

BARRE GAZETTE

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Medicine River Powwow returns to River Run

By Ryan Drago
Correspondent

HARDWICK – This past weekend in Gilbertville, the fields off River Run hosted many travelers who put together the annual Medicine River Charity Good Time Family Powwow.

The Medicine River Powwow is a charity powwow that welcomes everyone and showcases many traditions of Native American culture. Visitors come from all over to pitch their tents and park their campers to enjoy the whole weekend of festivities.

The organizers for the annual Medicine River Powwow are locals, Tony Hay and Mya Hay. The Hays appreciate the amount of support, volunteers, and participation that goes into the Powwow every year.

Tony Hay mentioned the incredible turnout the Powwow gets every year, with Native American vendors and local artisans coming from all over the United States and Canada. Many vendors are local to Massachusetts, but Hay mentioned vendors and visitors come from Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

One of the biggest benefits Hay

See POW WOW, page 6



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

Medicine River was ready to host the two-day annual Medicine River Charity Good Times Family Powwow.



Adhi Moonien Two Owls of Littleton, New Hampshire was a first time vendor at this year's Powwow with her business, The New Global Shaman.



Campsites were set up for the weekend.

Select Board/School Committee fill vacancy

By Ellenor Downer
Editor
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HUBBARDSTON – The Hubbardston Select Board met with the remaining three Hubbardston members of the Quabbin Regional School District Committee to fill a vacancy on the school committee.

As per the regional agreement, the Select Board and remaining members from town on the QRSD Committee fill a vacancy. The vacancy was due to the fact no one in town took out nomination positions for one of the two positions for school committee on the ballot.

At the Monday, Aug. 21 meeting, the five Select Board members: Jeff Williams, Katie Young, Heather Munroe, Kris Paraego and Peter Walker along with school committee members: Debra Chamberlain, Mark Wigler and Joanne Cormier voted on the

three candidates, who applied for the position. The candidates were Dixie Estes, Joseph Alfonso and Charity Chaffee.

Estes is a school principal in the Wachusett Regional School District, Alfonso is in technology incident management and Chaffee is in the mental health field. None of the candidates attended the meeting although invited. Joseph Alfonso's wife attended on his behalf and was allowed to speak.

The first vote was a tie vote with four for Charity Chaffee and four for Joseph Alfonso. On a second vote to break the tie, the vote was six for Chaffee and two for Alfonso. The appointment runs until the Annual Town Election in June.

Select Board Chair Jeff Williams said he would have the Town Clerk let Chaffee know what she needed to do and would also

See BOARD, page 6

Road conditions brings residents to meeting

DPW Director Brown explains plan to board

By Ellenor Downer
Editor
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HUBBARDSTON – About a dozen residents attended the Monday, Aug. 21 Select Board over concerns about road conditions.

The attendees lived on some of the lesser traveled roads in town such as Laurel, Jordy, Hale and Burgess roads. They came to hear Travis Brown, Department of Public Works Director, discuss the town's road maintenance plan.

Brown said he traveled the 90 miles of roads in town. He then created a spreadsheet, which gave him the costs for each road. He said he received \$357,000 in Chapter 90 from the state and an additional

\$100,000 from the town for road work this year.

He said the money only goes so far. The cost of paving was \$62 per ton last year and increased to \$90 per ton this year. He said it "comes down to lack of funds" and he and his department were doing the "best they can."

His department was short two men and currently only had two men and himself.

The heavy rains this year did not help with washouts on several roads, which his department hot patches those areas of damage.

He cited issues with heavy traveled roads like New Westminster and Brigham roads. He said he was looking into the cost of repairs to prolong road life.

He said in 2018, the Select Board had a warrant article for the town to match the cost of Chapter 90 funds through a proposition 2 1/2 override. It failed to pass.

See HUBBARDSTON, page 6

Oakham voters head to polls on Sept. 14 to fill Select Board vacancy

By Ellenor Downer
Editor
edowner@turley.com

OAKHAM – Voters will head to the polls, located in the Town Hall, 2 Coldbrook Road, on Thursday, Sept. 14 from 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

The ballot contains two candidates for the Select Board: Michael Brunelle and Aaron Langlois. The position will fill the less than one-year remaining term of Bradford Taylor, who resigned in July.

Voters will also vote yes or no for a debt exclusion to fund a new fire truck for the town, which was approved at the Annual Town Meeting in June.

A candidate's night will be held Thursday, Aug. 31 at 6:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building,

located on Barre Road. The location was incorrectly listed as Fobes Memorial Library. There will be an informational session and question and answer with Fire Chief Tim Howe about the ballot question for the replacement tanker/engine. At 6:45 p.m. people will meet the candidates for the open seat on Oakham's Select Board. Attendees will be able to submit written questions for the candidates.

The debt exclusion ballot question for a replacement tanker/engine is the second part in the process to secure a debt exclusion to fund the truck. The first step got the nob at the Annual Town Meeting in June.

If voters say yes to the ballot question, the current tanker, a 1987 Mack, will be traded in. Besides its age, the current truck does not meet modern standards, only seats two and no gear storage. The proposed truck will meet all current safety standards, have a least 2,500 gallons

of water, seats for six members, hose, ladders and other equipment. It will also replace the current Engine 3, which will be placed into reserve status.

Both Select Board candidates received an invitation to submit a candidate statement. Candidate Brunelle declined. Candidate Aaron Langlois' statement appears below.

I offer a demonstrated "roll-up my sleeves" approach to helping Oakham residents live independently, while being able to receive services when they need them.

I will be prepared to start on day one. I won't have all the answers, but I will be capable and willing to listen to all sides and open to learning. I offer a background in executive leadership in finance and operations and a lifetime of demonstrated commitment to community and public service and helping to strengthen organizations.

I can be a strong voice for our



Aaron Langlois
Candidate for Select Board

small rural community, ensuring we receive equitable support from the Commonwealth, that cities and bigger towns get. The times of Oakham being left out must end.

I will engage and partner with our residents, boards, and departments. I will be transparent and accessible.

We need to make it easier to

work with the town. Like offering online tax payments, online applications for permits and timely online information on public meetings, agendas and minutes and videos of town meetings.

We need to foster a positive culture for our employees and volunteers. Oakham needs a comprehensive plan for our future. One that addresses how we financially and operationally maneuver in the years ahead, while balancing the evolving needs of our residents, while respecting the special rural character and history of our community.

I have been in healthcare for the last 25 years as a social worker, hospice nurse and healthcare executive. I am an Eagle Scout and volunteer in Scouting and for other organizations.

I am a resident of Oakham since 2005, with my wife and 3 children. I have educational degrees in social work and nursing and a Master in Business Administration.

My service to the town includes Tree Warden initially appointed and then elected and Fire Department Advisory Committee appointed.

I'm entering my ninth year on the Board of Health, elected in 2015, 2018 and 2021 and chair since January 2020.

I led the modernizing of our record systems, moving to scanning and using our website and social media.

During the early part of 2020, as the sole member of the BOH, unexpectedly, I led the public health pandemic response for our community, with a focus on education and support. With a full BOH, we held two Oakham voluntary vaccination clinics for our seniors. I completed testing on hundreds in my driveway and partnered with regional health collaboratives and the school to provide support and testing for our students.

See OAKHAM, page 6

BARRE GAZETTE

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News of the Towns



Round Town
Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

Food Pantry to hold distributions'

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

Drive-thru breakfast

On Saturday, Sept. 9 from 8-19 a.m. The Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St. will hold a drive-thru breakfast. Weather permitting tables will be set up outside the church. There are two menu choices: a full course breakfast of pancakes, sausage, home fries and scrambled eggs as well as coffee or juice and a fruit cup for \$12 and a breakfast sandwich of egg, ham and cheese as well as coffee or juice for \$6. This is a fundraiser for the church.

Lions Club Car Show

The Barre Lions Club Car Show will be held Saturday, Sept. 9 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. on the Common, Barre.

OES chicken barbecue

Cradle Rock Chapter Order of Eastern Star will hold a chicken barbecue Saturday, Sept. 16 at Mt. Zion Lodge Hall, 71 Pleasant St. with drive thru pick up at 1 p.m. Cost is \$18 per person. For tickets, people may call Dolly at 508-826-7537.

Second annual yard sale

The Barre Historical Society and Museum, 18-20 Common St., will hold their second annual yard sale on Saturday, Sept. 16 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. They will sell to members only from 8-9 a.m. with free coffee. Items for sale include new merchandise of books, pamphlets, Barre High School yearbooks, maps, postcards and more. People may email Kay at barrehistory@gmail.com or call 978-257-0890 for more information.

Town Wide Yard Sale happens Oct. 7

BARRE – The South Barre Common Committee will hold their Town Wide Yard Sale on Saturday, Oct. 7 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

To reserve a spot at Nornay Park, Main Street, South Barre or to have their address placed on our town wide map, a there is a donation of \$10 payable and sent to the South Barre Common Committee, 40 West Street – Suite 5, Barre, MA 01005. The proceed go to the upkeep of Nornay Park.

The Town Maps will be picked up at Nornay Park the day of the yard sale. In case of heavy rains on Saturday, the rain date is Sunday, Oct. 8 at the applicants' discretion.

People may call 978-355-2504, extension 8 or email barreboards@townofbarre.com with any questions.

Food Pantry to hold monthly distributions Sept. 13 and 21

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

Clients are invited to pick up groceries from the food pantry either in the morning on Wednesday, Sept. 13 or in the evening on Thursday, Sept. 21, whichever is more convenient for them.

The Barre Food Pantry volunteers strive to continue to fulfill their mission to get food to hungry and food insecure clients. The pantry must also continue to protect clients, volunteers and the larger community from the spread of the COVID-19 sub variant viruses.

Many clients and volunteers are classified as high-risk due to their age and/or underlying health conditions. The Barre Food Pantry Board of Directors

considered changing how the pantry currently operates, but decided that the most responsible path forward is to continue to operate as we have since March of 2020.

In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients Sept. 13 and Sept. 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.

While the pantry typically used to have an "all hands on deck" approach to welcoming volunteers, in September they will once again be working with just a very small crew. They are preparing for the distribution by only working in shifts at the pantry, in small household/ Volunteers should not arrive to volunteer on Sept. 13 and 21 without first contacting Dave Petrovick at 978-852-1696 or Chuck Radlo at 978-355-6463.

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

Hubbardston

Ellenor Downer
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Sign up for Regional Alert System

Many in Hubbardston do not know about the Rutland Regional Alert System. All Hubbardston residents are encouraged to sign up for the Rutland Regional Alert System powered by Smart911. This system allows the town to send important emergency and non-emergency notifications directly via text, email or voice message. Rutland Regional Alerts is the official system used by Hubbardston to notify the public about emergencies, severe weather, health risks, utility disruptions and more. By signing up, people will receive customizable alerts to keep them and their family informed and safe. Registering for this free service takes just a few minutes at www.rrecc.us/alerts. All information remains private and will only be used for sending alerts. When emergencies occur, notifications through Rutland Regional Alerts can provide life-saving information about the actions residents need to take. All residents, along with anyone who works in or frequently visits Hubbardston, should sign up to receive these critical notifications.

Yard sale

New this year is a town wide yard sale on Saturday, Sept. 23 beginning at 7 a.m. The rain date will be Sunday, Sept. 24. There is no charge to be put on the map. Only addresses will be listed not names. People should email Katie at hubbardston250@gmail.com to be put on the map. Maps/addresses will be available online along with paper copies at One Stop Shop (gas station).

Field Day

The Hubbardston Lions Club Field Day will be held Saturday, Sept. 16 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Boy Scout can and bottle drive

Hubbardston Boy Scout Troop 222 will hold a can and bottle drive on Saturday, Sept. 30 from 8 a.m.-noon at Curtis Recreation Field, Route 68.

Senior center events

The Hubbardston Senior Center, 7A Main St., events include: Coffee with Friends Monday through Thursday at 9:45 a.m.; 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.

National Ice Cream Sandwich Day

Frozen treats enjoyed across Quaboag Hills towns

Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce CEO Robert Lavoie has helped spread some cool refreshing treats all across the 15 town region.

"It began with a call from a generous donor, asking if I could help 'relocate' about 9,000 ice cream sandwiches in less than a week," Lavoie said.

Pathfinder Tech in Palmer kept them in their walk-in freezer, and it was a fantastic plus for the Summer Youth Enrichment Program which runs every year during the month of July.

"As it happened, Friday, July 28 was the first excursion on my road trip. Dave Oliveira, long time Facilities Director at Pathfinder turned a meal cart into a makeshift cooler, enough room for about 1,600 ice cream sandwiches," Lavoie said.

Day one was off to Summer Youth programs in local school districts. Starting in Palmer at the Old Mill Pond School. Derek Smola, Summer Youth Director, met Lavoie and we donated close to 800 sandwiches. From there, the process was repeated at the Stanley M. Koziole Elementary School in Ware.

The final stop that morning was at the Quaboag Regional School District in Warren, where Lavoie met Superintendent Steve Duff and his team, along with state Rep. Todd Smola who was key in brainstorming the day.

"Ideas for Chamber and regional school partnerships for this upcoming year were discussed and look very promising for all! What a great new partnership," Lavoie said.

After posting his trip on the Chamber's Facebook page, a follower reminded him that coming up on Aug. 2 was National Ice



Submitted Photo

Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce CEO Robert Lavoie gets ready to distribute over 9,000 ice cream sandwiches across 15 towns.

Cream Sandwich Day.

"What could be better?" Lavoie said.

The second and final road trip was naturally on National Ice Cream Day and began with a visit to Christopher Heights assisted living in Belchertown, and from there to Ware where Lavoie met the team at Cedarbrook Village and did the same.

"All enjoyed the surprise sandwiches donated on National Ice Cream Sandwich Day," he said.

As the day progressed, Lavoie made it to Holland, Wales and Brimfield Senior/Community centers throughout the Chamber's 15 town footprint.

During this same period, local communities were holding their annual National Night Out events, honoring first responders.

"This is a great community summer event and QHMA was able to donate sandwiches to the North Brookfield, Palmer and Ware Police Departments to assist with the already popular

event," Lavoie said. "And to wrap up the donations, we popped in on the new Ludlow Veterans Center and were happy to donate to VSO, Eric Segundo and the Veterans he serves in their beautiful Ludlow facility."

In total, the Chamber was able to facilitate the donation of over 6,000 sandwiches and another 2,600 plus were donated at the local National Night Out events.

"Much thanks to Pathfinder Tech for helping me with the logistics, this couldn't have been possible without their support, ingenuity and spirit," Lavoie said. "My first 60 days as CEO of the Quaboag Hills Chamber have been nothing short of fantastic!"

Make sure to follow the Chamber on Facebook and Instagram, and read about its happenings in your Turley Publications newspaper.

"You'll see us at many events this fall and we're just getting started in our 15 Town Region," Lavoie said. "Can't wait to meet you...where you are!"

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New Salem	5.8 acres	\$94,900
N. Brookfield	5+ acres	\$49,900
Sturbridge	11+ acres Town Util	\$149,900
Sturbridge	11+ acres Waterfrt	Call for details
Ware	11+ Acres (perc)	\$65,000
Warren	4.5+Acres (perc)	\$31,500
Warren	22+ acres (perc)	\$89,900

Many of the lots have perc tests, some have septic designs.

CALL FOR DETAILS AND LOCATIONS.

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413-531-9098

www.BuyRiteHome.com

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 Sept. 4. 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 – Labor Day No meals served.

TUESDAY – Meatloaf with gravy, garlic mashed potatoes, country blend vegetables, mixed fruit, whole wheat bread

WEDNESDAY – Roast turkey with gravy, mashed sweet potatoes, Tuscan style vegetables, fresh fruit, French bread

THURSDAY – Macaroni and cheese, stewed tomatoes, green beans, Lorna Doones, peasant white bread

FRIDAY – Chicken Mornay, vegetable cous-cous, Scandinavian vegetables, fruited ambrosia, marble rye bread

*Diabetic friendly dessert **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 \$2.50 per meal helps keep the program running.

Celebration will honor retiring Fire Chief Robinson

PETERSHAM – A celebration to honor retiring Fire Chief Dana Robinson on his retirement by the town of Petersham on Saturday, Sept. 2 at 11 a.m. on the Common, Petersham.

The celebration will feature a fire truck parade with apparatuses from neighboring towns, refreshments, cake and presentations. It will be held rain or shine.

Correction

Charlotte Gareau was incorrectly listed as Charlotte Leroux in the Barre Select Board article, which jumped to page 8. It was Charlotte Gareau, who was part of the Barre Plains Common improvement.

CHECK OUT ALL THE

Turley Publications

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News of the Towns

PUBLIC MEETINGS

BARRE.

QRSD Central Office/Audit/Administrative Review Subcommittee – Aug. 31 at 4:30 p.m.
 Board of Assessors – Sept. 5 at 6 p.m.
 Select Board – Sept. 5 at 6 p.m.
 Felton Field Commission – Sept. 5 at 6:30 p.m.
 Planning Board – Sept. 5 at 7 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Sept. 6 at 1 p.m.
 250th Anniversary Committee – Sept. 6 at 6:30 p.m.
 Board of Health – Sept. 11 at 5 p.m.
 Water Commission – Sept. 11 at 6:30 p.m.
 DPW Commission – Sept. 11 at 7 p.m.
 Conservation Committee – Sept. 12 and Sept. 26 at 7 p.m.
 Library Trustees – Sept. 13 at 6:30 p.m.
 Barre Housing Authority – Sept. 14 at 3 p.m.
 Sewer Commission – Sept. 21 at 7 p.m.
 Cemetery Commission – Sept. 28 at 11 a.m.
 Cable Advisory Committee – Oct. 10 at 7 p.m.
 Insurance Advisory Committee – Nov. 2 at 1 p.m.

HARDWICK.

Recycling Commission – Sept. 5 at 6:30 p.m.
 Master Plan Steering Committee – Sept. 5 at 6:30 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Sept. 6 at 1 p.m. and Sept. 13 at 9 a.m.
 Board of Health – Sept. 7 at 6:30 p.m.
 Paige Library Trustees – Sept. 7 at 7 p.m.
 Board of Selectmen – Sept. 11 and Sept. 25 at 6:30 p.m.
 Planning Board – Sept. 12 at 6:30 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Sept. 13 at 9 a.m.
 Gilbertville Public Library – Sept. 13 at 4 p.m.
 Capital Planning Committee – Sept. 18 at 3 p.m.
 Gilbertville Water District – Sept. 19 at 5:30 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – Sept. 20 at 6:30 p.m.

HUBBARDSTON

Conservation Commission – Sept. 5 and Oct. 3 at 7 p.m.
 Planning Board – Sept. 6, Sept. 21, Oct. 4 and Oct. 19 at 6:30 p.m.
 Board of Health – Sept. 12, Sept. 26, Oct. 10 and Oct. 24 at 7 p.m.
 Cultural Council – Sept. 12 at 7 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Sept. 20 at 6:30 p.m.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

Downtown Development Committee – Sept. 11 and Oct. 2 at 6:30 p.m.
 Select Board – Sept. 12, Sept. 26, Oct. 10 and Oct. 24 at 6 p.m.
 Planning Board – Sept. 20 and Oct. 18 at 6 p.m.

OAKHAM

Council on Aging – Sept. 8 at noon
 Board of Health – Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15 and Dec. 20 at 5 p.m.

PETERSHAM

Conservation Commission – Sept. 5 at 7 p.m.
 Open Space and Recreation Committee – Sept. 5 at 7 p.m.
 Board of Health – Sept. 7 at 6 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Sept. 11 at 10 a.m.
 Cemetery Commission – Sept. 12 at 10 a.m.
 Petersham Historic District – Sept. 21 at 6 p.m.
 Planning Board – Sept. 28 at 7 p.m.
 Board of Assessors – Sept. 29 at 9 a.m.

RUTLAND

Capital Improvement Planning Committee – Sept. 14 at 6:30 p.m.

Town House Friends celebrate Oktoberfest Sept. 30



File Photos

The Happy Chipmunks German Band, Das Lustige Streifenhorchens Deutsche Band, will be joining the fun at Oktoberfest on Saturday, Sept. 30 from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Common Ground Ciderworks in North Brookfield.

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Instead of a traditional multiday event extending from September into October, the Friends of the North Brookfield Town House have distilled all the music and fun of an Oktoberfest into a single day, Saturday, Sept. 30.

Their take on this popular celebration will feature authentic German music, food, and liquid refreshment, plus sing-alongs, dancing, raffles, games for all ages, and arts and crafts vendors, all in an attempt to repro-

duce the Bavarian sense of gemütlichkeit - cordiality.

The one and only Happy Chipmunks German Band, Das Lustige Streifenhorchens Deutsche Band, will be joining the fun with their light-hearted banter and toe-tapping music guaranteed to bring you to your feet clapping and singing along.

Do not miss a minute of the fun. Come to Common Ground Ciderworks, 31 East Brookfield Road, on Sept. 30 from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and bring the whole family for a

day of enjoyment for everyone.

All the proceeds from this community event will fund the Friends' efforts to restore the North Brookfield Town House as the focal point of a revitalized downtown North Brookfield – once again bringing people together in common purpose from our town and surrounding communities.

The event is free with a suggested donation of \$5 that will enter you in a drawing for a cash prize.

Band to hold Back to School concert

ORANGE – The Orange Community Band will hold its final summer concert on the Bandstand in Butterfield Park Friday, Sept. 1 at 7 p.m., as part of the PTO Back to School celebration.

This is the same music that was to have been sponsored by The Dance Studio in July. Stephanie Parker will direct the band, in her 20th season as conductor.

The program will begin with the National Anthem, followed by one of several marches the band will perform. Other selections may include "American Folk Rhapsody" by Claire Grundman; "God Bless America" by Irving Berlin; "Overture, a novelty piece arranged by Douglas Wagner; "Edelweiss" by Richard Rodgers; "Tribute to Rodgers and Hammerstein;" "Bruno Mars on Tour" arranged by Pat Roszell; "International Bridge" by Samuel Ward; "Hairspray" by Marc Sherman; "Lichtensteiner Polka" by Kotscher; "Christmas in July" arranged by Walter Gladwin and one of the newest pieces

recently purchased through a grant from Trustees of New Salem Academy, "I Dreamed a Dream" from Les Miserables.

The band will also perform the march "Specter of Fortune," also known as "The Lions March" to thank the Lions Club for their support and to honor the memory of Jeannette Richards McIntosh, long time band supporter, who passed away recently.

The Orange Community Band traces its roots back to the 1850s, when a "Town band" performed in Orange. The same core group of musicians became involved as the Mechanics Band, the New Home Band and then the Minute Tapioca Band.

Since 1976 the group has been known as the Orange Community Band. They have all performed free family style concerts in Butterfield Park. The purpose remains the same: to provide musical entertainment for the families of Orange and the surrounding area.

Corporate support ended when the Tapioca Company moved out, the band has been sponsored, first by the town

until the passage of Prop. 2 1/2 and now by the generosity of businesses and individuals throughout the community.

Band members range in age from middle school to nonagenarians and come from all over the region. New members are always welcome and several younger members have just joined this season.

This concert season is sponsored by Orange American Legion Post 172, The Lyman Family, Witty's Funeral Home, The Dance Studio, The John Marsh Howe Family, The Perkins Family, Orange Lions Club and New Salem Academy Trustees. The band also participated in the "Return to Hogwarts" celebration in July.

The Salvation Army hosts the Concession Stand at the Park and proceeds are used to send area children to summer camp. This summer some of the proceeds were sent to Vermont to aid areas, which had been damaged by the recent flooding.

The Orange Community Band will also welcome Santa Claus at the Wheeler Mansion in November.

Oakham
 Ellenor Downer
 edowner@turley.com



Concert rescheduled to Aug. 31

The Friends of the Bandstand, Inc., announce the concert with Holdin' Back has been rescheduled to Thursday, Aug. 31 from 6:30-8 p.m. in the gazebo on the Oakham Common. The original date of the concert was postponed due to the weather.

Sunday School

Sunday School at the Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road, will begin on Sunday, Sept. 10 at 10 a.m. All children pre-school through sixth grade are welcome. Children have a brief worship service at 10 a.m. and then they do a craft, watch a video and have a snack.

Special Town Election

The Oakham Town Clerk announces a Special Town Election on Thursday, Sept. 14 from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. in the Oakham Voting Room, Town Hall, 2 Coldbrook Road. There will be two things on this ballot, a vote for Board of Selectmen member to fill a vacancy and a Yes/No vote for a debt exclusion on a new fire truck for the town.

Senior Center

The Oakham Senior Center, located in the lower level of the Oakham Town Hall, will hold a free, walk in blood pressure clinic on Thursday, Sept. 7 from 11-11:45 a.m. The Podiatry Clinic will be held Monday, Sept. 18. People should call the Oakham Council on Aging at 508-882-4073 for an appointment. On Friday, Sept. 15 the Lunch Bunch will eat at the La Cantina in Leicester. They should meet at the restaurant, located on Route 9 at 12:30 p.m. The menu centers on Caribbean cuisine, which includes not only Mexican dishes like tacos and paellas, but tapas, empanada and more. Lunches are mostly under \$20. The Wednesday, Sept. 19 movie is "Pompeii" rated PG-13. It will be shown in the Senior Center at 1 p.m.

New Braintree Library to hold story time

NEW BRAINTREE – The New Braintree Public Library, 45 Memorial Drive, is offering their next story time programs on Monday, Sept. 11 and Monday, Sept. 25, both at 9 a.m.

This reading and crafts program for preschool children is held twice a month on Mondays at the library. On Monday, Sept. 11, the story will be "Chicka Chicka Boom Boom" by Bill Martin Jr and John Archambault and Monday, Sept. 25 will feature "Perfect Square" by Michael Hall.

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

Editorial deadline reminder

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

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

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

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

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

Corrections Policy

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

Happy Labor Day from Stasukelis



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Opinion

Guest Column



By Russell Gloor

What about all the money Congress stole from Social Security?

Dear Rusty

Is there any way that Congress will vote to pay back the Social Security funds they took for their stupid reasons, and left IOUs in place of the funds?

Because of the funds they took going back many years, we didn't have any decent Cost Of Living Adjustments for a few years. In fact, there were I think three to five years that we didn't get any COLA. Please Rusty, can you find out if this is true or false? Help us seniors.

Signed: Resentful Senior

Dear Resentful Senior!

I can assure you that I've fully investigated the allegation that politicians have squandered Social Security's money and found that charge to be, simply speaking, a myth. I've gone back and looked at Social Security revenues and expenses since the government first started collecting FICA payroll taxes in 1937 and found that every dollar ever collected for Social Security has been used only for Social Security purposes. Over the years, various claims have been made that the money has been used for other things, but I've researched each of these charges and found them all to be false.

Where the misconception mostly originates is that any excess money collected from working Americans for Social Security is invested in "special issue government bonds," which pay interest, as mandated by President Roosevelt when Social Security began. As with any investment, a financial obligation instrument is given in return for dollars received.

Remember when we used to buy "U.S. Savings Bonds?" We'd use our money to buy those bonds, hold them and later redeem them for a higher amount than we paid. That's exactly how Social Security contributions have always worked - excess money collected from working Americans is used to purchase special issue government bonds, which are held in reserve, earning interest, for future Social Security needs.

These special bonds reside in a Social Security Trust Fund and, as of the end of 2022, were worth about \$2.8 trillion. Are these bonds "worthless IOUs" as some would claim? Hardly, since they are redeemable as needed to pay Social Security benefits.

Considering that, since 2010, Social Security's income from payroll taxes on American workers has been less than needed to cover benefits paid out, redemption of bonds held in the Trust Fund is the only reason that Social Security has been able to continue paying full benefits to every beneficiary. The Trust Fund is a financial safety net, which is now protecting all SS beneficiaries from having their benefits cut.

Problem is, unless Congress acts soon to reform Social Security's financial picture, the Trust Fund will be fully depleted in about 2033 resulting in about a 23% cut in everyone's monthly Social Security benefit. I'm optimistic that will not happen (it would be political suicide) and, hopefully, Congress will act soon to reform Social Security and restore it to financial solvency and avoid a future cut in everyone's benefits.

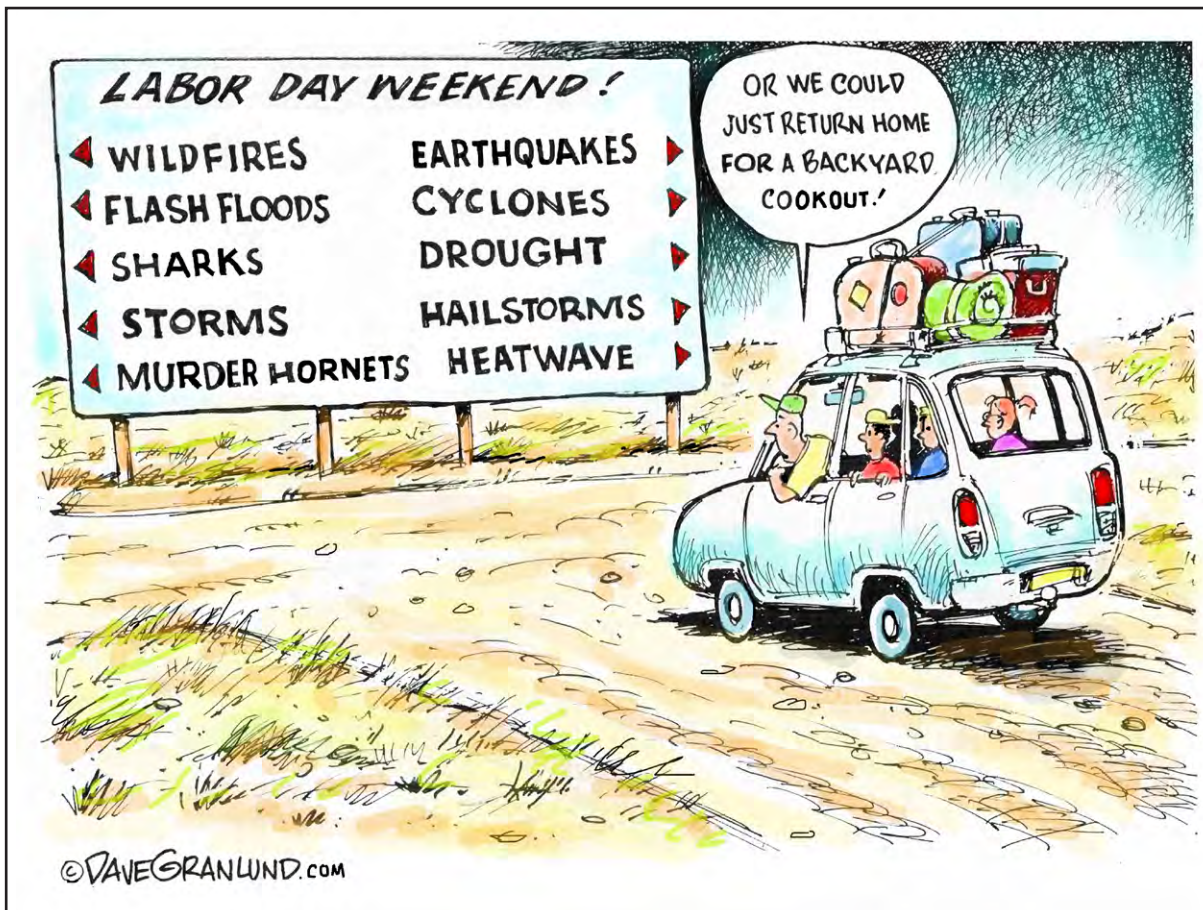
Regarding Cost of Living Adjustment and the lack thereof for several past years, COLA is determined by the government's standard inflation measure, the Consumer Price Index (CPI). There were several years (2010, 2011, and 2016) in which the CPI showed no inflation so, therefore, no COLA increase was given.

Last year, due to soaring inflation, everyone got an 8.7% increase in their Social Security benefit, but that doesn't happen every year. FYI, the average annual COLA increase over the last two decades has been about 2.6%, although COLA for each year can be wildly different depending on each year's inflation measure.

In any case, the lack of a COLA increase in past years was not a result of any political chicanery, it was the result of low inflation during those years.

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

Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.



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In Past Pages

5 years ago (Sept 6, 2018)

A vital element of the Stetson School in Barre experience is giving back to the community. On Aug. 22, Stetson vice president Joseph Allred presented the 2018 Stetson Community Impact Award to Barre Fire Chief Robert Rogowski to support the town's Ambulance/EMT Department. The award, totaling \$1,639 was donated voluntarily by the students themselves through their allowance money. "The Community Impact Award reinforces with our kids the importance of giving back," said Allred. "To know that the donation money came directly from the students' allowances as a way for them to say thanks for all that Barre Fire does is truly an honor," said Chief Rogowski.

On the last Saturday and Sunday of August, the land along the river was transformed from wilderness into the site of the Medicine River Powwow in Gilbertville, where Native American craft vendors, singers, dancers and drum groups travelled from as far away as Canada to partake in the week-end's festivities. Among rows of tents, a variety of Native-inspired jewelry, tools, crafts, ceremonial sages and herbal remedies were for sale. Although visitors did wander up and down the rows to see what merchants had to offer, the heart of the powwow was the circle. For hours, people sat under the shade of canopies, in lawn chairs and spread out across the grass to enjoy watching and encouraging those who felt moved to enter the arena.

Members of the Woods Memorial Library monthly book club had the opportunity to talk to an author of a book. Well known fiction writer, Jamie Brenner, skyped in during the August meeting to discuss and answer questions about her recent novel, "The Forever Summer." "I have never skyped with an author before, though I have written to an author via email and received a response the next day," library assistant and book club facilitator, Julia Palmer said. "I commented on one of Jamie Brenner's Instagram posts and mentioned our book club was featuring her book." Much to Palmer's surprise, not only did Brenner respond to her post, but she followed up by offering to call or Skype if the times worked with her schedule," said Palmer.

10 years ago (Sept. 5, 2013)

Barre Selectmen received an update on the proposed communication tower to be built off Pleasant Street. Meghan Kellaher, director of Rutland Regional Dispatch along with Mark Keddy, a consultant and project manager, told selectmen at their Tuesday night meeting that additional geotechnical tests are needed before the project can go out to bid. Previous test borings completed on the site lack some of the information regarding rock analysis that the vendors will need. Keddy said it takes about four weeks for the answer to arrive once it is ordered. Once the foundation is completed and the tower arrives on site, it takes about two days for it to go up.

LOOK BACK Golden Age Club Fair - 1992



File photo

Members of the Golden Age Club create a domestic scene from days gone by to greet fairgoers last weekend. Pictured from left, are Dorothy Franciose, Louise Keddy, Phyllis Southwick and Victoria Hopkins keeping busy with their sewing projects. The idea for the setting came from Viola Belcher.

Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts congratulated Lauren Beauregard for earning the Girl Scout Gold Award. Lauren was presented the Gold Award, Girl Scouts top honor, at the Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts Girl Scout Gold and Silver Award Ceremony held on Sunday, June 9 at Mechanics Hall in Worcester. She earned her Gold Award for her project "Alliance Against Violence." Her project focused on the needs of children in domestic violence shelters and the growing epidemic of teen dating violence. Lauren organized collection drives for school supplies and filled 75 backpacks that she donated to children at local shelters. She developed a Healthy Relationships/Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Education Program she presented to high school health classes.

An East Hill Road resident told Oakham Selectmen that his neighbor burns every day from an open pit and the smoke drifts into his yard. He explained the neighbor burnt paper and trash, not just wood and the odor was so unpleasant he and his wife kept all the windows in their house closed and cannot be out in their yard. Fire Chief Tom Snay said he received a call about the rash burning and found the individual burning sticks and pine needles in a barbecue pit. The chief asked him to put out the fire. Chief Snay said he needed to be called when the fire burning was going on and he would respond to the site with a police officer to see what he was burning.

25 years ago (Sept 3, 1998)

An exchange teacher from China Li Xumei, pronounced "Lishomahy," was formerly welcomed at a grand banquet Aug. 24 at Yen Yen Restaurant in Gardner hosted by the Quabbin Regional School District. Li will be helping to teach Chinese classes at the high school and will be a visiting lecturer at all the schools in the district. She will be staying in Hardwick

at the home of Diane Mammone, Chinese and Asian Studies teacher at Quabbin High School. At the banquet, Li said she was pleased with the warm welcome she received from everyone since she stepped off the plane at Bradley International Airport on Aug. 21. Li's journey from her home in Hohhot, Inner Mongolia took 40 hours.

Businesses that fail to file a business certificate with the town clerk will be fined, according to Barre Town Clerk Ellen Glidden. She sent letters out to about 40 or 50 businesses last month informing them that is a state law that businesses must be registered with the town. The letter said, "Violations were subject to a fine of not more than \$300 for each month during which the violation continues." According to Glidden, there are 156 businesses register with the town. She knows there are many more that aren't registered, based on a recent listing of businesses by the Barre Business Association. Glidden said businesses must complete a two page business certificate and send it to hear along with a check for \$20.

Permission has been given by the 225th Anniversary Committee to members of the Barre High School Alumni to sponsor Barre's Olde Home Day on Sunday, July 18, 1999. The 225th Anniversary Committee will sponsor many events all day on July 17, including a parade and fireworks.

38 years ago (Sept. 5, 1985)

At an Aug. 28 hearing at the Town Hall the Barre Sewer Commissioners announced a \$3.31 million figure as the town's share of the proposed sewer treatment plant. At the meeting, attended by about 50 people, the commissioners said they and other town officials agree to take the \$3.31 million figure to the townspeople for approval at the Sept. 5 Special Town Meeting. The \$3.31 million does not include the \$400,000

See PAST PAGES, page 5

Guest Column

Quaboag Hills Substance Use Alliance

Addiction Recovery

The simple things I did every day to keep me sober!
By Suzanne Yerdon Lewandowski, M.Ed. 30 years sober, 28 years without smoking, 24 years eating disorder free

Recovery from addiction is hard. Very hard!
I thought I'd be different when I first emerged from treatment. The alcohol was out of my system, and I felt great.

I didn't need therapy or groups. Not me!
Just let me go on with my life. I relapsed the very next day - just needed enough vodka to take off the edge. I needed that relief every day until I returned to detox two years later.

A few days out - relapse again. A year later, after a 12-hour black-out, I knew I had to change.

Addictions break up families, wreak havoc on finances, traumatize children, and create homelessness, joblessness, and often court-ordered restrictions.

The stress in early recovery is intense. There are so many things over which you have no control and overwhelming feelings can send you into relapse.

It is important to focus on what you can do, that very minute, when intense cravings invade your mind.

I now have the luxury of looking back on my long and complicated journey. There are simple, yet interconnected suggestions which can be done on a moment's notice while awaiting resolution of the "big stuff" such as regaining a license, finding a job, paying off fines, etc.

They will provide a sense of accomplishment that is vital in early recovery.

1. Sleep is essential in early recovery, especially during withdrawal, so the brain and body can begin to repair the disrupted circuitry. Going to bed at the same time every night will help you set a routine.

2. Eat a healthy diet and stay hydrated; both physical and mental health improve from a balanced diet.

3. Add exercise into your schedule to release endorphins and reduce stress. Movement also helps reshape your brain by decreasing anxiety, improving mood, and increasing quality sleep.

4. Take a hike and improve cardio-respiratory fitness. Additionally, creative juices flow more freely, and brainpower increases. Walking or hiking on uneven terrain will improve your balance. Scents, sounds and sights of nature have a calming effect on the mind.

5. Build connections with others to reduce loneliness and isolation. Having a support system, such as sober friends, counselling, and attending peer recovery support meetings such as AA, SMART (Self-Management and Recovery Training) Recovery, Refuge Recovery, and a range of other peer-led meeting options will reduce chances of relapse.

6. Rediscover past interests or create new passions. Hobbies improve emotional wellness by relieving stress and reducing emotional triggers.

Speaking of routine, create one. Get up at the same time every morning, even if you are not working. Move! Stretch. Eat breakfast. Take a walk.

Recommendations one through four within the first hour or two. Then fill in your day making connections and going to meetings.

These tips can help keep you even-keel through this challenging journey of abstinence. For me however, sobriety truly progressed into sustainable recovery when I integrated #6 into daily life - rediscovered past interests.

My final sobriety came in the garden.

See SUBSTANCE ABUSE, page 6

Turley Publications Letters to the Editor Policy

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Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

Rain, rain go away big Janie wants to weed the gardens.

She also would like the mosquitoes to go away also. I wasn't able to watch the Dinghy Dash at Brigham Pond on Saturday, but I saw a video of it.

My handyman won first prize in the adult class. He decorated his boat like an eagle in flight.

I was sorry to read the passing of Patricia Thompson Sirois. She was a Hubbardston resident before moving to Barre.

This week I got the items ready for sale at a craft show that will be held the end of September. I also decided it was time to clean out the linen closet and found I had just too many sheets. I picked over the best ones and my son-in-law will use the others for rags for his business.

Another thing I have too many of are washcloths that need to be used for rags. I also picked over the valances and will give away some I don't use any more. It is time to downsize.

My next project will be to pick over the cosmetics that are too old to be used and medicine that should be disposed of.

Here is a recipe I plan to make this week that I got out of the Heywood Hospital Recipe Book.

OVEN BAKED CHICKEN PARMIGIANA

- 1 cup reduced-calorie Italian dressing
 - 2 cups flavored bread crumbs
 - 3 1/4 cups grated Parmesan cheese
 - 4 boneless, skinless chicken breast halves
- Place dressing in a shallow bowl. Mix bread crumbs and cheese together in a second bowl. Coat a chicken breast with dressing and then place on top of crumbs. Cover both sides of the breast with crumbs and press in firmly. Place chicken on a cookie sheet that has been

sprayed with nonstick cooking spray. Spray tops of chicken with cooking spray.

Bake in a preheated oven 400 degrees for 20 minutes, turning after 10 minutes. Serves 4.

Note: If you want to just serve two people you can reduce the amount of chicken breasts and half of the cheese and crumbs.

This and That
It is hard to believe that students and teachers will be going back to school now. Where did the summer go? It was it so rainy that we did not see the sun enough.

I wonder how the situation with the widening of Main Street in Hubbardston affects the children, who have to walk to school.

I was glad to see new surfaces on Cross Road. So many smaller roads in town need to be resurfaced. Pitcherville Road and High Street are two that come to mind.

I did not get to go to the flea market this week so I missed my fun day.

I understand they had 75 people at the barbecue at the Senior Center. We decided not to go as the parking would be a problem and neither of us can walk far.

Most of the blueberries are now gone, but I hope we get some plums and pears. The apples were not sprayed so they may not be good to eat.

Bears are still doing a lot of damage around town. I believe the Department of Wildlife needs to do something to curb their actions and stop putting the bears from the city to the country for us to deal with. They are so destructive especially with those trying to raise bees for the honey and for those trying to have hens for laying eggs.

Have a good week and I hope the sun shines some days as my lawn needs to be mowed.

and show slight coloration. You can also use this trick just prior to the last frost.

Pick all of your unripe fruit and try it!

Taste is sacrificed here somewhat - think of a grocery store tomato but maybe a step above. I usually risk the inevitable cracking after a storm because the whole point of growing your own tomatoes is to eat them ripened by the sun!

There are a few varieties that are touted as being resistant to cracking. I have never grown a cherry tomato, at least in my most recent memory, that was truly crack resistant, but I am willing to experiment.

You may wonder what I do with all the tomatoes I pick.

After separating out the bad tomatoes, I cut the good ones in half, added a splash of olive oil, some garlic cloves and slivers of basil and set it all in a shallow roasting pan at 375 degrees. I moved them around every 20 minutes or so, taking the tray out in about an hour, after the skins had blistered.

You can either eat the roasted tomatoes this way, as a chunky topping for pasta or pizza or blend it into sauce. Add seasonings to your specific taste. It can be frozen either way.

Cherry tomatoes are also great dehydrated or sun dried. One summer years ago I sliced some and set them on a tray in the greenhouse at work.

The greenhouse was closed up for my annual weed and bug "fry." In a matter of two days, I had the tastiest little tidbits.

It's amazing how all that tomato flavor can be so incredibly concentrated in this round disk! I stored them in a zip lock bag in the fridge.

Some people don't feel it necessary to refrigerate sun dried tomatoes, but I wanted to be extra cautious since I didn't use any sort of preservative on the fruit.

Dehydrators are all different. I think it took at least 8 hours for ours to produce that leathery, "done" texture.

Sun dried tomatoes are a great pizza topping, and can be blended into hummus or other savory dishes.

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

at the call of master storyteller and historian Larry Buell to begin another trek into the annals of an older Petersham. Among his early remarks was that a certain Mrs. Houghton could truthfully call herself the "most beautiful woman in Petersham" as she was the only woman in the newly made town at that time. Starting at the head of the present South Main Street, he spoke of the Baptist church and its adjoining parsonage, just south of the Village Cemetery. In this church was a real baptismal font. The house of worship was used up to the 1940s.



By Ellenor Downer

Black-crowned night heron



The Massachusetts Audubon Society reported the sighting of a black-crowned night heron in Pittsfield.

The black-crowned night heron is about 25 inches long and is gray and white. It is a stocky heron with pale yellow legs, which turn reddish in the breeding season.

The immature is brown with white streaks below and large, buff white spots on its back and wings. It keeps its immature plumage for two years. The immature black-crowned night heron is distinguished from the yellow crowned night heron by its greenish-yellow lower bill. The yellow-crowned has a dark bill.

Although the night heron will feed by day, as its name implies this species feeds mostly at night or at dusk. They roost in trees.

It feeds on fish, amphibians, insects and small mammals. It also will eat the young of other bird species such as terns, herons and ibises. They inhabit freshwater streams, lakes, rice field, dry grassland and salt marshes.

These herons nest either in colonies or singly. The

female lays three to five pale blue green eggs in a nest of twigs, reeds and finer material placed against a tussock or in the reeds, shrub or trees up to 160 feet.

When greeting other black-crowned night herons, they stretch their necks horizontally with breeding plumes on the head raised and they touch bills. They make a low, hoarse "quok" sound often heard at dusk. During nesting, they make a "rok rok."

Red-winged blackbirds

I received an email this week from someone who lives in the West Springfield Agawam area. She said, "Red-winged blackbirds are one of my favorite birds, but I always wondered why they leave the area so early?" She also said, "I go to areas where I know they nest, but never see them after mid-July or so."

Red-winged blackbirds are one of the first to arrive in early spring with the males coming first, then the females. They migrate anytime from late August to early October and gather in flocks for the trip south.

Audubon Society sightings

Other Audubon Society sightings reported for August in Berkshire include an alder flycatcher in Washington and a yellow-bellied flycatcher at the Jug End State Reservation in Egremont. In Hampshire County, four sandhill cranes were at East Meadows in Northampton and four more sandhill cranes at the Arcadia Sanctuary.

Migrants tallied at Quabbin Park in Ware included four common nighthawks, two yellow-bellied flycatchers and four Cape May warblers. In Worcester County 14 Common Mergansers were seen near fishing area #3 at Quabbin Reservoir in Petersham and four Bonaparte's Gulls were tallied along the Dana shoreline in Petersham.

Two black vultures were seen soaring over Mt. Wachusett in Princeton and in Paxton there was a Cerulean warbler. Mount Wachusett is a popular spot for birders to view hawk migrations during September and October. Two Cape May warblers were seen at the Moose Hill Wildlife Area.

Wild turkeys

It seems wild turkeys are everywhere. I have seen groups of three or four Tom turkeys and much larger groups of hens and their poults. Several times I stopped while a large flock of hens and youngsters crossed the road.

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



Cherry tomatoes cracked? Mine are too.

I love it when my good friends pose me gardening questions.

Lots of times I turn the questions into columns. My friend Jacque sent a text with a question about her cherry tomatoes.

She was curious if she could eat them even though they were cracked. Alas, I will delve a little deeper into this topic.

Tomatoes crack when the inside of the fruit expands at a rate that the outer skin can't support. Usually, a soaking rain after a period of drought causes this to happen.

This year we have had pretty constant precipitation, but the cracking happened anyway. As soon as the rain ended a couple days back, I went out to the garden and began picking my cherry tomatoes.

Anything that cracked in my hand or when I put it into the basket could be used.

Cracked fruit still on the plant that had started to heal over I decided to give to the chickens. I didn't want to risk eating fungus, mold or bacteria from fruit flies in the fruit that had scabbed over.

If you don't have chickens, the fruit is perfectly safe to add to the compost pile.

There is little you can do to stop tomatoes from cracking. Some people purposely pick almost ripe tomatoes prior to a storm, and let them finish ripening on the counter.

You can also pick unripe tomatoes and place them in a bag with a ripening banana or an apple and the ethylene gas they release will induce ripening.

For this to work, the tomatoes have to feel softish

PAST PAGES, continued from page 4

needed to rehabilitate the existing sewer system at the Barre Wool Complex in South Barre. This existing system, which is currently flowing into the Ware River would, however, be tied into the proposed town's disposal system.

The dam by the Barre reservoir has questionable ownership and poses a threat to Charles G. Allen Co according to Charles G. Allen II. From as far back as 1981, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers deemed the dam was unsafe. Since that time, further inspections have taken place, including one by the stat this past April, in which it was noted that considerable property damage and possibly loss of lives could occur if the dam failed. Allen is not standing still on this matter. He is pleased some action is being taken, thanks to the efforts of Sen. Robert Wetmore, but he is anxious that the question of ownership be established and that repair or replacement of the dam take place. The area around the reservoir was once owned by the Prince River Association and used for recreational purposes. However, that association disbanded years ago and who owns it now is the current question.

On a recent summer evening, about 50 people of all ages gathered on the South Common in Petersham

Great Falls Discovery Center lists events

TURNERS FALLS – Great Falls Discovery Center, 2 Avenue A, lists free September programs.

An adult must accompany children. Inclement weather cancels outdoor programs. The Visitor Center is open Tuesdays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Wednesdays through Sundays from 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

The Great Hall Exhibit is ongoing from Saturday, Sept. 2 to Monday, Oct. 2. Karen Axtell presents, Intervals, mixed-media prints about time on handmade paper, layered with oil and water-based materials. The prints reference the rings of trees, the depth of rivers, the shape of leaves, ebb of tides, phases of the moon and more.

The StoryWalk® is "Agua, Agüita" by Jorge Argueta for readers age 4 and up. It is ongoing now through Tuesday, Sept. 26. This is a free, self-guided walk on the center's grounds and features a bilingual picture book.

The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, Vermont and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. StoryWalk® is a registered service mark owned by Ferguson. This StoryWalk® is provided by Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Interpretive Services.

Nice and easy walks will take place on Fridays, Sept. 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 from 1-2 p.m. This is a one to two-mile guided walk, along the Canalside Rail Trail or downtown Turners Falls, geared for seniors, but open to all ages. A DCR Park Interpreter highlights natural and local history along the way. Participants should wear appropriate clothing for the weather and sturdy footwear and bring water. They meet outside the main

entrance.

Kidleidoscope Story Hour takes place on Fridays from 10:30-11:30 a.m. for ages three to six. On Friday, Sept. 1 the topic is butterflies, Sept. 8 dragonflies and Sept. 29 raptors. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Program includes a story, activities, and a craft.

Activities are indoors and outdoors, weather permitting. Siblings and friends welcome. They should meet in the Great Hall.

Great Falls Coffeehouse presents Jim Eagan and Anand Nayak on Friday, Sept. 8 from 7-9 p.m. in the Great Hall. There will be a mix of folk and folk blues with ginger-style guitar from Jim Eagan and Anand Nayak. Refreshments available. Sliding scale suggested donations, all in support of educational programming at the Center.

Canal draw down history stroll takes place Wednesday, Wednesday, Sept. 13 from 5-6:30 p.m.

Participants will check out the annual draining of the Turners Falls canal, take a stroll along the Canalside Rail Trail and absorb local history with Northfield Mountain Recreation and Environmental Center staff, historian Ed Gregory and DCR staff. They should meet at the main entrance of the Center for this free two mile walk on flat terrain.

Art naturally series will be held Saturday, Sept. 16 from 10:30 a.m.-noon in Great Hall.

Using words and images, instruction, and techniques participants create an art piece inspired by the natural

world to take home. The program is for adults, teens, and children ages 6 and up, accompanied by an adult. All art materials are provided.

On Sunday, Sept. 17 from 10:30 a.m.-noon participants will learn how to use an origami microscope at Great Hall. Ornithologist Ezekiel "Zeke" Jakub, co-founder of the non-profit Conservacion Panama, presents "adventures in the microcosmos," an opportunity to observe tiny parts of the world up close and get an introduction to scientific methods and conservation, all while using a Foldscope. Free. Registration required. People should call 413-863-3221 to sign-up. The program is for children and families ages 9 and up.

An artist reception for Karen Axtell will be held Sunday, Sept. 17 from 2-4 p.m. in the Great Hall.

On Saturday, Sept. 23 from 10 a.-noon there will be a fall trash cleanup along the Connecticut River

People may join DCR staff to clean-up the Canalside Rail Trail. To register, they should visit bit.ly/canalside2023 or call DCR staff at 413-863-3221 for more information. They should meet at the

Public historian Tom Goldscheider discusses Franklin County precision steel tool manufacturing, where it was a world leader for generations on Saturday, Sept. 30 from 2-3:30 p.m. in the Great Hall.

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Community Newspaper

ADVERTISING Works!

Country Bank announces recent promotions

Jessica McGarry has been promoted to Senior Vice President, East Region Commercial Lending Team Lead. She has over 20 years of experience in the banking industry and has been a commercial lender in the Worcester market for the past ten years, with the entirety of her career spent in a community bank setting.

McGarry earned her bachelor's degree in business from Nichols College, received the Forty Under 40 designation in 2014 from the Worcester Business Journal and was a member of the Leadership Worcester class of 2015-16. She also gives back to the commu-

nity, currently serving on the Board of the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce and the Worcester Business Development Corporation. Additionally, she remains active in volunteer opportunities through various organizations, including Habitat for Humanity, Be Like Brit and the Community Harvest Project.

Shantie Prasad, Cindy Saucier and Blair Robidoux have been promoted to Assistant Vice Presidents, Retail Banking. Shantie Prasad has over 26 years of sales and leadership experience, most recently serving as

the Retail Banking Officer of the Park Avenue, Worcester location.

Prasad graduated from The New England School for Financial Studies in 2022, and is highly active in the Worcester community. She serves on the Board for the Learning First Foundation and the YWCA, and serves as an Ambassador for the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Cindy Saucier has over 20 years of banking and leadership experience, serving as the Retail Banking Officer of the Charlton Banking Center. She graduated from the New England School for

Financial Studies in 2021 and is a Board Member and Vice Chair for the Central Mass South Chamber of Commerce, along with various non-profits and committees within the Charlton community.

Blair Robidoux currently leads the West Street Banking Center and has over 17 years of experience in the retail division.

Blair has held various roles throughout her tenure at Country Bank and graduated from the New England School for Financial Studies in 2019. Throughout her career, Blair has been an integral part of the community within her market

and treats every interaction as an opportunity to make a difference for her customers. Blair serves on the Board of the Ware Business and Civic Association.

"Congratulations to Jess, Blair, Cindy and Shantie. We are excited to announce their promotions, not just in recognition of their contributions to the Bank's success but also because each individual's history with the Bank demonstrates the various career paths available in community banking. We are committed to helping each team member identify their career goals and work with them to reach those

objectives. Their performance contributes to the Bank's overall success, and we're pleased to be able to promote these individuals for their hard work and dedication to the organization," said Miriam Siegel, First Senior Vice President, Chief Culture and Development Officer of Country Bank.

Country Bank serves Central and Western Massachusetts with 14 offices in Ware, Palmer, West Brookfield, Brimfield, Belchertown, Wilbraham, Ludlow, Leicester, Paxton, Charlton, Springfield and Worcester.



The fields were ready for visitors to the Powwow.

POWWOW, continued from page 1

alluded to while preparing for the first day was the amount of friendships he and his family have made throughout their time running the Powwow.

"For 15 years, we gathered a great group of friends...offering something a little different, a little special," said Hay.

The Medicine River Powwow features many traditional events including the women's cast iron skillet toss, potato dance, Mother's Honor Dance, Red Road Meetings, community fire and storytelling, and drumming.

Drum shows are very popular at the powwow with numerous groups participating. This year, three groups of drummers attended the annual Powwow.

Out of New Hampshire is the group Heavy Rain. Out of Massachusetts and Canada is Sacred Earth Singers. Out of Quebec, Canada is L'Esprit Des Vents- Spirit of the Winds, an all-female drum group.

Along with the entertainment,

a new addition to the Medicine River Powwow is a food truck provided to serve their visitors.

When the Powwow arrives, the most important idea the Hays hope to share is to have everyone feel welcome and grow their community.

"Our event is all inclusive, everyone is equal, and we're interested in building our community," said Hay.

The Powwow is a fun gathering event to learn about many Native American traditions and cultures. Tony and Mya plan to continue their tradition by having the event in what they believe is a kind community.

"The local public has been very kind to us," they said.

One regular vendor at the Powwow was Glenn Bentz and his Haudenosaunee living history. Bentz of New York is a sage, a teacher of old ways. His program, Haudenosaunee involves the teachings of his native culture that he has been doing for 25 years.

One of his main subjects of the program includes teaching about the first five native nations that date back to 1124 A.D. The

confederation brought together the tribes of Seneca, Cayuga, Onondaga, Oneida, and Mohawk.

Bentz is of the Seneca tribe and has ancestors going back seven generations.

Along with his teachings, Bentz displayed many old trade items. These items including furs, weapons, and tools were items traded with European settlers.

The teachings by Bentz involve a lot of history and life lessons; many Bentz hopes his students will take into consideration.

"Always take into consideration every decision you make, think of the seven generations ahead. What effect will it have on them," said Bentz. A great learning experience that is part of the Medicine River Powwow.

The Powwow also supports funds for Angel's Answer, Inc. out of Ware. The annual Powwow takes place every fourth weekend in August and will be back in Gilbertville next year.

Medicine River can be found on Facebook and can be contacted via email at Medicinriver@com-cast.net.

BOARD, continued from page 1

let Jessica Bennett, the executive secretary for the QRSD School Committee know as well.

Municipal Aggregation Vendor

Paul Gomer, a consultant for Mass. Power Choice zoomed in with the Select Board. Francois Steiger of the Planning Board said before the town negotiates with an electrical provider for Hubbardston certain steps have to be taken. He said Gomer would engage with the providers.

Steiger said in the process every resident in town would be opted in and anyone that did not want to use the selected electrical provider would have to opt

out. Select Board member Peter Walker questioned why the policy was not to opt in rather than out. Steiger said it was the way the Department of Public Utilities set it up. Without the opting out clause the provider would not get enough customers for it to be worthwhile.

The only exception to the opt out clause would be those residents, who have already signed with a provider. However, they could opt in to the new provider if they wanted.

The town would sign a contract with an electrical provider for typically two years. Before moving forward with the process, the Select Board must sign a pre-rogative to pursue. The Board voted in the affirmative.

STM date

Town Administrator Nathan Boudreau said Thursday, Oct. 26 was a date to hold a Special Town Meeting, which worked best for the Town Clerk, Moderator and him. Presently, articles include voting the increase school assessment and redoing the money transfer to the Cable Committee from Public Education Government funds into two articles, one for this year and one for last year's deficit. Since the other four Quabbin Regional School District member towns approved the QRSD Committee budget, Hubbardston, who voted a lower amount at Annual Town Meeting, must fund the original amount.

HUBBARDSTON, continued from page 1

He said the cost to the average home owner would have been between \$100 to \$200 more per year in taxes. He said the passing of an override road earmarked for roads was the "only way" to fix the road situation.

He said roadwork was 15 years behind when he came into the job. Select Board Chair Jeff Williams said this was not a new problem; the town neglected the roads for years due to lack of funds.

Select Board Chair Williams

said the town was in a "financial crisis" with expenditures higher than revenue. He said the town could not continue to sustain itself this way.

One resident said it was over 25 years since her road had any work done to it. It was 30 years since Hale Road had any work done to it.

Town Administrator Nathan Boudreau said he was working on and prioritizing what would pass in a proposition 2 1/2 override or debt exclusion. He said an override would be voted at town meeting and then required a ballot vote an election. He called the passing

in a ballot vote "the hard part."

He said eventually an override needed to pass to remedy the situation. Select Board Vice-Chair Katie Young said the Town Administrator was putting together an override proposal, which would pass.

At a meeting the beginning of the month, the Town Administrator said of 50 ballot question votes for an override only 13 passed. They were all debt exclusions to fund capital expenditures and ended with the payoff of the loan. None were proposition 2 1/2 overrides, which last forever.

OAKHAM, continued from page 1

We have held two town wide clean up and recycling events and added services like sharps disposal.

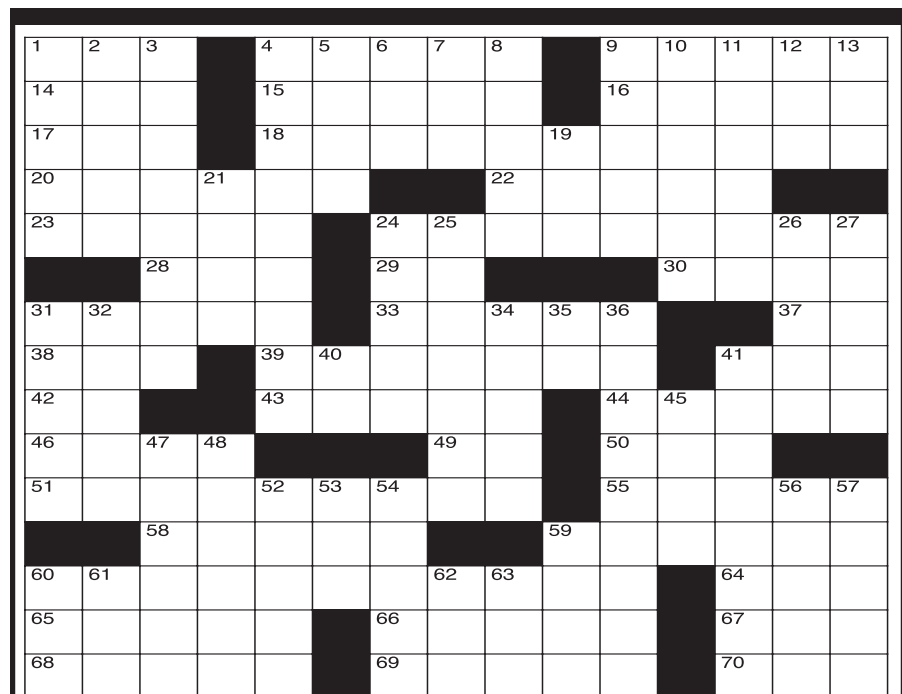
I sought and we received several thousand dollars in grant

funding for public health emergency supplies and equipment, far better equipped for the next emergency.

I advocated for an administrative clerk to be added to our BOH team and for joining a regional health coalition, providing a full comprehensive suite of

public health services, that cities and large towns offer and fully funded by the Commonwealth.

As a selectman, I seek a more transparent and stronger Oakham, inclusive of input from all residents, boards and departments. -better prepared for the future.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Midway between east and southeast
4. At right angles to a ship's length
9. William Penn's business partner
14. ___ de plume
15. Accomplished soccer coach
16. Bone cavities
17. ___ juris: independent
18. Popular Philly sandwich
20. Northern Ireland county
22. Performing artist
23. S S S
24. Lacks flavor
28. Commercials
29. Anno Domini (in the year of Our Lord)
30. Qatar's capital
31. Indigenous peoples of Alberta
33. Popular footwear
37. Indicates position
38. Anglican cathedral
39. Aircraft part
41. Before
42. Blood group
43. Secretary organ
44. Fencing swords
46. The small projection of a mammary gland
49. Technological advancement
50. Male parent
51. Dissociable
55. More cold
58. Cape Verde Islands capital
59. Blood disorder
60. Creative
64. Sun up in New York
65. Made angry
66. Relieves
67. Brooklyn hoopster
68. Seasonings
69. Movable barriers
70. Attempt
2. Spiritual essences
3. Representative
4. Entering
5. Nobel Prize-winning physicist
6. Midway between northeast and east
7. Consumed
8. Tablelands
9. Kids' craft accessory
10. Not known
11. Sound directed through two or more speakers
12. A major division of geological time
13. Wild ox
19. Shock treatment
21. Turner and Lasso are two
24. Genus of flowering plants
25. Relating to ductless glands
26. Stock certificate
27. Satisfies
31. Places to enjoy a rest
32. Edward ___, author and writer
34. "___ but goodie"
35. One hundredth of a liter
36. Shabbiness
40. TV personality Roker
41. Triangular upper part of a building
45. Speed at which you move
47. Offend
48. A reference point to shoot at
52. Forays
53. Biblical city
54. Blatted
56. Northern sea duck
57. Shabby (slang)
59. Allege
60. Tax collector
61. Whereabouts unknown
62. Chinese philosophical principle
63. Indicates equal

ANSWERS ON PAGE 12

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SUBSTANCE ABUSE, continued from page 4

Despite almost three decades of addiction, my athletic ability, creativity, and love for the outdoors had never left me; these became the building blocks for my new foundation. As I faced life on life's terms, I filled in pieces one day at a time.

The picture of my future puzzle was evolving. Within six years I had become strong enough to quit smoking and end the eating disorder.

Years later I found my recovery so aptly encapsulated by Marilyn Barrett, author of "Creating Eden: The Garden as a Healing Place."

Come into the garden with me. Don't worry about not knowing your way: Your heart remembers, even if your head has forgotten.

When you were small and first had time to create your dreams, you were at one with the earth you played in and with each leaf, bird, and cloud you saw. This is the garden to which I invite you to return.

Imagine a place to which you can bring stress, sorrow, loneliness, and confusion and from which you can leave with a sense of resolution, understanding, and calm. Imagine a place where you can express your own unique nature, create beauty, grow pure

food, and gain control over your life.

In my life, the garden has been such a place.

Marilyn so aptly wrote that the garden is a place for "clearing away anger, confusion, and pain, the trash of the past." She added this clearing "is a prerequisite to achieving inner peace, balance and harmony" and people "must sort through the emotional rubble of the past they have inherited, and they must get to the roots of attitudes and behavior patterns that have stunted their growth."

Now is a great time for being outside to deal with "the trash of the past" by remembering your strengths, creating a mindful place, and building resilience for your recovery journey. Try interweaving the different therapies (see below) into your puzzle when you feel stuck or restless.

Volunteering is another way to experience different options while learning new skills! This is how I found that special spark ignited new passions and a life that surpassed any dreams.

Animal-Assisted Therapy has been shown to reduce feelings of depression, anxiety, aggression, loneliness, while increasing a sense of calm and unconditional affection. Caring for an animal helps with feelings of purpose and responsibility.

Art therapy helps patients express their emotions, improve

self-esteem, manage addictions, relieve stress, improve symptoms of anxiety and depression and cope with recovery.

Horticultural therapy helps improve memory, cognitive abilities, task initiation, language skills, and socialization.

Music helps in addiction recovery in many ways; it boosts motivation, confidence, and self-expression while reducing physical pain and stress. Additionally, music helps with the emotional pain of past trauma when releasing repressed emotions that arise in sobriety.

The Quabog Hills Substance Use Alliance <https://qhsua.org/>; is a regional coalition serving local communities located in Hampshire, Hampden, and Worcester Counties – the towns of Barre, Belchertown, Brimfield, Brookfield, Hardwick, Hubbardston, Holland, Monson, New Braintree, North Brookfield, Oakham, Palmer, Spencer, Wales, Ware, Warren, and West Brookfield. Join them by going to their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/QHSUA/> or website, www.qhsua.org.

If you or a loved one needs help for substance abuse, call the statewide helpline at 1-800-327-5050 (TTY: 1-800-439-2370); the phone line is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week; you can also go to the website at: <https://hub.helinema.org/findhelp>.

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Hardwick

Hardwick Community Fair Rosette and Blue Ribbon winners



From row from left are Bria (Art), Sadie (4-H), Michaela Jo (Crafts), and Cordelia (Art). Back row from left are Myria (Domestic Arts), Sophia (Scarecrows), and Zoey (Conservation & Nature Photography, Eggs, and Photography).



Submitted Photos by Neil J. Halin Photography
From left are Becky Bottomley (Home Canning); Halley Stillman (Fruits & Vegetables); Mary Ward (Baking); Julie-Anne Croft (Flowers); Laura Grunberg (Literary); and Bob Desilets (Art).

HARDWICK – The 2023 Hardwick Community Fair Rosette (* Best in Class) and Blue Ribbon winners are as follows:

4-H: Sadie Russell*, Aubrey Savino, Summer Keddy, Abbie Russell, Carter Keddy and Annie Russell

Art Youth: Bria Duncan*, Owen Twarog*, Cordelia Grandinetti*, Erik Duncan, Hannah Fanelli, Oliver Langlois, Molly Hamm, William Wentworth, Camilo Brens, Katy Twarog, Eden Fanelli, Sophia Pascale, Elena Johnson and Isabelle Wentworth

Art Adult: Jenni Dimauro*, Ellie Shea, Laura Grunberg, Jennifer Mott and Mike Begin

Baking Youth: Madeline Boyko, Michaela Jo Dias, Silas Stukuls-Barrieau, Otto Raymond, Reese Jamieson, Sofia Serrano, Allie Kolenda, Hannah Beaulieu and Marin Goddard

Baking Adult: Mary Ward*, Blanche Carlson, Jennifer Purcell, Jessica Bennett, Rita Latulippe, Heidi Reed, Jennifer

Dimauro, Alice May Lowell, Sara Doubleday, Lauren Butkiewicz, Lindsay Richards, Harriet Pindell, Chloe Nadon and Vickie Morin

CATTLE

Overall Champion Female of Show - All Breeds: Diana Andrews*

Beef Showmanship: Ethan Leiton, Emmarie Samia, Meiah Petruzzi and Matthew Sicard

Dairy Showmanship: Lauren Olson, Wyatt Gates and George Gates

Angus: Diana Andrews
Ayrshire: Monica Howe

Belted Galloway: Meiah Petruzzi

Beef/Beef Cross: Dominic Sicard

Dairy/Beef Cross: Ethan Leiton, Matthew Sicard and Aubrey Savino

Brown Swiss: Megan Howe, Sara Doubleday, Michael Cronin and Neal Monson

Hereford: Meiah Petruzzi
Holstein: Abbie Russell, Sadie Russell, Charlie Gates and

Amanda LaPete
Jersey: Annie Russell, Sadie Russell

Scottish Highland: Emmarie Samia

Conservation Youth: Zoey Salvatore*, Veyron Montoya, Magnus Montoya and Devon Bjorklund

Conservation Adult: Seth Peets*, Rachel Perry, Chris Eldredge, Liz Hanson-Cronk, Harriet Pindell, Jim Freeman, Carolynne LaPointe, Amy Vessella and Travis Mankin

Crafts Youth: Michaela Jo Dias*, Rhett Rollet, Eden Fanelli, Hannah Fanelli, Justin Vinskey, Nicholas Dias, Bria Duncan, Emma LaPointe, Erik Duncan, Josh Vinskey, Elena Johnson, Addyson Garceau and Marilyn Richards

Crafts Adult: Harry Comerford*, Rachel Perry, Kay Flick, Lisa Cohen, Patti Schaafe, Nancy Brown, Helen Tarr, Valerie Granger, Lee Ann Brown, Jim Freeman and Amanda Lapete

Domestic Arts Youth: Myria

Dobisch*, Alice Gelineau and Hannah Beaulieu

Domestic Arts Adult: Roberta McQuaid*, Marilyn Frost, Pam Hinckley, Sheryl Blancato, Valerie Granger, Maura Shea, Lisa Cohen, Dawn Thistle, Harriet Pindell, Alice May Lowell, Ellie Shea, Theresa Malboeuf, Lauri Amidon and Irene Prouty

Eggs Youth: Zoey Salvatore* and Justin Vinskey

Eggs Adult: Becky Bottomley, Aaron Graves and Kim Mongeau

Field Crops: Dana Prouty*, Gary Lefevre, Katie Crockett (largest sunflower), Mark Korzec and Sophia Serrano

Flowers Youth: Carter Keddy*, Noah Currier, Hannah Fanelli and Summer Keddy

Flowers Adult: Ashley Gardner, Roberta McQuaid, Marlo Meier, Linda Keddy, Rose Wentworth, Nina Coffman, Faith Stillman, Heidi Reed, Dana Prouty, Sherry Johnson, Meg Haight, Robin Prouty, Julie Ann Croft, Jill Havrilla, Harriet

Pindell and Virginia Rich

Fruits, Vegetables & Herbs Youth: Josh Vinskey*, Mary-Kate Pacek, Emily Beaulieu, Bria Duncan, Henry Beaulieu, Dylan Mace, Josh Vinskey, Braiden Hutchins-Bowles, Jace Hutchins-Bowles, Bennett Kolenda, Carter Keddy, Allie Kolenda, Jackson Currier, Ellie Frost, Noah Currier and Summer Keddy

Fruits, Vegetables & Herbs Adult: Curtis Stillman*, Roberta McQuaid, Becky Bottomley, Faith Stillman, Meg Haight, Natalie Imbier, Stacey Hill, Steve Mitus, Abbie White, Nan Wolverton, Warren Johnson, Red Stillman, Ian Kelly, Linda Jaskariak, Judi Korzec, Susan Bagdonas, Lisa Dibara, Jill Havrilla, Mary Ward and Ryan Witkos

Home Canning Junior: Bennett Kolenda, Ellie Frost and Piper Hager

Home Canning Adult: Becky Bottomley*, Sara Doubleday and Honey Shea

Horseshoes: John P - singles; Billy Purcell and John P - doubles

LEGO's: Joseph Pacek*, Xavier Latulippe, Vivian Michalski, Ryan Bottomley and John Pacek

Literary Competition Youth: Michaela Jo Dias, Bria Duncan, Maria Hamm and Hannah Beaulieu

Literary Competition Adult: Laura Grunberg*, Abbie White and Richard Wronski

Photography Youth: Kayla Stafford*, Zoey Salvatore*, Josh Vinskey*, Veyron Montoya, Eden Fanelli, Finn Nydam, Lily Nydam, Sophia Pascale and Danie Sullivan

Photography Adult: Bob Desilets*, Rachel Montoya (Best Photo taken at the 2022 Hardwick Community Fair), Rachael Beth Hager, Stacey Hill, Harriet Pindell and Lee Ann Brown

Scarecrows Youth: Sophia Pascale*, Joseph Pacek, Sadie Russell, Angelo and Anthony Camp

Scarecrows Adult: Jenni DiMauro* and Rachel Perry

Quabbin Superintendent gives update on HVAC chiller

By Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

HARDWICK – Interim Superintendent of the Quabbin Regional School District Colleen Mucha and Director of Building and Grounds Kevin Clark updated the Selectboard on happenings in the school district.

At the Aug. 28 meeting, Mucha said all of the towns in the school district voted to pay for an HVAC chiller in the middle/high school this past spring. She said New Braintree and Oakham agreed to pay the costs up front, while Hardwick, Barre and Hubbardston would seek borrowing.

"After looking at our regional agreement and people at the meeting bringing up a concern...the towns that needed to borrow, their apportionment would change over the life and terms of the loan. So, if your student enrollment went up, you paid a little bit more... next year if your student enrollment went down, you paid a little bit less."

Mucha said the question was whether or not this was equitable for the towns that paid up front and those that sought funding. She said the school district's legal counsel suggested the towns enter into an intermunicipal agreement, keep apportionment matched to the enrollment of October 2022.

"All five towns have to sign off on it," Mucha said. "If all five towns don't sign it, it would fall back to the regional agreement."

Mucha also discussed guidelines for building improvements, which would provide a clear process for when work is being done on the school buildings.

Clark said this would ensure that if work is being done on a school building, a member of the school district's staff would be there to ensure no issues arise.

Mucha said the school district

is working with local fire departments to train students as EMTs and firefighters. She said the middle/high school also hosted a mini police academy over the summer, with 13 students participating.

Town Administrator's report

Town Administrator Nicole Parker said the first wastewater treatment plant is going out to bid soon for the town's wastewater upgrade project with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

"It's moving along fantastically," she said.

Parker said the financial team is preparing to close out fiscal year 2023 by the end of the month.

She said the Greenwich Road drainage project is underway and she said to expect delays, and if possible, seek alternate routes.

Parker said they are looking at heating options for the Municipal Building, but for this winter they will have to stay with the existing system and be more diligent with flushing.

She said they are looking for an alert system that would notify police, fire, highway and town hall employees if the heating system is starting to fill up too much.

Parker said there was damage to the fields at the Paige Memorial Library caused by parking during the Hardwick Community Fair. The committee is working on getting a quote for repairs.

Firetruck

Selectboard Clerk Eric Vollheim discussed the need for a replacement firetruck. He said firetrucks are "exceedingly expensive" and that one of the Fire Department's two responding engines is out of code.

Vollheim said the Department has submitted a grant application to pay for a new firetruck, but won't know if they will receive

it or not. Repairs to the firetruck would cost \$8,000 and it's only valued at \$5,000.

"We should be putting money away every year, because we're always going to need...a new truck," Vollheim said.

Highway Department

The Selectboard approved the promotion of Zachary Barrett from Laborer to Foreman on the Highway Department. The Selectboard also approved a job description to be posted for an Assistant Superintendent for the Department.

Sewer abatements

Parker said the town's current policy requires sewer abatement to be applied within six months of receiving the invoice. She said other towns allow 30 days after receiving the invoice.

"I think it would be more prudent to do 30 days, so we keep it within the fiscal year," Parker said.

Appointment

Margaret Rising was appointed to the Council on Aging at the recommendation of Council on Aging member Ned Kelly, and the Senior Outreach Coordinator.

"She came highly recommended by the Council on Aging," Parker said.

The Board tabled appointing Elizabeth Cyran and Rick Romano to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Open meeting complaint

The Selectboard acknowledged receipt of an open meeting law complaint, as well as town counsel's response to the Attorney General's office regarding the complaint.

Special event

The Harwick Rod & Gun Club requested an extension of club hours on Oct. 14 for a precision rifle event to be held from 7-11 p.m. The Board approved the request.

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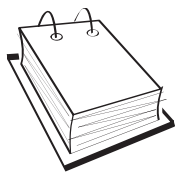
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*Up to a certain amount. You must meet income guidelines.

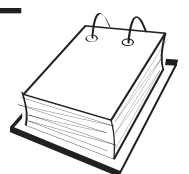
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Calendar of Events



THURSDAY, AUG. 31

ORANGE FARMERS MARKET is held every Thursday from 3-6 p.m. now through Thursday, Oct. 19 at the Orange Armory, 135 East Main St., Orange. Vendors offer a full range of Farmers Market products: veggies (in season), flowers, baked goods, annual and perennial plants, herbal remedies, milk and ice cream, soaps, craft items and more. Music entertainment will also take place at the market thanks to an Orange Cultural Council grant. The Salvation Army hosts the concession stand at the park and proceeds are used to send area children to summer camp.

REGISTRATION FOR JIMMY FUND WALK is now open. The walk is scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 1 and funds raised from the walk support all forms of adult and pediatric patient care and cancer research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Register as an individual walker, team member, or start a team.

To register for the Walk or to support a walker, visit www.JimmyFundWalk.org or call (866) 531-9255. Registrants can enter the promo code NEWS for \$5 off the registration fee.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 2

BARRE FARMERS MARKET is held every Saturday from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on the Barre Common, Barre. The market runs through October and includes farmers, crafters, artisans and more.

CELEBRATION TO HONOR FIRE CHIEF DANA ROBINSON on his retirement by the town of Petersham today at 11 a.m. on the Common, Petersham. The celebration will feature a fire truck parade with apparatuses from neighboring towns, refreshments, cake and presentations. It will be held rain or shine.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 3

PETERSHAM BRASS BAND CONCERT will be held today at 7 p.m. on the Petersham Common, Main Street, Petersham. The band is under the direction of Stuart Britton. In the event of rain, the concert will be held in the Petersham Town Hall.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 7

CLASS OF 1961 REUNION for South Hadley High School Class of 1961 is planning a get-together in South Hadley on Thursday, Oct 5. Members of the Class of 1961 are encouraged to attend. Organizers do not have everyone's contact information, so they most likely did not receive the email sent about this event. Members of the class, who wish to attend, should email Judy Mitrolka Izatt at jizatt@charter.net and put "get-together" in the subject line and she will get back to them with more specific information.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 8

STERLING FAIR will be held at Sterling Airport, 121 Greenland Road, Sterling today, Sept. 9 and Sept. 10. Grange Serves Up Tasty Traditions at the Sterling Fair. The Sterling Grange will have a tent for breakfast. Two pancakes, two sausages, and choice of two beverages (coffee, juice, milk, water) will be served today and Sunday, Sept. 10 from 7 a.m.-11 a.m. for \$8 or a meal of one of each item will be \$5. Maple syrup is being donated by Severance Maple Products of Northfield. On opening day, fairgoers can also treat themselves to a strawberry or peach shortcake today from 5-8 p.m. for \$6.

Proceeds from these events will benefit the Grange Hall Renovation Fund and community service projects. For more information on these events or the Grange in general, email sterlinggrange53@gmail.com or call 508-886-2341.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 9

26TH ANNUAL HUBBARDSTON 5K RUN/WALK to benefit the Hubbardston Library will be held today starting and finishing at the Hubbardston Center School. Applications for the event are avail

Where is this?



Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

This week's mystery photo is from Petersham. 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, Sept. 4. The names of those that correctly guessed the location will appear in next week's edition. Bill Bowles, Stephen Craven, Evelyn Luukko, Bill Mucha and Tom Rawinski, Pat Szafarowicz and Philip Warbasse correctly identified the photo. The photo last week was of the monument in memory of Brian Johnson at Wright Memorial Field, Ware Corner Road.

online by visiting the Hubbardston Library website. Registration is \$30. For additional information on this event, interested runners/walkers or donors can call Mark Wigler, Race Director at 978-928-5120 or email or MTWigler@gmail.com.

CHICKEN BARBECUE AND FAMILY FAIR will be held today from 3-7 p.m. and Sunday, Sept 10 from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Saint Joseph's Parish Rectory Grounds, 28 Mt. Pleasant St., North Brookfield. A chicken dinner eat in or take out will be served Sunday from 1-2 p.m. Cost is \$15 per adults and \$8 per child 12 and under. Other food is available all weekend: hamburgers, hot dogs, fried dough, French fries, pizza, chili, ice cream sundaes and more. DJ Richard "Tabby" LeBlanc will be there on Saturday from 4-7 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. There will be the ever-popular flea market, children's games, baked goods, crafts, assorted raffles as well as a basket raffle and a scratch ticket raffle, which includes a book (50) of \$30 lottery scratch tickets and much, much more. An outdoor Mass will be held on the rectory grounds on Saturday, Sept. 9 from 3 p.m. For chicken dinner tickets and more information, people may call the parish office Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at 508-867-6469.

DRIVE-THRU BREAKFAST will take place today from 8-10 a.m. at the Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St., Barre. Weather permitting tables will be held outside the church. There are two menu choices: a full course breakfast of pancakes, sausage, home fries and scrambled eggs as well as coffee or juice and a fruit cup for \$12 and a breakfast sandwich of egg, ham and cheese as well as coffee or juice for \$6. This is a fundraiser for the church.

12TH BARRE LIONS CLUB CAR SHOW will be held today on Barre Common from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

TO-GO BARBECUE CHICKEN DINNER will be held today with pick-up starting at 5:30 p.m. at the Orthodox Congregational church of Petersham, 21 North Main St., Route 32, Petersham. The menu includes barbecue chicken, baked potato, tossed

salad, corn on the cob and a dessert. Cost is \$15 per meal. Proceeds will help repair weather damage to the church belfry. Reservations are required by calling 978-724-3362.

10TH ANNUAL CHICKEN BARBECUE sponsored by the Three Rivers Firefighters Association will be held today with serving of chicken at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. at Pulaski Park, 40 Belchertown St., Three Rivers. Live entertainment includes Gotta Dance, Slezzy Top and Gobshites. Chicken dinner is \$15 and bands only is \$8. There will be hot dogs and burgers, corn hole, face painting, raffle, bounce house and chug-a-lug. The event runs from 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m.

MONDAY, SEPT. 11

STORY TIME will be held at the New Braintree Public Library, 45 Memorial Drive, New Braintree. This reading and crafts program for preschool children is held twice a month on Mondays at the library Today at 9 a.m., the story will be "Chicka Chicka Boom Boom" by Bill Martin Jr and John Archambault and Monday, Sept 25 at 9 a.m. the story is "Perfect Square" by Michael Hall.

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

TUESDAY, SEPT. 12 FREE LECTURE AND PRESENTATION ON OSTEOPOROSIS will be held today at 12:30 p.m. in the Barre/Hardwick Senior Center, 557 South Barre Road, Barre. The lecture entitled "Understanding Osteoporosis" is with Osteoporosis Fitness Specialist Rhonda Hamer.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 15

SUPPORT GROUP for grandparent raising grandchildren will be held today from 9:30-11 a.m. at Worcester Family Resource Center, 20 Cedar St., Worcester. This group meets the third Friday of every month. People should call 508-796-1411 or email yiwfrycyouice@sevenhillsorg to register or for more information.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 16

CHICKEN BARBECUE will be held at Mt. Zion Lodge Hall, 71 Pleasant St., Barre today with drive thru pick up serving at 1 p.m. Cost is 18 per person. For tickets, people may call Dolly at 508-826-7537.

SECOND ANNUAL YARD SALE will be held by the Barre Historical Society and Museum, 18-20 Common St., Barre will hold their second annual yard sale on today from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. They will sell to members only from 8-9 a.m. with free coffee. Items for sale include new merchandise of books, pamphlets, Barre High School yearbooks, maps, postcards and more. People may email Kay at barre-history@gmail.com or call 978-257-0890 for more information.

HUBBARDSTON LIONS CLUB FIELD DAY will be held today from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Curtis Recreation Field, Route 68, Hubbardston. The First Unitarian Church of Hubbardston will have a booth at Field Day. They will cookies, spices and raffle tickets for a cord of wood and a sampler quilt.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 17

300TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION of the First Congregational Church of Rutland, Main Street, Route 122A, Rutland will be held today at 2 p.m. Sixteen of the church members will share tidbits of church history. A large screen slide show will be shown. There will be music and a recognition of fifty year members. Following the celebration, refreshments will be served in Fellowship Hall where there will be clippings, photo albums, memorabilia and two continuous slide shows from different time periods in the church's life.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 30

HUNTINGTON FALL FESTIVAL will take place today from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and tomorrow, Sunday, Oct. 1 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on the Huntington Town Green, intersection of Routes 20 and 112, Huntington. There will be local artists, food vendors, face painting, crafts, live music and more at this free event.

SUNDAY, OCT. 1

CELEBRATION OF 25TH ANNIVERSARY IN PRIESTHOOD for Father James B. Callahan, pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Church, Vernon Avenue, South Barre will hold a 10 a.m. outdoor Mass followed by a free pig roast dinner. All are invited to this special event.

SATURDAY, OCT. 7

TOWN WIDE YARD SALE will be held today from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at individuals homes and at Normay Park, Main Street, South Barre. To reserve a spot at Normay Park, Main Street in South Barre or to have an address placed on the town wide map, a donation of \$10 is payable and sent to the South Barre Common Committee, 40 West St., Suite 5, Barre, MA 01005. Proceeds benefit the upkeep of Normay Park. The Town Maps may be picked up at Normay Park the day of the yard sale. People may call at 978-355-2504, extension 8 or email to barreboards@townofbarre.com. If there are heavy rains on Saturday, the rain date is Sunday, Oct. 8 at applicants' discretion.

ORTHODOX CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH ART SHOW will be held today from 1-4 p.m. at the church, located at North Street, Petersham as part of the church's bicentennial celebrations. The theme is "Hope and Faith" is open to any medium and has three categories: Depictions of Hope and Faith in a religious context; Depictions of Petersham Orthodox Congregational Church and Symbolic depictions of the Congregational-Unitarian Schism (the Trinity, Trinitarian vs Unitarian, the Social, Emotional or Community pain of Church splitting apart). Drop-off deadline is Friday, Oct. 6 by 5 p.m. More details are available by visiting the church's Facebook page or call the Church, 978-724-8808.

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Panthers set to make an impact



WARREN – Quabbin Regional field hockey has been one of the school's most successful programs in recent memory. Several of the players on the team won the Central Mass. summer league once again this season. The Panthers saw their first fall preseason action at Quaboag last Saturday morning. Their regular season opener is on Wednesday, Sept. 6 at Narragansett.

Haley Ayer sends a pass away.

Turley photos by Jack Cascio NEAP:smugmug.com



Makenzie Casey socks a long hit.



Violet Kelley is all focus as she watches her hit away.



Olivia Breault dribbles up the field.

Pioneers practice



BELCHERTOWN – At Cold Spring Country Club in Belchertown, Pathfinder golf is getting ready for the regular season. The Pioneers are currently scheduled to open up the season on Thursday, Sept. 7 with a home match against St. Mary's at 3 p.m.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Gavin Peters tries to make a nifty play in the air.



Silas Patel gets set to swing.

Pioneers prepare for regular season

PALMER – On Monday afternoon, Pathfinder boys soccer, which now co-ops with Palmer High, got one of scrimmages in with a matchup against nearby Granby. Pathfinder has been a regular contender for both Western Mass. and the state tournament since merging with Palmer. The Pioneers open the season on Sept. 6 at Hampden Charter at 4 p.m.



Robert Williams, Jr. winds up for tee off



Owen Pear chases down the bouncing ball.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Owen Pear chases down the bouncing ball.



Gavin Peters tries to make a nifty play in the air.



Kennedy looks for new additions to Tri-County

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

CHICOPEE—While Mike Kennedy was a three-sport athlete at Holyoke High School forty years ago, his favorite sport has always been baseball.

Kennedy was a member of Holyoke's 1985 state championship baseball team.

"We defeated Boston College High School in the Division 1 baseball state finals," said Kennedy, who played first base. "It was a fun experience, especially being a group of city kids. Baseball has always been my favorite sport."

Holyoke, who defeated B.C. High, 4-2, in the state championship game, finished the 1985 season with a 24-1 record. They squeaked a 1-0 victory over Minnechaug Regional in the Western Mass. finals.

After graduating from High School, Kennedy was a member of the PeoplesBank baseball team in the Tri-County League for the twenty four years. During that time, PeoplesBank won eight Tri-County League championship titles.

Kennedy recently completed his first season as the President of the prestigious Tri-County League. He took over the reins from Don LaValley.

"This is my first year as the league President," Kennedy said. "I think it was a very successful season."

Kennedy has received a lot of support and his right hand man is

Eric Emet

"Eric has been a very big help to me," Kennedy said. "He has kept my head above water in my first year as President."

In his role as the T.C.L. President, Kennedy presented the 2023 championship trophy to PeoplesBank player/manager Joe Ferry.

Top-seeded PeoplesBank didn't have very much trouble sweeping second-seeded Chicopee Falls Tigers in the best of three championship series.

PeoplesBank captured the T.C.L. championship title for the tenth consecutive year, and for the 18th time since 1995.

While PeoplesBank has been the dominant team in the T.C.L. during the past 30 years, there were only five other teams in the league this summer.

Kennedy is looking to add a few more teams before the start of the 2024 season.

"My main goal is to add a few more teams," Kennedy said. "I would like to have at least ten teams in our league during the next couple of years. I want this league to get back to where it used to be."

The three teams that dropped out of the T.C.L. following the 2022 season were Pa'Lante, Easthampton and Teddy's Bear Pool.

On a positive note, 413ATC was a first-year member of the T.C.L. this summer. They finished in third place behind

See TRI-COUNTY, page 10

Sports

Quabbin 2023 fall varsity schedule

FOOTBALL			
Friday, Sept. 8	Away	Gardner	7 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 15	Away	David Prouty	6:30 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 22	Home	Quaboag	7 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 29	Away	Murdock	7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 6	Home	Ayer Shirley	7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 13	Home	Oxford	7 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 21	Away	Narragansett	7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 27	Home	Littleton	7 p.m.
Nov. 3/4	TBD	Week 9 - TBD	TBD
Nov. 10/11	TBD	Week 10 - TBD	TBD
Wednesday, Nov. 22	Home	Gardner	6 p.m.

BOYS SOCCER			
Tuesday, Sept. 5	Away	Oakmont	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 7	Away	Littleton	4 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 12	Home	Maynard	4 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 14	Away	Tahanto	4 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 21	Home	Bromfield	4 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 23	Home	Tyngsborough	3 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 26	Home	Oakmont	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 28	Home	Littleton	4 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 3	Away	Gardner	7 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 5	Away	Maynard	6 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 10	Home	Tahanto	4 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 12	Away	Tyngsborough	5:45 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 17	Away	Bromfield	4 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 19	Home	Fitchburg	6 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 21	Away	Quaboag	2 p.m.

GIRLS SOCCER			
Tuesday, Sept. 5	Home	Oakmont	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 7	Home	Littleton	4 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 12	Away	Maynard	6 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 14	Home	Tahanto	4 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 21	Home	Bromfield	4 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 23	Home	Tyngsborough	1 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 26	Away	Oakmont	7 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 28	Away	Littleton	4 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 3	Away	Gardner	5 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 5	Home	Maynard	4 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 10	Away	Tahanto	4 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 12	Away	Tyngsborough	4 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 17	Home	Bromfield	6 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 20	Away	Fitchburg	4 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 21	Away	Quaboag	12 p.m.

FIELD HOCKEY			
Wednesday, Sept. 6	Away	Narragansett	6 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 11	Home	Oakmont	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 13	Away	North Middlesex	4 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 18	Home	Marlborough	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 20	Home	Westborough	4 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 22	Home	Quaboag	3:30 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 25	Home	Sutton	4 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 29	Away	Hopedale	4 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 2	Away	Oakmont	7 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 4	Home	North Middlesex	4 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 6	Away	Marlborough	4 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 9	Home	Leominster	12 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 11	Away	Westborough	6 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 13	Away	Notre Dame Academy	3:45 p.m.

GOLF			
Tuesday, Sept. 5	Away	Clinton	3:30 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 11	Home	Tyngsborough	3 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 13	Away	Athol	3 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 15	Home	Lunenburg	3 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 19	Away	Littleton	3:30 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 22	Home	Quaboag	3 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 25	Away	Bromfield	4 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 26	Away	Oakmont	3:30 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 29	Home	Bromfield	3 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 2	Home	Oakmont	3 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 3	Away	Tyngsborough	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 5	Away	Lunenburg	3:30 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 9	Home	Clinton	3 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 10	Home	Littleton	3 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 13	Away	Quaboag	3 p.m.

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY			
Thursday, Sept. 7	Away	Leominster	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 13	Home	Hudson	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 20	Away	Littleton	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 27	Away	Lunenburg	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 4	Away	Bromfield	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 11	Home	Tyngsborough	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 18	Home	Oakmont	3:30 p.m.

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY			
Thursday, Sept. 7	Away	Leominster	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 13	Home	Hudson	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 20	Away	Littleton	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 27	Away	Lunenburg	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 4	Away	Bromfield	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 11	Home	Tyngsborough	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 18	Home	Oakmont	3:30 p.m.

Pathfinder 2023 fall varsity schedule

FOOTBALL			
Friday, Sept. 8	Away	Palmer	7 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 15	Away	Athol	7 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 22	Away	Franklin Tech	7 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 30	Away	SICS	6:30 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 6	Home	Monument Mountain	7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 13	Home	Drury	7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 20	Away	McCann Tech	7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 27	Home	Smith Vocational	7 p.m.
Nov. 3/4	TBD	Week 9 - TBD	TBD
Nov. 10/11	TBD	Week 10 - TBD	TBD
Thursday, Nov. 23	Away	Belchertown	9 a.m.

BOYS SOCCER (CO-OP WITH PALMER)			
Wednesday, Sept. 6	Away	Hampden Charter	4 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 8	Home	Athol	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 13	Home	PVCA	4 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 15	Home	Franklin Tech	4 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 18	Away	Smith Vocational	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 20	Home	PVCIC	4 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 22	Away	St. Mary's	4 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 25	Away	Duggan	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 27	Home	Hampden Charter	4 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 30	Away	Athol	1 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 4	Away	PVCA	4 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 6	Away	Franklin Tech	4 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 12	Away	PVCIC	4 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 16	Home	St. Mary's	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 18	Home	Duggan	7 p.m.

GIRLS SOCCER			
Tuesday, Sept. 5	Home	Greenfield	4 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 7	Home	Gateway	4 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 11	Home	Pioneer	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 13	Away	Athol	6 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 15	Away	Renaissance	4 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 19	Home	Franklin Tech	4 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 21	Home	Sizer	4 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 25	Away	Greenfield	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 27	Away	Gateway	6 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 29	Away	Pioneer	4 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 5	Home	Athol	4 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 10	Home	Renaissance	4 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 12	Home	North Brookfield	7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 13	Away	Franklin Tech	4 p.m.

GOLF			
Thursday, Sept. 7	Home	St. Mary's	3 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 11	Away	Central	3 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 12	Away	Westfield Tech	3 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 18	Home	Mohawk	3 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 21	Home	McCann Tech	3 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 28	Home	SICS	3 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 29	Away	Mohawk	3 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 3	Away	St. Mary's	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 5	Home	Central	3 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 11	Home	Westfield Tech	3 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 12	Away	McCann Tech	3 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 17	Away	SICS	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 19	Home	Athol	3 p.m.

Owls picked fifth in preseason poll

WESTFIELD – Westfield State University football has been picked to finish seventh in the Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference in the league's annual preseason coaches' poll. Westfield finished with 19 points. Defending conference champion UMass Dartmouth headed the poll with 63 points and seven of the nine first place votes. Coaches may not vote for their own teams in the polling process. The Corsairs were followed by

Bridgewater State with 53 points, WestConn with 47 points and one first place vote, and Framingham State with 46 points and the other first-place vote. Plymouth State was fifth with 41 points, followed by Mass Maritime (29 points). Westfield ranked ahead of Worcester State (19) and Fitchburg State (10). The Owls return a solid nucleus of veterans, which includes leading rusher Jordan Smith (Coventry, Conn.), quarterbacks Gabriel

Fernandez (Holyoke, Mass.) and Colby Pires (Milford, Mass.). On the defensive side, top tackler Tyler Cooley (Randolph, Mass.) and defensive lineman Cade Nelson (Shrewsbury, Mass.) headline a large group of returnees in the front seven. The Owls have been in preseason camp since Aug. 11. They will kick off the regular season with a non-conference game at Anna Maria on Saturday, Sept. 2 at 12 noon.

North Brookfield 2023 fall varsity schedule

GIRLS SOCCER			
Friday, Sept. 8	Home	Sizer	3:30 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 18	Home	Valley View	3 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 22	Home	Pathfinder	3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 26	Away	Worcester Tech	3:30 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 30	Home	Saint Bernard	10 a.m.
Monday, Oct. 2	Away	Hampden Charter	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 4	Home	Trivium	3:30 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 6	Away	Sizer	3:45 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 12	Away	Pathfinder	7 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 16	Home	Oxford	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 19	Away	Trivium	3:30 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 20	Home	Hampden Charter	4 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 23	Away	Blackstone-Millville	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 25	Home	Blackstone-Millville	4 p.m.

FIELD HOCKEY			
Wednesday, Sept. 6	Home	Montachusett	3:30 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 8	Away	Tantasqua	4 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 11	Home	Quaboag	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 13	Home	Worcester Tech	3:30 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 18	Home	Bay Path	3:30 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 25	Away	Montachusett	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 27	Away	Blackstone Valley Tech	4 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 2	Home	Worcester Tech	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 4	Away	Bay Path	3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 10	Away	Oxford	3:30 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 13	Away	Blackstone Valley Tech	3:30 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 16	Home	Oxford	3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 17	Home	South	5 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 21	Away	Greenfield	12 p.m.
Boys Cross Country			
Tuesday, Sept. 5	Away	South Lancaster	4 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 7	Away	Sutton	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 20	Home	Bay Path	3 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 22	Away	Burncoat	3:30 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 2	Home	David Prouty, Sizer	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 5	Away	Worcester Tech	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 12	Home	South	3:30 p.m.
Girls Cross Country			
Tuesday, Sept. 5	Away	South Lancaster	4 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 7	Away	Sutton	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 20	Home	Bay Path	3 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 22	Away	Burncoat	3:30 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 2	Home	David Prouty, Sizer	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 5	Away	Worcester Tech	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 12	Home	South	3:30 p.m.

Foursomes needed for charity golf tournament

AGAWAM – Registration and signups are currently open and underway for the Sixth Annual "Shoot Fore The Stars To Cure Cancer" Golf Tournament to benefit the Dana Farber Cancer Institute. In the first five years, the event has raised over \$15,000 for cancer research. The four-person scramble event will take place on Monday, Sept. 18 at Wintonbury Hills Golf Course in Bloomfield, CT. The event will be an 11 a.m. shotgun start. There will be prizes up for grabs (Closest to Pin/Long Drive) along with a putting contest. Entry fee covers golf, lunch and dinner. Please contact ShootForeTheStarstoCureCancer@gmail.com for more information. We hope you can join us.

Follow Turley Sports on Instagram

Turley Publications sports department has recently joined Instagram. You can find our account by searching "turleysports." We will regularly feature samples of photos that you will see in our publications on a weekly basis. Please follow and share with your friends and loved ones. We will be featuring photos from all 11 of our sports sections, but as always, you can see all the photos that appear by subscribing to your local paper or picking up a copy in your community.

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TRI-COUNTY, continued from page 9

PeoplesBank and the Chicopee Falls Tigers in the regular season standings. They were swept by the Tigers in the semifinals.

"The 413 team had a bunch of young players," Kennedy said. "For being a first-year team in this league, I thought they had a very good season."

Kennedy is hoping more of the high school and Legion baseball players will join the Tri-County League during the next couple of years.

"What we really need to do is to get the younger baseball players from the area to play in this league," he said. "Most of our current players are older."

The other three T.C.L. teams this summer were St. Joseph's, DiFranco Realty, and the Longmeadow Cardinals.

The Tri-County League teams

play their games on some of the best kept baseball fields in Western Massachusetts.

PeoplesBank homefield is MacKenzie Stadium in Holyoke.

The Chicopee Falls Tigers play their home games at historic Szot Park.

The 413ATC home field was at Westfield State University and St. Joseph's has played their home games at St. Joe's Ballpark in Thorndike for many years.

"All of our baseball fields are high quality," Kennedy said. "Most of the fields have lights, which is always a bonus."

While PeoplesBank will be looking to add another championship title to their collection in 2024, all the other Tri-County League teams will be looking to knock them off the top of the mountain.

Anyone who attended

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Education

Colleges and universities announce Dean's and President's Lists

DEAN'S LIST

University of Maine Farmington, ME

Making the spring Dean's List is Alyssa Holland, high honors.

University of New England Biddeford and Portland, ME

Making spring Dean's List are: Michelle Tremblay of Barre, Delaney Hansen of Rutland and Jacob Sackett of Rutland.

University of Rhode Island Kingston, RI

Making spring Dean's List are: Emily Mitko of Barre, Sarah Barry of Hubbardston, Rebecca Norcross of Hubbardston, Conor Looney of Rutland and Grace Marrier of Rutland.

University of Tampa Tampa, FL

Making spring Dean's List are: Allison Clark of Rutland, senior; Vincent Chiaravalle of Ware, junior and Declan Cady of Rutland, freshman.

Western New England University Springfield

Making spring Dean's List are: Shawn Santiago of Ware, law and society major; Caitlin Cunningham of Ware, psychology major; Ryan Wawro of Ware, finance major; Tori Crevier of Ware, marketing communication/advertising major; Mycenna Loescher of Hubbardston, pharmaceutical business major and Nathan Sullivan of North Brookfield, mechanical engineering major.

PRESIDENT'S LIST

Lyndon/Johnson, VT

Northern Vermont University
Making the spring President's List are Ward Holloway of Barre and Carson Puliafico of Rutland.

Plymouth State University Plymouth, NH

Making the spring President's List are Madison Senecal of Rutland, exercise and sport physiology major and Emma Wilbur of Barre, art and design major.

Western New England University Springfield

Making the spring President's list are: Jason Desantis of Ware, computer science major; Michael Sheed of North Brookfield, computer science major and Seraya Dauksewicz of Ware, marketing communication/advertising major.

Colleges and universities announces graduates

American International Colleges Springfield

Jennifer Beaudreau of Rutland, Master of Education and Luigi Zebrowski of Ware, Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Cedarville University Cedarville, Ohio

Jonathan Rathbun of Hubbardston, Bachelors in Management

Clark University Worcester

Mandy M. Gaudreau of Oakham, Doctor of Philosophy in Biology; Sarah L. Gregory of Hubbardston, Cum Laude Bachelor of Arts in Community Youth and Education; Kevin Yack Techera of Hubbardston, Bachelor of Arts in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; Andrea Techera of Hubbardston, Summa Cum Laude Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Maria Magdalena Szemiot of Rutland, Summa Cum Laude, Bachelor of Arts with high honors in Interactive Media

College of St. Scholastica Duluth, MN

Sean Nadeau of Barre, Doctor in Physical Therapy

Elms College Chicopee

Hailey Paixao of Ware, Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts; Corinne Asselin of Ware, Bachelor of Science in Biotechnology and Sarah Nicolliello of Ware, Master of Arts in Teaching

Fairfield University Fairfield, CT

Hannah Dellecave of Petersham, Bachelors Degree

Fitchburg State University Fitchburg

Kaelie A. Hosley of Barre, Master of Education Special Education; Tami Harper of Hubbardston, Master of Education Curriculum and Teaching; Cassandra Marie

Aponte of Hubbardston, Master of Education Special Education; Zachary Michael Gull of Rutland, Master of Business Administration; Robin Judith Taylor of Rutland, Bachelor of Science Biology; Maria K. Voyiatzis of Rutland, Master of Education Educational Leadership and Management and Jessika Hobbs of South Barre, Master of Science Counseling

Quinnipiac University Hamden, CT

Lauren Galligan of New Braintree, Master of Arts in Teaching Elementary Educational and Abbygail Simes of Rutland, Bachelor of Science Nursing

Roger Williams University Bristol, R.I.

Brian Carlson of Rutland, Bachelor of Science Construction Management; Kayleigh Conrad of Rutland, Master of Arts Special Educational; Eric Coviello of Hubbardston, Bachelor of Science Construction Management and James Sadowski of Rutland, Bachelor of Arts in Journalism

Stonehill Colleges Easton

Morgan Morris of Rutland, Bachelors Degree

University of Findlay Findlay, Ohio

Kaylee Morse of Ware, Bachelor of Science in Equine Business Management and Associate of Arts in Equestrian Studies

University of Massachusetts Amherst

Bachelors Degrees: William Francis Cranston of Barre, Cicely M. Weber of Barre, Patrick William Mendrek of Gilbertville, Gina Lee DiNardo of Hubbardston, Molly Jaye Guertin of Hubbardston, Nicholas A. Kauppila of

Hubbardston, Abigail Mary Keagle of Hubbardston, Samuel M. Kenneway of Hubbardston, Haleigh Kierman of Hubbardston, Dylan Michael Hatch of Petersham, Cindy Renee Hopper of Petersham, Aidan Joseph Brooks of Rutland, Charlotte Katherine Gridley of Rutland, Liam Robert Griifin of Rutland, Gavin Carter Maenzo of Rutland, Maia Spurling of Rutland, Madison Sarah Starkey of Rutland and Tanner J. Wilman of Rutland

University of Tampa Tampa, FL

Allison Clark of Rutland, Bachelor of Arts in Advertising and Public Relations

University of Vermont Burlington, VT

Hannah Skerry of Barre, Magna Cum Laude Bachelors in Animal Sciences; Mary Jean Lapiere of Hubbardston, Bachelor's in Social Work; Andrea Bateman of Rutland, Bachelor's in Animal Sciences and Meg Moore of Rutland, Bachelor's in Elementary Education L K-6

Western New England University Springfield

Scott L. Senecal of Ware, Bachelor of Art in Creative Writing and Nathan A. Sullivan of North Brookfield, Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering

Worcester Polytechnic Institute Worcester

Clark Apuy of Rutland, Degree in Physics; Jared Bushnell of Rutland, Degree in Mechanical Engineering; Hannah Kachadoorian of Rutland, Degree in Biology and Biotechnology; Ian Lafoutain of Ware, Degree in Biomedical Engineering and Madelyn Thrasher of Hubbardston, Degree in Biomedical Engineering and Mechanical Engineering

Monty Tech PN program celebrates silver anniversary

FITCHBURG – Montachusets Regional Vocational Technical High School, 1050 Westminster St. Practical Nursing Program is truly a hidden gem.

With no prerequisite courses, reduced rates for in-district learners, evening hours and program completion in under one year; access to this program is unparalleled.

For 25 years, Monty Tech has hosted this remarkable evening training program, serving largely a non-traditional student population, many of whom are looking for a career change or are encouraged by the program's success rate and quick training schedule. What may not be so evident to students when they first apply, though, are faculty and staff members like Terri Dushion, Laural Aiesi, Bambi Luchock and Cheryl Koula who serve as extraordinary resources to students entering the program and the healthcare field.

"Our program is very personal in that we all are invested in the success of the students," said Dushion, a full-time faculty member since 2019, recently serving as Interim Program Director. "We look at each student and identify what it takes for them to succeed. We provide support through advising and open office hours, and hope the students know that we are there for

them on every level."

Recent graduate Eilish Lancey affirms that the faculty's student-centered approach is the key to success. While Lancey was not always a top student, at Monty Tech she found her stride. "At Monty Tech's PN program, I won the Academic Excellence Award for having the highest grade point average of 96.6. The instructors were truly amazing; the content they taught us and the pacing of it really allowed it to stick and be applicable in daily practice."

The accelerated schedule can be daunting, said Dushion, "but students like the idea of completing nursing school in 41 weeks. Students like how they can significantly change their lives by entering a profession in less than a year. Our program is designed to be a starting point for individuals who want to become a nurse and will eventually further their education."

And it's not just the Monty Tech faculty that sets this program apart, it's the numerous "partnerships with our clinical sites which allow our students a variety of learning experiences. Our clinical sites often reach out to students with offers of employment," said Dushion.

Maybe it's the programs longevity, remarkable NCLEX pass rates, or reliance on faculty rep-

utation that encourages clinical sites to partner with the program. Or maybe it's the quality of candidate they are seeing coming out of the Monty Tech program that keeps them coming back for more. Either way, its graduates like Eilish Lancey and Kari McGivern that make Monty Tech so proud.

McGivern, a 2022 graduate, is now making a difference, working as an addiction nurse, as well as a school nurse. Because of her Monty Tech foundation, she learned to think critically, seeking the root of a patient's concerns. "The program pushed me to learn and ask the 'why' of each of my patients' conditions," said McGivern.

Encouraging others to consider entering this important field, McGivern would certainly recommend Monty Tech. "The teachers in this program will go above and beyond to prepare you to pass the boards. I have made lifelong friends."

The Monty Tech Practical Nursing Program, located in Fitchburg, is an accredited post-secondary school and looks to serve approximately 50-60 students annually, encouraging applicants from our sending district of 18 cities and towns. To learn more about Monty Tech, people may visit <https://www.montytech.net/lpn>.

MWCC offers forest fire control and management course

GARDNER – Mount Wachusett Community College is one of only two schools in Massachusetts and the only community college east of the Mississippi to offer the forest fire control and management course, leading to the federally recognized S-130/190 wild land fire fighting certification.

The MWCC S-130/190 certification is in collaboration with the United States Fish and Wildlife

Service.

Faculty member George LoCascio established the course in 2021 at MWCC. LoCascio was a firefighter in Flagstaff, Arizona from 2007 to 2011 where he worked for the United States Forest Service on a Type 1 hand crew, also known as "hot shots." LoCascio's job was to "lead the dig" where he "led half the crew in digging and moving burnable material away from the fire."

Students enrolled in the course learn about S-130/190 certification, prescribed fires, and wild land fires, similar to the wild land fires currently in Canada and other western U.S. states. The course focuses on S-130/190 classes such as basic fire behavior and weather, as well as the Incident Command System as well as wild land fire ecology and how to use prescribed fire as a management tool.

QCC honor society wins national award

WORCESTER – Quinsigamond Community College's Psi Beta Honor Society has recently received the Chapter Excellence Award from the Psi Beta National Council.

This award recognizes Psi Beta chapters that provide multiple activities which engage student members in service, research, leadership, and scholarship. Psi Beta is the national honor society in psychology for community colleges and is a member of the Association of College Honor Societies.

While this is the first time QCC's Psi Beta has won the award, chapter advisor and Professor of Psychology Valarie

Clemente said that the organization has had high engagement for years and part of receiving the award is due to the initiative taken by the chapter president, recent QCC graduate Austin Schacht, who took the initiative to apply for the award.

"Chapter advisors such as Professor Valarie Clemente volunteer countless hours to mentor their students. Your students are truly fortunate to have such a professor supporting and mentoring them," said Psi Beta National Council Executive Director Jerry Rudmann.

Recent activities sponsored by QCC's chapter of Psi Beta included an original research

project addressing stereotyping and a variety of guest speakers on topics such as the intersection of criminal justice and psychology.

"Activities such as the annual research project led by QCC Professor of Psychology Eric Mania, offer community college students a rare opportunity to do real research, analyze data and present at local professional conferences. If they want to go on to graduate work, they'll need that research background," Clemente said, adding, "Our students work so hard and it's so valuable for them to put what their learning into practice and see that it's valued on a national level."

SpringfieldTech to hold reunion

SPRINGFIELD – The spirit and camaraderie of Springfield's Tech High School is alive and well as they gear up for another exciting reunion on Saturday Sept. 23 at the Elks Lodge #61 at 440 Tiffany St., from 3-8 p.m.

The reunion is open to all Tech classes. An outside barbecue will be held rain or shine under the lodge's pavilion and will include hot dogs, hamburgers, pulled pork, salads, vegan options, dessert and more. There is a cash bar, free parking and handicap accessibility.

There will be a DJ, dancing, corn hole and bocce games, raffles and time to reminisce with friends over the years and make new friends as well.

According to committee chair Mike Borecki, "Tech High was a great school and many lifelong friendships were forged back then. It's our dream for everyone to have fun and to keep the Tech Spirit tradition alive for many years to come."

Seating is limited and tickets are \$25 each. All are on a first come, first served basis. For tickets, alumni may call Mike Borecki Class of 1972 at 413-351-6572, Margaret McCormick Class of 1974 at 413-531-4763, Dawn Duncan Class of 1971 413-896-3930 or Matt Villamaino Class of 1967 at 413-896-2206.

Springfield Technical High School was founded in 1906 and closed in 1986.

Class of 1961 to hold reunion

SOUTH HADLEY – The South Hadley High School Class of 1961 is planning a get-together in South Hadley on Thursday, Oct. 5.

Members of the Class of 1961 are encouraged to attend. Organizers do not have everyone's contact information, so they most likely did not receive the email sent about this event.

Members of the class, who wish to attend, should email Judy Mitrolka Izatt at jizatt@charter.net and put "get-together" in the subject line and she will get back to them with more specific information.

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Church News

Local pastor offers sermon

Through the Psalms Part 2

We are in the midst of a series through the Book of Psalms.

In the previous edition, I posited the following quotation by theologian John Calvin, "What various and resplendent riches are contained in this treasury. I have been wont to call this book not inappropriately, an anatomy of all the parts of the soul; for there is not an emotion of which any one can be conscious that is not here represented as in a mirror." Let us explore his claim in kind.

1) Reverence

Have you ever felt a sense of reverence before God? So have the psalmists.

Psalm 8:1a, 3-4 (NIV)

1 Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

3 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

4 what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?

2) Jubilation

Have you ever felt the impulse to revel in the goodness of God? So have the psalmists.

Psalm 103:1-5

1 Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

2 Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits—

3 who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,

4 who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion,

5 who satisfies your desires with

good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

3) Confidence

Have you known moments of unwavering faith? So have the psalmists.

Psalm 91:1-6

1 Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

2 I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

3 Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence.

4 He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

5 You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day,

6 nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday.

4) Doubt and Uncertainty

Conversely, have you known the gnawing grip of doubt? So have the psalmists.

Psalm 77:3-9

3 I remembered you, God, and I groaned; I meditated, and my spirit grew faint.

4 You kept my eyes from closing; I was too troubled to sleep.

5 I thought about the former days, the years of long ago;

6 I remembered my songs in the night.

My heart meditated and my spirit asked:

7 "Will the Lord reject forever? Will he never show his favor again?"

8 Has his unfaithful love vanished forever? Has his promise failed for all time?

9 Has God forgotten to be mer-

ciful? Has he in anger withheld his compassion?"

5) Lamentation

Have you experienced utter broodness? So have the psalmists.

Psalm 42:3, 9-10

3 My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me all day long, "Where is your God?"

9 I say to God my Rock, "Why have you forgotten me? Why must I go about mourning, oppressed by the enemy?"

10 My bones suffer mortal agony as my foes taunt me, saying to me all day long, "Where is your God?"

Ultimately I affirm the testimony of Calvin, for the Psalter serves as "an anatomy of all the parts of the soul." Thus, we can always find a psalm that corresponds to the condition of our hearts and the areas of our need.

In reading the Book of Psalms, we come to see ourselves (i.e., the good, bad and ugly) against the backdrop of an abiding God. May you be blessed as you read and revel in this timeless and timely work.

Thank you for taking the time to read this edition. Should you have any questions, please reach out to me using the information below. Moreover, we would love to see you in person in the days to come. Feel free to attend any of our upcoming services. Check us out online at www.NewLifeBarre.org for more information.

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

South Coast III Trio opens Stone Church concert season

HARDWICK – Friends of the Stone Church will present pianist Janice Weber with Sasha Callahan, violin and Leo Eguchi, cello, performing string trios by Haydn, Beethoven and Robert Schumann and Jhula Jhule by Reena Esmail at the Stone Church Cultural Center, 283 Main St., Gilbertville, at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 17.

This delightful program presents masterpieces for strings and piano and an intriguing composition based on traditional Indian songs. A public reception will follow the concert.

Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased at <https://buytickets.at/friendsofthestonechurch/738389>. Youth under 18 and holders of the equivalent to Mass Cultural Council's Card to Culture are admitted free.

Janice Weber graduated summa cum laude from the Eastman School of Music. Her interest in uncommon avenues of piano literature led to a world premiere recording of Liszt's 1838 Transcendental Etudes.

Time Magazine noted "Liszt later simplified these pieces into the still ferociously difficult Transcendental Etudes (1851 version) for fear that no one else could play them. There may now be several fire-eating piano virtuosos who can execute the original notes, but few can liberate the prophetic music they contain as masterfully as Janice Weber..."

She has appeared with the Boston Pops, Chautauque Symphony, New Jersey Symphony, Hilton Head Orchestra, Sarajevo Philharmonic, and Syracuse Symphony; and in solo performances at the White House and multiple summer festivals.

Violinist Sasha Callahan

received her bachelor's degree in violin performance from Rice University and her Master of Music from Boston University. She has performed extensively throughout North America, Europe and Japan and is a founding member of Willamette Valley Chamber Music Festival, Sheffield Chamber Players, the Lunaire String Quartet, and Kalistos Chamber Orchestra.

Her recent solo performances include Brahms Double Concerto; a Bach program at the National Cathedral, and performances with the World Youth Orchestra, an international orchestra assembled to present concerts in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. She appears frequently in New England, including with the Portland (ME) Symphony, Rhode Island Philharmonic and New Hampshire Music Festival, the Boston Pops, and the Boston Ballet Orchestra.

Leo Eguchi, principal cellist of the New Bedford Symphony, has been described as "copiously skilled and confident" by The New York Times. His degrees include a bachelor's degree in music in cello performance from the University of Michigan and a Master of Music from Boston University.

Performing widely as a soloist, chamber ensemble and orchestra musician, Eguchi has had a varied performance career. Highlights include being a prize-winner at the 2021 ProCello International Cello Competition; several GRAMMY-nominated recordings from Parma Records; an artist residency and solo performances in Kabul, Afghanistan; and opportunities to share the non-classical stage with the likes of Pete Townshend, Queen Latifah, Melissa Etheridge, Audra McDonald and many others.

Eguchi is a strong advocate of new music and has premiered dozens of solo and chamber works by notable composers, including the work of Reena Esmail on this concert program. He teaches at Boston College and is the Assistant Conductor of the MIT Symphony Orchestra.

Weber is also "an American concert pianist who writes as well as she plays" according to The New York Times. Music fills the plots of her seven novels. Her characters without music in their lives fill the void with murder and treason.

This concert is supported by grants from the Cultural Councils of Hardwick-New Braintree, North Brookfield, Oakham and Petersham. Local Cultural Councils are supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

At home viewers may enjoy watching recordings of previous concerts through links on the Friends of the Stone Church website: FriendsoftheStoneChurch.org/music/.

About FOSC

Friends of the Stone Church, Inc. is a public charitable corporation and community group organized in 2015 and open to all. Its mission is to preserve and protect the Gilbertville Stone Church Cultural Center and to make it available as a place of community enrichment.

The Friends are currently in Phase 4 of stabilizing the stone tower, with major funding from the Mass Cultural Council's Cultural Facilities Fund. FOSC welcome donations toward the ongoing preservation project online at www.FriendsoftheStoneChurch.org or by mail to FOSC, P.O. Box 347, Gilbertville, MA 01031.

Congregational church to celebrate 300th anniversary on Sept. 17

RUTLAND – The First Congregational Church of Rutland is celebrating its 300th Anniversary on Sunday, Sept. 17 at 2 p.m. in the church.

Sixteen of the members and friends will share tidbits of the church's history. A large screen slide show is guaranteed to bring back good memories. There will be music and a recognition of fifty year members.

Following the celebration, refreshments will be served in

Fellowship Hall where there will also be displays of clippings and photo albums, memorabilia and two continuous slide shows from different time periods in the church's life.

On June 7, 1720, Proprietors voted to build a meetinghouse 41 1/2 feet x 30 feet within the Old Burial Ground. Each town was required by the King of England to have a meeting house built in the center before a town could be incorporated. Worship services began in

1723. Church members worshipped in five buildings in approximately the same location, losing several churches to fire. The present church was built in 1927. The current Pastor is Rev. David W. Fish and there have been thirty other ordained ministers preceding him along with several interim pastors.

The First Congregational Church of Rutland has always been, and continues to be, open to all. All are welcome.

Barre church to hold drive-thru breakfast

BARRE – On Saturday, Sept. 9 from 8-10 a.m. The Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St. will hold a drive-thru breakfast.

Weather permitting tables will be set up outside the church. There are two menu choices: a full course breakfast of pancakes, sausage, home fries and scrambled eggs as well as coffee or juice and a fruit cup for \$12 and a breakfast sandwich of egg, ham and cheese as well as coffee or juice for \$6. This is a fundraiser for the church.

Petersham church to hold chicken dinner Sept. 9

PETERSHAM – The Orthodox Congregational Church of Petersham, 21 North Main St., Route 32 will hold a to go barbecue chicken dinner on Saturday, Sept. 9 with pick-up starting at 5:30 p.m. The menu includes

barbecue chicken, baked potato, tossed salad, corn on the cob and a dessert. Cost is \$15 per meal. Proceeds will help repair weather damage to the church belfry. Reservations are required by calling 978-724-3362.

St. Joseph's Parish to hold chicken barbecue and family fair

NORTH BROOKFIELD – St. Joseph's Parish will hold a chicken barbecue Saturday, Sept. 9 from 3-7 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 10 from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Saint Joseph's Parish Rectory Grounds, 28 Mt. Pleasant St. There will

be the ever-popular flea market, children's games, baked goods, crafts, assorted raffles as well as a basket raffle and a scratch ticket raffle, which includes a book (50) of \$30 lottery scratch tickets and much, much more.

Second Chance provides support for new pet owners

EAST BROOKFIELD – Adopting a pet involves a deep commitment and a lifetime of care and Second Chance Animal Services is committed to turning the tide by instilling a sense of responsibility during the adoption process and providing ongoing support for new pet owners.

Making the decision to adopt a pet requires thoughtful consideration, as highlighted by Wendy Hall, director of Second Chance's Animal Relocation programs.

"Pet ownership is like raising a child-it takes time, care, and resources and Second Chance is here to help," said Hall in a press release. "Pets have emotions and needs and rely on their owners for food, medical attention, love, and companionship. By investing effort from the start, many common problems can be avoided, leading to a happy and lasting pet-owner relationship."

To prevent unnecessary surrenders, Second Chance provides a range of resources and assistance for pet owners facing difficulties.

The organization believes that open communication and guidance can often resolve issues without giving up a pet. Knowledgeable shelter staff are available by phone or email to listen to owners' concerns and offer advice on various pet-related matters.

Whether it's dealing with



Mack, a 2-year-old Bernese Mountain Dog, is just one of the pets waiting to find a home at Second Chance's Adoption Center in East Brookfield.

behavior problems, training challenges, or introducing a new pet to the family, they offer personalized solutions.

In addition, Second Chance operates four full-service veterinary hospitals to ensure pets

receive necessary care. Located in North Brookfield, Southbridge, Springfield and Worcester, the hospitals are open to everyone and offer reduced rates for those who qualify, along with weekly low-cost vaccine clinics.

The nonprofit also has a pet food pantry program that supplies pet food to local human food pantries, helping pet owners facing financial difficulties.

New Second Chance adopters also get access to a week of free one-on-one online training through an app designed to help dog owners address behavioral issues and foster positive interactions with their pets in their homes. Owners can continue to use the app for a minimal charge as needed.

Well-trained pets are more likely to stay in their homes with their families.

Second Chance remains committed to educating pet owners, providing resources, and promoting responsible pet ownership to create a community where pets are valued as cherished family members. With the right support and effort, many challenges can be overcome, allowing pets to stay where they belong, with the families who love them unconditionally.

For more information on Second Chance's programs and resources, visit www.secondchanceanimals.org.

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Barre Gazette

OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

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

PEOPLE/MILESTONE NEWS

As a free service for our readers, we will print all births, weddings, engagements, milestone anniversaries, major birthdays, military achievements, honors and awards. We have a "people news" form available for you to submit these listings. This material is provided to us by our readers and local institutions and we do not charge to print this content.

For more information, or to submit people or milestone news for the Barre Gazette, please email edowner@turley.com.

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Public Safety

MEMA offers hurricane preparedness information

FRAMINGHAM – In conjunction with the beginning of Atlantic Hurricane Season the beginning of this month, the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency announced a series of online resources for the Commonwealth's residents to deepen their awareness of and prepare for the impacts of tropical storms and hurricanes.

"History shows that regardless of where you are in Massachusetts, on the coast or inland, a tropical storm or hurricane can have significant impacts on your area," said MEMA Acting Director Dawn Brantley. "Ensuring Massachusetts communities are prepared for hurricane season requires immense collaboration among emergency management partners at the state and local levels, as well as participation

from all residents to prioritize personal preparedness," she said.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration seasonal outlook predicts near-normal hurricane activity in the Atlantic this year, but it only takes one storm to cause significant impacts.

The beginning of hurricane season is a timely reminder for all residents to prepare for the effects of a hurricane. MEMA offers the following tips.

Know the evacuation zone

They should visit www.mass.gov/knowyourzone to learn if they live or work in a hurricane evacuation zone. If they live in an area that may flood and may need assistance evacuating, plan with family, neighbors and friends who may be able to assist and contact their

local public safety officials to make them aware of their needs.

Make an emergency plan

A plan should address how their family would communicate, evacuate and shelter in place if needed. Be sure to account for the needs of all family members, including seniors, children, individuals with access and functional needs and pets: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/make-a-family-emergency-plan>. If you receive medical treatment or home health care services, work with your medical provider to determine how to maintain care and service if you are unable to leave your home or have to evacuate.

Build an emergency kit

Build an emergency kit that will sustain the household for three to five

days without power. For tips on what to include, people should visit <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/build-an-emergency-kit>

Stay informed

Every family should have multiple methods for receiving emergency alerts. They should visit <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/be-informed-and-receive-emergency> to learn more about different types of alerting and information tools, including the Emergency Alert System, Wireless Emergency Alerts, NOAA Weather Radio, social and traditional news media, Mass 2-1-1 and local notification systems.

For more resources, people may visit the Hurricane Safety Tips section of MEMA's website at <https://www.mass.gov/mema/hurricanes>.

Senate and House partners to mark Gun Violence Awareness Day with additional gun bill proposals

WASHINGTON- On National Gun Violence Awareness Day, Sen. Edward J. Markey, a member of the Gun Violence Prevention Caucus, announced a package of gun violence prevention bills that would significantly decrease the threat of gun violence across the United States by putting an end to the 3D printing and distribution of ghost guns, strengthening accountability measures for irresponsible gun dealers, helping banks detect and report suspicious activity related to mass shootings, and strengthening state-by-state gun-licensing regulations through federal incentives.

"We've had more mass shootings in 2023 than days in the year," said Markey. "Every day, gun violence in our schools and on our streets steals lives and rips families apart. We can't keep living like this, and Americans can't keep dying like this. Congress took an important step last year in passing the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, but the evidence is overwhelmingly clear that it's not enough. We have an obligation to pass commonsense solutions, like my gun safety package, so that not one more life is lost to this unnecessary, man-made public health crisis."

Today, Senator Markey and his

colleagues announced the reintroduction of four gun violence prevention bills, including: 3D Printed Gun Safety Act, Keeping Gun Dealers Honest Act, Gun Violence Prevention Through Financial Intelligence Act, Making America Safe and Secure (MASS) Act.

The gun violence prevention bills are endorsed by Brady, Giffords, March For Our Lives, and States United to Prevent Gun Violence. In March, Markey and Rep. Elissa Slotkin, Mark Takano and Marilyn Strickland reintroduced legislation that would fund research at the CDC to better understand and address the

United States' ongoing gun violence epidemic, a public health crisis that has taken more than 180,000 lives across the nation.

In May 2022, Markey led his Senate colleagues in a letter to 28 shipping companies expressing concern over lax shipping security measures leading to firearm theft and making it easier for criminals to get their hands on lethal firearms. Markey also led 10 Senate colleagues in a letter to the Federal Trade Commission urging the agency to open an investigation into the marketing of lethal firearms, including assault-style rifles, to children.

Tips for driving safely with pets

Distracted driving is of most concern in summer, when more people take the opportunity to travel, explore and visit family.

Traveling with pets compounds this concern, as unrestrained pets can both cause distractions and make accidents more dangerous.

"Pets can easily take a driver's attention from the road, posing a serious risk not only to the pet but also to the passengers riding in the same vehicle," says Michael Leung, co-founder and lead product designer of Sleepypod, a manufacturer of premium pet carriers and pet restraint systems. "If there is nothing restraining a pet in a hard stop or car accident, the pet can become a projectile and potentially collide with fellow pets or human passengers."

Such a collision could be catastrophic, regardless of a pet's size.

According to a press release, a 10-pound dog in a 50-mile-an-hour car crash exerts 500 pounds of force. Meanwhile, an 80-pound dog in a 30-mile-per-hour crash exerts 2,400 pounds of force.

Unrestrained pets may also fall or jump out of open windows or flee the car

in fear after a crash, potentially becoming lost, injured, or worse.

A quality, rigorously tested pet restraint can make all the difference in preventing distracted driving and keeping human and pet passengers safe during an accident.

Interestingly, an American Automobile Association survey found that, while more than 80% of drivers admitted that they recognize the dangers of driving with an unrestrained pet, only 16% used pet restraints.

Follow these tips for minimizing pet-related distractions and keeping pets safe during accidents: Pets should always be restrained in a back seat to prevent them from injury if an airbag is deployed.

If you cannot restrain your pet with a reputable, tested car restraint, the next safest option is to place the pet in the footwell behind the front seat.

Smaller pets are safer when fully contained in a restrained carrier, while larger dogs should ride in a car safety harness that does not connect the pet with an extension tether. Pets should be unable to slide forward far enough to "submarine," or drop off the seat, at any point during a collision.

Gas prices decrease one cent

WESTWOOD – The average gas price in Massachusetts is down one cent from last week (\$3.77), averaging \$3.76 per gallon.

Today's price is .13 cents higher than a month ago (\$3.63) and .31 cents lower than Aug. 28, 2022 (\$4.07). Massachusetts' average gas price is five cents lower than the national average. The national average for a gallon of gas dropped since last week, despite growing gas demand.

However, the price of oil has declined several dollars per barrel and is holding steady around or below \$80, contributing to lower pump prices. As Labor Day approaches, gas demand and volatile oil prices, particularly during an active hurricane season, could limit how much lower prices descend in the weeks ahead.

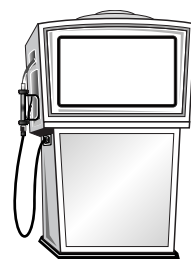
"Although the national average did a U-turn this week, the road ahead could lead to higher prices," said Mark Schieldrop, AAA Northeast

Senior Spokesperson. "Ongoing concerns regarding potential storm activity could hinder falling pump prices this fall."

AAA Northeast's Aug. 28 survey of fuel prices found the current national average to be five cents lower than last week (\$3.86), averaging \$3.81 a gallon. Today's national average price is .08 cents higher than a month ago (\$3.73) and is .04 cents lower than this day last year (\$3.85).

The AAA Gas Prices website is your resource for up-to-date fuel price information. Search average gas prices by Regular, Plus, Premium and Diesel on National and State levels, as well as Metro areas.

AAA Northeast is a not-for-profit auto club with 67 offices in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, New Hampshire and New York, providing more than 6 million local AAA members with travel, insurance, finance and auto-related services.



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STAFF WRITER

Turley Publications, based in Palmer, is seeking a storyteller who is curious about everything, and who understands how town government works to join our team of weekly reporters.

Experience in covering town government is a huge plus, and any experience in community journalism is as well. Staff writers cover all aspects of communities from features to municipal meetings to crimes and fires. Successful candidates must have people skills, plenty of curiosity and able to tell a story.

If you're a self-starter who enjoys community journalism and who can envision themselves connecting with our communities, we encourage you to apply for this position. Not a remote position.

Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience
- A determination to get the story, whatever it might be
- Equally comfortable writing hard news, features and event coverage
- Ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
- Proficiency in Associated Press style

Please tell us in a cover letter why you would be a good fit for this position and send it along with a resume and three writing samples to



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Community Newspaper EDITOR WANTED

Turley Publications is looking for a "hands on" energetic candidate who loves telling stories to be the editor for two weekly publications. This position will include managing and coaching a small news staff that will provide the community with a great local newspaper.

The editor will need to cover local government and events while representing the newspaper at public venues.

The successful candidate will have strong community journalism skills and is also expected to gather news and write stories for the two papers as well as for other occasional companywide publications.

This is a job for a self-starter who has a vision for growing and connecting with our valued readers, and who thoroughly enjoys community journalism.

This full-time position with flexible schedule is based in our Palmer office at 24 Water St., this is not a remote position.

Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience
- Willingness to mentor a staff writer and correspondents
- Editing experience and ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
- Proficiency in Associated Press style
- Management experience and/or experience managing content for a print publication.

Please send resume and writing examples to:

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REMEMBER TO RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Legislation announced to direct \$100 Million to combat health risks of extreme heat

WASHINGTON— Sen. Edward J. Markey (D-Mass.), chair of the Senate Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Clean Air, Climate, and Nuclear Safety, Sen. Alex Padilla (D-Calif.) and Sen. Kyrsten Sinema (I-Ariz.) and Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (OR-01), Rep. Marilyn Strickland (WA-10) and Rep. Ruben Gallego (AZ-03) today reintroduced the Preventing Health Emergencies And Temperature-related Illness and Deaths Act to address the rising health risks of extreme heat. The announcement follows Earth's hottest day on record, the predicted hottest day in the past 125,000 years, and new national and local responses to extreme heat.

As climate change continues to worsen, extreme heat events in the United States are becoming more frequent, longer lasting, and more severe. Earlier this month, nearly one in three

Americans were under an extreme heat advisory or warning. Prolonged exposure to this kind of heat can have dangerous consequences for human health, including heat exhaustion, heat stroke, and even death. The Preventing HEAT Illness and Deaths Act would improve and expand inter-agency efforts, provide \$100 million in financial assistance for community projects to reduce exposure to extreme heat, and issue recommendations for federal action on heat-health issues.

"It's no coincidence that we've seen back-to-back record-breaking heat this summer, it's the climate crisis announcing it's at our doorstep. We need to take bold and aggressive action to combat the climate crisis, but we also need to act fast to protect Americans from the health risks of extreme heat that we are experiencing right now," said Markey. "My legisla-

tion would direct \$100 million in federal funding to help local communities on the front lines of the climate crisis stave off the worst outcomes of heat-related illness. As unprecedented waves of sweltering heat persist, I will keep calling on my colleagues in Congress to pass the Preventing HEAT Illness and Deaths Act and create a national response to save lives."

"As we learned from the 2021 Heat Domes, we must actively pursue short-term solutions to save lives during heat waves, in conjunction with long-term steps towards saving our planet," said Strickland. "The Preventing HEAT Illness and Deaths Act will address the dangers of extreme summer temperatures on human health and equip communities with the ability to combat the heat-health crisis."

The Preventing HEAT Illness and Deaths Act would: Create the National

Integrated Heat Health Information System Interagency Committee to enhance inter agency efforts to address extreme heat; Formalize and expand the existing NIHHS within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, which was initiated under President Barack Obama; Commission a National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine study on federal action on heat-health issues and response; and, establish and authorize a \$100 million financial assistance program to provide federal funding to community projects that reduce the health impact of extreme heat events, prioritizing projects in historically disadvantaged communities, communities with significant heat disparities associated with race or income, and communities with large gaps in heat preparedness.

House Democratic Health committee leaders announce new legislation

WASHINGTON—House Democratic Health Committee leaders introduced new legislation to further lower prescription drug prices for American families and rein in pharmaceutical price gouging. The bill was introduced by Ways and Means Committee Ranking Member Richard E. Neal (D-MA), Energy and Commerce Committee Ranking Member Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-NJ), and Education and the Workforce Committee Ranking Member Robert C. "Bobby" Scott (D-VA).

Nearly one year ago, President Biden signed the Inflation Reduction Act into law, granting the Secretary of Health and Human Services for the first time the authority to negotiate lower drug prices for America's seniors.

It was a historic achievement that lifted restrictions that had been in place for nearly 20 years preventing Medicare from negotiating drug prices. The law also further reduced drug prices for seniors by penalizing pharmaceutical companies that raised prices faster than the rate of inflation. The Lowering Drug Costs for American Families Act builds on this important progress by ensuring more Americans can benefit from the law's provisions.

"The Lowering Drug Costs for American Families Act builds on our historic work in the Inflation Reduction Act to expand access to lower drug prices negotiated by Medicare to even more Americans," Ways and Means Committee Ranking Member Neal said. "This legislation is another step to bringing down the costs of prescription drugs and putting an end to the unconscionable decision to forgo life-saving medication. Lowering health care costs is key to finishing the job for the American people, and House Democrats won't be deterred by Republican threats or Big Pharma's lawsuits."

The Lowering Drug Costs for American Families Act builds on the drug pricing provisions included in the Inflation Reduction Act last year. Specifically, the bill would:

Extend the historic drug price negotiation program to all Americans with private coverage. This includes over 164 million workers and their families who get health coverage through their jobs and more than 16 million individuals with Marketplace coverage; stop drug companies from raising prices faster than inflation by ensuring that the inflation rebates enacted under the Inflation Reduction Act also apply to individuals covered by private health plans. Extending the inflation rebates to privately covered American workers can save as much as \$40 billion over the next decade alone; and strengthen the drug price negotiation program to deliver more savings to the American people by increasing the annual number of prescription drugs selected for negotiation from 20 to 50.

Sen. Markey and others urge FTC on auto dealers record keeping

WASHINGTON, DC – Senator Edward J. Markey (D-Mass.), a member of the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee and Representative Pramila Jayapal (WA-07) led 15 of their colleagues in writing to Federal Trade Commission Chair Lina Khan expressing their support for the Motor Vehicle Dealers Trade Regulation Rule and urging the FTC to finalize the strongest possible rule to protect consumers from deceptive and unfair practices. Specifically, the lawmakers urge Chair Khan to require auto dealers provide a comprehensive and binding "offer price" for new vehicles, do away with hidden junk fees in pricing, retain records to enable enforcement and compliance, and ensure that non-English speakers are not discriminated against in the car-buying process.

"We write to support your efforts to address unfair and deceptive practices in the sale, financing, and leasing of motor vehicles by dealers," the lawmakers wrote in their letter to Chair Khan. "We agree that the practices of some motor vehicle dealers impose substantial financial costs on consumers, and the problems you have identified in the automobile financing market are serious, harmful, and widespread. These practices also hurt honest dealers, making it more difficult and costly for them to compete. The [FTC] should move forward with its rule making proceeding [...] and adopt a final rule to address these pressing issues."

The lawmakers wrote to Chair Khan urging the FTC to include three key components in its final rule, including language that would require auto dealers to:

Provide a simplified, uniform comprehensive and legally enforceable "Offering Price" for new vehicles that includes all pre-installed and mandatory add-on products, given that dealers often use deceptive pricing in advertisements and mandatory price-inflated add-ons, which increase vehicle cost and create further confusion and uncertainty about a vehicle's final price;

Retain records of consumer transactions for seven years or the length of the retail installment sales contract, given that strong record keeping requirements better enable enforcement agencies and consumers to ensure compliance; and,

Provide all required disclosures and contractual agreements to consumers in the language in which the transaction was conducted, given that dealers advertise in foreign language publications, employ salespeople who speak other languages, and conduct sales with consumers in a language other than English.

Senate signatories include Senators Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.), Cory Booker (D-N.J.), Brian Schatz (D-Hawaii), Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.), and Ron Wyden (D-Ore.). House signers include Representatives Jamaal Bowman (NY-16), Greg Casar (TX-04), Barbara Lee (CA-12), Jim McGovern (MA-02), Eleanor Holmes Norton (DC), Katie Porter (CA-47), Jamie Raskin (MD-08), Mark Takano (CA-39), Rashida Tlaib (MI-12), and Bonnie Watson Coleman (NJ-12).



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BARRE PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the provision M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 6, the Barre Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, September 5 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Henry Woods Municipal Building, 40 West Street, Boards' Office, 3rd Floor, requested by Marcos Licea for a special permit for a noncommercial kennel for property located at 189 Wheelwright Road, Assessors Map G, Lot 131 and recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds Book 57296, Plan 219.

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

Floyd Kelley
Chairman
08/24, 08/31/2023

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Jesse L. King to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation, dated February 26, 2020 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 61975, Page 50, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns to Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC, recorded on September 22, 2022, in Book No. 68249, at Page 150 for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at **12:00 PM on September 18, 2023**, on the mortgaged premises located at 165 Oakham Road, Barre, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage.

TO WIT: The land located at 165 Oakham Road (Lot 2), Barre, MA, in the within county, described as follows:

A certain parcel of land in Barre, Worcester County, Massachusetts, on the easterly side of Oakham Road in said Barre, Worcester County, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, being shown as Lot #2 on a plan entitled, "Plan of Land, Oakham Road, Barre, Massachusetts, owned by Marie Bomba, Executrix of the Estate of Salvatore J. Petraccone, prepared for James Caruso, by Bruce E. Wilson, Jr., P.L.S., New England Environmental Design, LLC, P.O. Box 376,

Rutland, MA 01543, dated September 15, 2005", recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds on October 20, 2005, in Plan Book 833, Plan 39, and which property is more particularly bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point in the easterly sideline of Oakham Road at the northwesterly corner of said Lot #2, which point is also the southerly corner of Lot #1 as shown on said plan;

THENCE N.53° 55' 27" E. a distance of two hundred and no hundredths (200.00) feet along Lot #1 as shown on said plan, to a point;

THENCE S. 36° 24' 31" E. a distance of one hundred twenty and no hundredths (120.00) feet along land now or formerly of C.R. Development Corp., to a point;

THENCE S.53° 55' 27" W. a distance of two hundred and no hundredths (200.00) feet along an Easement for Future Roadway Roundings as shown on said plan, to a point;

THENCE N. 36° 24' 31" W. a distance of one hundred twenty and no hundredths (120.00) feet along the easterly sideline of Oakham Road, to the point of BEGINNING.

CONTAINING 24,000 square feet or 0.5509 acre, more or less.

SUBJECT TO covenants and restrictions contained in the Autumn Crest Estates Protective Restrictions, recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds on October 20, 2005, at Book 37607, Page 52, as the same may be altered or amended from time to time.

RESERVING unto the SELLER, its successors and/or assigns, the right to (a) grant easements to others, including owners of lots in the subdivision to use all of the ways shown on plans referred to above in common with others entitled thereto for all purposes for which public ways may be used in the town of Barre, Massachusetts; (b) grant easements in, over or under such ways for the installation and maintenance of gas, electric, telephone and water lines, and associated equipment, and to install on land adjacent thereto anchors and guys to support said line, including the right to grant easements to public service corporations for the installation and maintenance of necessary equipment in, under and upon said land at the sidelines of each lot adjoining said ways for the distribution of electricity; (c) extend any road or street beyond the property to access property adjacent to the subject property and, furthermore, to grant rights-of-way to those parties who may abut said extensions across all roads on the Autumn Crest Estates Subdivision; (d) the right to enter upon said land along the "Grading Easement" shown on said plan as the area twenty (20) feet northwesterly and parallel to the two hundred (200) foot course running along the

southeasterly sideline of said premises along the Easement for Future Roadway Roundings as shown on the above described plan, for the purpose of performing any necessary installation, maintenance and preservation of grading and construction of the roadway as shown on said plan; and (e) to enter upon the easterly corner of the within land, from a point fifty (50) feet from the easternmost corner of said land as measured along the southeasterly sideline of the within premises to a point fifty (50) feet from the easternmost corner of said land as measured along the easterly sideline of the within premises, said access to include the use of equipment, for purposes of construction upon any adjacent land.

The SELLER shall ensure that any area of the property disturbed by the anticipated construction is returned to its previous natural or landscaped condition within a reasonable time after the disturbance.

For mortgagor's(s') title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 61975, Page 45.

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

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

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

LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC Present holder of said mortgage

By its Attorneys,
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08/17, 08/24, 08/31/2023

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9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Every Day

PLUS a Huge Tag Sale on Saturday, September 2nd as a part of Monson Town Wide Tag Sale.

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