

BARRE GAZETTE

USPS 044560

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

October 2, 2025 | Vol. 191, No. 26 | \$1.00

www.barregazette.turley.com

Author showcases history of Lt. Col. Walker

By Eric Goodhart
Correspondent

RUTLAND – On Sept. 21, a beautiful, last day of summer, the Rutland Historical Society presented an education program with author David M. Sullivan.

Sullivan is one of the most extraordinary “deep-dive” researchers into little-known, but significant military events in American history that this correspondent has ever known. Most of his books and articles include actual letters from those who personally experienced what they wrote about so eloquently.

It is letter writing that would make an English teacher’s face flush with admiration and a teenager of today say, “Is this for real. No way. How did they find time to write like this?” For an example, before purchasing the book, people may visit the Rutland Public Library or the Historical Society and read the letter that 28-year-old Walker wrote to his sister in 1845. It is on pages 211 and 212 of Sullivan’s book. It should inspire people to learn more

about the world in which they live.

Sullivan prefaced his talk with a bit of his own history. A lifelong resident of the Commonwealth and now a resident of Rutland, he never thought he would become a writer. But sometimes, fate has a way to put us on a path that one least expects.

Like Lt Col. Samuel Walker, the subject of his latest tome, Sullivan was born into a family with a rich heritage of relatives, who served in the military. Despite a serious injury at age 17, he could not wait to enlist in the Marines. He worked hard to strengthen his body and avoided talking about his injury.

Soon after graduating from high school in 1960, marking what was to become the “Guns and Butter” decade, he enlist-

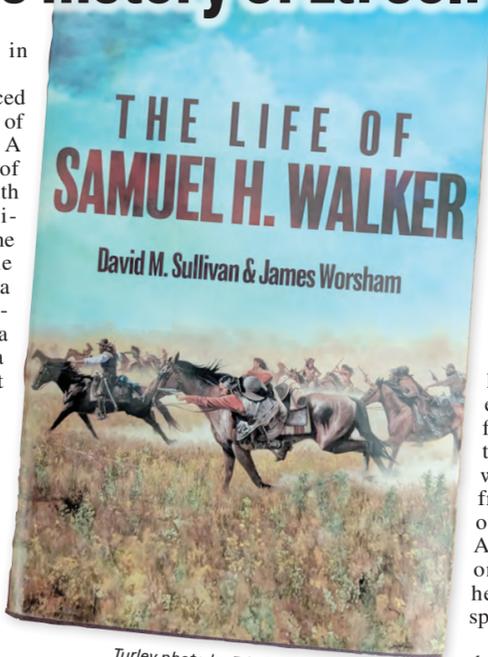
ed in the Marines. Alas, his service in the Corps lasted only six weeks. He “forgot” to tell the recruiter that he had severely injured his hip when he was 17. It did not take long for the intense Marine training to

reveal that he would not be able to participate in the time-honored Semper Paratus tradition in a Marine Corps uniform. He was devastated.

To his credit, he decided to attend college and major in history, with a particular focus on military history. He wanted to carry on the faithful tradition of the Marines in some way after graduating from the University of Massachusetts Amherst. He has not only done that, but he has done that in spades.

His latest book chronicles the life of Samuel H. Walker. Walker was born in Maryland in 1817, with a family legacy replete with rebels or patriots, depending on one’s country of origin: England or Scotland. Scotland was

See LOCAL AUTHOR, page 6



Turley photo by Eric Goodhart
The cover of the book David M. Sullivan of Rutland wrote with James Worsham.

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Assessors explained revaluation results

By Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The Board of Assessors attended the Board of Selectmen’s meeting to provide an update on the five-year revaluation.

“It’s a more comprehensive one than we do every year,” Assessor Sheila Buzzell said at the Sept. 23 meeting. “Of all real and personal property in the town.”

Buzzell said the Assessors provide information to the Department of Revenue, which is then reviewed by an employee of the DOR. She said this

includes sales, review of properties, and an analysis of the different types of houses being sold.

“All the different sales are taken into consideration for the years ‘23 and ‘24,” Buzzell said.

Buzzell said the new values were posted on the website for review, as required by the DOR. She said some residents came into their office with questions about their property values, and the Assessors went to those properties.

She said housing sales in 2023 and 2024 were “over

See N BROOKFIELD, page 8

Communities celebrated chief at retirement party

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

HARDWICK – A retirement party was held at Hardwick Crossing Country Club for recently retired Police Chief, James Ayotte.

Community members of Hardwick and New Braintree and law enforcement officers of various communities arrived to celebrate the career and retirement of Ayotte, who served as the police chief for the Town of Hardwick and New Braintree for over 15 years.

Ayotte has been involved in law enforcement for over 25 years and served on the Spencer Fire Department for over 10 years. Altogether, Ayotte has committed over 40 years of public service in his respected career.

His retirement party was a celebration of his accomplishments and remembering the mark he left on the towns he proudly served.



Turley Photo by Ryan Drago

Recently retired Hardwick-New Braintree Police Chief James “Jim” Ayotte held an official citation from the Senate he received during his retirement party at Hardwick Crossing Country Club.

When asked about retirement Ayotte, who is now 60 years young, feels it is time for a change. Though he is stepping down from the role as Chief of Police,

Ayotte feels the police department is in good hands under the leadership of

See RETIREMENT PARTY page 8

Grand opening of municipal campus happens Oct. 2

By Ellenor Downer
Editor
edowner@turley.com

HUBBARDSTON – On Thursday, Oct. 2 the grand opening of the municipal campus at 48 Gardner Road, takes place in conjunction with Taste of Hubbardston.

Residents will be able to check out the town’s new location of offices and public safety building as well as learn about businesses in town. Town Administrator Nathan Boudreau said the meeting room at the Gardner Road location was being set up. Furniture arrived and installed. All the furniture, tables and chairs, are on wheels and stackable for easy moving around.

He said an original quote was \$44,000, but with some “shopping” around got what was needed for \$7,000. He also said the entrance signage would be installed soon. The sign made from composite material will be located on a small island.

The base will be moveable if they want to move the sign to a different location. The island site did not contain any underground utilities.

Town Administrator goals

Town Administrator Boudreau at the Monday, Sept. 15 meeting said he along with Select Board member Heather Munroe were working on a draft of goals for the Town Administrator. Select Board Chairman Jeff Williams said he would not want goals set in the past to be eliminated. In the summer, the Select Board members each submitted three goals for the Town Administrator.

Select Board member Kris Pareago said the goals should be streamlined to five. The Select Board decided the Town Administrator and Select Board member Munroe should take the goals from the original document with about 20 goals, reduce to the top five and then pres-

ent to the full Board with the Town Administrator’s “marching orders.”

Meeting House Preservation Committee

The Town Administrator said he received four applicants for the new Meeting House Preservation Committee. The Board voted to adopt the committee charge and were still seeking applications of people interested in serving on this committee.

New ADA compliant trail

Select Board Vice Chairman Kathryn Young said the Dolly Rock Trail on Malone Road was recently opened. The trail was American Disabilities Act accessible and about 4/10 of a mile long. At the suggestion of the Town

See MUNICIPAL CAMPUS page 13



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News of the Towns



ROUND TOWN

by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

OES holds breakfast

Cradle Rock Chapter Order of Eastern Star, will hold a designer pancake breakfast on Saturday, Oct. 11 from 7:30-10:30 a.m. at the Masonic Lodge, 71 Pleasant St. Cost is \$9 per adult and \$5 for children under age 6. People can create their own designer pancakes with all kinds of goodies. The full breakfast included pancakes, waffles, sausage gravy with biscuits, bacon, sausage, juice and coffee.

Create your own designer pancakes with all kinds of goodies. Full breakfast includes, pancakes, waffles, sausage gravy with biscuits, bacon, sausage, juice and coffee. All are welcome.

Barre Food Pantry

The next two Barre Food Pantry distributions will occur on Wednesday, Oct. 8 from 10-11:30 a.m. and on Thursday, Oct. 16 from 5:30-7 p.m. Clients are invited to pick up groceries from the food pantry either in the morning on Wednesday, Oct. 8 or in the evening on Thursday, Oct. 16, 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 disease 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 decided that the most responsible path forward is to continue to operate as they have since March of 2020. In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients Oct. 8 and Oct. 16 will again be "drive-through" style distributions. Clients will line up in their vehicles on Park Street and proceed into the right hand (east) entrance driveway of the Barre Congregational Church. They will remain in their cars. They'll drive up and be checked in by a volunteer, then continue up to the church building where their groceries will be put into the trunk or wayback of their vehicle by volunteers at multiple stations. On Tuesday night, Oct. 7 at 5 p.m. the Barre Food Pantry will be gathering volunteers at the Barre Congregational Church to unload incoming groceries from their truck, to sort through donated groceries, to pre-fill grocery bags and in other ways to prepare for the distribution the following morning. If people can help pitch in for an hour, they should call Sonja Blaney at 978-355-6921. People should not arrive to volunteer on Oct. 7, 8 or 16 without first contacting Sonja Blaney at 978-355-6921 or Chuck Radlo at 978-355-6463. People may visit the website at <http://www.barrefoodbank.org/index.htm> and the Barre Food Pantry Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Barre-Food-Pantry-100156068300314/>.

Barre Players Theater

The Barre Players Theater, Inc., 64 Common St., presents "Prima Verde Inn" by Peter and Teresita Brimms on Oct. 24 and 25 and Nov. 1 at 7:30 p.m. and Oct. 26 at 2 p.m. and Oct. 31 at 9 p.m. Anthony Masciangioli is director and Noah Tardiff stage management. The play is rated PG-13.

See ROUND TOWN page 5

Mt. Zion Lodge celebrates their 225th anniversary



Submitted photo

Masons and friends enjoy a dinner at the Harding Allen Estate in Barre on Saturday, Sept. 20 in celebration of Mt. Zion Lodge's 225th anniversary.

BARRE – On Saturday, Sept. 20, the Masons of Mt. Zion Lodge celebrated the 225th anniversary of the founding of the Lodge.

In the afternoon a rededication ceremony was held in the Lodge, led by the Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts. Masons from many lodges in the district

as well as a suite of officers from Grand Lodge attended. Past Master of Mt. Zion Lodge Douglas Martin gave a short presentation about the history of the Lodge.

Later that afternoon about 100 Masons and friends came for drinks and dinner at the Harding Allen Estate. Music was provided by local

jazz band, The Evening Standard. After dinner Grand Master George F. Hamilton made a speech congratulating the Lodge. Senator Steve Brewer spoke about the connection of the Lodge to the town and the role the Barre Savings Bank Charitable Foundation played in supporting this celebration.



OAKHAM

by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

Dismas Farm holds fall festival

The Dismas Family Farm, 687 Lincoln Road, holds their annual Fall Harvest Festival on Saturday, Oct. 4 from noon-4 p.m. Rain date is Sunday, Oct. 5.

Lunch brunch

The Lunch Bunch sponsored by the Oakham Council on Aging will meet on Friday, Oct. 17 at the West Boylston Seafood and Restaurant, located at 321 West Boylston St., West Boylston at 12:30 p.m. To register, seniors may call the Senior Center at 508-882-4073 and leave their name. A volunteer will sign them up.

Church breakfast

The Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road, will hold a benefit breakfast on Saturday, Oct. 18 from 8-9:30 a.m. at the Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road, Oakham. Proceeds benefit the Rutland and Barre Food Pantries. Menu includes pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, strawberries, juice, coffee, tea and hot cocoa. The breakfast is open to all. There will be a free will donation of one's choosing.

Senior Center news

On Friday, Oct 3 senior will take a tour of Tower Hill. Participants will meet in the lobby at Tower Hill at 11 a.m. On Thursday, Oct. 9 blood pressures will be taken from 11:15 a.m.-noon. On Mondays, Oct 13 and Oct. 20 podiatry clinics are held from 9a.m.-2.30 p.m. Reservations are required. On Thursday, Oct 23 Serving the Health Insurance needs of Everyone will be at the Senior Center from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Reservations are required. On Tuesday, Oct 28 the blood pressure/glucose testing is held from 11 a.m.-noon. On Tuesday, Oct 28: SNAP benefits information is available from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. All are welcome; there are no age restrictions. Ongoing activities include: Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-noon puzzling, Monday through Thursday at 9 a.m. walking group (meet at Senior Center) and Tuesday through Thursdays at 11 a.m. walking group (meet at Senior Center).

People may be added to the walking group text MSG group by calling the Senior Center at 508-882-4073 and leave name and cell phone number. Yoga class started Sept. 16. Cost is \$40 or \$8 per class. Registration is required. Wednesdays at 9 a.m. Zumba Gold meets in the Rutland Senior Center. Donation is \$3 per class. Thursdays at noon is weigh in at the Senior Center with the support weight loss group. Fridays at 10.30 a.m. Functional Fitness is held at the New Braintree Town Hall. Donation is \$3 per class. Lunch Bunch meets the third Friday. This month on Oct 17, seniors will be going to West Boylston Seafood, West Boylston Street West Boylston at 12:30 p.m. Sign up sheet is at the Senior Center Main Room. If people can't get to the Senior Center to make reservations or sign up or for more information on offerings, they may call the Senior Center 508-882-4073 and leave a message or email COA@Oakham-MA.gov.

Congregate meals

Hot lunches are offered at the Senior Center dining area Monday through Thursday at 11.30 a.m. Reservations are needed at least two days in advance and can be made through the Congregate Meal Coordinator from 9 a.m.-12.15p.m. by calling 508-882-4072. Friday Oct 10: COA meeting at 12 noon.

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 Oct. 6. 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 – Macaroni and cheese, stewed tomatoes, peas, Lorna Doone cookies, pumpernickel bread

TUESDAY – Meatballs with onion gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, peaches, Italian bread

WEDNESDAY – Marinated pork loin,

herb stuffing, cabbage and carrots, chocolate pudding, diet = sugar free pudding, whole wheat bread

THURSDAY – Barbecue chicken, au gratin potatoes, country blend vegetables, apple crisp, diet = applesauce, Italian bread

FRIDAY – Ham salad, pasta salad, tomato and onion salad, fresh fruit, pita bread

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

EQLT hosts hike to Soapstone Hill Oct. 10

On Friday, Oct. 10 at 9 a.m., the East Quabbin Land Trust will meet at the Women's Federated Forest, off Rte. 122 at the Petersham and New Salem town line.

The parking area is approximately one mile from the forest entrance on a windy, narrow road. People should register with Cynthia by emailing Chenshaw@eqlt.org. They will take in the fall foliage colors and view of the Quabbin Reservoir from the top of Soapstone Hill. This is a great way to celebrate Quabbin Days.

The walk is an easy one mile hike along woods road and forest trail to the overlook. Participants should wear sturdy shoes and bring water and snacks. An after walk lunch stop at a local eatery is a great option.

Library hosts story time Oct. 6

NEW BRAINTREE – The New Braintree Public Library, 45 Memorial Drive, is offering a story time for preschoolers on Monday, Oct. 6 at 11:30 a.m. This is a new start time. The reading will include "Do Not Bring Your Dragon to the Library" by Julie Gassman. Parental supervision is required.

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

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- 📍 GGG CHARLTON – TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2025 | 4PM–8PM
- 📍 GGG NORTH BROOKFIELD – WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2025 | 4PM–8PM

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News of the Towns

PUBLIC MEETINGS

BARRE

Barre Common Oversight Committee – Oct. 2 at 4 p.m.
 Central Office Subcommittee – Oct. 3 at 12:30 p.m.
 Select Board – Oct. 6 at 5 p.m.
 Board of Assessors – Oct. 7 at 6 p.m.
 Felton Field Commission – Oct. 7 at 6:30 p.m.
 Planning Board – Oct. 7 and Oct. 21 at 7 p.m.
 Library Trustees – Oct. 8 at 6:30 p.m.
 Barre Housing Authority – Oct. 9 at 1 p.m.
 Master Plan Steering Committee – Oct. 9 at 5:30 p.m. and Nov. 13 at 7 p.m.
 Board of Health – Oct. 14 and Nov. 10 at 5 p.m.
 Water Commission – Oct. 14 at 5:30 p.m.
 DPW Commission – Oct. 14 at 6 p.m.
 Cable Advisory Committee – Oct. 14 at 7 p.m.
 Conservation Committee – Oct. 14 at 7 p.m.
 Cemetery Commission – Oct. 23 at 11 a.m.

HARDWICK

Paige Library Trustees – Oct. 2 at 7 p.m.
 Planning Board – Oct. 7 at 6:30 p.m.
 Gilbertville Public Library – Oct. 8 at 3 p.m.
 Hardwick New Braintree Cultural Council – Oct. 8 at 6:30 p.m.
 Master Plan Steering Committee – Oct. 9 at 6:30 p.m.
 Board of Health – Oct. 9 at 6:30 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – Oct. 15 at 6:30 p.m.
 Capital Planning Committee – Oct. 20 at 3 p.m.
 Gilbertville Water District – Oct. 21 at 5:30 p.m.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

Parks and Recreation – Oct. 2 at 5 p.m.
 Board of Selectmen – Oct. 6 at 3 p.m.
 Zoning Board Appeals – Oct. 6 at 6 p.m.
 Downton Development Committee – Oct. 6 at 6:30 p.m.
 Rep. Berthiaume's Office Hours – Oct. 14 from 11 a.m.-noon
 Planning Board – Oct. 15 at 6 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Oct. 20 at 2 p.m.

OAKHAM

BESS Committee Meeting – Oct. 2 at 6:30 p.m.
 Special Town Meeting – Oct. 6 at 7 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Oct. 10 at noon
 Rep. Berthiaume Office Hours – Oct. 14 9-9:45 a.m.
 BESS Public Hearing – Oct. 16 at 6 p.m.

PETERSHAM

Advisory Finance Committee – Oct. 2 at 5:30 p.m.
 Select Board – Oct. 2, Oct. 9, Oct. 16, Oct. 23, Nov. 6 and Nov. 13 at 5:30 p.m. and Nov. 8 at 10 a.m.
 Board of Assessors – Oct. 3 at noon
 Open Space and Recreation Committee – Oct. 7 at 6 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – Oct. 7 at 7 p.m.
 Cemetery Commission – Oct. 14 at 10 a.m.
 Board of Health – Oct. 14 at 7:30 p.m.
 Petersham Historic District – Oct. 16 at 6 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Nov. 10 at 10 a.m.

Petersham Art Center presents mother and daughter exhibit



Artist Molly Levine will be holding an exhibit at the Petersham Art Center along with her mother.



Janet Palin stands by one of her watercolors.

PETERSHAM – The Petersham Art Center, 8 North St., presents the work of artists Janet Palin and Molly Levine in the gallery with “Mother and Daughter Ranging Far and Wide: Paintings by Janet Palin and Molly Levine” on exhibit through Sunday, Oct. 26.

The Art Center invites the public to join the artists in a gallery reception on Sunday, Oct. 12, from 4-6 p.m. People can enjoy fine art, refreshments and meeting the artists.

Primarily landscape artists, this mother-daughter duo will exhibit their works depicting diverse locations from the vast American southwest to expansive Iceland to their New England home. Petersham based artist Janet Palin is a long time member of the Art Center with her pastel works deeply appreciated by many over the years. Palin travels regularly and has long been inspired by

the majestic landscapes of the American southwest where she captures the vastness, color, and natural formations as both realistic and abstract in their form and grandeur.

Molly Levine was raised in Petersham and now makes her home in Portland, Maine where the diverse historic city landscape and the natural wonder of the Maine seacoast and forests provide endless

inspiration. Both artists have exhibited their work widely.

Regular Art Center hours are Thursdays through Sundays from noon-4 p.m. For more information about the exhibition and the center, people may call 978-724-3415. Since 1912, the Petersham Art Center has been home to regional fine art and craft through its shop, gallery, classes and special events.

Registration is open for EQLT's Station Loop Ramble on Oct. 19

NEW BRAINTREE – The East Quabbin Land Trust will hold its 14th annual Station Loop Ramble on Sunday, Oct. 19 beginning at 9:30 a.m. with the start on Depot Road at the intersection of West and Hardwick Roads on part of the Mass. Central Rail Trail.

This is a new course due to construction. The five mile classic is a hilly road race with a flat fast finish on Hardwick Road. The Kids Run and 5K run/walk are entirely on a flat course on the Mass Central Rail Trail.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. The race begins and ends at the site of the former New Braintree Train Station, travels past scenic farmland, through deep woods and skirts the Ware River. Adults must accompany children running this course. Each mile is marked and mid-run water supply is provided.

Start times are 9:30 a.m. for five and under 200 foot dash and 9:40 a.m. for the ¼ mile 6-12 year old run. The 5K starts at 10 a.m. and the 5 mile classic at 10:05 a.m.

There will be post race refreshments, games, entertainment and more. Award ceremony is at 11 a.m. Entry fee is free for ages 5 and under, \$10 for ages 6-12, \$25 early bird online registration by Friday, Oct. 17 (10% discount for seniors, veterans and first responders) and \$30 day of race. A family registration for up to six members is \$35.

For more information, people may visit www.EQLT.org/station-loop-ramble/ or call 413-477-8229.

HUBBARDSTON

by Ellenor Downer
 edowner@turley.com

House numbering program offers free signs

The Worcester County Sheriff's house numbering program will assist all emergency personnel in identifying residences that do not currently have a highly visible number on their homes. The Community Outreach department will create a custom wooden sign with their house number free of charge. Forms are available at the Senior Center.

Hidden Meadow

On Saturday, Oct. 4 from 9 a.m.-noon volunteers are needed for weed removal at Hidden Meadow, 71 Lombard Road. People should RSVP to chenshaw@eqlt.org. The East Quabbin Land Trust group will be focusing on removing burning bush, bittersweet, honeysuckle and buckthorn. People should bring gloves and their favorite cutting tool, such as loppers or pruners. The meadow is a 10 minute walk from the parking area off Lombard Road.

Flu shots

The Hubbardston Board of Health has scheduled two dates for flu shots: Friday, Oct. 17 from 3-6 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 18 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Those interested should sign up at the Senior Center.

Medicare 2026 enrollment

Mike McCanna will be at the Senior Center Wednesday, Oct. 15 from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. to answer questions about changes in Medicare for 2026. Light refreshments will be available.

Book Club

The Book Club will meet Oct. 22 at 11 a.m. at the Senior Center. This month's book is “Good Dirt” by Charmaine Wilkerson. To obtain a copy, those interested should call the library at 978-928-1400, extension 500.

Health Insurance update

A representative from Integrity Medical Advisors will be at the Senior Center on Friday, Oct. 17 to help Seniors navigate choices for medical coverage. To reserve an appointment, seniors should call 978-928-1400, extension 221.

Dance Party

The Friends of the Hubbardston Senior Center is holding a dance party on Saturday Oct. 25 from 7-10 p.m. at the Hubbardston Rod and Gun Club, 35 Williamsville Road. Tickets are \$10 per person and available at the Senior Center and at the door. People should get tickets early as reservations are filling up quickly. D.J. Vibe Wise will provide music from the 1960s and 70s. There will be raffles, snack food, a photo booth and a cash bar. The Senior Center renovations have begun and this dance is the biggest fundraiser providing financial support for this major project. The Friends of the Hubbardston Senior Center is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization so all donations are tax exempt.

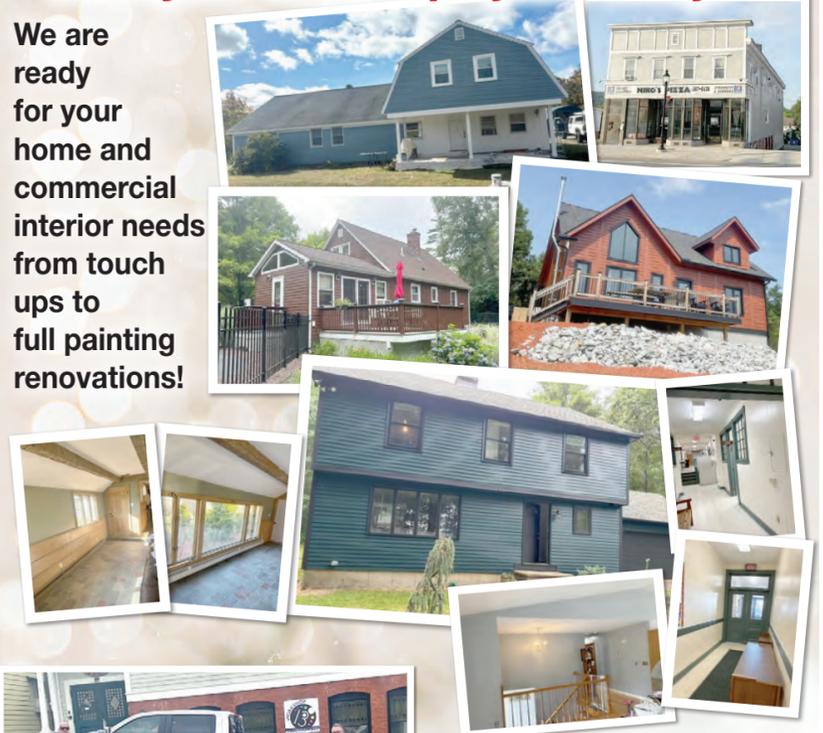
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Opinion

Letter to Editor

Reader offers temporary amnesty for illegal immigrants

A constructive solution to the illegal immigrant problem would be beneficial to our country. The current approach is divisive, violent and economically damaging.

Why not try a temporary amnesty program enabling noncriminal illegals to become naturalized citizens? Establish a short-term time window during which illegals could apply for conditional naturalization. Applicants must meet existing naturalization criteria: learning to read, write and speak English, pass a civics test and remain crime free and would be ineligible for federal aid of any sort until achieving citizenship.

Participants' children could be allowed to attend public schools. Local food banks and community health organizations could provide support. The current five-year naturalization time-period could be shortened.

Illegals refusing to apply for citizenship would continue to be deported.

Many communities, employers and citizens want these illegals to remain in the U.S. The above-described program is not perfect, but something like it would bring opposing sides together. The outcome would be positive.

The 1974 Conditional Amnesty program was a compromise solution on how to both punish and forgive Viet Nam war draft evaders. It entailed performing two years of public service and pledging allegiance to the U.S. It was major step in healing the tremendous national divide caused by the war.

Wouldn't it do everyone so much more good by doing something similar now?

Paul Gallo
Barre



Should my spouse be getting half of my Social Security amount?

Dear Rusty:
I was referred to you to ask a question about Social Security benefits.

I receive about \$1,700 a month from Social Security while my husband receives only approximately \$750 monthly. Is he entitled to file for half of my Social Security as a monthly benefit without touching my amount?

Signed: Curious Wife

Dear Curious Wife:
For information, spousal benefits are one of the most misunderstood areas of Social Security. A spouse does not always get half of their partner's Social Security benefit how much the spouse gets is determined by their age when the spouse benefit is claimed and it is always based upon both partner's Full Retirement Age benefit, regardless of when they actually claimed Social Security.

The partner with the lower SS benefit can only get half of the other spouse's FRA amount if that partner takes the

spouse benefit at or after their personal SS FRA. And each spouse's FRA may be different depending on the year they were born. FRA today is somewhere between age 66 and 67, depending on the person's year of birth.

Here are two basic rules for a lower earning marital partner to get spouse benefits:

The lower earning spouse's FRA entitlement must be less than 50% of the higher earning spouse's FRA entitlement. FRA amounts are used, even if SS benefits were claimed earlier than or later than, full retirement age, and FRA amounts are frequently different than the monthly amounts actually being received.

If one spouse's FRA amount is less than 50% of the other spouse's FRA amount, the difference between those two amounts can be added to the lower earning spouse's SS retirement amount, to become

See **SOCIAL SECURITY**, page 7



DAVE GRANLUND ©

In Past Pages

5 years (Oct. 8, 2020)

Town administrator Ryan McLane asked all department heads to list goals for the new fiscal year just like the board of selectmen and town administrator. McLane said goals create a unity of effort and an overall strategic vision. The goals would be tied to all plans in the town's ten year plan. He listed one of the goals for each department.

Last week investigators in the case of Holly Piiranien, a 10-year-old Grafton resident, exhumed the body of a 22-year-old man from a Hampden County cemetery. Piiranien was abducted and killed in 1993. Carla Jackman, Piiranien's aunt, said the family is "doing okay," after hearing of the news on Thursday, Oct. 1. "We're cautiously optimistic," Jackman said. "It's been a roller coaster, we're tough skinned and try not to get too excited." She said the family has open communication with law enforcement and investigators in the case. Jackman added the family has an annual meeting with law enforcement in October, around the anniversary of the day Holly's remains were found in a wooded area off Five Bridge Road in Brimfield - Oct. 23, 1993. "We're trying not to get our hopes too high, but it would be nice to get something on that day," Jackman said. Piiranien's case is one that has been cold for 27 years.

The Barre Savings Charitable Foundation presented a \$2,000 grant

Look Back Monster Bash – 2006



File photo

Buzz Lightyear (aka Remy Benoit-Smith) found a soft spot to land in his mom Cherie's lap during the pre-Halloween Parade Monster Bash sponsored by the Woods Memorial Library and held in the Barre Town Hall.

check to the East Quabbin Land Trust to help in constructing a trail and parking area on Flaherty Road in Barre, which will allow walking access to the Old Barre Reservoir. The Barre Savings Charitable Foundation is dedicated to building a stronger local community by supporting those organizations enriching the quality of life of others. BSCF was established when the Barre Savings Bank merged with Fidelity Cooperative Bank in 2016. The purpose of the foundation is to provide charitable support for the people in communities previously served by BSB. BSCF focuses its giving on youth and senior programs, programs supporting educa-

tion and health and human services and other projects improving the quality of life in the communities.

10 years (Oct. 8, 2015)

It was a busy day in Oakham last Saturday. Twelve youngsters participated in the one mile Oaktobefest run. All received an Oaktobefest tee shirt and a medal. The race started and ended at the gazebo on the Oakham Common. Although weather conditions were less than ideal - drizzle and 43 degrees - all contestants finished the race. Participants included Ben Blake, 11, of Holden (6:47); Jacob

See **PAST PAGES**, page 6

Live in the moment but plan for winter!!

Hasn't the first week of autumn been beautiful weather-wise? Warm and sunny days will have us completely spoiled!

Summer annuals continue to bloom even as we harvest our pumpkins and corn stalks. But alas, while we are enjoying, we must simultaneously prepare for what inevitably will come.

My big task for today was deconstructing a combination planter so that I could (hopefully) overwinter the summer plants indoors. These included a Hypoestes (Polka dot plant), two Fuchsias, and an Ivy Geranium.

Over the years I've had good luck overwintering regular geraniums, Gerber daisies and fuchsias, but I have never tried ivy geraniums or the finicky polka dot plant. According to my research, ivy geraniums are handled in a similar manner as regular or zonal geraniums.

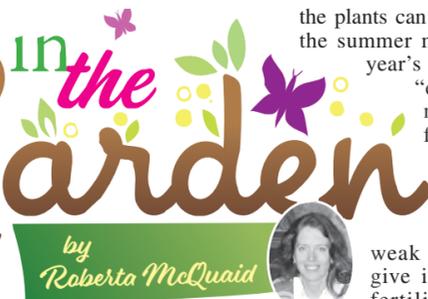
I typically overwinter them as a houseplant, in a bright sunny window. Sometimes they delight

me with flowers through Christmas!

When I was trying to separate the plants from my big planter, though, the amount of roots I was able to get from the ivy geranium was honestly pathetic. The plant looked big enough on top to fit in a ten inch pot, but the root ball, maybe enough roots to fit in a four inch pot.

What am I to do? First thing would be to prune the top growth. So few roots would have a difficult time supporting all of that foliage. I will take off one third to one half of the top growth. And from this foliage, I will take some cuttings.

Regardless of my predicament, cuttings are a good option if you are short on space in front of sunny windows - you can root them in a three or four inch pot placed in indirect light until



by Roberta McQuaid

they begin to grow!

You can also store geranium stock plant out of your living space. Here is how: Cut the plants back to a couple of inches above the crown and set them in the cellar, unheated rooms, enclosed porches or other spaces that don't freeze and aren't too damp. Check them every few weeks and water sparingly if necessary, never letting the soil dry out completely.

When spring comes, gradually begin to introduce sunlight and the plant will commence growth. Once the threat of frost has passed

the plants can go outside for the summer months. If last year's potting soil is "exhausted" of nutrients, carefully repot the plant into new soil.

Prune away any weak branches and give it some liquid fertilizer. For this situation, storage temperatures can go as low as 45 to 50 degrees.

My fuchsia extraction went much better than the geranium one did. I have equal roots to foliage and flowers. I am going to try and overwinter this plant in a northeast window, knowing that fuchsias don't like bright sun.

The last time I overwintered one of these I got the plant to live into the late winter, long enough to take a cutting. The offspring thrived! The mother plant looked pretty woody, but apparently, if I had waited a little bit longer and gave it a

light fertilization, new supple growth would have ensued.

Live and learn. Aside from a part sunny window, fuchsias can also be overwintered out of the main living space, following my recommendations above.

The polka dot plant is another story all together. The roots were massive and the top growth the same. Although the plant looked diminutive at purchase, there was no saying that now. It became the "hog" of the pot.

I pruned both the roots and the top growth, cutting it back to healthy growth just a four inches tall, settling on an eight inch pot for the three original cuttings that made up the one plant. I don't have high hopes for overwintering, because, I guess, this plant has always been a finicky one as a seedling in the greenhouse.

It looks dry so you water it, only to find out it has root rot and now you've killed it.

My research indicates that

See **GARDEN**, page 7

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The Barre Gazette (USPS 044560) is published every Thursday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069.



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Subscription rate: \$33 for one year, \$44 for two years
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Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

Fall is upon us and the weather has been like summer.

We were fortunate to get two days of rain, which we needed. We have only had to mow our lawn two times this year.

Most of the house plants are inside except a pot of tuberous begonias and the geraniums. A large pot of mixed plants will also be placed in the den by our handyman.

Being a homeowner is not always fun. This week we had to contend with a water softener problem and a bathtub faucet leak. I made good use of two string mops and a mop wringer in the cellar. I hope that chore is finished. I'm glad I had them to use.

The handyman has the grass whipper ready to use. There is quite a lot of ferns near the driveway that need to be taken down and as well as elsewhere.

I was happy to get to the yard sale at the Senior Center.

I purchase a few useful items including some CD's and two wool skirts I can use in making penny rugs. My big surprise was three picture frames with mats that I purchased for the frames and when I got home I realized they had watercolors of two of my friends and my watercolor teacher. They were all flowers so I will not take them to use for the frames.

This week I burned my meatloaf so I made another one on Sunday. This is how I make my meatloaf.

SUNDAYS' MEATLOAF

- 1 pound ground hamburger
- 1 cup of bread crumbs
- 1 diced onion
- 1 egg
- 1 package onion soup mix salt and pepper to taste

I spray the bottom of a loaf pan and set the oven for 350 degrees and bake one hour. I like to put a couple of baking potatoes in also or/ and onions. All of the above is mixed by hand and placed

in the loaf pan. I also put a small can of tomato sauce or some ketchup on the top. What a mess. Note: I do make my own bread crumbs by saving the heels of the bread and grinding them in a blender. One of the nicest things I like is a nice meatloaf sandwich with salad dressing the next day.

This and That

I have been saving the seed pods of coneflowers for fall bouquets and leave some for the birds also. My helper gave me a plant of celosia in the purple tone and I plan to dry some of those blossoms. I was interested in what the Gardener said about them.

I'm picking quite a few peppers from the planter and the tomatoes have gone by except for an early girl variety.

I'm still deadheading some fall flowers, which are mostly yellow now. Have a good fall and take a walk at least once a week.

Senior Center lists upcoming events

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The North Brookfield Senior Center, located at 29 Forest St., will offer the following events and activities during the month of October.

Oct. 7, Flu Clinic at 9 a.m.; Oct. 9, Free Art Class

at 11 a.m.; Oct. 14, Tri Valley Services at 11 a.m.; Oct. 16, Free Drawing Class at 11 a.m.; Oct. 20, Music Bingo at 10 a.m.; Oct. 23, Free Art Class at 11 a.m.; Oct. 28, A.I. for Seniors at 11 a.m.; Oct. 29, Halloween Party at noon; and Oct. 30,

Free Drawing Class at 11 a.m.

Medicare Help will be available every Thursday, beginning Oct. 16. Please call 508-867-0220 for an appointment.

The Senior Center will be closed on Oct. 13.

Yard sale space available at Masonic hall

BARRE – Be part of Barre's Town Wide Sale this Saturday, Oct. 4 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

The Masonic Hall, 71 Pleasant St., will be on the map and there is space

available for community members to sell their items. Reserve a space at the hall for \$15 by calling Jane Whitmore at 978-413-0775 or Dolly Bacon at 508-826-7537.

During the Town Wide Yard Sale, the Barre Rainbow Girls and Cradle Rock will be selling hot dogs, drinks and baked goods.

ROUND TOWN from page 2

On Halloween night the re will be a costume contest and a chance to win prizes. For tickets people may visit www.barreplayerstheater.com. General admission is \$20, \$15 for children 12 and under and seniors 65 plus and older. Organizational

and production support are provided by the Barre Cultural Council and the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Berthiaume staff office hour

State Rep. Donnie Berthiaume and Chief of Staff, Donna, invite constituents and town officials to

meet them to express any concerns, ideas or issues that they may need assistance with. They may call Donna at 774-402-4742 if they would like a private meeting. On Thursday, Oct. 16 from 9-10 a.m. there will be an office at the Barre Senior Center, 557 South Barre Road.



By Ellenor Downer



Red-bellied woodpecker

On Sept. 30, I saw two red-bellied woodpeckers fly from one tree to another.

Since I do not feed the birds suet or seeds until winter due to bears, I had not noticed them before. The red-bellied woodpecker has a black and white barred back and a pale belly. Males have a red crown and nape and the females have just a red nape, but no crown.

These woodpeckers cling to tree bark and use their stiff tail feathers for support while they probe into the bark for insects. White is visible on their wings in flight. They are about nine inches long, the same size as the hairy woodpecker.

Like other woodpeckers, they have an undulating flight. They pick at the bark rather than drill into it like many other woodpeckers. They inhabit woodlands and forests from old stands of oak and hickory to young hardwoods and pines. They also appear at backyard feeders especially for suet.

They nest in a cavity excavated in dead wood. Males may begin cavity excavation with the female

selecting one of the holes and completing it. The female lays two to six eggs. There most common call is a shrill rolling "kwirr" or "churr" given by both sexes. They also make a "cha cha cha" sound.

Helping birds

Another way to help birds is to plant native trees, shrubs and plants in ones yard. Many provide a food source and others become a nesting site or shelter. Leaving a section of yard not mowed and letting it "run wild" also attracts birds, but provides food, nesting sites and shelter. Putting out bird feeders and water sources also bring birds to one's yard, but they also attract black bears and other unwanted visitors.

Blue jays

I heard blue jays squawking away on Sept. 30. I looked toward the noise and saw four blue jays flitting about among the trees. They were near a winter feeding spot. In winter, I put out shelled peanuts, which is a favorite of blue jays and tufted titmice to name a few. The first year I fed peanuts, I put out unshelled peanuts. They make a mess with the peanut husks, but I enjoyed watching them fly off with a whole peanut and opening it to get the peanuts inside.

Brimfield birds

A Brimfield birder, who emails regularly said, "In the yard most summer visitors have headed south but catbirds are still around and a couple of male towhees were seen last week. Also a male and female common

yellowthroat visited the bird bath."

He said, "I filled the hummingbird feeders last week but haven't seen a hummingbird in several days and the feeders haven't been used much because they are still almost full."

He reported he had to take down my feeders because bear were visiting during the day. He had planted a couple dozen sunflowers in the yard and last week he cut the seed heads off and hung them in the garage to dry. He attached a few of the seed heads to the poles where he hangs his bird feeders. A pair of cardinals, at least three titmice and a black capped chickadee came for the seeds.

Trip to Norwottuck Rail Trail

The Brimfield resident in his email of Sept. 30 said, "Last Saturday a friend and I spent a couple of hours walking on the Norwottuck Rail Trail, Station Road in Amherst. It was a beautiful day to be out and about. We didn't see song birds but a few ducks, a couple of great blue herons, three green herons (good looks at one quite close) and one horned grebe. A pair of beaver were out enjoying the nice day and we got good looks at them. A few people walking the trail had never seen beavers before and were quite excited and asked lots of questions. Do they eat fish?"

Warren ponds

The Brimfield resident frequently visits ponds in Warren. He saw a bald eagle one day and yesterday (Sept. 29) in addition to three great blue herons I saw a northern harrier and two male turkeys.

Trail camera

The Brimfield resident said in his email, "The trail camera near the bird bath

See **BACKYARD**, page 6

Send Us Your Community Dazzler Events

Turley Publications will print your holiday calendar events **FREE OF CHARGE** in our **Dazzler Supplement** which will be published November 19, 2025.

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Michael H. Hakim, MD



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LOCAL AUTHOR from page 1

resentfully part of the United Kingdom when and where his great-great-grandfather, Charles Walker, Sr., was born.

Eventually, the Walker family and their relatives who married into the family were "obliged" to settle in the Colonies around 1716, before the American Revolution. Some served as indentured servants for a period of seven years. Samuel Walker's arrival on Earth was six years after the War of 1812. The country from which his ancestors had tried to regain Scotland's independence from the UK was once again, for the third

time, attempting to regain control of their lives. The British forces' surrender to American and French troops in 1781 marked the end of the American Revolution and the beginning of the United States' independence.

Author Sullivan writes, "This was the story of the Walker heritage that was passed down to Sam Walker. That, combined with the national political climate into which he was born, as well as growing up so near the nation's capital, would have an impact on him. The human and natural events set the stage for Walker's enthusiastic patriotism that seemed to be a motivating force for him all of his life."

Yes, 1817 was a most

interesting time. It was a part of history that today's students should learn. Just one week after Walker's birth, James Monroe took the oath of office as President on March 4, 1817. How many college graduates can explain the impact of the Monroe Doctrine and the events that led up to the Civil War? Sullivan's book should be required reading in every high school in this reporter's opinion.

The doctrine marked a significant migration westward and conflict with the Native Americans, who did not like the encroachment on their way of life. The year 1816 marked the beginning of what became known as the First Seminole War in

Florida. Samuel Walker volunteered in the Washington City Volunteers, part of the D.C. militia, in 1836. Though he did serve in combat during the Seminole War, he wanted to. He had learned carpentry early on, but he admitted in letters to be "naturally fond of military glory." He enlisted for "purely patriotic motives" to "march to the rescue of fellow citizens."

The 420-page, well-documented biographical book continues to follow Walker's life, both in and out of battles between Mexico and the indigenous population, as well as with outlaws of questionable moral character and as a Texas Ranger. By that time, he had demonstrated his bravery and

leadership, coupled with a respected high moral character, which initially put him at odds with authority; nonetheless, he served as a Lieutenant Colonel in the 1st Regiment of the Texas Mounted Rifle Volunteers at General Zachary Taylor's request. That was during the U.S.-Mexican War in 1846 against Mexican President Santa Anna.

What he had done by the age of 30 is almost incomprehensible. In his day, the native Americans considered the European immigrants, particularly the military, terrorists. Although some may not like what he chose to do, one cannot forget the life and times of his day and the education they received.

Though he was more of a negotiator and peacemaker, he was not a Quaker, unlike Major General Smedley Butler, USMC, in the 20th century. Walker did not live long enough to see the proverbial big picture. He was shot dead by a sniper leading his forces against Santa Anna's troops in 1847. He was just thirty years old.

As extra homework, high school students are encouraged to read David Sullivan's book and the two-time Medal of Honor U.S. Marine recipient, Major General Smedley Butler's book. The discussion and sharing of both books can lead to a proper understanding of true American history and peace among mankind.

PAST PAGES from page 4

Marks, 13, of Holden (6:57); Nicholas Kent, 13, of Holden (6:57); Casey Seem, 10, of Oakham (7:46); Emma Grutulis, 11, of Oakham (8:20); Aidan Mahoney, 7, of Oakham (9:15); Carlee Rich, 9, of Hardwick (10:17); Catelyn Rich, 7, of Hardwick (10:25); Sadie Ouimette, 6, of Gilbertville (10:13); James Cook, 6, of Oakham (10:35); Jacob Bengston of Oakham (12:05) and Quinn Ouimette, 4, of Gilbertville (13:11).

In an effort to keep the cost of the proposed public safety complex under \$2.4 million, Barre Selectmen approved the recommendations of the Public Safety Building Committee. Having the Barre Department of Public works do some of the site work including providing sewer and water lines and paving of the driveway and parking lot would provide a savings of around \$90,000. The committee recommended using all vinyl siding instead

of brick on the lower part of the exterior walls as well as vinyl windows instead of vinyl covered wood windows. Other cost saving measures included lowering the height of the apparatus bays by two feet and reducing the size of the entrance canopies.

The Petersham Common will be full of autumn activities on Saturday, Oct. 10 from 9 a.m. through the morning. The public is invited to join the Petersham Grange for their second annual Great Pumpkin Day. East Quabbin Land Trust and the Country Store will host a light breakfast of coffee, cider, muffins and more under the blue tent. Petersham Memorial Library is holding their annual book sale.

25 years (Oct. 5, 2000)

Hubbardston Police Chief Larry presented his choice for a full-time dispatcher in the meeting with Selectmen on Sept. 25. He introduced Mark Bissonnette, his choice from the ten origi-

nal candidates that applied. Bissonnette had worked for the department as a part-time dispatcher and police officer in the past and will start out dispatching on the 3 to 11 p.m. shift. He has been a Hubbardston resident for five years.

An unusual set of circumstances probably helped local firefighters save several buildings at Regienus Lumber. The fire at the family-owned lumber business destroyed one building and severely damaged two others. The other buildings including a 15-room home, sustained only minor damage. Barre Fire Chief Joseph A. Rogowski said an unusual convergence of circumstances first alerted authorities to the blaze and also brought fire crews to the scene very quickly and allowed firefighters to contain what could have been a total disaster. The fire was first reported about 9:30 p.m. Thursday by the president of the Barre Savings Bank. It just so happened the bank was open late Thursday. From the bank

president's office window, Chief Rogowski said. "He had a clear view of the property and could see the flames starting." That call came at 9:34 p.m.

For more than two decades, there was one thing that made Dennis G. Fleming of Barre stand out from the crowd: the stainless steel bracelet around his wrist inscribed with the name of man he'd never met before. "Lt. Robert Randell," the subscription read. Etched below was the date he was listed as missing in action in Vietnam - 7-11-72." Often, the tight fitting bracelet gnawed at Flemings's skin, until it turned red and sore, just as the unknown man's name gnawed at his conscience as the years went by. About a month ago, his brother, Lawrence A. Fleming of Baldwinville, came across a website listing the names of Vietnam veterans still missing in action and those accounted for. To his amazement, listed among those who made it home alive was U.S. Navy Lt. Robert I.

Randall.

38 years (Oct. 8, 1987)

The Barre Arts Lottery Council will meet on Thursday, Oct. 15 at 7:30 p.m. in the Woods Memorial Library to review and discuss applications submitted for the current round of funding provided by the Massachusetts Arts Lottery Council.

Elsie Hawes Smith, a charter member of the Friday Club, wrote, "It was just a friendly little club where members brought their work and often their babies, to enjoy the sociability of meeting together and gain some worthwhile

thoughts from listening to informal programs." Indeed, the group did over the years sponsor lectures on health, purchase books for the library and gift parties.

According to Marcia Casault, the fireworks display will take place on Saturday, Oct. 10 at 7:30 p.m. The display will originate on the grounds of the Oakham Center School. There will be no parking in the immediate area. The parade, which tentatively includes a color guard from Fort Devens and other color guards from veterans' organizations in nearby towns, a long array of floats and guests.

BACKYARD from page 5

captured a visit by a bear one night. Three days later a bear visited again and chewed open a pumpkin and ate the seeds and then went to one of the poles with sunflower seed heads and knocked the pole down. It didn't bother another pole

with seed heads."

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

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Ladd's Restaurant celebrates 25 years in business

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

RUTLAND – For a fun place to dine, Ladd's Restaurant & Lounge in Rutland has been operating under the same ownership for 25 years.

This beloved Rutland restaurant is a place offering traditional New England dining where guests enter as strangers and leave as friends. It offers a classic casual dining experience with a touch of modern class.

Ladd's is known for its fresh food and homemade meals cooked by the owner himself.

For the last 25 years, Ladd's Restaurant & Lounge has been owned and operated by Billy Toomey. While in high school, Toomey began working at Ladd's as a busboy under the previous owners.

The name Ladd's was inspired by the name of the two owners, Leo and Dick. The restaurant in Rutland has stood the test of time and was first established back in the 1940s.

The two previous names of the restaurant were the Hunthurst tavern and before it became Ladd's, it was the Birches for 24 years. In 1984 the restaurant was purchased by Leopold "Leo" Dubeau and Richard "Dick" Wigglesworth and was operated as Ladd's Restaurant & Lounge.

As time went by Toomey



Ladd's Restaurant & Lounge in Rutland has been operating for 25 years. Standing in front of the sign is owner Billy Toomey.

Turley Publications photo by Dan Flynn

worked his way up taking on various tasks in the restaurant. In that time, the two previous owners entrusted Toomey to keep the tradition and the business going.

In 2000, the ownership would then be in the hands of Toomey.

At the time of taking over ownership and operation of Ladd's Restaurant & Lounge, Toomey had no desire to change the name. He felt the restaurant had a good customer base and folks loved Ladd's Restaurant & Lounge.

Toomey would add on new amenities to the restaurant over the course of his 25-year ownership and continue to provide the best service to his

customers. New bathrooms were added to the restaurant, 70 more seats were added throughout the restaurant to increase the capacity and the size of the parking lot at Ladd's has grown gradually. The size of the bar at Ladd's would expand by offering additional seating.

One of the most successful additions to Ladd's Restaurant & Lounge happened 12 years ago. Toomey would add on a pizzeria to Ladd's menu. The style of pizza is brick oven pizza and Toomey claims it is the best pizza around. "Adding pizza is one of the best things I ever did," Toomey said.

Though Ladd's brick

oven pizza became a hit, the restaurant is known for other fantastic dishes and specials. Guests at Ladd's Restaurant & Lounge spoke highly about their seafood and turkey dinners on Sundays. Other popular meals at Ladd's are their prime rib, fish and chips, and clam chowder. Ladd's has award winning clam chowder and is a winner of the Central Tree Chowder Challenge.

Though maintaining its success, Toomey said one of the biggest challenges in the restaurant industry is keeping up with the demand and making sure customers continue to leave happy and continue to return to the restaurant. Ladd's currently has 25 staff members, including Toomey's two children, ages 18 and 21. Toomey said his kids enjoy

coming to work and picking up the skills to run the restaurant. As a way to celebrate with his staff on 25 years of operation, Toomey made 25th anniversary edition T-shirts and sweatshirts for staff and customers. Of all the days of the week, Toomey said Ladd's is always busy on a Friday evening.

Ladd's is the place to go for dinners, banquets, birthday parties, business functions, retirement parties and many more. Ladd's is also known for hosting an annual golf tournament and Christmas party to support Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health. The golf tournament has been around on an annual basis since Toomey took over Ladd's back in 2000. The golf tournament has been held at the Quail Hollow Golf and Country Club in Oakham.

As for future plans after surpassing an incredible milestone, Toomey says he plans to continue running Ladd's Restaurant. Running the restaurant plays a big part in Toomey's lively hood and feels he's come so far and learned so much.

Ladd's Restaurant & Lounge features many veteran staff, who started off as dishwashers and worked their way up to becoming cooks. Toomey is the head cook and has been the instructor for many of his cooks, who currently work at the restaurant. Toomey also steps in for prepping and ordering product and managing the kitchen.

The bar has been doing well at Ladd's Restaurant and

Toomey described the place as a very social restaurant, "a Cheers vibe."

The restaurant industry was heavily impacted by COVID-19 and Toomey shared his thoughts on how Ladd's got through the difficult time of the pandemic. "COVID made us stronger," Toomey said.

Ladd's kept busy by doing online orders, deliveries and a lot of take-out business. Since COVID, online orders never stopped for Ladd's Restaurant. A negative situation turned into a positive opportunity for Ladd's Restaurant to continue to provide the best service for their customers.

Ladd's is accommodating to all demographics such as all age groups, sports fans, families, date night, casual night and happy hour. Ladd's also provides catering services. Pizza and a variety of pasta is a big seller for catering. Catering also includes sandwiches, wraps, seafood platters, chicken tenders, lasagna, meatballs, sausage and much more.

The menu at Ladd's Restaurant is always a surprise featuring the drink of the day, starters, \$14.99 dinners, specials which involves pizza and tacos, and dessert of the day.

Adam Gillette is the manager of Ladd's Restaurant and has been the manager for the last four years. In addition to his background in banking, Gillette also has a lot of experience in the restaurant business.

See LADDS page 13



Turley Publications photo by Ryan Drago

The dining room at Ladd's Restaurant & Lounge was getting packed as guests enjoyed traditional New England dining.

SOCIAL SECURITY from page 4

their spousal benefit. That may, or may not, equal half of the higher earning spouse's FRA amount.

So, if you claimed your Social Security exactly at your own full retirement age and your husband also claimed his Social Security exactly at his own full retirement age, then based on the numbers you provided your husband is likely entitled to about \$850 per month, instead of his current \$750. And that would not affect your own SS benefit in any way.

Your FRA entitlement would need to be more than twice your husband's FRA entitlement for him to receive a spousal boost from you. But if either of you claimed Social Security before (or after) your respective full retirement ages, your husband would not get 50% of your benefit.

The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental enti-

ty. 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-advisor or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

GARDEN from page 4

overwintering temperatures should be warmer than what you would use for geraniums or fuchsias. We are talking 65 to 75 degrees. Another point of interest is that the plant likes humidity.

Putting the pot in a tray of wet gravel will provide some humidity to the immediate area and may help, especially since winter air tends to be dry. Indirect light is best for these plants as well. Let's keep our fingers crossed!

Be adventurous, by trying to overwinter some annuals. You just may make it a little easier on your wallet come spring, especially if your favorites are growing strong right in your own house!

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

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RETIREMENT from page 1

newly appointed Chief Kevin Landine.

According to Ayotte, Landine has been a dedicated officer of the law and is a good fit for the role of Police Chief. Ayotte worked with Landine for 20 years and witnessed him work up through the ranks and was ready to take the role as Chief.

Landine said working with Ayotte was a privilege and was always a leader, making sure the police department was running well and trusted his fellow law enforcement officers.

"He trusted me and my role," Landine said.

Landine said Ayotte taught him respect and empathy towards people and is dedicated to continue to support the communities as Chief of Police and continue running the police department, which he describes as the "footprint of our town."

During his retirement party, Ayotte admitted many feelings of thanks and said its "overwhelming to see all the family, friends and member of both communities" who came out to celebrate him and his career.

Ayotte will always remember trying to inspire young kids and being involved in Christmas for Kids. He will miss his coworkers and members of the community.



State Rep. Donnie Berthiaume is shown alongside retired Police Chief James Ayotte and his citation from the House of Representatives recognizing his 40 years of public service.

Hardwick Town Administrator Justine Caggiano was one of many guests at Hardwick Crossing Country Club to give speeches during Ayotte's retirement party and said people in the town respected him as the Chief of Police.

William Tinker of the Hardwick Select Board said Ayotte was great and outstanding officer and chief for both the towns and is one of the hardest jobs a person can have.

"A good person you want as the chief," Tinker said.

Tinker also commented that the town is proud in having Landine as their newly appointed Police Chief.

Executive Director of

the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association Mike Bradley attended Ayotte's retirement party and presented a watch to Ayotte during speeches. During Landine's speech, he talked about how Ayotte contributed to the police department and to the communities.

"He helped move the department forward," Landine said.

Landine presented a plaque and clock to Ayotte, who briefly spoke and expressed much thanks for this acknowledgement.

Caggiano came up for her speech and shared how she saw how the Town of Hardwick looked up to Jim. Ayotte was the kind of per-



James Ayotte was joined by Hardwick Select Board member William Tinker (left), Hardwick Town Administrator Justine Caggiano, and Hardwick Select Board member Jeff Schaaf.

son who always wanted to check in with town staff. When talking about his 40 years of service, Caggiano feels this celebration of Ayotte is well deserved. Caggiano and the Hardwick Select Board presented a plaque commemorating Ayotte's years of service to the Town of Hardwick.

The New Braintree Select Board: Joe Chenevert, Dennis Letendre, Jr and Michael McQueston came up to present a plaque to Ayotte and shared some stories about working with Jim and his time in the

Hardwick-New Braintree Police Department.

On behalf of state Sen. Peter Durant, Kim Mongeau attended the retirement party and presented Ayotte with a citation from the Senate.

State Rep. Donnie Berthiaume came up next to speak and mentioned he and Ayotte went through school together. Berthiaume said Ayotte made a big impression on the people and the towns he served and was presented with a citation from the House of Representative that recognizes his 40 years of service as a police officer.

The Hardwick Police Association had a funny gift to present to Ayotte, which was a photograph of a custom Glock. Ayotte posed with the photograph in laughter.

Landine came back up to thank everyone who attended the party and said this celebration is a "testament of who Jim was." Ayotte looks forward to enjoying his retirement and plans to enjoy life and wants to travel to new places.

"Non-stressful events... that is retirement," Ayotte said.

N BRIOOKFIELD from page 1

the top;" with some houses selling well over their assessed value.

Buzzell said the DOR employee believed the town's property values were low compared to the sales prices during that time.

A resident of Old East Brookfield Road shared concerns about how much his taxes will increase with his new property assessment.

"How is this going to impact people that are on fixed incomes?" he asked. "Where they have just enough to pay their tax bill they have now, never mind a 20-25% increase. We're getting to the point where some people in town that own their houses, they're basically renting them from the town now to pay their taxes."

The resident asked what the town could do to address this.

Selectmen Vice-Chair Jamie Gilman said the median increase in proper-

ty values is about 17%. He explained that the town can only increase the tax rate by 2.5%, and the revaluation impacts how this increase is distributed across property owners.

Gilman gave an example showing how those with higher property values would pay more than someone who has a lower property value.

"If my house value went down, per se, and your house value went up, that overall tax burden as a whole gets redistributed," Gilman said.

Gilman said the tax rate has not yet been set to determine the actual cost of property taxes. He said there are also debt exclusions that will impact residents' taxes.

Buzzell said anyone with questions about their property values should stop by the Assessors office or email to make an appointment for a review by the board.

Quarterly billing for water/sewer

The Board of Selectmen discussed the potential of switching to quarterly bill-

ing for the Water and Sewer departments.

The Sewer Commissioners said many people in town have difficulty paying larger bills for the utility, and switching to quarterly billing would help to make that payment amount smaller.

"I think it should be done quarterly," Sewer Commissioner Don Smith said.

Another meeting will be set up with the Water and Sewer Commissioners to determine the next steps and if this switch is feasible.

Sewer upgrade and rate increase

Smith said the recent wastewater upgrade will cause the sewer rate to increase in order to pay for the cost of the loans. He said the rates are still one of the lowest among area towns.

The minimum charge for sewer users is \$100 and the cost of loan repayment is about \$130 per user.

He said the upgrade of the wastewater treatment plant was mandatory,

and a requirement by the Environmental Protection Agency.

"We have to do what we have to do, to make ends meet," Smith said.

Decorate Our Town Committee

The board appointed Mark Anderson and Leslie Murray to the Decorate Our Town Committee.

Murray said she is a retired schoolteacher, and she is looking forward to helping decorate the town for the holidays. Anderson said he volunteered with the committee last year and he had a great time doing so.

The committee is planning a Christmas event on Saturday, Nov. 29. This event is expected to include a visit from Santa, a parade, a tree lighting, children's games, music provided by a DJ, hot chocolate and refreshments.

National Grid easement

Board of Selectmen Chair Jason Petraitis said National Grid will be attending the Board of Selectmen's meeting in the future to continue

discussion of an easement for a proposed substation at 39 East Brookfield Road.

He said he expects to hear from a representative from the utility company later in the week.

Abatement request

A resident requested a sewer abatement for water used to water his lawn. Petraitis and Gilman said they would have no way to determine how much water was used to water the lawn and how much entered the sewer system.

The resident said he paid the water bill, and said it was "common sense" that not all of the water he used went into the sewer.

Gilman said the sewer bills are based on how much water is used.

"Your sewer bill is based on your water bill," he said.

The resident said the Sewer Commissioners agreed to sign off on the abatement request.

Sewer Commissioner Smith said they have granted abatements for water leaks in

the past. Gilman said a leak is a situation, which is beyond the homeowner's control.

"That's a different scenario then what we're talking about here," he said.

Gilman expressed concern about the abatement process, especially with the inclusion of the new finance charge for the cost of the wastewater upgrade loan.

The board voted to reject the abatement request.

Senior Center update

Board of Selectmen Clerk Ralph Kay said they have received good feedback from the Senior Center survey.

He said the Senior Center is also looking for donations of wheelchairs, which he said are "really appreciated."

Kay said the Senior Center will host a flu clinic on Tuesday, Oct. 7 at 9 a.m.

Resignations

The board accepted the resignations of Robert Filipkowski and James Meccariello from the Town Administrator Search Committee.



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BG25TMC

Calendar of Events

FRIDAY, OCT. 3

SENIOR TRIP sponsored by the Oakham Council on Aging will go to the New England Botanical Garden at Tower Hill, 11 French Drive, Boylston, today. They should plan their own transportation and meet at the visitor reception area at the botanical garden at 11 a.m. French Drive is a right hand turn after leaving the Boylston Town Center. The entrance to the Botanical Garden is an almost immediate left. The cost is \$7 and can be paid at the reception area at the botanical garden on Oct. 3. Lunch is available at the Botanical Garden at participants expense and is followed by a tour of the gardens. If seniors would like to join this trip, they may call the Senior Center at 508-882-4073 or email us COA@Oakham-Ma.gov to register before the event date.

SATURDAY, OCT. 4

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

MASS CENTRAL RAIL TRAIL will hold a walk, run or bike event sponsored by Wachusett Greenways today at 10 a.m. All are invited. The event takes place at the rail trail entrance at 190 Manning St., Holden. Parking for the gathering is located across the street from the 190 Manning St. rail trail entrance. DCR DWSP does not allow dogs on Wachusett watershed land. Wachusett Greenways is offering a variety of distances for folks of all ages and abilities to enjoy part or all of the rail trail between West Boylston and Holden. People may sign up for the free walk, run or ride of their choice: 1, 2, or 4.6 Mile Walk; 1, 4.6 or 10 Mile Run or 2, 10 or 18 Mile Bicycle. All begin and end at the 190 Manning St., Holden, MCRT entrance. People may register by calling Colleen at 508-479-2123.

FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL will take place today from noon-4 p.m. at Dismas Family Farm, 687 Lincoln Road, Oakham. Rain date is Sunday, Oct. 5.

FLANNEL AND FAITH COMMUNITY SUPPER will take place today from 5-7 p.m. at First Congregational Church of Rutland, 264 Main St., Rutland. All are welcome. People should come dressed in their finest flannel shirts. They will enjoy a meal of soups, stews, warm cider and sweet treats while sharing in the blessings of faith and fellowship. They will be collecting new or gently used men's and women's flannel shirts to donate to the Veterans Shelter in Worcester. Donations are gratefully accepted to support future community meals.

ANNUAL BACKROADS STUDIO TOUR 2025 featuring artists in the towns of Petersham, Barre, Oakham, New Braintree, Gilbertville, North Brookfield, and Spencer will take place this year today and Sunday, Oct. 5 from 10 am.-5 p.m. It is a free, self guided tour through the studios of nine artists.

There will be artwork for sale and demonstrations. Arts and crafts will include paintings, pottery, leather works and handbags, stained glass, jewelry, baskets, furniture, paperworks, hooked rugs, needlework, ornamental and functional woodworks. For more detailed information and maps, people may visit the website at www.backroadsstudiotour.org.

Where is this?



Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

This week's mystery photo is from New Braintree. If any readers know where this photo was taken, they may email edowner@turley.com or call the Barre Gazette at 413-967-3505, extension 100 with their answer by noon on Monday, Oct. 6. Robert Augustine, Bill Bowles, Peggy Civilik, Paul Cranston, Steve Erickson, Kelley Ford, Chris Giglio, Vinnie Hand, Rosemary Horan, Bridget Lachance, Janet Lawson, Jane McCauley, Philip Warbasse and Carl Willette correctly identified the photo. The photo last week was taken from Route 68 of a bridge on Brigham Pond.

backroadsstudiotour.org.

SUNDAY, OCT. 5

HARVEST SUPPER sponsored by the East Quabbin Land Trust will be held today from 4-7 p.m. at the Petersham Town Hall, Main Street, Rte. 32, Petersham. There will be a silent auction. Tickets are \$35 per person purchased before Sept. 29 or \$45 at the door Children 10 and under are \$20. Dinner will be served at 5 p.m. Menu includes chicken stew with potpie topping (vegetarian option available), roasted harvest vegetables with rice and apple crisps with donated apples from Pease Orchard. Live music is at 5 p.m. Live music is by the Evening Standard Jazz. There is a cash bar with donated beverages from Berkshire Brewing, Red Apple Farm and Stone Cow Brewery. To purchase tickets online, people may visit <https://crm.nonprofiteasy.com/8133/Pages/Events/#!/Details/14677/>.

MANY VOICES ON STAGE, a free, family-friendly Discovery Day, takes place today from 3-5 p.m. for all ages at Mechanics Hall, 321 Main St., Worcester. Whether people are curious about singing, looking to get involved or simply want to experience the magic of Mechanics Hall, this event is the perfect place to start. The event includes live performance by Youth Singers and the audience can sing alongside them in the Great Hall. There will be program presentation where children can learn about the free youth choir program, rehearsal schedule and performance opportunities. There will be concessions and community tables. There will be on site registration for new singers in grades 4 to 8. People may visit mechanicshall.org/event/many-voices-mechanics-hall-youth-singers-discovery-day/.

MONDAY, OCT. 6

VACCINE CLINIC will take place today from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at the New Braintree Town Hall, Memorial Drive by the Leicester

Regional Public Health Coalition. The health coalition serves Oakham, Hardwick and New Braintree. CVS Pharmacy offers the following vaccines: high dose/regular dose flu, shingle, Covid, pneumonia and RSV. The location is wheelchair accessible. People may call to sign up at 508-892-7008, extension 124. People should bring their insurance card. This clinic is open to all. If 20 people register to have vaccines in Hardwick, the LRPHC and CVS will have a clinic at the Paige Memorial Library.

STORY TIME takes place at the New Braintree Public Library, 45 Memorial Drive, New Braintree for preschoolers today at 11:30 a.m. This is a new start time. The reading will include "Do Not Bring Your Dragon to the Library" by Julie Gassman. Parental supervision is required.

THURSDAY, OCT. 9

FREE VIRTUAL CAREER SKILLS WORKSHOP hosted by Early Risers Toastmasters Club will take place today from 7:30-9 a.m. The workshop is designed to help participants sharpen key professional skills including public speaking, meeting leadership, interview presentation, and facilitation skills. People may register at earlyrisers.toastmastersclubs.org.

FRIDAY, OCT. 10

INAUGURAL QUABBIN DAYS CELEBRATION will take place today at 10 a.m. at the Quabbin Reservoir Les and Terry Campbell Visitor Center, 100 Winsor Road, Belchertown. The opening ceremony will feature remarks by Quabbin Region state senators, representatives and other invited guests. It is a project of the Friends of the Quabbin (www.friendsofquabbin.org) and is being supported through a grant from the Mass Cultural Council's Creative Experiences program. Managed by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation

and the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, the Quabbin Reservoir and its surrounding lands stand as a model of conservation. For hikers, anglers, nature photographers and history enthusiasts, Quabbin Days is an invitation to experience this extraordinary landscape at its most vibrant.

SATURDAY, OCT. 11

ST. MARY'S WOMEN'S CLUB FAIR will take place today from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. A lunch of beef stew, sandwiches and pie for dessert will be served from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. The fair will be held in the Parish Hall, West Myrtle Street, Orange. There will be baked goods, raffles, cemetery baskets, apples, outdoor tag sale weather permitting and more.

SUNDAY, OCT. 12

LANCASTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY presents a program entitled "Hidden Treasures: The Art of Lancaster's Chandler Family Women" today at 2 p.m. in the Hawkins Fellowship Hall of the First Church of Christ, Unitarian located at 725 Main St., Lancaster. This program will feature one of Lancaster's once prominent families and the recently discovered "Treasure Trove" of artwork created by women of the family plus that of their close friend, Anna Henshaw Whitney. This event is free to LHS members and for a \$5 fee for others attending. For more information, people may call 978-733-6907.

FRIDAY, OCT. 17

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

SATURDAY, OCT. 18

CHURCH BENEFIT BREAKFAST will take place today from 8-9:30 a.m. at the Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road, Oakham. Proceeds benefit the Rutland and Barre Food Pantries. Menu includes pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, strawberries, juice, coffee, tea and hot cocoa. The breakfast is open to all. There will be a free will donation of one's choosing.

Calendar Policy

POLICY: Our calendar section is intended to promote "free" events or ones that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization that benefits the community. Paid events that are not deemed fund-raisers or benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public to enter are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items in the mail, by fax, or emailed in Word document format is Monday at noon or sooner. We usually print one week in advance of an event, and the listings should be brief, with only time, date, location, brief activity explanation and contact information.

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Panthers fall in road match to Clinton

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

CLINTON—Juniors Jacoby Dilling and Alijah Flint are the two players listed on Quabbin Regional boys' varsity soccer roster that Clinton head coach Alvaro DaSilva was the most concerned about entering last Thursday's Mid-Wach D match-up.

Flint, who's the Panthers starting goalkeeper, made

several outstanding saves in the first half, Dilling, who's the Panthers leading goal scorer, assisted on a goal at the start of the second half.

It wound up being Quabbin's only goal, as the Gaels scored a 4-1 home win on a rainy afternoon.

"When we were preparing for today's game, we knew that number seven (Dilling) for Quabbin was probably going to be a factor. He can score from anywhere on the

field. We wanted someone else to beat us other than him," DaSilva said. "The Quabbin goalie is also very good. He made a couple of incredible saves. The game was a lot closer than the final score indicates. Quabbin played very hard against us."

It was the first meeting on the soccer pitch between the two teams since the end of the 2023 regular season. Clinton (3-3-1) also won that contest by the same 4-1

score.

The Panthers had a 2-4-1 overall record following last Thursday's match, but they had gone 2-1-1 in their previous four games.

"I felt like we could have played a little bit better in today's game, especially during the first half," said Quabbin first-year varsity coach Bill Crowther. "We did move the ball a lot better during the second half. Alijah also did the best that he could

to keep us in the game."

The three goals scored during the first 40 minutes of the match were by the home squad.

Senior Alejandro Pimentel, who received a pass from junior Samuel Medeiros, scored Clinton's first goal by putting a shot into the right corner of the net during the 12th minute.

Flint (15 saves) made a couple of saves before senior Bryan Costa put another shot

into the net giving the Gaels a 2-0 advantage with ten minutes remaining in the first half.

During the 34th minute, a shot attempt by sophomore Brayan Villegas, who assisted on Costa's goal, took a high bounce on the wet grass and went into the net past the Panthers keeper.

"We're a young team and it's difficult to make a second

See PANTHERS, page 12

Offense soars in Pathfinder boys soccer win

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

PALMER—The weather might have been a little bit gloomy last Wednesday afternoon, but it was all sunshine for the Pathfinder Tech boys' varsity soccer team.

Led by senior Adonis Dupre, the Pioneers overcame an early 1-0 deficit to defeat the Pioneer Valley Chinese Immersion Charter School Dragons, 7-1, in a non-league home match.

"They scored an early goal against us, but we weren't really nervous about it," Dupre said. "We were able to take control of the game very quickly after that."

It turned out to be a very memorable afternoon for Dupre, who finished the home contest with a career-high four goals and two assists.

"I've never scored four goals in a game before," said Dupre, who recorded his first hat-trick in another one-sided home match against Drury High School last October. "I'm very grateful to have this opportunity to play for this soccer team."

Dupre is one of the four players listed on the Pathfinder Tech boys' varsity soccer roster who attends Palmer High School, which is located about a mile down the street. They're allowed to play for the Pioneers, who are coached by David Wilson and Joe Bouchie, as part of a co-op.

"I love playing soccer and I wish that we had our own soccer team at Palmer High School, but I'm very thankful for this co-op," added Dupre, who joined the varsity soccer team as a freshman. "When I was a freshman, I didn't realize that Palmer had a co-op with Pathfinder, so I joined the soccer team a couple of games into the season. I've improved a lot during the past four years."

The other three players from Palmer High School listed on this year's Pioneers varsity soccer roster are senior Jaleel Roman, junior Owen Pear, and freshman Abees Castillo-Clotter.

Dupre, Pear, and Roman are the Pioneers captains, along with junior Cayden Bousquet.

While the other three captains were selected by the coaching staff prior to the start of the regular season, Dupre was named as a captain before his team's road match against Bi-County

See PATHFINDER, page 12

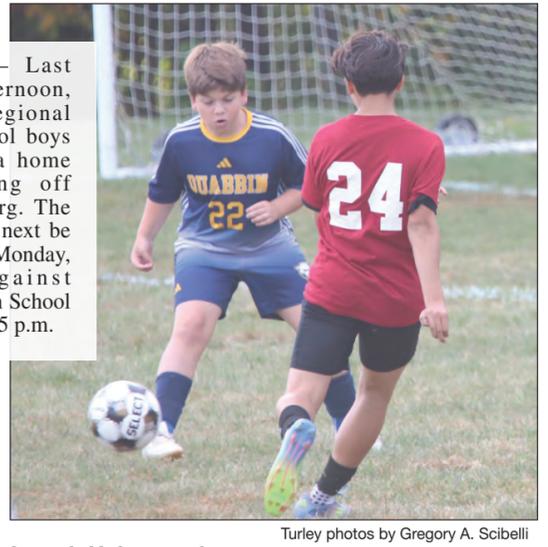
Middle school boys soccer hosts Fitchburg



Silas Howe sends a pass back.



Jacob Blanchard tries to overcome a larger opponent.



Joseph Haley sends a pass away.

BARRE – Last Monday afternoon, Quabbin Regional Middle School boys soccer had a home game, facing off with Fitchburg. The Panthers will next be in action on Monday, Oct. 6 against Murdock High School on the road at 5 p.m.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli



Luca Scott goes after the loose ball.



Cameron Charpentier makes a stop



Vincent Stark passes ahead of pressure.

Middle school girls soccer action

BARRE – Last Monday afternoon, Quabbin Regional Middle School girls soccer was in action, facing off with Fitchburg. The Panthers will next be in action on Monday, Oct. 6 against Murdock High School on the road at 4 p.m.



Ayla Clark heads off a defender.



Kayla Despres takes the ball and heads toward the opposite end.



Maggie Leander makes a quick pass.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli



McKenna Rengo sends the ball ahead of an opponent.



Hazel Serra advances forward after evading a defender.



Maia Flint tries to keep possession.

Sports

Robie and Zullo crowned champs at Monadnock

WINCHESTER, N.H. - Monadnock Speedway closed out its 55th summer of racing Saturday, with a huge crowd cheering as solid car counts in seven unique divisions battled for the final points and bragging rites earned during the long and successful summer of excitement on the high banks of the Great Race Place.

Along with Weekly Racing Series championships and memorable high finishes atop the 2025 divisional points parades to be decided at the speedway's 2025 season finale at the storied quarter-mile, the Teddy Bear Pools and Spas Triple Crown final event, postponed by rain a week earlier, was at stake too.

Longtime pace truck driver Leo Martin led the All States Material Group 604 Modifieds to the green for the final time Saturday, Andrew Brousseau and Joey Jarvis, both 2025 feature winners, sat up front. But not for long.

Blasting off from fourth on the grid, Leary was in front before lap one was completed, and he'd never look back en route to victory. Having early set fast time with a lap of 12.207 seconds, Leary was untouchable.

Ty Leclerc kept him close until giving way to Robie, who'd started at the back after missing qualifying, on lap 32 but Leary would not be denied. Robie's strong run netted him the 2025 track championship as well as the Teddy Bear Pools crown, and Leclerc ended his season in third.

A year ago, Chris Riendeau had a magical season en route to the

Monadnock Speedway Super Street championship. This summer, that magic belonged to second-generation ace Dylan Zullo.

Firing from row three in the Twin State Truck Services 50-lap main event, Zullo took the lead from JD Stockwell Saturday and soared off to his sixth win of the season and, with it, his first career track championship. Justin Beecher's runner-up finish earned him the Teddy Bear Pools title, and Stockwell held strong for third.

Cameron Sontag closed out his Fabian Fuels Mini Stock season with a flourish Saturday. Taking the lead from Claremont regular Dick LaMotte on lap 18, the Sterling, Mass. hot shoe outran Jon Fultz to the checkers and his second win of the season.

Fultz's second-place run earned him his first Monadnock track championship and the Teddy Bear Pools & Spas Triple Crown championship, and Julia Kendall was a strong third in the season finale.

Markus O'Neil led early in the Brattleboro Towing and Recovery Pure Stock feature, but he had a swarm of potent challengers flying in his shadow, none more ominous than the dynamic duo of Kyle Kenny and Carlos Grenier as the 20-car field went to war.

Kenny held the deuce spot by lap five, but Grenier had plans of his own. Gordon Farnum's bid for four wins in a row fell by the wayside in a lap-three caution, and Grenier - crowned champion of Claremont's Ridge Runners the night before, took charge on lap

13 and never looked back.

Kenny's second-place finish earned the talented young Green Mountain State pilot his first career track championship, and O'Neil's rock-solid night's work brought him home third, just ahead of Kyle Boniface and Jimmy Zellman. Grenier captured the Teddy Bear Pools & Spas Triple Crown championship.

Travis Hollins earned the 2025 Six Shooter championship by the slimmest of margins. Entering Saturday's season finale, he trailed 2024 champ Michael Yeaton by two points, then pulling even with his heat race win to be dead even as the feature went green.

Hollins led all the way in the Six Shooter main event, holding off the hard charging Yeaton to win his first career championship. With Yeaton second, Josh Brigham was third in Saturday's 25-lapper.

Matt Robinson took the lead on lap 11 of the Pro V8 Sportsman feature and sped off to his first career win on the high banks. Scott Riggleman - a regular at Wall Stadium in New Jersey, was second, and Stephen Dubois came home third. The exciting full-fendered division will compete eight times next summer on the high banks.

Sofia Rego led all the way in the final Doug's Auto Body Young Guns event of the year. It was Rego's fourth victory in the youth division. Maya Bell was second Saturday, and seven-time 2025 winner Hunter Duquette was third, before later scoring a top ten finish in the Pure Stocks.

Extra roster spots are open in Quabbin Valley fall baseball league

SOUTH HADLEY - The Quabbin Valley Baseball League fall session is underway with just two games played. Due to injuries and other obligations, a small number of roster spots have opened up on teams and the league would like to add a few more players for the

remainder of the fall campaign.

Games are Sundays at 10 a.m. for the remainder through Nov. 2. Anyone interested in registering can go to www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org and click on the registration link. There are six games remaining in the season

and the fee to play in the remaining games will be prorated for any player who joins. Players looking to join should be age 28 or older.

For more information or to ask any questions, contact Greg Scibelli at GScibelli22@yahoo.com.

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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.

PANTHERS from page 11

half comeback," Crowther said. "We did make a couple of adjustments at halftime.

The only senior listed on the Panthers roster is Collin Lindley, who's a center back.

The Panthers other three starting defenders against Clinton were sophomore's Silas Stukuls Barrieau, sophomore Abraham Brown, and Jake Doty.

Trailing by three goals at

halftime, the Panthers broke the ice two minutes into the second half following a free kick goal.

Dilling, who had scored a goal in five consecutive games, booted the ball into the box from the sideline in front of the Panthers bench. Sophomore Matt Labrousse tapped the ball into the net past junior goalie Noah Gates (5 saves).

About five minutes later, Dilling sent a corner kick

into the box where a shot by sophomore Jake Doty was saved by Gates.

The Panthers didn't have very many other scoring chances.

With two minutes remaining in regulation, Pimental scored his second goal, which sealed the Gaels second home win of the season.

Quabbin will be looking to even the season series when they host the Gaels on October 21 at 3:45 pm.

PATHFINDER from page 11

East rival Ware on September

18. That match ended in a 2-2 draw.

During the winter, Dupre is a member of the Palmer boys' varsity basketball team, but soccer has always been his favorite sport.

The home victory against the Dragons improved the Pioneers overall season record to 3-4-1. They had gone 0-3-1 in their previous four matches, which were all played on the road.

The Pioneers have qualified for both the Western Mass. tournament and the Division 5 state tournament each year Dupre that has been a member of the varsity soccer team.

Roman and Matthew Kenyon are the other two seniors listed on the Pioneers roster.

Because the Pioneer Valley Chinese Immersion Charter School doesn't have a girls soccer team there are several girls listed on the boys varsity roster.

The visitors from Hadley

took a 1-0 lead during the eighth minute of the opening half when senior Aidan Betournay received a pass from junior Kai Petit-Darling before putting a wide open shot into the right corner of the net past freshman goalie Elijah Hodge, who made three saves.

Hodge was replaced by junior Gavin Peters (2 saves) during the 63rd minute.

In a span of two minutes, the Pioneers went from trailing 1-0 to taking a 3-1 lead.

Dupre began the scoring spree with a shot attempt that deflected off the hands of freshman goalie Grace Rachele (7 saves) into the right corner of the net tying the contest at one.

Junior Brody Wetnicka, who had been a defender, was a starting midfielder for the first time against the Dragons (2-4). He was credited with the assist on Dupre's first goal of the match.

About a minute later, Dupre fired another shot into the back of the net giving his team a 2-1 lead.

Then Castillo-Clotter,

who assisted on the Pioneers' second goal, scored the first of his two goals thirty seconds later. Dupre was credited with the assist.

The Dragons had a couple of scoring chances late in the first half, but the Pioneers held a 3-1 halftime advantage.

Castillo-Clotter netted his second goal of the match, which was assisted by junior Ian Sauri-Neves, on a floater that landed in the left corner three minutes into the second half.

Then Dupre delivered a pass to Wetnicka, who blasted a shot into the back of the net extending the Pioneers advantage to 5-1 during the 49th minute. It was also Wetnicka's first goal in a varsity game.

Pathfinder Tech's final two goals of the match were scored by Dupre, who entered this week's action with a team-leading eight goals.

Roman, who assisted on Dupre's final goal, scored four goals in the first eight regular season matches.

Roster takes shape for T-Birds

SPRINGFIELD - St. Louis Blues President of Hockey Operations and General Manager Doug Armstrong announced today that the Blues have assigned 18 players to their AHL affiliate, the Springfield Thunderbirds, including forwards Nikita Alexandrov, Sam Bitten, Hugh McGing, Matthew Peca, Juraj Pekarcik, Dylan Peterson, Simon Robertsson, Jakob



Stancel, Sam Stange, Nikita Susuev, and Christopher Wagner, along with defensemen Michael Buchinger, Quinton Burns, Marc-Andre Gaudet, Samuel

Johannesson, and Anthony Kehrer, and goaltenders Will Cranley and Vadim Zherenko.

The T-Birds open their preseason slate on Friday, October 3, when they visit the Providence Bruins at 7:05 p.m. at Amica Mutual Pavilion. They host their lone preseason game on Sunday, October 5 at the MassMutual Center, with puck drop set for 3:05 p.m.

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Church

Local pastor offers sermon

The Practice of Prayer Part 3

How are we to pray? Christ offered the following instruction, positing a pattern for effective prayer:

Matthew 6:9-13 (NIV)

9 "This, then, is how you should pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, 10 your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

11 Give us today our daily bread.

12 And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."

Let us continue our series by delving into the following segment:

Matthew 5:10

10 your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

God's kingdom refers to His rule and reign, which manifests perfectly-in this age-only in heaven. Realize that we live in enemy-occupied territory and there are many other kingdoms at work in the earth. Demonic strongholds are established, and the enemy of Christ and His Church is operational

(Eph. 6:12; 2 Cor. 4:4).

Moreover, humanity (i.e., individually and collectively) is at odds with the Lord (Rom. 6:23), acting contrarily in kind. Thus, much of what happens in the earth grieves the heart of the Savior and violates His perfect will, though His allowance for such evil does not negate His sovereign power.

When you and I pray for His kingdom to come, we are calling upon God to establish and expand His rule in our midst, bringing earthly elements into conformity with His ultimate design and purpose; that God would have His way and accomplish His desire by actively intervening in the affairs of this earth.

Thus, there is a certain revolutionary element to prayer, since this requires the supplanting of earthly powers. Is this why Satan and his allies ever work to hinder prayer? Of course, you might say, "Why does God need me to ask in order to work?" Quite simply, He does not! Yet He has chosen to operate in response to human prayer, which is why the Book of James adds that we have not because we ask not (4:2b).

I will add that a knowledge of Scripture is critical

as it relates to this portion of the Lord's Prayer. How can we pray for the advancement of His will if we are ignorant of what His will entails? How can we pray for God to have His way in a particular circumstance if we fail to fathom His desire in said situation? This is why truly effective prayer is biblically-informed prayer. His people do well to both revel in and heed the following promise (1 John 5:14): "This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us." Search the Scripture and seek the Lord in kind!

We will continue in the Lord's Prayer in the next edition. Until then, thank you for taking the time to read this publication. Should you have any comments or questions, feel free to contact me using the information below. Also, check us out online at www.NewLifeBarre.org or visit us on Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

Pastor James Foley

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St. Mary's Women's Club to hold fair

ORANGE – St. Mary's Women's Club will be holding their fair on Saturday, Oct. 11 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at St. Mary's Parish Hall, West Myrtle Street

Lunch will be served 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Ruth Cormier, Kitchen Chairman, asked for workers and contributions of meat and vegetables for the beef stew. The lunch of beef stew and homemade pie is a tradition going back over 60 years. Ladies signed up to make pies, or to contribute sandwich fillings for the lunch. Ginette Richard volunteered to make her special cinnamon buns for the early comers, and volunteers signed up to work the various tables during the fair.

As usual, a highlight will be the tin can raffle Center table, with over 50 wonderful prizes available. The lottery ticket and cash raffle tickets were passed out to members, and are available after weekend Masses.

Baked goods, including whole pies, peanut brit-

tle, cookies, cupcakes and breads are offered, and a table of jellies, pickles, and other garden preserves is always a draw, as people rush to get their favorites before they are gone. Hundreds of puzzles and books will be available at bargain prices. Cemetery and holiday boxes will be offered at the plant table, and as usual, popcorn will be sold at the door. Hopefully their apple connection will hold, and they will have a truck full of great apples at a bargain price.

There will be a small outdoor tag sale, weather permitting and a children's area will have activities for the kids. Proceeds from the fair will be used to fund the Women's Club activities for the coming year, including scholarships, community activities like Starry Nights and Christmas lighting, and projects for the church and Parish Center.

Over the years the club has donated thousands for renovations, furnishings, repairs, and special needs

like altar server robes, a new refrigerator and dishwasher, and dishes and silverware for the Parish Center. This year the club is joining the Knights of Columbus and Jeff Cole in funding a Christmas concert by the Orange Community Band in the Church Dec. 12.

Members are currently soliciting gift cards for the Restaurant Gift Card Raffle, and gifts for the Center Table Auction. Club members are available after weekend Masses with tickets and to collect donations.

The Women's Club started the 2025-2026 Club year with a mystery ride and dinner, followed by a brief meeting to discuss the upcoming Fair and the programs for the year. Thirty-six members met at the Parish Center, split into two groups and traveled by separate routes to the She Shed in Athol, where Michelle served them an Italian Buffet. After the meal, they returned to the Parish Center, received their new program books and directory for the year.

MUNICIPAL CAMPUS from page 1

Administrator, the Select Board will provide Mark Kresky for his work on the trail. The town received a grant for the construction of the trail. The town's share of the grant, \$16,000 came from American Rescue Plan Act funds.

MART contract renewal

The Select Board approved the renewal contract with Montachusett

Area Regional Transit Authority. They provide transportation to Hubbardston residents for medical appointments and shopping destinations. The Town Administrator recommended approval of the contract. The town paid for the service and then received reimbursement.

Other business

Town Administrator Boudreau said the town of

Hardwick in conjunction with Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Authority proposed a plan for solar panels either installed on the school roofs or elsewhere on the property for both the Hardwick Elementary School and Hubbardston Center School. The state offered no matching grants for solar for town willing to partner. He said Hardwick would be the lead town.

LADDS from page 7

ness since he was a teenager.

His first restaurant job was at Castle Restaurant in Leicester. Learning a lot and maintaining knowledge, Gillette found himself back in the restaurant business. Gillette grew up with Toomey and have known each other for many years.

Gillette said Toomey, "leads by example and compassion." According to Gillette, Toomey is the first person in the door and the last person out the door and believes the staff has confidence in the restaurant.

Gillette started at Ladd's Restaurant as a part-time

bartender and is now the manager who gets to greet guests as soon as they walk through the front door.

Gillette's main task as the manager is handling the everyday operations on the restaurant floor. The biggest challenge in his point of view is "adapting to ever changing rhythm of the restaurant."

Busy nights will occur at Ladd's Restaurant & Lounge, but Gillette feels him, and the staff handle it smoothly and guests leave happy and continue to return. As the manager, Gillette loves working at Ladd's and feels many friendships have developed

there.

Ladd's Restaurant & Lounge is located at 64 Barre-Paxton Rd (Route 122) in Rutland. For more information and menu choices at Ladd's, people may visit www.laddsrestaurant.net to get an early glimpse of what Ladd's has to offer. They may call Ladd's Restaurant & Lounge at 508-886-4771 for a dining experience in such a welcoming atmosphere.

"Eat, drink, and be happy...that is winning," Toomey said as he continues to offer the hospitality of Ladd's Restaurant & Lounge, 25 years and counting.

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Look at your financial situation holistically

When you plan a trip, you consider not only the destination but also the climate, activities that interest you, transportation needs, anticipated costs, best time to go and coverage for your work, home or pets. It's a holistic approach — looking at your trip from a variety of angles.

It's wise to apply that same holistic thinking when you plan for your financial future — that is, bringing into the picture all elements of yourself.

Here are some things that may affect your financial strategy:

- **Your views on helping your family** – Your decisions about helping your family are clearly going to be a major part of your financial strategy, and this is true at virtually all stages of your life. When your children are young, you'll need to decide if you're going to save money for their college education, and if so, how much, and in what investments. When they're young adults, you may also need to decide how much financial support you're willing to provide for major expenses such as down payments on a new home or a new car. And when you're drawing up your estate plans, you'll need to consider how and when to distribute assets to your children, grandchildren or other family members.

- **Your personal beliefs** – As someone with civic, ethical and moral concerns, you may feel compelled to make charitable gifts throughout your life and then make philanthropy part of your legacy. To accomplish these objectives, you'll want to include gifting techniques in your financial strategy today and your estate plans for tomorrow. Of course, for the estate-planning component, you'll need to work with your tax and legal advisors.

- **Your purpose in life when you retire** – Having a purpose can bring fulfillment beyond financial security. Leading up to retirement, your purpose may involve providing for your immediate family, bringing value to your profession or contributing to your community. When you retire and step off your career path, you're entering a new world of possibilities. How will you define, and live out, your new sense of purpose at this stage of your life? Do you seek to broaden your horizons by traveling around the world? Or spend more time volunteering? Can you pursue hobbies that give you a chance for self-expression? Each of these choices will carry different financial implications for how much you'll need to accumulate for retirement and how much income you will need to take out each year from your retirement accounts, such as your IRA and 401(k).

- **Your health** – Your physical and mental health can play big roles in your financial plans and outlook. On the most basic level, the healthier you are, and the better you take care of yourself, the lower your health care bills will likely be during retirement, which will affect the amount you need to put away for health care. And you also may need to prepare for the costs of long-term care, which can be enormous — in fact, a private room in a nursing home in can easily cost \$100,000 per year, according to Genworth, an insurance company.

It can be challenging to weave all these elements into a single, unified vision, so you may want to get some help from a financial professional. But, in any case, be prepared to look at your situation holistically because, when putting together a lifetime's financial strategy, every part of your life matters.

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Select Board discussed solar lease negotiations

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

HARDWICK – The Select Board met on Sept. 29 and had a discussion on the Kearsarge Solar lease.

Town Administrator Justine Caggiano said she got a call from the company and said they submitted everything the town asked for to town counsel. Caggiano hopes she will hear more information prior to the next Select Board meeting.

This topic is still under negotiations as Select Board Chair Eric Vollheim addressed what he thinks are the current issues with the property the company is looking at. The proposed project is on a large piece of ground the town owns and Vollheim wants to know how much land the company would use and how much access the town would have.

The board members wanted to know if there is enough room for the town to do anything with the remainder of the land. Losing sand and

gravel would be costly to the town as it could be mined.

Harry Comerford of the Planning Board commented on how important the land is for the town and how it could benefit financially having this lease agreement if it is approved.

“Money seems evident here,” Comerford said.

The concern is how much access the town will have and what the parcel sizes are for the equipment that Kearsarge will use. The space consists of 48 acres of land, and the town wants to know how much the company will take up.

Comerford commented again on how a lease could lead to the town having a good revenue source for years to come.

“This could be a good revenue source for the town now and maybe in the future,” Comerford.

Bill Cole of the Planning Board commented and wanted to know what the size of the parcels are and hopes the lawyers of both parties can work out an agreement. The town does want to retain some

rights to the land, especially if there is an opportunity to generate income from other possibilities.

“What do we give up by doing that,” Cole asked referring to the town possibly leasing land.

Select Board Vice Chair William Tinker reminded the public that the town has not reached a final lease agreement yet as negotiations are currently ongoing. The Select Board is not voting anytime soon on this matter and any lease agreement that comes up in the future would still have to be finalized.

“We’re not at a final lease agreement,” Tinker said.

The board members would like to investigate the blueprints and dimensions of what the company is using and that could help the town see what the barriers are between the potentially leased land and the remainder for town use. One idea shared was to lease the land, but also have a right of way passage so the Highway Department can still collect sand and gravel.

Caggiano said the board

has copies of the blueprints to review as they’re still in the early stages of this discussion regarding Kearsarge Solar.

Vacant town buildings
The board had a discussion on vacant town buildings. The Paige Building was almost purchased, but the process is currently on hold, and the title portion is unclear. Vollheim said the town is in the process of trying to clean up the situation of the title.

Based off this information, Select Board Clerk Jeffrey Schaaf thinks nothing will be done with the Paige Building this year. When asked if there are any records of the title of the building, Caggiano said there is a huge folder about the subject that the board can review.

Conditions of several vacant buildings are a concern, and it is a long “wait and see” type of situation.

Unemployment invoice

Caggiano talked about the unemployment invoice that the town has taken. The Town Administrator is looking to see if the board would approve to take money out of

the Sewer Enterprise account to pay this invoice. Caggiano did inform the board that the Sewer Superintendent is aware of this topic.

The board voted and approved the unemployment invoice for \$21,305.61 to come out of the Sewer Enterprise account.

Town Administrator’s report

Caggiano shared her report and mentioned that there has been interest expressed in some of the vacant properties in town. The town is still in the process of fixing financial errors from past years and Caggiano has attended various meetings.

Various job postings have been advertised, and the town is hoping to fill those positions soon.

Caggiano also talked about setting up the public forum for the Memorial Park Study project. Caggiano will continue to give reports on a monthly basis.

Select Board roundtable

The Select Board talked about attending Police Chief James Ayotte’s retirement

party at Hardwick Crossing Country Club. All members agree that he will be missed.

“Hardwick was very fortunate to have him,” Tinker said.

For goal setting, the Select Board first heard from Schaaf who said he’d like to see the board do some more planning.

Schaaf believes there are businesses in Gilbertville that could use some more help. For example, more street parking for visitors. There should be more promotion in some development of properties that are in the area.

“Downtown Gilbertville could be made into a destination,” Schaaf said.

There could be ways to continue and encourage to make things better for these existing businesses and lead to further development.

Caggiano commented and mentioned that there are towns that have a community development committee. The town could look into having some sort of board or community planning. The focus is thinking of some vision for the town.

Applications for Cultural Council grant are due Thursday, Oct. 16

HUBBARDSTON – The Hubbardston Cultural Council, part of the Massachusetts Local Cultural Council network, will be accepting grant applications for the 2025–2026 cycle on Thursday, Oct. 16 until 11:59 p.m.

The Council invites individuals, nonprofits, schools and other local organizations to submit proposals for creative, educational, and community-based cultural programming.

The Hubbardston Cultural Council is one of many Local Cultural Councils across Massachusetts supported by the state’s Mass Cultural Council. Collectively, Local Cultural Councils award more than \$7 million annually to support over 7,500 cultural projects statewide. The HCC is committed to promoting excellence, access and diversity in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences to enrich the quality of life in the Hubbardston

community.

The HCC will begin reviewing applications on Saturday, Nov. 1. Typical awards range from \$500 to \$750, supporting projects such as operating support, ticket subsidies, field trips, artist residencies, public art, fellowships, and community programming. Both individuals and organizations are eligible to apply.

In addition to meeting the standard state guidelines, proposals will be evaluated on:

Applicants who have secured a local venue that can accommodate the anticipated size of the audience.

Projects that serve all ages. Projects that celebrate what makes Hubbardston interesting, such as its history, agriculture, and rural character. Projects that support the Hubbardston community and the surrounding area. Evidence of the applicant’s dedication to the program. Ability to advertise

and publicize their activity to the Hubbardston community. Addresses the cultural needs of our community or supports diverse forms of cultural activities. Programs that are free and open to the public

People may visit <https://www.hubbardstonma.us/hubbardston-cultural-council> for more information and to apply for a grant.

The Local Cultural Council Program is the largest grassroots cultural funding network in the Commonwealth, enabling local volunteers to support community-based cultural endeavors. Each LCC is municipally appointed and uses state funding to distribute grants aligned with local priorities.

For further information or to arrange an interview with representatives of the Hubbardston Cultural Council, people may email Laura Foley at laura@lauramfoley.com or call 978-820-0046.

Paige Memorial Library lists events

HARDWICK – Pickle ball is at Goddard Park.

The Parks and Recreation Committee asked the Highway Department to create a Pickle ball court.

Generous citizens donated paddles, balls and net. The equipment is available at the Paige Memorial Library, next door to Goddard Park. Equipment may be checked out during open hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2-7 p.m., Wednesdays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. For more information people may call the Parks and Recreation Committee Chairman Gail Ann Anderson at 978-257-4107. Other members are James Broussard, and Kristin Doucas.

On Saturday, Oct. 4, people are invited to come to the Paige Memorial Library and make hats and mittens to donate to local groups. They will knit or crochet from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.. This is a chance to use up lots of extra yarn. Some yarn will be available at

the library. People may email Pam Hinckley at pahinkley@gmail.com for more information

On Monday, Oct. 6 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. there will be a Vaccine Clinic at the New Braintree Town Hall, Memorial Drive by the Leicester Regional Public Health Coalition serving Oakham, Hardwick and New Braintree and CVS Pharmacy featuring the following vaccines: high dose/regular dose flu, shingle, Covid, pneumonia and RSV.

The location is wheelchair accessible. People may call to sign up at 508-892-7008, extension 124. People should bring their insurance card. This clinic is open to all.

If 20 people register to have vaccines in Hardwick, the LRPHC and CVS will have a clinic at the Paige Memorial Library.

Laura Dusha Nelson, a caring, knowledgeable educator, will offer on Tuesday, Oct. 7 at 6 pm at Paige Memorial Library, 87

Petersham Road, for a free information session. “Living Fully, Dying Prepared” is a welcoming “book club” that invites people to reflect back, turn inward, plan ahead and find peace on their journey. Anticipate engaging activities and discussions about life and how to prepare in advance for its end, adding to clarity and their peace of mind.

A six week workshop is coming to Hardwick/Barre area in the fall with dates and times to be announced after information session on “The Death Doula’s Guide to Living Fully Dying Prepared Plan” by Francesca Lynn Arnoldy. People should register to attend.

The Paige Memorial Library holds story time on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. to meet and play and then enjoy stories at 11 a.m. with art and science projects to follow. For more information and to sign up to hold a place, people may email Director paigelibrary@gmail.com or call 413-477-6704.



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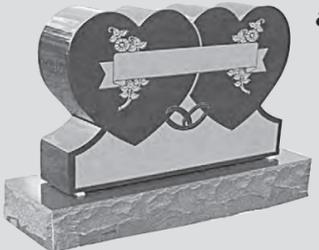


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Barre Gazette

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

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

Public Notices

Barre Board of Health Notice of Public Hearing

In accordance with the policymaking authority vested in the Board of Health by MGL c. 111, § 31, The Board of Health will hold a Public Hearing on **October 14th, 2025 at 5:00 pm** on a Battery Energy Storage System & Aquifer Protection Regulations in the Select Boards' meeting room, 1st floor of the Henry Woods Building located at 40 West Street in Barre. Anyone wishing to comment on this matter should attend the hearing to submit comments in writing prior to the hearing to the Board of Health.
09/25, 10/02/2025

PUBLIC AUCTION NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF M.L.C. 225 SEC.39A THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES WILL BE SOLD ON October 4, 2025 AT A SALE TO SATISFY OUR GARAGE LIEN THEREON FOR TOWING & STORAGE CHARGES AND EXPENSES OF SALE AND NOTICE:

2006 Honda Accord
VIN 1HGCM56326A085668
2016 Nissan Versa Note
VIN 3N1CE2CP7GL387696
2007 Ford Ranger
VIN 1FTYR11U97PA44404
2013 Honda Civic
VIN 2HGFB2F55DH531197
2008 Dodge Grand Caravan
VIN 1D8HN54P28B135104
2004 Ford Taurus
VIN 1FADF55U4A171505
1992 Lincoln Town Car
VIN 1LNLM83W5NY679896
2009 Chrysler Town and Country
VIN 2A8HR54X49R581706
2007 Toyota Avalon
VIN 4T1BK36B07U214966
**The sale will be held at
Early's on Park Avenue
536 Park Avenue
Worcester, MA 01603**
09/18, 09/25, 10/02/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508)831-2200 Docket No. WO25C0461CA In the matter of: Jennifer Lee Hautala CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A **Petition to Change Name of Adult** has been filed by **Jennifer Lee Hautala of Barre, MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

Jennifer Lee Vallee IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Worcester Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/14/2025.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. **Leilah A Keamy**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: September 11, 2025

Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
10/02/2025

Town of Oakham LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Oakham Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing on **October 14, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.** in the Selectmen's Meeting room at the Oakham Town Hall, 2 Coldbrook Road, Oakham, MA to discuss **Petition #31161172** from National Grid to install 1 JO Pole on Adams Road.
10/02/2025

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS ENERGY FACILITIES SITING BOARD NOTICE OF ADJUDICATION AND PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING



<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/oakham-battery-project>

**EFSB 25-07 – Moraga Storage, LLC
(Oakham Battery Energy Storage System Project)**

Project Summary and Public Comment Hearing Overview

Moraga Storage, LLC ("Company"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of SR1 Rhyland Holdco I LLC—a partnership between Rhyland Energy Holdings LLC and Segue Renewable I LLC—has asked the Energy Facilities Siting Board ("Siting Board") to grant individual and comprehensive zoning exemptions from the Town of Oakham Zoning Bylaws ("Zoning Bylaws") for the construction of a 180 megawatt ("MW"), four-hour duration (for a combined energy amount of 720 megawatt-hours) battery energy storage system and related electrical infrastructure, including a new substation and a line tap, (collectively, the "Project") located at 358 Coldbrook Street in the Town of Oakham, Massachusetts. A description of the site proposed for the Project appears below.

To provide oral comments during the public comment hearing (in person, on Zoom, or by telephone), notify **Yonathan Mengesha at Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov** or (617) 305-3544. Please provide your name, email address, mailing address, and docket number ("EFSB 25-07") by **noon the day of the hearing (October 16, 2025)**. Pre-registered commenters will speak first and others will speak afterwards.

The Siting Board also invites written comments on the Project. Written comments will be most useful to the Siting Board if submitted by **Thursday, October 30, 2025**. Persons or groups who wish to be involved in the Siting Board proceeding (beyond providing comments at the public comment hearing or in writing) may seek to intervene as a party or to participate as a limited participant. A petition to intervene or participate also must be filed no later than **Thursday, October 30, 2025** and must follow the instructions below.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Public Comment Hearing Thursday, October 16, 2025
Written Public Comment Deadline Thursday, October 30, 2025
Deadline to file for intervent or limited participant status Thursday, October 30, 2025

Public Review of the Company's Petitions

A description of the Project, links to the Company's petitions, attachments and analysis, and periodic updates are electronically available on the Siting Board's webpage for the Project at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/oakham-battery-project> (same as the URL link and the QR code at the top of this Notice's first page). In addition, electronic copies of the petitions and attachments have been provided to the Town of Oakham. The Company also maintains a webpage for the Project at <https://www.moragaenergystorage.com/>.

Hard copies of the Company's petitions and attachments are available for public inspection at the following locations:

- Boston**
- Energy Facilities Siting Board, One South Station, 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02110
- Oakham**
- Town Clerk, Town of Oakham, 2 Coldbrook Rd., Unit 1, Oakham, MA 01068
- Fobes Memorial Library, 4 Maple St, Oakham, MA 01068

In addition, the Company's petitions, including all attachments, are electronically available via the Siting Board's website at: <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/dpu/fileroom/#/dockets/docket/12514>

Public Comment Hearings

At the public comment hearing, the Company will present an overview of the Project. Public officials and members of the public will have an opportunity to ask questions and comment about the Project. The public comment hearing will be transcribed by a court reporter. A recording of the public comment hearing will be posted to the Siting Board's YouTube channel after the hearing at https://www.youtube.com/@MaDPU_hearing.

The public comment hearing marks the beginning of a formal, state-level decision-making process focused on whether to approve the Project. Pursuant to G.L. c. 40A, § 3, the Siting Board will determine whether to exempt the Project from zoning requirements of the Town of Oakham, based on whether the proposed Project is reasonably necessary, serves the public convenience, and is consistent with the public interest.

Intervention and Participation

Persons or groups who wish to participate in the Siting Board proceeding, beyond providing comments at the public comment hearings or submitting written comments, may seek to intervene as a party or to participate as a limited participant.

"Intervenor" or "Party" Status: An intervenor can participate fully in the evidentiary phase of the proceeding, including participating in discovery (information gathering), participating in evidentiary hearings, filing a brief, presenting comments to the Siting Board on the Tentative Decision, and appealing the Final Decision.

"Limited Participant" Status: A limited participant receives documents during the proceeding and may file a brief and present comments regarding the Tentative Decision to the Siting Board.

Instructions for Filing Written Comments and Requesting to Participate in the Proceeding

Written comments on the Project, or a petition to intervene or participate as a limited participant in this proceeding, must be sent to the following three email addresses: dpu.efiling@mass.gov; Daniel.W.Keleher@mass.gov; akaplan@pierceatwood.com. The filing deadline is Thursday, October 30, 2025. The text of the e-mail must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (EFSB 25-07);

(2) the name of the person or entity submitting the filing; (3) a brief description of the document. The email should also include the name, title, and telephone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing.

A petition for intervention must state and explain the way or ways in which the petitioner may be substantially and specifically affected by the Project; a limited participation petition must describe the reason for the petitioner's interest and the purpose of the participation request.

For more information on the Siting Board's procedural rules, please see the following link:

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/980-cmr-105/download>.

Accommodation Requests and Language Services Requests

Reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities (e.g., Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format) are available upon request. To request an accommodation, please contact:

Melixza Esenyie

Non-Discrimination Coordinator and Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
Human Resources, 9th Floor

100 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114
eeadiversity@mass.gov, 617-626-1282

In your communication, state the accommodations you need and why you need them. Provide contact information in case the Coordinator needs more information. Provide one week's advance notice. The Coordinator will consider but may not be able to fulfill late requests.

Language interpretation services are also available upon request to Yonathan Mengesha at (617) 305-3544 or **Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov**. Include in your request the language required and your contact information. To assist us in accommodating your request, please submit it as soon as possible and at least seven days before the date of the public comment hearing.

Non-discrimination Notice

The Siting Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age, sex, income, ethnicity, class, disability, religious creed or belief, gender identity, sexual orientation, genetic information, English language proficiency or ancestry in administration of its programs or activities. See the Siting Board's Non-Discrimination Notice at: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/efsb-non-discrimination-notice-and-grievance-procedure>.

If you have any questions about this notice or any of the Siting Board's non-discrimination programs, policies, or procedures or believe the Siting Board has discriminated against you, you may contact Melixza Esenyie (see above for contact information) for more information.

Contact

For further information about the proceeding, please contact the Presiding Officer at the contact information below:

Daniel Keleher, Presiding Officer
Energy Facilities Siting Board
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110

Daniel.W.Keleher@mass.gov (617) 305-3623

For periodic updates, please visit the Siting Board's webpage for this proceeding (accessible via the URL link or QR code at the top of this notice's first page).

Project Description

For its Project, the Company proposes to install 296 lithium-ion batteries, a substation, and other equipment to allow for the transmission of electricity between the batteries and an adjacent and already established transmission line. The Project would be constructed on an approximately 42.9-acre parcel of land ("Project Site") in the Town of Oakham. The Project construction envelope itself (encompassing all the work for the Project, including the storage of materials) would consist of approximately 18 acres.

The batteries would be rated at a capacity of 180 MW/720 megawatt hours. A portion of the proposed Project Site was formerly an auto salvage and recycling facility. The proposed battery energy storage system ("BESS") enclosures measure approximately 28.8 feet long, 5.5 feet wide, and 9.1 feet tall. The BESS units would be arranged on concrete pads in a back-to-back orientation in the southeast portion of the Project Site. Each BESS unit would be thermally managed by an integrated cooling and heating system and would contain sensors supporting embedded monitoring and controls. The Project would also include power conversion systems, medium-voltage transformers on concrete slabs, medium voltage cables, and other electric infrastructure.

The Company proposes to connect the batteries to an adjacent existing overhead 115 kV transmission line (Line A127-4) owned by Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a National Grid via an air-insulated substation ("Project Substation"), an on-site overhead 115 kV line tap that extends about 100 feet, and a 3-breaker ring bus.

The Company proposes that the Project Substation will step up the voltage when electricity is flowing from the batteries to the electrical grid and will step down the voltage when the electricity is flowing in the opposite direction, i.e., from the grid to the batteries, to allow the Project to store the power. The Company proposes to operate the Project consistently with the Massachusetts Clean Peak Standard, which incentivizes storing energy during off-peak periods and discharging electricity to the grid during times of peak load. The Project substation will include substation equipment, graveled yard area, and surrounding security fencing. The substation equipment will include a main power transformer, switchgear, circuit breakers, disconnect switches, and low- and high-voltage buses.

The closest residences to the west and east of the proposed location of the battery containers on the Project Site are approximately 1,800 feet and 1,950 feet away from the proposed location, respectively, and the closest residences to the north and south are approximately 2,200 feet and 1,400 feet away, respectively.

10/02, 10/09/2025

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.

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Public Safety

Barre Police Log

Sunday, Sept. 7
 2:59 p.m. Harassment, Barre Police Headquarters, Officer Spoke to Party
 4:50 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Williamsville Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 5:31 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, West Street, Report Filed
 9:26 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Dana Road, Vehicle towed

Monday, Sept. 8
 7:30 a.m. Landlord Tenant/Neighbor Dispute, Ruggles Lanes, Officer Spoke to Party
 12:23 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Mechanic Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 12:57 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Gauthier Road, Referred to Other Agency
 7:41 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, South Street, Transported to Hospital
 7:57 p.m. Harassment, Moulton Street, Party Departed without Incident
 8:06 p.m. Erratic Operator, North Brookfield Road, Negative Contact

Tuesday, Sept. 9
 6:25 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Stroke (CVA), Summer Street, Transported to Hospital
 7:20 a.m. Harassment Serve – Information/Violation, Ruggles Lae, Negative Contact
 1:46 p.m. Safety Concern, West Street, Transported to Hospital
 3:51 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, West Street, Referred to Other Agency
 9:22 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Sheldon Road, Report Filed

Wednesday, Sept. 10
 10:19 Tree Incidents (No Wires), Old Hardwick Road, Referred to Other Agency
 10:42 a.m. Fire – Power Lines/Wires, South Street, Referred to Other Agency
 10:55 a.m. Emergency

Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Worcester Road, Mutual Aid Transport
 11:04 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Debra Lane, Mutual Aid Transport
 2:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident – No Fire Department/EMS Response, Summer Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 3:20 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Station Road, Returned
 4:58 p.m. Safety Concern, Peach Street, Negative Contact
 6:16 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Broad Street, Transported to Hospital

Thursday, Sept. 11
 10:59 a.m. Fraud or Forgery, Old Coldbrook Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 11:56 a.m. Complaint, Barre Police Headquarters, Report Filed
 2:57 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident – No Fire Department/EMS Response, Wheelwright Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 4:07 p.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, Barre Police Headquarters, Officer/Chief Advised
 4:47 p.m. Complaint, Wheelwright Road, Negative Contact
 7:05 p.m. Gunshots, Hubbardston Road, Gone on Arrival

Friday, Sept. 12
 9:20 a.m. Public Assist, Barre Police Headquarters, Returned
 9:20 a.m. Harassment Serve – Information/Violation, Ruggles Lane, Paperwork Served
 9:24 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issue, Oakham Road, Vehicle Towed
 12:14 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Station Road, Transported to Hospital
 2:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Barre Road, Citation

Issued
 4:49 p.m. Juvenile Runaway, South Street, Negative Contact
 5:26 p.m. Juvenile Runaway, Loring Road, Located/Found
 7:30 p.m. Fire – Illegal Burn, Peach Street, Investigated

Saturday, Sept. 13
 9:21 a.m. Juvenile Runaway, South Street, Returned
 9:37 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Rockingstone Road, Transported to Hospital
 1:15 p.m. Juvenile Runaway, South Street, Returned
 2 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, Summer Street, Referred to Other Agency
 2:09 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hubbardston Road, Citation Issued
 3:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Wauwinet Road, Citation Issued
 3:56 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, Old Dana Road, Referred to Other Agency
 5:07 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, West Street, Transported to Hospital

SOUTH BARRE

Sunday, Sept. 7
 9:28 a.m. Property Dispute or Exchange, South Street, Officer/Chief Advised

Tuesday, Sept. 9
 3:19 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Wheelwright Road, Mutual Aid Transported

Friday, Sept. 12
 11:01 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Worcester Road, Mutual Aid Transport
 2:55 p.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Lost and/or Found, Wheelwright Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 3:32 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Peach Street, Call Transferred

Rutland Police Log

Sunday, Sept. 7
 2:23 a.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Main Street, Information Taken
 9:52 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Stroke (CVA), Memorial Drive, Transported to Hospital
 11:33 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, River Road, Transported to Hospital
 12:43 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, East County Road, Mutual Aid Transport
 5:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 5:56 p.m. Erratic Operator, Maple Avenue, Officer/Chief Advised
 8:15 p.m. Juvenile Runaway, Memorial Drive, Returned

Monday, Sept. 8
 5:38 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Main Street, Negative Contact
 7:19 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 7:43 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 7:54 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written warning
 11:11 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Smith, Bruce Eric, 27, Barre
 Charges License Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle with
 11:44 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Root Road, Referred to Other Agency
 2:27 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Bethany Drive, Officer/Chief Advised

Tuesday, Sept. 9
 7:58 a.m. Animal – Wildlife, Old Dana Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 10:05 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Diabetic, Shore Drive, Transported to Hospital
 10:24 a.m. Fire – Illegal Burn, Newman Drive, Investigated
 11:08 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Main Street, No Action Required
 11:18 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Lantern Lane, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 12:32 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Central Tree Road, Public Assist
 1:35 p.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Birchwood Road, Information Given
 4:38 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Miles Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 4:54 p.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, Whitehall Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 6:42 p.m. Safety Concern, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 7:38 p.m. Safety Concern, Fisherman's Road, Public Assist
 7:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Citation Issued

Wednesday, Sept. 10
 6:02 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Newman Drive, Information Taken
 7:33 a.m. Fraud or Forgery, Demond Pond Row, Report Filed
 7:49 a.m. Safety Concern, Pleasantdale Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 10:15 a.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 10:27 a.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Barre Paxton Road, Information Given
 12:11 p.m. Erratic Operator, East County Road, Negative Contact
 12:13 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, East County Road, Mutual Aid Transported
 Summons Deleire, Brian Thomas, 21, Rutland
 Charges Speeding Rate of Speed Greater Than Was Reasonable and Proper C90 §17, Marked Lanes Violation, Operating Under the Influence – Liquor, Leave Scene of Personal Injury, Reckless Operation of Motor Vehicle
 12:31 p.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, Memorial Drive, Report Filed
 1:53 p.m. Unwanted Party, Kosta Avenue, Officer Spoke to Party
 2:50 p.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Orchard Hill Drive, Investigated
 3 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Main Street, Mutual Aid Transported
 3:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 4:37 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Citation Issued
 6:10 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Demond Pond Row, Information Given
 7:11 p.m. Lockout (Home or Vehicle), Crawford Road, Entry Gained

Thursday, Sept. 11
 8:07 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Written Warning
 8:56 a.m. Fraud or Forgery, Prospect Street, Officer/Chief Advised
 9:50 a.m. Erratic Operator, East County Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 10:32 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Barber, Tracy Ryan, 50, Westminster
 Charges Uninsured Motor Vehicle, Unregistered Motor Vehicle
 1:34 p.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Cheryl Ann Drive, Officer Spoke to Party
 11:13 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 11:20 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Newman Drive, Officer Spoke to

Party
 11:28 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 11:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 11:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
 11:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

Friday, Sept. 12
 12:04 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 1:19 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Vehicle Towed
 7:55 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Glenwood Road, Citation Issued
 9:16 a.m. Juvenile Runaway, Miles Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 10:21 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Lewis Street, Mutual Aid Transported
 12:58 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Thurston Hill Road, Public Assist
 12:58 p.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Pleasantdale Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 3:40 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Main Street, Removed from Scene
 3:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Maple Avenue, Removed from Scene
 5:09 p.m. Traffic or Radar Enforcement, Drury Lane, Citation Issued
 7:08 p.m. Property Damage, Pommogussett Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 9:23 p.m. Lockout (Home or Vehicle), Main Street, Entry Gained
 10:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 11:07 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 11:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
 11:41 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Charnock Hill Road, Written Warning

Saturday, Sept. 13
 12:02 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
 2:21 a.m. Be On the Look Out Notification, Barre Paxton Road, Negative Contact
 5:15 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Vehicle Towed
 7:38 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, East County Road, Referred to Other Agency
 1:48 p.m. Erratic Operator, Sassawanna Road, Negative Contact
 4:24 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Trauma, Sassawanna Road, Transported to Hospital

Oakham Police Log

Sunday, Sept. 7
 10:07 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Worcester Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 3:06 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Old Turnpike Road, Information Given
 6:26 p.m. Complaint, Bullard Road, Negative Contact
 8:31 p.m. Erratic Operator, Old Turnpike Road, Negative Contact

Monday, Sept. 8
 1:06 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Coldbrook Road, Returned
 3:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning

Tuesday, Sept. 9
 10:05 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Diabetic, Shore Drive, Transported to Hospital

4:51 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old Turnpike Road, Written Warning

Wednesday, Sept. 10
 2:50 p.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Orchard Hill Drive, Investigated

Thursday, Sept. 11
 4:51 p.m. Fire – Power Lines/Wires, Dennis Whitney Road, Referred to Other Agency
 5:49 p.m. Notification, East Hill East Road, Investigated
 7:50 p.m. Gunshots, Crocker Nye Road, Area Search Negative

Friday, Sept. 12
 3:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
 4:34 p.m. Complaint, Maple Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 4:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Citation

Issued
 5:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Criminal Complaint
 Summon Malloy, Derek James, 26, Brimfield
 Charges Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle, Unregistered Motor Vehicle, Speeding Rate of Speed Exceeding Posted Limit, Uninsured Motor Vehicle

Saturday, Sept. 13
 10:18 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
 11:07 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Brookfield Road, Written Warning
 11:15 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning

Hubbardston Police Log

Sunday, Sept. 7
 12:32 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Old Princeton Cutoff Road, Transported to Hospital
 6:19 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Morgan Road, Mutual Aid Transported
 8:04 p.m. Complaint, Mayo Road, Officer/Chief Advised

Monday, Sept. 8
 4:48 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Selfridge Road, Transported to Hospital
 9:33 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Burnshirt Road, Transported to Hospital
 11:45 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Old Princeton Cutoff Road, Public Assist
 12:35 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Old Princeton Cutoff Road, No Action Required
 2:25 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Old Princeton Cutoff Road, Negative Contact
 6:34 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Healdville Road, Negative Contact

Tuesday, Sept. 9
 6:32 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Penobscott Avenue, Officer/Chief

Advised
 12:21 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Madison Way, Transported to Hospital
 9:58 p.m. Erratic Operator, Main Street, Investigated

Wednesday, Sept. 10
 12:10 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Cross Road, Mutual Aid Transport
 9:22 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Penobscott Avenue, Officer/Chief Advised
 12:11 p.m. Erratic Operator, East County Road, Negative Contact
 12:13 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, East County Road, Mutual Aid Transported
 Summons Deleire, Brian Thomas, 25, Rutland
 Charges Speeding Rate of Speed Greater Than Was Reasonable and Proper C90 §17, Marked Lanes Violation, Operating Under Influence – Liquor, Leave Scene of Personal Injury, Reckless Operation of Motor Vehicle
 2:50 p.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Orchard Hill Road, Investigated

Thursday, Sept. 11
 5:57 a.m. Animal – ACO Call,

Penobscott Avenue, Officer Spoke to Party
 2:17 p.m. Tree Incidents (No Wires), Barre Road, Removed from Scene
 7:31 p.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, Natty Pond Road, Information Given
 8:16 p.m. ACO Lost and Found/Wildlife, Brigham Street, Returned

Friday, Sept. 12
 8:55 a.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, New Westminster Road, Negative Contact
 11:44 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Plum Tree Lane, Officer/Chief Advised

Saturday, Sept. 13
 12:41 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Gardner, Negative Contact
 2:40 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Pitcherville Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 2:55 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Morgan Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 4:29 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Worcester Road, Vehicle Towed
 5:26 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, George Howard Road, Officer/Chief Advised

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of Sept. 22-29, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 51 building/property checks, 28 directed/area patrols, five radar assignments, one traffic control, 11 emergency 911 calls, one citizen assist, one assist other agency, two complaints, one investigation, one harassment, five safety hazards, one motor vehicle accident, three animal calls and seven motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, Sept. 22
 11:49 a.m. Harassment, Telephone, Officer Handled
 2:48 p.m. Disturbance, Hardwick Road, Services Rendered

Tuesday, Sept. 23
 8:38 a.m. Complaint, Barre Road, Officer Handled
 8:56 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Barre Road, Transported to Hospital
 3:39 p.m. Safety Hazard, Mellon Road, Services Rendered

4:42 p.m. Safety Hazard, Barre Road, Services Rendered
 5:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Vehicle Towed
 6:05 p.m. 911 Disturbance, High Street, Services Rendered

Wednesday, Sept. 24
 8:25 a.m. Motor Vehicle Crash, Lower Road, Report Taken
 6:21 p.m. Complaint, Fleming Road, Officer Handled

Thursday, Sept. 25
 3:25 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Old Petersham Road, Officer Handled
 5:41 a.m. Safety Hazard, Greenwich Road, Removed Hazard
 7:03 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Church Lane, Transported to Hospital
 9:34 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Telephone, Officer Handled
 3:15 p.m. Safety Hazard, Ruggles Hill Road, Services Rendered
 4:10 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Old Petersham

Road, Officer Handled
 7:40 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Old Petersham Road, Transported to Hospital

Friday, Sept. 26
 7:14 a.m. Safety Hazard, Fiske Road, Services Rendered
 7 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Officer Handled

Saturday, Sept. 27
 8:29 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Greenwich Road, Transported to Hospital
 2:38 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Prospect Street, Transported to Hospital
 4:59 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Church Street, Citation Issued
 9:37 p.m. Investigation, Main Street, Spoken To

Sunday, Sept. 28
 9:23 a.m. Medical Emergency, Fiske Road, Transported to Hospital
 10:54 a.m. 911 Disturbance, Duhamel Court, Services Rendered

PART TIME SNOWPLOW DRIVERS NEEDED

Part time snowplow drivers are needed for the Town of New Braintree for the 2025-2026 season. Positions available for both CDL and non-CDL License.

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WATERWHEEL REALTY

Mobile Home located in Waterwheel Village at 31 Edward Lane, Barre, MA 01005. This is a 55 and better community. This home includes a wonderful floor plan with very spacious rooms. Master bedroom includes a walk-in closet. Two full bathrooms. A four-season sunroom is off the kitchen. Includes two large woodsheds and a metal garage you can park under to fend off winter weather. **Asking \$335,000.** A 2.5% commission will be paid to the buyers' broker. MLS # 73433198

Paul Varney Sr.
 Real Estate Broker and Owner
978-355-4438
978-355-3454
paulraymondvarney@gmail.com

Brand New Mobile Home located in Waterwheel Village at 37 Gauthier Rd., Barre, MA 01005. This is a 55 and better community. This home features an open kitchen/living room concept, perfect for family gatherings. Two large bedrooms on opposite ends of the home. Master bedroom has a walk-in closet and large attached bathroom. Just off the kitchen is a laundry area with door leading to back deck and yard. There is a monthly HOA fee of \$675 per month which includes water, sewage, rubbish removal, and taxes. All exterior and interior doorways are 36" wide. **Asking \$265,000.** A 2.5% commission to be paid to buyers' broker. MLS # 73397436

MICHAEL Toomey & Associates, Inc. Real Estate

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