

# BARRE GAZETTE

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## Over 60 residents attend candidate's night

By Ellenor Downer  
Editor  
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OAKHAM – Over 60 residents attended candidate's night last Thursday, Aug. 31 to learn the town's need for a new fire truck and to hear from the two candidates running for an unexpired term on the Select Board.

Fire Chief Timothy Howe gave a power point presentation on the new fire truck. Voters approved the purchase at Annual Town Meeting in June and the question to fund the vehicle through a debt exclusion will be a question on the Thursday, Sept. 14 Special Town Election. The polls will be open at Town Hall from 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

The ballot vote was the final step in the debt exclusion process. If approved next Thursday, voters would likely realize about \$100 to \$200 increase in taxes on the average home valued at \$350,000 until the loan of over \$780,000 would be paid off.

The Fire Chief said a town in Vermont ordered the new truck and then refused to accept it as it was the wrong color red. The truck in question has a six-man cab and a capacity of about 300 gallons less than the town's current tanker truck, a 1987 Mack.

He said it was rare a truck lasted this long, 36 years. Besides the Mack's age, it had a front end pump, which tended to freeze in winter. It lacked storage space for air packs and did not have the capacity to carry equipment such as ladders and extra hoses.

Chief Howe said getting parts for this vehicle was difficult; it

See CANDIDATES NIGHT, page 5

## Local residents participate in Spencer Fair

SPENCER – Many residents from surrounding towns entered their animals, vegetables, eggs, crafts, tractors and more at this year's Spencer Fair, a longstanding Labor Day weekend tradition.

Over five days, fairgoers could visit with a variety of farm animals, including dairy and beef cows, chickens, geese, ducks, horses, donkeys, rabbits, goats and more. Tractor pulls and demolition derbies gathered a full crowd, as did the rides and games of the midway.

People of all ages entered their prized vegetables, baked goods, canned goods, giant pumpkins, hay, artwork, crafts and tractors for judging, hoping to bring home a top ribbon.



Cory Worrick of Oakham entered an impressive 52 pound pumpkin.



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

New Braintree residents took second and third place for their giant pumpkins at this year's Spencer Fair. Earning second place was Rhonda Howe with her 68 pound pumpkin; and third place was Grace Wagher with her 64 pound pumpkin. Earning first place this year was Scott Lehto of Fitchburg and his 222 pound pumpkin.



Rose of Madd Hatter Rabbitry sets up an obstacle for her English Lop.



Cory Kibbe of Ware entered his Allis-Chalmers 190 and 620 tractors.

## Diorio named new high school principal

By Paula Ouimette  
pouimette@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Interim Superintendent Tim McCormick introduced John Diorio, the new principal for the Jr./Sr. High School.

"He's really hit the ground running this summer," McCormick said at the School Committee's Aug. 29 meeting. Diorio has previously worked in Palmer, Springfield and Fitchburg.

"One of the things that stuck out about Mr. Diorio during the hiring process is just his enthusiasm, and what he brings to the table as far as passion for our students and our faculty," McCormick said. "I'm really excited about what's going on in the High School...I think we're going to do some great things this year with John at the helm."

Diorio said he is looking forward to a great year.

"The staff have been working hard...the classrooms look great. This is just a beautiful school," he said.

Diorio said 90% of grade seven students attended orientation. The Student Council gave a tour and all students participated in team building/bonding activities.

He said they are looking to form a "best buddies" program between High School and Elementary School students and start a unified sports program.

McCormick said orientation for new teachers was held Aug. 23-24, welcoming 10 new staff members.

McCormick said the school district is still operating with three bus routes this year, after reducing from four last year.

He said the school district is preparing to launch its new website, making it much more user friendly.

See DIORIO, page 5

## Fall Festival at the Farm

Central New England Equine Rescue prepares for annual event

By Paula Ouimette  
pouimette@turley.com

WEST BROOKFIELD – In its 20th year as a nonprofit organization, Central New England Equine Rescue, Inc. is preparing for its second major fundraiser this year, the Fall Festival at the Farm.

Founded by Vicky Berry and her daughter Betsy Johnson in 2003, CNEER has helped hundreds of horses and ponies find loving homes.

Now in its second year, the Fall Festival at the Farm will be held on Saturday, Oct. 14, at the 18-acre farm located at 96 New Braintree Road, with events and activities from noon-4 p.m. Last year close to 500 people attended to help support the horses and ponies rescued by CNEER.

Anyone that's owned a horse knows their care is expensive, but many of the rescues at CNEER face additional expenses due to age and health issues. Several of the horses are considered "seniors," and require a custom diet with medication to let them



Central New England Equine Rescue, Inc. Vice-President Vicky Berry, left and volunteer Sari Pomponio visit with Daisy.

enjoy their golden years happy and healthy.

The unusually wet summer has greatly affected the quality of hay in the area, causing prices to increase.

In addition to paying for the care of the horses at CNEER, the rescue also needs to replace their wood shavings shelter, which was destroyed by a wind storm earlier this year.

With the skills and help of students at Tantasqua Regional Vocational High School, the rescue will be able to rebuild the shelter, but will need to raise money to cover the cost of mate-

rials. The students have previously completed projects at rescue, building stall doors (complete with wood burned name plates) for two of the resident miniature horses, Thunder and Captain Jack.

Thunder, a senior miniature horse, has been with CNEER since October 2020 and is closely bonded with Little Jack.

Little Jack had previously been adopted from the rescue, but returned after his longtime companion Annie passed away.

"Thunder wasn't nice to Jack at first, but now they're inseparable," said Sari Pomponio, event



Thunder enjoys the sunshine this past Sunday, before embarking on his "forever home" as a member of the therapy program at Field of Dreams Therapy Farm in Paxton, along with his herd mate Little Jack.

organizer and a longtime volunteer with CNEER.

Now, the two minis have found a new home, at Field of Dreams Therapy Farm in Paxton, where they will be part of a therapy program.

"I'm going to miss them so much," CNEER Vice-President Vicky Berry said.

Another mini at the rescue, Captain Jack, has faced more hardship than he should have in his young life.

"Captain Jack is 6 and was going to slaughter," Berry said. After he was purchased from the slaughterhouse and supposedly

bound for West Brookfield, he was mistakenly sent directly to the slaughter pipeline in Texas.

Berry and CNEER were able to send a rescuer to pick Captain Jack up from Texas, bringing him to Arkansas, then Virginia, before he finally arrived at his new home.

The cross-country journey made it difficult for Captain Jack to adjust at first, but now he's settled in with the rest of the herd, Berry said.

"He's very friendly," she said.

See FALL FESTIVAL, page 9

## Senior Center roof repairs to begin this month

By Paula Ouimette  
pouimette@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Board of Selectmen Vice-Chair John Tripp said the town has been looking to repair the Senior Center roof for several years, and Damazio Builders was awarded the contract to complete the work, starting in September.

He said at the Aug. 29 Board of Selectmen's meeting, that the project is expected to be completed within two to three weeks of starting.

The cost of the project is \$92,777 and is paid for through grants secured by Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission.

**Brownfield assessment**

The Board signed a letter allowing CMRPC access to a brownfield where the H.H. Brown Shoe Factory and Aztec Industries were once located. Aztec Industries was an asbestos product manufacturer that closed in the 1980s.

Tripp said CMRPC needs permission to access the site at 14 South Common St. and 10 Grove St., which is fenced in and overgrown with brush and trees.

He said CMRPC is seeking grant money to help remediate asbestos from the brownfield. He

See NORTH BROOKFIELD, page 6





# News of the Towns



**Round Town**  
Ellenor Downer  
edowner@turley.com

## 9/11 Remembrance set for Sept. 11

A 9/11 Remembrance ceremony will be held on North Common on Monday, Sept. 11 beginning at 8:30 a.m. All are welcome to attend.

### Food Pantry

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 way-back 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 will take place on 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 proceeds go to the upkeep of Nornay Park.

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## 9/11 Remembrance ceremony planned for Monday

BARRE – The Barre 9/11 Memorial Committee invites the public to attend a brief remembrance ceremony marking the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

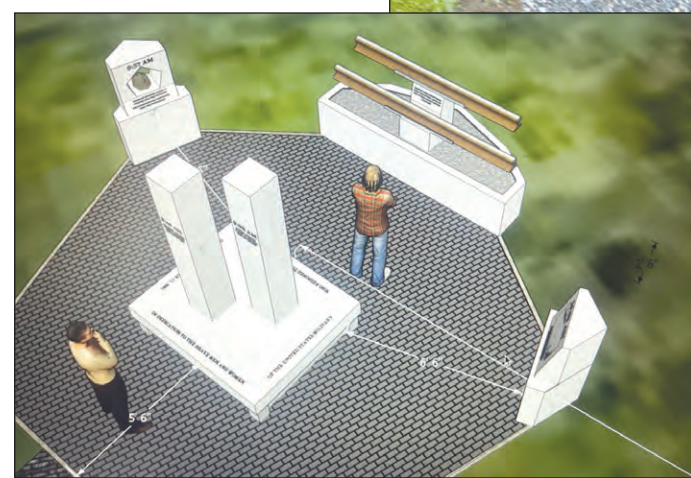
They will muster on Barre's Veterans Park, North Common, on Monday, Sept. 11 by 8:30 a.m.

The Barre 9/11 Memorial Committee will offer for sale gray bricks for the walkway leading to the memorial. People may purchase a brick or bricks to recognize a loved one, family member or friend. These bricks are for military and non-military individuals.

To order a brick, people may visit <https://polarengraving.com/barre911memorial> and follow the directions on the website. Cost for a 4" x 4" replica tile is \$25, for a 4" X 8" three lines of text is \$50 and for 8" x 8" five lines of text is \$65.



Submitted photos  
The site work is being done by committee members along with RN Glidden Landscapes Co.



Global War on Terrors Monument designed by the committee & Barre resident Jason Benoit.

## Food Pantry to hold monthly distributions

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 way-back 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 safe

est 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/>.

**SUBMISSIONS ALWAYS WELCOME**  
Send your stories and photos to edowner@turley.com



**Hubbardston**  
Ellenor Downer  
edowner@turley.com

## Field Day takes place Sept. 16

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.

### 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](http://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](mailto: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).

### 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.

## 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. 11. Lunches are back at the senior center, but require a pre-sign up. Volunteers are needed at the Barre dining site. Volunteers are needed for Meals on Wheels (mileage reimbursement) and in the kitchen. People should contact 978-355-5027.

MONDAY – High Sodium meal Pork Rib-i-que with barbecue sauce, macaroni and cheese, green beans, Mandarin oranges, sandwich roll

TUESDAY – Swedish meatballs, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, tapioca, diet = sugar free tapioca, marble rye bread

WEDNESDAY – Sloppy Joe,\* scalloped potatoes, summer corn, strawberries, sandwich roll

THURSDAY – Chicken cacciatore,\* Gemelli pasta, roasted broccoli, fresh fruit, Italian bread

FRIDAY – Fish with crumb topping, rice pilaf, Brussels sprouts, vanilla mousse, tartar sauce, whole wheat bread

\*Higher sodium entree Meal includes milk and margarine. Menus are subject to change. All meals are served at about 11:45 a.m. each weekday. Reservations should be made the day before by calling 978-355-5027 before 10:30 a.m. The donation of \$2.50 per meal helps keep the program running.

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# News of the Towns

## PUBLIC MEETINGS

### BARRE.

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.  
 Ware River Watershed Advisory Committee – Sept. 13 at 7 p.m.  
 Barre Housing Authority – Sept. 14 at 3 p.m.  
 Sewer Commission – Sept. 21 at 7 p.m.  
 Conservation Committee – Sept. 26 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.

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.  
 Board of Registrars – Sept. 30 at 9 a.m.  
 Board of Registrars – Oct. 28 at 9 a.m.

### HUBBARDSTON

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.  
 Planning Board – Sept. 21, Oct. 4 and Oct. 19 at 6:30 p.m.  
 Conservation Commission – Oct. 3 at 7 p.m.

### NEW BRAINTREE

Planning Board – Sept. 11 at 7 p.m.

### NORTH BROOKFIELD

Parks and Recreation – Sept. 7 at 6 p.m.  
 Finance Committee – Sept. 7 at 6:30 p.m.  
 Library Trustees – Sept. 11 at 6 p.m.  
 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  
 Special Town Election – Sept. 14 10 a.m.-8 p.m.  
 Board of Selectmen – Sept. 18 at 6 p.m.  
 Board of Health – Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15 and Dec. 20 at 5 p.m.

### PETERSHAM

Board of Health – Sept. 7 at 6 p.m.  
 Petersham School Committee – Sept. 11 at 10 a.m.  
 Cemetery Commission – Sept. 12 at 10 a.m.  
 Council on Aging – Sept. 12 at 4:30 p.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

Board of Assessors – Sept. 7 at 3 p.m.  
 Earthworks Board – Sept. 7 and Sept. 21 at 6:30 p.m.  
 Ad Hoc By-law Committee – Sept. 13 at 6 p.m.  
 Economic Development Commission – Sept. 13 at 7 p.m.  
 Capital Improvement Planning Committee – Sept. 14 and Oct. 19 at 6:30 p.m.  
 Select Board Public Hearing – Sept. 18 at 6 p.m.  
 Special State Primary Election – Oct. 10 from 7 a.m.-8 p.m.

## Carved in Stone

PETERSHAM – The program, “Carved in Stone: Local Gravestone Art and Artists of the 18th Century,” will be presented at the Petersham Memorial Library, on Wednesday, Sept. 13 from 6-7:30 p.m. The program will explore local gravestones from the 1700s, and the gravestone carvers who created them.

Barbara Hanno, of the Petersham Cemetery Commission and the Petersham Historical Society, has assembled a slideshow of these ancient stones, from Petersham, Hardwick, Barre, New Salem and many other area locales. She will discuss the symbols, historical significance and artists who created the stones.

Ken Levine, also of the Commission and the Society, who is an artist in stone lettering, will demonstrate the tools that would have been used to create the images and inscribe the lettering.

Gravestone motifs have changed over time, from early field stones with no identification, to the winged skull of the early Colonial years, to the elaborate “soul effigies” of



Photo by Barbara Hanno

This is an example of gravestone artwork in Petersham Center Cemetery. The work from 1790 is attributed to John Just Geyer of Boston.

the mid to late 1700s. Later, the urn and willow designs of the 19th century dominated the art. This program will focus on the time period from approximately 1730-1805.

In this area of central Massachusetts, as the early towns became established, the art of gravestone carving began to flourish. The artists of some stones cannot be identified, but pioneer researchers, like Daniel and Jessie Farber of Worcester, have had archives established of their work, such as the Farber Collection, at the

American Antiquarian Society in Worcester. These early researchers combed the burying grounds and cemeteries of New England to find the artworks and to try to establish who created these ancient treasures.

As part of the program, Levine will allow participants to try some of the tools on a slate tablet with supervision. The program is sponsored by the Petersham Cemetery Commission and the Petersham Historical Society. It is free and open to everyone.

## Petersham Art Center offers classes for the fall season

PETERSHAM – Karen Healey of the Dappled Ewe Studio, will teach a class on “Making a Braided Pumpkin” on Saturday, Sept. 16 from 10 a.m.-noon at the Petersham Art Center, 8 North St.

This charming autumn pumpkin will be woven out of wool scraps and can be used for table centerpieces or other seasonal decorations. Healey is a juried fiber artist, who has been crafting wool creations and teaching textile techniques to myriads of students over the years.

“Drawing Flowers” with Gordon Morrison will take place on Saturday, Sept. 30 from 10 a.m.-noon. Morrison is a nationally known nature artist, who has written and illustrated several children’s books.

He has been the artist chosen to draw the flower illustrations for Newcomb’s Wildflower guides and other well-known nature publications. Participants will discover they can create the artistry of flowers, right at their own fingertips.

Sue Morello’s class on “Weaving a Utility Basket” will be held on Saturday, Oct. 7 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Students will make a handsome multi-use utility basket, which can be used for everything from bread to yarn. Morello is the owner of Sheldon Farm Baskets in Barre, where she creates unique baskets and teaches an array of basketry techniques.

On Saturday, Oct. 14 from 10 a.m.-noon, Rachel Gonzalez of Rachel’s Everlastings will teach a class on how to make a “Dried

Flower Swag.” This hand-wrapped swag will be made from dried flowers and fragrant herbs including garlic bulbs and rose hips. Rachel maintains a sustainable farm in Orange where she grows flowers, fruits and vegetables and teaches craft classes, using the bounty of her gardens.

People may call the Petersham Art Center at 978-724-3415 to register or for more information. There is a fee for each class. The Petersham Art Center is a non-profit center for art and craft of the North Quabbin region, featuring classes, exhibits and unique hand-created gifts of pottery, photography, fine art, local books, and more. It is open Wednesday through Sunday from noon-4 p.m.



## Flying High Dogs entertain at Nornay Park

Mike Piazza’s dogs wait for a frisbee to be thrown. This youngster is more interested in playing with a pitcher than watching the dogs. The program at Nornay Park was sponsored by the Barre Recreation Committee.

Submitted photos

Mike Piazza of Flying High Dogs gets help from children on Thursday, Aug. 24 at Nornay Park, Main Street, South Barre. He is the multiple world finalist record holder in K9 frisbee and the current number one professional K9 frisbee performer in the world.

**Oakham**  
 Ellenor Downer  
 edowner@turley.com



## OHA to hold dinner dance

The Oakham Historical Association will be holding its annual Dinner Dance at Quail Hollow Golf and Country Club, 1822 Old Turnpike Road, Oakham on Oct. 21 from 5-10 p.m. There will be a buffet turkey dinner and dancing to the Nashville Blue band who plays Rock and Country music. There will be raffles on baskets and gift certificates. The cost is \$50 per person. Checks can be sent and make out to Oakham Historical Association, P.O. Box 236, Oakham, MA 01068. Please respond by Oct. 13. People may call Kathy Young at 508-882-3137 with any questions

### Oakham Museum

The Oakham Historical Museum, Old Turnpike Road, will hold an open house on Sunday, Sept. 24 from 1-4 p.m.

### Benefit breakfast

The Oakham Congregational church, 4 Coldbrook Road, will hold a benefit breakfast for Maui relief on Saturday, Sept. 16 from 8-9:30 a.m. The menu will consist of scrambled eggs, pancakes, sausages, strawberries and pineapple, orange juice, coffee, tea and hot chocolate. A free will offering will take place and all donations go to Maui relief.

### 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.

## Medicare 101 educational event offered Sept. 14

BARRE – The Barre Senior Center will be hosting an educational presentation on Thursday, Sept. 14 at 2 p.m. at the senior center located at 557 South Barre Road, for current beneficiaries and for those who will soon be eligible for Medicare.

The information is specific to Massachusetts. The session will run from 1 to 1.5 hours, including time for questions.

The presentation will be conducted by Ed Spater, a licensed Insurance agent, who will explain the basics of Medicare including:

- Why it’s important to evaluate your current Medicare coverage each year
- The pros and cons of each of your Medicare coverage options
- What to consider when deciding which Medicare coverage option is right for you
- Ways to save money and get better Medicare coverage in 2024

For accommodations of persons with special needs at meetings call 774-271-5199 or 711 for TTY callers.

### Editorial deadline reminder

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

## Places to go... Things to do...

**BROOKFIELD ORCHARDS HARVEST CRAFT FAIR**  
 Sept. 9th & 10th • 10 AM- 4PM  
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**Timothy's**  
 Say "HI" to our Friends!!!  
 Local Brewery, Winery and Ciderery!!!

**TIMBERYARD**  
 BREWING CO.

**HARDWICK**  
 MASSACHUSETTS

**COMMON GROUND**

**LIVE MUSIC**

**The Brumby Jones**  
 Saturday Sept 9th 12-4

**Wheelsmith**  
 Sunday Sept 10th 12-4

## Sixth annual Alex Cordy Memorial Golf Tournament Sept. 16

OAKHAM – Knights of Columbus Council # 11080, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish, Brookfield/West Brookfield, is having its sixth Annual Alex Cordy Memorial Charity Golf Tournament at Quail Hollow Golf and Country Club, 1822 Old Turnpike Road, on Saturday, Sept. 16.

Check in begins at 7:15 a.m., with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. Awards and a meal will follow in the clubhouse.

Proceeds from this event benefit local scholarships and youth activities.

For more information and to register, please call 413-813-8100 or email wallyconnor122@gmail.com.

Community Newspaper  
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 26,136± SF lot w/existing garage (former house lot)

**259 SUMMER STREET (PARCEL EA81)**  
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# Opinion

## Guest Column



### I'm 64. When should I claim my Social Security?

Dear Rusty

I am 64 years old and still working full time. My question is - when should I start my Social Security? I would like to start it in January 2024 and go part time at work, but would I be losing much Social Security by not waiting until full retirement age?

Signed: Trying to Plan Ahead

Dear Trying, to Plan:

You are smart to evaluate the impact of claiming your Social Security benefits early. First, be aware that your full Retirement Age for Social Security purposes is 66 years and 8 months and that is when you get 100% of the SS benefit you've earned from a lifetime of working.

It appears you already know that if you start benefits before your FRA, you'll be subject to Social Security's "earnings test," which limits how much you can earn from working before they take away some of your benefits. But if you go part time at work you can mitigate the earnings test and claim your benefits early - just understand that your payment will be permanently reduced by doing so.

If you claim your benefits to start in January 2024, you'll be taking your Social Security about 18 months early, which means that instead of 100% of your FRA entitlement you'll get about 90% (a reduction of 10%).

The earnings test will still apply and we don't yet know what the 2024 earnings limit will be, but it will be something more than the 2023 limit of \$21,240. If your 2024 earnings exceed the annual limit, SS will take away \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit. They "take away" benefits by withholding future payments until they recover what you owe for exceeding the limit.

If you work part time and don't exceed the 2024 annual earnings limit, there will be no penalty and you will get every month's SS payment. If you find you will exceed the annual 2024 earnings limit, you can call Social Security and inform them of that and by how much, and they will suspend your benefits for the number of months necessary to avoid over-paying you.

If you don't inform them and you exceed the annual 2024 limit, they will catch up in 2025 when they get your 2024 earnings information from the IRS and issue an Overpayment Notice requiring you to pay back the amount owed, half of what you exceeded the 2024 annual limit by. As you likely know, the earnings test no longer applies after you reach your full retirement age.

So, the decision on when to claim your Social Security benefit is yours to make, and you are smart to consider your work plans - but should also consider your life expectancy and marital status. If you are married and eventually die before your lower earning spouse, your spouse's benefit as your survivor will be based on your benefit amount at the time of your death.

Thus, your age when you claim your benefit may also affect your spouse's benefit as your survivor; the longer you wait up to age 70 the more your spouse's survivor benefit would be. And if you enjoy at least average longevity, which is about 84 for a man your current age, then by waiting until your FRA or later to claim you'll not only get a higher monthly payment but also get more in cumulative lifetime benefits.

If, however, your financial circumstances are such that you need the SS money sooner, then claiming earlier may be the right decision, provided you don't substantially exceed the annual earnings limit prior to reaching your full retirement age. I hope the above provides what you need to make an informed decision.

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](http://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at [ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org).

Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.



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## Guest Column



### Fall plants extend the season

Over the last few days, I have heard the same sorry statement again and again: "I can't believe summer is over."

I am not sure if this is because school has started, or if honestly, folks feel cheated out of summer because of all the rain and overcast skies we had. Probably it's a little of both!

There have been a few coldish mornings, enough to make me get excited about all that is fall. Pumpkins, crisp apples, beautiful foliage and you guessed it, autumn plants!

Read on for a column from the archives, one that will inspire you to add some late season color to your landscape.

It is always fun to freshen up the garden with new plants. I think of adding a splash of color at this point in the season as a last hurrah before old man winter sets in.

There are all types of mums, and flowering cabbage and kale available for sale right now. Unfortunately, they command higher prices than summer annuals do.

This article will teach you how to get the most out of your investment.

Choose mums carefully. Daisy and other decorative flower types will generally not last as long in the garden as "cushions" will. These have petals straight through to the center of the flower- no yellow center is visible.

Because the flower head is dense it tends to hold up after a heavy rain and as well as after the first few frosty nights. Although mums are pretty in their pots, they will do better if planted in the ground or at least repotted into a larger container.

The poor things have been growing in the pots you bought them in for quite a while and are usually root-bound. Because of this it is important to slice the roots in a few places just as you would annuals or perennials at planting time.

This way they will have a chance to expand into the new soil you have provided. Mums tend to dry out quickly and require water often.

If you notice that your plant has wilted before you have had a chance to plant it, submerge the pot in a bucket of water- the shrunken soil ball will soak up water like a sponge!

Although mums can stand temperatures a few degrees below freezing, it is still a good idea to cover them if an early hard frost is in the forecast. Try using bushel baskets, old sheets or blankets, etc.

It is a nuisance, but so many times I have been grateful that I went through a bit of work to be able to enjoy my mums for weeks longer than if I hadn't.

If you are hoping that your mums will return for another season, cut them back to "fist height" in November, and provide them with a loose mulch after the ground freezes. The term "hardy mum" doesn't always prove true, but planting them properly, providing ample water and mulching for the winter will

See GARDEN, page 10

## In Past Pages

5 years (Sept. 13, 2018)

The No. 4 Schoolhouse, 209 Farrington Road, will hold its Founder's Day Celebration on Saturday, Sept. 22 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. they will honor their founders with a celebration of being a Community Center for 81 years and 135 years as a schoolhouse. People can take a chance on the themed raffle baskets. Tickets will be available through the fall with the winners to be announced at their annual Christmas party. Founder's Day will have an open house, historical theme, event photos, live music, antique cars and refreshments.

She may be small in stature, but Louise Chaffee was a fierce and mighty advocate for those that needed shelter. After a career of over 21 years, Chaffee recently retired as the Director of Grandview Terrace and the Barre Housing Authority and she will and has already been missed. "She did a great service for 21 years," Grandview Tenant, Jacqueline Cushman said. "She did a lot for the town of Barre and she should be thanked." With Barre being such a small community, some may not realize there even is a housing authority in the town or the ongoing need to find people shelter. However, through Chaffee's tenure, it was her mission to find those, who need assistance, an affordable place to live.

Oakham Selectmen opted to take the next step in the center, the Maple Street project by hiring an engineering firm. Highway superintendent, C. Kevin Currier, stated at the Tuesday night selectmen's meeting the project "needs to be done." For several years, he set aside Chapter 90 money to help cover the costs of the project. He estimated the saved amount to be about \$500,000. The project induced sidewalk repair or replacement, drainage and repaving of Maple Street.

10 years (Sept. 12, 2013)

There are many changes in the Quabbin Regional Middle High School menu and the students and staff are enjoying the "new food." Increased lunch participation even among the school staff is a true indicator of the popularity of the new menu. Students have many choices from a "concept menu." They can opt for the days special from Passport: international cuisine, chef works, deep dish pizzeria, the club house or tossed. Students also have several choices of sides to go with the above entree or they can find additional options in the deli or snack attack stations.

A special closing ceremony has been added to the Operation Kinbolton 2013//Wings Freedom Tour being held at the Orang Municipal Airport on Sept. 11-13. Petersham resident Vincent "Bill" Purple, 89, received a letter in the mail several weeks ago stating that "by Decree of President Hollande of France, you have been appointed 'Chevalier' of the Legion of Honor." And what better place to receive the Legion of Honor medal than with one of last few remaining

### LOOK BACK Play Ball - 1989



File photograph

It was worth the wait for these trophy winners, as the 1988 Barre Little League All Stars received their awards at Opening Day ceremonies held on April 30, 1989 at Felton Field in Barre. Pictured receiving tokens of the recognition they so richly deserve are, front row from left, Richard Lam, Mike Dansereau, Brian Lapati and Kris Paluk. Standing in back row are from left, Matt Besse, Pat Girouard, Coach Bob Doolittle, Ed Brown and Joel Doolittle. Absent when the photo was taken were Neil Mulhern, Jesse Leger, Adam DeJakome, Benjamin Dowd, Seth Stoddard, Daniel Leonard and Coach Ed Leonard.

B-17 Flying Fortresses as a stunning backdrop to the occasion.

Petersham Administrative Coordinator Steven Boudreau reported the state fiber optic broadband network in the center of town will be operational Dec. 25. Service will be provided by the state to town buildings, but infrastructure for service to the rest of the town and access to private property will not be provided. Several residents of the Nichevaug Road area attended the Select Board meeting to make the board aware of the fact that at present they have absolutely no Internet service available. These homes cannot access service for work at home and their children have no resources for homework research. The resale value of homes in the area is also affected, since most people do not want to purchase a house with no Internet access.

25 years (Sept. 10, 1998)

Barre Building Inspector Harold Nicholas said he has issued 32 building permits for single family dwelling in Barre so far this year. Since Nicholas was appointed to the post in 1981, this is the second highest year of new home construction. In 1989, he issued 50 building permits. If the current trend continues, 1998 may equal or exceed the building boom of 1989, Nicholas said.

Barre Players Inc. has received a \$2,000 grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council. State Sen. Stephen M. Brewer said local public programs in the arts, humanities and sciences will receive \$146,670 in Organizational Support Grants from the Massachusetts Cultural Council. These grants will go to area cultural organizations to help the communities' cultural life thrive and increase arts educations.

Phyllis Rose, director of the Phyllis Rose Dance Company of New York, will be guest teaching a master class and repertoire at the Central Massachusetts School of Ballet in Barre on Monday, Sept. 14.

Rose and her company of seven dancers are funded by the New York State Arts Council. They have done numerous residencies throughout New York and the Northeast. Her multi-cultural company is instrumental in the education of dance in New York.

38 years (Sept. 12, 1985)

Barre voters at a Special Town Meeting on Sept. 5 came up with the 2/3 majority votes that were needed to fund the sewer system and approve the zoning by laws. Both of these votes were necessary if the two was to continue on in the direction of a wastewater treatment plant with the aid of federal and state funds. Cars lined all streets leading to Ruggles Lane School, as 446 registered voters turned out. This amount was one of the largest voter turnouts since the high school was voted on in the 1960s. Francis Cranston, moderator, postponed gaveling the meeting to order at 8 p.m., the posted time so that all the people could be checked in. Finally, at 8:25 p.m. he called the meeting to order and said, "Let nobody say the town of Barre is apathetic or indifferent."

The Thief and Rogue Detecting Society of Barre is offering a \$100 reward to anyone giving information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of person or persons, who stole nine flags from buildings around the Common late Friday night. Flags, some of them as large as 8' x 12' were taken from the Barre Golden Age Club, Barre

See PAST PAGES, page 10

### Turley Publications Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters to the editor should be 350 words or less in length. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require letter writers to include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous or contain unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, defamation of character and offensive language. All unknown or alleged facts and quotations offered by the author need to cite credible, unbiased sources. Send letters to: Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005 or via email to [edowner@turley.com](mailto:edowner@turley.com). The deadline for submissions is Friday at noon.

### BARRE GAZETTE TEAM



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# Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

It was nice weather this week and I was able to go to the flea market on Sunday.

I had a nice visit with our grandson from South Carolina.

Here is the recipe that I thought the readers would enjoy for the last of summer.

### Pistachio Salad

1 small package instant pistachio pudding

1 (20 oz. can of crushed pineapple

1 cup chopped walnuts

9 oz. Cool Whip

1 cup miniature marshmallows

Put dry pudding in a bowl with crushed pineapple and juice. Blend. Add Cool Whip and walnuts and marshmallows.

Blend and refrigerate. Make same day. Serves to 8.

### This and That

Finally I had some weather with no rain for two days so I took out the house paint and touched up the deck railing and some trim on the house. I also got more of the back lawn mowed.

I took the white cone flowers in pots and planted them in a garden. I must of disturbed a wasp nest as they came after me.

I have started to make a fall display on the front deck with mums and some fall dried foliage. I am still waiting to get some pumpkins.

I received word that my aunt, who was a war bride from Austria, had passed away. I was very fond of her and she lived on Long Island, New York.

I hope you all had a nice Labor Day. Summer is just about over. It sure has been a wet one.

## CANDIDATES NIGHT, continued from page 1

failed a pump test two years in a row and the annual state inspection as well. He said his goal was safety.

He also said new homes “flash over” in over five minutes compared to older homes in about 29 minutes. This was due to the new construction materials, which contain a lot of polyester.

Howe said a new truck takes two to three years for delivery after ordering one and costs over \$850,000.

This truck if voters said yes at the election since it was “in stock” at a dealer would arrive in a little more than a month rather than the two plus years.

The candidate portion of the program began with brief statements from each candidate followed by questions from the audience read by the Moderator, Dennis Bergin. Aaron Langlois spoke first. He said service is more than attending meetings. He said if elected he would hold monthly office hours.

He said with his background in business, he can lead the town with its multi-million budget. He currently serves on the Board of Health and was the town’s Public Health Nurse during the pandemic. He planned to continue to serve on the Board of Health.

Michael Brunelle said he currently was tree warden and a member of the Town Hall Study Committee. He was a selectman in the 1990s. He said he can work with the existing Select Board.

Both candidates agreed on the need to update the town by laws. When asked what their important goal was, Brunelle said it was the everyday running of town government and he felt it ran pretty well for a small town. He said a decision on Town Hall would need to be made in the future. Langlois said communication between boards and committees was important along with collaboration and transparency.

The next question was how can town departments run without an override due to costs of the schools. Langlois said he doubted they could and cited the situation in the town of Dudley.

Brunelle said there are lots of schools, but student population was lowering. He said he would rath-



Town Moderator Dennis Bergin, from left, asked questions from the audience to Michael Brunelle and Aaron Langlois, the two candidates for Select Board to fill a vacancy. The term will expire in May 2024.



Oakham Fire Chief Timothy Howe gave a power point presentation to attendees at candidate’s night last Thursday on why the town needed a new fire truck.

er see small classes in Oakham than busing them to other schools and the taxpayers should bear the responsibility for the children’s education.

Brunelle said he was not in favor of the tax collector and treasurer being the same person and it eliminated a check and balance between the two positions. He said he would rather have two people who don’t like each other finding the other’s mistakes.

Langlois said he fell in love with town government at a young age. He said it was important to make everyone feel welcome. He said he still hears, “you’re not from town”

Brunelle said he was “uncomfortable with that statement” and he didn’t know of anyone currently serving in town government, who was born here. Langlois said it was his experience and his opinion.

Another question asked the candidates how they felt about a battery park. Brunelle said he would like a by-law, which would

make parks cost prohibitive to be in Oakham. He said solar fields wasted open space and woodlands and the electric grid was not up to handling large solar fields in town. There is only one three-phase line in town.

Langlois said this is a rural issue because “we have large tracts of open space.” He said no matter what the by-law was, it doesn’t prohibit “the mighty dollar.”

The final question was what were your thoughts on repurposing Center School if the school district closed it. Brunelle said he was not in favor of closing the school as students benefitted from smaller classes. He said the taxpayers built the schools to handle lots of children and he was opposed to giving up our elementary school.

Langlois said the subject would require a lot of conversation. He added the Board of Health could use more space. He said it was important to look at the regional school agreement and “fix it.”

## DIORIO, continued from page 1

The new website also features an app for families.

McCormick said the High School received a Project Lead the Way grant back in June. The computer lab will be turned into a robotics lab for students in grades six through 12.

“This is kind of phase one in building a pathway for our students in STEM education,” McCormick said.

McCormick said the Champions before and after school program will start this fall in the Elementary School, offering extended hours and more instruction for students.

A new student information system will be phased in for the 2024-2025 school year. McCormick said the school district is also now able to track attendance electronically.

McCormick said a candidate has accepted an offer to fill the Director of Student Services position, pending negotiations.

McCormick said the school district still needs to fill two special education teacher positions. One of the special education teachers in the High School will be shifting to the Elementary School while the school district works to fill the vacancies.

### Walkthrough

School Committee Chair Ron Ryel thanked Facilities Manager Ray Quintanilla and McCormick for leading a walkthrough of the school, and showing some of the improvements made over the summer and other things that still need addressing.

McCormick is working with local veteran Joe Jablonski to get American flags in every classroom.

Ryel asked that people using the schools be respectful of the space and work together to maintain the buildings.

### IT report

Technology Coordinator Justin Hackenson shared projects that were completed over the summer, in addition to the new website.

He said projectors were ordered and three have been installed. Extra Chromebook chargers have also been ordered to replace those lost or damaged.

Hackenson said the staff will now have digital time off requests, rather than using paper forms. He said digital report cards will also replace paper report cards.

He said leased copy machines throughout the school district have been replaced as well.

### Recognitions

McCormick said Quintanilla and

facilities staff did a lot of “great work” over the summer to make sure the two buildings were clean and ready for the school year. He said the school district’s grounds are “quite extensive” and he credited the staff for maintaining them, as well as the athletic fields.

The Extended School Year program was held from early July through early August at the Elementary School.

“It was overall a fantastic program,” McCormick said. “I think our students received a lot of personalized instruction.”

McCormick also thanked Donna Holmes for helping to secure free breakfast and lunch for North Brookfield students, prior to the state granting this to all students across the commonwealth.

He also thanked the administration and Central Office staff for all of their efforts this summer.

“We got a lot accomplished for this coming school year and it’s all due to their hard work,” McCormick.

### Regionalization update

McCormick said after a hiatus, the Regional Agreement Amendment Committee between the towns of North Brookfield, Warren and West Brookfield has met several times since June.

# Author’s book talks about life and love on the family farm

By Paula Ouimette  
pouimette@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Diane Buzzell has been gathering the story (or stories) of a lifetime for the past 50 years, before she even realized it.

It all began when she met her future husband Larry through her coworker at the shoe factory. The coworker was Larry’s girlfriend at the time.

Both Buzzell and her coworker had Morgan horses, and the two began riding and showing together.

When she was 16, Buzzell joined her coworker, Larry and his brother Russ on an outing, and her coworker asked her to sit with Larry, which she did. Buzzell and Larry hit it off, and began seeing each other soon after.

Buzzell shared Larry’s comment he made to his brother, Ralph, when he first introduced her to the family: “Isn’t she the most beautiful thing you’ve ever seen?” To which Ralph responded as any teasing brother would, “Why is she with you?”

Now married for 50 years, the couple has built a family and a lifetime of their own memories, which Buzzell shares in her book. But it was memories of Larry’s family and life on their farm that inspired Buzzell to preserve them as stories for all to enjoy.

“Call me an author,” Buzzell said. “I’m not a writer.”

Much like the authors of the books in the Bible, Buzzell describes herself as more of a scribe, sharing the stories that already exist.

Buzzell was inspired to start writing her book “The Artist, The Farmer, The Hunter, and the Good Guy” back in 2015 when her brother-in-law Russ presented on the massacre at Wheeler’s Surprise in New Braintree. She learned things she didn’t know.

“It took about a year to put all those ideas together,” she said, in talking to the family. After attending a funeral, she realized she needed to put more into the book and continued writing.

Capturing these memories on paper goes beyond the Buzzell family, she said.

“The best way to learn history, and culture, is by listening to people and learning their stories,” Buzzell said.

Buzzell recently presented her book at the North Brookfield Senior Center, where many of those in attendance remembered some of the landmarks and people preserved forever between its pages.

“Who remembers this building



North Brookfield author Diane Buzzell stands with her husband Larry Buzzell, right, and his brother Russ Buzzell, left. They are shown with a painting of the Buzzell family farm, painted by Russ.

being IGA?” Buzzell asked, which most of the audience did.

They all shared memories of Grove Street High School and Elementary School, as well as Miss O’Coin.

“She was ‘Miss’ and proud of it,” Buzzell said, adding that her book’s editor kept trying to change “Miss” to “Ms.” which Miss O’Coin wouldn’t have tolerated.

Buzzell said the book covers memories of Old Sturbridge Village, hayrides at Salem Cross Inn, Brookfield Orchards and more.

“It’s all in this book...you might be too,” Buzzell said.

Many of the stories in the book center around the animals on the Buzzell farm, including cows and horses.

“The Buzzells wouldn’t be Buzzells without horses,” she said.

Buzzell shared a story of brothers Russ and Jack accompanying their father to hay a field one summer.

“That night, cutting hay had to be done one way or another,” she said.

She said their mother wasn’t home that night, and each boy sat atop one of the horses as their father drove them through the field in the dark. Russ remembers his father instructing the boys to stay awake and not let go of the horses.

Fireflies lit up the sky as Russ and Jack listened to the swishing of the horses tails as they laid on their sweaty backs.

“It was almost more beauty than a little boy could imagine,” Russ recalled.

Running one of the towns 50 plus dairy farms was hard work for the Buzzell boys, who had barn chores that needed to be completed early each morning.

Larry said it took an hour to feed all 20 hungry, impatient

calves and clean their pails before getting ready for school. But that was if everything went right.

Larry said the farm children would often be teased at school, for being dirty or smelling like the barn, and he always took extra care to be presentable.

One day, Larry released a cow from the chute before detaching the milking machine, causing her to take off bucking and running across the pasture, leaving a trail of machine parts in her wake.

After finishing his milking duties and collecting the parts of the broken machine, Larry was very late to arrive at school, much to the displeasure of Mrs. Murphy. He remembers being dragged by his ear to the principal’s office, where he had to explain in detail the reason why he was late.

“He burst out laughing,” Larry said of the principal’s reaction. “He had been a farmer.”

While most of the dairy farms are now gone and the fields have grown into forests, at least the memories of North Brookfield’s farm life live on.

“It’s never going to be the same again,” Russ said.

Buzzell said she has seen the hand of God working in her life, sharing her battle with cancer and the scars it has left her.

“For me, my scars are milestones,” she said.

Buzzell encouraged all in attendance to write down their own family stories and keep their history alive.

“God wanted me to write this book,” she said

### About the book

Published by Christian Faith Publishing, “The Artist, The Farmer, The Hunter, and the Good Guy” is available for purchase at [thriftbooks.com](http://thriftbooks.com), Amazon and Barnes and Noble.

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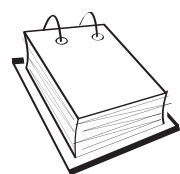
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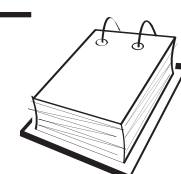
## Corrections policy

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 [barre-news@turley.com](mailto:barre-news@turley.com) or call 978-355-4000. Corrections may also be requested in writing at Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.





# Calendar of Events



## THURSDAY, SEPT. 7

**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](http://www.JimmyFundWalk.org) or call (866) 531-9255. Registrants can enter the promo code NEWS for \$5 off the registration fee.

**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](mailto: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](mailto:sterlinggrange53@gmail.com) or call 508-886-2341.

## SATURDAY, SEPT. 9

**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.

**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 available 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](mailto:MTWigler@gmail.com).

## Where is this?



Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

This week's mystery photo is from Rutland. If any readers know where this photo was taken, they may email [edowner@turley.com](mailto:edowner@turley.com) or call the Barre Gazette at 413-967-3505, extension 100 with their answer by noon on Monday, Sept. 11. The names of those that correctly guessed the location will appear in next week's edition. Bill Bowles, Gary Brigham, Stephen Craven, Evelyn Luukko, Jeremy Varnum and Philip Warbasse correctly identified the photo. The photo last week was of the Orthodox Congregational Church, North Main Street, in Petersham.

**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, Sleazy Top and Gobshties. 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

**9/11 REMEMBRANCE** will take place today beginning at 8:30 a.m. on the North Common, Barre. All are welcome to attend.

**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.

## WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 13

**LOCAL GRAVESTONE ART** will be the topic today from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Petersham Memorial Library. Barbara Hanno has assembled a slideshow of gravestones from Petersham, Hardwick, Barre, New Salem and other locales. Ken Levine will demonstrate the tools that would have been used to create images and inscribe lettering. The program is sponsored by the Petersham Cemetery Commission and the Petersham Historical Society. It is free and open to all.

## THURSDAY, SEPT. 14

**CIRCLE OF SONG REHEARSALS** begin today and meet every Thursday night, most likely at the Barre Town Hall, Exchange Street, Barre. The choral group of 23 years sings in four-part harmony and often in other languages. People may email [julie@mhof.net](mailto:julie@mhof.net) or call 978-257-1192 for more information. They perform several concerts during the year.

## 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@sevenhillsg.org](mailto:yiwfrycyouice@sevenhillsg.org) 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 [barrehistory@gmail.com](mailto:barrehistory@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 cook, spices and raffle tickets for a cord of wood and a sampler quilt.

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## NORTH BROOKFIELD, continued from page 1

said if this area was cleaned up, the town could connect the playground to the Rail Trail.

Tripp said the area where the Police Department is located, and the nearby emergency helicopter landing area have already been remediated of asbestos.

"This will be the last remaining section that is not asbestos-free," Tripp said.

"I think it will be a great addition to the town, connecting the center of town here with the trail and with the playground, and get some more parking over there," he said.

### Financial items

The Board approved the Highway Department's request to purchase the following items, a transmission kit for \$900, tires for \$600, a chainsaw for approximately \$500 and two air brake cans for \$500.

Town Clerk Tara Hayes said she wants to order her 2024 dog licenses early, as she is running out of her 2023 dog licenses.

As of July, there were 450 residents who haven't licensed their dogs, she said. Hayes said of that number, 230 have now paid, or they have communicated that they have moved, or their dog is deceased.

Hayes said that still leaves 220 residents that need to license their dogs and she only has six 2023 licenses remaining. She asked for approval to order 900 2024 licenses for \$141.

Hayes said the remaining 220 residents can come in and pay for their 2023 dog license, their late fee, and their 2024 license, which will be issued to them.

Hayes said her office has its new

postage meter, and she requested to transfer \$1,000 from her postage account, to cover upcoming mailings.

The Board approved both of these requests.

Town Collector Lisa Taylor requested approval to spend \$3,000 for postage, which was also approved.

### Fire report

Board of Selectmen Clerk Elizabeth "Brooke" Canada read the Fire Department report for the month of July, as submitted by Fire Chief Joseph Holway.

Holway said the Department had a busy month, responding to storms.

He said the grants are still active for the new brush truck. Holway said the Department was also asked to host a Volunteer Fire Assistance Program grant receiver event for all fire departments across the commonwealth on Sept. 14 at 10 a.m.

Holway said this event is open to the public, to see the forestry equipment secured through this grant program and the people behind the program.

"We are honored to be asked to host this event," Holway wrote in his report.

Holway said the station rebuild is coming along, and he hopes the bidding process will be out to contractors this December.

The Fire Department responded to 35 incidents, including one building fire, one outside equipment fire, four medical assist/assist EMS crew, one motor vehicle accident (no injury), one watercraft rescue, one gasoline or other flammable liquids spill, one electrical, wiring or equipment problem, one attempted burning/illegal action, six water problems, one assist police or other governmental agency, four false alarms, one system

malfunction, seven smoke detector activations due to malfunction, one alarm system activation due to malfunction, two smoke detector activations (no fire) unintentional, one windstorm, tornado and hurricane assessment and one lightning strike (no fire).

### Vegetation trimming

Tripp reminded property owners to keep bushes and other vegetation trimmed along roadways and sidewalks. He said some areas have become obstructed and pose a safety hazard for pedestrians and motorists.

### Special Town Meeting

Following the adjournment of the Board of Selectmen's meeting, Moderator James Caldwell opened a two-article special town meeting, with the first article asking voters to rescind a previous town meeting's article which authorized the town to appropriate \$6,600,000 from the Sewer Enterprise fund.

Article 19 was approved at the March 10 special town meeting, and due to an error in the language of the motion, the voters need to authorize the Treasurer to borrow these funds.

"When we were in the process of borrowing the funds, it was discovered that we needed specific wording that authorized the Treasurer to borrow the funds. When we originally voted it, that language wasn't in that article," Administrative Assistant Ashley Barre said. "It doesn't change the intention of the article, we just need to add, basically a sentence... so that we can move forward with borrowing the funds."

Voters approved rescinding the previous article, and voted unanimously in favor of approving the revised article by ballot vote.

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# SPORTS

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## Panthers scrimmage Abby Kelley

BARRE – Last Saturday, Quabbin football geared up for their regular season opener with a scrimmage against Abby Kelley High School. The Panthers are loading up for a regular season run, which starts off on the road at Gardner High School on Friday, Sept. 8. Game time is set for 7 p.m.



The coaching staff has a word with the players.



Luke Salvadore rushes up the middle.

Turley photos by Ray Duffy



Jake Leazotte tries to bat away a pass.



A run up the middle for the Panthers.



Ethan Nompoggi makes a reception and stays inbounds.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



Hunter Griswold looks to make a decision with the ball in traffic.

## Pioneers test their mettle

WILBRAHAM – Last Saturday morning, Pathfinder Regional football traveled a short way to Wilbraham & Monson Academy and had their final scrimmage action before the regular season is supposed to begin. The Pioneers are scheduled to open the season right nearby, taking on neighbor Palmer High School on Friday, Sept. 8 at 7 p.m.



Nicholas Pfisher makes a throw.



Jarrett Skowyra jumps to make the catch.

## Coby among hungry contenders for Monadnock Race

MOORESVILLE, N.C. – After two races off, Tommy Baldwin Racing announced today that the team will field a Mayhew Tools No. 7NY entry for Doug Coby in this Saturday's NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour 150 at Monadnock Speedway.

Coby and Baldwin enter the event leading the point standings for the Whelen Granite State Short Track Cup, which will conclude Saturday night.

The Cup awards a bonus of \$5,000 to the team that captures the most points over three events. Coby picked up the win in round one of the Cup at Monadnock back in May and finished sixth in the second race at Lee USA Speedway to enter this weekend in the lead.

The team is also eligible for additional bonuses from the Cup, including a lap leader bonus from all three events combined and the best average finish over the three races. The team has the opportunity to collect over \$6,400 in bonus money, plus any winnings collected for finishing position on Saturday. It made the decision to attend a no-brainer.

Last month, Tommy Baldwin

See RACING, page 8

## Pioneers cap season with Festa match

LUDLOW – After another season with a playoff appearance in the USL-2 League, many members of the Western Mass. Pioneers got together one last time for the annual Friendly Festa game on Sunday afternoon. The entire team was put together by the Lusitano Club of Ludlow. The exhibition has been happening for the past several years during the town's Festa celebration.



Monson's Connor Hicks receives a pass and makes his way up the field.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



Max Robbins looks to catch up with the ball.



Kyle Tomas winds up for a long kick.



Noah Rivera stops the ball.

## COLLEGE SPORTS

### Nassir finishes 15th in WSU meet

WESTFIELD – Westfield State freshman Nathan Sylvén (Wrentham, Mass./King Phillip) was the individual winner as the Owls ran to a third-place team finish at the season-opening Keene State Alumni Invitational in Keene, N.H. on Saturday.

Sylvén traversed the 5-kilometer course in 16:07, 11 seconds ahead of his closest competition and matching his personal best time.

Junior Will Buckley (Plymouth, Mass./North) was next for the Owls in sixth place in 16:34, and the Owls

had a tight grouping as John Nektopoulos (West Springfield, Mass.), Matthew Hall (Duxbury, Mass.), Abdi Nassir (New Braintree, Mass./Quabbin) and Gordon Johnson (Hanson, Mass./Whitman-Hanson) took 15th through 19th place.

The Owls had seven personal-record or course-personal-record times.

The Owls placed third in the team rankings behind Southern Maine and the Keene State alumni squad.

Westfield will next be in action at the Trinity College Invitational next Saturday.





# Sports

## Railers name new VP

WORCESTER – The Worcester Railers Hockey Club (@RailersHC), proud ECHL (@ECHL) affiliate of the New York Islanders (@NYIslanders) is pleased to welcome David Aitken to the front office staff as the Vice President of Tickets & Corporate Partnerships.

“David has a proven track record of driving revenue in minor league sports,” said Railers HC President, Stephanie Ramey. “He has been a direct contributor of significant AHL ticket sales growth in both Rochester and Cleveland and will bring new ideas to enhance the Railers experience for fans and sponsors.”

Aitken will oversee all revenue channels for the Railers and will help further develop the ticket sales and corporate sponsorships departments. Most recently, Aitken spent nearly five years as the Director of Ticket Sales with the Rochester Americans (AHL) and Rochester Knighthawks (NLL), as part of Pegula Sports and Entertainment, the parent company of the Buffalo Sabres

and Buffalo Bills. His responsibilities included strategy, budgeting, and personnel.

Under Aitken’s leadership, the Amerks achieved their highest season ticket numbers and ticket sales revenue in the franchise’s 67-year history. The Amerks concluded the 2023 Calder Cup Playoffs with the highest attendance for the AHL clubs playing more than one home playoff game, which featured three of six home games with a sell-out crowd of 10,662 at their venue.

Prior to his time in Rochester, Aitken spent eight seasons with the Cleveland Monsters (AHL) as part of the Cleveland Cavaliers (NBA) organization. His position with the team was Sr. Manager of Business Development where he led all new business ticket sales efforts, as well as managed a senior level team of ticket representatives. During this time, Aitken was also responsible for youth hockey game-day programming and community outreach efforts for six seasons and was instrumental in the founding of the Monsters’

“Grow the Game” and Learn to Play initiatives in Northeast Ohio.

Aitken’s tenure in Cleveland was highlighted by placing among the AHL’s top 10 in group sales for five seasons and generated the most group sales in franchise history at that time in the 2015-16 season. He was also part of the 2016 Calder Cup champion Lake Erie Monsters staff which won the AHL’s President’s Award for Business Team of the Year.

Aitken is originally from Chestertown, NY in the Lake George region, and is relocating to Worcester with his wife Colleen, and their three daughters, Leah, Emma, and Olivia. His start date with the Railers is Monday, July 24.

The Worcester Railers HC 2023-24 Opening Weekend at the DCU Center is Saturday, Oct. 21 and Sunday, Oct. 22 vs. the Adirondack Thunder & Trois-Rivières Lions. Season memberships, mini-plans, and group packages for the 2023-24 season are on sale now by calling the Railers front office at 508-365-1750 or by visiting RailersHC.com.

## Paul, Hall team up to host tip-off event

SPRINGFIELD – The Chris Paul Family Foundation and Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame announced the third annual circuit of two Historically Black College and University (HBCU) events, the HBCU Tip-Off and Challenge, presented by the AEA Foundation.

The HBCU Tip-Off will take place Nov. 18-19 at the Mohegan Sun Arena in Uncasville, Connecticut, and the HBCU Challenge will be held Dec. 16-17 at Michelob ULTRA Arena at Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino in Las Vegas.

“As an HBCU graduate himself, Chris Paul has long been a prominent voice for the empowerment of HBCU athletes,” said John L. Doleva, President and CEO of the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame. “The Hall of Fame is honored to work alongside Chris to create opportunities for these

student-athletes, and we look forward to watching them play in two competitive weekends of basketball.”

Paul, an active philanthropist and entrepreneur, has actively supported HBCUs for years. He currently serves on President Joe Biden’s advisory board on Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Paul executive produced Why Not Us: North Carolina Central Basketball, Why Not Us: FAMU Football, and Why Not Us: Southern Dance on ESPN+. In addition, Paul partnered with Harvard Business School to bring its Entertainment, Media and Sports program to select HBCUs to develop a pipeline for students pursuing careers in those industries. He launched HBCU voting initiatives to encourage students to vote during the past election and partnered with Sour Patch

Kids and the Thurgood Marshall College Fund to create The Mischief for Change Scholarship, a college scholarship fund with a \$1 million commitment over the next five years for students attending HBCUs. In 2022, Paul graduated with a degree from Winston-Salem State University.

“We are looking forward to the third year of our HBCU events,” said Paul. “These events present a unique opportunity for student athletes to play on a national stage. I’m excited to collaborate with the Basketball Hall of Fame, Mohegan Sun, and MGM Resorts and am grateful to all of our partners for their commitment to HBCU schools and athletes in partnership with this event.”

Tickets for the 2023 Chris Paul HBCU Tip-Off and HBCU Challenge will both go on sale on Friday, Sept. 8.

## 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 more information. We hope you can join us.

# Education

## Colleges and universities announce President’s and Dean’s Lists

**Fitchburg State University**  
Fitchburg  
**Spring President’s List**  
Hannah P. Perron of Barre and Joshua C. Frazier of Oakham

**American International College**  
Springfield  
**Spring Dean’s list**  
Emma Giard of Ware, Sarah Roach of Barre and Luigi Zebrowski of Ware

**Clarkson University**  
Potsdam, N.Y.  
**Spring Presidential Scholar**  
Camden Dyer of Barre and Ava Frost of Hardwick

**Curry College**  
Milton  
**Spring Dean’s List**  
Abigail Rangelbe of North Brookfield and Lily Smith of North Brookfield

**Fairfield University**  
Fairfield, Conn.  
**Spring Dean’s List**  
Lillian M. Riley of Hubbardston

**Hofstra University**  
Hempstead, N.Y.  
**Spring Dean’s List**  
Devin Pride of Ware, a marketing major and Lyndsey Schimmelpenninck of North Brookfield, a psychology major

**Holyoke Community College**  
Holyoke  
**Spring Dean’s List**  
Davis James Allyn of Rutland

**Husson University**  
Bangor, Maine  
**Spring Honor’s List**  
Colin Richardson of Rutland

**Regis College**  
Weston  
**Spring Dean’s List**  
Serenity Ayala of North Brookfield and Madigan Burgess of Rutland

**Simmons University**  
Boston  
**Spring Dean’s List**  
Ali Hobby of Hubbardston, Maggie Calendar of Rutland, Taryn McEntgart of Rutland and Alison Michalik of Rutland

**Stonehill College**  
Easton  
**Spring Dean’s List**  
Margaret Burton of Rutland, Class of 2025

**Fitchburg State University**  
Fitchburg  
**Spring Dean’s List**  
Katelyn M. Barry of Barre, Riley Bennett of Barre, Matthew C. Frappier of Barre, Cole B. Carignan of Hubbardston, Stephanie Dupuis of Hubbardston, Audrey M. Forte of Hubbardston, Zachary J. Hinckley of Hubbardston, Eric E Jackson of Hubbardston, Hannah L. Bullard of Oakham, Peter W. Elliott of Petersham, Nia R. Manderson-Matheson of Petersham, Andrew R. Bedard of Rutland, Justin M. Gilroy of Rutland and Oliva C. Kephart of Rutland

## MWCC receives Child Watch Expansion Grant

GARDNER – Mount Wachusett Community College received a Career Readiness and Educational Access Grant from the Community Foundation of North Central Massachusetts.

This grant will enable MWCC to expand its Child Watch drop-in program for student-parents to use while they are on campus attending classes, meeting with advisors, participating in study groups, or otherwise working toward their degrees.

The Child Watch program was launched in April 2022 with support from the federally funded Child Care Access Means Parents in School project and the federal work-study program. The Child Watch program provides children with enrichment, play and socialization with peers and the opportunity to see their parents pursue academics, creating a family value tied to academic growth and perseverance.

“By providing childcare for student parents, MWCC will help to increase educational access and equity for parents to earn their degree and obtain gainful employment to support their families,” said MWCC President James Vander Hooven.

“In its first year, over 50 students utilized the child watch, but this only scratches the surface of the current need,” said Ann Reynolds, CCAMPIS Advisor at MWCC. “This program has helped our parenting students to stay in school. Childcare is an overlooked basic need for many



Submitted photo

Children enjoy a sensory table in the MWCC Family Resource Center.

student parents.”

For many student-parents, access to childcare can mean the difference between earning their degree or dropping out. With many of our parenting students attending part-time or in the evenings, the lack of evening childcare leads parents to take fewer classes and increases their time to graduation.

Additionally, parents with unreliable childcare options may miss significant numbers of classes, leading to a decrease in their academic performance and possible

loss of financial aid.

In addition to the expanded child watch program, MWCC has a number of programs for parenting students including the Parent Support Group, Family Resource Center and Lactation Room and hosts the MOC Child Care and Head Start Services at the Garrison Center for Early Childhood Education.

More information on these programs is available at mwcc.edu/student-parents.

## RACING, continued from page 7

Jr. announced a diagnosis of cancer and is currently undergoing treatments. The team is not returning full-time on the Whelen Modified Tour for the remainder of the season, but will come together to chase the Cup crown at

Monadnock.

Baldwin is selling Baldwin Strong stickers on his website, TommyBaldwinRacing.com, and donating final proceeds to the Matheny School. His goal is to share awareness and have everyone know they are all in it together when fighting through health issues.

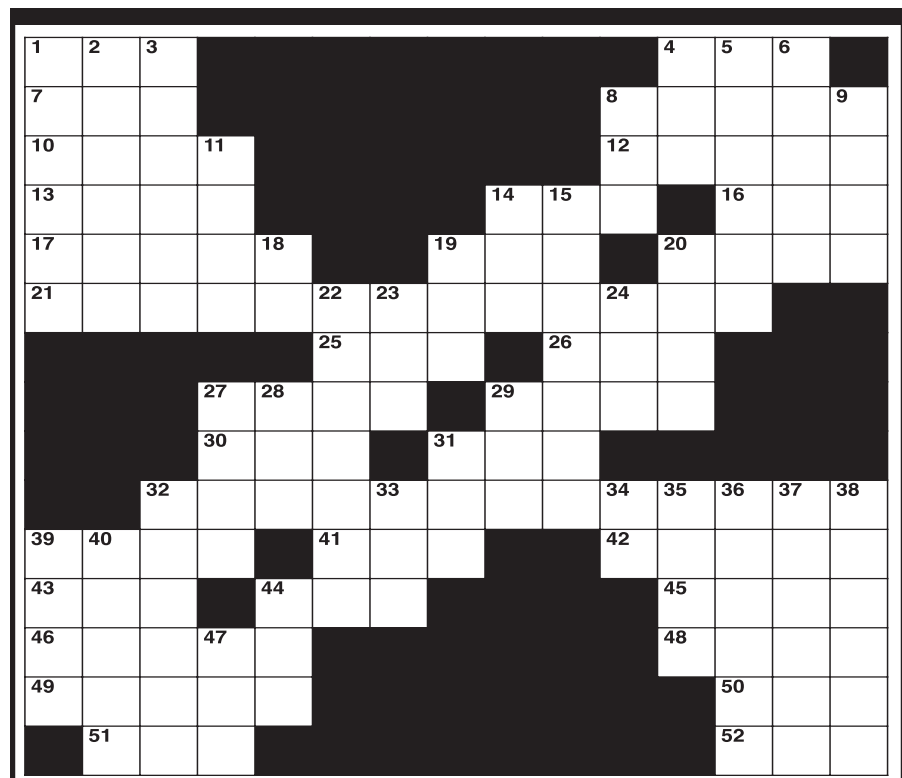
“After winning at Monadnock in May and leading the Cup standings heading into Saturday, we really wanted to make this event happen,” team owner Tommy Baldwin Jr. said. “I’m thankful for everyone’s support through my announcement and treatments - it’s been incredible and our entire family couldn’t be more grateful. The team will be ready to roll into Monadnock to chase the Cup title, but also another win for Mayhew Tools and everyone involved with Doug and our team.”

Coby has one goal in mind for Saturday: win.

“We had a great car last time at Monadnock, it was dominant all

day,” Coby said. “This will be a little bit of a different race being at night compared to the day time back in May. As far as Tommy wanting to have a car prepared and go to the track, it’s good for him to be able to have something different to focus on and he said he feels good enough to make it happen, which is great to hear. With the race now 150 laps, you will probably be able to go harder and really battle for spots earlier in the race. There will likely be some serious battling on restarts to keep or gain track position.”

Saturday’s event schedule at Monadnock Speedway includes NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour practice from 2:55-3:55 p.m., followed by qualifying at 5:30 p.m. The estimated green flag time for the Winchester Fair 150 is set for 8 p.m. Tickets for the race are available in advance at JDVProductions.com. The event will air live on FloRacing.TV for those who can’t make it to New Hampshire.



## 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.

### CLUES ACROSS

- Second sight
- Standard electrode potential
- Type of gibbon
- John Joseph \_\_\_\_\_: American industrialist
- Manning and Whitney are two
- Abrupt
- Baroque musical instrument
- Post-burning residue
- When you hope to arrive
- Sign up (Brit. Eng.)
- Sun up in New York
- Employee stock ownership plan
- Where people live
- Method to record

### CLUES DOWN

- Number of players on each side in a football game
- Containing salt
- Reasoning or knowledge: a \_\_\_\_\_
- Car mechanics group
- Leave a place
- Southern Colombian capital
- Old English letter
- Tide
- Walk heavily
- Compound (abbr.)
- Artificial openings
- Luteinizing hormone
- Unit of energy
- Circular movement of

### CLUES DOWN

- water
- A way of holding words (abbr.)
- States’ group
- Dashes
- Body part
- Electronic countermeasures
- Consumed
- Small bird
- Unhappy
- Football’s big game (abbr.)
- Valued object offered in good faith
- Wild goats
- Precede in place
- Small edible fish
- Notice of death
- Body cavity of a metazoan
- Partner to cheese
- Not around

ANSWERS ON PAGE 11

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# Church News

## Local pastors offer sermons

### Through the Psalms Part 3

Did you know there are different types of psalms found within the Book of Psalms? To communicate and contend with significant emotions or circumstances, inspired biblical writers used varying kinds of Hebrew lyric poems. Let us begin to identify the primary types of psalms the student of Scripture will encounter in their studies:

#### 1) The Hymn

The hymn is recognizable by its exuberant celebration of God. Moreover, the hymn is characterized by its consistent structure or formatting: a) hymns begin with a call to praise; b) hymns identify why the Lord is to be praised and c) hymns culminate with a command to celebrate the Lord.

Psalm 150 is a shining example of the biblical hymn:

#### Psalm 150 (NIV)

1 Praise the Lord.  
Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens.

2 Praise him for his acts of power; praise him for his surpassing greatness.

3 Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise him with the harp and lyre,

4 praise him with timbrel and dancing, praise him with the strings and pipe,

5 praise him with the clash of cymbals, praise him with resounding cymbals.

6 Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

Praise the Lord.

#### 2) The Lament

Conversely, the lament is recognizable for its call upon God in a season of crisis or distress. Like the hymn, the lament is noted for a consistent sense of structure: a) laments begin with a cry to God; b) the author outlines his crisis and petitions God for aid; c) the writer may curse his enemies; d) the author will declare his faith and conclude with a promise to praise the Lord.

Consider Psalm 54 as an example of the classic lament.

#### Psalm 54

1 Save me, O God, by your name; vindicate me by your might.

2 Hear my prayer, O God; listen to the words of my mouth.

3 Arrogant foes are attacking me; ruthless people are trying to kill me— people without regard for God.

4 Surely God is my help; the Lord is the one who sustains me.

5 Let evil recoil on those who slander me; in your faithfulness destroy them.

6 I will sacrifice a freewill offering to you; I will praise your name, Lord, for it is good.

7 You have delivered me from all my troubles, and my eyes have looked in triumph on my foes.

#### 3) The Psalm of Thanksgiving

The psalm of thanksgiving is similar to the hymn noted above, in that it abounds with praise! However, such psalms tend to celebrate the answer to a specific prayer or moment of breakthrough.

Let us consider a segment of Psalm 30 for illustration.

#### Psalm 30:1-5

1 I will exalt you, Lord, for you lifted me out of the depths and did not let my enemies gloat over me.

2 Lord my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me.

3 You, Lord, brought me up from the realm of the dead; you spared me from going down to the pit.

4 Sing the praises of the Lord, you his faithful people; praise his holy name.

5 For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime; weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning.

What are we to do with such information? Firstly, let us recognize that the experiences and emotions of the psalmists often mirror our own. Thus, there is a timeless and timely aspect to the Book of Psalms.

How often have I turned to the psalms in moments of joy or distress in order to find words to express what was in my heart. Secondly, knowing the varying types of psalms might lead us to compose our own expressions of praise, lament or thanksgiving. When was the last time you so communicated what was in your heart to the Lord?

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](http://www.NewLifeBarre.org) for more information.

#### Pastor James Foley

New Life Assembly of God  
60 Main St. South Barre  
[jamesfoley@newlifebarre.org](mailto:jamesfoley@newlifebarre.org)  
978-355-6407

### Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*“Setting our minds on Divine Things”*

Our services can be found on our website at [www.barrechurch.com](http://www.barrechurch.com)

### Scripture Reading: Matthew 16 v 21-28

#### 1. Introduction

Many or all of us have gone through moments in life where we were or are afraid of certain things, or animals or people or certain phenomena, such as thunder and violent storms, and more. We are afraid of losing our jobs or falling sick with a serious illness.

Fear is real for many of us, and it is difficult to get over it, for various reasons. Sometimes we also resist things that come our way, when they upset our plans, or make us uncomfortable. Yet, we are grateful for the help of others in dealing with these issues, maybe in therapy, or loved ones or a good friend.

#### 2. Setting our minds on Divine things

When Jesus told His disciples here in Mathew 16 verse 21, that He must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things, and that He must die, it was a shocking announcement for them, especially for Peter, who had just been consecrated by Jesus as the rock upon which the church will be built.

They were given the keys of the Kingdom of heaven, to preach the will of God for this world. This message made Peter scream, “Never, Lord! This shall never happen to You.”

Peter knew the real threats Jesus was facing, and for Him to declare that he had to go down to Jerusalem, made these threats too real and imminent. It meant that He would face those in power, who would decide whether He should live or die.

Were they as disciples ready to lose Him? No, of course not. They

were afraid of Him being killed, and for their own lives. But they were especially afraid of being alone without Him in this world. His presence filled with love and compassion would be missed.

Peter must have wondered; can we do this on our own? Jesus’ reaction to Peter’s natural outcry of horror, was somewhat strange. “Get behind me, Satan. You are a stumbling block to me. You do not have in mind the things of God, but merely human concerns.” One would think what harsh reaction from Jesus, but in essence

His reaction is about another power behind Peter’s words, that of Satan’s, says R.T France in his commentary on Matthew. Here his aim is to divert Jesus from His chosen course, which is to fulfill the will of God, even if it meant He would be killed. Christ’s interest is for the world to hear about God and God’s saving work of humanity from its own destruction.

Peter does not recognize all this and seems to look for the easy way out. He who is the rock, becomes now the stumbling block, resisting the plans of God. Christ reprimands him not to stand in the way of God’s will and purpose.

But more, to follow Christ, Jesus says, means they must put loyalty to Christ first before their own self-preservation. If it means that He had to die, or even they themselves, that will mean the choice for true life, the life of the Kingdom of Heaven.

What a difficult situation the disciples encountered, standing on the verge of losing Him and to be confronted with the reality of losing their own lives, due to what they are standing for. Following Him meant they had to make up their minds about their own interests or that of Christ. We are aware that Judas betrayed Him and Peter denied Him when He was about to be killed, decisions they regretted terribly.

#### 3. Conclusion

For the disciples to set their minds on Divine things, they needed to have faith in God to be with them always, and in the Holy Spirit, their companion in giving them wisdom. They needed to trust God to fulfill God’s mission through them in the world they were living in. They needed to be redirected away from their imperfect human traits and be more like Him. It is a call to confront their fears and resistance with God on their side.

What a call and what a journey. Christ comes to us this morning to assist us in overcoming our own fears and resistance and free ourselves from the things that hold us back from the richness of the call. It is a call of love and joy, but it is also a call of sacrifice.

It is a call to be obedient to Christ, to God to go where we must go, and to speak and do what we must. It is a call for genuine compassion and peace and justice. This call can cause us to be in trouble here and there, but deep down each one of us knows when our conscience tells us what is right and what is wrong.

To be on the path of Christ, means we must seek that which is right and peaceful and loving and set our minds on that divine path. May God help us discern what that might be in our own lives and here at church and in our community and beyond.

Amen.

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

## Sunday School kick-offs for local churches

Emily-Rose Pappas  
Staff Writer

FALL, 2023

As school comes into session, it comes time for Sunday Schools at local churches to also begin their lesson planning and events. Churches all across central Massachusetts will be announcing new children’s Sunday school curricula and events. From Catholic Mass to Baptist children’s services, and Jewish synagogues, there is so much to offer, and all are welcome to attend these children’s churches.

Sunday Schools have served for generations to be a fun way for children to learn and engage with the teachings in the Bible in a fun and easy manner for children to be able to interact with and understand. Sunday Schools offer times of play, crafting, worship, and learning that is age-appropriate. From nurseries with infants to elementary and middle school, Sunday schools offer opportunities for children to learn about and explore their faith in a welcoming environment so they can learn about God.

The following is a guide of churches, and the Sunday School programs in which they offer, so anyone can find these churches and join in in the fun these houses of worship have to offer to children of all ages!

#### Barre

• Covenant Evangelical Church, Evangelical- The church holds Sunday school during the main sermon for children and has events throughout the week for all ages to take part in as well as bible studies and book clubs. This church’s programs run all year.

• Barre Congregational Church, United Church of Christ- The congregation loves their young attendees, and they welcome their children into the sanctuary as well as

hold Sunday school classes and services for them. This church’s programs run all year.

#### Hubbardston

• First Parish Unitarian Church, Unitarian Universalist- The church’s Sunday school takes place during the school year on Sunday mornings starting at 9 a.m. The church’s programs run from September through May and are known for their Veteran’s Day service and Candlelight Christmas Eve service.

#### Hardwick, Gilbertville, and New Braintree

• Tri-Parish Community Church (Four Churches united!)- This church holds services in the building located in the center of town at the New Braintree Congregational church from January through April. From May through August, they hold sermons at the Stone Church Cultural Center on Rt. 32 in Gilbertville. The rest of the year, they will be found at the First Universalist Church of Hardwick on Rt. 32A. Please give them a call for questions concerning worship locations at any given time. They are currently trying to build a Sunday school, but for now, children are welcome to attend the main sermon in the sanctuary.

#### Rutland

• First Congregational Church of Rutland, United Church of Christ- The church has a large children’s ministry with Sunday school during the first and second services for children in grades kindergarten through 8th grade. The church will also be celebrating 300 years on September 17th! This church’s programs run all year.

• St. Patrick’s Church, Catholic- The congregation here values the impact that the family has on the lives of children within the parish. They have classes for first communion, and other family-relat-

ed sources that allow children to learn what it means to be Catholic and feel like an integral part of the worship service and catechism. This church’s programs run all year.

#### Oakham

• Oakham Congregational Church, Community Church, National Association of Congregational Churches - The church holds Sunday School for children in preschool through grade five on all Sundays except for the first Sunday, which is called Family Sunday where all families sit in the sanctuary for the sermon. Youth Fellowship takes place at 9:30 am every Sunday (except for the first) and includes grades six through twelve.

#### Petersham

• Orthodox Congregational Church of Petersham, National Association of Congregational Churches- The church offers both in person and online church services and has a Sunday school program and traditional. Orthodox sermons on Sundays at 10 a.m.. The church holds many different events for people of all ages to attend and makes sure to make their services accessible to all. This church’s programs run all year.

#### Athol

• Temple Israel of Athol, Jewish, Trans-Denominational and Egalitarian- The synagogue is located in Athol and has a mix of new and traditional religious and worship practices. The synagogue holds religious school for children to begin learning the Torah, Hebrew language, and religious rituals. They invite everyone to attend these classes, even non-members. While there are no regularly scheduled services at the moment, they do have regularly planned events throughout the days.

## Stone Church opens concert season Sept. 17

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.

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/](http://FriendsOfTheStoneChurch.org/music/).

## Father Callahan to celebrate 25th anniversary of his priesthood

SOUTH BARRE – The parish of St. Francis of Assisi will have a celebration on Oct. 1 of Father James B. Callahan’s 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his priesthood.

The day will start with an outdoor Mass at 10 a.m. in Thanksgiving for Fr. “Jamie”

Callahan’s 25th Anniversary of his priesthood. The first-ever Parish Fall Festival will follow with a free-will pig roast dinner. All are invited to attend. July 2023 marked ten years of the newly formed parish of St. Francis of Assisi.



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## FALL FESTIVAL, continued from page 1

Joining Captain Jack in the field are Monet, a Shetland cross pony, Mama, a Haflinger cross, Winnie, a Paint and Bandit, the oldest member of the herd.

Bandit would be 100 years old in human years, and is considered a “sanctuary horse” like Badonk the donkey. This means he will spend the rest of his life at CNEER and is not available for adoption.

Other sanctuary horses include Seg, a blind Andalusian and his seeing eye guide Minnie Pearl, a mini. Seg and Minnie Pearl live at Johnson’s equestrian center, Stoney Hill Farm in Barre.

Berry and Pomponio credit CNEER’s numerous volunteers and supporters for helping the rescue continue its mission. It’s also about family, and Berry said she

couldn’t do it without her daughter, her son Tommy, son-in-law Marty and grandsons Derek and Devin.

“It’s just incredible what they do,” Berry said, including loading the loft with hay for the winter and taking care of downed trees.

Being at the rescue brings a sense of peace and belonging to anyone who visits, Pomponio said. “Everything about it feels right in here,” she said, pointing to her heart. “I’m supposed to be here.”

#### Fall Festival at the Farm

The Fall Festival at the Farm will be held on Saturday, Oct. 14 from noon-4 p.m. Students from Ware High School will be assisting visitors with parking.

Stoney Hill Farm will provide pony and horse rides in the arena. Students of Stoney Hill Farm will put on demonstrations as well.

The Worcester Mounted Police are expected to return this year,

setting up in the round pen and patrolling the grounds of the farm during the event.

There will also be raffles, a 50/50, T.C. Scoops ice cream truck, pumpkin decorating, face-painting, ornament decorating, coloring and other children’s activities and many vendors. CNEER will be selling T-shirts and other apparel as well.

Leah Concetta Shattuck and her team of draft horses will give wagon rides during the event.

Deux Amis, made up of musicians Sam Politz and Betsy Bronstein (who is also a CNEER volunteer), will provide live music throughout the day.

Vendor space is still available, and people should call 413-265-3270 for more information about signing up.

For more information about CNEER, visit [cneer.com](http://cneer.com) or follow them on Facebook.

## BUSINESS

Turley Publications is liberal with regard to its business coverage policies, but we do have some standards folks need to understand. First, local businesses and merchants are just as much institutions in our towns as the library and schools. Without them, there are no towns.

We will feature coverage of local businesses that are new, have a major expansion, moving, closing, under new management or ownership, celebrating a milestone anniversary, or have been thrust into the news realm. Merchants can request that coverage through the editor, or for our existing advertising clients, through their ad representatives.

For more information on business coverage for the Barre Gazette, please email [edowner@turley.com](mailto:edowner@turley.com).

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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](mailto:obits@turley.com).

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

## NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.



# Public Safety

## Hardwick Police Log

During the week of Aug. 28-Sept. 4, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 81 building/property checks, 38 directed/area patrols, 11 traffic controls, six emergency 911 calls, 13 radar assignments, one harassment, one property damage, three complaints, one motor vehicle investigation, one motor vehicle accident, two animal calls and 12 motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

### Monday, Aug. 28

2:06 p.m. 911 Welfare Check, Petersham Road, Checked/Secured  
4:51 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Pine Street, Transported to Hospital  
7:33 p.m. Harassment, Prospect Street, Officer Handled

### Tuesday, Aug. 29

10:34 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Written Warning  
10:46 a.m. Medical Alarm, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital  
3:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Citation Issued  
5:50 p.m. Complaint, Railroad Lane, Spoken To

### Wednesday, Aug. 30

9:48 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Main Street, Report Taken  
11:43 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Church Street, Transported to Hospital

### Thursday, Aug. 31

11:15 a.m. Property Damage, Hardwick Road, Spoken To  
5:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Lower Road, Spoken To

7:01 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Upper Church Street, Transported to Hospital

### Friday, Sept. 1

3:37 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hardwick Road, Summons Road

### Saturday, Sept. 2

9:49 p.m. Complaint, North Street, Negative Contact  
10:48 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Mechanic Street, Transported to Hospital  
11:28 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Collins Road, Services Rendered

### Sunday, Sept. 3

8:54 p.m. Complaint, Broad Street, Spoken To

## New Braintree Police Log

During the week of Aug. 28-Sept. 4, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 18 building/property checks, 47 directed/area patrols, 10 traffic controls, three radar assignments, two emergency 911 calls, three citizen assists, one assist other agency and four motor vehicle stop in the town of New Braintree.

### Monday, Aug. 28

11:48 a.m. 911 Misdeal, Oakham

Road, Checked/Secured  
12:33 p.m. Serve Restraining Order, Hardwick Road, Arrest(s) Made  
2:29 p.m. Assist Other Agency, New Braintree, Investigated  
4:01 p.m. Assist Citizen, Hardwick Road, Services Rendered  
6:48 p.m. Assist Citizen, Hardwick Road, Services Rendered

### Tuesday, Aug. 29

3:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Ravine Road, Citation Issued

### Thursday, Aug. 31

3:47 p.m. 911 Assist Citizen, Barre Cut Off Road, Officer Handled

### Friday, Sept. 1

3:47 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Ravine Road, Vehicle Towed

## United Way gives MWCC a \$10,000 grant

GARDNER –The United Way of North Central Massachusetts has granted the Mount Wachusett Community College United Way Youth Venture program with a grant of \$10,000 to address mental and behavioral health issues experienced by young people throughout the North Central region of Massachusetts.

The UWYV program is a partnership between the United Way of North Central Massachusetts, Mount Wachusett Community College and Ashoka's Youth Venture. The program exists to empower youth through support for innovative, community outreach proposals and help them gain essential experience that will help them to become future leaders and innovators of our community.

The UWYV will utilize grant funds to provide a trauma-informed environment for youth of all backgrounds to direct their pas-

sion and skills to solve community problems initially perceived as outside of their control or ability. The grant will fund new part-time UWYV staff to meet the capacity needed to carry out the program initiatives within Fitchburg, Gardner and Winchendon during the 2023 – 2024 school year.

"The ultimate goal of this multi-phased effort is to expand capacity, providing UWYV approaches and resources to educators," notes Lauren Mountain, UWYV Director. "These programs have shown that with a little creativity and a lot of empathy, our community can holistically support our youth."

"As the 2022-2023 school year progressed, it became obvious that students and teachers are struggling with their own and others' mental health challenges at higher levels than before," Mountain continued. "And in the midst of this troubling observation, the smallest wins made

such a difference, a bright spot and a reminder of our potential as a community to fully thrive. UWYV is a supplier of wins and many bright spots for our youth."

One of the key components of this grant program will be helping racially diverse participants develop self-efficacy and leadership skills to bring back to their respective communities and schools. The programming will teach students how to engage stakeholders to make change while also providing students a voice in designing their service project.

While program staff will serve as guides in the process, students will be the voice in selecting the challenges and solutions which will be presented. By designing and implementing their own project, they will be leaving the program with the tools necessary to advocate for other changes they see as valuable to themselves and their community.

## Cornerstone Bank contributes to UMass Memorial Health Care

WORCESTER – Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with ten locations throughout South Central Massachusetts, contributed \$15,000 to UMass Memorial Health Care.

The funds will be used to expand the hospital's nutrition-focused "Food is Medicine" program, which aims to provide higher-risk patients with access to healthy food options that align with the diet recommendations provided by their physicians.

"We are proud to continue our ongoing support for the amaz-

ing healing work done every day at UMass Memorial," said Cornerstone Bank CEO Todd Tallman. "Food insecurity is a serious issue for many people throughout our community, and this innovative program is designed to provide meaningful help to those who need it."

UMass Memorial has partnered with a community-based organization, About Fresh, to implement this food intervention. The organization's Fresh Connect program allows healthcare providers to load pre-paid debit cards for patients

experiencing food insecurity. The Fresh Connect cards can be used at most grocery stores to purchase healthy food options only. The program allocates \$80 per month to each card recipient for six months.

"The 'Food is Medicine Program' grew out of our desire to alleviate the impact of food insecurity among our patients and promote optimal health," said UMass Corporate and Foundation Philanthropy Officer Jeff Aron. "We are grateful to Cornerstone Bank for helping us to increase the impact it provides."

## Country Bank and Worcester Red Sox Foundation list 'WooStars'

Country Bank, a full-service financial institution serving Central and Western Massachusetts and the Worcester Red Sox Foundation recently announced the 2023 WooStars, a program that supports non-profit leaders throughout the region.

Country Bank recently recognized nine local WooStars and the non-profits they are affiliated with at Polar Park to include: Mari Gonzalez of El Buen Samaritano Food Program, Inc.; Jenna Rahkonen of HomeFront Strong; Brian Feeley of Miracle League of Western Mass; Todd Stewart of Camp Putnam; Sharon MacDonald of Guild of St. Agnes of Worcester, Inc.; Anna Rice of Dismas House; Gina and John Connolly of Lou Gehrig Little

League and Joseph Kenadek of Jack Barry Little League. Each non-profit was presented with a \$5,000 donation.

"Country Bank and the Worcester Red Sox Foundation are passionate about supporting the communities we serve. The 'WooStars' is a partnership program between our two organizations. It is so meaningful to us as our community members nominate the WooStars and support the non-profits they serve. In its third year, we have awarded 27 WooStars with \$135,000 in donations. These community leaders are genuinely making a difference, and we are honored to support them," said Shelley Regin, Senior Vice President of Marketing and Public Relations at

Country Bank. "Country Bank has been an ideal community partner," said Dr. Charles A. Steinberg, President of the Worcester Red Sox and the WooSox Foundation. "Our WooStars partnership sheds the light on some wonderful organizations and that's in addition to our collaboration on our Police vs. Fire Baseball Classic and our MVT program that supports our Most Valuable Teachers. We thank our friends at Country Bank, and we salute our 2023 WooStars."

Country Bank serves Central and Western Massachusetts with 12 offices in Ware, Palmer, West Brookfield, Brimfield, Belchertown, Wilbraham, Ludlow, Leicester, Paxton, Charlton, Springfield and Worcester.

## USACE lists Bourne Bridge maintenance work schedule

CONCORD – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District announced critical maintenance work and lane restrictions are scheduled to begin in September on the Bourne Bridge spanning the Cape Cod Canal in Bourne.

Beginning Monday, Sept. 18, vehicle travel over the bridge will be reduced from the current two lanes in each direction to a single 12-foot-wide lane in each direction as roadway and bridge structural repairs are conducted. Lane restrictions will be in place 24 hours a day until the project is completed, and police details will be on site when work is being performed to assist with traffic.

The maintenance work start date is weather dependent.

USACE delayed the original project start date by a week to help ease traffic during the Cape Cod Canal Day festival scheduled to be held Saturday, Sept. 16 at Buzzards Bay Park.

Motorists planning to use the Bourne Bridge should expect travel delays likely to occur during the morning and afternoon peak travel periods each day. Repair work and lane restrictions are scheduled to run through late November, weather permitting.

This maintenance work is critical to maintaining the structural integrity of the Bourne Bridge, a vital component to the transportation system of Cape Cod, the Islands and southeastern Massachusetts. Work will include concrete and pavement

repairs on the bridge roadway, repair of deteriorated steel supports, maintenance of bridge joints and repairs to the concrete abutment structures. Work crews will also perform maintenance work on the bridge lighting and drainage systems during this timeframe.

The Sagamore Bridge underwent similar maintenance work in March of this year. Traffic signs and message boards will be used on the Bourne Bridge to help inform motorists about pending lane restrictions and bridge work.

All U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District news releases are available by visiting <https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Media/News-Releases/>.

## New Bill to support American farmers and rural communities through plant-based food production

WASHINGTON-U.S. Rep. James P. McGovern (D-MA), Ranking Member of the House Rules Committee and Senior Member of the House Agriculture Committee, introduced a bill to support American farmers and rural communities through plant-based food production.

McGovern's bill establishes new opportunities for farmers and food companies, creates new jobs in farming communities, advances USDA's efforts to connect American farmers to new markets at home and abroad, and expands consumer choices at the grocery store, through plant-based food research and production. The Peas, Legumes, and Nuts Today Act, or PLANT Act, provides a blueprint for maintaining America's leadership in plant-based food production, while empowering farmers and rural communities and producing

delicious, affordable food options for all Americans.

"The PLANT Act will help us win the future of food," said McGovern. "Plant-based foods are already creating new opportunities for farmers across the country and exciting new options for consumers, and this legislation will be a game-changer. By putting farmers and their communities front and center as we grow the greatest plant-based sector in the world, we can create countless good jobs while showing the world what makes American agriculture so strong. Now is the time to embrace the enormous potential that plant-based foods have to strengthen our economy and our food system."

The United States is already the world leader in plant-based food production, with over 55,000 people directly employed in a sector that generates \$4.5

billion in annual revenue. Other countries are making significant public investments in plant-based food innovation that may eclipse U.S. production. Since 2020, Canada, France, Denmark, Australia, the European Union, and Sweden have all invested more in this sector than the United States.

The PLANT Act would enable the U.S. to maintain a leadership role in plant-based food production by supporting farmers, food manufacturing workers, and rural communities. Specifically, the PLANT Act would provide support for U.S. farmers who grow the ingredients used in plant-based foods; ensure that food companies who turn those ingredients into plant-based foods are eligible for USDA producer programs; and make targeted R&D investments at USDA to foster American innovation.

### PAST PAGES, continued from page 4

Savings Bank, Barre Historical Society, American Legion Post 404, Vietnam Veteran's Memorial, Barre Library, Mrs. Fred Haven's Home and the home of Charles Wyman. Wyman was the man who started the "Star Spangled Barre" campaign, which encouraged residents to display the American

flag. Members of the American Legion Post 404 are very upset over the loss of their flag. It had special meaning to the members, because it was a flag that had been draped over the casket of one of their members. The flag had been a gift to the Legion by the wife of the man, who had died.

Barre Selectmen were told the back "jut" on the Bacon Block

will be town down. Harold Nichols, Barre Building Inspector, was told this information by Herbert Bacon, own of the building in question. The work is to be completed by David Robinson. This action came in response to complaints and decisions by structural engineers that the section of the building on the back alley was separating from the rest of the building and posed a danger.

### GARDEN, continued from page 4

increase your odds of a repeat performance.

Remove the winter mulch around the time forsythias bloom.

Prevent gangly growth by pinching them back to a manageable height two or three times prior to mid-July. Expect blooms this time next year.

Flowering kale and cabbage can add nice texture to the fall garden. The same planting instructions apply here, but I have found that they can be finicky about water.

Consistent overwatering and

they rot; giving them too little and they wilt. The best advice: test them before you get out the hose by inserting your finger into the top couple inches of soil.

Kale and cabbage need little in the way of grooming other than an occasional bottom leaf removed. Slugs do tend to enjoy the foliage, however, so set up some traps or barriers nearby.

The color on cabbage and kale will intensify as the weather gets colder, and the plants will continue to look good well into December, provided we don't get an early long standing snow - it will eventually make the leaves mushy. While it's tempting to leave them in your

containers and add greenery and such for the holidays, it's not recommended unless the planters are in a protected spot.

Plant now for your garden's last hurrah of the season - you'll be glad you did!

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](mailto:pouimette@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

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This position requires a Bachelor's Degree in planning or related field and five years' experience in municipal planning, or any equivalent combination of education and experience. Strong interpersonal, written, and oral communications skills and a working knowledge of MS Office and ArcView GIS.

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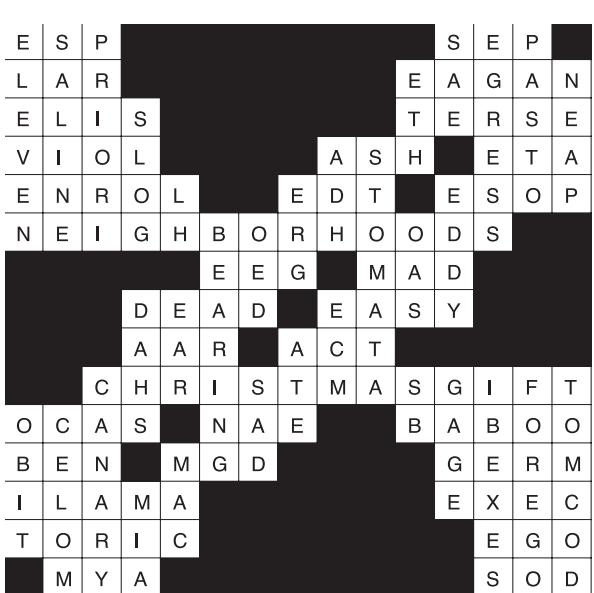
## Public Notices

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Division Docket No. WO23P2974EA Estate of: Pearl M. Witt Date of Death: 7/31/2023 INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Jeffrey K. Witt of Barre, MA a Will has been admitted to informal probate. Jeffrey K. Witt of Barre, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner. 09/07/2023

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- Qualifications should include:**
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  - A determination to get the story, whatever it might be
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  - 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 Eileen Kennedy, Executive Editor 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 or email directly to [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com)



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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](mailto:edowner@turley.com).

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- Qualifications should include:**
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  - Management experience and/or experience managing content for a print publication.

Please send resume and writing examples to: Eileen Kennedy, Executive Editor 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 or email directly to [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com)

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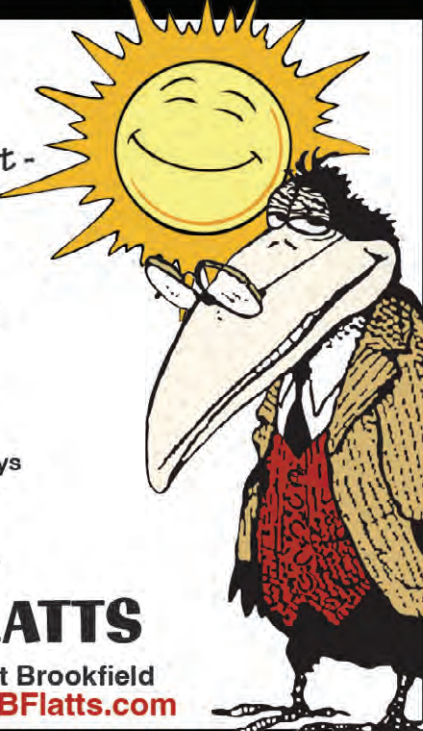
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