

BARRE GAZETTE

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Water Department repairs leak

By Ellenor Downer
Editor
edowner@turley.com

BARRE – During public comment, Sam Lipson said the Water Department and Department of Public Works repaired a long time water pipe leak.

He said it had been leaking for sometime and the town now was not using as much water. Select Board Chairman Maureen Marshall said the leak the departments found had been a long time leak and the town was losing about 100 gallons per minute. The town water department is pumping a lot less water.

Valley Road Bridge update

Select Board Chairman Marshall said the state deemed the Valley Road bridge unsafe and it has been closed. She said it will cost about \$350,000 to fix one lane so it can be used as a single lane bridge while traffic on one side of the widens stops while the other passes. The town will use Chapter 90 money for the bridge repairs. Most likely it will be mid-summer before it is open for one lane traffic only.

Town Administrator report

Town Administrator Melanie Jackson said she received another anonymous request for records. The request has an email attached, but it can't be traced to any individual. The town does have to respond to anonymous requests.

The Town Administrator said she has been working on procurement bid packages for the DPW. She also has been working on the department inventories. She will request the inventory along with the

See BARRE, page 7

14th annual trail and road race benefitted EQLT

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

NEW BRAINTREE – For the 14th year, the East Quabbin Land Trust held its annual trail and road race event, the Station Loop Ramble.

Over 70 runners and walkers gathered at the site of the former New Braintree Railroad Station, to compete in one of the event's many races to help raise money to support this section of the Mass Central Rail Trail.

The Mass Central Rail Trail follows 104 miles of railroad line that was shattered by a hurricane in 1938, spanning from Boston to Northampton.

In 2007, the East Quabbin Land Trust purchased 3.2 miles of the corridor in New Braintree and Hardwick. This section of trail contains three unique bridges, which have been restored and maintained by the land trust and volunteers.

The East Quabbin Land Trust continued its efforts to preserve the railroad corridor, and in 2018 it purchased Frohloff Farm in Ware and expanded another section of the trail. In 2022 another 2.3 miles was added, connecting the trail through Gilbertville.

Just last year, voters in the town of Ware approved



Turley Staff Photos

Runners and walkers from this year's Station Loop Ramble posed for a group photo after all of the events were completed.

the purchase of a plot of land that will connect the Mass Central Rail Trail from Frohloff Farm to Grenville Park.

The Station Loop Ramble showcases the New Braintree and Hardwick sections of the Mass Central Rail Trail and its bridges, with the 5K departing from the former station into the village of Wheelwright and then back again.

Runners and walkers pass over the Ware River, getting a breathtaking view of the area at the peak of foliage season.

See STATION LOOP RAMBLE, page 6

Nicole Keleher was the first female finisher at the East Quabbin Land Trust's Station Loop Ramble 5-Mile Classic with a time of 40:52. This year's Classic was on a new, slightly shorter, course due to bridge construction on Creamery Road.



Tim Hawley took first in the 70+ age category for the 5-Mile Classic, with a time of 42:03

Hardwick Select Board discusses open meeting law complaint

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

HARDWICK – The Select Board met on Oct. 14 and began with a discussion regarding an open meeting law complaint.

The complaint was from resident Jeff Smith, who had a chance to address some

concerns during the visitor comment portion of the Select Board meeting. Smith had some concerns on how the Town of Hardwick is being managed.

According to the resident there was supposed to be a personnel committee meeting earlier on Oct. 14 and it was canceled. Smith said he believes that committee

hasn't been running for a while considering a lot of important topics that have to be discussed.

Another concern addressed is the current status of the town accountant position and a possible contract signing without authorization. The complaint revolved around a contract being signed and the Town

Administrator not having the proper authorization to sign a contract on the Town's behalf.

Another concern was about a joint meeting between the Select Board and the Finance Committee. The purpose of this meeting is to go over discrepancies from the town budget that was brought up in the town

meeting.

Select Board Chair Eric Vollheim addressed some of these concerns. Vollheim said both meetings have been scheduled and should happen over the next couple of weeks.

See HARDWICK, page 8

Hospital Review Committee met to OK minutes

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
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WARE – Members of the Hospital Review Committee met for the last time last week to approve the minutes from past meetings.

At the Oct. 16 meeting, Chair Howard Trietsch thanked everyone for attending, and he spoke about the work the committee has done over the past several years.

"In 4 1/2 years I think we accomplished a lot," Trietsch said.

The committee members voted on five sets of meeting minutes, from Oct. 6, 2021; Feb. 1, 2023; March 6, 2023; Jan. 22 and March 25 of this year. All of the

committee's meeting minutes are posted on its page of the town website, www.townofware.com.

Trietsch thanked committee members Nancy Talbot and Elena Palladino as well as Town Manager Stuart Beckley for their efforts to draft the meeting minutes.

Committee member Cathy Cascio expressed her discomfort in approving the minutes from the 2021 and 2023 meetings, due to the length of time that had passed since the meetings were held. She said she would still approve the minutes even though she "feels uncomfortable."

At a previous meeting of the committee held on March 25, its members had voted in favor of dissolving the committee after all meeting minutes had been completed and approved.

See HOSPITAL, page 5



This Chevrolet Camaro had an impressive display of smoke. More photos page 7.

Burnout competition turned up the heat for 5th year

HARDWICK – The 5th annual 1st Alarm fundraising event put on by the Hardwick Fireman's Association was held this past Saturday at the Hardwick Vineyard & Winery.

Over 25 cars competed in the burnout competition, one of main draws for this all day event to raise money to

support the needs of the Fire Department. Rows of vintage and unique cars covered the lawn for the car show, which feature hot rods, classic muscle cars, and much more.

Food trucks and vendors had something for everyone, and live music was performed. Raffles were also offered by the Hardwick Fireman's Association.

DESE lists MCAS results for 2025

By Ellenor Downer
Editor
edowner@turley.com

BOSTON – The Department of Elementary and Secondary Schools listed the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System test results for 2025.

A chart listed on below showed local school districts scores. Of those, only Petersham and Wachusett scored above the state average in all three categories, which was 494 for English Language Arts, 494 math and 494 science. Schools scoring above the state average in ELA were Petersham 502 and Wachusett 501. Petersham scored the highest of the local schools.

In the math category, schools listed on the chart scoring above the state

average were Petersham 495 and Wachusett 503 with Wachusett scoring the highest. In science Petersham scored 512 and Wachusett 502 with Petersham scoring the highest.

DESE listed the number and percentage of local students meeting or exceeding expectations. North Brookfield had 43 students or 19% meeting or exceeding expectations in ELA, 48 or 22% in math and 16 or 21% in science. Petersham had 45 students or 57% meeting or exceeding expectations in ELA, 37 or 45% in math and 16 or 76% in science. Quabbin had 353 students or 36% meeting or exceeding expectations in ELA, 297 or 30% in math and 121 or

See MCAS, page 8



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BARRE GAZETTE

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News of the Towns



ROUND TOWN
by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

Quabbin present 'Shrek the Musical'
Quabbin High "Shrek the Musical" opens Friday, Nov. 7; Saturday, Nov. 8; Friday, Nov. 14 and Saturday, Nov. 15 from 7-10 a.m. each night at the Quabbin Regional High School, 800 South St.

No. 4 Schoolhouse party
The No. 4 Schoolhouse, 209 Farrington Road, will hold a Halloween Party on Sunday, Oct. 26 from 5-7 p.m. There will be old fashioned fun, games, snacks and maybe a craft. Children should wear their costumes. Snacks for sharing are always welcome. The No. 4 Schoolhouse are currently collecting items for the winter raffle fundraiser. Donations of raffle item, service, financial support or volunteer to help are appreciated. It's through fundraising efforts and the generosity of members, friends, volunteers and the community that they are able to sustain the No.4 Schoolhouse building and continue community events.

Barre Woman's Club
The public is invited to hear the heart-breaking story of the Naramore tragedy with a fresh interpretation of how the strange case of Lizzie Naramore was a struggle for equal rights of women in marriage. Lucy Allen, Historian of the Barre Historical Society, will present a PowerPoint program and talk sponsored by the Barre Woman's Club at the Barre Congregational Church on Thursday, Nov. 6 at 6 p.m. It is open to the public.

Medicare presentation
The Barre Hardwick Senior Center will be hosting an educational presentation on Tuesday, Nov. 4, at 11 a.m. at the senior center located at 557 South Barre Road for current beneficiaries and for those who will soon be eligible for Medicare. The information is specific to Massachusetts. The session will run from 1 to 1.5 hours, including time for questions. The presentation will be conducted by Ed Spater, a licensed Insurance agent, who will explain the basics of Medicare including: why it's important to evaluate your current Medicare coverage each year; the pros and cons of each of your Medicare coverage options; what to consider when deciding which Medicare coverage option is right for you; and ways to save money and get better Medicare coverage in 2024. For accommodations of persons with special needs at meetings call 774-271-5199 or 711 for TTY callers.

Central Mass Postcard show takes place Nov. 1

BARRE – The Central Mass. Postcard Club and St. Joseph's Catholic Church are co-sponsoring a postcard show at the church, located on 29 South St. on Saturday, Nov. 1 from 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
This is the 41st annual postcard show. Ten dealers from three states will offer old picture postcards for sale featuring local town views and numerous topics. Admission is \$3 and the church will sell lunch food from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. People may email show manager J.R. Greene at jrg01331@webtv.net for more information.

Rutland church holds turkey dinner Nov. 1

RUTLAND – The Rutland Congregational Church will be holding their annual turkey supper on Saturday Nov. 1 from 5:30-6:15 p.m.
Meals will be served from 5:30-6:15 PM and take outs will be available. Menu includes turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, squash, rolls and apple crisp. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$7 children age 5-12, children under 5 are free. Reservations for both dine in and take out meals can be made by calling the church office at 508-886-4453.

Halloween Trick or Treat events

<p>BARRE Sunday, Oct. 26 No. 4 Schoolhouse, Farrington Road, Halloween Party from 5-7 p.m. There will be old fashioned fun, games, snacks and maybe a craft. Children should wear their costumes. Snacks for sharing are always welcome.</p> <p>Friday, Oct. 31 Trunk or Treat, Common Street from 5:30-8 p.m. funded by Barre Savings Charitable Foundation Common Street closes at 4:30 p.m. Trick or Treating in town 5:30-8 p.m.</p> 	<p>HARDWICK Friday, Oct. 31 Trick or Treat from 5-8 p.m.</p> <p>HUBBARDSTON Saturday, Oct. 25 Halloween Parade line up at 12:30.. at Fire Station 1, Main Street. Parade starts at 1 p.m. and goes down Main Street to the Hubbardston Center School, Elm Street.</p> <p>Friday, Oct. 31 Party at Police Station starting at 4 p.m. Trick or Treating from 5-8 p.m.</p> <p>NEW BRAINTREE Friday, Oct. 31 Trunk or Treat from 5-8 p.m. at Town Hall</p>	<p>NORTH BROOKFIELD Friday, Oct. 31 Trunk or Treat from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on the Common, Grove Street Trick or Treating from 5:30-7:30 p.m. town wide and Senior Center will be open</p> <p>OAKHAM Friday, Oct. 31 Trick or Treating from 5-7 p.m.</p> <p>RUTLAND Friday, Oct. 31 Trunk or Treat on Town Common from 4-6 p.m.</p> 
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OAKHAM
by Ellenor Downer
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OHA holds open house Oct. 26
The Oakham Historical Association will hold the last open house of the season on Sunday, Oct. 26 from 1-4 p.m. at the Oakham Historical Museum, 1221 Old Turnpike Road, Oakham. There will be a special presentation, "Building the Windsor Dam" by Maria Beiter-Tucker, Interpretive services supervisor Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Division of Water Supply and Protection Quabbin/Ware River Region beginning at 1 p.m.

Veterans pancake breakfast
On Saturday, Nov. 8 a Veterans pancake breakfast sponsored by the Worcester Division of the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps will take place today 9-11:30 a.m. at the Oakham Fire Department, 178 Barre Road. The free breakfast is for Veterans and their family members.

Senior Thanksgiving dinners
Any seniors or Veterans interested in having a Thanksgiving meal delivered to their home should call the Senior Center, 508-882-4073 no later than Thursday, Oct. 30.

Senior Center
On Thursday, Oct 23 SHINE counselor will be at the Senior Center from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; reservations are required. On Tuesday, Oct 28 blood pressure/glucose testing takes place 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 is no age restrictions.

Ongoing activities are Monday through Thursday 9 a.m.-noon puzzling; Monday through Thursday at 9 a.m. Walking Group. They meet at Senior Center and Tuesday through Thursdays at 11a.m. walking group. For walking groups, leave a message with your cell phone number at the Senior Center to be added to text msg group

Also on Wednesdays at 9 a.m.: Zumba Gold in the Rutland Senior Center; \$3 donation/class;

Thursdays at noon weigh in at the Senior Center support weight loss group and Fridays at 10.30 a.m. functional fitness at the New Braintree Town Hall; \$3 donation/class.

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

Barre Dining Center

BARRE — Elder Services of Worcester Area Nutrition Program welcomes guests to dine at the Barre Senior Center, 557 South Barre Road. The following meals will be served for the week of Oct. 27. 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 – Lasagna and meatballs, green beans, fresh fruit, whole wheat bread

TUESDAY – Roast pork with gravy, cranberry stuffing, roasted California vegetables, Rice Krispie Treat, marble rye bread

WEDNESDAY – Chicken fajitas, Spanish rice, black beans and corn, sour cream, pita bread, pineapple

THURSDAY – Beef with onions and peppers, herbed potatoes, honey glazed carrots, pumpkin spice mousse, sandwich roll

FRIDAY – HALLOWEEN hot dog, baked beans, Coleslaw, cinnamon pears, hot dog bun, mustard

*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.

Moon Scamper needs new home

OAKHAM -Moon Scamper was adopted from Baystate Equine Rescue and went on to have a great life until her adopter could no longer keep her. She now needs a new home. Moon has had some time off and would need a light refresher and some reconditioning work before going back to full work load. She is definitely eager to get back to work. She likes to work and has a wonderful, friendly personality and would make a great partner for someone.

For more information, people may email or call Jordan desiletsjordan1997@gmail.com or 508-769-2753.



Submitted photo

Medicare 101 Educational Event at Senior Center

BARRE – The Barre Hardwick Senior Center will be hosting an educational presentation on Tuesday, Nov. 4, at 11 a.m. at the senior center located at 557 South Barre Road for current beneficiaries and for those who will soon be eligible for Medicare.
The information is specific to Massachusetts. The

session will run from 1 to 1.5 hours, including time for questions.

The presentation will be conducted by Ed Spater, a licensed Insurance agent, who will explain the basics of Medicare including: why it's important to evaluate your current Medicare coverage each year; the pros and cons of each of

your Medicare coverage options; what to consider when deciding which Medicare coverage option is right for you; and ways to save money and get better Medicare coverage in 2024.

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

Program teaches seniors about artificial intelligence

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The North Brookfield Senior Center will be hosting a program called "AI for Seniors" on Tuesday, Oct. 28 at 11 a.m. at the senior center, 29 Forest St.

The program will explain what Artificial Intelligence is, how it can be useful, and the dangers as well.

Paige Library has new email address

HARDWICK – The Paige Memorial Library, located at 87 Petersham Road, has changed their email. The new email address is paigelibrary.hardwick@gmail.com. This email is for library business and will be used by all staff members.

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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.

Correction

The date in the headline was incorrect for the Barre Woman's Club meeting. It is Thursday, Nov. 6 as listed in the press release not Oct. 19 as in the headline.

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News of the Towns

PUBLIC MEETINGS

BARRE

Barre Cultural Council – Oct. 27 at 3 p.m.
 Conservation Committee – Oct. 28 at 7 p.m.
 Felton Field Commission – Nov. 4 at 6:30 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Nov. 5 at 12:30 p.m.
 Board of Health – Nov. 10 at 5 p.m.
 Library Trustees – Nov. 12 at 6:30 p.m.
 Barre Housing Authority – Nov. 13 and Dec. 11 at 1 p.m.
 Barre Common Oversight Committee – Nov. 13 at 5 p.m.
 Master Plan Steering Committee – Nov. 13 at 7 p.m.
 Cable Advisory Committee – Dec. 9 at 7 p.m.

HARDWICK

Master Plan Steering Committee – Oct. 23 at 6:30 p.m.
 Wheelwright Water District – Oct. 29 at 7 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Nov. 5 at 12:30 p.m.
 Paige Library Trustees – Nov. 6 at 7 p.m.
 Board of Health – Nov. 10 at 6:45 p.m.
 Gilbertville Public Library – Nov. 12 at 3 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – Nov. 19 at 6:30 p.m.
 Planning Board – Nov. 25 at 6:30 p.m.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

Fire Highway Building Committee – Oct. 23 at 4 p.m.

PETERSHAM

Select Board – Oct. 23, Nov. 6, Nov. 13, Nov. 20 and Dec. 4 at 5:30 p.m. and Nov. 8 at 10 a.m.
 Board of Health – Oct. 28 at 6:30 p.m.
 Open Space and Recreation Committee – Nov. 4 at 6 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – Nov. 4 at 7 p.m.
 Board of Assessors – Nov. 7 at 9 a.m.
 Advisory Finance Committee – Nov. 8 at 10 a.m.
 Council on Aging – Nov. 10 at 10 a.m.
 Petersham Historic District – Nov. 20 at 6 p.m.
 Cemetery Commission – Dec. 9 at 10 a.m.

RUTLAND

Finance Committee and Select Board Joint – Oct. 23 at 6 p.m.
 Public Information Session Stormwater Bylaw – Oct. 23 at 7 p.m.
 Special Town Meeting – Nov. 20 at 6 p.m.

Senior Center lists events in October

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. 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.

Barre holds no kings rally



A group of protesters stood behind the sidewalk on Route 122 in Barre last Saturday.

BARRE – Last Saturday, Oct. 18, an estimated crowd of 300 area residents gathered on the Barre Common, in harmony with an estimated 7 million across the country, to proclaim, “No Kings.”

This rally is their perceived overreach of the Trump regime in numerous areas of governance, including ICE invasions into private residences without warrants, the virtually unprecedented use of the military in American cities and the President’s orders to the Department of Justice to indict government officials as a means of revenge.

Despite the seriousness of their purpose, the atmosphere was festive, light-hearted, a human-sized chicken and dinosaur made appearances and peaceful. Pro-democracy and anti-kings signs were prevalent, the sounds of whistles and drums and cars honking in gleeful support were in the air, reminding those with opposing positions that the First Amendment rights to free speech and peaceful assembly are still alive and well, at least for this day, but warning of the looming threat to their continued existence.

The rallies were supported by Indivisible, Mobilize, No Kings, and other national



This human sized chicken made an appearance at the rally on Saturday, Oct. 18 in Barre.

al pro-democracy organizations composed of everyday Americans concerned that the present executive branch of our government is eliminating the checks and balances so carefully established in the Constitution.

As we move closer to the 250th anniversary of

our democracy, millions of Americans want to remind everyone that we do not have kings yet, and that the founders of our nation created a nation ruled by laws, not people, and as Judy Collins sang, “You don’t know what you’ve lost till it’s gone.”

Death literacy specialist donates books to area libraries

BARRE – Local Death Literacy Specialist, Integrative Health and Wellness Coach, and End-of-Life Doula, Laura Dusha Nelson, has donated copies of The Death Doula’s Guide to Living Fully and Dying Prepared: An Essential Workbook to Help You Reflect Back, Plan Ahead, and Find Peace on Your Journey by Francesca Lynn Arnoldy to several public libraries across Central Massachusetts.

To date this includes Paige Memorial Library in Hardwick, Gilbertville Public Library in Gilbertville and Woods Memorial Library in Barre.

These donations provide community members with compassionate, practical resources for exploring end-of-life planning, legacy work, grief, and the importance of

living with intention.

“Libraries are such vital spaces for discovery and conversation,” Nelson said. “Talking about death opens the way for meaningful conversations that help us prepare, reflect, and embrace life with greater purpose—an invitation to live more fully.”

Nelson believes that everyone should have a copy of this workbook to use as their own personal guide, journal, and companion. But by placing copies in local libraries, she hopes people will feel comfortable exploring the resource, sparking curiosity and easing the way into meaningful exploration and future conversations.

The six-week Living Fully and Dying Prepared workshop, created by Francesca Lynn Arnoldy, is designed to gently guide people into these

conversations, step by step. Nelson expressed gratitude for Arnoldy’s thoughtful program, noting: “It has become one of the many things I am passionate about sharing with folks, and a favorite part of my work.”

This fall, Nelson will offer the Living Fully and Dying Prepared community workshop locally as part of the Community Death Literacy Project, a national initiative supported by Francesca Lynn Arnoldy “The Contemplative Doula and Compassion & Choices.” Thanks to grant funding, the workshop (including the workbook) will be available at a reduced cost. For information about Upcoming Information Sessions and Upcoming Workshops, please visit www.thejourneybeforeus.com/events

The Community Death Literacy Project provides resources and grant support to trained educators across the country, helping to normalize conversations about end-of-life, grief, and legacy. The project is a partnership of Francesca Lynn Arnoldy (The Contemplative Doula) and Compassion & Choices.

Laura Dusha Nelson is the founder of The Journey Before Us, LLC. She serves the community as a Death Literacy Specialist, Integrative Health and Wellness Coach, and End-of-Life Doula. She helps individuals embrace whole-person wellness, navigate transitions and create meaningful legacies.

People may email Laura Dusha Nelson at thejourneybeforeus@gmail.com, call 802-734-0879 or visit www.thejourneybeforeus.com.

HUBBARDSTON

by Ellenor Downer
 edowner@turley.com

Halloween parade takes place Oct. 25

The Annual Halloween parade will take place on Saturday, Oct. 25 with line up at 12:30 p.m. at Fire Station 1, Main Street, in the center of Hubbardston. The parade starts at 1 p.m. and follows Main Street to the Hubbardston Center School. There will be a party and entertainment at the school.

Trick or Treat takes place Friday, Oct. 31 from 5-8 p.m. with a party at the Hubbardston Police Station starting 4 p.m.

Friends group dance

Groovin’ for a good cause to support the senior center renovation programs will be held Saturday, Oct. 25 from 7-10 p.m. at the Hubbardston Rod and Gun Club, 35 Williamsville Road. Tickets are \$10 per person. D.J. Vibe Wise will perform songs of the 1960s and 1970s. There will be a cash bar, photo booth and raffle booth. This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Hubbardston Senior Center, a 501(c)3 non-profit.

House numbering program

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.

St. Carolo Acutis Parish holds Christmas fair

NORTH BROOKFIELD – ON Saturday, Nov. 1 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., St. Carolo Acutis Parish will hold their Christmas Fair in St. Joseph’s Church Hall, 296 North Main St. There will be a bake sale, handmade crafts, jewelry, raffles and more. Lunch will be served from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. featuring homemade soups, sandwiches and homemade apple pie.

Editorial deadline reminder

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

Highway Department – Operator II

The Town of Brookfield is hiring an Operator II for the Highway Department. This full-time position involves semi-skilled labor and equipment operation, including road and sidewalk maintenance, snow and ice removal, landscaping, and tree work. Must be available for emergency response during off-hours.

Requirements:

- Valid MA Class B CDL with air brakes & standard transmission endorsements
- MA Driver’s License
- Ability to perform physical labor in varying weather
- Mechanic/welding skills a plus
- Ability to work in high pressure situations, as necessary

Drug & alcohol screening required.

Apply at Brookfield Town Hall Website or send resume to Highway@brookfield.us.

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

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

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

Please contact Pat James 413-726-8661.



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Opinion

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor

How do I navigate the Social Security maze?

Dear Rusty: I am a woman, turning 65 this October (2025). It seems that deciding when to claim Social Security is complicated. I would like more information to navigate through this maze. Thank you. Signed: Ready to Claim

Dear Ready: Deciding when to claim Social Security can be challenging, but we hope to make it a bit easier for you. You can, of course, call us at any time to speak to one of our certified Social Security Advisors, but I'll share some pertinent information here as well.

Be aware that at age 65, you have not yet reached your Social Security Full Retirement Age. Born in 1960, your FRA is age 67 and that is when you can get 100% of the SS benefit you've earned from a lifetime of working.

If you claim SS at age 65, your monthly amount will be reduced by about 13.3% from your age 67 entitlement, a permanent reduction. If you wait a bit more and claim at age 66 the reduction would be about 6.7%. To get 100% of your "primary insurance amount" you should wait until age 67 to claim. Note you can also wait longer than your FRA and earn Delayed Retirement Credits up to age 70, when your monthly amount would be about 24% more than your FRA entitlement.

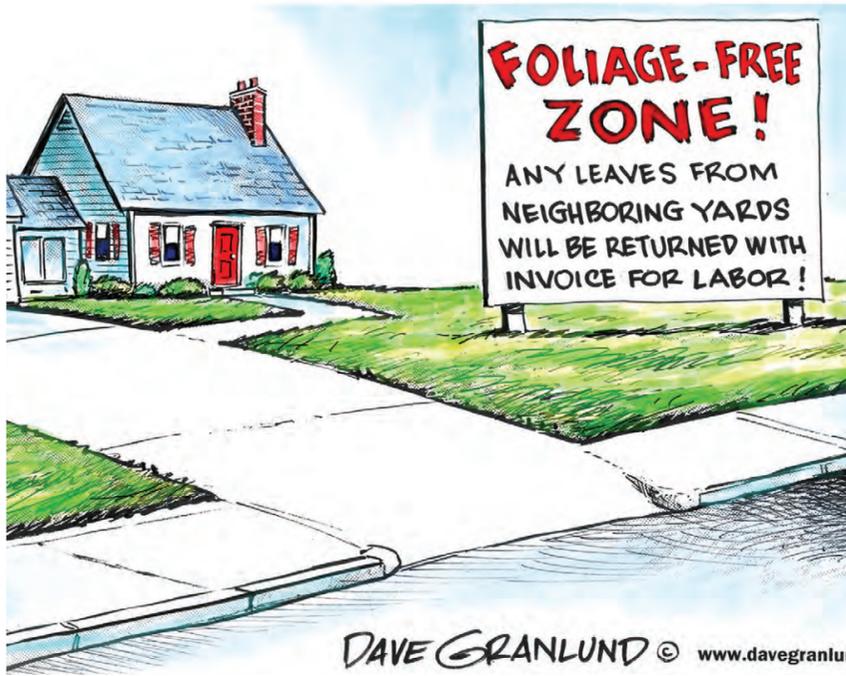
If you are still working, at age 65 you will also be subject to Social Security's Annual Earnings Test, which limits how much you can earn when collecting SS benefits before your full retirement age. The earnings limit for 2025 is \$23,400 (changes annually) and if you earn more than that, SS will take away \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit.

There is also a special rule for the first calendar year you are collecting early benefits, which will result in you not getting

benefits for any month your work earnings are more than \$1,950 after your early benefits start. So, if you claim SS at age 65 and continue to work, you won't get any SS benefits in any 2025 month thereafter that you earn more than the monthly limit unless your total annual; 2025 earnings are less than the annual limit. FYI, the earnings limit no longer applies once you attain your full retirement age.

In the end, deciding when you should claim Social Security should consider your need for Social Security money, your life expectancy, your plans for working and your marital status. If you are or were married, you might be eligible for a spousal or ex-spouse benefit. You may also want to peruse the Social Security Question and Answer section at our website www.SocialSecurityReport.org. So, as you have already discerned, deciding when to claim Social Security can be confusing, but we are always here to assist you as needed. You can either call us directly at 1-888-750-2622 or email your specific Social Security questions to us at SSAdvisor@amacfoundation.org. In either case, we will be most happy to help you decide when to claim, based on your unique personal circumstances.

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



DAVE GRANLUND © www.davegranlund.com

In Past Pages

Captain Raymond Howard, left, received a proclamation declaring Nov. 14 through 20 as "Emergency Medical Services Week" from Selectman Earl N. Sample, Chairman J. Howard Thompson and Stephen M. Brewer.

5 years (Oct. 29, 2020)

The Barre Board of Selectmen set the date for a Special Town Meeting for Saturday, Nov. 21 at 10 a.m.

At the Oct. 19 meeting, selectman chair Gregory O'Sullivan said the STM needed to be held before the tax rate was set. In order to have tax bills out by Dec. 31, the tax rate must be set by Dec. 1. He said if the deadline was not met, estimated tax bills would be sent out.

O'Sullivan said the board would seek input from the tax collector on how collections were going. He said if revenue was short, the town might want to access funds before setting the tax rate.

Town accountant, Jean Joel, heard from the Department of Revenue the town needed to revoke free cash expenditures voted at the annual town meeting because the town held its ATM after June 30. O'Sullivan said he thought towns had an extension from the Governor. The board asked Town administrator Jessica Sizer to check into this.

The Barre Congregational Church Women's Fellowship decided to not hold its fair this year due to the pandemic. They will hold the annual wreath sale. The wreaths will be available the first week of December. The wreaths will be \$28 this year and are

Look Back Emergency Medical Services Week – 1982



File photo

Captain Raymond Howard, left, received a proclamation declaring Nov. 14 through 20 as "Emergency Medical Services Week" from Selectman Earl N. Sample, Chairman J. Howard Thompson and Stephen M. Brewer.

10 years (Oct. 29, 2015)

14 inches in diameter. The Harvest and Holly Fair will not be held this year at the Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road, Oakham. However, the church will still raffle a quilt this year. Next year the fair will take place Saturday, Nov. 20, 2021. Due to the social distancing requirements with the COVID-19 pandemic, the annual Christmas in New Braintree Craft Fair will not be held in December 2020. Next year's fair will take place Saturday, Dec. 11, 2021.

Barre Post 2, American Legion, will be commemorating Veterans Day Wednesday, Nov. 11 at Veterans Park (North Common), promptly at 11 a.m. for a brief ceremony. Participants will muster at 10:45 a.m. on site, all veterans are invited and encouraged to join the ranks. All townspeople are cordially invited to attend.

Oakham Board of Selectmen Chairman Matt Broderick reported to the other Board members about his meeting with the Fobes Memorial Library Trustees regarding a salary increase. He said the Library Trustees felt they had some autonomy, as they were an elected board. They explained the library had other revenue sources besides town funds that were used to fund some library expenses. The trustees provided comparative salary information that they used in determining the raise for the library director. The raise was at the low end of comparative salaries from other towns. The trustees told him that they had the money in the library budget.

The Petersham Select Board Vice Chairman Henry Woolsey presented copies

See PAST PAGES, page 5

THANKS

Thanks for more laughter than I've ever known. Thanks for the calls, yes, "I'm safely home."

Thanks for supporting my every whim, gifting, where do I begin.....

Thanks for the knowledge you so willingly shared. Thanks for the comfort when I was so scared....

Thanks for the pain in our being apart, and loving this family right from the start.

- Patricia Masten

More review; what worked what didn't

Last week I wrote about two new winter squash varieties I grew in this past summer's garden, as well as a Barbie doll sized melon.

According to Mom, it made for a good read. Let's keep the momentum going with more "new to me" varieties in this column.

As dedicated readers may remember, this past summer's garden was to accomplish the goal of growing more food, food that would cut down on the grocery bill and feed the family through the winter. I took my chances growing a hybrid paste tomato by the name of Plum Regal. Its accolades were many: late blight resistance, moderate resistance to early blight, a the promise of a good yield and a tasty outcome.

I typically only grow heirlooms, so this tomato really had to prove itself. My only

dilemma was that

of those adventures. I was intrigued by the description in the Fedco catalog, "firm orange flesh is tart, punchy and refreshing," and had hoped it would keep our family in melons for a month or so. Not exactly.

I couldn't get over the fact that what looked like a cantaloupe tasted like a lemon! No one in the house liked it. I'm not going to call it a failure, because if anything, I learned that I could grow a muskmelon successfully.

I worried I would harvest them too early, or too late, but I harvested them just right, and they grew exceeding well on black plastic down the middle of my heat retaining rock wall raised beds. Next year I will search for a variety with a more typical flavor and it could just be a win-win.

I have always wanted to

See GARDEN, page 5



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NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for the Barre Gazette, please email edowner@turley.com.

Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

We got two days of rain which helped the foliage brighten somewhat.

We have very few maple trees at Serenity Hill as most of the trees are oak.

I heard the Historical Society had a delicious pot luck supper and interesting meeting. They are looking for ideas for new programs for the new year. Anyone having suggestions may contact Joyce Green.

I have been using my new string wacker and it helps with the perennial gardens. I found out that you wait until the peonies turn yellow and then cut them to the ground. I have also been blowing pine needles and leaves with the leaf blower, I have to do it twice a day on the decks because of the dryness acorns and leaves are falling early.

My handyman gave me some nice homegrown pears so I decided to make a pear pie. All the recipes called for apples also so I combined that and used the recipe for apple

pie and it was delicious served with ice cream.

This is another old time recipe that I used to get served at a friend's house many years ago. I had not made it for a while but is such a good snack.

PIZZA ON BREAD OR ENGLISH MUFFINS

Take some white bread and toast it in the oven until light brown. Remove from oven and spread some mayonnaise on one side. Cut up tomatoes, cheese, bacon or ham and layer it with the cheese on top. Sprinkle with Italian Seasoning and bake it in 350 degree oven until cheese melts. Note: Tomato sauce may be used if you don't have fresh tomatoes.

This and That

I have been working on another Granny Square afghan when I need to sit and rest. I really don't need another afghan, but I do need the rest.

I try to work outside for a little while each day. It is pleasant trying to keep up

with the pine needles and leaves. They had a good attendance at the Senior Center for the flu and covid shots. It is important to stay healthy.

I am still getting some green tomatoes and greens off the planter boxes. I did cover them with a sheet one night that got close to freezing, but imagine the next day we had 60 degrees. Weather has been so changeable lately.

We should check for ticks on our body as they are out again.

I wonder if we will get any Trick or Treaters? We always have to have a supply of candy just in case.

Today I plan to make three batches of muffins. I buy the packages and add other ingredients, like nuts, blueberries, cranberries and bananas. I made a banana cream pie with a purchased graham cracker crust and banana creme pudding.

Have a good week and enjoy a nice walk.

PAST PAGES from page 4

of the second draft for the Request for Proposal scope of services regarding a consultant for the Nichewaug Inn and Academy property. Select Board Chairman Nancy Allen reclused herself as she has in the past on all matters regarding the Nicewaug Inn. Woolsey said he incorporated many of the resident comments from a previous meeting in the second draft. Select Board Member Rick Marsh stated the need to keep the scope simple.

Voters in Oakham will act on 11 articles at a Special Town Meeting Wednesday, Nov. 4 at 7 p.m. at the Oakham Center School. Selectmen and the Finance Committee opted to address several money articles at a Special Town Meeting in the fall rather than the Annual Town Meeting since revenue income figures were not available for the Annual Town Meeting. The first article asks voters to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$8,250 for the purchase of 22 pagers for the fire and ambulance departments. The next article is \$5,290 for Fiscal 2016 wage increases for town employees effective Jan. 1, 2016. Article 3 seeks \$7,500 for the Assessor's Triennial Revaluation Stabilization Fund. The next is \$1,810 for the purchase of two computers and software in the assessor's office

25 years (Oct. 26, 2000)

A controversial proposal to ban smoking in public places in Barre has been put on hold until the next scheduled meeting of the Board of Health in November. The Board postponed taking action on the draft bylaw at a meeting on Oct. 23 in response to smoking rights advocates, who claimed the bylaw was unfair because it excluded bars. At present, there are no bars doing busi-

ness in Barre. Board members decided to revise the draft bylaw to include businesses that exclusively sell alcohol before casting votes on a final version on Nov 13. The Oct. 23 meeting drew eight smoking rights advocates, who said that prohibiting smoking in public places would harm businesses such as restaurants by driving away customers who smoke.

Fire Chief Richard Howe informed the Oakham Board of Selectmen that the new fire truck should be ready in December. He also told the Board that he would attend the next regional meeting about a regional dispatch system with Hubbardston, Paxton, Princeton, Oakham and Rutland.

Knowing what the Quabbin Regional School District has and needs in computer technology is the task ahead for school officials working to assemble a technology plan for unveiling in 2023. Bernard Audette, executive director of administration services for the Quabbin Regional School District said the 14 member planning committee is currently involved in an initial assessment of the school district's technology base. Also heading the effort is Deborah Pelley, educational program analyst for the school district. The committee will be looking at existing computer training and what improvements can be made to keep pace with state requirements, Audette said.

38 years (Oct. 29, 1987)

A single engine, four passenger plane, crashed on its approach to the Tanner Hiller Airport in New Braintree last Saturday, Oct. 24. Its four passengers escaped with only minor cuts and bruises. The plane was rented in Long Island, N.Y. and were flying to the airport where its occupants were to have dinner. The pilot of the plane,

Frederick V. Weir, 32, of Centereach, N.Y.; its passengers, Kenneth Weaver, 28, of Tuscon, Arizona; Charlie Carrature, 30, of New York City and Roandl Godscack, 32 of Jamica, N.Y. crashed in a small swampy area of the Weir River in Barre.

The Barre Board of Selectmen received a copy of a letter requesting a cease and desist order on land owned by R.T. Curtis, Inc. of South Barre at their meeting last Monday, Oct. 26. Ralph Salvador of Trafalgar Square in South Barre, complained to the Zoning Enforcement Officer Harold S. Nichols about a newly created dump site in the South Barre upstream of the town well. Salvatore maintained in his letter that the brook flowing toward the town well has been blocked by recent construction of a road. He says the dump has been created by R.T. Curtis, Inc. and contains materials such as asphalt, plastic wraps and stumps.

The School Building Committee of Hardwick will sponsor informational meetings in regard to the proposed elementary school. The vote on the proposed school will take place at the upcoming Nov. 9 Special Town Meeting. At the meetings to be held Nov. 3, 4 and 5, committee members will be present to field questions from the community. Building Committee Chairman Donald Hager fees strongly that all residents should get the facts in order to vote accordingly. Hager said the question most often asked is how the tax rate will be affected by the cost of the proposed school. The projected cost to the town in funding a bond for 20 years will be a maximum of \$2.77 per thousand. Resident should remember that 75% of the \$5.1 million price tag for the school will be funded by the state. Hardwick's 25% share would be \$1,283,000.

GARDEN from page 4

grow Indian corn as a fall decoration, but was leery of the space needed for such an endeavor. The experts talk about growing corn four rows deep for proper pollination and kernel formation.

I threw caution to the wind and decided I'd grow a popcorn. I enjoyed the commentary in the Fedco catalog in the description of a variety named "Calico:" "you can hang it on your door in fall and pop the very same batch come Thanksgiving." Sold.

I grew only eight plants, set out in a four by two pattern. Shucking the corn felt a lot like Christmas morning with the surprise factor involved. Will the kernels be gold, blue, mottled or bronze?

I ended up with enough to decorate with and come Thanksgiving I will indeed try and pop some. I've had some experience popping eared corn before.

At our family vacation my sister in law tried it out. She put the dried ear she had purchased in a paper bag and folded it shut, placed it in a microwave on high for about 3-4 minutes and yum!

What else worked out well in my garden this year? The succession planting of green beans seeded immediately after my garlic was harvested worked out superbly. No additional fertilizer required.

I was able to freeze a lot of beans from that second sowing. I guess I always wish there are more to freeze, so maybe next year the row will

be longer.

I didn't utilize the wide row method this year. Two parallel rows with a walking row down the middle made the harvest easy.

I hope you had your share of successes this past summer, and if you are anything like me, you are already scheming next year's veggie garden.

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.

Belonging to a place

By David St.Germain



We all want to belong to feel welcome and accepted by a group, however small or large.

If you grew up in a small town, surrounded by peers and family, it may be easier to feel a sense of togetherness with those people. But whether we've always lived in the same town or recently arrived, we all face the question of how to belong to the place where we live, the land beneath our feet.

Many of us didn't grow up in a culture that taught us how to pay attention to the natural world around us. Although it's never too late to start, it does take time to begin seeing the patterns in creation. Children who are allowed to direct their natural curiosity to the landscape and our non-human kin will have a huge headstart appreciating their home, compared with those of us who were bereft of connection – living in dense cities and virtual worlds.

As an antidote to time served in the concrete and steel jungle, visit the places in the landscape that are mostly free from the agendas of people. The land and creatures who live there have their own agency and way of being. When we give our undivided attention in those locations, in a small way, we start to participate in processes much larger than our individual whims.

Animal tracking, especially in the snowy winter, entunes us to those rhythms of survival in this particular place. Witness the crisscrossing "desire paths" of deer, or the well-trod highways emitting from porcupine dens, or the first bear footprints

after a long winter's nap. Silently tracking, by yourself, allows you to inhabit the minds of these animals who already keenly know how to live here. They can be our teachers.

Our miraculous senses are survival tools, as well as portals that reward an intimacy with those around us: smell every variety of fern; feel the texture of the abundant granite of our home; become fluent in the songs of phoebes; taste the wild blueberries; appreciate the quality of moonlight reflecting on a pond; get yourself bitten by deer flies. Consider your experiences as rites of passage into a world that wants to welcome you.

You will probably find certain places feel more special than others. Where do you feel free to wander aimlessly? Where do you go to find peace? Draw a map of your surroundings — the stately oak tree down the road; the confluence of Ware and Burnshirt Rivers; the lookout from Hawes Hill — and consider the twisting footpaths connecting them. Respect those locations like you would a cherished friend. We often think only about what we can get from places — whether a photo or a brief feeling — but if that's how we treated other people, we'd have shallow friendships.

The truth is that the land doesn't belong to us; the

land longs for us to connect as mutual partners, not domineering managers. It may not ask for grand gestures, but like any relationship full of longing, it craves our presence and participation. Perhaps just listening to Galloway Brook babble is enough to be invited in to further intimacy. Sing a song to Rum Rock, and see what happens. Just as with ordinary friendships, when we share gifts with the land freely, with no ulterior, extractive motives, our relationship shifts toward deeper connection.

When a friend is in pain, you naturally want to help. With a very close friendship, you might know there's a problem before they even tell you. Can't it be the same with our friends, Hemlock, Beech, Deer, Turkey, Salamander? We share each other's challenges, as well as our joys. When life bursts forth every spring, we celebrate along with our more-than-human friends.

We, a people who often don't know where we came from or why we persist, have to start somewhere. Whether we're putting down deep roots or intentionally drifting like tumbleweeds across the landscape, wherever we arrive has a presence mysteriously drawing us in, inviting us to uphold our end of the connection.

HOSPITAL from page 1

The committee's charge was to "plan and recommend best uses for the site and buildings" at Mary Lane Hospital. Demolition

has of the hospital buildings took place over the summer, and only the Wetherby and Storrs buildings remain.

Representatives from Baystate Health have com-

mitted to preserving the Wetherby Building "to the greatest extent possible, recognizing its significance to both the organization and the Town of Ware."

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56						57			58					
59						60				61				
62						63					64			

- CLUES ACROSS**
- Remark
 - Upper body part
 - Expression of dismissiveness
 - Alternate name
 - Popular beverage
 - Swiss river
 - Step-shaped recess
 - Rocker Stewart
 - Bright shade of color
 - Popular "street"
 - Wrath
 - Heat units
 - Nocturnal omnivorous mammals
 - Fall back into
 - Remove from the record
 - Sound a splash made
 - Popular Dodge pickup model
 - Jamaican river
 - Notable event in Texas history
 - Cool!
 - Subset of Judaism
 - Newly entered cadet
 - Duct in urinary system
 - Exterminator
 - Snatch quickly
 - Have already done
 - Less healthy
 - Therefore
 - What couples say on the altar
 - Mysteriously
 - Look angry or sullen
 - Bird's beak
 - Taco ingredient
 - Square measures
 - Google certification (abbr.)
 - Singer Hansard
- CLUES DOWN**
- Pubs
 - Wings
 - Popular BBQ dish
 - Small sponge cake
 - Open-roofed entrance halls
 - Organize anew
 - Type of wine
 - Forums
 - North Atlantic islands (alt. sp.)
 - Pond dwellers
 - Large integers
 - Signaled
 - Brief
 - Type of student
 - Tibetan monasteries
 - Revolutions per minute
 - NY Giants great Manning
 - Local area network
 - Residue from burning
 - Illuminated
 - Vasopressin
 - Notable space station
 - Wood sorrel
 - Adhering to laws or cliff
 - Chose
 - Hovel
 - Stood up
 - European city
 - Works ceaselessly
 - Mistake
 - Sun-dried brick
 - Sicilian city
 - A steep rugged rock or cliff
 - Murder
 - Other
 - "Deadpool" actor Reynolds

ANSWERS ON PAGE 10

STATION LOOP RAMBLE from page 1

The 5-Mile Classic normally includes the challenging hills of New Braintree's farmland, in addition to the fast and flat Mass Central Rail Trail, but due to bridge construction on Creamery Road, the route was changed (and slightly shortened) this year.

Runners instead took to Hardwick Road and passed by the Winnimuset Wildlife Management Area, before making their way down scenic

back roads and up the daunting hill on Wine Road, then finishing past the familiar farms of West Road.

Young runners had two options for races, both of which were entirely on the Mass Central Rail Trail. Children 5 and under could participate in the 200-foot race and children ages 6-12 could race for a quarter mile.

As always, the Station Loop Ramble provided an experience for the whole family, made possible by a number of dedicated volunteers who handed out freshly

baked cookies, painted faces, and more.

"It's a wonderful day to be out," Cynthia Henshaw, East Quabbin Land Trust's Executive Director, said. "Thank you to all the volunteers who helped to make this a wonderful event."

This year's 5K Run/Walk results are as follows: Walker Larson, 23:10; Sean Nagle, 24:08; Josie Andrade, 24:38; Hazel Larson, 27:03; Tim Rodier, 27:53; Carolyn Bressette, 28:17; George Campbell, 28:34; Carlee Rich, 28:50;

Gene Rich, 29:36; Jackie Magerowski, 30:39; Clara Campbell, 30:50; Brian Savilonis, 32:02; Lynne Feldman, 33:43; Calia Rich, 34:18; Jenny Guercio, 34:27; Claire Norberg, 37:21; Clayton Larson, 38:14; David Larson, 38:52; Katie Benedetti, 42:33; Ann Neuburg, 43:04; Joseph Siok, 55:43; Rick Dorsch, 56:34; Donna Dorsch, 56:35; Quinn Edwards, 56:35; Lindsay Rowe, 56:35; Gery Benedetti, 59:03; Michael Abramson, 59:03; Maureen

Hanson, 59:03; Pat Fuldecky, 59:09; Linda Maznick, 59:09; Sarah Campbell, 59:09; Jane Campbell, 59:09; Leslie Homzie, 59:09; and Catriona Standfield, 59:09.

The results for the 5-Mile Classic are as follows: Nathaniel Henshaw, 28:19; Matt Twarog, 29:37; Brian Keleher, 30:37; Robbie Rostami, 32:07; Simon White, 32:36; Andrew Wiewel, 32:45; Logan Holloway, 33:01; Michael Siok, 34:48; Brian Farmer, 36:30; David Latino, 37:37; Mike Berrin, 39:40; Patrick

Bressette, 39:41; Evan White, 39:49; Rick Wood, 40:33; Nicole Keleher, 40:52; David Maher, 40:56; Audrey Snay, 41:39; Tim Hawley, 42:03; Toni Brown, 43:42; Michael Groner, 47:33; Mike Cavanaugh, 49:15; Michelle Sheperd, 50:43; Jennie Dimauro, 57:39; Kevin Loggie, 53:14; Paula Quimette, 57:04; Rebecca Edwards, 57:33; and Stuart Beckley, 1:03:09.

For more information about the East Quabbin Land Trust, visit www.eqlt.com or follow on social media.



Sean Nagle and Carlee Rich were the top finishers in the 19-29 age category of the 5K Run/Walk.



Nicole Keleher and Nathaniel Henshaw were the top female and male finishers of the 5-Mile Classic. Henshaw was the overall top finisher with a time of 28:19.



Hazel Larson and Walker Larson were the top two youth finishers for the 5K Run/Walk. Hazel earned fourth place overall with a time of 27:03 and Walker was first overall with a time of 23:10.



Calia Rich celebrated after finishing the 5K Run/Walk with a time of 34:18.



Clara Campbell finished the 5K Run/Walk with a time of 30:50. Campbell was the top female finisher in the 13-18 age category.



Leslie Homzie and George Campbell were the top finishers in the 50-59 age category of the 5K Run/Walk.



Emilia ran alongside her mother during the 200-foot Kid's Run.



This young participant proudly wore his East Quabbin Land Trust shirt during the 200-foot Kid's Run for children aged 5 and under.



Eileen, age 4, checked out her ghostly facepainting design.



Tim Rodier was the top male finisher in the 13-18 age category for the 5K Run/Walk. His time was 27:53.



Runners who participated in the quarter mile Kid's Run for children aged 6-12 got ready to race.

Turley Staff Photos



Logan Holloway was the top finisher in the 13-18 age category for the 5-Mile Classic with a time of 33:01.



This runner was aided by her stuffed animal and her parents for the 200-foot Kid's Run.



Thaddeus, age 5, and Emilia, who is almost 2 years old, blew bubbles after participating in the Kid's Run.



Brian Farmer finished the 5-Mile Classic in 9th place overall, with a time of 36:30.



Jackie Magerowski and Josie Andrade were the top female and male finishers in the 30-39 age category of the 5K Run/Walk.



Katie Benedetti and Brian Savilonis were the top finishers in the 70+ age category of the 5K Run/Walk.



Carolyn Bressette and Rick Dorsch were the top finishers in the 60-69 age category of the 5K Run/Walk.



The passenger of this Chevrolet S10 pickup truck driven by Derek Armillotto watched the flames that engulfed the back tires during Hardwick Fireman's Association's 5th annual 1st Alarm fundraiser event held October 18 at the Hardwick Vineyard & Winery. Armillotto won first place in the burnout competition.



This Chevrolet Camaro had an impressive display of smoke.

Burnout competition turned up the heat for 5th year



The crew made sure flames were extinguished after the burnouts.



Rubber flew through the air when a tire blew on this car during the competition.



Michael Gifford competed with his Chevrolet truck

BARRE from page 1

town report.

School Resource officer
Select Board Chairman Marshall said Police Chief James Sabourin and Quabbin Regional School District Superintendent Colleen Mucha are working on a grant to help fund the Resource Officer. She said the town of Barre footed the entire bill for the Resource Officer at the high school. She said there should be an

effort by the other school district member towns to help cover the cost.

Chamberlain Hill Road grant

The town will not have access to a grant for road repair to Chamberlain Hill Road. Hopefully, it will be available next year.

Resignations and appointment

The Select Board received the resignation of Susan Milkman and Barry Alman to the Council on Aging. The

Board also appointed David Raymond to the COA.

Henry Woods roof

Select Board Vice Chairman Mark Regienus said the Police Department used their drone to inspect the roof at the Henry Woods Building. Some of the shingles are missing in the middle section of the roof. The Board will get that fixed before snow flies. When the Woods Memorial Library roof was fixed, the roofers used the Fire Department

ladder truck.

Community Preservation Act

The Select Board will be studying the Community Preservation Act. Years ago the town did not approve a CPA, but the Board will revisit it now.

Purchase of 1000 West Street

The Select Board unanimously accepted a contract presented for the purchase of town owned 1000 West Street. The first thing

the new owners will do is clean up the site as their still are burned out campers on the property. The property is zoned commercial as is White Turf which abuts it and the new owner plans to operate a tree company. Select Board Chairman Marshall said the "neighbors will be happy."

Holiday hours

On the recommendation of the Town Administrator, the Select Board approved a half day on the days before

Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years Day. The dates are Nov. 26, Dec. 24 and Dec. 31.

Other business

The Select Board approved a wage authorization of up to 10 hours per week at \$20.50 per hour for Amy Casavant, cemetery clerk. They also approved the minutes of Sept. 24 and Oct. 6. They approved Executive Session for Sept. 18 and Sept. 24, but they are not for release.

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Calendar of Events

THURSDAY, OCT. 23

LIBRARY PASSES are available at the Rutland Public Library, 280 Main St., Rutland according to the Friends of the Rutland Library. Library passes are available for free or substantially discounted admission to local museums, including Old Sturbridge Village. This program is funded in part by a grant from the Rutland Cultural Council, a local agency, which is supported by Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

HOLISTIC SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT will be held today from 8 a.m.-noon at Veterans Inc. 59 South St., Shrewsbury. This event, presented by the Prevention and Support Network, will feature keynote speaker Linda Geraghty, family recovery specialist. To register, people may visit <http://forms.office.com/g/sUPEVKYdBx>.

SATURDAY, OCT. 25

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.

CRAFT AND VENDOR FAIR sponsored by the Rutland Historical Society, Central Tree Middle School PTO and Wachu Makin' will be held today from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Central Tree Middle School, 99 Rutland Heights Way, Rutland. Admission is free. To reserve a table or for more information, people may email rutlandmahistoricalsociety.org

DANCE PARTY sponsored by the Friends of the Hubbardston Senior Center will take place today from 7-10 p.m. at the Hubbardston Rod and Gun Club, 35 Williamsville Road, Hubbardston. Tickets are \$10 per person and are available at the Hubbardston Senior Center and at the door. People should get tickets in advance 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.

SUNDAY, OCT. 26

OAKHAM HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION OPEN HOUSE, the last one for the season, will take place today from 1-4 p.m. at the Oakham Historical Museum, 1221 Old Turnpike Road, Oakham. There will be a special presentation, "Building the Windsor Dam" by Maria Beiter-Tucker, Interpretive services supervisor-MA DCR Division of Water Supply and Protection Quabbin/Ware River Region beginning at 1 p.m.

HALLOWEEN PARTY will take place today from 5-7 p.m. at No. 4 Schoolhouse, 209 Farrington Road, Barre. There will be old fashioned fun, games, snacks and maybe a craft. Children should wear their costumes. Snacks for sharing are always welcome.

MONDAY, OCT. 27

GRANGE PUMPKIN CARVING



Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

This week's mystery photo is from Petersham. If any readers know where this photo was taken, they may email edowner@turley.com or call the Barre Gazette at 413-967-3505, extension 100 with their answer by noon on Monday, Oct. 27. Bill Bowles, Peggy Civilik and Phil Warbasse correctly identified the photo. The photo last week was taken of the old town pound on Coldbrook Road in Oakham.

CONTEST will be held today at 6 p.m. the Grange Hall at 297 Belchertown Road, Ware. At the final Kids' Corner for this year, families will enjoy the art of carving and decorating pumpkins. Kids will learn about the life cycle of pumpkins, composting, and giving back to the soil. The event will also have a family-friendly Halloween story. Bring your own pumpkin and join the fun.

SATURDAY, NOV. 1

ANNUAL TURKEY SUPPER will be held today from 5:30-6:15 p.m. at the First Congregational Church of Rutland, 264 Main St. Take outs will be available as well. The menu includes turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, squash, rolls and apple crisp. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$7 children age 5-12 and free for children under 5. Reservations for both dine in and take out meals can be made by calling the church office at 508-886-4453.

41ST ANNUAL POSTCARD SHOW co-sponsored by the Central Mass. Postcard Club and St. Joseph's Catholic Church, will take place in the church, located at 29 South St., Barre today from 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Ten dealers from three states will offer old picture postcards for sale featuring local town views and numerous topics. Admission is \$3 and the church will sell lunch food from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. People may email show manager J.R. Greene at jrg01331@webtv.net for more information.

ST. CARLO ACUTIS PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR will be held today from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at St. Joseph's Church Hall, 296 North Main St., North Brookfield. There will be a bake sale, handmade crafts, jewelry, raffles and more. Lunch will be served from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. featuring homemade soups, sandwiches and homemade apple pie.

THURSDAY, NOV. 6

BARRE WOMAN'S CLUB MEETING will take place today at 6 p.m. in the Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St., Barre. The public is invited. Barre Historical Society historian, Lucy Stone, will give a Power Point program and talk on the Naramore family tragedy.

FRIDAY, NOV. 7

QUABBIN HIGH MUSICAL 'SHREK THE MUSICAL' opens today, Nov. 8, Nov. 14 and Nov. 15 from 7-10 a.m. every night at the Quabbin Regional High School, 800 South St., Barre.

SATURDAY, NOV. 8

VETERANS PANCAKE BREAKFAST sponsored by the Worcester Division of the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps will take place today from 9-11:30 a.m. at the Oakham Fire Department, 178 Barre Road, Oakham. The free breakfast is for Veterans and their family members.

NEW ENGLAND LEGENDS WITH JEFF BELANGER takes place today at 6:30 p.m. in the New Braintree Town Hall, Memorial Drive, New Braintree. The New Braintree Library and Friends of the New Braintree Library will present the program. Belanger seeks out history, folklore, ghosts, monsters and legends from all over the world and in people's back yards. His talk presents highlights from his own adventures, a look at the investigation process and compelling audio and visual paranormal evidence. Belanger is one of the most visible and prolific researchers of folklore and legends today. This program is funded by the Hardwick/New Braintree Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a State Agency. This program is free

and open to the public.

FRIDAY, NOV. 14

SMALL WORKS AND HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE sponsored by the Princeton Art Society takes place today from 6-8 p.m.; Nov. 15 and 16 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Friday, Nov. 21 from 6-8 p.m. and Nov. 21 and 22 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Princeton Community Center, 206 Worcester Road, Princeton. There will be unique and artisan made jewelry, cards, paintings and prints, ornaments, fabric items, ceramics, wooden gifts and more. The Princeton Arts Society is a nonprofit organization promoting the arts in Central Massachusetts through programs, events, and shows.

SATURDAY, NOV. 15

HOLIDAY FAIR to benefit the Rutland Council on Aging today from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Community Center, Glenwood Street, Rutland. There is no admission charge.

SUNDAY, NOV. 16

SECOND GREAT AWAKENING sponsored by the Lancaster Historical Society will take place today at 2 p.m. at the First Church of Christ, Unitarian (Bulfinch Church), 725 Main St., Lancaster. It will be presented by historian Tom Kelleher of Old Sturbridge Village. This program is free and open to the public. For more information, people may call 978-733-690. A half hour tour of the church is available from 1:15-1:45 p.m. People should make a reservation by text or calling 978-621-00.

FRIDAY, NOV. 21

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.

MONDAY, DEC. 1

AUDITIONS FOR THEATRE AT THE MOUNT will be held today and tomorrow Tuesday, Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. in Room A110 at Mount Wachusett Community College, 444 Green St., Gardner. The production will be Mel Brooks' "Young Frankenstein. Terrie Hyde is the director. Cast consists of 10 principal roles plus ensemble for ages 18 and up.

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.

MCAS from page 1

37% in science.

Ralph C. Maher had 42 students or 21% meeting or exceeding in ELA, 50 or 26% in math and 20 or 21% in sci-

ence. Wachusett had 1,656 students or 53% meeting or exceeding in ELA, 1,751 or 56% in math and 588 or 56% in science.

Wachusett had the highest score in all three categories

of either meeting or exceeding expectations with 53% ELA, 56% math and 56% science. Petersham had the highest percent of meeting or exceeding expectations in in math with 76%.

Chart School Districts 2025 MCAS Schools

School	Subject	#Students	% Participation	Average Scaled Score
North Brookfield	ELA	221	99%	483
	Math	218	98%	486
	Sci	77	97%	482
Petersham	ELA	83	98%	502
	Math	82	96%	495
	Sci	21	100%	512
Quabbin	ELA	989	99%	491
	Math	989	99%	489
	Sci	327	99%	492
Ralph C. Maher	ELA	201	96%	481
	Math	196	93%	488
	Sci	95	92%	486
Wachusett	ELA	3,149	99%	501
	Math	3,152	99%	503
	Sci	1,050	99%	502
State totals	ELA	396,309	99%	494
	Math	396,348	99%	494
	Sci.	132,011	98%	494

Haston library hosted Author's Roundtable

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The Haston Free Public Library hosted an Author's Roundtable for the first time this past week.

Conducting the roundtable was Diane Buzzell of the Library Board of Trustees, who provided all attendees with a list of questions to address and ask.

Buzzell recently had a book published, "The Artist, the Farmer, the Hunter, and the Good Guy", and admitted she originally never intended to write a book.

Prior to writing, Buzzell used to tell stories to her friends and were about her and her husband Larry Buzzell's family. With many stories shared, one of Buzzell's friends suggested that she should write a book featuring these stories.

Writers of the roundtable shared their backgrounds on how they got into writing. Several of the writers who attended focused on various genres and forms of writing.

There were several poets

at the author roundtable as well. Larry Buzzell said he got into poetry and enjoys history writing.

Buzzell went over the roundtable questions, beginning with the questions of what made the writers decide to write a book and how long did it take them to write it. The writing process is a long process from start to finish and part of the process is trying to get work published.

Buzzell and the Author's Roundtable then moved on to the publishing questions and if there were any writers who have experienced the publishing process. Buzzell said there are two main avenues a writer can take; publish independently or find an agent.

"Most traditional publishers don't look at a book without an agent," Buzzell said.

For improvements to writing, Buzzell did recommend Grammarly or any related autocorrect system. Buzzell said Grammarly was helpful.

There was also a discussion on vanity publishing that helps with editing, lay-

out, and cover of the book. Buzzell did mention publishing through Amazon and their designs on books are simple.

Buzzell brought her book to share that is over 400 pages and features a lot of pictures. According to Buzzell, pictures are helpful to include in a book.

Several poets attended the first Author's Roundtable and were excited to find out that there is a poetry book at the Haston Free Library featuring various poems.

The book is called "North Brookfield's Favorite Poems" and it features members of the community sharing their favorite poems they've ever read, or poems written by local writers. Larry Buzzell found one of his favorite poems that was about his granddaughter. The poem was read out loud and guests enjoyed hearing it as Diane Buzzell read it aloud.

Another topic addressed is the idea of launching a book. Many writers tried to find ways to promote their

See AUTHORS page 14

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Quabbin field hockey heading into playoffs strong

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

BALDWINVILLE – Since entering the 2019 Central Mass. Division 1 field hockey tournament with a 14-1-3 record, the Quabbin Lady Panthers hadn't won more than eleven games during the regular season.

The Lady Panthers won their 12th game of this season following a 3-1 road victory against the Narragansett

Regional Lady Warriors, last Tuesday afternoon. It was also their fifth consecutive win.

"This is a very big win for us because it's going to help our power ranking in the state tournament," said longtime Quabbin head coach Shelly Zalneraitis, whose husband, Rich, is the Narragansett boys' varsity basketball coach. "It was also very nice to have three different goal scorers in today's

game."

The Lady Panthers, who played their final road game of the regular season, made the short bus ride back home to Barre with a 12-2 overall record. Their only two setbacks this fall were at Westborough and a non-league home loss to Frontier Regional.

Quabbin, who was ranked seventh in the MIAA Division 4 power rankings at the beginning of last week,

has qualified for the state tournament in each of the past four seasons.

The last time that Quabbin faced Narragansett (12-2-2) was in last year's round of 32 contest. The Lady Panthers posted a 3-1 home win.

All the players listed on the 2025 Lady Panthers varsity roster are very talented.

"We only have 13 players on the varsity team, but all of them are outstanding field hockey players and they're

also great kids," Zalneraitis said. "We just want to keep winning games."

The three seniors are Maddy Stauder, Farrah Wojcik, and Alyssa Ebert.

"The seniors are our leaders this year," Zalneraitis added. "None of them have told me if they'll be playing field hockey in college, but they certainly can."

The Lady Panthers annual senior night game was scheduled to be against Leominster

on Wednesday night. They're scheduled to wrap up the regular season by hosting Marlborough on Friday afternoon.

Stauder and Wojcik are two of the Lady Panthers captains, along with junior's Makenzie Casey and Abigail Rogowski.

Quabbin's other three juniors are Kailynn Schuster, Violet Kelley, and Aubrey

See **PANTHERS** page 10



Elizabeth Matheson plays the ball off her knee.

Panthers win three straight

BARRE – Last week, Quabbin Regional girls soccer racked up two more wins. One matchup was a 5-1 triumph at home against Narragansett. They also traveled to Gardner and turned in a 3-0 shutout. The Panthers are now 8-4-1 and continue their season with an away game at Ayer Shirley on Thursday, Oct. 23 at 4 p.m.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Bianca Wilder makes a stop and turns play around.



Larrah Gagne watches her shot head for the goal.



Eden Fortier makes a run up the field



Alison LaRoche sends a pass left.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Audrey Cutler makes the insert pass on a penalty corner.

Middle school field hockey action

BARRE – The Quabbin Regional Middle School field hockey team was in action last week against Gardner. The middle school field hockey team continues its season this Thursday at Fitchburg High School at 4 p.m.



Scarlett McDonald looks to backhand the ball closer to make a shot on goal.



Jorja Thorpe chases after the loose ball.

Pathfinder finishes up busy week

PALMER – Due to several postponements, it was a busy week for Pathfinder girls soccer, as they had three games scheduled last week and one more game remaining earlier this week. Last Friday afternoon, the Pioneers hosted Putnam and suffered a 2-1 loss, falling to 4-7-2 on the season. Right now, Pathfinder is on the outside of the state tournament power rankings, but they still have time to reach .500 for the season to qualify.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Aubrey Oretiz takes the goal kick for Pathfinder.



Kayleigh Peters dribbles toward the center of the field.



Rielly Ireland sends a quick pass away.



Aubrey Oretiz takes the goal kick for Pathfinder.



Anna Medine passes up the field through an opponent.

Sports

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Turleysports

Athlete of the Week



NAME: Ailey Majoy
SCHOOL: Quabbin

Majoy recorded a hat trick for Quabbin girls soccer in a win over Ayer Shirley earlier this month.

To nominate someone for Athlete of the Week, contact Managing Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at 413-283-8393 ext. 258 or send an e-mail to gscibelli@turley.com.

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Owls suffer defeat against Framingham

WESTFIELD – Framingham State QB Michael Marcucella completed 12-of-19 passes for 187 yards with three touchdowns to lead the Rams to a 35-24 win over Westfield State in the Rams' homecoming game at Bowditch Field in Framingham on Saturday afternoon.

Westfield was led by a pair of touchdown runs by Aidan Patterson.

Framingham improves to 5-1 overall and sits atop the MASCAC with a 5-0 record in league play. Westfield is now 2-4 overall and 2-3 in the conference.

The Rams jumped out to a 14-0 lead on a pair of 18-yard TD passes, before Patterson got the Owls on the board with a 29-yard touchdown run, but the Owls try for the point after failed, trimming the lead to 14-6.

Framingham led 21-6 at the half, and extended that

lead to 28-6 on a 64-yard TD pass from Marcucella to Stehen Gallant early in the third quarter. Westfield answered with Patterson's second TD run of the day, a 3-yarder that capped an 11-play, 77 yard scoring drive with 7:21 left in the third quarter, cutting the Framingham lead to 28-12.

The Rams marched down the field on their next series, getting a 29-yard scoring strike from Marcucella to Alex Maia to push the lead to 35-12 with 3:35 left in the third.

A pair of odd sequences led to Westfield scoring on back-to-back safeties in the fourth quarter, pinning the rams in their own defensive end before a bad snap led to a safety on fourth down, then the Owls drove the ball all the way to the Framingham one-yard line before a fumble on fourth down cost Westfield a touchdown, but the Owls got two points back on

the second safety of the sequence, cutting the lead to 35-16.

Westfield mustered one more drive, with Will Brewster scoring on a 19 yard run, and Patterson converting the 2-point run to trim the final score to 35-24.

Jaheim Daniels finished with 102 yards rushing and a TD for the Rams. Manny Mengata led Westfield with 48 yards on 17 carries, with Curtis Dion adding 46 yards and Patterson 43 on the ground and 33 more on three receptions. Owls QB Miles Foerster was 11-20 for 110 yards passing.

Andrew Lovell led the Owls defense with six tackles and a sack, with Dylan Zuerblis adding five stops with a sack.

The Owls come home next weekend to host Westfield State homecoming, with the Owls kicking off with Plymouth State at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 25.

Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

Bondsville League

WARE – The Bondsville League at Roll-A-Way Lanes has reached week seven of the bowling season.

After seven weeks of candlepin bowling, the top team is Fire Mountain in the East Division with a record of 32-17. In the West Division, there is a tie for first place between Sandri and Cannonballs with a record of 28-21. The Snappers are a close behind in the West Division with a record of 27-22.

During week seven, Fire Mountain bowled against the Snappers. In game one, Fire Mountain won by a score of 465-449. In game two, Snappers won a close game by a score of 450-447.

In game three, Snappers won the last game by a score of 462-444. Kevin Krasnecky of Snappers finished the match with a 114, the highest game bowled in the match. The final score was 1361-1356 in favor of Snappers.

Sandri bowled against Spare Parts in week seven. In game one, Sandri was the winner with a score of 494-477. Sue Horton of Sandri started off strong with a 135. Her teammate Ron Gouin began with a 119.

In game two, Spare Parts won by a score of 488-443. Rich Picotte of Sandri had the highest score with a 119. John Jebb of Spare Parts bowled a 104 after starting with a 109.

In game three, Sandri won by a score of 468-458. Horton finished with a 111 and a series of 356. Gouin bowled a 120 and bowled a series of 325. The final score was 1423-1405 in favor of Spare Parts.

Zeke's Freaks bowled against Flaming Bowling Balls in week seven. In game one, Zeke's Freaks won the game by a score of 481-460. Zeke Sicard began the match with a 111 during his team's victory.

In game two, Flaming Bowling Balls won by a score of 468-460. Don Paulus of Flaming Bowling Balls scored 111 and Pete Ducharme of Zeke's Freaks bowled a 107.

In game three, Flaming Bowling Balls won the last game by a score of 455-444. Paulus repeated last game with another 111. It was a close match as Zeke's Freaks won total pinfall by a final score of 1385-1383.

Cannonballs bowled against Ironmen in week seven. In game one, Ironmen were the winners by a score of 500-488. Billy Brunk of Ironmen started with a 127.

In game two, Cannonballs

won big by a score of 520-463. Micah Hinkley of Cannonballs bowled a 111. Ryan Drago of Ironmen bowled a 117 in game two.

In game three, Cannonballs won again by a score of 473-465. Hinkley through a clutch strike in the tenth frame to mathematically secure the last game. Brunk had a chance to match but was unfortunate by leaving the spread eagle for a spare shot.

The final score was 1481-1423 in favor of Cannonballs.

Slow Burners bowled against Night Hawks in week seven. In game one, Slow Burners won by a score of 523-477. Jody Orszulak of Slow Burners began the match with a 124.

In game two, Slow Burners managed to win a close game against Night Hawks by a score of 501-498. Scott Radisic of Slow Burners bowled a 121. Gavin Sinclair of Night Hawks bowled well in game two with a 132.

In game three, Night Hawks won by a score of 496-481. Nate Orszulak of Slow Burners finished the match with a 126 and a series of 342. Sinclair had the highest series on his team with a 346. Slow Burners won total pinfall by a final score of 1505-1471.

T-Birds come back to bash Bears

HERSHEY, PA – The Springfield Thunderbirds (1-2-0-0) rebounded in a big way from a defeat the night before as they dispatched the Hershey Bears (1-2-1-0) by a 5-1 score on Sunday inside Giant Center.

For the first time in the young season, Steve Konowalchuk's team finally vaulted to a lead at the 7:06 mark of the first period off a clean rush. Corey Schueneman carried the puck deep into the Hershey zone before slipping a perfect drop pass onto the blade of Jakob Stancl. The rookie connected off the inside of the post, beating Clay Stevenson on the stick side to give Springfield a 1-0 lead on Stancl's first professional tally.

Springfield dodged a dangerous chance from ex-Thunderbird Calle Rosen, who emerged from the penalty box and skated in on a breakaway against Vadim Zherenko, but Rosen missed the target on the blocker side.

Both teams failed to connect on power play chances, but Springfield was not done

on the offensive end. With just 24 seconds left on the clock, Hunter Skinner joined a rush, one-timing a Nikita Alexandrov pass through Stevenson to make it a 2-0 game into the intermission. Matthew Peca also picked up an assist on the play for his first point of the season. In the process, the T-Birds captain became the first player in the T-Birds' 10-year history to record 200 points as a member of the Thunderbirds.

Zherenko stood tall through the opening half of the second period, with Hershey linking lengthy shifts in the offensive zone, threatening to cut into the Springfield lead. After surviving the onslaught, Otto Stenberg alertly spotted Matt Luff coming off the T-Birds' bench, and the veteran winger roofed a breakaway snapper over Stevenson's glove to make it a 3-0 score at 11:45.

Dalibor Dvorsky joined the scoring party next at 14:11, as the 20-year-old got a fortunate bounce to cash in his first of the season. He was hoping to

slip a pass to his left side, but the puck ricocheted right back onto his stick in the low slot, giving Stevenson no chance to defend it. Alexandrov picked up his second assist on the tally.

Hershey finally broke the four-goal blitz at 15:24 as Henrik Rybinski crashed the blue paint to chip a loose puck over Zherenko for his second goal in as many nights, cutting the margin to 4-1.

Still, the T-Birds offense was not finished, and with a power play in the closing minute, Theo Lindstein rifled home his first goal in the AHL with just 23 seconds left in the frame to make it a 5-1 score. Luff picked up his second point and Alexandrov garnered his third assist on the rookie's first North American tally.

Zherenko had a sizable lead, but the fourth-year pro slammed the door shut in the third, as Hershey failed to pierce the netminder on 14 third-period offerings. Zherenko has now stopped 47 of the last 49 shots he has faced.

PANTHERS from page 9

Thorpe, who's the starting goalie. Thorpe only had to make three saves against the Lady Warriors, who were ranked 24th in the Division 4 power rankings.

The four Lady Panthers sophomores are Ellie Poulin, Veanna Salvadore, Audrey Niles, and Kayla Curran.

Rounding the varsity squad is eighth grader Maria Hamm, who leads the team with 17

goals.

Casey had a couple of shot attempts during the first half, but senior goalie Gianna Manca made eight saves during the first 30 minutes.

The turning point of the game took place with 1:30 left in the third quarter.

The Lady Panthers were given a penalty stroke after the Lady Warriors covered the ball.

Casey took the stoke and banged a shot into the back of the cage.

"This was the third time that I've made a penalty stroke this season," Casey said. "I was a little bit nervous because I needed to make it to give my team the lead. This is probably the best season we've had since I've been playing for the varsity team. All of us are like sisters."

The Lady Panthers held a 1-0 lead entering the fourth quarter.

Less than two minutes into the final quarter, Curran fired a shot that deflected into the cage off the goalie's pads for an unassisted goal.

Quabbin's final goal was scored by Hamm, which was also unassisted, with 6:30 remaining in regulation.

"Two of our younger players scored goals during the fourth quarter," Casey said. "Everyone has been contributing to our success so far this year."

About 15 seconds later, the Lady Warriors ended Thorpe's shutout bid following a goal from sophomore Lacey Beauregard.

The Lady Panthers managed to hold onto the two goal lead the rest of the way.

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We will regularly fea-

ture samples of photos that you will see in our publications on a weekly basis.

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North Quabbin Garlic and Arts Festival, back for the 27th year

By Richard Murphy
Correspondent

It started over a potluck in 1998. Ricky Baruc and wife, Deb Habib, woodworker Jim Fountain and wife Alyssa with neighbor Lydia planned a festival.

From such a small beginning something unique arose.

On Sept. 27 and 28 of this year, The North Quabbin Garlic and Arts Festival celebrated 27 years.

Your correspondent was at the first event. It took place after a horrendous rain storm the previous night that did augur well, but the sun came out and the day turned out lovely.

And so, it has gone on.

This year saw beautiful weather and temps that made it seem summery rather than autumnal, and there was not a sweater in sight.

To those not from the North Franklin County



Turley Photos by Richard Murphy

Residents of Wendell took a stand against battery storage farms.

area, the venue might seem out of the way, but the instructions on the website are clear. Carpools and disabled can park at the site. The main parking lot is a seven-minute ride away

by shuttle bus. It is an efficient system, with two vehicles constantly picking up and dropping off.

When one exits the bus and comes to the festival entrance, there is another pleasant surprise.

Inflation never stops, and as prices rise for fairs and festivals, the Garlic and Arts Festival holds the line, and is run without corporate sponsorship or sales of alcohol. The adult admission was still \$10. Students and seniors as well as EBT, WIC, and Health Connector customers are charged \$5. Under 12 also \$5. Come on Saturday and that pays for Sunday.

Once in the festival, you notice that it is much the same as other years, but there is always something new.

There is somewhat of a 1960s vibe. One might hesitate to say that as many if not most of the attendees were born well after those years. Still, the counter culture feel is there for everyone.

Rick and Deb have a tent with all things garlic. Their Seeds of Solidarity Education Center has the ethos of "Grow Food Everywhere."

Most of the old food vendors are back, but there are some new ones. No one needs to starve.

Wandering around the grounds, one comes across well-known vendors and exhibitors, some that are new and others that are old friends.

There is White Buffalo Herbs, down from Warwick. Carol Joyce is a community herbalist with vast knowledge. If you have it, she treats it.

Continuing to meander, there was a booth where a couple was going about bringing something from the past into the future. The American Chestnut was near extinction, but valiant efforts to save it have long been ongoing. Lois and Dennis Melican were at the festival to spread the word. There are lovely trees in New England, but the return of a beautiful native would be welcome.

Fortunate were we to arrive at the table of Sam Scherer. After a teaching career, he learned to turn wood into bowls on a lathe from mentors, and is himself an accomplished artisan, but it is his manner of interacting with customers and friends that



Lois supported the return of the American Chestnut tree.

captivates festival goers.

In front of Sam's booth was a field with children playing hula hoops, a festival tradition provided by Shenandoah of "Alotta Hoopla."

Catching the eye was a booth with the logo, New England Mineral Extractor. The name sounded a bit industrial for Garlic and Arts. Nope, it was not some huge machine digging into the ground to haul out interesting crystals. Rather, Jason James and wife search info from geographic databases such as Mindat.com and then go and dig up the intriguing specimens.

Rambling along, there is the Portal to the Future. Enter and you won't all of a sudden see your great great grandkids, but a metaphorical distance where "art, food, small-scale farming, renewable energy, smart transportation, care for the land, and

hand skills all contribute to community-building and local resilience."

EVs from cars to tractors, solar info and garlic ice cream from Batch were all there.

There was a wonderful discussion about pollinators with Grow Native Massachusetts Executive Director Heather Pruiskma, and Pollinator Advocate Heidi Dollard. In the Portal to the Future, pollinator insects and birds on our plants better be forever.

Out of the Portal and up the hill to listen to poets and performers at the Spoken Word stage. Then over to the band stand where the Moon Shells were performing.

Still there was much more to see and experience, but there is never enough time.

Oh well, The North Quabbin Garlic and Arts Festival 2026 is less than a year away.



A wall of garlic was displayed at the 27th annual North Quabbin Garlic and Arts Festival.

Public Notices

Town of Barre HEARING NOTICE Dog Hearing

In accordance with the provisions of MGL C. 140 s.157 and Barre Bylaw C. 11 s. 13, a Public Hearing will be held by the Select Board on **Monday, November 3, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.** to determine if 2 dogs at 140 Valley Road, Barre, MA 01005 is a potentially dangerous or dangerous dogs. The meeting will be held at the Henry Woods Building, 40 West Street, Barre, MA in the Select Board Meeting Room, first floor, at which time interested parties will have the opportunity to be heard. The meeting room is accessible; persons requiring special accommodations should contact the Select Board's Office (978) 355-2504 x135 in advance.

For the Select Board
Sandra Hood
Executive Assistant
10/16, 10/23/2025

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDDERS Town of Barre

The Town of Barre is accepting sealed bids for the purchase of #2 Heating Oil, Propane, Diesel, and Kerosene under MGL c.30B §5. Sealed bids must be addressed to the Town Administrator, Henry Woods Building, 40 West St., Barre, MA 01005 and endorsed "FY26-05: Heating Fuel Fiscal Year 2026". Two (2) identical bids must be submitted. Bids will be accepted until 10:00AM on November 12, 2025 at which time said bids will be publicly opened and read aloud in the Town Administrator's office. Bid packages will be emailed upon request by contacting townadmin@townofbarre.com.

The Town of Barre reserves the right to waive any informality in and to reject any or all bids.
10/23/2025

(SEAL) COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT DOCKET NUMBER 25 SM 003146 ORDER OF NOTICE

TO:
Joseph Mitko
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):

Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans Inc.

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Barre, numbered 721 Worcester Road, given by Penny L. Mitko f/k/a Penny L. Earle and Joseph Mitko to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Quicken Loans Inc., its successors and assigns, dated March 6, 2013, and recorded in Worcester County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 50604, Page 105, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before 12/1/2025 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of non-compliance with the Act.

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER
Chief Justice of this Court on

10/16/2025

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson,
Recorder

10/23/2025

Oakham Conservation Commission

There will be a Notice Intent Hearing on **November 4, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.** at the Oakham Town Hall for work to be done on property at Site 1 lot 2 Old Turnpike Rd., Oakham, MA. The Request has been filed by Joseph Amadio of Oakham for the purpose of constructing a driveway. The work may fall under the jurisdiction of the Wetlands Protection Act.

Lucy Tessnau, Clerk
Oakham Conservation
Commission
10/23/2025

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDDERS Town of Barre

The Town of Barre is accepting sealed bids for road materials, road maintenance and equipment rentals under M.G.L. c.30 §39M. Sealed bids must be addressed to the Town Admin-

istrator, Henry Woods Building, 40 West St., Barre, MA 01005 and endorsed "FY26-03 Road Materials, Road Maintenance and Equipment Rental". Two (2) identical bids must be submitted. Bids will be accepted until 10:00AM on November 10, 2025 at which time said bids will be publicly opened and read aloud in the Town Administrator's office. Bid packages will be emailed upon request by contacting townadmin@townofbarre.com.

The Town of Barre reserves the right to waive any informality in and to reject any and all bids.
10/23/2025

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.
WO25P3511EA
Estate of:
Daniel G. Damon
Date of Death: 09/18/2025
CITATION ON PETITION

FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Laura Ashley Dumont of South Barre, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Laura Ashley Dumont of South Barre, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/11/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a

timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 14, 2025

Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
10/23/2025

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to notices@turley.com
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Friday at 3 p.m.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

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.

Church News

Local pastors offer sermons

The Practice of Prayer Part 6

How are we to pray? Christ offered the following instruction, providing a pattern for healthful 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 conclude our series by exploring this selection: Matthew 5:13

13 And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from the evil one.

Ours is a fallen world. As has been noted in editions past, there are forces beyond the kingdom of God at work in the earth:

1) Spiritual Evil

To begin, we contend with spiritual forces of real wickedness. I realize that talk of the devil seems fantastical to the contemporary and, allegedly, educated mind. Yet we err when we elevate human wisdom above the wisdom posited in Scripture. The Bible never downplays the reality of demonic evil, and neither should we! Give ear to the following passages:

1 Peter 5:8

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

Ephesians 6:10-18

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

13 Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.

16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 18 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.

The enemy of our soul ever-seeks to steal, kill and destroy (John 10:10). Let us, therefore, implore the Lord for deliverance! Let us seek the Lord and clothe ourselves in Christ, as we navigate this world and engage with the opposition God permits—Christ who is our truth, righteousness, peace, author and finisher of our faith, salvation, and the "Word" of God Incarnate.

2) Inward Evil

Moreover, we battle against a sinister sense of inner evil. As sinful beings, we contend with a depraved

nature that desires to do that which is contrary to the will of God. Satan and his minions, knowing our depravity, tempt us to do evil in kind. Therefore, we must pray for the Lord to bring deliverance from all evil—even if it is an evil that springs from deep within. It's only through the power of God that we can overcome. I would ask that you give ear to the following portion of Scripture:

Galatians 5:16-17, 19-23a

16 So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. . . . 19 The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control.

Would you know genuine victory over external and internal evil? Let us pray as Jesus taught (Matt. 6:13b): ". . . lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."

Thank you for taking the time to read this publication. Should you have any comments or questions, please feel free to contact me using the information below. Also, check us out online at www.NewLifeBarre.org or visit us each Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

Pastor James Foley

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

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

"I will Write a New Law on their Hearts, says the Lord."

Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 31 v 27 – 34

I. Introduction

There are people in our lives with whom we have different kinds of relationships.

We have loved ones like our family and friends, as well as neighbors, other acquaintances, coworkers, and members of our church community. Among these groups of people, we build varying degrees of closeness, and we know some better than others. To grow with those in our inner circle means that we get to know them better and we build trust and dependable relationships. What does Jeremiah say about how God wants to relate to us?

II. Jeremiah's Prophecy of Doom to the People of Judah

This passage in Jeremiah Chapter 31 describes the words Yahweh instructed Jeremiah to deliver to the people of Judah, the Southern Kingdom of Israel. Jeremiah, who lived during the period right before the Babylonian Exile, prophesied this message of warning and doom to a people who disregarded the presence and guidance of Yahweh through Moses and others called by God and who engaged in religious and moral impurity.

Since the days of Moses, they have shown their per-

sistent failure to live according to the terms of the covenant, says J.A. Thompson in his commentary on Jeremiah. They were incapable of obedience to God, he says; instead, they were accustomed to doing evil, we read in Jeremiah Chapter 13 v 23. As a result of their iniquities, their refusal to acknowledge Yahweh as their sovereign God, and to obey the covenant they received from Moses, God will be their judge and they will be invaded by a foreign nation and will be taken away from their land, into exile, and they will suffer severely.

They will be uprooted, torn down, demolished, destroyed, and harmed. The population will be diminished and even the flocks and herds will be significantly reduced. There will be a need to repopulate the land with the Lord's help. Jeremiah then prophesied that there will be restoration, but this restoration is not just about a nation that needs to repent, but every individual has a responsibility to repent and return their hearts and minds back to God.

III. I will write a New Law on their Hearts, says the Lord

These harsh words from Yahweh were not necessarily God's intention with the people of Israel, however their deliberate refusal to be in relationship with God, led to this situation they found themselves in. This, instead, is what God wanted from and with them in these words in verse 33 from God, "This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time," declares the LORD. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people."

God does not and cannot be distant from them. Then in verse 34, Yahweh declares that they will know God directly, not through someone else. In this context, knowing God refers to having a close, loving, and trusting relationship involving one's mind, heart, and soul. God is willing to forgive and forget their iniquities, they will be in a restored relationship with God, and they will be returned to their homeland yet again. This new covenant will not be written on stone, but on their hearts. They will be a transformed nation.

IV. Conclusion

These words from Jeremiah also come to us today, as individuals, families, neighborhoods, as a nation and as a world. The God of Israel is the God of today, and the love God has for Israel, is the love that God has for the whole world. The covenant God wanted with Israel is the covenant God wants with us. The difference is that we do not need a Moses or a Jeremiah or any other human intermediary. God sent God's Son to bring this good news of the covenant. God's message remains unchanged: God will be our God, and we will be God's people.

God wants to be in relationship with us always. Let us therefore renew our relationship with God, with our mind, heart and soul, and may the Holy Spirit help and guide us to live according to the covenant God made with us. Let us love one another the way God loves us and the whole world.

Amen.

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

Keystone bridge site closed to the public during preservation



Photo by Friends of Quabbin

This shows part of the collapsed historic Keystone Bridge.

BELCHERTOWN – The Friends of the Quabbin announces work is set to begin on stabilizing the Keystone Bridge at Gate 30 of the Quabbin Reservoir.

The historic stone bridge, built in 1866, has been showing signs of significant collapse and will undergo critical stabilization efforts to preserve this important landmark. The bridge was constructed by Adolphus Porter, who was hired by the town of New Salem to build the bridge from Millington to Orang, and he was paid \$37.50, which would be equivalent to \$764 in today's dollars.

Since 2023 and the initial discovery of the collapsed spandrel wall, the Department of Conservation and Recreation restricted all site access because the collapse poses a significant risk to public safety. Those curious on work progress are encouraged to visit the Friends of the Quabbin website at www.FriendsofQuabbin.org/keystone and Facebook page www.facebook.com/foquabbin where updates and photographs will be posted.

The Friends of the

Quabbin has contracted with two firms, Curtis Construction Services out of Brookfield, who will be advised by free-stone masonry international specialist, Michael Weitzner from Brattleboro, Vermont, to carry out the stabilization work. Project oversight is being provided by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, Division of Water Supply Protection. Work is expected to be completed by December, contingent upon weather and site conditions.

The entire project is being funded completely through donations that are being made to the Friends of the Quabbin. "This effort is only possible because of the generosity of our members and supporters," said Friends of the Quabbin spokesperson Paul Godfrey. "We continue to seek additional donations to help ensure that this historic structure is protected for generations to come."

Because of the Keystone Bridge's location in a highly sensitive environmental area, extensive precautions are being taken to protect the surrounding landscape and habitat. DCR is coor-

inating closely with the New Salem Conservation Commission and the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program to ensure that the project upholds the highest environmental protection standards.

"This is about more than just saving a bridge," added Godfrey. "It's about protecting our shared heritage while respecting the natural beauty and ecological importance of the Quabbin and its watershed."

For updates on the Keystone Bridge stabilization project or to make a donation in support of the effort, people may visit www.friendsofquabbin.org/keystone or follow the Friends of the Quabbin on Facebook at www.facebook.com/foquabbin.

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

HARDWICK from page 1

Later in the meeting, the Select Board got to the agenda item to discuss and vote on Smith's Open Meeting Law complaint. The complaint in this discussion is about the auction company conflict the town is having and claims that the Town Administrator did not get authorization to sign a contract with company.

The Select Board wants to come to a resolution soon and originally wanted to table this discussion. However, Town Administrator Justine Caggiano shared that there is a deadline for this discussion. Caggiano asked the Select Board to vote on a response.

"It does not constitute an open meeting law violation and is outlined in the draft response," Caggiano said.

The Board discussed briefly on when a meeting was held that gave the Town Administrator authorization to sign on a contract. Caggiano said this was done under the prior Select Board chair and said the board voted to have contract signed. Caggiano also said the assessor also said this publicly.

Vice Chair William Tinker claimed that was done in executive session.

The Board agreed to send their response to the state and hopefully get to some resolution. The vote was unanimous.

Visitor comments

Bill Cole of the Planning Board shared some topics with the Select Board to discuss during visitor comments. There are many vacancies on town boards and commissions, and Cole hopes volunteers will step up and fill those vacancies. Cole wanted to know

if there is anything on the website or any way to update sources to see what opportunities are filled or available.

Caggiano commented and said there is an updated list on the website and wants to put in a page where volunteer opportunities are listed. The town is working on fixing the website, which Caggiano feels needs to be upgraded.

Cole also brought up grant writing and feels the town would benefit from having part-time grant writing assistance to help the town submit grant applications and hopefully secure some grant funds.

"I think that'd be very good," Cole said.

Cole said in the past the town has had a tough time submitting their applications on time in the past, including block grants. Luckily, the town is working with the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission.

Caggiano commented on grants and mentioned that Community Development Block Grant is helping with projects related to Highland Terrace and the Memorial Park project.

"We do need some help with grants," Caggiano said.

There is a list being worked on by the Capital Planning Committee to help outline what the town could use and be supported with grant funding.

Appointments

The Select Board went over appointments and reappointments of members to the town's Historical Commission. John Petraglia was reappointed and Patricia Tinker and Ryan J. Witkos were both appointed.

Kearsarge Solar lease

The board got some

further information from members of the Planning Board who visited the site that Kearsarge Solar is looking to lease. Those who visited got new ideas about distances to the river.

There was also an update from town counsel and is waiting to plug in numbers for the new lease. With both the town and the applicant still behind on information, the topic was tabled until the next meeting.

Cole commented and hopes that the board will be satisfied with the decision they make with Kearsarge, but doesn't give up as much property, so there can be other developments on the lot. Vollheim feels the town is in no position to do a site plan review.

When a decision is made, Kearsarge would still have to go through the Planning Board. With a lot still to be figured out, the Select Board will continue this discussion. Hopefully by next meeting they will know how much land is going to be taken if they were to move forward with Kearsarge Solar.

Select Board roundtable

Tinker brought up the topic of the Town Accountant position. As of their Oct. 14 meeting, the position is still vacant and the applicant the board voted on withdrew from the application.

According to Vollheim, the applicant withdrew his letter of interest and backed out.

Tinker wanted to know if the dealbreaker for the applicant was that the position is an exempt position under the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act. Tinker would like to discuss more about the Town Accountant position at their next Select Board Meeting.

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

Public Safety

Rutland Police Log

Wednesday, Oct. 1
 6:50 a.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Bushy Lane, Investigated
 9:28 a.m. Suspicious Person/ Vehicle Activity, Juniper Lane, Officer Spoke to Party
 11:26 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Mooney, Sean Jason, 49, Gardner
 Charges Uninsured Motor Vehicle, Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle with Unregistered Motor Vehicle
 2:21 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Ware Corner Road, Transported to Hospital
 5:14 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Seizures, Laurelwood Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 8:28 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 11:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning

Thursday, Oct. 2
 9:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Citation Issued
 9:44 a.m. Fraud or Forgery, Brintnal Drive, Officer/Chief Advised
 9:49 a.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Main Street, Investigated
 9:52 a.m. Fraud or Forgery, Main Street, Report Filed
 10:37 a.m. Property Dispute or Exchange, Main Street, Returned
 11:46 a.m. Harassment, Kenwood Drive, Officer Spoke to Party
 1:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Prisoner Bailed
 Arrest Tecun Santana, Juan Ernesto, 50, Brighton

Charges License Suspended for Operating Under Influence, Operating Motor Vehicles
 1:57 p.m. Vandalism, Wheeler Road, Report Filed
 2:02 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Anthony Drive, Officer/Chief Advised
 2:16 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Neurological/Head Injury, Anthony Drive, Officer/Chief Advised
 3:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Citation Issued
 3:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 4:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Criminal Complaint
 Arrest Aucoin, Frank Hervey, 52, Rutland
 Charges License Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With, Subsequent Offense
 Motor Vehicle, Receive Stolen Unregistered Motor Vehicle
 5:40 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 5:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Viera, Stephanie Michelle, 24, Southbridge
 Charges Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle with C90 S23, uninsured Motor Vehicle C90 S34J, Inspection/Sticker, NO C90 S20
 7:40 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Wachusett Street, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Toby, Joyce G., 36, Spencer
 Charges Uninsured Motor Vehicles

Friday, Oct. 3
 9:08 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Hickory Drive, Officer/Chief

Advised
 9:45 a.m. Threats, River Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 4:03 p.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Main Street, Investigated
 5:11 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Stroke (CVA), Wachusett Street, Transported to Hospital
 5:40 p.m. Property Damage, Glenwood Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 6:28 p.m. Be On the Look Out Notification, Pleasantdale Road, Negative Contact
 11:43 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Julie Ann Circle, Transported to Hospital

Saturday, Oct. 4
 7:10 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Pommogussett Road, Transported to Hospital
 9:12 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Main Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 3:59 p.m. Vandalism, Main Street, Report Filed
 4:25 p.m. Lockout (Home or Vehicle), Wachusett Street, Cancelled
 6:38 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
 6:50 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Dakota Trail, Mutual Aid Transport
 7:12 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, North Brookfield Road, Mutual Aid Transport
 8:38 p.m. Erratic Operator, East County Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Barre Police Log

Wednesday, Oct. 1
 1:31 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, South Barre Road, Transported to Hospital
 6:50 a.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Bushy Lane, Investigated
 7:32 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, West Street, Transported to Hospital
 7:57 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Exchange Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 9:13 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Animal Bites, Worcester Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 10:06 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Main Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 3:13 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Hardwick, Mutual Aid Assist
 4:12 p.m. Fire – Vehicle Fires, Exchange Street, Fire Extinguished
 4:21 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Hubbardston Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 5:17 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Williamsville Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 7:11 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Transported to Hospital
 7:52 p.m. Harassment, South Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 8:11 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Ruggles Lane, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Thursday, Oct. 2
 7 a.m. Emergency Medical

Service – Sick/Unknown, Edward Lane, Transported to Hospital
 11:30 a.m. Landlord Tenant/ Neighbor Dispute, Union Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 6:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident – No Fire Department/ EMS Response, New Westminster Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 7:09 p.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Kendall Street, Returned
 8:19 p.m. Disturbance/ Disorderly, South Street, Mutual Aid Transported
 8:41 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Allergic Reaction, School North Street, Mutual Aid Transport

Friday, Oct. 3
 11:04 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, South Street, Vehicle Towed
 11:18 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, Hadley, Investigated
 2:09 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Baldwin Road, Mutual Aid Transport
 3:36 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, Gauthier Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 3:56 p.m. Landlord Tenant/ Neighbor Dispute, North Brookfield Road, Officer/Chief Advised

Saturday, Oct. 4
 12:08 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, North Brookfield Road, Transported to Hospital
 2:04 a.m. Emergency

Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, South street, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 2:51 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Wheelwright Road, Transported to Hospital
 11:22 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, Worcester, Dispatch Handled
 4:12 p.m. Suspicious Person/ Vehicle Activity, Hubbardston Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 5:13 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Pleasant Street, Removed from Scene
 6:03 p.m. Complaint, School South Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 6:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Written Warning
 8:52 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Ruggles Lane, Mutual Aid Transport

South Barre
Wednesday, Oct. 1
 11:40 a.m. Animal – Wildlife, Wheelwright Road, Area Patrolled
 3:58 p.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Cutler Road, Officer/Chief Advised

Friday, Oct. 3
 6:44 Animal – ACO Call, Station Road, Officer/Chief Advised

Saturday, Oct. 4
 2:12 p.m. Property – Lost/ Found/Surrender, Cutler Road, Officer/Chief Advised

Hubbardston Police Log

Sunday, Sept. 21
 5:08 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Seizures, Kruse Road, Transported to Hospital
 1:58 p.m. Property – Lost/ Found/Surrender, Williamsville Road, Investigated
 3:32 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Gardner, Information Given
 7:05 p.m. Erratic Operator, Gardner Road, Call Transferred
 7:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident – No Fire Department/ EMS Response, Brigham Road, Report Filed
 9:51 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Healdville Road, Mutual Aid Transported

Monday, Sept. 22
 12:15 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, New Westminster Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 1:37 p.m. Harassment, New Westminster Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 2:24 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, George Howard Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 3:42 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Main Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Tuesday, Sept. 23
 7:37 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, Westminster, Negative Contact
 4:43 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Morgan Road, No Transport Required
 5:23 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Westminster, Call Transferred
 7:49 p.m. Unwanted Party, Williamsville Road, Returned
 9:30 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Pond View Way, Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, Sept. 24
 7:03 a.m. Suspicious Person/ Vehicle Activity, Dogwood South Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 10:47 a.m. Unwanted Party, Gardner Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 11:10 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Williamsville Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 11:21 a.m. Property – Lost/ Found/Surrender, Simond Hill Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 12:10 p.m. Road/Traffic Hazard, New Westminster Road, Public Assist
 6:42 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Dogwood South Road, Transported to Hospital
 10:08 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Ragged Hill Road, Transported to Hospital

Thursday, Sept. 25
 9:13 a.m. Court Duty, Gardner District Court, Officer/Chief Advised
 10:39 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – New Westminster Road, No Transport

Required
 5:07 p.m. Fired – Power Lines/Wires, Ed Clark Road, Fire Extinguished

Friday, Sept. 26
 11:02 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Morgan Road, Transported to Hospital
 4:49 p.m. Landlord Tenant/ Neighbor Dispute, Abenaki Street, Report Filed

Saturday, Sept. 27
 1:17 p.m. Trespasser or Prowler, Pitcherville Road, Area Patrolled
 1:57 p.m. Trespasser or Prowler, Pitcherville Road, Party Departed without Incident
 3:23 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Princeton Cutoff Road, Transported to Hospital
 5:44 p.m. Gunshots, Williamsville, Investigated
 7:08 p.m. Assist Other Police, Templeton, Area Search Negative

Sunday, Sept. 28
 8:31 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, New Westminster Road, Mutual Aid Transport
 11:32 a.m. Landlord Tenant/ Neighbor Dispute, Abenaki Street, Call Transferred
 12:17 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Trauma, New Templeton Road, Transported to Hospital
 1:25 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, Chippewa Street, Information Taken
 4:28 p.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Gardner Road, Party Departed
 4:42 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, High Bridge Road, Mutual Aid Transport
 5:04 p.m. Fire – Power Lines/ Wires, New Templeton Road, Referred to Other Agency
 7:51 p.m. Unwanted Party, Williamsville Road, Returned

Monday, Sept. 29
 5:39 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Worcester Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 2:16 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Simond Hill Road, Transported to Hospital
 2:28 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Old Princeton Cutoff Road, Mutual Aid Transport
 6:22 p.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, High Bridge Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 6:54 p.m. Fire – Fumes/ Odor/Gas/Leak, Elm Street, Investigated

Tuesday, Sept. 30
 11:33 a.m. Identity Theft, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 6:40 p.m. Suspicious Person/ Vehicle Activity, Pitcherville Road, Information Taken

Wednesday, Oct. 2
 7:10 a.m. Animal – Wildlife, Penobscott Avenue, Information Given
 10:51 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Madison Way, Transported to Hospital
 11:07 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Burnshirt Road, Mutual Aid Transport
 5:08 p.m. Landlord Tenant/ Neighbor Dispute, Birches Road, Report Filed
 6:20 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Bleeding (Non-Traumatic), Gardner Road, No Transport Required
 8:11 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Ruggles Lane, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Thursday, Oct. 3
 1:53 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Plum Tree Lane, Officer/Chief Advised
 6:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident – No Fire Department/ EMS Response, New Westminster Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Friday, Oct. 3
 11:04 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Old Princeton Cutoff Road, No Transport Required
 11:49 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, Constables, Negative Contact
 2:18 p.m. Larceny/Theft, Gardner Road, Prisoner Bailed
 Arrest Pointdujour, Ashya Gina, 19, Worcester
 Charges Attempted Larceny by Check, Utter False Check
 Arrest Rivera, Kasey Marie, 22, Worcester
 Charges License Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle with, Accessory Before the Fact, Accessory After the Fact
 Arrest Carter, Steven Michael, 23, Worcester
 Charges Utter False Check, Accessory Before the Fact, Attempted Larceny by Check
 9:12 p.m. Erratic Operator, Gardner Road, Call Transferred

Saturday, Oct. 4
 8:41 a.m. Follow-Up Investigation, Gardner Road, Report Filed
 Arrest Pointdujour, Ashya Gina, 19, Worcester
 Charges Attempted Larceny by Check, Utter False Check
 Arrest Rivera, Kasey Marie, 22, Worcester
 Charges License Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle with, Accessory Before the Fact, Accessory After the Fact
 Arrest Carter, Steven Michael, 23, Worcester
 Charges Utter False Check, Accessory Before the Fact, Attempted Larceny by Check
 2:03 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Old Princeton Cutoff Road, Transported to Hospital
 5:10 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Burnshirt Road, Information Taken

Oakham Police Log

Wednesday, Oct. 1
 6:50 a.m. Fire – Structure Fire, Bushy Lane, Investigated
 2:21 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Ware Corner Road, Transported to Hospital

Thursday, Oct. 2
 8:14 p.m. Public Assist, North Brookfield Road, Negative Contact

Friday, Oct. 3
 3:53 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Coldbrook Road, Investigated
 4:03 p.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Main Street, Investigated

Saturday, Oct. 4
 12:48 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, North Brookfield Road, Referred to Other Agency
 4:20 p.m. Burglary/Breaking and Entering, Spencer Road,

Report Filed
 7:12 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, North Brookfield Road, Mutual Aid Transport
 7:40 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident – No Fire Department/ EMS Response, Bechan Road, Report Filed
 10:09 p.m. Harassment, Oakham Fire – EMS Department, Report Filed

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of Sept. 29-Oct. 6, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 61 building/property checks, 53 directed/area patrols, 16 radar assignments, four traffic controls, nine emergency 911 calls, one citizen assist, five assist other agencies, one complaint, two motor vehicle investigations, one vandalism, one complaint, one motor vehicle accident, one fire/illegal burn, six animal calls and eight motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, Sept. 29
 8:45 a.m. 911 Animal Call, Barre Road, Services Rendered
 9:13 a.m. Welfare Check, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
 1:59 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Jackson Road, Spoken To

Tuesday, Sept. 30
 6:51 a.m. 911 Disabled Motor Vehicle, Lower Road, Services Rendered
 7:31 a.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Hardwick Road, Spoken To
 7:03 p.m. Vandalism, Grove Street, Officer Handled
 7:29 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Short Road, Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, Oct. 1
 3:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Arrest(s) Made

Friday, Oct. 3
 3:46 a.m. Medical Emergency, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
 2:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Road, Citation Issued
 3:31 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Upper Church Street, Dispatch Handled
 7:20 p.m. 911 Fire/Illegal Burn, High Street, Investigated
 9:59 p.m. 911 Complaint, Hardwick Road, Services Rendered

Sunday, Oct. 5
 4:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint

Monday, Oct. 6
 1:25 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Barre Road, Services Rendered
 2:50 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Prouty Road, Transported to Hospital

2:22 p.m. Harassment, Church Lane, Officer Handled
 4:50 p.m. 911 Missing Person, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled

Wednesday, Oct. 15
 11:49 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Church Street, Transported to Hospital
 2:29 p.m. Investigation, Barre Road, Services Rendered
 8:15 p.m. Investigation, Hardwick Road, Negative Contact

Thursday, Oct. 16
 2:07 a.m. Medical Emergency, Off Prospect Street, Transported to Hospital
 10:11 a.m. Assist Citizen, School House Drive, Officer Handled
 12:40 p.m. Assist Citizen, Bridge Street, Services Rendered
 4:04 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Shunpike Road, Patient Refusal
 8:56 p.m. Investigation, Hardwick Road, Spoken To

Friday, Oct. 17
 9:18 a.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Crash, Church Street, Report Taken
 12:36 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
 2:22 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, River Run, Transported to Hospital
 11:59 p.m. Disturbance, Barre Road, Officer Handled

Saturday, Oct. 18
 6:17 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Bridge Court, Transported to Hospital
 8:27 p.m. Investigation, Bridge Court, Officer Handled
 10:25 p.m. 911 Misdial, Lower Road, Services Rendered
 11:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Church Street, Officer Handled

Sunday, Oct. 19
 10 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Written Warning
 12:12 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Old Greenwich Plains Road, Transported to Hospital
 8:41 p.m. 911 Hang-up, North Road, Spoken To

PLEASE REMEMBER TO RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Old Post Road ensemble to perform

GILBERTVILLE Musicians of the Old Post Road, an award-winning ensemble, will perform rollicking Classical chamber music for flute and strings at the Stone Church Cultural Center, 283 Main St., on Saturday, Nov. 1 at 3 p.m.

Friends of the Stone Church will serve snacks at a free reception following the concert. Tickets are \$25 can be purchased at the door or buyticketsat/friendsofthestonechurch/1779013.

The ensemble is directed by its co-founders Daniel Ryan and Suzanne Stumpf. Performing with Ryan on cello and Stumpf on flute are Sarah Darling and Jesse Irons on violin and Marcia Cassidy on viola. Well known for its Boston-based concert series, its presentations of newly discovered historic repertoire and its recordings, MoPR has been deemed “a cleverly-conceived and impeccably presented group of artists”

by Classical Voice of New England.

Their Gilbertville program explores boisterous chamber works from the Classical period (approximately 1730-1820), including an arrangement for flute and strings of Mozart’s Rondo ‘alla Turca.’ This unique adaptation was made in 1800 by a friend of Mozart’s, Franz Anton Hoffmeister, a composer, flutist, and music publisher. The ensemble will then perform Flute Quartet in G Major by Adalbert Gyrowetz, another friend of Mozart. Born in Bohemia (now part of the Czech Republic), Gyrowetz was a multi-faceted composer whose music was performed throughout Europe. This flute quartet includes a Rondo in the style of a rustic Hungarian dance.

The program also features movements from Johann Evangelist Brandl’s Notturmo in E-flat Major. Brandl’s colleagues esteemed

his beautiful melodies. The selected movements highlight his musical expression and lively folkloric forms. Also included is a quintet for flute and strings by Austrian composer Andreas Lidl, an acclaimed player of the viola de gamba. Prince Nicholas at the Esterházy court in Hungary employed Lidl, where he overlapped with Josef Haydn. A set of toe-tapping Hungarian dances from the early nineteenth century rounds out the program.

FOSC participates in the Card to Culture program of the Mass Cultural Council, by extending discounts to EBT, WIC and ConnectorCare health plan insurance cardholders. Eligible participants may request up to two free tickets at the box office on the day of the event. They should bring EBT, WIC or Connector Care health plan card for 2025.

Local election officials convened in Washington, D.C. in September

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Hardwick Town Clerk, Ryan J. Witkos, was one of six town clerks, along with two city clerks and support staff and retired clerks from Massachusetts who went to Washington D.C. on Sept. 30 to join more than 80 local election officials from across the country to call on Congress to approve \$400 million in fiscal year 2026 federal funding to ensure safe, secure, and efficient elections.

Election officials from every region of the country shared firsthand stories about urgent challenges facing their jurisdictions—from replacing aging voting machines to combating cyber threats and recruiting poll workers.

Buxton, Maine Town Clerk, John Myers, echoed the feelings of many rural communities stating, “In smaller towns like mine, election officials wear many hats. We’re proud of the work we do, but the resources simply haven’t kept pace with the responsibilities. Predictable federal support is essential so every community – no matter its size – can deliver secure and efficient elections that voters trust.”

Witkos added, “With different options for voting from vote-by-mail to online portals for those who qualify, communities must



Submitted Photo

Local election officials from Massachusetts including Hardwick Town Clerk Ryan J. Witkos went to Washington, D.C. to call on Congress to invest \$400 million into nation’s election security infrastructure.

have the funds available to combat cybersecurity threats and ensure that every voter and vote is properly vetted and counted. Small towns simply do not have

the resources to meet this challenge and am pleased to have advocated on behalf of Hardwick and other Massachusetts municipalities.”

First ever poetry contest open to Worcester County residents

SOUTHBRIDGE – The Jacob Edward Annual Poetry Contest: The Bill Tremblay Poetry Prize is open to all members, Worcester County current and former residents and students, and employees of Worcester County businesses.

Winning poems and poets are honored with a winners’ reading, including a brief reading by Bill Tremblay, to be held on Jan. 29, 2026.

To enter the Jacob Edward Library annual poetry contest, you must be

either a resident of Worcester County, or a student or employee of institutions within Worcester County. First Place winners of previous JEL annual poetry contests are not eligible to enter.

Submissions will open on Oct. 1 and close on Nov. 28 for the inaugural Annual Contest. No poems will be considered with a postmark

later than Nov. 28.

Contest guidelines

Poems must be the entrant’s original work in English and must not be previously published. Poems composed using AI will not be accepted.

Submit no more than three poems in any form.

Paper submissions must not be stapled or attached in any way and poems must be formatted for 8 1/2 inch x 11 inch paper.

Do not put your name on the individual poems; entrants will be judged anonymously. Include a cover sheet with your name, address, telephone number, email address, and the title of each poem.

Submissions should be mailed to: Bill Tremblay Poetry Prize, c/o Jacob Edwards Library, 236 Main St., Southbridge, MA 01550

Submissions will not be returned.

Winners will be listed on the JEL website and announced via the library’s Instagram and Facebook pages.

Entry fee

There is a modest entry fee of \$10 to submit. Checks or money orders only made out to the Jacob Edwards Library, please. Please note the submission or the contest fee on the check or money order.

Judging and awards

First Place is a \$100 prize; Second Place, \$75; and Third Place, \$50. Winning poets will also receive a signed copy of Bill Tremblay’s book, “Southbridge: My Triggering Town”.

Contest winners will be announced in December 2025. The Winners’ Reading & Award Reception will be on Jan. 29, 2026 at the Jacob Edwards Library, at 6:30 p.m.

Fidelity Bank ranks at top of Forbes list of America’s Best-In-State Banks

LEOMINSTER— Fidelity Bank announces it took the number one spot from the more than 100 banks that call Massachusetts home on the Forbes list of America’s Best-In-State Banks 2025.

This prestigious award, which was announced on June 17, is presented in collaboration with Statista, the world-leading statistics portal and industry ranking provider.

“This prestigious recognition is a powerful affirmation of what we already know: that our LifeDesign approach,

which is grounded in care, clarity, and confidence, is making a real difference in the lives of our clients, colleagues, and communities,” said Joseph Silva, president, Fidelity Bank. “Being selected by Forbes as the top bank in Massachusetts reflects the trust we’ve earned, the service we provide, and the impact we deliver every day.”

America’s Best-In-State Banks 2025 aims to showcase the institutions most valued by residents in each state and to recognize the

banks that have excelled in meeting the unique needs and expectations of their local communities. The ranking is based on an independent survey of over 26,000 customers in the U.S. Participants evaluated banks on several criteria, including Trust, Financial Advice, Customer Services, Digital Services, Branch Services, and Terms & Conditions. They also rated the importance of these criteria. A sentiment analysis was conducted using the publicly available reviews and a score.

AUTHORS from page 6

stories and Buzzell mentioned a website or a Facebook Page. Another idea is for writers to start an email list.

What the Author Roundtable wanted to address most importantly is the threat of scams. They are out there and Buzzell mentioned they can be identified. Speaking

from experience, Buzzell has had fake phone calls and emails cross her path and it is important to look out for them.

When submitting one’s work, there are writer’s markets out there, especially in digital form.

“Everybody has stories,” Buzzell said. “You should write something.”

Buzzell finds it important for folks to record stories about

their life and families and help encourage the next generation. Whether it is sharing with the rest of the world or for you and your family, it is important to write your story.

The next Author’s Roundtable will take place sometime in January. More updates can be found on www.northbrookfieldlibrary.org. The Haston Free Public Library is located at 161 North Main St.

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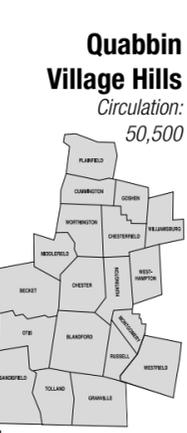
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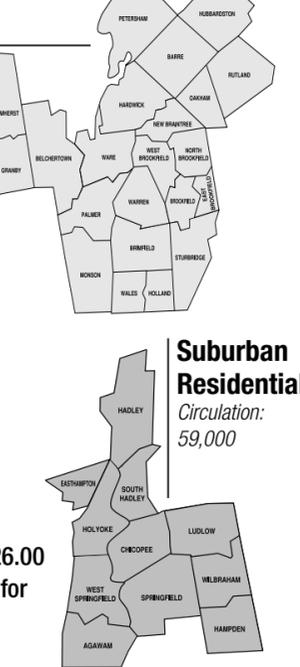
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