating."

Ward is known for starting the chainsaw and timber contest that takes place every year during the fair. The contest has been around for over 25 years. Ward's son has now been running the competition for many years and said his grandson will be taking over the responsibilities of running the chainsaw contest next year.

This competition has a good turnout every year and hundreds of guests gathered to watch as timber was being cut on a timely basis.

Lumberjacks must make two clear cuts as fast as they can. The participants are divided into four different classes based off engine displacement, measured in cubic centimeters, which directly relates to the saw's power.

There was a lot to explore at the Hardwick Community Fair. Butler described the fair as "a very affordable, family-oriented fair." Butler has seen the fair as a place where many residents who lived in Hardwick at one time always come back on an annual basis to reconnect with old friends and start new friendships.

The fair in its many years of existence has always been agriculturally based, featuring antique tractors, cattle show, farm products, chainsaw com-



The Children's Parade assembled behind these banner bearers. This year's theme was "Down on the Farm."

petition and much more. "All the food comes from this town," Butler stated. At one point there were over 30 cow farms in Hardwick.

Fair Secretary Lisa Cohen attended the opening ceremony of the 2025 Hardwick Community Fair and described the moment as "magic" considering that this fair has been going on for 263 years. The fair was originally chartered by King George back in the 18th century.

The fair brings the entire community together and features events for all ages.

On Saturday, the Paige Memorial Library offered their book sale and featured a special guest. It was Ambrosia the Flower Fairy, who offered glitter tattoos and stickers. Friends of the Library were sporting fairy wings during the fair and were excited to share the library featuring shelves and boxes full of books for sale with stories of all genres.

Library Director Julie Bullock was proud to share the fifth village of Hardwick, the fairy village out on the front lawn of the library. Peter Schmid is the landscape architect behind the design of the Hardwick Fairy Village.

"All homesteaders are welcome," Bullock said.

Across the street from the Town Common was the Hardwick Historical Society Museum exhibit. Residents can explore their town's history.

Hundreds of residents gathered at the Common to watch the children's parade. Dozens of Hardwick's youth strolled through the streets around the Hardwick Common with kids in front carrying a banner for this year's children's parade.

Across the street from the Common was an antique tractor display. Hundreds of residents gathered on the side of the street to hear the tractors start up to ride along



Scott Flamand of Ware shared his second place ribbon earned in the Lumberjack Contest with his grandchild.



This young fairgoer was getting ready to enter her frog into the Frog Jumping Contest, a 40-plus year tradition at the fair.

the Common for the Antique Tractor & Implement Parade. Music entertainment for both days of the fair was by the music group The Otters.

For more information about the historical Hardwick Community Fair, visit [www.hardwickfair.com](http://www.hardwickfair.com).

## BACKYARD from page 4

### Sandhill cranes

An Oakham resident saw two sandhill cranes in Barre on Aug. 14 in a field across from the Listening Center. Sandhill cranes also visit his field in Oakham as well.

### Warren birds

The Brimfield resident said, "In Warren this week there are still adult ospreys about, on two visits I saw and adult on or near the nest. I have not seen a juvenile out of the nest so am not sure if any young fledged this year. I saw one chick in the nest earlier this summer and there is an eBird report from July with a picture of a fully grown chick in the nest with an adult. It's unknown if the chick fledged successfully?" In Warren at the pond on New Reed Street the past several years I had seen Great Egrets

there in August but none have been seen there this year.

### Cedar waxwings

The Brimfield resident in referring to recent mention in this column about cedar waxwings, said a large part of their diet is fruit based. He read an article that stated that because their diet is mostly fruit based that if a waxwing nest is parasitized by a brown-headed cowbird the cowbird chick is not likely to survive because it can't survive on the fruit based diet.

I visited the section of Ware River recently where my daughter has seen cedar waxwings and I was not disappointed. I stood and watched them fly over the water and into nearby trees. They moved so quickly I was unsuccessful in watching them through binoculars.

### Bird bath

The Brimfield resident reports the bird bath in his

yard is getting lots of use, especially by catbirds and blue jays. Goldfinch show up and drink from the drip as well as black-capped chickadees, chipping sparrows and house finches.

Four juvenile raccoons are regular visitors to the bird bath. He has a trail camera near the bird bath and it captures lots of pictures of the raccoons in the bird bath. Not sure what they are doing, it doesn't look like they are drinking and sometime the stones in the bath are moved around. A couple of times he's seen a pickerel frog in the bird bath.

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

## PAST PAGES from page 4

Grandpa is endearing with his pipe and cane and his many intriguing hats and costumes. Amber Bowles and Sarah Ripley, as the two sister, Esther and Rose, have lovely voices and do much of the singing throughout the evening.

The Police Chief told Barre Selectmen that about ten of the bullet-proof vest worn by his officers need to be replaced, as they are over the five-year use life recommended by the manufacturer. The vest are custom made to each officer's build.

### 25 years (Aug. 24, 2000)

The Barre Board of Selectmen met with Bill Scanlon of Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission and architect Roy Brown at a hearing on the elevator grant application during Monday night meeting. Scanlon, whose office will administer the grant and receive the funding and assist with the application. He will deliver it to Boston by Aug. 25 the grant deadline.

Nearly 1,000 people and 80 horses form town as well as around the country and Canada gathered at the Great Meadowbrook Farm in Hardwick for a special horse trials event called "Over the Walls..." Although the event was impressive in its own right, bringing in competitors from past Olympic medal winners to current interna-

tional hopefuls. "Almost all of this was done by local volunteers It was the most amazing thing," said organizer Erik Fleming.

The Barre Board of Selectmen tried to come to an agreeable solution to end a dispute between neighbors about barking dogs. In the end, the board put the dogs on notice, but also told the neighbors to try and get along better. The hearing held Aug. 21 was rescheduled from Aug. 7. Dog owner, Ed Harnois and neighbor Marc Nugent, both of Pleasant Street, attended the rescheduled dog hearing. Harnois told selectmen the Nugents never notified him in person of the problem and he wasn't aware of the problem until he received the letter from the Selectmen. He said he moved the Rottweilers doghouse away from the Nugent property line.

### 38 years (Aug. 27, 1987)

A Special Town Meeting was held in Barre last Monday, Aug. 24 where voters narrowly approved a Proposition 2 ½ and gave the go ahead to the \$4.7 million expansion of Ruggles Lane School. Another question on the ballot, that of future multi-day carnivals on the Common was narrowly defeated by the close margin of 233-212. The carnival question, however, was a non-binding referendum. The override of Proposition 2 ½ means that Ruggles Lane will eventually have twice the number of classrooms

with an additional computer room and media center. The voters approved the expansion 254-194. The second question that of future Common carnivals was the result of a controversy between the Selectmen and the Barre Lion's Club.

The Barre Thief and Rogue Detecting Society, the town's oldest organization, is seeking volunteers to help expand its crime watch program. This program is utilizing citizen volunteers to assist the police by patrolling all areas of Barre in their own vehicles with the objective of "putting a dent in crime." Volunteers serve as "extra eyes and ears" for the police and give special surveillance attention to areas vulnerable to break ins and burglaries and they keep under observation homes where the residents are liable to be away at work. The society's objective is also to reduce vandalism.

Hubbardston has a celebrity, who has been selected as the winner of a victory garden, which has been selected as a finalist in the Channel 2 Victory Garden annual contest. Karen DiFranza is one of four finalists and her garden will appear on Channel 2 television on Sept. 3 at 8 p.m. The voting, via audience participation, will take place the week of Sept. 10. Karen has lived in Hubbardston for four years has the garden since moving to Hubbardston.



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**BARRE from page 1**

who said she did a fine job. The chairman said at town meeting there was a vote to reduce her salary and after that Jackson left the Town Administrator position, but she stayed on as Treasurer and took a Town Accountant position in Templeton. The Director of Finance in Templeton gave her a good reference. She also received a strong recommendation from the woman, who worked with her. She also talked to the Superintendent of Narragansett Regional School District. He said what they did to her at Town Meeting was "ridiculous."

Marshall also talked with additional people for Munroe and Zukowski. Marshall said she talked with a Hubbardston Select Board member said Munroe was extraordinarily bright and well versed in law. She is very direct and it sometimes gets her in trouble. The other two Barre Select Board members also checked on references.

Select Board member Stevens said he did not need

a second interview to make a decision. He then made a motion to offer the position to Melanie Jackson pending a background check. Vice Chairman Regienus seconded the motion.

Chairman Marshall said she disagreed and voted no as she said Heather Munroe was the best candidate. She said she was "adamantly opposed to making this decision with the issue the town is facing."

She said Jackson did not have the experience with "deep troubles" and urged at least a second round of interviews. The other two members disagreed to a second interview. When Vice Chairman Regienus tried to move the vote, the Chairman said she had the "right to speak."

She said she was "deeply concerned to pass over a more qualified candidate." She said she "probably hired more administrative type people than any one on this board." Chairman Marshall said she would not vote for Jackson, but she would "work hard with whoever gets the position."

**Interim Town Administrator report**

Interim Town Administrator James Sabourin said the town received a grant of \$218,916 to update the heating system in the Henry Woods Building from Energy Resources. The town also received a \$4,000 and \$5,000 Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association grants.

**Other business**

Select Board member Stevens thanked the Barre Lions Club for their cleanup work on the Common., they did brush cleanup, replaced bench seats and painted them and trimmed low hanging branches.

Select Board Chairman Marshall said the town received a letter from the Central Massachusetts Rail Trail for the town's support. She also recognized John Dixon for his work with this group. The Select Board also approved the Planning Board request to contact Town Counsel on the Battery Energy Storage System and requested the Planning Board keep the Interim Town Administrator informed.

**METCALF from page 1**

Ben has enjoyed numerous adventures during his years in Scouts. Troop 144 is an incredibly active troop, with weekly meetings, monthly campouts and outings and weeklong summer camps all over New England where he earned many of his merit badges. Last summer he went on an eight day, 60 mile canoe trip in Northern Maine living off grid and carrying all necessary gear for the week. He also enjoyed a Senior Patrol trip to the Grand Canyon, including hiking Walnut Canyon, Zion, Bryce and visiting the Hoover Dam.

Ben will begin his college career at Mount Wachusett Community College this fall majoring in Environmental Science.

Submitted photo  
**The Hardwick Select Board, from left, Jeffrey Schaaf; Eric Vollheim, vice chairman and William Tinker, chairman present Eagle Scout Ben Metcalf with a certificate honoring his achievement.**



**State Rep. Donald Berthiame presents Eagle Scout Ben Metcalf of New Braintree citations from the State Legislature.**



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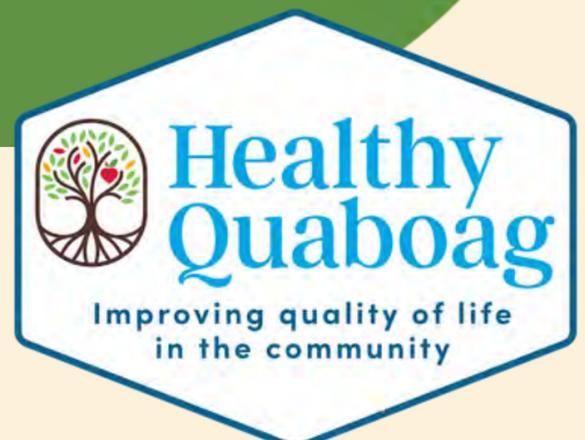


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For any questions, please contact Nisha Humayun at [nhumayun@townofware.com](mailto:nhumayun@townofware.com) or (413) 207-7698



# Calendar of Events

## SATURDAY, AUG. 23

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

**OAKHAM TOWN WIDE YARD SALE** sponsored by the Oakham Historical Association will take place today. Registration fee is \$15. People may call Kathy at 508-882-3137 for details.

**EIGHT ANNUAL DINGHY DASH** will take place today at 10 a.m. on Brigham Pond. This year there are three categories to choose from single occupant adult, single occupant youth and group vessel. People can find official entry forms and rules on the town website under special events. Deadline to enter was Monday, Aug. 18. Sponsors are Hubbardston Police Association, J.P. McCarthy & Sons and The Ruptured Duck.

## SUNDAY, AUG. 24

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

## WEDNESDAY, AUG. 27

**PAXTON AREA SENIOR BUS TRIP** on Wednesday, Sept. 27 will go to Jonathans' in Ogunquit, Maine for lunch, Seashore Trolley Museum and in town trolley tour of Kennebunkport including Presidents George H. W. Bush's summer home on Walker's Point, Saint Anthony's Franciscan Monastery, sandy beaches, spouting rock and blowing cave. Reservations and payment are due by

## Where is this?



Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

**This week's mystery photo is from Oakham. If any readers know where this photo was taken, they may email edowner@turley.com or call the Barre Gazette at 413-967-3505, extension 100 with their answer by noon on Monday, Aug. 25. Bill Bowles, Peggy Civilik and Phil Warbasse correctly identified the photo. The photo last week was the Fire Training Facility, Route 67, North Brookfield.**

today. There will be a light amount of walking on this trip. The trip leaves Paxton at 8:30 a.m. and should arrive back in Paxton between 8:15 and 8:30 a.m. Cost is \$157 per person. For information and reservations, call Deb Grensavitich at 508.754.6366 or email her at grensavitich@aol.com. Please make per person \$157 payment out to Paxton FOCOA and mail it along with choice of entree(s), to Deb Grensavitich, 88 Laurel ST, Paxton, MA 01612-1234. Payment is due

Wednesday, Aug. 27 and is non-refundable unless ticket(s) can be re-sold. Meal choices include chicken piccata, lemon baked scrod or roast pork loin.

## FRIDAY, AUG. 28

**ORANGE COMMUNITY BAND** last summer concert season is Back to School on the bandstand in Butterfield Park, Orange today at 7 p.m. to kick off Labor Day Week. Steph Parker will con-

duct "Kids Night" with a them of "Guys and Gals." The Salvation Army food truck will provide refreshments, with proceeds going to youth programs, including music lessons.

**ADDITIONAL REIKI SESSION** at the Westminster Senior Center will be available on the fourth Friday of every month from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. There will be five sessions available. To reserve a time, in person, people call the Senior Center at 978-874-7402 weekdays before 4 p.m. or call Eric Goodhart after hours at 978-496-4762 (cell). People may visit <https://www.reiki.org/resources-downloads/reiki-stories> and browse the testimonials to learn more about the benefits of a Reiki session, either one-on-one or distant healing Reiki

## SATURDAY, SEPT. 6

**MASS AND FAMILY PICNIC** will take place today with Mass at 4 p.m. and picnic at 5 p.m. at Blessed Carlo Acutis Parish, St. Joseph Church, 296 North Main St., North Brookfield. Music with D.J. Richard "Tabby" LeBlanc providing music from 5-7 p.m. There will be food, raffles and bake sale.

**EVENING WITH DOUG WAUGH** presented by the New Braintree Historical Society will take place today at 7 p.m. in the New Braintree Town Hall, 20 Memorial Drive, New Braintree. Doug will give a historical overview and appreciation of his family farm, from its early beginnings in 1780, to the Waugh purchase in 1927 when his grandparents moved from Prescott, to the evolution from a dairy farm to "Kip's Christmas Tree Farm" business. He will share his knowledge of the early tavern on the property, barn fires in 1852 and 1927, as well as anecdotes, as only Doug can tell them. from generations of the Waugh family in New Braintree. Refreshments will be served.

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# SPORTS

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## Panthers summer season ends in semifinals

By **Tim Peterson**  
Sports Correspondent

AUBURN—The boys' basketball teams from Quabbin Regional, Quaboag Regional, and Ware High School were the top three seeds in the Auburn Summer League playoffs. None of

them advanced to the championship game.

The Quabbin Panthers and the Quaboag Cougars finished the regular season tied for first place with 8-1 records. Quaboag earned the top seed and Quabbin was the second seed in the playoffs due to a tiebreaker.

Ware, who finished in third place, lost to fifth-seeded Killingly High School in the semifinals.

After defeating eighth-seeded Tahanto Regional in the quarterfinals, Quabbin was also upset by 10th-seeded Grafton, 50-38 in the other semifinal game held inside the air-conditioned Auburn High School gymnasium, last Wednesday night.

"I'm very proud of my players, but we could've played a little better in tonight's game," said Quabbin summer league coach Alan Crane. "This is a very disappointing loss for us."

Grafton, who only won three games during the summer league regular season, didn't have very much trouble beating Quaboag in the quarterfinals.

Just like they did against Quaboag, Grafton managed to put together a run early in the first half and took control of



**Evan Sherbloom** looks for an opening to drive to the hoop.



**Aiden Crane** starts his way down the court after a rebound.



**Brady Patchen** fakes with the ball.

See **BASKETBALL**, page 10

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

## Crowther takes helm of Quabbin boys soccer

By **Tim Peterson**  
Sports Correspondent

BARRE—Bill Crowther has been coaching soccer at the youth level for more than 20 years.

Crowther, who coached the boys' junior varsity soccer team at Quabbin Regional last year, was recently named as the Panthers new varsity soccer coach by Athletic Director Mark Miville.

"When my two sons (James + Lee) played soccer at Quabbin, I was an assistant coach for the varsity team," Crowther said. "I coached the j.v. team last year, but I've never been a varsity head coach before. I'm really looking forward to it."

Crowther takes over the reins from Ryan Wine, who stepped down at the end of last season due to personal reasons.

"I decided to comeback last year because I thought it would be a lot of fun coaching the j.v. team. I also assisted Ryan with the varsity team," Crowther said. "We worked very closely together. After I was named as the varsity coach, Ryan sent me a nice note. It has been a seamless transition so far."

Wine, who graduated from Quabbin in 2013, had been the boys' varsity soccer coach at his alma mater since 2022.

Quabbin finished the 2024 campaign with a 4-12-2 overall record. Their first win of the season was a 1-0 home shutout against

Tahanto Regional on September 12.

Wine didn't coach that game, so Crowther picked up his first career varsity win on that afternoon.

"I've already won my first varsity game," said Crowther, who grew up in Bedford. "I filled in for Ryan for our home game last year against Tahanto, which we won. We also beat Tahanto in the second meeting."

The Panthers j.v. soccer team was made up of mostly eighth graders last year.

"The j.v. team was very young, but we did win a couple of games," Crowther said. "We played well against the teams who were a little bit older than us."

According to Crowther, about 70 players were signed up to try out for the middle school, junior varsity, and varsity soccer teams. The first official practice of the fall season took place on August 18.

"I'm very optimistic," Crowther said. "The returning varsity players are a year older. They're also bigger, stronger, and faster. I'm hoping that we can take a step forward and finish the regular season with an above .500 record."

Collin Lindley, who's the only senior listed on the varsity roster, is a returning captain.

"Collin is going to be our starting center back," Crowther said. "He's a very hard worker and is team oriented. He's a leader by

See **SOCCER**, page 10



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Villa FC captured the PVSSL Men's Championship earlier this month.

## Short-handed Villa FC captures PVSSL Men's Championship

By **Tim Peterson**  
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—After being forced to play the final 20 minutes of regulation with only ten players, the chances of winning the Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League men's championship title for the second consecutive year didn't look very promising for third-seeded Villa FC.

The defending champions, who were trailing 1-0, managed to tie the match against top-seeded Cap & Hitch of New England with less than a minute remaining in the second half.

The score remained tied during the two 10-minute overtime periods.

During the ninth round of the penalty shootout, Villa goalie Lucas Morales-Fernandez made an outstanding diving save giving



**Kamer Nuhiu**, of Agawam, possesses the ball for Cap & Hitch.

his team an exciting 1-1 (9-8 PK's) win over Cap & Hitch at Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow earlier this month.

"This is our second championship in a year, and it feels excellent," said Villa player/coach Mike Lima following the match, which lasted more than two hours.

"We're one of the better teams in this league, so everybody always wants to be beat us. We were trailing late in second half, but we were able to battle back."

Lima, who shared the coaching duties with Ruben Sousa, is one of the Villa FC players who graduated from



**Shay O'Neill**, of Belchertown, heads up the field with the ball.

Ludlow High School.

The other former Ludlow High School soccer players listed on the Villa FC roster are Kyle Tomas, who received a red card during the 60th minute, Brandon McCarthy and Enzo Botta.

A year ago, Villa FC, who plays their home matches at Minnechaug

See **PVSSL**, page 10

## HoopHall releases enshrinement schedule

SPRINGFIELD – The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame has announced additional details, including start times for key events, regarding the Class of 2025 Enshrinement Weekend.

The Class of 2025 celebration will culminate with the Enshrinement Ceremony on Saturday, Sept. 6, in Springfield – the Birthplace of Basketball.

Revealed in April, the Class of 2025 includes nine honorees, WNBA legends Sue Bird, Sylvia Fowles, and

Maya Moore; and NBA stars Carmelo Anthony and Dwight Howard. Other inductees include two-time NCAA championship coach Billy Donovan; legendary NBA referee Danny Crawford; Miami Heat owner Micky Arison; and the 2008 USA Basketball Men's National Team.

Enshrinement Weekend will tip off at Mohegan Sun on Friday, September 5, starting with the always-popular autograph session, followed by a re-formatted Media Availability, and concluding

with the headlining Tip-Off Celebration and Awards Gala. The evening will also include special recognition for the 2025 Curt Gowdy Media Award recipients, George Blaha, Clark Kellogg, Michelle Smith, and Adrian Wojnarowski, as well as long-time Boston Celtics executive Jeff Twiss, the recipient of the John W. Bunn Lifetime Achievement Award.

The Class of 2025 and over 40 returning Hall of Famers will then journey to Springfield, Mass.,

for the annual celebratory events taking place at the acclaimed Marriott Springfield Downtown as well as Springfield's Symphony Hall. Fans and guests are also encouraged to tour and visit the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame on Enshrinement Weekend, where special events such as the Ice Cube Impact Award and SuperFan presentations will take place.

Details of the schedule of

See **HOOP HALL**, page 10

## More teams wanted for Quabbin fall league

Following up on the resounding success of its inaugural campaign, the Quabbin Valley Baseball League, an over-28 adult baseball league will hold its second Fall League this September and October.

Seeking to create a similar competition environment to its spring/summer league, Quabbin Valley, with contributions from the Valley Wheel Over-28 Baseball League, created a four-team

fall league last year featuring the Braves, Dodgers, Cardinals, and Twins.

Those same four teams are set to return and each team tends to have openings on them. Additionally, the league is open to welcoming more teams in to the league if it finds enough interest.

The league is looking for at least one full team to join

See **QUABBIN LEAGUE**, page 10

# SPORTS

## Patrick Emerling takes Thompson 150 win Wednesday

THOMPSON, CT — An incredible flood of fans entered Thompson Speedway on Wednesday night for the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour's annual midweek Thompson 150 with plenty of magic in the air. Along with a much anticipated visit from Geoff Bodine and the original Big Red Machine #1 from his stellar 1978 cam-

paign, the NASCAR touring teams battled in the Tour's 750th event back where it all began in 1985.

Ron Silk got the capacity crowd on their feet during Hoosier Racing Tire qualifying as he earned the pole position by just breaking the nineteen-second mark with an 18.999-second run. Silk launched on the start of the

750th NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour event with a rearview mirror full of Thompson arch-rival Justin Bonsignore. The first caution flag flew on lap 14 as Eric Berndt moved up across the front bumper of Luke Baldwin at the start/finish line sending Berndt into the wall and Baldwin pitted for damage control.

Silk maintained control at the front of the field until the hard turn one wreck for Baldwin around lap 70 as the leaders jumped pitted for fresh Hoosier rubber. Jon McKennedy led the pack under the return to green and pulled away from Stephen Kopcik, Jake Johnson and point leader Austin Beers as Silk and Bonsignore began

the long march from deep in the field. A turn-two-tap between Kopcik and McKennedy rapidly took both out of the top five with Johnson stealing the show out front.

As laps wound down, Patrick Emerling made his case known as he grew ever closer to Johnson's rear bumper. Emerling pulled up

on lap 124 to lead lap 125 and fortunately never had to deal with another caution period. Unspoiled, Patrick Emerling took down the Thompson 150 win in the Big Red Machine look-a-like #1 complete with Geoff Bodine in the 750th NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour victory lane celebration.

### BASKETBALL from page 8

the semifinal game.

Making a comeback in the Auburn Summer League is a little bit difficult because each half is twenty minutes running time. The only time that the clock stops is during the final two minutes of each half.

"It's always tough when you fall behind in this league because the clock never stops," Crane said. "It's the same situation with our AAU games."

One of Quabbin's leading scorers during the Auburn Summer League regular season was Jacoby Dilling. He didn't play in either playoff game.

Brady Patchen picked up the slack offensively for Quabbin. He scored a team-leading 14 points against Grafton.

"We were missing Jacoby tonight," Patchen said. "He would've been a big help for us, especially offensively. He also plays with a lot of energy defensively. We still had a very good season in this league. We're hoping to carry it over to the high school basketball season."



Collin Leclair looks to shoot.

Anthony Quarterone, who'll most likely be the only senior listed on the Panthers varsity roster this winter, also didn't play in the semifinal loss.

Aiden Crane missed reaching double digits against Grafton, as he finished the game with nine points. Lucas Gaspar, who's entering the eighth grade, chipped in with seven points.

A Patchen put-back hoop gave Quabbin a 6-5 advantage five minutes into the opening half.

It turned out to be their final lead of the entire game,

as Grafton scored nine unanswered points.

A reverse lay-up by Grafton's Jackson DiFiore gave his team 14-6 lead with 9:45 remaining in the half.

Quabbin tried to stay within striking distance, but they were trailing 25-17 at halftime.

Grafton managed to build a double digit lead early in the second half.

A 3-pointer by Quabbin's Collin LeClair closed the gap to 37-31 with six minutes left in regulation.

Following a LeClair lay-up, Patchen was fouled while making an inside hoop. He added the bonus free throw, which made the score 44-36 with a little more than three minutes left.

Grafton would put together a 6-2 run down the stretch and advanced into the summer league finals for the second consecutive year.

Since Grafton is joining the Mid-Wach League this year, the two basketball teams most likely will be facing each other again this winter. The Quabbin players will be looking for some revenge in that game.

### SOCCER from page 8

example."

The other Panthers co-captain is junior Owen Twarog, who's a midfielder.

Twarog, along with junior Jacoby Dilling, were the Panthers leading goal scorer's last season.

Quabbin, who are members of the Mid-Wach League, is scheduled to open the 2025 regular season with a non-league home match against the Uxbridge Spartans on September 2.

When the two teams faced each other at Alumni Field last October, the Panthers

pulled out a 1-0 victory.

"We played a very good game against Uxbridge last year," Crowther said. "The varsity team finished the season strongly. I'm hoping it carries over into this season. The players are very excited"

The Panthers also beat Saint Paul Diocesan Jr/Sr High School of Worcester, 3-1, before tying Monty Tech, 2-2, in the regular season finale.

The Panthers will be playing two games each against Mid-Wach rivals Tahanto, West Boylston, Gardner, and Clinton this fall.

"The Mid-Wach league

was realigned during the off-season. Our schedule at least on paper isn't as strong as it was last year," Crowther said. "I think we'll be playing a few more competitive games this year. Every game is important to me."

The new Panthers junior varsity soccer coach is Jeremy Rivard, who previously coached the middle school soccer team.

Ryan White will be the head coach of the middle school team.

Jesse Twarog will be assisting Crowther with the varsity team.

### HOOP HALL from page 8

events for Enshrinement 2025 are as follows:

Friday, Sept. 5  
Class of 2025 Autograph Session at Mohegan Sun (Uncasville, Conn.)  
11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Meet the Class of 2025 at their first public Enshrinement Weekend event! Each ticket to this event grants you the opportunity to receive one autograph per class member.

Enshrinement 2025 Media Availability at Mohegan Sun 2 to 4 p.m.

The Hall of Fame will implement a new media availability format, offering structured interview stations and podium access to the inductees to facilitate in-depth coverage.

Enshrinement Tip-Off Celebration and Awards Gala at Mohegan Sun

5:30 to 7:30 p.m.: Reception

6:30 to 7:30 p.m.: Red Carpet

8-10 p.m.: Gala Program

The Class of 2025 and the Hall's prestigious annual award recipients will be celebrated at this televised Enshrinement event at Mohegan Sun. This event will feature the unveiling of the Class of 2025 rings, presented by Baron Championship Rings, and the awarding of the Class of 2025 Hall of Fame jackets, provided by Reveal Suits. The program will also include the presentation of the Hall's annual John W. Bunn Lifetime Achievement Award and the Curt Gowdy Media Awards, and recognition for the National Wheelchair Basketball Hall of Fame

Class of 2025.

Saturday, Sept. 6  
Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame Museum Hours  
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Jr. NBA Clinic at Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame (Springfield, Mass.)  
9 to 11 a.m.

Young athletes will take part in a high-energy Jr. NBA basketball clinic that focuses on fun, skill development, and teamwork. Participants will work with trained coaches on fundamentals such as dribbling, shooting, passing, and defense, while also learning the core values of the game, sportsmanship, respect, and effort.

Coaches Circle Presentation at Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame (Springfield, Mass.)  
1 to 2 p.m.

Join us in celebrating the exceptional coaches who will be honored with benches in the Naismith Coaching Circle. Established in 2015, the Naismith Coaches Circle program was created to pay tribute to basketball's first coach, Dr. James Naismith, and to uphold the core values he instilled in his players: teamwork, determination, self-respect, leadership, initiative, and perseverance.

Ice Cube Impact Award Presentation at Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame (Springfield, Mass.)  
2 to 2:30 p.m.

Jalen Rose, former player, TV analyst, and philanthropist, will be honored in a ceremony on the Jerry Colangelo Court of Dreams. This award recognizes individuals making substantial contributions to their communities through basketball.

Note: Ice Cube is sched-

uled to present the award in person

SuperFan Presentation at Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame (Springfield, Mass.)  
2:30 to 3 p.m.

Several NBA SuperFans will be honored in the James F. Goldstein SuperFan Gallery. This special space is dedicated to celebrating the most iconic and passionate fans of the game.

NOTE: The 2025 SuperFan Class will be announced at a later date

Enshrinement Ceremony Reception at the Marriott Springfield Downtown (Springfield, Mass.)  
4 to 5:45 p.m.

Toast the incoming Hall of Fame Class of 2025 at the Marriott's rooftop prior to the sport's ultimate recognition. The party is limited to select ticket holders for the Enshrinement Ceremony.

Enshrinement Ceremony Red Carpet Show at Symphony Hall (Springfield, Mass.)  
6 to 7 p.m.

The Class of 2025, returning Hall of Famers, and many of the sport's icons walk the red carpet in a live NBA TV broadcast from outside Symphony Hall and down East Columbus Avenue.

Enshrinement Ceremony at Symphony Hall  
7 to 9 p.m.

One of the most elite events on the basketball calendar, the Hall of Fame Class of 2025 will be formally enshrined into the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame in a nationally televised ceremony on NBA TV. The stars of basketball will gather to celebrate the newest group of the sport's iconic figures.

### PVSSL from page 8

Regional, defeated Lusitano White in the men's finals. They also took home the championship trophy in 2017 with a 3-2 win over Pros Malaca.

Anthony Basile was selected as this year's MVP award winner. He was also the M.V.P. of the 2017 championship match.

"This is a very special team with a lot of very special players," said Basile, who's from East Longmeadow. "I'm very happy that I'm still able to be a part of it."

Villa FC, who finished the regular season with a 9-1-2 record, advanced into this year's finals after defeating sixth-seeded STCC Alum in a penalty shootout in the quarterfinals, and Lusitano Red, 6-2, in the semifinals.

Cap & Hitch (11-1) joined the prestigious summer league a year ago. They dispatched eighth-seeded Empower Health, 5-0, in the quarterfinals and the White's 6-2 in the semifinals.

"This was just an unbelievable match by both teams. It's tough that someone had to lose," said Cap & Hitch head coach Bennett Walsh. "I've never been involved in a match where they were 18 shots in the penalty shootout. I'm very proud of my guys."

Both teams had chances

to take the lead during the first half, which was 40 minutes long.

Cap & Hitch had the first opportunity during the 26th minute.

Ethan Czaporowski, who played soccer at Belchertown High School, weaved around a couple of defenders inside the box before firing a shot that deflected off the crossbar.

Another former Belchertown player listed on the Cap & Hitch roster is Shay O'Neill, who's father, Devin, is the longtime men's soccer coach at Western New England University.

A minute later, Gabriel Ganzer, who plays for Villa, had a breakaway opportunity, but his shot attempt bounced off the left post.

Ganzer, who's a former member of the Western Mass. Pioneers, recorded a hat-trick in last year's finals. He was also selected as the 2024 MVP winner.

This year's championship match was still scoreless at the half.

Cap & Hitch was given a penalty shot by referee Fabio Cardoso following a foul in the box twenty minutes into the second half.

Kamer Nuhui, who graduated from Agawam High School, stepped up to the line and fired a shot into the net past Morales-Fernandez.

During that sequence, Cardoso gave Tomas a red

card leaving Villa with only ten players on the field.

Cardoso continued to issue yellow cards like they were parking tickets, which kept the match from getting out of control.

Basile tied the score at 1-1 after putting a shot into the net past goalie Alberto Truoiolo with only a couple seconds remaining in regulation.

"I just saw an opportunity," he said. "I just swung my foot and watched the ball roll to the back of the net. It just felt great."

At the end of the second overtime period, Bryant Keeney had a chance to be the hero for Villa, but his line-drive shot hooked wide.

The nine Villa players that made PK's during the shootout were Andre Morrison, Joao Miranda, Shane Sewell, Andrew Ortiz, Quin Serafino, Mason Perham, Mike Willis, McCarthy, and Ganzer.

The eight PK's made by the Cap & Hitch players were Simba Pelletier, Bennett Walsh Jr., John Senn-McNally, Dominic Cirelli, Connor Weslocki, Czaporowski, O'Neill, and Nuhui.

Morales-Fernandez finally ended the match by making a save on a shot attempt by Nathan Sanchez.

It was another memorable summer for the members of Villa FC.

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# Quabbin District lists orientations and other information

Kindergarten Orientation for Ruggles Lane Elementary School in Barre will be held Monday, Aug. 25 at 5 pm. Preschool orientation for the afternoon session will take place Wednesday, Aug. 27 at 1 p.m.. Preschool orientation for the morning session will take place Thursday, Aug. 28 at 9 a.m. Preschool orientation for the full day session will take place Thursday, Aug. 28 at 9 a.m. at the New Braintree Grade School, Memorial Drive, New Braintree. Preliminary bus routes for the 2025-2026 school year are posted on the Quabbin Regional School District website [www.qrsd.org](http://www.qrsd.org) under Quick Links for Families. These routes will be updated periodically over the next week as students move in and out of the district. The routes published on Monday, Aug. 25 by the end of the day will be the routes that will be used for the first day of school on Wednesday, Aug. 27. Supply lists may be located on each individual school site by visiting [www.qrsd.org](http://www.qrsd.org) and going to "Our School!" and then "Communications."

July 2025	August 2025 (3 DAYS)	September 2025 (21 DAYS)	October 2025 (22 DAYS)
S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
	Aug. 25 1st day Staff (Curr. Day #1) Aug. 26—Prof. Dev. Day (Curr. Day #2) Aug. 27—1st day Students	Sept. 1—Labor Day Holiday Sept. 17—Early Release	Oct. 13—Columbus Day Holiday Oct. 22—Early Release Oct. 30—End 1st Quarter
November 2025 (15 DAYS)	December 2025 (15 DAYS)	January 2026 (19 DAYS)	February 2026 (15 DAYS)
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Nov. 10—Prof. Dev. Day (Curr. Day #3) Nov. 11—Veteran's Day Nov. 19—Early Release Nov. 26-28—Thanksgiving Holiday	Dec. 17—Early Release Dec. 22—Jan. 1—Winter Break	Jan. 1-2 New Year's Day Holiday Jan. 19—M.L. King, Jr. Holiday Jan. 23—End 2nd Quarter Jan. 28—Early Release	Feb. 16-20 February Break Feb. 25—Early Release
March 2026 (22 DAYS)	April 2026 (17 DAYS)	May 2026 (20 DAYS)	June 2026 (11/16 DAYS)
S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
Mar. 18—Early Release	Apr. 3—End 3rd Quarter Apr. 15—Early Release Apr. 20-24—April Break	May 20—Early Release May 25—Memorial Day Holiday	June 12—Early Release ***SEE NOTE June 15—Last day (NO SNOW DAYS) June 19—Juneteenth Day—No School June 23—Last day (5 SNOW DAYS)



Approved 2/13/25 by QRSD School Committee

**Key:**

- = No School—Holiday/Vacation
- = Curriculum Day—No School for Students
- = Early Release for students  
Extended Day for faculty
- ☆ = End of Quarter
- = Extended day for Faculty ONLY
- = Faculty Meetings

\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE: June early release day is subject to change. It will be held on the day before the last day of school.

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# BACK TO SCHOOL

## National Safety Council offers back to school safety tips

It's not just people's imagination; there are more vehicles on the roads, both back roads and highways, when school is back in session.

College and high school student drivers add to traffic, along with buses and parents hurrying through their morning drop-offs. During this frenetic time, there are more chances for accidents.

To help keep everyone safer during the back to school transition, the National Safety Council has a number of recommendations to keep

in mind when navigating the roadways.

Though drivers should always be aware of pedestrians, be especially cautious near schools. The majority of children, who are struck by cars are hit near schools.

People can help their children and others be safe near schools by avoiding double parking, never parking across from the school, so that children have to cross the road, never pass a car waiting for pedestrians and never block a crosswalk when making a

turn or when stopped at a red light as it causes walkers to have to walk in the path of moving traffic.

Children ages 4 to 7 years old are especially vulnerable to being hit by passing cars. Always stop for a school bus. It is illegal to pass a school bus that is stopped for dropping off or picking up children in all 50 states.

The fatal crash rate for drivers 16-19 is three times the rate for drivers over 20. Back to school time can be challenging as tentative young

drivers acclimate to different schedules and navigate among aggressive drivers. Help your young driver with these tips leave ten minutes earlier than necessary as rushing leads to aggressive driving, insist on seat belts, teach them to keep calm and dump distractions. In 2019, 43% of students surveyed admitted to not always wearing a seatbelt when with friends, according to the Centers for Disease Control. At least 48% of teen drivers and passengers aged 16-19 years of age died in passen-

ger crashes that same year due to not wearing a seatbelt. Remind teens simply to move out of the way for aggressive drivers to let them pass, rather than getting frustrated and angry.

They have heard it already, but make it a rule to avoid texting and talking on their cell phones even hands-free while driving. Consider setting up the do not disturb features on their phone to help them avoid temptation. Also, keep in mind eating and drinking can be distracting.

Parents should also remind children walking to and from school to pay attention to their surroundings. The National Safety Council recommends never walking while texting or talking on the phone, if texting to move out of the way of others and to stop on the sidewalk, never to cross the street while using an electronic device, to not walk with headphones in ears, always walk on the sidewalk if one is available, look both ways before crossing the street and cross only at crosswalks.

## Center for Education Reform research offers school choice data

According to the latest survey data from the National School Choice Awareness Foundation, "nearly three-quarters or 74% of U.S. parents of school-aged children, representing an estimated 47 million parents, considered sending at least one of their children to a different school over the past year."

And as you can see, preliminary trend data confirms vastly more are doing just that.

Dr. Katherine Nelligan, Center for Education Reform research fellow, compiled data. Good education sells. While a majority of parents

even in states with expansive choice still "choose" traditional public schools, the key point is they are choosing to stay rather than being forced to stay. That's a far cry from pre-1998, when 90% of students attended traditional public schools, precisely because there weren't choices afforded by one's education dollars, there was just one system.

Some argue that parents are leaving traditional public schools because schools aren't marketing themselves effectively. And apparently, it feels novel enough for The New York Times to cover.

A "bogie" school dis-

trict consultant hired to help districts attract families back told a Times reporter "that school districts must offer slicker tours, better customer service, and a compelling argument that they are better than the growing number of alternatives."

As the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program expanded, Milwaukee Public Schools superintendents initially responded by engaging parents directly about how the district could improve. MPS even increased enrollment and stabilized its market share amidst growing competition, at first.

But the early momentum

didn't last. Over the next two decades, an unrelenting focus on the status quo within MPS meant the district failed to keep pace with families' evolving demands. Meanwhile, Milwaukee's school choice programs more than doubled, now serving nearly 30,000 students about a quarter of the city's student population.

Florida's expansive statewide choices impacted Miami greatly. As the Times' story reports, between 2019 and 2023, two-thirds of the state's traditional public schools lost enrollment. While lower birth rates are a small factor, the much bigger

issue is the explosive growth of school choice programs, charter schools and the public's realization that their district no longer has to be their only option.

As alternative education options grew, traditional public schools faced ongoing financial and operational difficulties as parents opted for other choices.

Miami-Dade reinvented itself as a "choice district." Today, over 60% of students actively select their school or program from district-offered magnets, academies, and specialized tracks. They've expanded career academies, dual-enrollment programs

and tech-rich innovation hubs to retain families seeking personalized education paths.

The impact of choice could not be clearer, especially in the face of closures that disrupt relationships, communities and jobs.

The story also features Rose Burney, a mother of five, who was torn between sending her children to their reassigned district school or enrolling them in a high-performing BASIS Charter School. After seeing test results confirming her daughter was failing in multiple subjects, the decision became clear: Burney chose BASIS.

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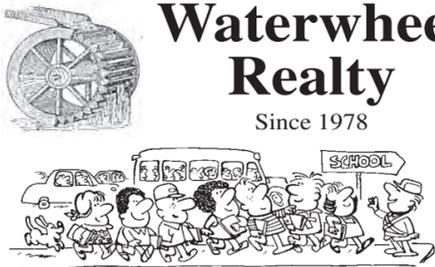
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# BACK TO SCHOOL

## Creating healthy bedtime sleep habits

From infants and toddlers to school-aged kids and teens, parents want to know how many hours of sleep are recommended. While it's true that sleep needs vary from one person to another, there are some very reasonable, science-based guidelines to help determine whether a child is getting the sleep he or she needs to grow, learn and play.

The American Academy of Sleep Medicine provides some helpful guidelines regarding just how much sleep children need at different stages in their development. Keep in mind that these numbers reflect total sleep hours in a 24-hour period. So if their son or daughter still naps, they'll need to take that into account when they add up his or her typical sleep hours.

Working and single parents, especially, are often forced to get by on five, six or even fewer hours of sleep each night. This is likely impacting their own social and mental functioning, as well as increasing their risk for other health problems. It might be tempting to think that their children can also get by with less sleep than they need or that they should be able to cope fairly well with a few skipped hours here and there.

However, all children thrive on a regular bedtime routine. Regular sleep deprivation often leads

to some pretty difficult behaviors and health problems: irritability, difficulty concentrating, hypertension, obesity, headaches and depression. Children who get enough sleep have a healthier immune system and better school performance, behavior, memory and mental health.

The American Academy of Pediatrics supports the AASM guidelines and encourages parents to make sure their children develop good sleep habits right from the start.

Families should make sufficient sleep a family priority. Understand the importance of getting enough sleep and how sleep affects the overall health of parents and their children. Remember they are a role model to their child so set a good example. Staying up all night with your teen to edit his or her paper or pulling an all-nighter for work yourself isn't really sending the right message. Making sleep a priority for yourself shows your children that it's part of living a healthy lifestyle—like eating right and exercising regularly.

Keep to a regular daily routine. The same waking time, meal times, nap time and play times will help a child feel secure and comfortable and help with a smooth bedtime. For young children, it helps to start early with a bedtime routine such as brush teeth, read book and then

bed. Make sure the sleep routines they use can be used anywhere, so they can help your child get to sleep wherever they may be.

Be active during the day. Make sure children have interesting and varied activities during the day, including physical activity and fresh air.

The AAP recommends keeping all screens: televisions, computers, laptops, tablets and phones out of children's bedrooms especially at night. To prevent sleep disruption, turn off all screens at least 60 minutes to one hour before bedtime.

Dim the lights prior to bedtime and control the temperature in the home. Don't fill up children's bed with toys. Keep your child's bed a place to sleep, rather than a place to play. One or two things, a favorite doll or bear, a security blanket, are okay and can help ease separation anxiety.

Realize that teens require more sleep, not less. Sleep-wake cycles begin to shift up to two hours later at the start of puberty. At the same time, most high schools require students to get to school earlier and earlier. The AAP has been advocating for middle and high schools delay the start of class to 8:30 a.m. or later. It is important that parents and local school boards work together to implement high school start times that allow teens to

get the healthy sleep they need.

Avoid over scheduling. In addition to homework, many children today have scheduled evening activities, i.e., sports games, lessons, appointments, etc., which pose challenges to getting a good night's sleep. Take time to wind down and give children the downtime that they need.

Learn to recognize sleep problems. The most common sleep problems in children include difficulty falling asleep, nighttime awakenings, snoring, stalling and resisting going to bed, sleep apnea and loud or heavy breathing while sleeping.

Talk to their child's teacher or child care provider about their child's alertness during the day. Sleep problems may manifest in the daytime, too. A child with not enough or poor quality sleep may have difficulty paying attention or "zoning out" in school. Let their child's teacher know they want to be made aware of any reports of their child falling asleep in school, as well as any learning or behavior problems.

Talk to the child's pediatrician about sleep. Discuss their child's sleep habits and problems with their pediatrician, as most sleep problems are easily treated. He or she may ask parents to keep a sleep log or have additional suggestions to improving their child's sleep habits.

## BBB offers these tips for buying tech products

Though its role in the classroom will continue to evolve, technology is now a critical component of education. Market research firm Deloitte details how educational shifts influence consumer shopping habits. In 2025, Deloitte reports that tech products will make up 26% of the share of total spending on back-to-school shopping. With this in mind, scammers may target shoppers with phony deals, enticing ads and fake websites. Savvy online shopping is necessary to ensure consumers don't fall prey to a scam.

If people are shopping for technology for the upcoming school year, Better Business Bureau has tips to help. Shop with familiar retailers. Laptops, tablets and other tech accessories can be a significant investment. Shop with businesses consumers know and trust to ensure they get a quality product and good customer service.

Low prices and short-term sales could signal a purchaser has encountered a scam. If the price seems too good to be

true, it probably is.

Some companies rarely offer sales. Do more research if a company that rarely discounts products offers a huge sale. The products may be used or refurbished or the website could be fake.

Know what you're shopping for. Set a budget, identify what capabilities will benefit the student, and compare options. Then, shop around for a reliable seller. Researching the best product for one's needs will help them avoid scams and buyer's remorse.

Purchasers should ensure they know who the seller is. Some big box retailers allow third-party sellers to list items on their sites and those items can be hard to distinguish from the rest. They should read all the fine print to ensure they're comfortable with the seller.

To learn more about avoiding scams online, people may visit BBB Tip: Smart Shopping Online. People may search and report scams by visiting BBB.org/ScamTracker.

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# Church

## Local pastors offer sermons

### Boasting Part 3

Is it not amazing how much of what we speak is boastful in nature.

Scripture roundly prohibits much of our boastfulness. In this edition, let us continue to note aspects of human bragging that the Bible forbids. Please take note of the following:

1) Tomorrow  
Proverbs 27:1  
1 Do not boast about tomorrow,  
for you do not know what a day may bring.  
James 4:13-16

13 Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." 14 Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. 15 Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that." 16 As it is, you boast in your arrogant schemes. All such boasting is evil.

As of late I came upon the following two excerpts. Take the time to carefully review the insights found within:

"A person should not praise himself concerning what he will do the next day, simply because he really has no way of knowing for sure what will happen. Never arrogantly presume the future. Our ignorance of tomorrow and inability to control tomorrow's events should stop us from boasting about our future enterprises."

[The Bible] "teaches us modesty; and prohibits those two great vices, confidence in ourselves, or anything we have; and rashly undertaking unnecessary things, out of a foolish hope they will succeed according to our desires. Wise and good men will only meddle within the bounds of their calling; and will also depend on God for his blessing; but they will not attempt things without just cause, presuming they can carry them as they please."

This parable of Christ, which contextually warns against human greed, touches upon the peril of boasting about the future:

Luke 12:13-17  
13 Someone in the crowd said to him [Jesus], "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me."

14 Jesus replied, "Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbitrator between you?" 15 Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions."

16 And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. 17 He thought to himself, 'What

shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.'

18 Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. 19 And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.'"

20 But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?'

21 This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God."

Take care that you watch your tongue as it relates to boasting of the future. Let's heed the above mentioned words in kind! Thank you for taking the time to read this publication. We will delve a bit deeper on this topic in the next publication.

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

**Pastor James Foley**  
New Life Assembly  
of God  
60 Main St. South Barre  
jamesfoley  
@newlifebarre.org  
978-355-6407

### Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

*"Learn to do Good, seek Justice, and rescue the Oppressed."*

#### Scripture Reading: Isaiah 1v 1 and 10 – 20

I. Introduction  
I believe if we all were to do something good every day, or once a week, seek justice for something and somebody now and again, and help those who are oppressed or marginalized at least once or twice in our lives, the world would resemble God's vision for us. If we intentionally do these things, we would be so much closer to what God has in mind for us.

The Bible is filled with calls to God's people to do good, seek justice, and to rescue the oppressed. Let's see what we can learn from the prophet Isaiah in our passage. I suggest we follow the scripture to better understand what message he received from God.

II. Learn to do good, seek justice, and rescue the oppressed

Isaiah was a prophet of social justice and righteousness. He addressed the social conditions and national policies of his time that enabled injustices to thrive. As a prophet he was involved at a high level of scrutiny of what was going on at the temple, but also

in the State of Judah itself. Chapter 1 verse 1 describes the prophetic vision he received concerning Judah and Jerusalem. From verse 2 – 9 he laid out for them Yahweh's lament about the sinful, rebellious nation they have become, and how they had forsaken their God. From verse 10 onwards, the text describes God's response, which is characterized as being weary of their attitudes and actions.

They have now become rulers of Sodom and people of Gomorrah, and spiritually they have become corrupt in the eyes of God. God is tired of their burnt offerings that are meaningless and expressed a weariness about it all. God will not see their hands that are raised in prayer, because they are covered in blood, and God will not listen to their prayers. They must wash themselves and repent from their evil deeds. Isaiah's prophecy goes further than that. Jerusalem will suffer because of their religious failures. They will be destroyed, but God will restore them again. Judah's population will be taken into exile, but a small remnant will return.

Their return and new opportunities to repent and heal is a sign of the goodness of God, despite their iniquities. What a scathing rebuke of a nation whom God loved, and carried through so much, and to reach a point where they have become a burden to God. What a prophecy. What a sad picture... How is it that they could turn themselves away from the God of grace and mercy and goodness? To be engaged in evil deeds as described in this book of Isaiah, is so against who God is, and what God expects from this land of Judah. What God still wants from them, is to stop doing wrong, to do what is right and to seek justice.

But through it all, there is a promise of salvation in this prophecy by Isaiah. God will send a future King, a Savior who will show the land of Israel the life of righteousness and God's mercy and love. God will still forgive them if they repent of their ways. This shows the foundation of this prophecy, that God is so good, and so good to them. These expectations from God are not complicated. They are simple and clear values of love, and respect for all of humanity.

III. Conclusion  
The same values and expectations God expressed through the prophecy of Isaiah remain relevant for us today. It would be intriguing to know what God observes and thinks about our world today. We all must examine our own lives and the nations of today must

See **SERMONS**, page 16

# Obituaries

## Terry (Falco) Grigsby, 79

It is with great sadness, but also with a sense of relief that our mother, Terry Grigsby died on August 11, 2025, at the age of 79. She went out fighting like hell. She was in her 13th year of treatment for high-risk Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia, when in January 2025 she was diagnosed with Glioblastoma Cancer. This is a very aggressive brain cancer and is always fatal. Her brother, Anthony Falco, battled this same cancer with surgery and radiation and lived for only 9 months. Our mother, with our blessing, opted for only comfort care, and when the end was near, she took advantage of Vermont's Medical Aid In Dying (MAID).

She loved teaching, beginning with third grade in Hudson, NY, then in Lebanon, NH for 23 years as a reading specialist. She delighted that she was still in contact with some of her students on Facebook. She referred to them as "my kids." She was a member of the Lebanon City Council from 1999-2005, volunteered at Listen and the Red Cross, and knitted loads of scarfs

for the residents at the Haven.

But her greatest joys and titles were "Mom" and "Gigi." She and her late husband, Alan Grigsby, loved giving their sons and grandchildren some wonderful experiences: dancing in the summer rain, visiting Alcatraz prison, tubing down the Hudson River, checking out the wildlife in the Florida Everglades, parasailing, cruising, and snorkeling in Bermuda. The family enjoyed some of the crazy games she made up when the family gathered at Christmas. Serious competition galore!

She leaves her sons Greg (his wife Margy) and Casey (his wife Amanda), her 6 grandchildren Claire Grigsby, Elye Rose Ashline, Jack Grigsby, Sam Grigsby, Justin DeCarlo and Paige Torres. Also, her former daughter's-in-law Tracy Mayer and Erin Crowley. She also leaves her sister-in-law Jean Falco, and her nieces Lisa (daughter Allegra), Laurie, and her nephew, Tony



(son Sal). Lastly, but certainly not to be forgotten, she leaves her "Besties" to carry on the "therapy sessions."

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to where Casey and Sam both had life-saving open heart surgeries: Boston Children's Hospital, Benderson Family Heart Center, 300 Longwood Ave., Boston, MA 02115.

### DEATH NOTICES

**Grigsby, Terry (Falco)**  
Died Aug. 11, 2025  
In lieu of flowers donations to Boston Children's Hospital, Benderson Family Heart Center, 300 Longwood Avenue, Boston, MA 02115

**Rice, James A. (Bubba)**  
Died Aug. 17, 2025  
Funeral Mass Saturday, Sept. 6 at 10 a.m.  
St. Thomas-A-Becket, Vernon Avenue, South Barre  
Burial to follow in Glen Valley Cemetery

## James A. Rice, 95

ELIZABETHTOWN, KY/  
BARRE – James A. Rice our beloved passed away on Sunday, Aug. 17, 2025 at the age of 95.

James Allen Rice (Bubba) was born in Petersham, to James B. Rice and Alberta (Harty) DiRuzza. He graduated from Barre High School in the Class of 1953. He was a Fireman in the U.S. Navy, serving on the USS Stormes during the Korean War.

After the war, he returned to Barre, where he met the love of his life Carmela A. (Ricchiuzzi) Rice, his wife of 70 years. He worked at the Barre Wool Combing Company and raised four children in the Italian section of South Barre. James was the commander of the American Legion Post #2 in Barre and ensured the installation of the memorial flagpole on the Barre Common. He later worked as a licensed

electrician and member of the I.B.E.W. Local 96 until retiring to East Falmouth, Massachusetts.

On Cape Cod, he enjoyed many cookouts, holidays and family gatherings with his children and grandchildren. He was active in retirement, taking daily two-mile walks, raising tomato plants, and reading American history. He was a member of the St. Thomas-A-Becket Church in South Barre and later St. Anthony's Church in East Falmouth.

James is survived by his wife Carmela A. Rice; his brother George Rodgers and his four children: Kevin Rice of Leominster, Cheryl Ethier of Boylston, Laurie Beers of Elizabethtown, Kentucky and Jeffrey Rice of Douglas. He is



also survived by his two grandchildren, Dr. Heather Beers of Rockland, Maine and Eric S. Beers of Bonnierville, Kentucky and two great-grandchildren Atticus Beers and Raya Beers. James is predeceased by his parents, James B. Rice and Alberta (Harty) DiRuzza, his brother Robert (Bunny) Rice and sister Marilyn (Rice) Tebow.

The funeral Mass for James will be held on Saturday Sept. 6, 2025 at 10 a.m. in St. Thomas-A-Becket Church Vernon, Avenue, South Barre. All are asked to go directly to the church. Burial will follow in Glen Valley Cemetery. Arrangements are under the care of Pillsbury Funeral Home, 96 South Barre Road, Barre.

# Public Notices

### TOWN OF NEW BRAINTREE PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 4 of the New Braintree By-laws (Removal of Topsoil, Loam, Sand or Gravel), the Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **Monday, September 8, 2025 at 6:00 PM** in the New Braintree Town Hall, 20 Memorial Drive, regarding gravel permit renewals for the following:

Robert and Deann Caron, Assessor Map 411, Parcel 96, Barr Road

Thomas Stott, Assessor Map 408, Parcels 94/95, 324 West Road

Bo Lee Excavating, Assessor Map 408, Parcel 96, West Road, Stanley Grigas, Assessor Map 409, Parcel 34, 87B Sibley Road

This meeting is open to the public and all are invited to attend. You can also email comments to [planning@newbraintree.gov](mailto:planning@newbraintree.gov) 08/21, 08/28/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Probate and Family Court  
225 Main Street  
Worcester, MA 01608  
(508)831-2200  
Docket No. W025P2816EA  
Estate of:  
Ralph E Mann  
Date of Death: 12/14/2024  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Robert W Mann of Oakham, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Robert W Mann of Oakham, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

**You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/16/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.**

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts

**with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.**

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A Keamy, First Justice of this Court.

Date: August 13, 2025  
**Stephanie Fattman**, Register of Probate  
08/21/2025

### Barre Conservation Commission Notice of Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 131, Section 40, The Wetlands Protection Act, that a public hearing will be held on a **Notice of Intent** for the construction of an addition to existing house located on 815 Williamsville Road, Assessors Map C, Parcel 29 and recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Book 70794, Page 103.

From: Grace Madsen  
815 Williamsville Road  
Barre, MA 01005

To be held on **Tuesday, August 26, 2025 at 7:15 p.m.** at 40 West Street, Boards' Office, Floor 3, Barre, MA 01005.  
08/21/2025







## 800-983-4434

[www.milesfuneralhome.com](http://www.milesfuneralhome.com)



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# Public Safety

## Barre Police Log

**Sunday, July 27**  
 3:42 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Worcester Road, Officer Spoke to Party  
 7:05 a.m. Property Damage, Kendall Street, No Action Required  
 7:16 a.m. Harassment, Ruggles Lane, Officer Spoke to Party  
 9:14 a.m. Vandalism, Barre Town Common, Call Transferred  
 10:25 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Hubbardston Road, Vehicle Towed  
 1:15 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Elm North Street, Mutual Aid Transport  
 4:24 p.m. Larceny or Theft, Ruggles Lane, Property Returned

**Monday, July 28**  
 10:33 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Old Dana Road, Investigated  
 1:04 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, South Barre Road, Negative Contact  
 1:40 p.m. Assault and Battery, Ruggles Lane, Criminal Complaint  
 Summons Sjogren, Laurel E., 68, Barre  
 4 p.m. Erratic Operator, Barre Town Common, Officer/Chief Advised  
 5:43 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Worcester Road, Report Filed  
 10:11 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Elm North Street, Transported to Hospital  
 11:31 p.m. Erratic Operator, Oakham Line, Officer Spoke to Party

**Tuesday, July 29**  
 2:06 a.m. Fire – Fumes/Odor/Gas Leak, North Brookfield Road, Investigated  
 3:20 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Worcester Road, Officer/Chief Advised  
 3:36 a.m. Fire – Public Service Call, Ruggles Lane, Public Assist  
 6:07 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Center of Town, Officer Spoke to Party  
 7:33 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Ruggles Lane, Ambulance Signed Refusal

12:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hubbardston Road, Citation Issued  
 12:07 p.m. Emergency Medical Service– Welfare Check, Ruggles Lane, No Fire Service Necessary  
 2:53 p.m. Property Damage, Barre Police Headquarters, Officer Spoke to Party  
 9:32 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, West Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal

**Wednesday, July 30**  
 8:32 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Seizures, South Street, Transported to Hospital  
 8:38 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hubbardston Road, Written Warning  
 11:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hubbardston Road, Citation Issued  
 12:02 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
 1:14 p.m. Trespasser or Prowler, South Street, Officer Spoke to Party  
 1:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Barre Road, Citation Issued  
 5:07 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Written Warning  
 5:26 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Wauwinet Road, Written Warning  
 5:49 p.m. Larceny or Theft, Walnut Hill Road, Report Filed

**Thursday, July 31**  
 11:24 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hubbardston Road, Citation Issued  
 12:53 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued  
 3:43 p.m. Erratic Operator, Hubbardston Road, Area Search Negative  
 7:47 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, South Barre Road, Transported to Hospital

**Friday, Aug. 1**  
 2:25 a.m. Robbery or Holdup, Brunelle Drive, Report Filed  
 9:43 a.m. Safety Concern, Gardner Road, Removed to Court/Lockup  
 Arrest Cochran, Edward H., 34, Fitchburg  
 Charges Two Default Court Warrants  
 Drug, Posses Class B,

Trespass  
 3:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued  
 4:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued  
 5:55 p.m. Follow-Up Investigation, North Brookfield Road, Prisoner Bailed  
 Arrest Grandone, Emily A., 32, South Barre  
 6:51 p.m. Fire – Power Lines Down/Arcing, Hawes Hill Road, Referred to Other Agency  
 9:28 p.m. Be On Look Out Notification, South Barre Road, Area Patrolled

**Saturday, Aug. 2**  
 1:11 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party  
 7:36 a.m. Emergency Medical Service– Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Elm South Street, Transported to Hospital  
 11 a.m. Animal – Wildlife, Old Coldbrook Road, Referred to Other Agency  
 2:38 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, West Street, Transported to Hospital  
 3:49 p.m. Erratic Operator, Hardwick Road, Officer/Chief Advised  
 4:03 p.m. Disturbance/Disorderly, Camp Coldbrook Campground, Report Filed  
 Summons Ayers, Francis, 54, Winchendon  
 Charges Assault and Battery  
 Summons Laferriere, Mark, 60, Millbury  
 Charges Assault and Battery  
 Summons Kazarnovicz, Tricia Jean, 48, Millbury  
 Charges Assault and Battery  
 Summons Medeiros, Christina, 37, Winchendon  
 Charges Assault and Battery  
 4:05 p.m. Noise Complaint, Summer Street, Officer/Chief Advised  
 4:16 p.m. Animal – Lost and/pr Found, Worcester Road, Officer/Chief Advised  
 4:22 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Church Street, Officer/Chief Advised

## Rutland Police Log

**Sunday, July 27**  
 12:35 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Wachusett Street, Criminal Complaint  
 Summons Samedy, Fred D., 47, Gardner  
 Charges Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With, Uninsured Motor Vehicle  
 2:07 a.m. Juvenile Runaway, Miles Road, Report Filed  
 7:47 a.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, Anthony Drive, Message Delivered  
 Summons Samedy, Fred D., 47, Gardner  
 Charges Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With, Uninsured Motor Vehicle  
 8:10 a.m. Lock Out (Home or Vehicle), Pommogussett Road, Entry Gained  
 8:16 a.m. Animal – Wildlife, Lindsay Lane, Dispatch Handled  
 9:02 a.m. Assault and Battery, Campbell Court, Report Filed  
 11:45 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Barrack Hill Road, Mutual Aid Transport  
 2:23 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Main Street, Officer/Chief Advised  
 5:48 p.m. Property – Lost/Found Surrender, Memorial Drive, Property Picked Up  
 6:49 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, Watson Lane, Officer/Chief Advised

**Monday, July 28**  
 1:40 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party  
 7:01 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Wachusett Street, Written Warning  
 10:25 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Sanders Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal  
 10:46 a.m. Juvenile Runaway, Main Street, Report Filed  
 10:57 a.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party  
 2:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Criminal Complaint  
 Summons Barber, Tyler E., 36, Rutland  
 Charges Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle, Inspection/Sticker, No  
 3:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Vehicle Towed  
 Summons Gil Laureano, Arielis, 40, Gardner  
 Charges Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With, Uninsured Motor Vehicle  
 3:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Criminal Complaint  
 Summons Samedy, Fred D., 47, Gardner  
 Charges Uninsured Motor Vehicle C90 S34J, Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With C90 S23  
 3:38 p.m. Erratic Operator, Main Street, Area Search Negative  
 4:26 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Charnock Hill Road, Negative Contact  
 4:45 p.m. Juvenile Runaway, Millbrook Road, Officer Spoke to Party  
 5:39 p.m. Juvenile Runaway, Main Street, Officer/Chief Advised  
 8:18 p.m. Noise Complaint, Wachusett Street, Negative Contact  
 10:50 pm. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Central Tree Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal  
 11:23 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Shrewsbury, Report Filed

**Tuesday, July 29**  
 2:06 a.m. Fire – Fumes/Odor/Gas Leak, North Brookfield Road, Investigated  
 4:12 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, East County Road, Transported to Hospital  
 7:37 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written

Warning  
 8:31 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Kenwood Drive, Written Warning  
 8:53 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning  
 9:43 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning  
 10:09 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning  
 11:29 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
 12:59 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Pleasantdale Road, Transported to Hospital  
 2:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Written Warning  
 2:27 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Criminal Complaint  
 Summons Parlow, Michael L. II, 58, Holland  
 Charges Number Plate Violation to Conceal ID  
 3:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning  
 4:27 p.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, Emerald Road, Officer Spoke to Party  
 4:33 p.m. Tree Incidents (No Wires), Pommogussett Road, Removed Hazard  
 6:35 p.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, John Robert Drive, Officer/Chief Advised  
 11:24 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Scott Road, Transported to Hospital

**Wednesday, July 30**  
 9:49 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Main Street, Transported to Hospital  
 10:11 a.m. Fire – Fumes/Odor/Gas Leak, Miles Road, Investigated  
 11:33 a.m. Complaint, Johanna Drive, Verbal Warning  
 11:46 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Woodside Avenue, Citation Issued  
 12:05 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Citation Issued  
 12:53 p.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, Unknown Location, Information Taken  
 1:39 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, Miles Road, Investigated  
 2:57 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Glenwood Road, Officer Spoke to Party  
 7:33 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Inwood Drive, Transported to Hospital

**Thursday, July 31**  
 2:05 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Clealand Circle, Transported to Hospital  
 5:22 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning  
 5:29 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued  
 7:19 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning  
 7:26 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning  
 7:36 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning  
 8:03 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning  
 9:02 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning  
 9:12 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Memorial Drive, Transported to Hospital  
 9:19 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Prescott Street, Officer Spoke to Party  
 9:35 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Citation Issued  
 9:58 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning  
 10:47 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Emerald Road, Criminal Complaint  
 Summons Distefano, Linda M., 62, Rutland  
 Charges Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle  
 5:10 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Seizures, Welch Avenue, Transported to Hospital  
 8:12 p.m. Tree Incidents (No Wires), Glenwood Road, Removed Hazard

**Friday, Aug. 1**  
 2:25 a.m. Robbery or Holdup,

Brunelle Drive, Report Filed  
 6:58 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Gynecology/Obstetrics/Pregnancy, River Road, Transported to Hospital  
 7:52 a.m. Animal – Wildlife, Pleasantdale Road, Message Delivered  
 8:22 a.m. Erratic Operator, Pleasantdale Road, Negative Contact  
 9:43 a.m. Safety Concern, Gardner Road, Removed to Court/Lockup  
 Arrest Cochran, Edward H., 34, Fitchburg  
 Charges Two Default Court Warrants  
 Drug Possess, Class B, Trespass  
 11:46 a.m. Safety Concern, Gardner Road, Negative Contact  
 12:05 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Clealand Circle, Mutual Aid Transport  
 12:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint  
 Summons De Oliveira Rosa, Tainara, 28, Worcester  
 Charges Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle with C90 S23, Uninsured Motor Vehicle C90 S347  
 12:24 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Princeton, Negative Contact  
 12:45 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Maple Avenue, Message Delivered  
 1:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint  
 Summons Bailey, James L., 49, Gilbertville  
 Charges Number Plate Violation to Conceal ID C90 S23, Unregistered Motor Vehicle \* C90 S9, Inspection Sticker, No \* C90 S20  
 1:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning  
 2:13 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Main Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal  
 2:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Crawford Road, Criminal Complaint  
 3:42 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Main Street, Report Filed  
 5:28 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Trauma, Wachusett Street, Transported to Hospital  
 7:09 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning  
 7:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning  
 7:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning  
 8:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning  
 8:12 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Valley View Circle, Written Warning  
 8:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
 9:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued  
 9:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

**Saturday, Aug. 2**  
 12:29 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, East County Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal  
 8:29 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Glenwood Road, Citation Issued  
 9:28 a.m. Animal – Wildlife, Bethany Drive, Officer/Chief Advised  
 9:55 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Main Street, Referred to Other Agency  
 11:27 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Vehicle Towed  
 Summons Rosado, Angela Lee, 47, Worcester  
 Charges Uninsured Motor Vehicle, Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With, Unregistered Motor Vehicle  
 5:51 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Glenwood Road, Report Filed  
 8:11 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Thurston Hill Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal

## Hubbardston Police Log

**Sunday, July 27**  
 8:28 a.m. ACO Animal Lost and/or Found Wildlife, Adams Road, Information Taken  
 10:25 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Hubbardston Road, Vehicle Towed  
 2:54 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, New Westminster Road, Gone on Arrival  
 4:27 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Worcester Road, Report Filed  
 7:22 p.m. Complaint, Pitcherville Road, Officer Spoke to Party  
 9:19 p.m. Erratic Operator, New Westminster Road, No Action Required  
 9:25 p.m. Fire – Explosive Incidents, Halfrey Road, Unfounded

**Monday, July 28**  
 7:01 a.m. Animal – Wildlife, Simond Hill Road, Officer/Chief Advised  
 3:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Disabled, Worcester Road, No Action Required  
 4:33 p.m. Public Assist, Old Princeton Cutoff Road, Dispatch Handled  
 10:09 p.m. Property Lost/Found Surrender, Burnshirt Road, Report Filed  
 10:43 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, New Templeton Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal

**Tuesday, July 29**  
 3:46 p.m. Fire – Power Lines Low, Williamsville Road, Referred to Other Agency

7:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Williamsville Road, Citation Issued

**Wednesday, July 30**  
 11:57 a.m. Disturbance/Disorderly, Worcester Road, Report Filed  
 1:24 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Elm Street, Transported to Hospital  
 3:48 p.m. Assist Other Agency – Non Police, Main Street, Officer/Chief Advised  
 5:06 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Flagg Road, Report Filed  
 5:54 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Seizures, Mare Meadow Lane, Transported to Hospital  
 6:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, New Westminster Road, No Police Service Necessary  
 8:37 p.m. Lock Out (Home or Vehicle), Williamsville Road, Entry Gained

**Thursday, July 31**  
 2:50 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Bemis Road, Officer Spoke to Party  
 11:14 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Winchendon, Message Delivered

**Friday, Aug. 1**  
 2:25 a.m. Robbery or Holdup, Brunelle Drive, Report Filed  
 7:36 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Gardner Road, Referred to Other Agency  
 9:02 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Worcester Road,

Transported to Hospital  
 9:43 a.m. Safety Concern, Gardner Road, Removed to Court/Lockup  
 Arrest Cochran, Edward H., 34, Fitchburg  
 Charges Two Default Court Warrants  
 Drug, Posses Class B, Trespass  
 11:46 a.m. Safety Concern, Gardner Road, Negative Contact  
 12:24 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Princeton, Negative Contact  
 3:16 p.m. Unwanted Party, Gardner Road, Report Filed  
 6:02 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, South Cove Road, Officer Spoke to Party  
 7:01 p.m. Trespasser or Prowler, Burnshirt Road, Officer/Chief Advised  
 9:46 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Animal Bites, Thompson Road, Officer/Chief Advised

**Saturday, Aug. 2**  
 11:35 a.m. Complaint, New Westminster Road, Information Taken  
 2:36 p.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, Main Street, Information Taken  
 2:50 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Barre Road, Mutual Aid Transported  
 5:45 p.m. Public Assist, Worcester Road, Entry Gained  
 8:05 p.m. Erratic Operator, Barre Road, Negative Contact

## Oakham Police Log

**Sunday, July 27**  
 10:25 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Hubbardston Road, Vehicle Towed  
 1 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Old Turnpike Road, Officer Spoke to Party  
 5:05 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Deacon Allen Drive, Message Delivered

**Monday, July 28**  
 10:15 a.m. Court Duty, East Brookfield Court District Court, Court Duty  
 10:25 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Sanders Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal

**Tuesday, July 29**  
 12:57 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning  
 2:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning  
 2:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning

11:24 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Scott Road, Transported to Hospital

**Wednesday, July 30**  
 10:30 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Barre Road, Investigated  
 11:12 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, South Road, Investigated

**Thursday, July 31**  
 4:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning  
 4:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stoop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning

**Friday, Aug. 1**  
 1:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Ware Corner Road, Written Warning  
 1:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old Turnpike Road, Vehicle Towed  
 Summons Faucher, Jamie R., 49, South Barre  
 Charges Uninsured Motor Vehicle, Unregistered Motor

Vehicle  
 2:20 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning  
 3:30 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Barre Road, Returned to Family/Guardian  
 3:31 p.m. Property Dispute or Exchange, Barre Road, Property Returned  
 3:53 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Citation Issued  
 6:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning

**Saturday, Aug. 2**  
 2:05 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Referred to Other Agency  
 5:50 p.m. Erratic Operator, Worcester Road, Negative Contact  
 8:55 p.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, North Brookfield, Area Patrolled

## New Braintree Police Log

During the week of Aug. 11-18, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 14 building/property checks, 11 directed/area patrols, one radar assignment, two traffic controls, three emergency 911 calls, two citizen assists, one animal call and four motor vehicle stops in the town of New Braintree.

**Monday, Aug. 11**  
 4:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hardwick Road, Written Warning  
 6:38 p.m. Assist Citizen, Barre Road, Services Rendered

**Tuesday, Aug. 12**  
 4:06 p.m. Assist Citizen, Mara Road, Officer Handled

**Wednesday, Aug. 13**  
 2:36 p.m. Medical Emergency, Gilbertville Road, Spoken To

**Thursday, Aug. 14**

7:28 a.m. Serve Warrant, Old Wine Road, Arrest(s) Made

**Saturday, Aug. 16**  
 8:32 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Moore Road, Services Rendered

**Sunday, Aug. 17**  
 5:02 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hardwick Road, Citation Issued  
 5:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hardwick Road, Written Warning

More police logs on page 16

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

## Second Chance is seeking clothing and linens donations

EAST BROOKFIELD – People can now bring used clothing donations to Second Chance Animal Services East Brookfield or North Brookfield locations.

Second Chance has partnered with St. Pauly Textile Inc. to provide a wood-frame clothing drop-off shed for community use. The sheds are designed to give community members a uniquely clean, convenient and well-cared-for option to donate their used linens and clothing to. St. Pauly Textile Inc. partners with businesses and various organizations to distribute donated items both here in the U.S. and worldwide, where they're ultimately re-worn by people, who need them. Second Chance receives funding for donated clothing and additionally has the option to use donated items like towels and blankets to care for pets.

With over 1,600 clothing drop-off sheds in place, St. Pauly Textile Inc. collects over 175,000 pounds of clothing a day and estimates that this clothing ends up in 44 different countries including the U.S. yearly. In 2024, the company was able to help keep over 64 million articles of clothing out of landfills, which clothed an estimated 7.8 million people worldwide. The company was founded in 1996 and is an A+ rated member of the Better Business Bureau.

Accepted items: clothing, shoes, belts, purses, towel, blankets, sheets, curtains, pillowcases and stuffed animals. The donation sheds are located at the Second Chance Adoption Center, 111 Young Road, East Brookfield and the North Brookfield Community Veterinary Hospital, 372 North Main Street, North Brookfield.

## Country Bank appoints Christopher Stevens

Country Bank, a leading full-service financial institution serving Central and Western Massachusetts, announces the appointment of Christopher Stevens as its new First Vice President, Compliance and CRA Officer.

Steven's extensive background in regulatory compliance and community reinvestment will strengthen the bank's commitment to integrity, customer trust, and community impact. "We are excited to welcome Christopher to the Country Bank team," said Miriam Siegel, Chief Culture and Development Officer. "His

extensive knowledge and expertise in Compliance and CRA are already making a meaningful impact, playing a pivotal role in supporting our continued growth and our commitment to responsible banking. With decades of experience and a proven ability to navigate complex regulatory landscapes, Christopher's leadership aligns seamlessly with our dedication to the communities we serve and our core values of Integrity, Service, Teamwork, Excellence, and Prosperity."

He brings over 25 years of experience in the financial services industry, includ-

ing his most recent role as Senior Associate at KPMG in Boston. There, he assisted large financial institutions with their highest-priority consumer compliance initiatives, helping clients strengthen internal audits, monitoring and testing programs, lending reviews, and regulatory remediation.

His extensive professional background includes serving as a retail branch manager, a bank compliance examiner at both state and federal agencies, and a subject matter expert in compliance. He has led numerous compliance reviews covering the Home Mortgage Disclosure

Act (HMDA), Community Reinvestment Act (CRA), Truth in Lending (TIL), the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act (RESPA), Flood Protection Act, Fair Lending (ECOA), and Unfair Deceptive Acts and Practices (UDAAP), among others.

"I am honored to join Country Bank and contribute to its longstanding commitment to its customers and communities," said Christopher Stevens. "I look forward to working with the talented team here to ensure we maintain the highest standards of regulatory compliance and community reinvestment."

## Hardwick Police Log

During the week of Aug. 11-18, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 62 building/property checks, 35 directed/area patrols, six radar assignments, one traffic control, five emergency 911 calls, five citizen assists, three assist other agencies, one motor vehicle investigation, five complaints, one missing person, one threat, two harassments, three animal calls and seven motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

**Monday, Aug. 11**  
4:15 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Spoken To  
8:50 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital

**Tuesday, Aug. 12**  
8:09 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, River Run, Transported to Hospital  
12:44 p.m. Assist Other Agency, School Street, Officer Handled  
7:17 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Birch Street, Transported to Hospital

**Wednesday, Aug. 13**  
7:40 a.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Dispatch Handled  
11:53 a.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Dispatch Handled  
1:24 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Bridge Road, Negative Contact

**Thursday, Aug. 14**  
3:06 p.m. Assist Other Agency, High Street, Officer

Handled  
4:30 p.m. Assist Other Agency, High Street, Officer Handled

**Friday, Aug. 15**  
9:35 a.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Main Street, Unfounded  
6:41 p.m. Parking Complaint, Hardwick Fair, Officer Handled  
7 p.m. Parking Complaint, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled  
7:27 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Hardwick Fair, Officer Handled  
7:41 p.m. Missing Person, Hardwick Fair, Officer Handled  
7:59 p.m. Parking Complaint, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled

**Saturday, Aug. 16**  
11:08 a.m. Medical Emergency, Hardwick Town House, Services Rendered  
1:58 p.m. Threat, Breen Road, Services Rendered  
4:33 p.m. 911 Misdial, Greenwich Road, Dispatch Handled  
8:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Hardwick Road, No Action Required

**Sunday, Aug. 17**  
10:17 a.m. Harassment, Lyman Road, Report Taken  
9:33 p.m. Assist Citizen, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled  
11:49 p.m. Harassment, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled

**Monday, Aug. 18**  
2:40 a.m. Assist Citizen, Hardwick Road, Report Taken

### MARY LANE from page 1

\$400,000 to be put towards providing healthcare for the residents of Ware and Gilbertville, in particular.

That sum of money in 1919 has accrued to be worth about \$7 million today.

Before Gilbert died, he drafted a will which explained exactly how his property was to be used after his death.

First, he required that the hospital forever be known as Mary Lane Hospital, in honor of his wife. Second, he stipulated that the money he had granted was to be used solely for building and maintaining a hospital, Bourcier said.

Most importantly, it was his wish that the property always be used as a hospital, she said.

Bourcier said the Friends of Mary Lane Hospital are working to preserve the wishes of Gilbert, and with demolition of the hospital buildings beginning Monday, they are shifting their efforts towards the future of the property.

### Merger and transfer of ownership

Before 2016, Mary Lane Hospital was independently owned, and this changed starting in 2014 when healthcare organization Baystate Health bought out Wing Memorial hospital in Palmer. Two years later in 2016, Baystate Health urged Wing and Mary Lane to merge, putting the hospitals in the hands of new management, Bourcier said.

While the merger did happen and both hospitals had the name Baystate in their name, the procedures in which the merger happened were illegal and unethical, according to Friends of Mary Lane Hospital.

The merger went before boards, a board for Mary Lane and a board representing Wing, but there were no local residents on either board, when there should have been at least two, Bourcier said.

### Endowment funds

Tax returns for the Mary Lane Hospital ended in 2015, as that was the last

year before the merger. On these returns, it showed the restricted assets of \$7 million, which are the funds from the grant given by Gilbert.

It also showed unrestricted funds of about \$9.5 million in unrestricted funds, which Bourcier said seem to have disappeared. She said the Friends of Mary Lane Hospital have been working tirelessly, searching the Ware Library and Hardwick Library for any records that might show where this sum of close to \$10 million has gone.

Bourcier said the organization has also asked around for records from Baystate Health, which have been denied.

She said what they do know is that Bank of America is controlling money and funds, and allegedly had three beneficiaries who got money from these endowment funds, including the hospital, the Ware Library, and the cemetery.

However, Bourcier stated that the cemetery and

library do not recall receiving funds.

### What the

### Friends group does

Bourcier said the Friends of Mary Lane Hospital are committed to providing healthcare to the citizens of Ware and Hardwick.

She said there are about 30,000 people in this general part of the state straddling Hampshire and Worcester counties, who are in a black hole of healthcare, where the closest hospitals are in the city. Mary Lane Hospital was helpful in avoiding this lack of healthcare.

According to Bourcier, the current proposal by Baystate Health to open a Convenient Care site in Ware is not one which is helpful to the towns and the community.

Bourcier said the Friends of Mary Lane Hospital are also trying to have the Community Foundation of Western Mass, based in Springfield, take over as trustee of the Lewis Gilbert Trust.

### N BROOKFIELD page 1

bers of the community.

"Their legacies of service, integrity, and dedication will not be forgotten," he said.

### Appointments

The board reappointed Sue Lewandowski to the Downtown Development Committee.

The board also appointed Karen Hubacz as a regular member on the Planning Board; Sadie Kiley as an alternate member on the Planning Board; Julianna Petraitis to the Cultural Council; and Maggie Woodward to the School Committee.

Hubacz is a lifelong resident of the town and has served on several boards and committees, including the Finance Committee and Zoning Board of Appeals. She has also served on the Highway Search Committee and the Town Administrator Search Committee.

Kiley, who is Hubacz's daughter, said she was looking forward to helping out on the Planning Board.

Petraitis said she has lived in town for most of her life and she hopes to help the community through the Cultural Council.

Woodward has children in the school district and volunteered to fill the vacancy on the committee. She is currently involved in the school district's task force.

### Lake Lashaway 200th anniversary

Historian Brandon Avery said he and Heather Jablonski have partnered with East Brookfield to plan the 200th celebration of Lake Lashaway in 2028.

"We're getting started early," Avery said.

Avery welcomed anyone interested in getting involved with the celebration to contact him. He said fundraising events for the 200th celebration will start next year.

Avery said they are also looking for historical and personal stories and photographs of Lake Lashaway to be shared during the celebration.

### Dog licenses

Board of Selectmen Clerk Ralph Kay read a memo from the Town Clerk regarding annual dog licensing. The letter states that so far, 629 owners have licensed their dogs, but 44 owners have not responded or licensed their dogs since 2023.

The Town Clerk reminded dog owners that it is state law that requires owners to register their dogs, or notify the Town Clerk if the dog no longer resides in town. Late fees will be \$50 per household beginning Sept. 1.

### Financial items

The board approved a spending request from the Council on Aging in the amount of \$1,642.80 for postage to mail a Senior Center survey. There are 1,114 surveys and return envelopes to

be mailed.

Gilman said this expense will be paid through grant funding.

### Senior citizen barbecue

State Rep. Donnie Berthiaume will sponsor a free multi-town senior barbecue on Friday, Sept. 26 at 11 a.m. at the North Brookfield Sportsmen's Club. Reservations can be made at the Senior Center by Sept. 19.

### Recognition

Resident Diane Hopkins wrote a letter to the Board of Selectmen commending the volunteers at the Transfer Station who organize the take-it-or-leave-it shed. Hopkins said they do a great job organizing the shed, including the books.

### Special town meeting

A special town meeting will be held during the Board of Selectmen's meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 26 to address a prior year's bill with a one warrant article.

## Job Connection

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Town of Warren  
JOB OPENING

### HIGHWAY HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

*Do you enjoy working outdoors?  
Would you like to be part of a thriving,  
friendly and dedicated team?*

The Town of Warren Highway Department is seeking a qualified candidate for the full-time position as a Driver/Laborer/Machine Operator. The Town of Warren is committed to equal opportunity, encourages diversity and inclusion, and believes that a positive culture of inclusion in Town governance contributes to the town's overall qualities as a great place to live and work. We welcome all to apply.

**Salary:** Starting at \$24.78 per hour  
**Hours:** M-Thurs., 6:00am – 4:00pm – April 1 – Nov 30  
M-F 6:00am – 2:00pm, - Dec. 1 – March 31

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

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

For a complete job description please visit the Town's website [www.warren-ma.gov](http://www.warren-ma.gov)

### SERMONS from page 14

examine how they are treating their people, the people whom God created.

The world knows that God is a good and compassionate God. The question is whether this world is willing to align its values and actions with the character and vision of God. We all

have many opportunities to do good and to seek justice and to rescue the oppressed in our own lives and communities.

As children of God, it is our calling to follow the prophecies of old, but most of all, we have the life and example of Christ, our Savior to follow and aspire to, and to live by. We are

called to repent and to turn to God, so God will not get tired of our ways and see us as a burden and turn away from us. We must be a light in our own homes, in our neighborhoods, and here at church we are called to consistently align our values, our thoughts and actions with that of God.

May God help us come

together to do good, to seek and do what is right and just and save the oppressed from their suffering. God bless you.

Amen.

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

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### Quabbin Estates

41 Church Lane, Wheelwright, MA 01094

Accepting applications for wait list.

The apartment features - w/w carpeting, kitchen appliances, maintenance coverage, laundry facilities. We specialize in Senior Housing and "Barrier Free" accessible units. Rent is \$810/mo. or 30% of income, whichever is lower. RD regulations. Handicap Accessible apartments when available.

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## EARLY DEADLINES

In observance of LABOR DAY, the Classifieds have an **EARLY AD DEADLINE**.

To advertise, place your ad no later than **NOON**

## Thursday, August 28

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Musical instruments, guitars, horns, keyboards, vintage electronics, jewelry, coins, watches, military cameras, sports memorabilia, art, sterling, signs, automotive, hunting, advertising, radios, ham radio equipment, audio equipment, toys, one item or entire estate.

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## SERVICES



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## HELP WANTED

**Town of Blandford**  
Town of Blandford is hiring a **PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

to the Assessors. Duties include administrative support for daily operations of the Assessors' office. Pay: \$18-\$20/hr, based on experience. Communication, customer service, organizational, and tech skills required. Send cover letter and resume to: [dhopson@townofblandford.com](mailto:dhopson@townofblandford.com).

**Town of Blandford** is seeking a fulltime **ASSISTANT TREASURER/COLLECTOR**. Pay range \$29.50-\$37.50/hour. Please visit our website for full job description. Submit resume to [Administrator@townofblandford.com](mailto:Administrator@townofblandford.com)

## HELP WANTED

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### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WILBRAHAM HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Wilbraham Housing Authority seeks highly qualified applicants for the position of Executive Director. Responsibilities include the administration of 69 Chapter 667 Elderly housing units and 9 Chapter 705 Family housing units. The Executive Director reports to a five-member Board of Commissioners. Work schedule shall be a minimum of 22 hours per week during normal business hours, flexible as needed. The estimated salary range \$46,177.00 To \$54,326.00 is based on the Executive Office of Housing & Livable Communities' Executive Director Salary Schedule. The ideal candidate must have two years' experience in a housing, community development, public administration or a closely related field. Knowledge of the principles and practices of housing management, finances and maintenance systems in public or private housing. Excellent written and verbal communication skills required. Willingness to work with people of various socio-economic backgrounds. Must be bondable. Certification as a Public Housing Manager from an approved organization desired, and may be substituted as a property manager or similar classification by a nationally recognized housing or real estate organization such as an EOHLC-approved Massachusetts Public Housing Administrator Certification Program or HUD. Two-year full time post-secondary education in a related field may substitute for up to one year of experience. Applications will be accepted until 12pm, August 29, 2025. Please submit cover letter, resume and contact information for 3 references to: **Mr. Peter Manolakis, Chairman Executive Director Search Committee, Wilbraham Housing Authority, 88 Stony Hill Road, Wilbraham, MA 01095. Contact: Peter Manolakis (413) 519-8195** Wilbraham Housing Authority is an Equal Opportunity Employer

**The Town of Huntington** is seeking a **part-time Town Hall Floater/Select-board Administrative Assistant/Assistant Town Clerk.** \$20-\$22 per hour based on experience. 15 hours per week. Application and complete job description are available online at [www.huntingtonma.us](http://www.huntingtonma.us) or by emailing [admin@huntingtonma.us](mailto:admin@huntingtonma.us). Position is open until filled. *Town of Huntington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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# Workshop13 presents 7th Annual Northeast Fine Arts Exhibition Aug. 23

WARE – The seventh annual juried Northeast Fine Arts Exhibition opens on Saturday, Aug. 23 with a reception from 1-4 p.m.

Awards will be announced at 3 p.m., including a \$1,000 Best in Show Award. This annual exhibition of realism is held in the unique Grand Hall gallery of Workshop13, a non-profit cultural arts and learning center located at 13 Church St.

The 7th Annual Northeast Fine Arts Exhibition will be on display from Aug. 23 to Sept. 7 and can be visited on Fridays from 4-7 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4 p.m. This year's exhibition gathers more than 100 works by artists throughout the northeastern U.S.

The juror for the 7th annual NEFAE is David Gray. Gray's award-winning works have been covered by major

art publications including Southwest Art, Art of the West, and American Art Collector. His signature style reveals a personal and contemporary expression of beauty and order which pays homage to Western European Classical Tradition in its craftsmanship.

**About Workshop13**  
Workshop13 Cultural Arts and Learning Center is a rural non-profit arts innovator located in Ware, and devoted

to increasing the appreciation and accessibility of the arts, strengthening the creative life of our community through instruction, collaborations, and arts-based initiatives.

**“Yet We Sleep, We Dream” by Eliza Moser was the Best in Show award-winner from the 6th annual Northeast Fine Arts Exhibition.**



# Quabbin Days will be held on October 10-13

Celebrating the beauty and heritage of the Quabbin Region

BELCHERTOWN – This fall, the Friends of the Quabbin invite residents and visitors alike to discover the beauty, history, and importance of the Quabbin Reservoir during Quabbin Days (www.quabbindays.org), a celebration of the region's role as both a critical drinking water supply and one of New England's most scenic outdoor destinations.

Quabbin Days will be held the holiday weekend of Oct. 10-13.

Taking place in the Quabbin Region (www.quabbindays.org/quabbinregion), which is made up of the dozen towns in the Quabbin Watershed, Quabbin Days is a community-driven initiative designed to raise awareness about the Quabbin as the primary water source for 2.7 million Massachusetts residents, and a breathtaking landscape that offers world-class hiking, fishing, birdwatching, and photography opportunities.

“Most people don't realize that one of the most pristine and carefully protected water supplies in the country is also an incredible place to explore,” said Ed Comeau of the Friends of the Quabbin. “Quabbin Days is about encouraging people to connect with this resource as a place of remarkable natural beauty and cultural history by exploring the Quabbin Trail(www.quabbindays.org/quabbintrail) that connects these towns.”

Held during the peak of fall foliage season, Oct. 10-13, Quabbin Days

encourages towns, businesses, and organizations within the Quabbin Region to host events, walks, tours, and open houses that spotlight what this area has to offer.

Participation is informal and flexible: anyone can contribute an event, and visitors can plan their own adventures through www.QuabbinDays.org, which offers a growing calendar and interactive map of the region.

The Quabbin Reservoir, created in the 1930s, is one of the largest man-made public water supplies in the United

States. Managed by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, the reservoir and surrounding lands form a protected ecosystem that supports wildlife and clean water while offering miles of trails and stunning vistas.

Whether you're a hiker, angler, nature photographer, or history enthusiast, Quabbin Days is your invitation to rediscover, or discover for the first time, this extraordinary region.

To learn more, plan your visit, or submit an event, visit www.QuabbinDays.org.

### About Friends of the Quabbin

The Friends of the Quabbin is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the natural, cultural, and historical significance of the Quabbin Region. Through advocacy, education, and community partnerships, the organization works to protect the watershed and share its stories with future generations.

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