

BARRE GAZETTE

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Select Board holds second TA interview

By Ellenor Downer
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BARRE – On Tuesday, Oct. 10, the Select Board held a second interview with Town Administrator candidate, Tammy Martin.

Before the interview began, Select Board Chair Maureen Marshall said she was the only one of the candidates the board asked back for another interview. She said, “The town can’t afford a mistake,” referring to the selecting of the next Town Administrator. She said, “We need to be sure.”

The interview lasted just over an hour with the three Select Board members taking turns asking the candidate questions. They asked how she would handle employee evaluations. She said when she worked at a bank she did evaluations and wrote up written warnings. She said communication was important. Another question asked was what qualities she looked for in hiring an employee. She said hard worker, loyal, trustworthy and being genuine.

They asked how she would deal with a resident complaint about an employee. Martin said she would listen to both sides and get the facts. If necessary, she would have both the resident and employee meet with her. In response to how she envisioned her role with the Select Board, she said it was to give the board information and make sure things are done correctly. When asked what scared her about this job, she said she wanted to do a good job and found it motivating.

Interim Town Administrator Greg Balukonis asked her about her onboarding plan. She said it was to care about employees, own up to a mistake and provide new

See TA INTERVIEW, page 5

Resident has concerns about past meeting

By Paula Ouimette
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HARDWICK – Jeffery Smith of Upper Church Street read a statement voicing his concern about the July 18 Select Board meeting where Casella presented a proposal to expand the Patrill Hollow Road landfill onto land owned by David G. Roach & Sons.

Smith questioned whether or not the meeting was legal due to a lack of quorum.

At the Oct. 16 Select Board meeting, Smith said that Select Board Vice-Chair Kelly Kemp filed a disclosure for a conflict of interest with the town on July 19, the day after the meeting. He questioned why this disclosure was not filed sooner.

Smith also said Select Board Chair H. Robert Ruggles has not filed a disclosure for a conflict of interest.

Both Kemp and Ruggles have been, or are currently employed, by David G. Roach & Sons.

Smith said Kemp did not abstain or recuse herself during the July 18 meeting. He said Select Board Chair H. Robert Ruggles made “conflicting claims” about

See HARDWICK, page 5

Hubbardston Lions Club builds and donates pavilion



Select Board member Katie Young, third from left, cuts the ribbon to officially open the new pavilion at Curtis Recreation Field in Hubbardston.



Select Board members, Kris Pareago and Katie Young hold the “key to the pavilion presented to the by the Hubbardston Lions Club at the recent ribbon cutting ceremony on Sunday, Oct. 1.

HUBBARDSTON – For years, Hubbardston resident Jason Guertin thought that an open-air pavilion would be a great addition to the Curtis Recreation Field on Route 68 just outside of Hubbardston center.

The “Rec Field,” as everyone calls it, holds a special place in many residents’ hearts, as it is a central gathering place for community events, athletic games, a place to meet neighbors and much, much more. The addition of a pavilion, he felt, would add a dedicated space for shelter, relaxation, a picnic, host a gathering, or even just to get out of the sun for a bit.

Guertin is a member of the Lions Club in Hubbardston, and the idea of the pavilion as a Lions Club project appealed to him. He thought that it would be a great complement to the bandstand,

which had been built and donated to the Town by the Hubbardston Lions Club in 1992.

In January 2023, he approached Jason Gobar, another member of the Hubbardston Lions, who is very knowledgeable about timber framing. He thought that it was a great idea and the two Jasons were off and running. They sketched a couple of designs, scratched out some numbers and even went to the Rec Field and traced an outline of the building in the snow where they thought it should be built.

They photoshopped a picture of a timber frame into the location, made a flyer, and presented it to the Club, who loved the idea. A committee was formed, plans were drawn up, and fundraising began. There

See PAVILION, page 5

Select Board hears Grant-Match proposal

By Ellenor Downer
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HUBBARDSTON – The Select Board held a Zoom presentation with Michael Janke of Grant Match, a company that provides grant writing to municipalities.

GrantMatch with companies based in Toronto, Canada as well as Michigan and Virginia, looks into grants, which match town projects. They received a fee of 10% for grants under \$1 million and 5% for grants over \$1 million and was only if the town received the grant.

Janke said the town would provide a few projects and then GrantMatch looked at all federal and state grants available, found matches for the town and presented a short list to the Select Board. The Select Board decided which grants on the list they wanted GrantMatch to pursue on the town’s behalf.

He said most grants require a town contribution. He also said there was no risk to sign with his company. Fees were based only on grants received.

When asked by Select Board Chair Jeff Williams if GrantMatch was successful working with small towns, Janke said the company preferred working with small towns. Following Janke’s Zoom conference, the Select Board decided to discuss the matter at their next meeting. The board also asked the Town Administrator to have town counsel look over the contract.

New pavilion

The Select Board met with members of the Hubbardston Lions Club President Kellianna Iacaboni and member Jason Guertin about the new pavilion built by the Lions Club. The Club donated to post and bean open pavilion to the town at a ribbon cutting ceremony on Sunday, Oct. 1 at the pavilion located on Curtis Recreation Field. Iacaboni said the Lions Club applied for a grant through the

See HUBBARDSTON, page 9

Celebration of life held for oldest resident

By Ellenor Downer
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BARRE – Last Thursday, Oct. 12, community members, family, friends celebrated the life of Bessie Difley, the town’s oldest resident.

The service in Celebration of and Thanksgiving for the life of Bessie Difley was held in the Barre Congregational Church where she was married and was a member. Born on July 29, 1914, she died on Sept. 23 at the age of 109.

Bessie Difley was a resident of Barre for 107 of her 109 years and moved to Barre with her parents, John and Nellie Montgomery, when she was two years old. She married George Difley in 1939 and moved to her home in Barre, where she lived for the rest of her life.

She graduated from Framingham State Teacher’s College and taught school in Barre until her marriage. In those days, married women were not allowed to teach. She returned to teaching in the early 1950s and taught at both Roger Langley School and later Ruggles Lane School until her retirement in 1978.

She leaves two daughters, Martha Jordan and Jane Difley,

two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

She lived a full life and belonged to the Barre Woman’s Club, Red Hats, Women’s Fellowship, Eastern Star, Barre Golden Age Club and a bridge group. She loved music, played and sang with the Swingin’ Singin’ Seniors and taught line dance at the Barre Senior Center. At age 100, she became Barre’s oldest citizen and selectmen presented her with the Boston Post Cane, an honor bestowed on its oldest resident. The publisher of the Boston Post, a newspaper, in 1909 presented about 700 towns in New England these canes to be bestowed on each town’s oldest male citizen until his death. Later, it changed to all residents, male and female and passed to the next oldest resident, upon the death of the current holder.

She was a life long walker and walked frequently around Barre Common in her later years, traveling to the library and in season stopping for ice cream in her walks around Barre Center. He doctor attributed her long healthy life to walking. The day of her service was a beautiful fall day for a walk around Barre Common, a place Bessie logged many miles on foot.

See BESSIE, page 5

Board drafts letter to East Brookfield about beach

By Paula Ouimette
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NORTH BROOKFIELD – The Board of Selectmen approved a letter to be sent to East Brookfield’s Board of Selectmen and Parks and Recreation Committee, regarding funding for the Town Beach on Lake Lashaway.

At the Oct. 10 meeting, Board of Selectmen Chair Jason Petraitis said the town shares ownership of the Town Beach with the town of East Brookfield, and they have tried to divide responsibilities to maintain the beach.

“We’ve been trying to work with them to find an equitable way to share the burden and keep nonresidents out,” he said.

He said over six years, the town has worked with the neighboring town, but recent communication has gone unanswered.

He read the letter, which will notify East Brookfield officials that North Brookfield is withdrawing financial support for the Town Beach.

The letter stated that North Brookfield has waived East Brookfield’s taxes on the beach, and North Brookfield also pays a portion of expenses to operate

the beach.

Petraitis said originally, the beach was only for residents of the two towns, but East Brookfield has opened beach use to nonresidents, and numerous complaints have been made by abutters and residents.

Effective Jan. 1, 2024, the town of North Brookfield will fully withdraw financial support, and the taxes for the property will no longer be waived. Utilities will also be the full responsibility of East Brookfield.

Petraitis said the beach is located in North Brookfield, but it is owned by East Brookfield. He said there were many attempts for the two towns to work together.

ARPA spending

Petraitis said the Board received a recommendation to pay for tree work using American Rescue Plant Act funds. He said National Grid used to remove trees that posed a hazard to the town’s power lines, but they no longer do this unless the trees fall down.

Petraitis read a recommendation from ARPA Committee Chair Ethan Melad to spend \$30,000 to remove approximately 100 hazardous trees from the town’s roadway. Vice-Chair John

Tripp said the original request was for \$45,000 (30 days at \$1,500 a day) and that \$30,000 would only cover 20 days of work at the tree company’s rate.

Petraitis also discussed rescinding the previous year’s allocation of ARPA funds in the amount of \$50,000, which were intended to address catch basins but not used.

“They were able to find another funding source, so we need to rescind that vote and let it go back into the ARPA account,” Petraitis said.

The Board voted to rescind the appropriation, returning the \$50,000 to the ARPA account.

Tripp asked if the difference for the tree work could be approved using the \$50,000 that was just returned to the ARPA account by the Board’s vote.

Tripp amended a motion to approve the \$30,000 from ARPA and increase it to \$45,000. Clerk Elizabeth “Brooke” Canada said she would prefer to approve the \$30,000 recommendation from the ARPA Committee and wait to approve the additional \$15,000.

The amended motion passed, with Canada being the only vote

See NORTH BROOKFIELD, page 10



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News of the Towns



Round Town
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Mt. Zion Lodge to hold open house

Mt. Zion Lodge of Freemasons, 71 Pleasant St., will hold an open house on Saturday, Oct. 21 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. A firetruck will be there from 9:30 a.m.-noon. There will also be mums for sale, along with free face painting.

American Legion

American Legion Post #2, 450 South Barre Road, on Monday nights at 5 p.m. is Veterans Social Night. Tuesday and Thursday at 6 p.m. Central Mass. Boot Camp and personal training takes place. The bar is open on Thursday. Wednesday night doors open at 5 p.m. Corn-hole start time is 6 p.m. Partners are picked at random. Cos is \$5 per person to play. First and second prizes will be awarded at the end of the night. The second Sunday of every month Post#2 holds a meat raffle. Doors open at 3 p.m. Seven tickets are \$5 and 15 tickets are \$10. The 50/50 raffle is the same price. Queen of Hearts game is \$1 per ticket and people do not have to be present at the drawing to win. Drawing is on Monday night. People may visit the Legion their web page at Barre American Legion post 2 for more information.

Crawdad

The band Crawdad will perform Saturday, Oct. 28 from 2-6 p.m. and Barre American Legion Post #2, 450 South Barre Road. People are invited to come in and hear the band. Entry fee is nonperishable food items for those who need some assistance.

Eastern Star breakfast

Cradle Rock Order of Eastern Star will sponsor a Designer Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, Oct. 21 from 7:30-10:30 a.m. at the Masonic Lodge Hall, 71 Pleasant St.. Cost is \$9 per adult and \$6 for children under 10 years of age. People may design their special pancake. Full breakfast includes; pancakes, waffles, sausage gravy and biscuits, bacon, sausage, juice and coffee. All are welcome to attend.

Postcard and ephemera show and set for sale Nov. 4

BARRE – The 39th annual Postcard & Ephemera Show and Sale will be held at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 29 South St., on Saturday, Nov. 4 from 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Admission to the show and sale is \$3.

This event is sponsored by St. Joseph's Church and the Central Massachusetts Postcard Club. Club members are admitted at 9 a.m. and the general public at 9:30 a.m.

For more information, contact show coordinator J.R. Greene by emailing jrg01331@webtv.net.

Friends of Rutland Library offer passes

RUTLAND – The Friends of the Rutland Library offer passes for free or discounted admission at a variety of attractions around the state.

Currently, passes are available for admission to Massachusetts State Parks, Old Sturbridge Village, The Botanical Gardens at Tower Hill and Worcester Art Museum. This program is supported in part by a grant from the Rutland Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Hikers trek to 535 year old gum tree



Photo by Tom Rawinski

On Oct. 14 members of the Oakham Historical Association slogged through mossy muck to visit the town's oldest resident, the 535-year-old Black Gum tree growing in the Oakham Wildlife Management Area. The tree was a sapling when Columbus set sail for the New World. Shown from left are Tom Sheridan, Paul Rochette, Lee Dougan and Tim Collette plus photographer Tom Rawinski.

Petersham surveys residents on Open Space & Recreation Plan

PETERSHAM – The Petersham Open Space & Recreation Committee is beginning the process of updating the town's seven-year Open Space and Recreation Plan that will set the community's priorities and goals for land use and recreation needs, making it eligible for state grant funds that focus on land protection and recreation.

"The public survey is the first step of the process," said Anne Cavanaugh, Chair of the Open Space and Recreation Committee. "We hope that many in Town will want to be a part of the discussion by first completing the survey." Visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YL62FFL> to take the survey.

Paper surveys will be mailed to residents and the online survey will be available through the town's website by visiting town-

ofpetersham.org. To be considered, completed surveys are due by Friday, Dec. 1. Completed paper surveys are to be returned to the black deposit box at the main entrance of the Town Office Building.

In addition, paper surveys and deposit boxes will be available at the Petersham Memorial Library, the Petersham Country Store, the Petersham Package Store and the Quabbin Woods Restaurant. The Open Space & Recreation Committee will then compile the results and host several public meetings with town committees, staff, community stakeholders and residents to review the survey results and prepare the new plan. These meetings will begin in winter 2024.

"We're lucky to live in a rural town, defined in large part by

its abundant open spaces, farmland, forests, and wetlands," said Cavanaugh. "Our land use, outdoor recreation, and stewardship practices are closely related to our proximity to the Quabbin Reservoir. We hope that residents get involved in the process to gauge our current interests and to help set our land use and recreation priorities for the next seven years as we deal with changing weather events, town budgetary constraints and other issues."

For more information about the Open Space and Recreation Plan and the update process, people may visit the town's website, at <http://www.townofpetersham.org> or attend meetings of the Open Space and Recreation Committee, which are held the first Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Lower Town Hall.

American Legion Post #2 lists events

BARRE – The Barre American Legion Post #2, 450 South Barre Road, announces monthly events.

Monday night at 5 p.m. is Veterans Social Night. Tuesday and Thursday at 6 p.m. Central Mass. Boot Camp and personal training takes place. The bar is open on Thursday.

Wednesday night doors open at 5 p.m. Corn-hole start time is 6 p.m. Partners are picked at random. Cos is \$5 per person to play. First and second prizes will be awarded at the end of the night. The second Sunday of every month Post#2 holds a meat raffle. Doors open at 3 p.m. Seven tickets are \$5 and 15 tick-

ets are \$10. The 50/50 raffle is the same price. Queen of Hearts game is \$1 per ticket and people do not have to be present at the drawing to win. Drawing is on Monday night. People may visit the Legion their web page at Barre American Legion post 2 for more information.

Hubbardston

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Unitarian Church to hold indoor yard sale

The First Parish Unitarian Church of Hubbardston, on the Common, will hold their annual fall indoor yard sale on Saturday, Oct. 28 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. There will be spices, rummage, white elephant, books and puzzles, coffee and pastry, toys and games and knitting. In addition, there will be a quilt raffle and a cord wood raffle. People may also purchase lunch of homemade sandwiches, pickles and chips, beverages and homemade pies and other desserts. Take out is available.

Special Town Meeting

The town will hold a Special Town Meeting on Thursday, Oct. 26 at 6 p.m. in the Hubbardston Center School, Elm Street. Th parade starts at Fire Station 1 on Main Street and ends at Hubbardston Center School. The date was incorrectly listed in last week's paper.

Horribles parade

The Annual Horribles parade will take place on Sunday, Oct. 29 at noon. The Following the parade, there will be a party at the Hubbardston Center School.

Medicare Open Enrollment

Open Enrollment runs from Sunday, Oct. 15 through Thursday, Dec. 7. During this time, people can change their Medicare Plan effective Monday, Jan. 1. People may contact the Hubbardston Senior Center to speak with a Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone counsellor in person or over the phone. SHINE has certified counselors to help you with questions about Medicare. The services are free and unbiased. SHINE counselors are available to discuss all options related to Medicare and additional coverage. They do not sell any plans.

Senior center events

The Hubbardston Senior Center, 7A Main St., events include: Coffee with Friends Monday through Thursday at 9:45 a.m.; Bingo from 12:30-3 p.m. on Mondays; Knitting Group at 10 a.m. every Tuesday at 10 a.m. and WiiBowling beginning at 8:30 a.m. every Monday and Wednesday beginning at 8:30 a.m. Seniors will take a Jack O'Lantern trip and luncheon at Wright's Chicken Farm in Rhode Island.

There will be a Medicare seminar on Friday, Oct. 27 at 12:30 p.m. It's renewal time for health insurance. This is an opportunity to ask questions.

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. 23. 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, green beans, chocolate pudding and diet pudding, Italian bread

TUESDAY – Barbecue chicken, herbed potatoes, country blend vegetables, fresh fruit, marble rye bread

WEDNESDAY – Marinated pork loin, mashed potatoes, carrots, cinnamon pears, French bread

THURSDAY – Chicken cranberry salad, pasta salad, tomato and cucumber salad, birthday cake, diet = small piece, hot dog roll

FRIDAY – Meatballs with onion gravy, bow-tie pasta, roasted Brussels sprouts, mixed fruit, whole wheat bread

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

SUBMISSIONS ALWAYS WELCOME

Send your stories and photos to edowner@turley.com

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

Please contact Pat James 413-726-8661.

New Braintree Church plans fundraiser

NEW BRAINTREE – The New Braintree Congregational Church fundraiser to help support the operation of the church will be held at the Town Hall, 20 Memorial Drive, on Saturday, Oct. 21 at 2 p.m.

A preview of the items for sale will begin at noon. People may follow the church on Facebook for updates on the event. People should plan on visiting the café for a bite to eat or drink. All sales will be cash or check only. People may call 508-981-4786 for more information.

Guided walk to take place on Oct. 22

WEST BROOKFIELD – A guided walk of the expanded trail network with Chris and Merlon will take place on Sunday, Oct. 22 at 9 a.m. All are welcome and should meet at the kiosk area on Wickaboag Valley Road, near the Snow Road intersection. They should wear sturdy shoes and bring water. The hike is generally an easy grade and will take about an hour and a half to two hours.

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Saturday, Oct. 28
Town Hall at 3:00 PM
Farmer Matt's at 4:00 PM

FALL FESTIVITIES at the FARM

Halloween Spooktacular featuring live music, great food, and local craft beer as part of the New Braintree Halloween festivities on 10/28.

Pop-up Beer Garden featuring local brews made with local ingredients is every Sat/Sun through October. 10/21, 10/22, 10/28, 10/29.

Check **FarmerMatt.com** for details & more events.

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News of the Towns

PUBLIC MEETINGS

BARRE.

Sewer Commission – Oct. 19 at 7 p.m.
 Zoning Board of Appeals – Oct. 19 and Nov. 9 at 7 p.m.
 Conservation Committee – Oct. 24 at 7 p.m.
 250th Anniversary Committee – Oct. 25 at 6:30 p.m.
 Cemetery Commission – Oct. 26 at 11 a.m.
 Barre Cultural Council – Oct. 27 at 10 a.m.
 Council on Aging – Nov. 1 at 1 p.m.
 Insurance Advisory Committee – Nov. 2 at 1 p.m.
 Select Board – Nov. 6 at 6 p.m.
 Felton Field Commission – Nov. 7 at 6:30 p.m.
 Library Trustees – Nov. 8 at 6:30 p.m.
 Board of Health – Nov. 13 at 5 p.m.
 Water Commission – Nov. 13 at 6:30 p.m.
 DPW Commission – Nov. 13 at 7 p.m.
 Cable Advisory Committee – Dec. 12 at 7 p.m.

HARDWICK.

Wheelwright Water District – Oct. 23 at 7 p.m.
 Planning Board – Oct. 24 at 6:30 p.m.
 Board of Registrars – Oct. 28 at 9 a.m.
 Board of Selectmen – Oct. 30 at 6:30 p.m.
 Board of Health – Nov. 2 at 6:30 p.m.
 Paige Library Trustees – Nov. 2 at 7 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Nov. 8 at 9 a.m.
 Gilbertville Public Library – Nov. 8 at 4 p.m.
 Recycling Commission – Nov. 14 at 6:30 p.m.
 Capital Planning Committee – Nov. 20 at 3 p.m.

HUBBARDSTON

Parks Commission – Oct. 19 at 5:15 p.m.
 Planning Board – Oct. 19, Nov. 1 and Nov. 16 at 6:30 p.m.
 Public Safety Building Committee – Oct. 23 at 6 p.m.
 Board of Health – Oct. 24, Nov. 14 and Nov. 28 at 7 p.m.
 Special Town Meeting – Oct. 26 at 7 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – Nov. 8 at 6 p.m.
 Cultural Council – Nov. 28 at 7 p.m.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

ARPA Committee – Oct. 19 at 6:30 p.m.
 Board of Water Commissioners – Oct. 23 at 6 p.m.
 Board of Assessors – Oct. 24 at 9 a.m.
 Select Board – Oct. 24, Nov. 7 and Nov. 21 at 6 p.m.
 Planning Board – Oct. 25 and Nov. 22 at 6 p.m.
 Downtown Development Committee – Nov. 6 at 6:30 p.m.

OAKHAM

Select Board – Oct. 30 and Nov. 13 at 6 p.m.
 Finance Committee – Nov. 1 at 6 p.m.
 Board of Health – Nov. 15 and Dec. 20 at 5 p.m.

PETERSHAM

Board of Health – Oct. 19 at 6 p.m.
 Planning Board – Oct. 26 at 7 p.m.
 Board of Assessors – Nov. 2 at 6 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – Nov. 7 at 6 p.m.
 Open Space and Recreation Committee – Nov. 7 at 6 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Nov. 13 at 10 a.m.
 Cemetery Commission – Nov. 14 at 10 a.m.

RUTLAND

Capital Improvement Planning Committee – Oct. 19 and Nov. 16 at 6:30 p.m.
 Earthworks Board – Oct. 19 at 6:30 p.m.
 Select Board and Ad Hoc By Law Committee joint meeting – Oct. 23 at 6 p.m.
 Planning Board Public Hearings – Oct. 24 at 6:45 and 7 p.m.
 Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearing – Oct. 25 at 6 p.m.
 Select Board Public Hearing - Pole Hearing – Oct. 30 at 6 p.m.
 Economic Development Commission – Nov. 8 at 6 p.m.

East Quabbin Land Trust held 12th annual run/walk fundraiser

By Paula Ouimette
 pouimette@turley.com

NEW BRAINTREE – Runners and walkers enjoyed the best fall views in town this past Sunday, during East Quabbin Land Trust's 12th annual Station Loop Ramble, a three-race event utilizing the Mass Central Rail Trail.

Taking first male finisher in the 5-Mile Classic was Matthew Twarog with a time of 32:10 and taking first female finisher was Adell Mayee with a time of 38:54.

Other results include Andrew Wiewell, 35:48; Brian Keleher, 36:54; Carl Lindley, 37:20; Brian Farmer, 39:46; Brian St. Jean, 40:22; Jessica Howland, 42:19; Audrey Snay, 42:22; Nicole Keleher, 42:25; V. Garofoli, 43:01; Toni Brown, 44:12; Patrick Bresette, 45:21; Ed Hood, 46:08; Michael Groner, 47:15; Kevin Loggie, 47:28; Mark Johnson, 50:12; Matthew Gromosky, 52:18; Michelle Sheperd, 53:24; Pamela Jean Clark, 54:44; Michael Cavanaugh, 54:44; Christine Palmer, 58:25; Sarah Howe, 58:25; Mary Vaughn, 58:28; Brian Vaughn, 1:06:45; and Eric Howe, 1:06:46.

Taking first male finisher in the 5K Run/Walk was Eric Snay, with a time of 21:38 and first female finisher was Lynne Feldman with a time of 31:48.

Other results include Rowan McCleod, 21:40; Patrick McDermott, 22:43; William Kimoro Norman, 24:20; Matthew Sloan, 24:49; Connor Snay, 24:55; BJ Williams, 25:21; Matt Langa, 26:03; David Maher, 26:56; Mark Kablack, 28:01; Will Baker, 31:52; Catriona Standfield, 32:08; Tony Guitunim, 35:19; Claire Norberg, 36:22; Doris Farmer, 40:30; Geoff Bloom, 42:32; JoAnn Crain, 45:46; Colson Ladue, 46:38; Amy Bloom, 48:59; Arlene Kusak, 52:04; Kathryn Caci, 52:04; Elaine Siok, 52:04; Michael Siok, 52:06; Kristin Siok, 52:06; Rick Dorsch, 57:28; Joseph Siok, 57:28; Lindsay Gaouette, 58:23; and Kristen Bock, 58:23.

For more information about the East Quabbin Land Trust, visit eqlt.org or follow them on Facebook or Instagram, email office@eqlt.org or call 413-477-8229.



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

Siblings (from left) Cordelia, Noah and Luca Grandinetti take off to compete in the children's one-mile run at East Quabbin Land Trust's 12th annual Station Loop Ramble this past Sunday.



Cordelia Grandinetti races in to take first in the one-mile run.



Brian Keleher of New Braintree gets ready to start the 5-Mile Classic. His daughter Eileen, 2 1/2 accompanied him over the hilly course in her stroller.



Runners line up at the start of the 5K Run/Walk along the Mass Central Rail Trail.

Paige library lists upcoming events

HARDWICK – On Saturday, Oct. 21 at 11 a.m. the Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, Gail Ann Anderson will present a program about her Native American ancestry.

Like Pocahontas, Anderson's ancestors are Mattaponi from Jamestown, Virginia. She will read "Brother Eagle, Sister Sky" by Susan Jeffers, a message by Chief Seattle from over 150 years ago, tell the Story of Little Deer, a Penobscot friend, who traveled to school in a canoe and show items of the Native American cul-

ture, such as furs, antlers, drums.

November is National Native American Heritage Month. People should register because the number of attendees will determine if the program is at the Paige Activity Room or the Hardwick Town House, 32 Common St. People may call 413-477-6704 or email director.paigelibrary@gmail.com or visit the Paige Memorial Library.

On Saturday, Nov. 4, at 1 p.m. the Friends of the Paige Library will present Hands on Nature – Winter Hibernation at

the Town House, 32 Common St., Hardwick. Participants will learn how animals survive the coldest months of New England. They will learn about hibernation, migration and the amazing adaptations animals have for surviving the harshest temperatures.

Children should bring a stuffed animal and will create a cozy little hibernation den to take home. For more information, people may call 413-477-6704, email director.paigelibrary@gmail.com or visit the Paige Memorial Library.

Oakham

Ellenor Downer
 edowner@turley.com



Pen pals letters ready Oct. 30

The Oakham Council on Aging Penpal Program with the fourth grade students at Oakham Center School is off to a great start. The first student letters will be ready for pickup at the back door of the Forbes library on Monday, Oct. 30. Senior replies should be returned to our "mailbox" by the Wednesday, Nov. 8 deadline. Pen pals should remember to print their reply.

Since our "mailbox" is outside this door, pickup and drop off is available 24/7 regardless of weather conditions. Thank you for your participation in this learning experience for our students.

Flu clinic

A flu clinic will be held on Monday, Oct. 23 from 12:30-3 p.m. at the Oakham Senior Center, 2 Coldbrook Road. The Oakham Board of Health is happy to be able to assist Oakham seniors and New Braintree at the Oakham Senior Center with this year's annual opportunity to receive an influenza vaccination. This is done in collaboration with the Leicester Regional Public Health Coalition and conducted by nursing staff from VNA Care.

People may register at this link on by visiting https://docs.google.com/forms/d/193bRTDr5hq4hB_YKe8SCwvaWzuZXNEfGmOd5IXinA/edit.

Coldbrook Springs Walk postponed

Due to the rainy forecast for this Saturday, Bob Locke decided to reschedule the Coldbrook Springs Walk to Saturday, Oct. 21 at 10 a.m. Participants should meet at the intersection of Coldbrook Road and the Rail Trail, just South of Worcester Road.

Church fair

The Harvest and Holly Fair sponsored by the Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road, will be held Saturday, Nov. 18 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. The Fair Committee seeks crafters and vendors for the day of the fair. Cost is \$20.

Anyone interested in having a table should call Ellie Downer at 774-262-5882 or email mybackyard88@aol.com. The church will have a baked table, cookie walk, snack bar, craft table, raffles, quilt raffle and white elephant room.

Bake sale

The Oakham Congregational Church will hold a bake sale at the church the day of the election on Tuesday, Nov. 7 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. In addition to baked items, coffee will be sold and quilt raffle tickets.

Lessons and Carols

Lessons and Carols will be held on Sunday, Dec. 17 at 7 p.m. at the Oakham Congregational Church. Rehearsals will begin at next month at a time and date to be determined. This year's cantata "Go Sing It on the Mountain" by Pepper Choplin. Rehearsals begin Tuesday, Oct. 17 from 6-7 p.m. at the church. All are welcome to sing in this special Christmas cantata.

St. John's Parish to hold Harvest Thyme Craft Fair Oct. 28

EAST BROOKFIELD – St. John the Baptist Parish, 131 Blaine Avenue, will be hosting its annual Harvest Thyme Craft Fair on Saturday, Oct. 28 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Raffles, gift baskets, a lottery tree, silent auction, craft tables, jewelry, books and attic treasures will all be offered. A café with great soups, meat pies, chili, cider and baked goods will also be available.

All are welcome to come and enjoy the fair and food. For more information, people may call 508-867-6469.



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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Opinion

Guest Column



How will my wife's Social Security be affected by her teacher's pension?

Dear Rusty
My wife, born in 1960, was a Texas school teacher for about 10 years and receives a \$1,000 per month pension from that work. She didn't pay into Social Security while teaching, but she paid into it for about 23 years while working elsewhere. I paid into Social Security my entire life, the maximum in most years, so my SS benefit will be much greater than hers.

I understand there are some sort of penalties or restrictions on my wife's Social Security benefits and also for spousal benefits due to her school pension. Please share the process I can use to estimate my wife's Social Security and tell me if she can file for spousal benefits.

Signed: Planning for the Future

Dear Planning

Because your wife has a Texas school teacher pension earned without contributing to Social Security, any SS benefits she is entitled to will be affected by two rules: first, by the Windfall Elimination Provision, which will reduce her personally earned Social Security retirement benefit and, second, by the Government Pension, which will reduce any spousal boost if she is entitled to one to her own benefit.

The amount of the WEP reduction to your wife's personal SS retirement benefit will be computed using a special formula, which considers the number of years she has contributed to Social Security through other (non-state) work. Since your wife became eligible for Social Security benefits in 2022 the maximum WEP reduction with 23 years contributing to SS will be \$358. If your wife has already obtained an estimate of her Social Security retirement benefit, deduct \$358 from that estimate and that will be pretty close to her actual SS retirement benefit when she claims. Social Security will figure out the exact amount of her WEP reduction when your wife applies, but you can also use Social Security's "WEP Calculator" for an estimate, which you can find by visiting www.ssa.gov/benefits/calculators/.

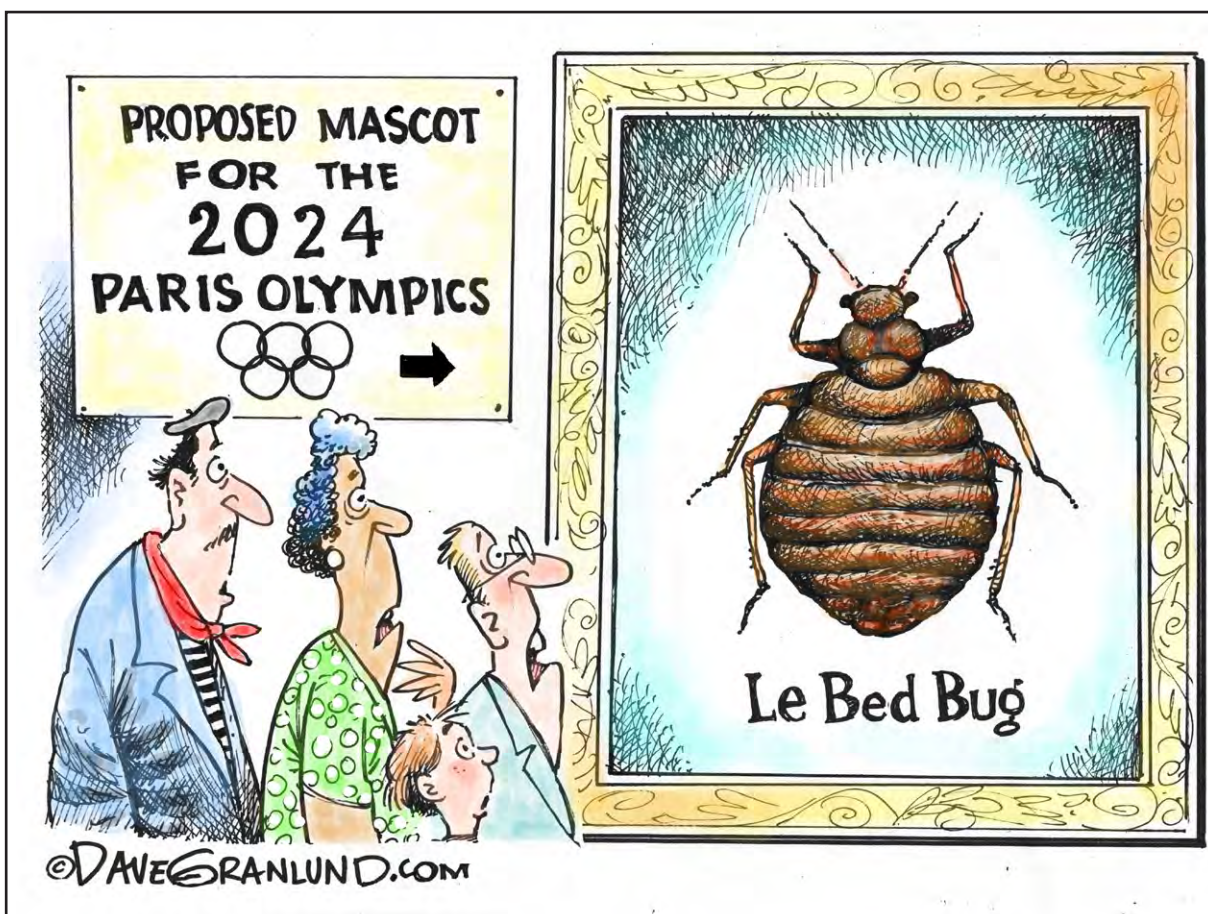
Whether your wife will be entitled to a "spousal boost" to her own Social Security retirement benefit depends on how your respective FRA entitlements compare and the GPO. The base amount of your wife's spousal boost will be the difference between her pre-WEP FRA entitlement and 50% of your FRA entitlement. If your wife's normal FRA entitlement is less than 50% of your FRA entitlement, the difference is a "spousal boost" added to your wife's personal SS retirement benefit. However, that base spousal boost will be reduced if taken before your wife reaches her FRA and even further reduced by the GPO (the GPO reduction will be 2/3rds your wife's State of Texas pension, e.g., about \$667. Any remainder left after these reductions to your wife's spousal boost will be added to her own WEP-reduced SS retirement amount, but if the remainder is \$0 then no spousal boost will be given and your wife will get only her WEP-reduced Social Security retirement amount.

FYI, Social Security's WEP and GPO provisions apply to anyone, who has a pension earned without contributing to Social Security, including many public service retirees in the 26 states, which do not participate in the federal Social Security program. I've published numerous articles about how these rules affect benefits and also about the rationale behind both provisions, which you are welcome to review at this AMAC Foundation website by visiting www.SocialSecurityReport.org.

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

Corrections policy

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



Guest Column



The Garden Lady takes on squash pollination

Christl, a recent transplant to Belchertown from California, wrote in with this question for the Garden Lady:

"We are doing the post-mortem on our veggie garden and we had an issue with our butternut squash.

Last year we grew butternut from seed and had some lovely fruit that lasted most of the winter. This year we used the same seed, but the fruit was white without the distinctive crookneck shape.

I've cooked some and it is definitely not as sweet, but my dog is enjoying the special treats. I suspect that it cross pollinated with something else in the garden.

We also grew two types of cucumbers (which despite the rain went gangbuster), Mini cantaloupe melons and a yellow summer squash. None of these fruits seemed to be affected.

My question is how to avoid this? Are there particular cucurbits that are more likely to cross-pollinate or be cross-pollinated? Is there a certain distance one can plant away from each other?

I was hoping to plant some pumpkins and watermelon next year, but in light of the butternut, I am wary. I may be willing to forego planting some of the cucurbits, but cukes are a must and I'd hate to give up my melons.

I have enough room that pumpkins will stay out of the veggie garden."

Thank you for the wonderful and very timely question! First let's talk about how cross pollination occurs.

In the simplest of terms, bees carry pollen from plant to plant. When fruit forms, and the seeds from the fruit are saved and used the following year to start new plants, you can sometimes run into trouble and not end up with the exact plants you grew the year before.

We will take melon and cucumbers out of the equation here - they belong to the genus Cucumis and are species melo and sativus respectively. They cannot cross pollinate because they are different species.

Nor can watermelons, since they are a different genus and species altogether: Citrullus lanatus.

The genus Cucurbita, to which squash belongs, has five different species. Three of them are commonly grown in our climate; one more only occasionally:

- Cucurbita pepo includes summer squash: zucchini, patty pan, and yellow crookneck as well as acorn, delicata/dumpling, and spaghetti winter squashes. Small gourds, and most pumpkins also belong to this species. Pepos have hard, five-sided ribbed stems.

- Cucurbita maxima is comprised of banana, buttercup, Hubbard winter squash as well as some pumpkins, most notably the white pumpkin Lumina and the pretty deep orange-red "Cinderella." Fruit in this species have round stems and tend to be on the large side. They often have bumps on their skin and button ends (think of a belly-button). Highest carotenoid content when mature and sometimes the largest fruit on earth!

- Cucurbita moschata is comprised of the familiar butternut-type of winter squashes as well as the cheese pumpkin, ancient "Seminole," and many other

See GARDEN, page 10

In Past Pages

5 years (Oct. 25, 2018)

Declining student enrollment particularly at the New Braintree/Oakham schools led the Quabbin School District to start the school closing process. Quorums from the five Quabbin District member towns board of selectmen met last Thursday with members of the school district and a few school committee members. The school closing procedure started at the Sept. 13 school committee meeting when a majority of members voted to begin the process to close the New Braintree Grade School. Superintendent Dr. Sheila Muir and director of administrative services Cheryl Duval presented data regarding enrollment numbers. There were a total of 3,230 students in the district for the 2003/2004 school year and 2,226 for 2017/2018. The uncertified number for the current school year was 2,146.

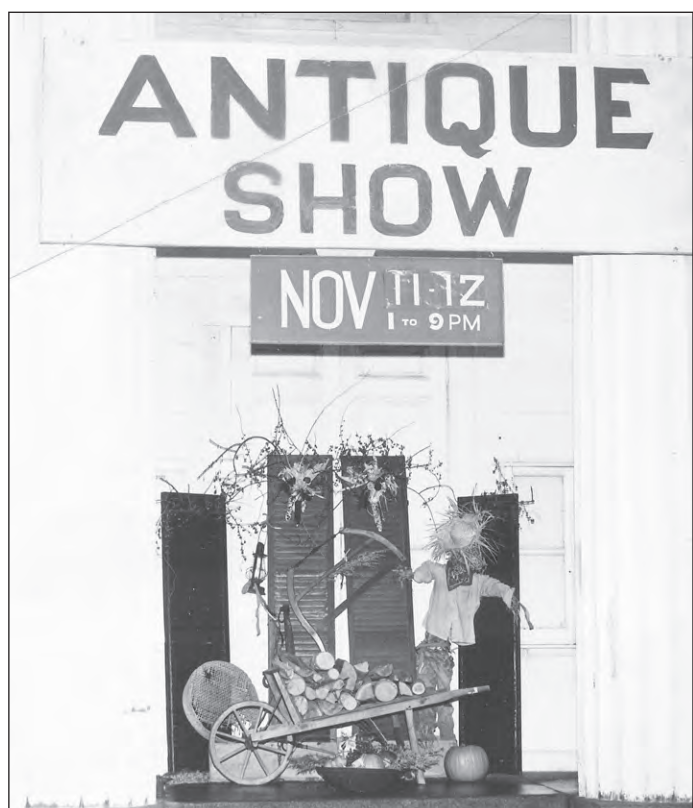
On Sunday, Oct. 21 at 8:47 p.m. Rutland Regional Emergency Communication Center received a single 911 call from a neighbor reporting smoke coming from the house at 122 Valley Road. RRECC dispatched Barre Fire Stations 1 and 2 along with an Oakham tanker that is filling in for the Barre's Tanker while it is out of service getting the pump repaired. Within four minutes from the time of dispatch, Fire Chief Robert Rogowski arrived. Smoke was showing from a single family home. Neighbors report that there were possibly people in the basement prompting the fire chief to strike a working fire assignment. While searching for the reported occupants firefighters found and rescued five cats, one of which was unconscious due to smoke inhalation. Firefighters quickly removed the cats and they were handed off to the ambulance crew, who used their animal oxygen masks and treated them for burns and smoke inhalation. The fire was extinguished within 10 minutes of arrival and no one was found in the building.

If people Google Isaiah Thomas, they will come across four pages about the former Boston Celtic point guard and the current Los Angeles, Lakers NBA star before they find any mention of the other Thomas, a Patriot printer. Thursday evening, Oct. 18, Neil Gustafson, a professional actor, ironically portrayed the 18-century Isaiah Thomas on the former basketball court of the Oakham Center School. Gustafson's one-man theatrical performance, in period costume complete with a powdered wig, was arranged through the American Antiquarian Society.

10 years (Oct. 24, 2013)

Life Scout Collin Fleming presents his Eagle project to the Barre Board of Selectmen for their approval on Monday night. Chairman of the Board Kathryn Inman was unable to attend the meeting and took part by remote participation, speakerphone. Fleming, who is working with Police Chief Erik Demetropoulos, want to move the Emergency Management Department equipment, presently in the Henry Woods Building to the South Barre Fire Station. He discussed the project with building inspector, George

LOOK BACK Antique Show - 1970



The annual Barre Antique Show was held on Nov. 11, 1970.

Ricker, as the project includes installing shelving at the South Barre sight for the equipment. Selectmen unanimously approve his Eagle project.

Barre Selectmen met with the Emergency Management Squad at their Monday night meeting. Chairman of the Board Kathryn Inman was unable to attend the meeting and took part remote participation, speakerphone. Town Administrator Heather Lemieux said the Barre EMS Inc was established in 1972 as a private, non-profit corporation consisting of a Board of Directors. The chain of command. When the squad offered Advance Life Support, a paid position, an ALS coordinator, an acting EMS director, Town Administrator and ultimately the Board of Selectmen were the hierarchy for the ALS employees.

The Oakham Board of Selectmen held a public hearing regarding charging a fee for burning permits at their last Tuesday night meeting. Selectmen only received comments against charging a fee. Fire Chief Tom Snay explained the Rutland Dispatch Center started doing burning applications for Oakham last year and asked him if Oakham wanted to charge a fee. The other three members of the regional dispatch center based in Rutland do charge fees. Rutland charges \$25, Barre \$10 and Hubbardston \$10. Following public comment, all opposed to a fee, the Selectmen opted not to charge a fee.

25 years (Oct. 22, 1998)

Barre resident Lucy Trifilo complained to selectmen about junk cars on the streets and lots of the "Italian section" of South Barre at the Monday night meeting. Besides their unsightliness Trifilo said she is concerned they may pose a safety risk for the neighborhood children. She also said they might

soon interfere with snow plowing. "I think it's the transients coming in and just dropping these cars, she said. "At one time that place was so beautiful and now it's like a ghetto as far as I'm concerned. It's a mess." According to Trifilo, the areas of concern are Grove Street, Oak Street, Nichols Road and High Plains Road. Selectmen will ask Police Chief Thompson to deal with the unregistered cars parked on the street. They will ask Building Inspector Harold S. Nichols to enforce the town bylaw.

A group of about a dozen residents supporting Loring Barrett's selection as Hubbardston's new police chief attended the Oct. 13 selectmen's meeting. They presented selectmen with a petition containing over 1,000 signatures. An accompanying letter requested the selectmen appoint Barrett "without further delay as Police Chief of Hubbardston. The letter was read by spokesman David Simmerer, who was removed by a vote of the Selection Committee from its ranks when he was found ineligible to serve because of his incapacity to remain unbiased in the selection process.

The two Oakham selectmen present at the Monday, Oct. 19 meeting, Robert Leary and Clayton Rice, signed the transfer of the cable television license from Charter Communications Inc, to Paul G. Allen. Chairman Robert Leary asked the representative present to look into the possibility of providing able access to several roads in town that did not get cable when it was originally installed. The representative said he would look into that.

38 years (Oct. 24, 1985)

Any decision regarding overtime pay and how to account for sick days and personal days for town dispatchers was delayed

See PAST PAGES, page 10

Turley Publications Letters to the Editor Policy

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

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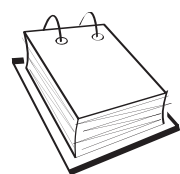
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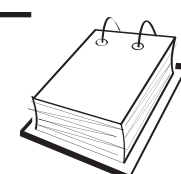
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Calendar of Events



Where is this?

This week's mystery photo is from Oakham. If any readers know where this photo was taken, they may email edowner@turley.com or call the Barre Gazette at 413-967-3505, extension 100 with their answer by noon on Monday, Oct. 21. The names of those that correctly guessed the location will appear in the following edition. Stephen Craven and Evelyn Luukko correctly identified the photo. The photo last week was of the trailhead for the Wendumuth Trail on West Brookfield Road, North Brookfield.

Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

THURSDAY, OCT. 19

CIRCLE OF SONG REHEARSALS are held every Thursday night, at the Barre Town Hall, Exchange Street, Barre. The choral group of 23 years sings in four-part harmony and often in other languages. People may email julie@mhof.net or call 978-257-1192 for more information. They perform several concerts during the year. New members are always welcome. Membership dues are sliding scale from \$25 per year for students and \$40 - \$70 for adults according to ability to pay.

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

YULETIDE CRAFT FAIR sponsored by the Rutland Friends of the Council on Aging seeks vendors for the annual Yuletide Craft Fair on Saturday, Nov. 18 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Senior/Community Center, on 53 Glenwood Road, Rutland. If interested, they should call 508-886-7945.

BARRE FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION will take place today from 5:30-7 p.m.. In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients Oct. 19 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.

COFFEE HOUSE sponsored by the First Congregational Church of Rutland, 264 Main St., Route 122A, Rutland, will be held today at 7 p.m. Participants will enjoy coffee and music by church musician, Hans Betancourth and friends. This event is free and will continue on the third Thursdays of the month. All are welcome.

FRIDAY, OCT. 20

NIGHTMARE ON MAIN STREET, a haunted house experience will take place today from 6-10 pm. At the Emilia K. Hope Community Center, 173 North Main Street, North Brookfield. Advance tickets are now on sale for \$10 and are available by visiting coalitionforaheslthynb.org. Tickets are \$12 at the door.

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

SATURDAY, OCT. 21

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

TURKEY SUPPER RESERVATION DEADLINE is today for the annual drive through turkey supper on Saturday, Nov. 4 from 5-6:30 p.m. The cost is \$15 per meal and includes turkey with gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, butternut squash, stuffing, rolls and butter and apple crisp. People should call the church office at 508-886-4453 for reservations and pickup time.

SPOOKFEST sponsored by the Coalition for a Healthy North Brookfield invites people to a Halloween celebration and Haunted House today from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. located by North Brookfield High School, 10 New School Drive, North Brookfield. There will be a food truck festival, Maker's Market (vendors), Trunk or Treat, costume contest and prizes, ticketed fun zone with bounce house, petting zoo, pumpkin painting, exclusive games, hay pile prizes and more. Fun Zone wristband tickets are \$5 per person in advance and \$7 at the door.

DESIGNER PANCAKE BREAKFAST sponsored by Cradle Rock Order of Eastern Star will be held today from 7:30-10:30 a.m. at the Masonic Lodge Hall, 71 Pleasant St., Barre. Cost is \$9 per adult and \$6 for children under 10 years of age. People may design their special pancake. Full breakfast includes; pancakes, waffles, sausage gravy and biscuits, bacon, sausage, juice and coffee. All are welcome to attend.

NEW BRAINTREE CHURCH FUNDRAISER will be held today at the New Braintree Town Hall, 20 Memorial Drive, New Braintree at 2 p.m. There will be a wide variety of items for sale; gift certificates galore and many fun items sold in box lots or individually. It will be a great afternoon of socializing and entertainment and a wonderful opportunity to do some Christmas shopping. At this point, they are still collecting items for this event and will accept any gently used items large or small to add to the long list of items the church will be selling. People may call Joanne Harder at 1-508-981-4786 for pickup or questions. Plan on visiting the café for a bite to eat or drink. This event is family friendly and some items will be for different ages. Pokémon cards might make an appearance. Parents, spouses, children, neighbors and friends are invited for a "different" kind of fun while helping pay the bills at that beautiful church building on the hill.

SUNDAY, OCT. 22

ETHAN K QUARTET CONCERT sponsored by the Princeton Arts Society will be held today at 1 p.m. in the First Congregational Church, 14 Mountain Road, Princeton. The concert is free. All are welcome. A \$10 donation is appreciated. While the band's repertoire ranges from "straight-ahead" to modern groove-oriented jazz, this performance will concentrate on the classic standards of composers like George Gershwin, Cole Porter, Duke Ellington and others. Ethan Kaczowka (AKA Ethan K) is a jazz guitarist from greater Boston who studied at Berklee College of Music with additional instruction from Ed Lucie, Steve Kirby, Richie Hart and Peter Bernstein. The quartet includes pianist/keyboardist Evan Waaramaa, bassist Greg Toro, and drummer David Andrew Moore.

MANY VOICES MECHANICS HALL YOUTH SINGERS CONCERT will take place today at 4 p.m. at Mechanics Hall, 321 Main St., Worcester. Tickets are free - \$5. The Singers will present their performance entitled "Legacy." Rooted in themes surrounding persistence, inner strength, and empowerment, Legacy champions each singer as they overcome every possible obstacle. It recognizes their capacity to change the world for the very best. Each member will realize their ability to create a legacy built upon strong morals, hard work and love for one another. Musical selections include "Hall of Fame," "True Colors," "Shine Like Stars" and the world premiere of their new anthem "Many Voices, One Song."

MONDAY, OCT. 23

STORY TIME will be held at the New Braintree Public Library, 45 Memorial Drive, New Braintree today at 9 a.m. This reading and crafts program for preschool children is held twice a month on Mondays at the library. The New Braintree fire department will bring a fire truck to story hour in recognition of Fire Prevention Week. Today will feature "Halloween Mice" by Bethany Roberts and "It is Halloween" by Laura Appleton-Smith. Parental supervision is required. People may call the library at 508-867-7650 during regular business for more information.

SATURDAY, OCT. 28

CRAWDAD RETURNS to American Legion Post #2, 450 South Barre Road, Barre today at 2 p.m. People are invited to come in and hear the band. Entry fee is nonperishable food items for those who need some assistance.

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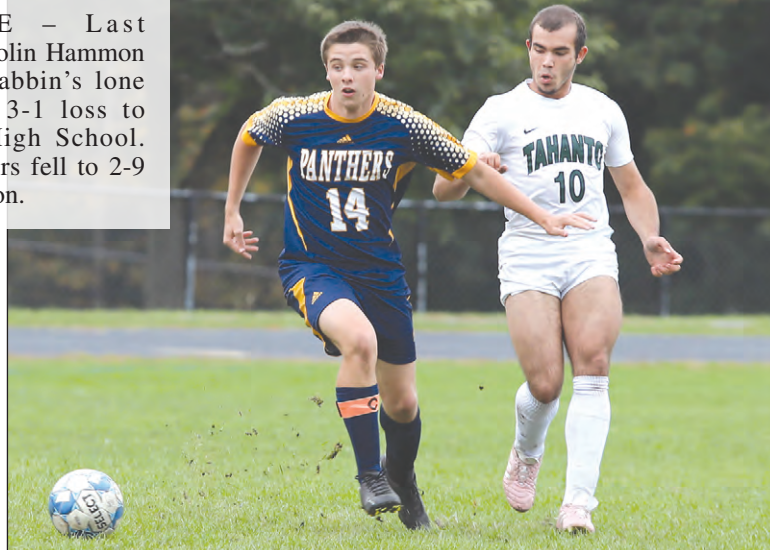
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Tahanto gets win over Quabbin



BARRE – Last Tuesday, Colin Hammon scored Quabbin's lone goal in a 3-1 loss to Tahanto High School. The Panthers fell to 2-9 on the season.



Gavin Majoy dribbles past a Tahanto defender



Alijah Flint makes a save look easy.

Jenkins Miller comes down with a head ball. Turley photos by Ray Duffy



Anthony Quartarone with a kick pass to Adam Blouin.



Mike Tobin advances the ball down the sideline.

Boys cross country defeated

BARRE – Last week, Quabbin boys cross country was defeated as a team by Tyngsborough 23-34. While the Panthers were not victorious,

Ryan Wing was as he won the race overall. He took first place with a time of 19:34. The Panthers are 0-6 on the season.



Ryan Wing coming down the homestretch to take first.



Bailey Burke starts up "The Hill." Turley photos by Ray Duffy

Cagers fall to Nipmuc in fall league action

WHITINSVILLE – The Quabbin cagers may have been downed by Nipmuc but they played the entire game with the message that they were absolutely not out.

Quinn Geary poured in 14 points and Kyle Clark added 9 more but the duo's efforts were not enough to overcome a 49-32 loss to Nipmuc at the Whitinsville Community Center gym.

The Quabbin cagers fell short offensively as Nipmuc, a physical and skilled team in the forward position used their size to pull away early. They managed to keep the lead throughout the fall league game.

Quabbin coaches Tim Hay and Luke Brownell were joined on the sideline by now assistant coach Mark Halaby. The UMass-Lowell attendee was a significant contributor to the Quabbin varsity team this past season particularly excelling as one of the premier defensive players in Central Mass.

Offense was difficult to generate this game as the strategy seemingly employed by Nipmuc was to double both Geary and Clark when they touched the ball. The two emerging juniors were able to account for over two thirds the Quabbin offensive output. The coaches are encouraging the younger players to continue the aggressive approach to the basket and take advantage of the march to the free throw line. The physical play directed at Clark in the



Submitted photo Zeke Santoro looks to get by his defender and to the basket.

low post was allowed by the officials but the Clark never relented in establishing his territory in the paint. He earned over half his points from the foul line and by most observers account should have been there much more often. It was an impressive display of toughness for Clark and also an opportunity for Geary to display that trait which he did as well.

Geary was also met with a wall of defenders but the swingman still managed the lead the team in scoring and establish himself and one of the 'go-to' players on this team.

The backcourt for this game

See BASKETBALL, page 8

Burke leads way for Pathfinder football

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

THORNDIKE—During the first five weeks of the high school football season, Pathfinder Tech senior William Burke was a cornerback.

Burke saw his first action at the running back position against Tri-County League rival Drury last Friday night.

Burke scored the first rushing touchdown of his varsity career late in the fourth quarter. It turned out to be the difference maker, as the Pioneers pulled out an exciting 26-18 victory over the Blue Devils at St Joesph's Park.

"When I scored my first touchdown of the season, it was

just an amazing feeling," said Burke, who rushed for a total of 73 yards on 10 carries in the home game. "I was a tight-end last year, but this was the first time that I've been a running back."

Pathfinder head coach Bill Darling is very glad that he and his coaching staff decided to move Burke to running back.

"Most of our running backs are either freshmen or sophomores. We just needed to make a change at that position," Darling said. "Billy is a solid football player and he's a very hard worker. I just thought it was awesome when he scored that touchdown late in the fourth quarter."



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibell William Burke powers through the middle.

See PATHFINDER, page 9

Panthers suffer shutout loss

BARRE – Last Monday afternoon, Quabbin field hockey suffered a setback with a 1-0 loss against Leominster. The lone goal in the game came with 12 minutes remaining in the game. Quabbin was not able to break through and tie the game. The Panthers are now 7-4-3 and have qualified for the state tournament.

Turley photos by Ray Duffy Abigail Rogowski passes past a Leominster player as Kylie Casey follows up.



Juliana Stanger makes a save for the Panthers.



Annabelle Magille collides with the goalie while taking a shot.

Sports

T-Birds rebound to beat Bruins

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds (1-1-0-0) overcame a subpar second period and battled their way to a 4-3 win over the Providence Bruins (0-1-0-1) on Sunday afternoon inside the MassMutual Center.

Vadim Zherenko got the nod in net for Springfield and picked up the win, stopping 38 shots on the afternoon. On the other end, Brandon Bussi got the start for Providence in the net, making 20 saves on 24 T-Birds attempts.

After a flurry of chances in the Providence zone about halfway through the first period, captain Matthew Peca got the T-Birds on the board first as he knocked a rebound home at the 7:48 mark. On a seemingly harmless play, Wyatt Kalyuk wristed a point shot toward Bussi, who appeared like he would squeeze it in the glove to get a whistle. Instead, the puck popped out of his trapper, and Springfield kept the puck in the zone the next half minute, culminating in the goal by Peca, which came as a sixth attacker was jumping on the ice following a delayed Providence penalty.

Peca's first goal of the season would be the only tally of the period, as the T-Birds marched back to their dressing room with a 1-0 lead. Nathan Walker picked up a point for a second straight day, get-

ting credit for the primary helper, while Dylan Coghlan accrued his first point as a T-Bird with the secondary assist.

Providence had a golden opportunity to score five minutes into the second frame when Vincent Arseneau took advantage of a turnover and found teammate Joey Abate in the slot, but Abate's shot nailed the post and the score remained 1-0.

The T-Birds had a golden opportunity of their own to capitalize on with 7:28 to go in the second after Zachary Bolduc intercepted an errant pass, but Bolduc just missed on the glove side of Bussi as the shot sailed over the crossbar.

John Farinacci finally got the P-Bruins on the board, hammering home a rebound past Zherenko on the power play, tying the game up at one apiece.

With just over a minute to play in the second, after an enforced giveaway in the defensive end by Springfield, the Bruins took advantage as Farinacci found Luke Toporowski for a one-timer in the slot, giving the P-Bruins a 2-1 lead going into the dressing room.

It didn't take long for the T-Birds to get even in the third, as Walker recorded his second goal of the season just nine seconds into the period to open up the

scoring, with Adam Gaudette and Calle Rosen getting credit with the assists.

Just 4:19 later, Bolduc joined the scoring party on a 2-on-1 rush as he rifled home a shot past Bussi on the blocker side. The first-round pick's first career pro goal made it a 3-2 game.

Providence did not go away quietly though, as Marc McLaughlin tipped in a Reilly Walsh point shot on a Bruins power play at the 13:21 mark, bringing the game to a 3-3 tie.

In need of another response, and with another delayed penalty situation, the top line delivered in the clutch. Finding a quiet area in the slot area, Gaudette snapped a perfect shot under the crossbar and recorded his first of the year and second point on the day, making it 4-3 with just 4:52 to go in the third.

Despite pulling their goalie and several dangerous scoring chances, Providence could not tie the score and the T-Birds escaped with their first victory of the year in thrilling fashion.

The T-Birds return to the MassMutual Center on Friday to complete their season-opening three-game homestand as they take on the Lehigh Valley Phantoms, with puck drop set for 7:05 p.m. at the Thunderdome.

Education

News from the Quabbin Regional School District

From the desk of Colleen Mucha, Interim Superintendent of QRSD



Nicholas Whitelaw, Class of 2024, left and Isabel Coviello, Class of 2025 are the student representatives to the Quabbin Regional School District.

On Thursday, Oct. 12, the Quabbin Regional School District School Committee voted unanimously to appoint two student representatives to serve on the committee for the 2023-2024 school year.

Oakham School Committee member, Walter Nutter, brought the proposal forward during last school year. Nutter stated that "the school committee has the pleasure of seeing students from the elementary, middle and high schools report on their experiences at almost every monthly school committee meeting, and we are always very impressed with those students. We knew there were capable, well spoken high school students, who could offer their perspectives as student representatives on our committee."

Barre School Committee member, Lee Wolanin shared "the sub-committee and administration thought it important to review some different approaches taken by other school systems regarding their student reps. We decided that except for voting ability and executive sessions, the students will be fully accepted with all the rights/duties as school committee members. They'll even get their own nameplates for our meetings."

The two representatives are Nicholas Whitelaw, Class of 2024 and Isabel Coviello, Class of 2025. Both students are members of the Student Advisory Council and they each serve as officers of the Central Mass Regional Advisory Council. Whitelaw is chair of the committee

and Coviello is the communication coordinator. Holding these positions then allows them to serve on the State Student Advisory Council as well.

Being active members of these councils is a big commitment. Both students attend monthly meetings that are held in Hudson and Malden and it is time that they are really enjoying. They serve on the Career Education and Preparation Committee. Coviello shares that being a council member allows for a "good demonstration of student leadership" and adds "it gives us credibility and allows us to implement positive change in our district."

While it seems just serving on the advisory councils would be plenty for these students to manage, both were thrilled to become members of the Quabbin Regional School District School Committee. Whitelaw shared that he is looking forward to "bringing the work that they do on the advisory councils to the school committee and

ultimately into our school system to improve education across the state." He is also thinking beyond his short term on the school committee. "I want this to continue after I'm gone and graduated. I want to see other students step into the role and for traditions and processes to continue."

Coviello will have the opportunity to remain on the school committee for two years. She is excited to "see an up close look at how the district is run." She shares that "students don't always know what is going on" and "they do not always understand what challenges can get in the way." She states that students are told "to dream as big as you want" and by being on the school committee this will "allow for a better look."

With Whitelaw and Coviello as active members of the QRSD School Committee, there is no doubt that they will raise up the voices of our students and work with the Committee to continue to push the QRSD to greater heights.

Railers fall to Mariners in opener

AUBURN, ME – The Worcester Railers HC (0-1-0-0, 0pts) fell to the Maine Mariners (1-0-0-0, 2pts), on Friday night by the final score of 4-2 at Norway Savings Bank Arena. The Railers are at the Fidelity Bank Worcester Ice Center against the Maine Mariners on Saturday, October 14th at 7:05 p.m. EST.

Maine started the game with two quick goals in the first from Ethan Keppen (2-0-2) and Wyllum Deveaux (1-0-1) to grab a 2-0 lead through one period. Worcester got on the board in the second thanks to Zach White's tip in front to make it 2-1. The Railers and Mariners traded goals midway through the second, as Jimmy Lambert (1-1-2) for Maine put the Mariners up 3-1 just before Jake Pivonka (1-0-1) got the Railers back to within one. Keppen scored the only goal of the third, as Maine would go on to beat Worcester 4-2 on Friday night.

The Mariners poured on the offense in a hurry to open the first,

scoring twice in the first 3:06 of the game. Ethan Keppen (1st) finished off a cross-ice passing sequence from Tyler Drevitch to beat Tikkanen far-side and make it 1-0 Mariners. Wyllum Deveaux similarly capped off an up-ice rush with a backdoor tap-in past Tikkanen off a feed from Reid Stefanson (1st) to make it 2-0 Mariners. Former Railer Jimmy Lambert was in the lineup for the Mariners and managed to record the secondary assist on Deveaux's goal. Shots in the first favored Worcester 14-6.

Zach White (1st) got Worcester on the board early in the second with his first as a Railer. John Copeland unleashed a shoulder-high shot from the point that White redirected past Starrett to make it 2-1 Maine. Lambert (1st) recorded his second point of the night as he beat Tikkanen with 8:01 to go in the second, and put Maine back up by two, 3-1. Just 19 seconds later, Jake Pivonka (1st) got Worcester back to within one

off assists from Riley Piercy and Ashton Calder. The second period came to an end at 3-2, with Worcester continuing to outshoot the Mariners 12-11. The Railers led in shots through two at 26-17.

Intensity & physicality escalated midway through the third period. Mike Higgins and Cole Dubinsky dropped the gloves in response to a check on Worcester's Artyom Kulakov, which left him slow to get up. Maine scored first in the third when Ethan Keppen (2nd) found the puck alone far side off a feed from Stefanson to beat Tikkanen and make it 4-2. Worcester went on the power play late in the game with 1:46 remaining as Connor Doherty was sent to the box two minutes for roughing. Kulakov then dropped the gloves with Doherty, with both players ejected for the rest of the game after the fight. Neither team would score to wrap up the third, as the Railers fell 4-2 to Maine to open the preseason.

Monty Tech named one of Mass Save Climate Leaders in state

BOSTON – The Sponsors of Mass Save® announce the newest cohort of Mass Save Climate Leaders.

This distinguished recognition honors fourteen recipients across Massachusetts for their ongoing efforts to curb energy use and lead the Commonwealth to a net zero future.

The 2023 Mass Save Climate Leaders represent a range of industries including education, grocery, healthcare, hospitality, municipalities and more. Each winner has demonstrated a long-term commitment to the environment by leveraging incentives offered by the Sponsors of Mass Save to curb their organization's greenhouse gas emissions and increase energy efficiency.

"We are proud to live and work in the Commonwealth where we have a number of leaders to show us the pathway through decarbonization to a net zero future," said Tilak Subrahmanian, Vice President of Energy Efficiency and Electric Mobility at Eversource. "The Sponsors of Mass Save continue to see the strong efforts from this year's recipients and their dedication to honoring their own climate

goals. We commend them as leaders and will continue to support them on their path to a decarbonized future."

Each Climate Leader has implemented operational changes to increase energy efficiency. These entities have demonstrated commitment to the climate in numerous ways, including investment in onsite renewable energy, completion of a 15,000 LED light fixture, and installation of a new energy management system that automatically lowers energy usage. Together they have saved tens of millions of kWh over the past five to ten years. For comparison, an average residential home in Massachusetts uses a little more than 10,000 kWh per year. These efforts not only impact their communities in a positive way but are essential to supporting the Commonwealth's clean energy goals.

"Leading on building decarbonization is critical for the Commonwealth to meet its climate goals. I applaud these 14 institutional leaders for their effort. "DOER will continue to work closely with the Mass Save Sponsors in support of these leaders and look forward

to celebrating more of their successes," said Elizabeth Mahony, Department of Environmental Resources Commissioner.

The 2023 Mass Save Climate Leaders are Arlington Public Schools, Berkshire East Mountain Resort, Boston University, City of Lowell, Franklin County House of Corrections, Harbor View Hotel, Liberty Mutual, Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School, New England Authentic Eats LLC, Northeastern University, Shaw's Supermarkets, State Street Corporation, Takeda Pharmaceutical Company and Thermo Fisher Scientific.

"Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School has made numerous investments over the last two decades to improve energy and operational efficiency in their facilities, creating incredible savings through installations," Alec O'Meara, Media Relations Manager from Unifit. "The school has also invested in its students, providing instruction which will translate to effective implementation in their chosen construction fields as the state looks to create a clean energy future."

BASKETBALL, continued from page 7

was certainly one of the youngest to play together and both Hayston Hay and Aiden Crane teamed

up together. The middle school teammates played very well and their high level of poise, savvy and competitiveness was certainly on display. Although often mismatched in height and weight the

two play very solidly and kept the Quabbin cager's within striking distance from start to finish.

Holding the opposition to under 50 points is a game goal and expectation with the Quabbinians accomplishing it once again.

Next up on the schedule is Hopedale.

Two more basketball clinics have been announced with Roots Basketball coming to the Quabbin gym on Oct. 24.

It is easy to distinguish those players that have been diligently attending most, if not all the clinics, as their skill acquisition development has certainly improved and made it obvious throughout the summer and fall league games.



Submitted photo Zeke Santoro looks to get by his defender and to the basket.

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Annual event helps horses and ponies at CNEER

Fall Festival at the Farm

By Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

WEST BROOKFIELD – For the second year in a row, people came from all around to visit the horses and ponies at Central New England Equine Rescue during its Fall Festival at the Farm fundraiser this past Saturday.

For 20 years, Central New England Equine Rescue, a non-profit rescue founded by Vicky Berry and her daughter Betsy Johnson in 2003, has helped hundreds of horses and ponies find loving homes. Some have even found their “forever home” as sanctuary horses on the farm.

Caring for the horses and ponies is a huge financial commitment, as many require customized diets in addition to veterinary care. With the cost of hay and wood shavings reaching an all time high, the volunteers at CNEER invited the community to help defray these costs, while



Kamila Cobb, age 2, rides Brutus with the help of her grandfather, and Stoney Hill Farm equestrian and Central New England Equine Rescue volunteer Callie.



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette

Leah Shattuck drives her team of Percherons out of the gate to take festivalgoers on a wagon ride.

having a good time.

The Fall Festival at the Farm had a number of free family activities, including facepainting by Hannah and Adrianna and pumpkin decorating. The pumpkins were donated by the Worcester County Sheriff's Office and CNEER volunteers helped younger children add some fall flair to

their pumpkins.

A raffle spanned several tables, and had an impressive display of donated goods and services, with many appealing to the horse lover's heart. CNEER volunteers had plenty of shirts and sweatshirts available for sale as well.

Leah Shattuck drove her team of Percheron's around the farm,

offering festivalgoers a wagon's eye view of the fall foliage.

CNEER volunteers and Ware High School students directed traffic and helped with parking during the busy event.

Volunteers also cooked up food throughout the day, and there was a variety of treats, including popcorn, cupcakes and ice cream,

as well as refreshing lemonade. Numerous vendors offered a variety of crafts and services as well.

Students from Johnson's horse farm, Stoney Hill Farm in Barre, offered horse and pony rides on Finn, Brutus, Chief and Isaac.

Deux Amis, made up of musicians Sam Politz and Betsy Bronstein (who is also a CNEER

volunteer), provided live music with a French twist throughout the day.

The Fall Festival at the Farm offered plenty of photo opportunities with its resident equines, giving festivalgoers memories to last a lifetime. For more information about CNEER, visit cneer.com or follow them on Facebook.

LOOK BACK, continued from page 4

until next week so the personnel board can study the matter. A report will be made Oct. 28 to Lorraine Leno, Administrative assistant, Selectmen said at Monday night's meeting. Fire Chief Richard Clark suggested a full-time employee rather than himself have jurisdiction over the dispatchers, mentioning Police Chief Mike Ryder as a possible

choice. In the meantime, Lorraine Leno will handle the pay vouchers of the dispatchers until further notice, Selectman Earl Sample said.

Dennis Bassett of Quabbin Automotive in Wheelwright looked out from his station last week and got a big surprise. On Ed “Scoop” Curran's law was big full-grown bull moose,” said Bassett. The animal was approximately eight to nine feet tall and according to Bassett, seemed a bit confused. When

a car went by the animal spooked and ran into the woods. This is the second sighting in the Barre area. Mrs. Bigelow saw a female moose near the Barre Falls Dam in late September.

Airman Robin L. Fuller, daughter of James J. Fuller of Barre and Linda Fuller of North Brookfield, has been assigned to Lowry Air Force Base, Colorado, after completing Air Force Basic Training. During the six week at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, the

Airman studied the Air Force mission organization and customs and received special training in human relations. In addition, Airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree in applied science through the Community College of the Air Force. Airman Fuller will now receive specialized instruction in the avionics systems field. She is a 1985 graduate of Quabbin Regional High School, Barre.

NORTH BROOKFIELD, continued from page 1

against the increase.

Petraitis said there was also a request from the Water Department for funds to fix the water tank at the plant. He said the town has already given over \$400,000 in ARPA funds to the Water Department for infrastructure repairs.

“They had made increases to their rates years ago to do the repairs that we just gave them ARPA money for...as of June 30 they have \$281,000 in their retained earnings which is supposed to be used for infrastructure and it's probably going to go up in the fall when we close out the budget for the year,” Petraitis said.

Petraitis made a motion to deny the ARPA request, having the Water Department pay for the water tank repairs from the retained earnings, which was approved.

Drainage issues

Conroy Avenue resident Raymond Baillargeon continued discussion of an ongoing stormwater drainage issues he has on his property, as well as neighboring properties, caused by a broken pipe.

He said the Highway Department took out the broken pipe, and removed the tree that caused the damage to the pipe.

Baillargeon said he is still waiting to hear from the Highway Department and the last rain storm flooded his property and basement.

Petraitis said at some point, a pipe was added to a brook that goes behind Baillargeon's property, to a catch basin. He said it eventually ties into the main by the old fountain.

“What we're doing at this point, is we're looking into scoping out the line, and finding exactly where all the breaks are to try to get it fixed,” Petraitis said. He said the town will also need to look at easements for properties that the line runs through.

Petraitis said the previous owner of Baillargeon's property had received a tax abatement for the flooding, and recommended that Baillargeon request the same from the Assessors.

Baillargeon said he was unaware of the flooding issues when he purchased the property, until a neighbor pointed it out to him after he had moved in.

Financial items

The Board approved a request from the Parks and Recreation Committee to purchase crushed stone in the amount of \$509 for the Town Forest Park parking area.

Parks and Recreation Chair Brandon Avery said they received timbers to edge around the parking area and they hope to complete the project this season.

The Board also approved the Highway Department's request to purchase a muffler in the amount of \$400.

Donation

The Board accepted \$1,800 on behalf of the Fire Department to purchase Nomex hoods, in memory of David Richard Lutz, a firefighter on the training flight lines during the Korean War and a retired police officer.

“We believe that this donation will help protect our brave firefighters,” the Lutz family wrote in their letter.

Winter parking

The winter parking ban will go into effect Nov. 1 through April 1 from 9 p.m.-6 a.m. Anyone leaving a vehicle parked overnight on a street or in a town parking lot will be subject to a parking ticket and fine, and possible towing for repeat offenders.

The previous winter parking ban hours were from 1 a.m.-6 a.m. Questions about the winter parking ban can be directed to the Board of Selectmen or the Police Department.

Resignations

The Board accepted two resignations from NB Helps, one from Stephanie Lachambre and the other from Katie Byszek. Both said they enjoyed serving on the committee and decorating the town for holidays.

Tucker Road closure

The Board announced the closure of Tucker Road, between Tucker Cross Road and the Bates and Old West Brookfield roads intersection due to flooding. Concrete barriers will be in place to block the road.

Contract approval

The Board signed a contract from BSC Group for the Complete Streets project, after it was reviewed by town council.

One-day liquor licenses

The Board amended the date of a previously approved one-day liquor license for Still Hart's Café's playground fundraiser event. The event was rescheduled to Oct. 21 from noon-9 p.m. due to the weather.

The Board also approved a one-day liquor license to Still Hart's Café on Oct. 22 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. for a Police Department fundraiser.



The Pathfinder defensive line attacks.

PATHFINDER, continued from page 7

Burke also scored a touchdown in a varsity football game a year ago.

“I did catch a touchdown pass against Ware last year,” said Burke, who's going to be a member of the Pioneers wrestling team this winter. “Scoring a touchdown in tonight's game was a much better feeling because I just love being a running back.”

The home victory evened the Pioneers overall record at 3-3 and they have a 2-1 league record. They're also 2-0 at home and are in a four-way tie for first place in the league standings.

Drury (1-5, 1-2), who captured the Tri-County League title a year ago, tied the score at 18-18 with 7:44 remaining in the fourth quarter. The Pioneers defense made a stop on the two-point conversion play, which would've given the visitors from North Adams a two-point lead.

Following a 23-yard kickoff return by sophomore Dustyn Cook, the Pioneers offense, which is led by senior quarterback Hunter Griswold, set-up shop at their own 40-yard line.

After gaining just six yards on the first three plays of the series, Griswold kept the drive alive by completing a nine-yard pass to sophomore wide receiver Jarrett Skowrya on fourth down.

“Hunter is an outstanding athlete, and he's also a great kid,” Darling said. “We have a lot of confidence in him to complete that pass to Jarrett on fourth down. It was a pivotal play of that drive.”

Griswold also completed a 17-yard pass to senior wide receiver Ethan Nompleggi-Hawk and a four-yard pass to senior tight-end Jacob Longo, which moved the ball down to the Blue Devils 33.

Then Griswold called his own number and rushed for ten yards, which set the stage for Burke, who scored on a 19-yard power run up the middle with 3:23 left on the scoreboard clock.

Griswold completed a touchdown pass to Longo on the conversion play giving the home team an eight-point lead.

The Blue Devils offense did move the ball down to the Pioneers 20-yard line with the help of a 25-yard reception by junior Cole Wetherell, but fresh-

man Nicholas Pfister made the Pioneers fourth fumble recovery of the game on the next play.

The Pioneers picked up a first down on their final offensive series before Griswold took a knee on the last two plays of the game.

Things didn't start out very well for Pathfinder Tech, as the Drury offense marched down the field during the opening series. The Blue Devils took a 6-0 lead five minutes into the first quarter following a short TD run by senior Hunter Marceau.

Pathfinder Tech answered with an eight-play scoring drive, which was capped off with a four-yard dash into the endzone by Griswold. A pass attempt on the two-point conversion try was incomplete in the endzone.

On the ensuing kickoff, senior Orion Flowers recovered a fumble, which gave the Pioneers the ball back at the Blue Devils 18.

The home team took the lead for the first time two plays later when Griswold hooked up with Skowrya for a 13-yard TD reception. The extra point attempt was blocked.

The Pioneers defensive unit took



Jarrett Skowrya starts a return for the Pioneers.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

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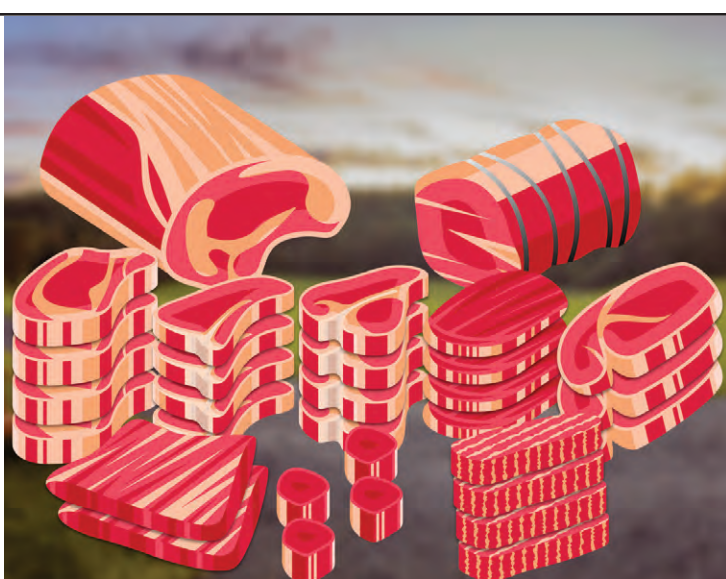
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