

BARRE GAZETTE

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Town clerks announce unofficial election results

By Ellenor Downer
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The towns of Barre, Hubbardston, New Braintree, North Brookfield and Oakham followed the national trend by giving the nod to the Trump/Vance ticket for president and vice president.

In Barre, 3,118 of the 4,468 registered voters (1,567 precinct 1 and 1,551 precinct 2) for a 71.38% voter turnout in the Tuesday, Nov. 5 election. A total of 1,622 voted the Republican Trump/Vance ticket (765 precinct 1 and 857 precinct 2) and 1,404 for the Democratic Harris/Walz (758 precinct 1 and 646 precinct 2). Elizabeth Warren, Democrat, received a third term as Senator in Congress with 1,305 votes in Barre (701 precinct 1 and 604 precinct 2). In Barre challenger John Deaton, Republican, was the high vote getter for that office with 1,750 votes (835 precinct 1 and 915 precinct 2) going against the state results.

For Representative in Congress Second District James P. McGovern, Democrat, won another term. Barre voted 1,675 (838 Precinct 1 and 837 Precinct 2) for McGovern. His challenger Cornelius Shea, an Independent got 1,229 votes (618 precinct 1 and 611 precinct 2). Paul DePalo, Democrat and incumbent, got 1,465 and Andrew Couture, Republican, got 1,471 or Councillor Seventh District. Peter Durant, Republican, incumbent, won Senator in General Court Worcester and Hampshire District with 1,851 (879 precinct 1 and 972 precinct 2). His challenger, Sheila Dibb, Democrat, got 1,142 votes (619 precinct 1

See ELECTION RESULTS, page 6



Children from the Graves, Goddard, Francoeur, and Russell families, were waiting to compete at Hardwick Elementary School PTO's annual post-Halloween Pumpkin Roll.

A smashing success

Hardwick Elementary School's PTO hosts annual Pumpkin Roll

HARDWICK – Last Sunday, Hardwick Elementary School's PTO hosted its annual Pumpkin Roll, a quirky and fun-filled event that drew a large crowd of students, parents, and community members.

The event featured a unique competition where participants rolled their pumpkins down a designated hill, vying for various awards like farthest roll, shortest roll, and most destroyed.

Pumpkins of all shapes and sizes took to the hill, each with its own unique personality. Some pumpkins rolled smoothly and swiftly, while others tumbled and bounced their way down, much to the delight of the spectators.

The event was a success, and organizers are already looking forward to next year's Pumpkin Roll.



Children send their pumpkins and jack-o'-lanterns down the big hill at Hardwick Elementary School.

Turley Photos by Victoria Pleasant

Special town meeting scheduled for Nov. 15

NORTH BROOKFIELD – A special town meeting will be held on Friday, Nov. 15 at 6 p.m. in the North Brookfield Elementary School auditorium, 10 New School House Drive.

The warrant contains 17 articles, which appear below:

Article 1

To see if the Town will vote rescind that vote of the June 16, 2024, Annual Town Meeting, Article 3, that transferred \$300,000 from Stabilization to Group Health and further to see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$233,436.00 from Stabilization to Group Health, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 2

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$300,000 from available funds to Group Health, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 3

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$90,000 from available funds to Town Administrator Salary, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 4

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of \$800 from available funds to Board of Selectmen Supplies or take any action relative thereto.

Article 5

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of \$2,700 from available funds to Board of Selectmen Dues and Memberships or take any action relative thereto.

Article 6

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from available funds to Collector Salary or take any action relative thereto.

Article 7

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from available funds to Stabilization or take

See NORTH BROOKFIELD, page 7

Entrepreneurship thrives in Hubbardston

By Eric Goodhard
Correspondent

HUBBARDSTON – The Hubbardston Economic Development Committee, founded in 2019 to support local businesses, recently sponsored its second "Taste & Services of Hubbardston" event at the Hubbardston Rod & Gun Club, Williamsville Road from 5-8 p.m.

As successful as the event at the Pinecrest Lodge was in 2023, this venue this past October was large enough to accommodate 18 businesses showcasing their products and services. EDC Chair Whitney Friberg has been a dedicated leader since the Committee's beginning.

Raising awareness of what fellow residents are doing brings to mind the age-old adage to "shop local" when possible. It is a form of investing in the

community at a time when massive internet shopping sites, though enticing, have challenged hard-working owners of small enterprises.

It is even more than celebrating this town's rural charm and vibrant community spirit. The EDC's mission is to improve the community's quality of life by supporting and expanding the local business base that contributes to Hubbardston's community character.

It was refreshing to see and meet many residents, who came out that night to find out who was doing what in their "backyards." For example, Plain View Farm's Alpacas and unique gift shop, Shannon Donovan's Sunflour Pastries, Jason Gobar, Timber framer and creative Wood Craftsman, Alicia Songer and Studio Macarons, Carrie Prest, CMG dog trainer with the clever business name Paw and Order, Mary Varteresian's delightful Bee Nice Farm and The Wachusett's Vineyards, local wine that is already beginning to make its mark in New England

quality viticulture.

Let's not forget Giacomo's in the village center, where always good treats and local hand-crafted gift cards await; Hubbardston Candle Company, home of hand-poured quality beeswax candles for all occasions and seasons; Programs for Education, LLC, affordable College and Career Counseling when college costs have become insanely high; Natural Healing Arts, a division of PFE, currently presenting popular free health education seminars at Senior Centers throughout Massachusetts. The Wellness Hub offers many services, from Yoga to Reiki and counseling.

The much-appreciated Greenwood Hill Farm proprietors, Andrea and Tom Coyer, were there too. At their farm on the hilltop, people will find registered Merino sheep and fine, soft, all-natural Merino yarns.

As people enter the Holiday season with an election designed to separate rather than unite our world, let's focus on taking care of each other as best we can in harmony and mutual respect.

Board allocates ARPA funds for hydrants and water leak

By Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

HARDWICK – Town Administrator Justine Caggiano said there is \$52,000 left in the American Rescue Plan Act funding, of which \$40,000 has been committed to replacing the town barn's roof.

At the Select Board's Oct. 28 meeting, she requested the remaining \$12,000 be allocated for the Gilbertville hydrant system and water leak. She said the cost of materials has totaled about \$5,200 so far, but could reach \$11,000.

Caggiano said the ARPA money needs to be used by Dec. 31.

Caggiano said money from the state budget was earmarked to pay for the hydrants and leak repair, but those funds have been on hold, and she is unsure if and when they will be released.

"Those aren't guaranteed," she said.

The board members discussed whether or not the leak was

caused by Main Street roadwork completed over a year ago. Select Board Vice-Chair Eric Vollheim said the board should investigate when the leak became an issue.

Select Board Clerk Bill Tinker said he would like to see some of the \$12,000 used to hire a grant writer for the town. He said the town could hire a grant writer for about \$6,000.

Caggiano said she and Vollheim (who is also the town's Emergency Management director) are applying for a grant through the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness program that could be used pay for a contract grant writer in fiscal year 2026.

Another suggestion for use of the ARPA funding was for the removal of large pine trees behind the Myron E. Richardson Municipal Building. Caggiano said she is waiting for a quote for the cost of the tree removal.

The board members voted to allocate the remaining ARPA funds to pay for the hydrant system and leak.

Conservation restriction

East Quabbin Land Trust's Executive Director Cynthia Henshaw explained the importance of open space, and the trust's history of being formed by residents in town over 30 years ago.

"These founders set up the organization and we're continuing with that, because keeping properties open, is vital to the community," Henshaw said.

Henshaw came before the Select Board seeking approval for a conservation restriction for a wooded parcel of land adjacent to East Quabbin Land Trust's Patrill Hollow Preserve.

"The intention is to add it Patrill Hollow Preserve which we manage. The woods are there and the trails...and encourage people to come and recreate on the property," she said. "Our vision at this point, would continue that."

Select Board Chair Kelly Kemp said town counsel had concerns about liability falling on the town,

See HARDWICK, page 7

BARRE 
GAZETTE

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News of the Towns



Round Town
Ellenor Downer
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Veteran's Day ceremony happens Nov. 11
On Veterans Day, Monday, Nov. 11, there will be a brief ceremony at Veterans Park, on the Common, at 11 a.m. All Veterans are encouraged to join the ranks. Local residents are invited to attend.

Library program
"Letters to Ancestors" program with Paula Grandpre Wood will be held Thursday, Nov. 14 at 6 p.m. at the Woods Memorial Library, 19 Pleasant St. Grandpre Wood presents the events and chronicles the journey of writing her book. A genealogical memoir, "The Long Walk Home with the Ceinture Fléchée: The Arrow Sash," has elements of suspense, adventure, joy and grief. A Barre resident who grew up in Central Falls, Rhode Island and Northboro, Grandpre Wood tracks down her ancestors, pieces together their stories and wraps herself in the cloth Arrow Sash, a tradition that has been passed down in her family for generations. All are welcome to this free event and no registration is necessary.

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

Church Fairs
Both the Barre Congregational church and St. Francis of Assisi Parish will hold their holiday fairs during Christmas in Barre. The Women's Fellowship Christmas Fair will be held Saturday, Dec. 7 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. during the annual Christmas in Barre at the Barre Congregational church, 30 Park St. St. Francis of Assisi Parish Holiday Fair will be held on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at St. Joseph's Church, 29 South St.

Congregational church
This year Advent begins the Sunday after Thanksgiving. The Barre Congregational church Flower Committee is preparing now to decorate the sanctuary. This year we are planning to add angels to the windows and alter. If people have one or more angels that they would like to share, the committee would like to add them to the Christmas decorations. The plan is to have the sanctuary decorated for the Dec. 1 service.

Community Drive-thru supper
A Community Friendship Drive-Thru supper will be held Thursday, Nov. 21 with pick up from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St. The menu is macaroni and cheese, hot dogs, vegetable and dessert.

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Monson	63 acres frtg 2 roads	\$280,000
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Warren	4.5+Acres (perc)	\$29,900

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Petersham Art Center to hold classes

PETERSHAM –The Petersham Art Center, 8 North St., has a full schedule of exhibits and classes coming up in November and December.

On Saturday, Nov. 9 from 10 a.m.-noon textile artist, Peggy Schneider, will teach a class on the art of Slow Stitched textiles. She will walk students through the foundation of hand-stitched ways to use expressive colors, textures, materials and embroidery techniques to create a unique handmade art piece, featuring a festive robin design.

"It's time to embrace the art of Slow Stitch Textiles," says Schneider, who is member of the Embroiders Guild of America. "Once learned, you will be able to use these skills to create your own one-of-a-kind pieces."

The annual Members Show opens on Sunday, Nov. 10 from 4-6 p.m. with a reception for guests to meet the artists and enjoy refreshments. Members will bring their best and most creative offerings to delight the visitors. Everyone is invited to attend this free event. The exhibition will be on display through Sunday, Dec. 31. Liz Better of Barre will teach a class on making a Boxwood Table Top Tree on Saturday, Nov. 16 from 9-11a.m. This decorated tree will make a festive display for a holiday table. Better has worked as a florist and also spent many years doing indoor and outdoor plantscaping, as well as teaching classes for wreath making, centerpiece and vase arrangements.

Rachel Gonzalez of Rachel's Everlastings of



Submitted photo

Peggy Schneider will teach a class on Slow stitched textiles on Saturday, Nov. 9 from 10 a.m.-noon at the Petersham Art Center, 8 North St., Petersham.

Orange, will give instruction on Saturday, Nov. 23 from 10 a.m.-noon, on making a Mixed Greens Holiday Wreath. Teens to adults will enjoy this opportunity to learn the art of wreath-making from Gonzalez, who has her own sustainable garden business, producing flowers and herbs for crafts, as well as produce.

On Sunday, Nov. 24 10 a.m.-noon, join Lynne Hartman of Hartman's Herb Farm to make a Boxwood Holiday wreath. This wreath will be perfect for holiday decorations and for gift-giving. Hartman has been delighting crafters with her lessons in creating wreaths and floral arrangements at the Petersham Art Center for years.

A class to make German folded star ornaments will be held on Saturday, Dec 7 from 10 a.m.-noon with Heidi Strickland. Colorful and embellished paper strips are folded together to create these beautiful ornaments.

They can be hung on a holiday tree or given as special gifts.

Photographer Geoffrey Smith will host a class on Saturday, Dec 14, from 10 a.m.-noon, on creating fantastic and fun photographic images. The class will cover concepts, methods and composition for capturing original and innovative scenes. Smith had his own photography business, Interdisciplinary Arts Photography and has led photo workshops at culture conventions, such as comic con and anime cons, to help people imagine creative compositions.

All these classes will be held at the Petersham Art Center, 8 North Street, in Petersham. There is fee for each class. The Art Center is open Thursday-Sunday, 12 Noon to 4pm, to view the works of local artists and to display the annual Members exhibit, through December 31st.

Barre Food Pantry hold distributions

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

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

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

Many clients and volunteers are classified as high-risk due to their age and/or underlying health conditions. The Barre Food Pantry Board of Directors considered changing how the pantry currently operates, but decided that the most respon-

sible path forward is to continue to operate as we have since March of 2020.

In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients Nov. 13 and 21 will again be "drive-through" style distributions. Clients will line up in their vehicles on Park Street and proceed into the right hand (east) entrance driveway of the Barre Congregational Church. They will remain in their cars. They'll drive up and be checked in by a volunteer, then continue up to the church building where their groceries will be put into the trunk or wayback of their vehicle by volunteers at multiple stations.

Based on the success of distributions so far, the Food Pantry volunteers believe this "drive-through" style is the safest possible way to get food to clients and to help keep everyone well.

The Barre Food Pantry

needs volunteers. On Tuesday night, Nov. 12 at 5 p.m. the Barre Food Pantry will be gathering volunteers at the Barre Congregational Church to unload incoming groceries from their truck, to sort through donated groceries, to pre-fill grocery bags and in other ways to prepare for the distribution the following morning.

If people can help pitch in for an hour on the Nov. 12th, they should call Sonja Blaney at 978-355-6921.

Volunteer should not arrive on Nov. 12, 13 or 21 without first contacting Sonja Blaney at 978-355-6921 or Chuck Radlo at 978-355-6463.

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



Hubbardston
Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

STM set for Nov. 19
A Special Town Meeting will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 19 at 7 p.m. in the Hubbardston Center School, 8 Elm St. There are ten articles on the warrant.

Volunteer appreciation night
The town of Hubbardston will host a volunteer appreciation night on Monday, Nov. 18 at 5 p.m. at the Hubbardston Senior Center in honor of all the hard work and dedication volunteers provide to the community. Refreshments will be served. This night is all about the volunteers. People should RSVP via email to bos@hubbardstonma.us by Monday, Nov. 11.

Senior tax work-off program
The town of Hubbardston announces the opening of the Senior Tax Work-Off Program for eligible senior residents. This program allows seniors to earn a property tax reduction of up to \$1,500 annually by volunteering their time to assist various town departments. Participants will earn \$15 per hour, directly reducing their property tax bill. To be eligible residents must be aged 60 and above and own and occupy a home in Hubbardston. The work period is Oct. 1 through Sept. 30, 2025. Opportunities are available in departments such as Town Offices, Senior Center, Police Department, Library, and DPW. Applications are available at the Treasurer Collector's Office, 7 Main St. or by email request at taxcoll@hubbardstonma.us. For assistance or questions, people may call Sara Rish at 978-928-1400, extension 205. The town encourages eligible seniors to participate in this program to stay engaged with the community and enjoy a tax benefit.

Senior Center
The Hubbardston Senior Center, 7A Main St., events include: Bingo from 12:30-3 p.m. on Mondays; Knitting Group at 10 a.m. every Tuesday at 10 a.m. and Wii Bowling beginning at 8:30 a.m. every Monday and Wednesday beginning at 8:30 a.m. Eggs may be picked up on Thursdays at 8:30 a.m. in the Senior Center. Cribbage is played on Thursdays from 1:30-3 p.m. Pitch is played the first and third Friday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Art group meets every Friday at 9 a.m.

Barre Dining Center

BARRE — Elder Services of Worcester Area Nutrition Program welcomes guests to dine at the Barre Senior Center, 557 South Barre Road. The following meals will be served for the week of Nov. 11. Lunches are back at the senior center, but require a pre-sign up. Volunteers are needed at the Barre dining site. Volunteers are needed for Meals on Wheels (mileage reimbursement) and in the kitchen. People should contact 978-355-5027.

MONDAY – Veterans Day no meal served.
TUESDAY – Swedish meatballs, mashed potatoes, Scandinavian vegetables, fresh fruit, marble rye bread

WEDNESDAY – Roast pork with gravy, cranberry stuffing, country blend vegetables, apple crisp, diet = baked apple, pumpkinnickel bread

THURSDAY – Potato crunch fish, herbed potatoes, peas and onions, mixed fruit, whole wheat bread, tartar sauce

FRIDAY – Garlic herbed chicken, herbed stuffing, roast Brussels sprouts, lemon pudding, diet = tapioca pudding, marble rye bread

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

New Braintree Library holds story time Nov. 18

NEW BRAINTREE – The New Braintree Public Library, 45 Memorial Drive, is offering a "Story Time" program for preschoolers on Monday, Nov. 18 beginning at 9 a.m.

The program's focus is giving thanks. The readings will include "Bear Says Thanks" by Karma Wilson and "The Thank You Book" by Mo Willems. Parental supervision is required at this reading and crafts program. People may call the library at 508-867-7650 during regular business hours for more information.

Editorial deadline reminder

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



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News of the Towns

PUBLIC MEETINGS

BARRE

Board of Registrars – Nov. 7 at 4:30 p.m. and Nov 15 at 5:15 p.m.
 Conservation Committee – Nov. 12 and Nov. 26 at 7 p.m.
 Select Board – Nov. 13 and Nov. 18 at 6 p.m.
 Library Trustees – Nov. 13 at 6:30 p.m.
 Barre Housing Authority – Nov. 14 at 1 p.m.
 Planning Board – Nov. 19 at 7 p.m.
 250th Anniversary Committee – Nov. 20 and Dec. 11 at 6:30 p.m.
 Sewer Commission – Nov. 21 at 7 p.m.
 Board of Health – Dec. 2 at 5 p.m.
 Water Commission – Dec. 9 at 6:30 p.m.
 DPW Commission – Dec. 9 at 7 p.m.
 Cable Advisory Committee – Dec. 10 at 7 p.m.
 Cemetery Commission – Dec. 26 at 11 a.m.

HARDWICK

Paige Library Trustees – Nov. 7 at 7:30 p.m.
 Hardwick New Braintree Cultural Council – Nov. 11 and Dec. 9 at 6:30 p.m.
 Recycling Commission – Nov. 12 at 6:30 p.m.
 Planning Board – Nov. 12 at 6:30 p.m.
 Board of Health – Nov. 18 at 7 p.m.
 Gilbertville Public Library – Nov. 13 at 4 p.m.
 Master Plan Steering Committee – Nov. 14 at 6:30 p.m.
 Board of Registrars – Nov. 16 at 12:30 p.m.
 Capital Planning Committee – Nov. 18 at 3 p.m.
 Wheelwright Water District – Nov. 18 at 7 p.m.
 Gilbertville Water District – Nov. 19 at 5:30 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – Nov. 20 at 6:30 p.m.

HUBBARDSTON

Emergency Management Department Planning Committee – Nov. 7 at 3 p.m.
 Cultural Council – Nov. 12 and Nov. 21 at 7 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Nov. 19 at 4 p.m.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

Sewer Commissioners – Nov. 12 at 3:45 p.m.
 Town House Committee – Nov. 14 at 6:45 p.m.
 Special Town Meeting – Nov. 15 at 6:30 p.m.
 Board of Selectmen – Nov. 19 at 6 p.m.
 Public Notice Tax Classification Hearing – Nov. 19 at 6:15 p.m.
 Planning Board – Nov. 20 at 6 p.m.

OAKHAM

Council on Aging – Nov. 8 and Dec. 13 at noon
 Planning Board – Nov. 19 and Dec. 17 at 7 p.m.

PETERSHAM

Select Board – Nov. 7, Nov. 21, Dec. 5, Dec. 19 and Jan. 2, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.
 Board of Health – Nov. 7 at 7 p.m.
 Board of Assessors – Nov. 8 at 9 a.m.
 Cemetery Commission – Nov. 12 at 10 a.m.
 Open Space and Recreation Committee – Nov. 12 at 6 p.m.
 Petersham Historic District – Nov. 21 at 6 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Dec. 9 at 10 a.m.

RUTLAND

Board of Registrars – Nov. 7 at 5 p.m.
 Select Board – Nov. 7 at 5:30 p.m.
 Planning Board – Nov. 12 at 6 p.m.
 Special Town Meeting – Nov. 21 at 6 p.m.

Lucy Allen to present program on women in Barre's history

BARRE – On Thursday, Nov. 14 at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Hall, 2 Exchange St., the Barre Historical Society and Museum's Historian, Lucy Allen, will present a free public program exploring how women have shaped Barre's history since our early days.

The social period will start at 6 p.m. with light refreshments. It is more difficult to gauge the impact of women on our history because women were not allowed to vote or hold public office, two ways by which we can trace the activities of men. Upon marriage, the legal status of a married woman became subsidiary to her husband's. By marrying, a woman gave up her right to run a business or become a teacher, to buy and sell land and to sign a contract, for example. Women had no direct voice in political affairs.

Despite these hindrances, we have evidence from the early days of European settlement in Barre that women were able to exert influence. Some did this through their husbands, whose business and political decisions influenced Barre's development.

Some chose to remain single so they could work in their desired field, such as teaching in schools. A few women became outspoken advocates for certain causes, such as the abolition of slavery, temperance, religion or correcting social wrongs. Other women left their marks on our history simply by surviving challenges in their lives, such as enslavement.

We will see the influence of the Caldwell women whose husbands built some of the grand buildings in Barre center. The lives of one-room schoolhouse teachers; special education expert Catharine (Wood) Brown of Dr. Brown's Institution; the abolitionist poet Caroline "Carrie" Bacon; our country's first military chaplain, Ella Elvira Gibson and newspaper editor and airplane pilot/flight teacher, Catherine (Pierce) Hiller, will be examined.

In Massachusetts, by the mid-1800s, women acquired some legal rights to work and earn money even if married. As women entered the 20th century, it became easier for them to

work outside the home. Some worked in industry, others in business. World War I saw the introduction of women into fields of work that were typically reserved for men, such as the "Farmerettes," who worked at Col. William Gaston's estate to replace farm workers who had joined the military. The work of women in World War I had a direct impact on the passage of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution in 1919, which was ratified in 1920. The 19th Amendment gave women the right to vote. This did not mean equality in work or pay, a struggle that continues today. World War II brought more opportunities for women to prove that they could do the same work as men. Photographs from the former Barre Wool Combing Co. Ltd. tell a poignant story of how women assumed responsibility as men went into military service.

As always, the historical society thanks their members, donors and sponsors for making it possible to provide free public programming.

Large group attend Climate Forum

BARRE – On Oct. 4, approximately 140 persons turned out for the Climate Forum Barre at the old Barre Town Hall.

After welcoming remarks, Sue Coles introduced Massachusetts Climate Chief Melissa Hoffer. Chief Hoffer said that her work was to establish collaboration and innovation to support clean energy, decarbonization and resilience in all areas of our lives. All government offices are to address ways in which climate will affect their developing plans, to help communities mitigate the speed of climate change, and to adapt to anticipated changes. Her recommendations are that all areas of society, such as, public health, workforce, housing, local governance, funding, address climate considerations.

Protecting people in high risk areas of the state, country and the planet will be challenging and costly. The longer the delay in addressing these challenges the more costly they will be.

Forest Jonathan Thompson spoke to the nature of trees and vegetation that can draw carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere and store it in the earth. He noted that ash, beech, maple and hemlock are species that are currently beleaguered by imported diseases. The pests and microorganisms come into the country mostly in ornamental nursery stock and become established in their chosen local host plant. He was hopeful about the long-term resilience of the forests. Forest and farmland are both extremely good for carbon sequestration. Solar panels are great for a clean way to produce electricity, but can be installed without cutting forests and covering farmers' fields with them, protecting the carbon storage capacity of the forests and fields. Louisa Knowles gave closing remarks and notice of future meetings for interested people.

Climate Scientist Adam Schlosser explained that many trace gases like carbon dioxide and methane have accumulated in the atmosphere over the last 200 years. They create a thin mantle that reflects heat back to earth. This layer does not dissipate into space, but remains for centuries warming the land masses, oceans and changing the weather patterns. He talked about the inevitability of changes in the coming years including the possibility of extreme weather events like the floods in Leominster and the increasing intensity of hurricanes that caused devastation in Ashville, North Carolina. He noted that resistance to addressing changes often has to do with the expense and short-term planning.

Chief Ecologist at Harvard

Paula Grandpre Wood presents 'Letters to Ancestors' Nov. 14

BARRE – "Letters to Ancestors" program with Paula Grandpre Wood will be held Thursday, Nov. 14 at 6 p.m. at the Woods Memorial Library, 19 Pleasant St.

Grandpre Wood presents the events and chronicles the journey of writing her book. A genealogical memoir, "The Long Walk Home with the Ceinture Fléchée: The Arrow Sash," has elements of suspense, adventure, joy and grief. Her story is a testament to the endurance of faith, family and traditions.

A Barre resident who

grew up in Central Falls, Rhode Island and Northboro, Grandpre Wood tracks down her ancestors, pieces together their stories and wraps herself in the cloth Arrow Sash, a tradition that has been passed down in her family for generations.

She travel back in time to La Rochelle, France, in the 1600s, where Grandpre Wood's ancestors survived the siege of La Rochelle. Participants will learn of their immigration to New France in 1658 to begin a new life there. Some of her ancestors, subjected to colo-

nial empires' politics, survived the Acadian dispersal and later returned to Quebec. Grandpre Wood's family left Quebec in the 1920s to start anew in the U.S. Grandpre Wood carries her lessons learned onto the Long Trail in Vermont.

Throughout her travels the family Sash and its enduring tradition have helped bind together her family. The connecting theme throughout the book is finding her way home, home with the Arrow Sash – the Ceinture Fléchée. All are welcome to this free event and no registration is necessary.

Oakham
 Ellenor Downer
 edowner@turley.com



Navy Sea Cadets to host Veterans breakfast
 The Navy Sea Cadets will host a breakfast for Veterans on Saturday, Nov. 9 from 9-11:30 a.m. in the Municipal Building, Barre Road. All Veterans are welcome to attend.

Harvest and Holly Fair

The Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road, will hold their annual Harvest and Holly Fair on Saturday, Nov. 23 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at the church. The church will have a baked table, craft table, cookie walk, raffle table, homemade quilt raffle, white elephant table and snack bar. There will be local crafts as well.

Festivals of Lessons and Carols

On Sunday, Dec. 15 at 7 p.m. the Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road, will hold their annual Festival of Lessons and Carols. A choir and community choir accompanied by a community orchestra will perform "Glory in the Highest" by Marty Parks. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

Senior Center Activities

The following are the Senior Center's activities starting in November.

Third Monday of the month Podiatry from 9 a.m.-2.30 p.m. Reservations is required. Tuesday is Yoga at 12.30 p.m.; fourth Tuesday of the month Blood Pressure/Glucose Testing from 11 a.m.-noon; Wednesday Zumba Gold is at 9 a.m. in the Rutland Senior Center - \$2 donation each class. Thursday is second Thursday of the month Blood Pressure 11.00am; third Thursday – SHINE from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Reservations required Friday is Functional Fitness at 10.30 a.m. at the New Braintree Town Hall - \$2 donation per class; and third Friday is the Lunch Bunch, a group lunch at local restaurant. Sign up is required. Sign up sheets are in the main room of the Senior Center. For those offerings requiring reservations, people should call 508-882-4073.

Barre Players present 'Tuck Everlasting'

BARRE – The Barre Players Theater, 64 Common St., presents "Tuck Everlasting" on Friday, Nov. 29; Saturday, Nov. 30; Friday, Dec. 6 and Saturday, Dec. 7 at 7:30 p.m.

Matinees are Sundays, Dec. 1 and Dec. 8 at 2 p.m.

For tickets, people may call 978-799-5300 or visit <https://www.onthestage.tickets/show/barre-players/66d201645e5ae9553e104a8e>.

They may email anthony.barreplayers@gmail.com for more information.

Methodist church holds fair Nov. 23



Submitted photo

George Whitefield United Methodist Church, 33 West Main St., West Brookfield will hold its annual church fair on Saturday, Nov. 23 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

WEST BROOKFIELD – The George Whitefield United Methodist Church, 33 West Main St., will host its annual Church Fair "A Country Christmas" on Saturday, Nov. 23 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Featured will be a bake sale, knit and handcrafted items, a Christmas shop of gifts and décor, fudge, jams and jellies, Gramma's Attic Thrift Store and lunch room.

Woods Memorial Library offers Holiday Ornament program

By Ryan Drago
 Staff Writer
 rdragot@turley.com

BARRE – Get festive this holiday season by crafting your own handmade ornaments.

The Woods Memorial Library is hosting a program for adults ages 18 and older that brings an evening of joy with ornament making. It is an evening of creativity and community as guests can make their own holiday ornaments.

Guests who sign up will enjoy light refreshments and holiday music while you craft, adding an extra layer of cheer.

The holiday ornament program will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 10 from 6-7:30 p.m. inside the library's Allen Hall. Registration opens at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 12.

The Woods Memorial Library is located at 19 Pleasant St. and can be reached by calling 978-355-2533 or emailing barrelibrary@gmail.com.

Make some new ornaments that would make great gifts for your loved ones or as new additions to your holiday decorating. Reserve your spot and make this holiday season a little brighter with handmade ornaments.

Red Door Fayre is Nov. 9

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Christ Memorial Episcopal Church, 133 Main St., will hold its Red Door Fayre on Saturday, Nov. 9 from 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

There will be raffles, an exquisite table, Christmas table, bake table, pies, craft table. A homemade luncheon of soups, sandwiches and apple crisp will also be available.

Corrections policy

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

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Opinion

Guest Column

Audit refused by Legislature shows lack of transparency and accountability

Submitted by the Office of State Auditor, Diana DiZoglio

BOSTON – State Auditor Diana DiZoglio’s Office released a performance audit of the Massachusetts General Court, which reviewed the period from Jan. 1, 2021, to Dec. 31, 2022.

The report is consistent with past practices of the Auditor’s Office which, since its inception in 1849, has conducted over a hundred legislative audits.

Due to the Legislature’s recent refusal to participate in the audit, the Auditor’s Office was unable to obtain information necessary to make determinations regarding certain audit objectives.

Specifically, the office could not determine how and to what extent the funds of the Balance Forward line item for the Senate and House are determined and tracked for fiscal year-end reporting; how and to what extent the Legislature is ensuring an equitable mode of making laws in accordance with the Preamble of the Massachusetts Constitution; how and to what extent member majority bills are being considered by the Legislature; whether and to what extent policies and procedures are being equitably applied to all members and staff; and whether and to what extent the Senate and House are complying with their respective chambers’ own rules regarding nondisclosure, non-disparagement, or other similar clauses in agreements or contracts.

Among the audit’s findings was that the Senate and House did not ensure their annual financial audits were completed, filed with required recipients, including the Auditor’s Office, or made available timely to the public, in accordance with their own rules.

The audit found the Senate and House processes for the procurement of goods and services, particularly financial auditing services, lack transparency, as detailed procurement information is not made available to the public. If the Senate and House do not have transparent processes for the procurement of goods and services, then they limit the public’s ability to hold the Legislature accountable.

The audit found that, when compared to a sample of other states’ legislative websites, the Massachusetts legislative website lacks apparent content and ease of site navigation regarding pending and enacted legislation. If the Legislature does not work to improve its website to address these issues, it hinders the public’s ability to understand and engage in the legislative process and hold the Legislature accountable for ensuring an equitable mode of making laws.

Also noted in the audit is that Massachusetts is the only state in the nation to not have a legislative services bureau or equivalent to provide legislative services to all members of the Legislature. The absence of a legislative services bureau or equivalent appears to limit the Legislature’s ability to provide comprehensive legislative services to all members, thereby potentially adversely impacting individual members’ ability to best represent their constituents.

In addition to these objectives, the audit identified related issues which merit attention, including that the Senate and House lack detail and transparency regarding factors considered in appointing or nominating members to committees, committee chair positions, or chamber leadership positions. This limits the public’s ability to hold the Legislature accountable for ensuring an equitable mode of making laws in accordance with the Preamble of the Massachusetts Constitution and the equitable application of policies and procedures to all members and staff.

“This audit was conducted in accordance with Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards set forth by the Government Accountability Office, with the intention of increasing transparency, accountability, accessibility, and equity to help make government work better,” said Auditor DiZoglio in a press release. “The Legislature is infamous for being a closed-door operation. Massachusetts continues to be ranked as having one of the least transparent and least accessible state legislatures in the nation. It is deeply concerning that legislative leaders have refused to cooperate with our office to help promote transparency and identify ways to improve service to the people of Massachusetts. Transparency and accountability are cornerstones of our democracy and enable the people to participate in government as intended in our Constitution, in a system of checks and balances. It is beyond past time that we return to the historical practice of this office auditing the Legislature, as has been the case for the vast majority of the history of this office. If there is nothing to hide, open up the doors and let the sunshine in. Sunlight is, after all, the best disinfectant.”



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Guest Column



Why does the government raid Social Security?

Dear Rusty

The Social Security program is funded by employees and their employers.

The federal government does not contribute to the program, right? So why does the federal government feel they have the right to raid the fund? All the money sent to Ukraine and other unnecessary programs could have been used to pay back what they owe to Social Security.

Signed: Disgruntled Senior

Dear Disgruntled Senior

You are correct that the Social Security program is mainly funded by payroll taxes on employee earnings and by employers, who match those employee contributions.

FYI, some additional SS revenue is received from income tax on Social Security benefits, as well as from interest on the special issue government bonds held in the Social Security Trust Fund. But the assertion that the Federal Government used (raided) the Social Security Trust Fund for any other purpose is a myth.

All Social Security revenue received since the program began in 1937 has been accounted for and all excess funds are contained in a special Trust Fund in the form of interest-bearing government bonds, reserved to pay future benefits. FYI, the interest on those bonds contributed about \$67 billion to the Trust Fund reserves in 2023. Social Security revenue, today, is not adequate to pay all benefit obligations and the extra money needed to pay full SS benefits for everyone is obtained by redeeming Trust Fund reserves. Redemption of those Trust Fund bonds is how the federal government “pays back” the cash loaned to it by Social Security.

The excess SS money received from contributions was loaned to the Federal Treasury by the SS Trust Funds, interest-bearing bonds were issued by the government in return for the cash received and the bonds issued are redeemable as needed by Social Security to pay benefits. FYI, the average interest on the 2023 bonds in the Trust Funds was about 4.125%, whereas the average rate of return on all bonds held in reserve was about 2.387%. This transaction is the same as for any other investment vehicle except the bonds in the Trust Funds are redeemable at any time without penalty. Said another way, all excess money ever received by Social Security is/ was invested in special-issue government bonds and resides in reserve to pay future benefits, as needed.

“Paying back” the money represented by bonds held in the Trust Funds would not be a wise financial move because it would eliminate all future interest earned by those bonds again, that interest was about \$67 billion in 2023). Federal money spent for other purposes e.g., Ukraine is from the general U.S. Treasury and not from the Social Security Trust Fund, which is held totally separate from the U.S. Treasury. Since inception, all money ever contributed to Social Security has been and is used for one purpose and one purpose only to pay Social Security

See SOCIAL SECURITY, page 6

In Past Pages

5 years (Nov. 14, 2019)

The Lights of Barre Holiday Decorating Contest organized by and to benefit the Ruggles Lane School PTO is back. All are welcome to join with them to light up Barre this holiday season. Decorate your home or business or the holidays and enter to win. Businesses and residences are encouraged to participate whether they are in it to win it or just to light up the town a bit with holiday cheer. First Place Business receives a plaque and bragging rights. Residential prizes are as follows; first place Trophy and \$150 Gift Card to R.J. McDonald and third place \$50 Gift Card to Higgins.

On Wednesday, Oct. 30, the Knights of Columbus gathered friends from three local food pantries to present their checks from 2019 “Fill the Pantry” Golf Scramble. The three food pantries were L Barre Food Pantry, Rutland Food Bank and Joseph’s Project in Holden. Each food pantry received a check in the amount of \$7,500 from the second Annual “Fill the Pantry” Golf Scramble, that was held Sunday, Sept. 29 at the Holden Hills Golf Course. In 2018, the Knights of Columbus Councils from Jefferson and Rutland co-sponsored the first ever “Fill the Pantry” golf scramble.

Twenty years went by like a blink of an eye for Dedie King, one of the founding members of Listening Wellness Center in Barre. “We opened in January of 2000,” said King. “The community has embraced us. People are grateful to find a place like this.” Last Saturday evening, close to 100 community members and old friends gathered at Hartman’s Herb Farm in Barre to celebrate Listening Center’s 20th Anniversary. What began as a simple idea at the kitchen table of King’s over two decades ago has flourished into a vital part of the local Barre community and beyond. “Before Listening, there wasn’t a place where people could find everything in the same location,” said King, who at the time was practicing acupuncture in Ware. “There would be groups of the same practitioners, but not a full range of service offered.

10 years (Nov. 13, 2014)

The town of Barre will hold a Special Town Meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 18 at 6:30 p.m. at Ruggles Lane School auditorium. The warrant contains four articles. The first two articles concern Fiscal Year 2015 budget. Voters at the Annual Town Meeting passed an unbalanced budget and the articles if approved would balance the town budget.

It was five years ago in 2009 that the Barre Players Theater presented the musical “Amahl and the Night Visitor” for their Christmas production. The direct Sandy Pickens, the music director Julie Rawson and one of the lead roles, Amahl’s mother, Elizabeth Gondeck are back in those same roles for this season. Gondeck

LOOK BACK Barre Historical Society - 1996



File photo
Music memorabilia are featured in the display case at the Barre Historical Society building on the common during the summer.

said she had a wonderful rapport with her stage son in 2009. Her sons, Josef and Frederic, were very young at the time and she envisioned returning to the role with one of them playing the role of Amahl. Her dream came true, her son Frederic, 9, auditioned and got the role of Amahl and she got the role of his mother.

The Quabbin Regional High School Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps held their annual inspection ceremony in the school gymnasium last Friday. The unit invited parents, school committee members and area veterans to the event and “piped aboard” several distinguished guests that included Capt. Daniel J. Brennock, middle school principal Susanne Musnicki, high school principal Raymond Dewar, Superintendent Dr. Maureen Marshall, state Sen. Stephen Brewer an dCommander Joseph W. Harkings, USN (Ret.) Area Four manager. The tradition of the Boatswain’s call and pipping aboard was a tradition on English Navy ships to greet an important guest. Following the welcome of the official party, the unit presented the colors and several cadets sang the National Anthem. The unit also followed tradition with the Officers Center March, a way of communicating information. Officers

received news about several upcoming events including the Veterans Day ceremony in Barre on Nov. 11.

25 years (Nov. 11, 1999)

The overturned helicopter was total wreck and there is a young woman trapped inside but emergency medical personnel weren’t rushing to this time. They were standing around the grounds of Coldbrook Country Club waiting for the Life Flight helicopter to arrive, the filming of a Discovery’s Channel documentary. The exercise held last month was filmed as one segment in a series to honor women in aviation. The series will air sometime in the year 2000.

Last Saturday night a fake license plate was the catalyst or a scenario, which could have had fatal consequences for Hubbardston Police Sgt. Shawn Denis. A second vehicle believed to be associated with the first, made a deliberate attempt to run Denis down and he and an armed gunman were looking down each other’s gun barrels by the time the confrontation ended. It was 11:45 p.m., just 15 minutes before his shift was due to end, when Denis noticed the fake plate. He was arresting the driver of

See PAST PAGES, page 5

Election letters to the editor welcome

The Barre Gazette welcomes readers to participate in this year’s election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to the Barre Gazette care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to edowner@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Thursday’s newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

For more information, call the editor at 413-283-8393.

Campaign news

As part of its election coverage, the newspaper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor’s Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers.

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in the Barre Gazette.

Turley Publications Letters to the Editor Policy

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

BARRE GAZETTE

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Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

It is hard to believe we are in November. The weather has been unbelievable. but I guess there is going to be fall weather to come. The leaves have fallen off even the oaks because of the dryness.

I have been trying to give my leaves away but I have no takers. Each day I try to at least blow them away from the house due to the danger of fires.

I met a neighbor from up the road when I went to get my mail at the mailbox. She likes to walk Ragged Hill Road and I told her she really needs to wear some bright clothes as it is hard to see her plus it is hunting season. She agreed. The trees form an arch and the road is very dark.

I went to a couple grocery stores this week. I wanted to find some Cortland apples and I did at Hannafords. I went to Price Chopper as I wanted to get some small containers of cider and I bought some frozen fried clams. I have been yearning for some for a long time and no I am not pregnant.

I had my helper make an apple pie without a crust and I will make this apple crisp this week with the Cortland apples I purchased.

APPLE CRISP

- 6 cups apples
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 2/3 cup hot water
- Topping:
- 2/3 cup flour
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 tablespoons shortening

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Place apples in buttered baking dish. Mix sugar and cinnamon and sprinkle over apples and mix with fork. Pour water over top of apples. Mix topping ingredients and sprinkle over top of apples evenly. Bake for 45 minutes.

This and That

I put away my Halloween decorations and brought out my Thanksgiving themes. I have some Pilgrims, one native American, turkeys and wall hangings. I kept

out the pumpkins, gourds and bittersweet. I also have a very pretty wreath with fall leaves and fruit that I kept out.

I changed my sofa table that I keep at the landing of the stairs. I had a display of old hats and hat boxes, but now I have dried hydrangeas, a wooden carved old man and a bust of a young girl. I like to change things by seasons.

I also like to change my watercolor pictures so I have a fruit scene and some poinsettias on the living room wall and a large frame of Amaryllis that I painted a few years ago.

As for the outside I still kept my scarecrow up, but I took down the hangers with the morning glories that only budded and did not bloom.

I do have pots of holly in buckets in various locations and filled the wood shed window box with evergreens. The holly bush has produced a number of good berries this year, but soon the birds will find them

My handyman, and he knows who he is, removed the mold off the garage roof and worked on the drains in front of the wood shed. He still has the ramp to install on the back deck before winter.

I had one trick or treat with her father this year. She wanted to show me the lovely costume she made.

There are so many leaves on our driveway that I took the rake down when I got the mail and raked some of them off. It was hard to see the dangers of the rocks when I walk across to get the mail. It is rather dangerous as the vehicles go so fast and where our mailbox is located there is a hill and it is hard to see traffic coming up the hill. When my handyman is in the area he is kind enough to get our mail for us. When winter comes it will be especially dangerous.

In general people are very courteous to us seniors. I have had gentlemen offer to put my groceries in the car for me. They also help me reach things off the high shelves in the stores. The cashiers in the stores are helpful that they do not fill my grocery bags too heavy. Thank you for being thoughtful to us seniors. I never thought I would become one.

I still hear from a lot of people who enjoy this column. Have a good week and enjoy life to the fullest.



Turkey vulture

A Brimfield resident, who emails quite often noticed three turkey vultures on Sunday, Oct. 20

He said, "I went outside and I saw soon seven turkey vultures flying by along the ridge east of the house. The birds drifted off to the south east. A few minutes later a group of ten vultures drifted slowly south about a half a mile west of the first group. These birds flew around for awhile, circling

and gaining altitude until they were quite high. The ten birds then drifted out of sight."

The turkey vulture is 26 inches tall and has black feathers. The trailing end of the wings are silver and the head has no feathers and is red. Immature turkey vultures have gray heads. They are often seen soaring with wings held in a V. They rock side to side, but rarely flap their wings.

Turkey vultures feed by scavenging on carrion, fresh or decayed. They find their food by both sight and smell. Sometimes, they are seen in roads feeding on road kill. They are often seen coming or going to nightly roosts. They use



Tulips and daffodils on vacation, oh my!

My spring flowering bulbs have traveled quite a distance to make it to me, and what a debacle in the process.

Usually, my order, placed in late July comes effortlessly around mid October. The east coast port strike may have only lasted three days, but it sent my bulbs that had come from the Netherlands first to New York, then to Mobile, Alabama, then to the Bahamas and finally, a week ago, to New Jersey, where they will be sent to me, hopefully.

I say this because it is time to get the tulips and daffodils I ordered in the ground, so they can do their thing before the calendar finally decides it is November and not September.

We learned how to plant garlic last week, and we plant spring bulbs each fall nearly the same way. Read on for a refresher course, and if you haven't gotten your bulbs in yet, there is no time like the present!

Let's consider these main points:

Timing

We do our best to plant our bulbs in early fall, so that they can take advantage of optimal temperatures for rooting. Strong roots will keep the bulbs in place, well-anchored during the freeze/thaw cycles of winter.

Location

Most bulbs thrive in full sun, in fertile, well-drained soil. It is important to avoid "wet feet" at all costs when planting bulbs. This means you should steer clear of low areas in your yard, or those that tend to pool water, such as under downspouts or roof overhangs.

Fertilization

I like to use a well-balanced granular organic fertilizer for my bulbs, mixing it into the soil at planting at the rate recommended on the bag. Bone meal was always the fertilizer of choice for bulbs, but this is no longer so.

It has been shown that in addition to phosphorus and potassium, bulbs require small amounts of nitrogen and trace minerals for optimal growth. These days advanced methods of cleaning bones by steaming have all but eliminated the nitrogen and trace minerals from bone meal.

In the spring, another fertilizer application can be made, and if you have an option, choose one with a higher nitrogen to support strong leaf growth. Daffodils are less dependent on fertilizer than tulips and hyacinth- the size of these flowers will diminish over time.

Spacing

Most folks will agree that drifts or clusters of bulbs are more stunning than one or two sprinkled here and there about the garden. Spring bulbs can come in all sizes, so the general rule is to plant them two times the width of the bulb apart from one another.

For example, if the bulb is three inches wide, plant it six inches apart from its neighbor.

Depth

The same rule applies for depth. Two times the height of the bulb is the ideal planting depth; you can even go a tad deeper.

This is especially true if you are hoping your tulip bulbs will return year after year. If your garden soil has been loosened up, planting lots of bulbs is easy.

I have described the fast, "jab and grab" method before, but here it is in a nutshell: Holding your trowel facing in, jab it into the soil and pull forward. If you have not achieved the desired depth, repeat the

motion.

Grab the bulb and drop it into the hole, pushing the soil back over as you do so.

Care during bloom time

I always deadhead the spent flowers on my bulbs. The theory behind deadheading is that you remove the flower as it withers, before the plant wastes energy forming a seed.

That way energy is redirected to the bulb, and to forming next year's flowers. In college we were taught to do it, for the above rationale as well as to keep the plant looking tidy.

Most folks simply remove the entire stem at ground level. One part about this process always bothered me though, why don't we just pop off the spent flower parts and leave the stem - it is very leaf-like in appearance and will do a fair job of photosynthesizing and adding to the plant's energy reserves.

Care during post bloom

Unfortunately, foliage should remain in place until it is completely yellow and withered. It seems to take a long time to get to that point, especially for daffodils, and we can get impatient in the process.

There is good reason for leaving it there - it is making energy for flowers next year. The best way around the inevitable ugliness is to camouflage them with other plants.

Try interplanting daffodil bulbs such as alongside daylilies or other leafy plants. Once the foliage yellows it is safe to remove it - a gentle tug is all that is necessary to release the leaves.

I will certainly have my hands full when the shipment of bulbs arrives, but the beautiful gardens around Old Sturbridge Village come springtime will be well-worth the effort!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 32 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.

'Broadway's Next Hit Musical' comes to The Center on Nov. 9

HARDWICK - Every song is fresh. Every scene is new. Every night is different. It's all improvised and it's all funny.

On Saturday, Nov. 9, at 7 p.m., "Broadway's Next Hit Musical" comes to The Center at Eagle Hill.

Tickets are \$35 for adults, \$30 for students and seniors. The Center also offers discounted \$10 tickets to EBT cardholders through Massachusetts' Card to Culture Program.

"Broadway's Next Hit Musical" is the only unscripted theatrical awards show. Have you heard of the Tony Awards? Well, "Broadway's Next Hit Musical" is the "Phony" Awards.

Audience members write down made up song titles and master improvisers gather the suggestions and present them as "nominated songs" for this coveted award. Spontaneous scenes and songs are created filled with great dancing, catchy melodies, and tons of laughter.

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For tickets and information, visit www.thecenterateaglehill.org or call the Box Office at 413-477-6746.

About The Center

The Center at Eagle Hill is a performance venue in central Massachusetts presenting world class music, dance, theatre, and comedy.

For more information about this, and other events, please visit our website at www.thecenterateaglehill.org. The Center at Eagle Hill is located at 242 Old Petersham Road.

PAST PAGES, continued from page 4

the car and had him against the cruiser, putting on handcuffs, when he looked up to see a white minivan bearing down on him. He bounced up onto its hood and from there was knocked onto the hood of the cruiser and over to the ground on its passenger side. Dazed, he radioed dispatch, saying an officer was down.

Some all-terrain vehicle operators on the Halloween trail ride volunteered to help George Clouatre clear stones from his property and rake over the ruts to help bring about a positive image for the riders. The local riders went out to all the road crossings and swept debris and rocks that were thrown onto the public way, according to Chris Higgins of Barre. Higgins said he was upset by the newspaper articles last week because most of the riders were out to have fun, not threaten people or damage their property. Sylvia Clouatre said Higgins generously offered to help her husband fix ruts, but he had already done the work.

38 years (Nov. 12, 1986)

When the McDonald's All-American High School Band makes it 20th annual appearance in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, Oakham's Quabbin Regional High School senior Clayton March will be among the proud participants marching with the nation's most

talented musicians. March, son of Mr. and Mrs. John March of Oakham was one of over 4,000 musicians nominated for membership in the all star musical ensemble. Clayton plays clarinet in the Quabbin Regional High School band.

American Legion members of Barre Post No. 2 and George L. Thorng Post No. 404 and their Auxiliary Units braved the first snow on Veteran's Day 1986 to honor our war dead. They marched from the Barre Town Hall to North Park. William Salminen said a prayer of dedication. James Sullivan gave a short talk, the firing squad saluted and the United States flag was raised.

Some years ago, Richard Whippee of Barre, who has been a member of the Lions Club or over 20 years, had an idea. Why not have a free Thanksgiving Dinner for the elderly of Barre? Much thought was put into the idea and it finally became a reality in 1981. Now, five years after that first dinner, the Barre Lions Club is sponsoring its sixth annual Thanksgiving Dinner for those over 60 in Barre-Hardwick area. This year, the Barre Lions Club will again be helping with the financial aspect. The Barre Lions Club's first dinner was held on Nov. 22 at the American Legion Post 2 hall on Mechanic Street. At that time, it was necessary to have two sittings for the more than 150 person, who attended. Twenty six meals were delivered to the shut ins.

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Hardwick

Maria Ferrante to perform at Stone Church on Nov. 17

GILBERTVILLE – Maria Ferrante, soprano, and Ivan Gusev, pianist, will perform a program featuring “Poem of Love and of the Sea” [Poème de l’amour et de la mer] by French composer Ernest Chausson (1855-1893); four Impromptus D 935 by Franz Schubert; and “Music for A While” by Henry Purcell, at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, Nov 17 at 3 pm. at the Stone Church Cultural Center, 283 Main St..

Tickets are available online <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/friends-of-the-stonechurch/1256705> or \$25 at the door

Soprano Maria Ferrante, a true “singing actress,” maintains a full schedule of performances on both the local and international stage. Her name has become familiar to audiences the world over. A winner of the Mario Lanza Voice Competition, she has been acclaimed in The Washington Post and by Richard Dyer in The Boston Globe. Her performances have delighted audiences from New York to the Virgin Islands, in Prague, Japan and London as well as in Boston venues Jordan Hall and Sanders Theater. Maria also teaches Master Classes in Voice and is an engaging, enthusiastic teacher and coach.

Originally from Kazakhstan, Ivan Gusev earned Bachelor’s, Master’s and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees with highest honors from the Moscow State Conservatory, then completed a Master’s of Music program at Mannes School of Music in New York. He performed at Carnegie Hall and has won the third Gershwin International Music Competition (2017), was a prize winner at the Chopin International Piano Competition (2018) and has earned other awards including the Steinway award for outstanding Mannes graduates. Gusev lives and teaches in the Boston area and performs frequently, most recently this fall for the Frederick Collection in Ashburnham.

Ernest Chausson composed music for “Poem of Love and of the Sea,” his Opus 19 for voice and orchestra over a period of ten years, 1882-1892. The 1876 text by French poet Maurice Bouchor (1855-1929) describes a woman walking by a seaside radiant in sunshine, the air heavy with the fragrance of lilacs and her long hair sparkling in the breeze as



Maria Ferrante

the sun dances on the waves, while the observer, to whom she is unknown, imagines he is her true love. Chausson died at 44, leaving only 39 opus-numbered works.

This is a wonderful opportunity to hear the 1924 Boothman Steinway piano, donated by Kaye Boothman and family to the Friends of the Stone Church.

For both artists, it will be the fourth appearance at the Stone Church. The concert is sponsored by Monson Savings Bank. Partial support for this series has been committed from the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

Friends of the Stone Church, Inc. is a public charitable corporation and community group organized in 2015 and open to all. Our mission is to preserve and protect the Gilbertville Stone Church Cultural Center and to make it available as a place of community enrichment. They welcome donations toward their ongoing preservation project online at www.FriendsoftheStoneChurch.org or by mail to FOSC, P.O. Box 347, Gilbertville, MA 01031.

Paige Memorial Library upcoming events

HARDWICK – The Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2-7 p.m., Wednesdays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

November events

On Tuesday, Nov. 12 at 6 p.m., Keith M. Aubin of Integrity Medicare Advisors Inc. will answer questions about Medicare and discuss state-run Medicare Savings Programs which can lower your monthly premium, deductibles, and other costs, and Medicare drug coverage.

On Thursday, Nov. 14 at 6 p.m., come create Thanksgiving characters sure to make you smile. Jayne Foley and her mom will teach you how to make these decorations from old lightbulbs. For all ages but children must be accompanied by adults. Register so that there will be sufficient materials.

November is Native American Heritage Month, recognized federally in the United States since 1990. On Sunday, Nov. 17, Donald Duffy, author of two books, “The Quaboag and Nipmuck Indians” and “Around Pottequadic”, will share his research on the history of the local Native inhabitants. Gail

Anderson will provide a display of artifacts important to Native Americans. Gail is descended from the Powhatans and shares the same lineage as Pocahontas. This program will be presented as a group effort among the Paige Library, the Hardwick Historical Society, and the Ware Historical Society.

On Thursday, Nov. 21 at 6 p.m., join Megan McDonough, the founder of Wholebeing Institute, an innovative educational organization based in Hardwick, for “How Libraries Make Us Happy(er)”. Through her work, she empowers people to apply cutting-edge research, fostering greater happiness and well-being in their daily lives. In this free talk, she shares five key pathways to greater engagement, fulfillment, and vitality in everyday life plus how your Paige Library can play a vital role in supporting your journey to more happiness. Register and reserve a free book, “A Minute for Me” (while supplies last).

December event

On Tuesday, Dec. 3 at 6 p.m., come make Simmering Potpourri jars using natural ingredients to add

scent and moisture to the air. These are perfect for holiday gift giving. Ages 12 and up. Registration required.

Ongoing activities

Ongoing activities include a weekly Children’s Hour on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. with art and science activities. Toys, puzzles, and LEGOS are available.

The Paige Book Club meets monthly on the third Wednesday at 2 p.m. and the Paige Writers group meets alternating Tuesdays at 3 p.m. The Cookbook Club meets monthly on the last Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.

The Fundamentals of ART a studio workshop for creating art and improving skills is open for all levels of expertise. There will be a variety of art media and materials or bring your own project. Register for Tuesday or Thursday evenings at 6 p.m. once a month.

Register for Family Game Night or “Away for a Day” Travel Club.

For more information and to register so library staff know how many are coming and can inform you of any updates, call 413-477-6704, or email director.paigeli@paigeli@gmail.com.

ELECTION RESULTS, continued from page 1

and 523 precinct 2). Donald R. Berthiaume Jr., Republican and incumbent, ran unopposed. He received 2,345 (1,110 precinct 1 and 1,235 precinct 2). Dennis McManus, Democrat and an incumbent also was unopposed and received 2,162 (1,061 precinct 1 and 1,101 precinct 2). Kathryn Toomey, Democrat and incumbent ran unopposed and received 2,169 votes (1,069 precinct 1 and 1,100 precinct 2).

In Barre, Question 1, to allow auditor to audit legislature, got 2,089 yes and 859 no; Question 2, repeal MCAS, was 2,080 yes and 980 no. Question 3, to allow transportation network to form union was 1,419 yes and 1,543 and Question 4, to allow psychedelic substances, was 1,358 yes and 1,659 no. Question 5, to increase minimum wage for tipped workers, the final question on the ballot had 891 yes and 2,138 no.

Hubbardston had 2,969 of their 3,741 registered voters or 79.4 % turnout to go to the polls. The Trump/Vance ticket got 1,610 and Harris/Walz 1,259. Elizabeth Warren for Senator in Congress had 1,164 and John Deaton 1,736. James McGovern for Representative in Congress Second District had 1,415 and Cornelius Shea 1,395. Councillor in Seventh District was 1,225 or Paul DePalo, Democrat and 1,580 for Andrew Couture, Republican.

Peter Durant got 1,781 and Sheila Dibb, 1,067 for Senator in General Court Worcester and Hampshire District. Donald Berthiaume Jr. had 2,287 or Representative in General Court Fifth Worcester District. Dennis McManus got 2,010 votes for

Clerk of Courts Worcester County and Kathryn Toomey had 1,960 votes for Register of Deeds Worcester District. In Hubbardston, Question 1 got 2,035 yes and 794 no, Question 2 1,868 yes and 1,046 no, Question 3 1,233 yes and 1,606 no, Question 4 1,163 yes and 1,722 no and Question 5 695 yes and 2,185 no.

In New Braintree, Trump/Vance got 346 and Harris/Walz 306 for president and vice president. For Senator in Congress, Warren had 282 and Deaton 379 for Senator in Congress. Richard Neal had 351 and Nadia Donay Milleron 267 for Representative in Congress. Councillor in Seventh District DePalo had 320 and Couture 301. Senator in General Court Durant got 406 and Dibb 238 and Berthiaume had 531 for Representative in General Court. McManus received 497 votes for Clerk of Courts and Toomey 505 for Register of Deeds. New Braintree also elected Pathfinder Regional School Committee members. John Sullivan got 453 Belchertown member, David Droz with 433 Palmer member, Martin Goulet with 505 New Braintree member, Oakham member was blank and Richard Fly 419 Ware member. New Braintree voted 468 yes and 173 no on Question 1, 442 yes and 217 not on Question 2, 309 yes and 333 no on Question 3, 243 yes and 399 no on Question 4 and 165 yes and 480 no on Question 5.

In North Brookfield, 2,849 voters went to the polls. Trump/Vance got 1,621 votes and Harris/Walz 1,153 in the President and Vice President ticket. For Senator in Congress Warren got 1,085 and Deaton 1,717. Neal got 1,410 and Milleron 1,165 for Representative

in Congress Fifth District. DePalo got 1,208 and Couture 1,461 for Councillor Seventh District. Durant had 1,842 and Dibb 893 or Senator in General Court and Donald Berthiaume had 2,251 for Representative in General Court. McManus had 1,983 for Clerk of Courts Worcester County and Toomey got 1,983 for Register of Deeds Worcester District.

Ballot questions were 1,888 yes and 798 no on Question 1, 1,770 yes and 1,037 no on Question 2, 1,187 yes and 1,518 no on Question 3, 1,128 yes and 1,626 on Question 4 and 682 yes and 2,086 no on Question 5.

In Oakham, 1,599 of the 1,263 registered voters or 78.9% went to the polls. Trump/Vance received 720 votes and Harris/Walz 511 for President and Vice President. For Senator in Congress, Warren had 465 and Deaton 774. For Representative in Congress Second District McGovern had 614 and Shea 564. For Councillor, DePalo had 526 and Couture had 655. For Senator in General Court Durant had 785 and Dibb 419 and for Representative in General Court Berthiaume had 975. For Clerk of Courts McManus got 834 and for Register of Deeds Toomey had 852.

Oakham voters also elected Pathfinder Regional School Committee member Belchertown Sullivan with 800, Palmer member Droz 765, New Braintree member Goulet with 782. Oakham member blank and Ware member Richard Fly 715. On the ballot question, Oakham voters were 850 yes and 344 no on Question 1, 806 yes and 423 no on Question 2, 535 yes and 676 no on Question 3, 490 yes and 741 no on Question 4 and 308 yes and 938 no on Question 5.

Pelletier awarded Army Achievement Medal

Army National Guard Specialist Grant Pelletier of Gilbertville, currently deployed to the Southwest Border has recently been awarded the Army Achievement Medal.

Pelletier who is currently assigned to the 747th Military Police Company was awarded for “..Leadership, service, dedication and professional demeanor...” while serving as a “Mobile Surveillance Capability Site Operator” in the unit which has been deployed for over a year as part of “Task Force North” supporting Department of Homeland Security operations.

Pelletier, a mechanic for the U.S. Army in both his full and part time roles, volunteered and

received training in military police and security tasks prior to deployment. While deployed, Pelletier received an early promotion to his current rank in early 2024 due to his professional performance and qualifications.

Pelletier is a 2022 graduate of the Agricultural Mechanics Program at Smith Vocational High School in Northampton where he enlisted. He is also an Eagle Scout, Class of 2022, Troop 281 in Ware.

Upon graduation from high



Army National Guard Specialist Grant Pelletier

school, he entered service a short time later, completing Basic Combat Training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, and later technical training at Fort Lee, Virginia. He is also a Life Member of AMVETS Post 2577 of Ware.

Pelletier is the son of Philip Biggs of Gilbertville and the late Elizabeth Pelletier of Hardwick and the grandson of Jacqueline Biggs of Ware, Deborah Pelletier of Palmer, and Ed and Helen Pelletier of Worthington.

North Brookfield

NBSB announces return of Annual Toy Drive

NORTH BROOKFIELD – North Brookfield Savings Bank is excited to announce the start of their Annual Toy Drive, running through Nov. 29, with a focus on ensuring a joyful holiday season for children in the communities they serve.

This year’s Toy Drive continues North Brookfield Savings Bank’s commitment to bring holiday cheer to those in need. Donations of new, unwrapped toys will be collected at all branch locations, where every contribution will support local toy programs that make a difference in the lives of children.

“Our Annual Toy Drive is a testament to the generosity and compassion of our community members and employees. As a local community bank, we are proud to help brighten the holidays for children within our community” said Audrey Moulton, Marketing Manager at North Brookfield Savings Bank in a press release. “Through the kindness of our employees and community members, we can make sure that every child experiences the magic of the holiday season. We are so grateful for the continued support that

helps us spread joy to local families during the Season of Giving.”

In addition to toys, monetary donations will be accepted at NBSB Branch locations. NBSB will match every dollar donated, along with contributing \$1 for each toy collected, up to \$250 per Branch location.

The Bank’s Ware Branch will focus on collecting monetary donations to benefit the Ware Police and Fire Department’s Christmas for Kids Program.

Donations will be accepted at these North Brookfield Savings Bank branches: North Brookfield Branch, 9 Gilbert St., partnering with the North Brookfield Police Association’s Toys for Joys Program; East Brookfield Branch, 100 West Main St., Route 9, partnering with the East Brookfield Toys for Joy Program; West Brookfield Branch, 128 West Main St., Route 9, partnering with the West Brookfield Police Association Holiday Toy Program; Ware Branch, 40 Main St., Route 9, partnering with the Ware Police and Fire Department Christmas for Kids Program (only accepting monetary donations for 2024); Belchertown

Branch, 4 Daniel Shays Highway, Routes 9 and 202, partnering with the Belchertown Firefighters Association Adopt-a-Family Program; and the Three Rivers Branch, 2060 Main St., partnering with the Palmer Lions Club Holiday Toy Program.

To learn more about North Brookfield Savings Bank’s Community giving efforts and the convenient banking products and services offered, visit www.NorthBrookfieldSavingsBank.com.

About NBSB

North Brookfield Savings Bank is a mutual savings bank with full-service branches in North Brookfield, East Brookfield, West Brookfield, Ware, Belchertown, and the Three Rivers Village of Palmer. NBSB offers a wide variety of deposit and loan products for individuals and businesses throughout central and western Massachusetts and has been a steadfast supporter of the communities it serves since 1854.

All deposits are insured by the FDIC and the Depositors Insurance Fund. For additional information, please call 1-866-711-6272 or visit www.NorthBrookfieldSavingsBank.com.

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SOCIAL SECURITY, continued from page 4

benefits to those eligible, which, by the way, does not include “illegal aliens” or anyone else who is not a legal resident of the United States.

For clarity, Social Security does have a future financial issue because annual benefit obligations are now greater than annual Social Security revenue and money from the SS Trust Fund is now used to make up the difference. Unless the program is reformed soon, the Trust Fund reserves about \$2.8 trillion as of

2023 will be depleted and benefits for all Social Security recipients will be cut by about 23% starting in 2033 or 2034 according to the Trustees of Social Security and the Congressional Budget Office.

Congress needs to act soon to enact Social Security reform to restore the program to fiscal solvency. The Association of Mature American Citizens is steadfastly lobbying Congress to enact the needed Social Security reform as soon as possible.

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.

Mass Clean Energy Week features EV showcase at PMP

No gas, all glory

By Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

PALMER – For the first time ever, the commonwealth will celebrate and explore renewable energy with Mass Clean Energy Week, to be held Nov. 11-15.

Mass Clean Energy Week will feature a number of events that will highlight various types of renewable energy, including solar, wind, hydroelectric, geothermal and more.

“We’re really just trying to shine a light on how Massachusetts is an innovator in clean energy,” Scott Johnson, CEO of State Renewable Energy, Inc. said.

Mass Clean Energy Week kicks-off with breakfast at Boston University on Monday, Nov. 11 from 9-10:30 a.m., followed by a behind-the-scenes tour of the university’s Center for Computing & Data Sciences from 10:30 a.m.-noon.

Dennis Carlberg, the Chief of Sustainability at Boston University will be the featured speaker at the breakfast.

Johnson said the building operates using geothermal energy, and doesn’t rely on any fossil fuels.

“They use solar and wind, too,” he said. “The future is here.”

From 2:30-4:30 p.m., participants can take an exclusive tour of the Polestar Boston Showroom and get an up-close look at the electric vehicles’ impressive design.

On Tuesday, Nov. 21 from 10-11 a.m., learn about UMass Boston’s

hidden coastal sustainability secrets, along with a tour of the hidden power beneath New England at the Northfield Mountain Pump Storage from 10:30 a.m.-noon.

Travel to Lowell for a look at the Boott Hydroelectric Project with a tour from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

On Wednesday, Nov. 13 from noon-4 p.m., experience the thrill of Whiskey Hill at Palmer Motorsports Park for the “No Gas, All Glory! Charge Ahead All-Electric Showcase” which allows people a rare opportunity to test drive cutting-edge electric vehicles on one of the top-rated tracks in North America.

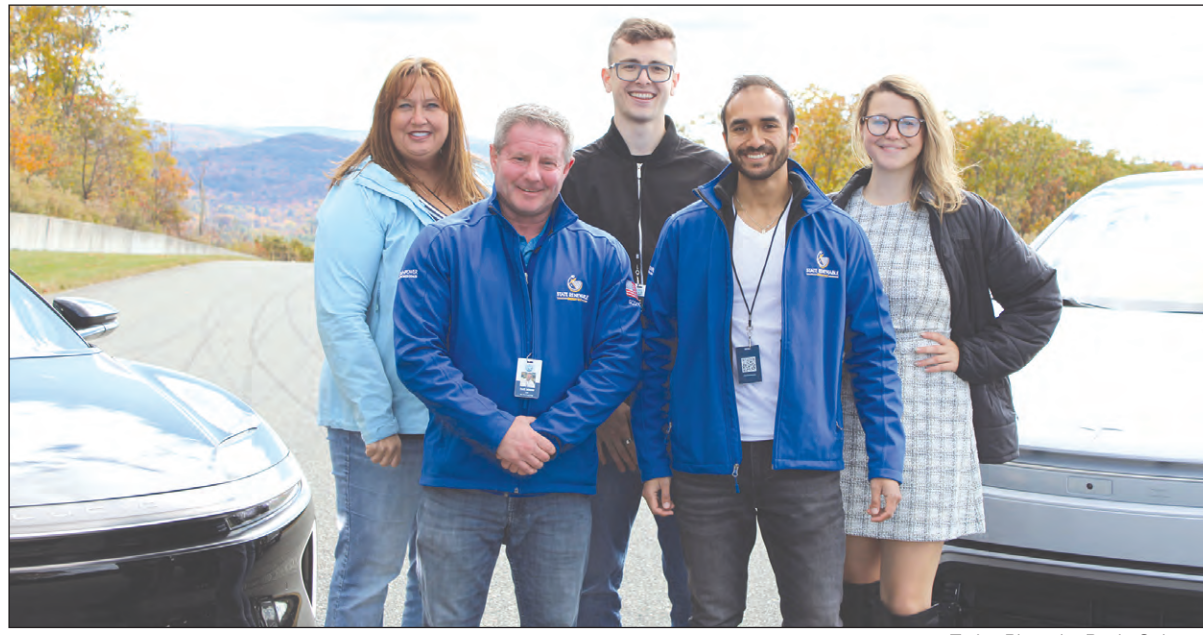
Mass Clean Energy Week continues from 7-8:30 p.m. with “Powering Newton’s Future” a look into community networked geothermal energy.

On Thursday, Nov. 14 from 9:30-10:30 a.m., tour Boston University’s sustainable campus and experience the “green revolution” firsthand. From 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., get a behind-the-scenes look at clean energy innovation at Deer Island Treatment Plant in Winthrop, the second largest wastewater treatment facility in the U.S.

From noon-1:15 p.m., tour Vicinity Energy’s historical Kendall Square facility in Cambridge.

Mass Clean Energy Week ends on Friday, Nov. 15 with a sustainability tour of the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center from 2-3:15 p.m. and the grand finale at Boston Harbor Distillery from 5-7:15 p.m.

“The EV ride and drive is the biggest and most talked about



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette

State Renewable Energy, Inc. visited Palmer Motorsports Park recently to promote the “No Gas, All Glory! Charge Ahead All-Electric Showcase” on Wednesday, Nov. 13 as part of Mass Clean Energy Week.

event,” Johnson said of the Mass Clean Energy Week events.

The “No Gas, All Glory!” event will feature all of the big name suppliers of electric vehicles, including Tesla, Lucid, Polestar and more. This is the first event of its kind to combine a world-class track with an all-electric vehicle showcase.

Helping to make this event possible are Light Efficient Design, Independent Electric Supply and Energy Source.

“The three of them have generously sponsored the event.”

Johnson said Balise Auto will also be bringing a number of electric vehicles to the event, including Toyota, Chevrolet, Lexus, Kia,

Hyundai and Ford.

“We’re going to make it a fun day,” Johnson said.

In addition to the electric vehicle showcase, there will be food trucks and the chance to test drive the vehicles on the 2.3 mile-long track, which gives a stunning, panoramic view from its peak.

Recently, Johnson and his team were joined by representatives from Lucid Motors and Polestar Boston, also event sponsors, who took to the track to film a video to promote Mass Clean Energy Week.

Polestar provided its newest electric vehicle, an SUV called the Polestar 3, which is currently only available for preorder. Lucid pro-

vided a sedan, the Lucid Air.

With its minimalistic design, the Polestar 3 combines performance with luxury, creating a one-of-a-kind drive with all of the amenities. Its active air suspension provides a smooth ride, which Polestar refers to as “the golden ride.”

The all-wheel drive vehicle can range up to 315 miles.

The Lucid Air can charge to 200 miles in 12 minutes with an estimated range of 512 miles. With a maximum horsepower of 1,234, the Air can reach 0-60 miles per hour in about 1.89 seconds.

Its solid glass roof can hold the weight of an elephant on it.

NORTH BROOKFIELD, continued from page 1

any action relative thereto.

Article 8

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from available funds to Prior Year Bills to pay costs of engineering for downtown sidewalk project, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 9

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from available funds to Finance Committee Reserve Fund or take any action relative thereto.

Article 10

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$420 from Board of Health: Recycling Contracts to Prior Year Bills, or take any action relative thereto.

HARDWICK, continued from page 1

regarding properties under conservation restrictions.

Henshaw said this has never been a concern the land trust received from any of the communities it serves.

“Every community, every private conservation restriction, the community is asked and it’s part of the state law that the select board or the mayor sign off on a conservation restriction,” she said. “What you’re agreeing to as a select board, is that this meets public purpose. That there is a public reason for having open space...all of the values that come with keeping the woods and the farms going within our communities.”

Henshaw said she will consult with the land trust’s lawyer about the concerns raised by town counsel.

Tinker said the board has to protect both the town’s interest and the land trust’s interest.

“I’m sure there’s some middle ground that we can come to,” he said.

The Select Board will continue discussion after having both attorneys review language in the conservation restriction.

Special election

Kemp said the article to purchase a new firetruck for the Fire Department passed at the special town meeting, and the next step is to schedule a special election. The funds need to be committed by the end of January.

Town Clerk Ryan J. Witkos said there needs to be a minimum of four hours for vot-

Article 11

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$3,761.42 from Council on Aging: Receptionist Payroll to Council on Aging: Janitor Payroll, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 12

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from Police: Salary account to Police: Overtime account, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 13

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$15,000 from Sewer: Assistant to Sewer: Operator 2, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 14

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$506 from Sewer: Natural Gas to Sewer: Facilities Planning Capital Project, or

take any action relative thereto.

Article 15

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$3,706.85 from Water: Retained Earnings to Water: Unpaid Bills, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 16

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$2,565.33 from Library: Electricity to Prior Year Bills, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 17

To see if the Town will vote to rescind that vote of the July 31, 2024, Special Town Meeting that transferred \$50,000 from Sewer: Retained Earnings to Sewer: Stabilization Account, and further to transfer \$50,000 from Sewer: Retained Earnings to Sewer: Stabilization Account or take any action relative thereto.

ing and he suggested holding the special election on a Saturday.

The Select Board discussed scheduling the special election for Saturday, Jan. 18 pending availability of Hardwick Elementary School and confirmation from the firetruck manufacturer that this date will meet funding requirements. A vote to set the date will be held at the next Select Board meeting.

Name change for business

Brian Gillespie requested a name change from Affordable Cars to Gillespie Car Care 1. He said Gillespie Car Care has been his family’s business name since 1965.

He said his registry renewal for the business is due now and he would like to change the name prior to renewing it.

Gillespie said there are two businesses on the property, and the car sale business permits 10 vehicles for sale at a time. He said the other vehicles on the property are under the second business.

Caggiano said license renewals will be sent out in the next few days, and the form has an option to make changes to the license, including the business name.

Board/committee communications

The Select Board discussed communication between both elected and appointed boards and committees. Caggiano said they need to make sure that each board and committee can communicate with each other effectively.

Conservation Commission Chair Bill Zinni said in the past, board and committee mem-

bers talked about creating a tracking sheet to show which boards and committees had been notified of information.

“So, each board knows kind of like what’s going on,” he said. “That they’ve been sent to each board just to check in.”

The Select Board will continue discussion about creating a tracking sheet at its next meeting.

Appointments

Elizabeth Reilly was appointed to serve on the executive board of the Hardwick-New Braintree Cultural Council and April Grandinetti was appointed to the Master Plan Steering Committee.

The board also appointed Dan Stoodley as the Assistant Chief Operator for the wastewater treatment plant. Caggiano said Stoodley was one of three candidates interviewed to fill the position.

Council on Aging

Caggiano said the Barre Council on Aging is seeking more representation from Hardwick residents on its executive board.

Town Administrator’s report

Caggiano said she is working with the executive assistant and the police lieutenant to gather information in order to select a vendor to replace the town’s phone system.

She said the town barn’s roof is being replaced now.

Caggiano had a call with Congressman James McGovern’s office to discuss the town’s financial challenges.

“Just trying to stay on their radar,” she said.

Haston Library announces holiday events and closures

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The Haston Free Public Library, 161 North Main St., will be closed on Monday, Nov. 11 in observance of Veterans Day and Thursday, Nov. 28 in observance of Thanksgiving.

Book donations

The library will be accepting book donations in honor of our veterans. Each donation will receive a book plate in memory of a loved one.

Food drive and letters to Santa

The library will be holding a food drive Nov. 4 through Dec. 12. It will also be holding its annual Letters to Santa at the beginning of December on a date to be announced.

Craft night for adults

Adults are invited to join a craft night at the library to make Christmas centerpiece on Thursday, Nov. 14 at 6 p.m. To register, please call the library at 508-867-0208 or email hastonfreepubliclibrary@gmail.com.

Movie discussion group

The movie discussion group will meet on Nov. 21 to talk about the film, “Planes, Trains and

Automobiles” (1987, rated R) at 6 p.m.

Book group

The book group will meet on Dec. 3 at 7 p.m. to discuss “Gertrude Bell” by Georgina Howell.

Story Times and Read, Build, Play

Story times are held in the Children’s Room on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. On Nov. 12, children will read “Sweater Weather” by Matt Phelan and design a fall sweater; Nov. 19, “Keepunumuk” by Danielle Greendeer, Anthony Perry and Alexis Burton and make a turkey craft; and Nov. 26, “Peyton Picks the Perfect Pie” by Jack Bishop and make a paper plate pie craft.

Read, Build, Play with Community Connections is held on the first Wednesday of the month from 10-11:30 a.m. The next program will be held on Dec. 4.

Clubs for children

Art club will be held on the first and third Monday from 4-5 p.m. and Lego club will be held every Thursday starting at 4 p.m.

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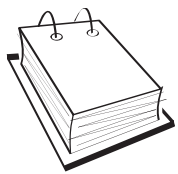
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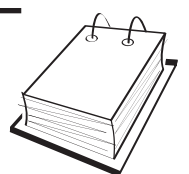
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Calendar of Events



SUNDAY, NOV. 10

RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTATION on the "History of Mishoon" will take place today from 1-3 p.m. at the Rutland Public Library, 280 Main St., Rutland. Cheryl Stedtler, Hassanamico Nipmuc Band tribal member and director of Project Mishoon, will present the program on the fascinating journey behind the discovery of ancient dugout canoes known as mishoonash submerged in Lake Quinsigamond. The program is free and open all. Light refreshments will follow her presentation.

MONDAY, NOV. 11

VETERAN'S DAY CEREMONY will take place at 11 a.m. in Veterans Park, On the Common, Barre. Local residents are invited to attend.

FRIDAY, NOV. 15

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.

HOLIDAY FAIR. First Church Ludlow, 859 Center St, Ludlow will take place today and Saturday, Nov. 16. There will be a real craft show, giant raffle with corn hole set, giant tv; quilts, hand crafted decorations, baked goods, snack bar, bookstore, fabric shop beautiful cemetery logs. A fun day for all.

SATURDAY, NOV. 16

ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR sponsored by the Friends of Rutland Council on Aging will take place today from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Rutland Senior Center, 53 Glenwood Road, Rutland. Over thirty crafters will be on hand selling a variety of items. The Glenwood Café which will be open selling coffee, tea and donuts in the morning and hot dogs for lunch. People may pick up something yummy from the bake sale table to take home or take a chance to win a gift card to a local business or a hand crafted item at the Raffle Table. Admission to the Craft Fair is free and each person will receive one free ticket for the special door prize drawing. The Friends of Rutland Council on Aging is a non-profit organization whose mission is to support the activities and programs of the Rutland Council on Aging.

EAST BROOKFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY CRAFT FAIR. 122 Connie Mack Drive, East Brookfield, will be held Saturday, Nov. 16 from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Start your holiday shopping and support local crafters. No all vendors accept credit cards.

FALL FROLIC AND MYSTERY BIRTHDAY will take place today at 5 p.m. in St. John the Baptist



Where is this?

Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer
This week's mystery photo is from New Braintree. If any readers know where this photo was taken, they may email edowner@turley.com or call the Barre Gazette at 413-967-3505, extension 100 with their answer by noon on Monday, Nov. 11. The names of those that correctly guessed the location will appear in the following edition. Bill Bowles, Peggy Civilik, Stephen Craven, Evelyn Luukko and Warbasse correctly identified the photo. The photo last week was East Quabbin Land Trust Wendenmuth Meadow on 25 Bates St. in North Brookfield.

Church, 131 Blaine Avenue, in the church hall. There will be a catered buffet, music, games and raffles. Cost is \$25 per person. To reserve tickets, required, people should call the Parish Office at 508-867-6469.

ST. NICK'S CHRISTMAS BAZAAR sponsored by St. Elizabeth Parish, 181 Hubbard St., Ludlow will take place today from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. There will be 40 vendors, basket raffle, lottery ticket raffle and light lunch available. There is free admission and parking in the back of the church. For more information, people may call at Flaherty at 413-531-6997

FALL FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL, 782 Center St., Ludlow will take place today from noon-5 p.m. There will be live music, drinks, food trucks, fire pits. Entry is free.

VENDOR MARKET will be held at Brunelle's Marina, 1 Alford St., South Hadley. November 16 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. This is fun for the whole family.

SUNDAY, NOV. 17

HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR will take place today at Moose Club, 244 Fuller Road, Chicopee. This is a craft and vendor fair for National Federation of the Blind, Springfield Chapter.

TUESDAY, NOV. 19

SENIOR CENTER OPEN HOUSE to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Barre/Hardwick Senior Center, 557 South Barre Road, Barre will take place today from 9-11 a.m. All are invited to attend. Light refreshments will be served.

MAKING CONNECTIONS MEMORY CAFE takes place today at 2 p.m. in the Worcester Senior Center, 128 Providence St., Worcester on the first floor in the front of the lunch room. There will be chair yoga with Jean Rogers and journaling with Deb Dows-Foley.

FRIDAY, NOV. 22

HOLIDAY BAZAAR will take place today from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Linda Manor, 349 Haydenville Road, Leeds.

SATURDAY, NOV. 23

HARVEST AND HOLLY FAIR will take place today from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Oakham

Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road, Oakham. The church will have a baked table, craft table, cookie walk, raffle table, homemade quilt raffle, white elephant table and snack bar. There will be local crafts as well.

SUNDAY, NOV. 24

SLAVERY IN NEW ENGLAND sponsored by the Lancaster Historical Society will take place today at 2 p.m. in Room 2 of First Church of Sterling, 6 Meetinghouse Hill Road, Sterling. Tom Kelleher, a historian and curator at Old Sturbridge Village will be the presenter of this free program open to the public. The institution of slavery existed in every colony in New England with most enslaved people in America having been transported to the colonies in New England ships. It helped shape regional society from the 1600s to the present day. This presentation looks at slavery as it ended in New England and how the legacy of this "peculiar institution" remains with us today. Lancaster and the daughter-towns of the "Nashaway Plantation" were no exception. Indeed, slave ownership was not uncommon. Significantly, however, Massachusetts was the first of the new United States to effectively and fully abolish slavery. The three Quock Walker court cases played an important role. Illustrated with PowerPoint slides. For more information, people may call 978-733-6907.

SUNDAY, DEC. 1

FREE CHRISTMAS CONCERT by the Weir River Jazz Band will be held today at 2 p.m. in the Stone Church Cultural Center, 283 Main St., Gilbertville.

FRIDAY, DEC. 6

SMALL WORKS AND HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE by members of the Princeton Arts Society will be held today from 6-8 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 7 and Sunday, Dec. 8 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Friday, Dec 13 from 6-8 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 14 and Sunday, Dec. 15 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Princeton Senior and Community Center, 206 Worcester Road, Princeton. The marketplace features fine, artisan made items such as jewelry, cards, prints, ornaments, fabric items, original books, bags, ceramics, woodworking and more. The Princeton Arts Society is a nonprofit organization promoting the arts in Central Massachusetts through programs, events and shows.

SATURDAY, DEC. 7

CHRISTMAS IN BARRE will be held today on and around the Barre Common. Highlights include the second annual festival of trees and craft fair on Friday, Dec. 6 and today at the Barre Town Hall, 2 Exchange St., Barre, the Santa parade today with a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus and many other activities throughout the day.

SUNDAY, DEC. 8

HOLIDAY CONCERT TICKETS. The 215th Army Band of the MA Army National Guard presents their annual free holiday concert at Symphony Hall, 34 Court St., Springfield on Sunday, Dec. 8 at 2 p.m. Admission is free with ticket. Tickets available at Pride Convenience Stores; One Financial Plaza, 1350 Main St., Springfield (weekdays 8 a.m.-6 p.m.); Springfield Visitors Center, 1319 Main St., Springfield; or send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Spirit of Springfield, 1350 Main St., Springfield, Suite 1004, Springfield, MA 01103. Ticket holders seated first.

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Panthers score big win over Littleton but don't make tournament

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LITTLETON—Back in the fall of 2016, Dave Buchanan guided the Quabbin varsity football team to a 7-4 overall record. The Panthers also qualified for the Central Mass. Division 3 playoffs for the first time that season.

No other Quabbin football team has won seven games in a season since the program began in 2000.

The members of this year's squad won't be one of the 16 teams competing in the Division 6 state playoffs, but they still have a chance to make a little bit of history.

The Panthers finished the 2024 regular season with a 6-2 record following a 30-8 road victory against Mid-Wach E rival Littleton on Halloween night.

"We haven't had a winning season since 2016," said Wayne Page, who took over as the Panthers varsity football coach prior to the start of the 2021 regular season.

"We do have three more games remaining to try to break the school record for wins in a season. If we're able to do that, it would be extremely special for this group of players, especially the seniors."

The Quabbin seniors, who won just four games as freshmen, are Jaxon Warburton, Ryan Wreschinsky, Bryce Venne, Jake Thao, Luke Salvadore, Cole Wilson, Adam Faulha, Zach Zajack, Zeke Santoro, Travis Wells and Jack Fors.

The Panthers, who have scored 30 or more points in five of their six victories, are scheduled to play two non-playoff games before traveling to Gardner High School on Thanksgiving morning. It'll be the second meeting of the season between the two rivals.

The Wildcats made the trip to Barre and pulled out a 26-14 victory in the season opener. The Panthers also lost a non-league game at Oxford, 18-14, on October 18.

"I really think we're a play-

off caliber team this year and not qualifying for the Division 6 playoffs with a 6-2 record is a little bit tough," Page said. "If we wanted to make the playoffs, we needed to win all of our regular season games."

The Panthers suffered a 27-0 loss to the Tigers (3-5) when they made their last visit to the turf football field located at Littleton Middle School two years ago.

"Littleton beat us up here two years ago and we came here with a little bit of extra motivation," Page said. "It was very nice to come back here and get a win in tonight's game."

Warburton, who's the Panthers starting quarterback, remembers the shutout loss.

"I started my first varsity game as a quarterback on this field two years ago," said Warburton, who's a three-sport athlete. "Our starting quarterback at that time was injured at practice and I had only one day to prepare for the game. It feels great to come back here and

celebrate a win. We're a completely different team than we were two years ago."

A year ago, the Panthers squeaked out a 16-14 home win against the Tigers.

The Panthers racked up a total of 121 offensive yards and scored two rushing touchdowns during the opening twelve minutes of last Thursday night's contest.

The Quabbin defense set the tone on the opening series of the game as they forced Littleton to turn the ball over on downs.

Warburton and junior Chase Talbot both rushed for eight yards on the Panthers first two offensive plays. Then Salvadore rumbled 19 yards up the middle down to the Tigers 21 yard line. Following a 19-yard pass completion by junior Wes Sanderson and another short run by Salvadore, Sanderson capped off Quabbin's six play scoring drive with a two-yard touchdown run with 3:58 remain-

See PANTHERS, page 10



Evan Costa shoots ahead of an opponent.

Late goal lifts Pioneers in WMass tournament

PALMER – The Pathfinder boys soccer team, which co-ops with Palmer, prevailed in overtime over SICS last week to advance in the Western Mass. tournament. Adonis Dupre and Evan Costa scored the goals for Pathfinder. The Pioneers would beat Drury in the semifinals before falling in the Western Mass. finals. Highlights from the finals will be in next week's edition.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Cadyn Bousquet watches his pass head up the field.

Early goals pace Panthers to win



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Abby Rogowski carefully moves into the offensive end of the field.

BARRE – Last Friday afternoon on a very mild afternoon, Quabbin Regional High School field hockey once again entered the state tournament. Their opening opponent did not have to travel far as Narragansett, another Central Mass. team, met the Panthers in the first round. Quabbin scored early in the matchup and used the momentum to a 3-1 win in the Round of 32. Coming up, the Panthers were scheduled for another home match, this time hosting a high school from the Massachusetts island of Nantucket. That game was scheduled for Wednesday afternoon.



Kailynn Schuster makes a stop on defense.



Veanna Salvadore fights to keep possession of the ball.



Farrah Wojcik reaches out to steal the ball.



Makenzie Casey looks to get a shot on goal during a penalty corner.



Justin Davis heads up the field.



Jaleel Nevue-Roman dribbles up the field under pressure.

Mahar's Parker scores 200th career point

WESTFIELD – Westfield State women's soccer senior Delaney Parker (Orange, Mass.) hit a remarkable milestone on Saturday, scoring her 200th career point with her first goal of the day in the Owls' 5-1 win over Fitchburg State.

"Coming into college, this was something I never dreamed of achieving," said Parker. "It's great to have such a good support team, with my coaches, my teammates, and my family, who's been with me every step of the way."

Entering Saturday's game, Parker was tied with 198 career points with Westfield State men's soccer Hall of Famer Ali Goncalves, a key player of the 1974 team that made it to the NCAA Division III Final Four. Securing 200 points, Delaney has made history as the first player, male or female, to reach this mark at

Westfield State.

With an impressive debut as the country's leading goal scorer in 2021, all eyes are on Parker every time she steps on the field. Even though she is known for her scoring ability, Parker brings much more to the game. As Parker competes in her final year with the Westfield State Owls, she is determined to have a successful and unforgettable 2024 season.

Westfield State women's soccer has dominated the MASCAC conference, winning the Championship for the last three seasons (2021-2023). Parker was named 2023 and 2021 MASCAC Women's Soccer Offensive Player of the Year, and supplied the game-winning goal against Bridgewater State in the 2023 MASAC Championship. Parker has had an outstanding career with the Owls. At the time of

this publication, she has scored 85 career goals – more than any other active player in NCAA Division 3, and shattering Westfield's previous record of 52 career goals, that she broke early in her junior season.

Parker's journey to Westfield was driven by wanting a quality education.

"I started looking at schools that were great for athletic training and I saw that Westfield State had a great program, so that really started my journey into deciding to come here." After reaching out to women's soccer coach Todd Ditmar, Delaney saw how strong the program was and felt welcomed by coach Ditmar. "I just love it here. I'm not in athletic training anymore, I'm a sports medicine major so it's pretty similar."

Delaney was on Coach Ditmar's radar from the beginning. He

recalls watching her compete as a freshman at Mahar high school during the Western Massachusetts playoffs.

"She was tiny but so skilled and fast," he said. "I continued following her high school career, and she was just an amazing goal scorer, which you don't come across that often."

Since Parker's freshman year, when she scored a total of 31 goals, opponents have been aware of her skill and adjusted their game plans accordingly to focus more defensively on her. However, the pressure isn't only from opponents. Delaney opened up about the constant pressure she feels to score in every game and her struggle dealing with that expectation.

"Sophomore year was a huge

See PARKER, page 10



Zander Auffrey attempts to clear the ball away.



Owen Pear sends a shot away.

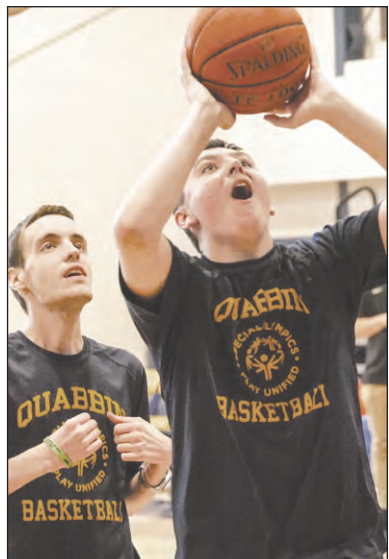
Education

Unified basketball team has great season

From the desk of Colleen Mucha, Superintendent of Quabbin Regional School District

BARRE – The Quabbin Regional High School Unified Basketball Team has had a wonderful season where the stands have been filled with parents, families, teachers and staff, fellow student athletes, and friends. QRHS was recently awarded the following recognition:

Congratulations to Quabbin Regional High School for receiving National Banner recognition from Special Olympics North America! Your school has been selected from a national certifying body for achieving standards of excellence in the areas of inclusion, advocacy and respect. The athletes, partners, students, coaches, volunteers, teachers, staff and administration at Quabbin Regional High School have all played key roles in creating a social climate where everyone feels included and respected for who they are.



A player gets ready to shoot the basketball.

We are honored to have such a strong and fully inclusive school as yours recognized for the hard work and dedication you demonstrate daily to continuously grow and strengthen your program. Your school and leadership team are a model for other schools, and we look forward to new heights you will reach tomorrow and in years to come. You are one of only 19 schools in Massachusetts and among 202 schools nationwide to achieve this status for the 2023-24 school year. Well done, Quabbin Regional High School!



Submitted photos

Fans cheer the QRHS Unified Basketball Team.

The Quabbin Regional Unified Basketball team has 22 athletes all with a variety of strengths and skills that they bring to the team. Some of the strengths of our players are as follows: Kylie has an insane outside shot and Johnny has fierce defensive tactics. Chad has a fast pass and an eye for open players. Ryan is strong to the hoop and Emma is our anthem specialist. Hemily has a nose for the ball while Simon is a master of the underhand layup.

Tyler has become a crowd favorite and his shooting percentage is through the roof this year. Chris is always positive and comes to every game and practice with a giant smile on his face. We can't say enough about our partners to the athletes. Most participate in other sports during the winter and spring seasons and are integral to the success of the program. Their enthusiasm for the program is contagious - both on and off the court.

Walter Nutter, Oakham School Committee member shares,

"Watching these athletes compete, in their own joyful way, is entirely heartwarming. These kids have so much fun, and are filled with pride when they make a basket, raising their hands in the air and sporting a thousand megawatt smile. They are tuned into the crowd and look to see us cheering when they make a play. They happily share the ball with both their own teammates and opponents too. They don't get caught up on the score, they simply want to play. Their excitement is contagious."

Our banner will be delivered to us soon and we plan to celebrate with our entire school community. We hope you will join us to recognize our inclusive athletic programming. Be on the lookout for more information from the district in the upcoming weeks.

We are proud of you Quabbin Regional Middle High School for your ability to truly see one another and celebrate each other's strengths. Stay Unified.



Players help each other.

Grade K to 8 students eligible to enter 'Name a Snowplow' contest

BOSTON – The Massachusetts Department of Transportation announces the third annual "Name a Snowplow" contest for statewide elementary school students in Massachusetts.

The contest seeks to solicit names for 12 MassDOT snowplows that will be in service for the upcoming 2024/2025 winter season. The purpose of the contest is to celebrate the snow and ice season and to help recognize the hard work and dedication shown by public works employees and contractors during the winter season.

Applications for the Snowplow Naming Contest are due on Friday, Dec. 6 by 5 p.m. and can be submitted by visiting an online portal at <https://www.mass.gov/forms/name-a-snowplow-contest-submission>. There is no limit to the number of applications that can be submitted per school.

The contest winners will be invited to participate in a sched-

uled snowplow unveiling event. Winning selections will be announced by Monday, Dec. 23.

"With the winter season approaching, we are excited to announce that the third annual Name a Snowplow Contest is now accepting submissions from elementary school students statewide," said Transportation Secretary and CEO Monica Tibbitts-Nutt. "Each year, this is a fun opportunity for students to show off their creativity, and we look forward to seeing which names will end up on our snowplows this winter season."

"The Name a Snowplow contest has been a major success the last two years, with great submissions from schools across the Commonwealth," said Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver. "This contest is a fun way for kids to learn about public works and for our snow and ice crews to connect with their communities. We are excited to receive creative names for our plows this year."

A selection panel composed of MassDOT employees will choose two elementary school classroom winners that are located within each of the six Highway Division districts. The winning submissions will be evaluated based on two grade-level categories: kindergarten through fourth grade and two fifth grade through eighth grade.

During the second annual snowplow naming contest last winter, the winning names were: Flower Plow, Edward Blizzardhands, Glacier Gobbler, Polar Pathmaker, Snow B Wan Kenobi, The Snolar Express, Sleetwood Mac, Snow Place Like Home, Snow-hemian Rhapsody, The Mayplow, Snow Monstah, Fast and Flurryous. These names, which were placed on the sides of plow trucks a year ago, remain on those vehicles.

People may visit <https://www.mass.gov/name-a-snowplow-contest-2024-25> for more information.

Commission discusses the future of MLH, focuses on memorialization

By Abby McCoy
Correspondent

WARE – The future of the historic Mary Lane Hospital took center stage at the Historical Commission's meeting held on Oct. 28, at the Town Hall.

The session focused on the ongoing plans for the site, following the expiration of the commission's demolition delay that prevented Baystate Health from moving forward with its plans to remove the buildings on the property.

Baystate Health is now free to begin the demolition of the Mary Lane building at its discretion. However, the town of Ware is requesting a further nine-month delay in order to finalize plans for the memorialization of the site, which many see as a vital part of the town's history.

In partnership with the town attorney, Patricia Davidson, the Historical Commission is working on establishing a small trust to help oversee the creation of a memorial dedicated to Mary Lane Hospital. This would involve the careful preservation of certain aspects of the building, with the goal of honoring its legacy in Ware's history.

The town has been in discussions with Baystate Health to salvage parts of the Mary Lane Hospital buildings, including original construction materials, to incorporate into the memorial. A list of items for preservation was presented during the meeting, although not all requests will come to fruition.

Commission members had hoped to recover original cornerstones from the building, but these were not found. However, a date stone from the Gilbert

Building, dated 1961, was discovered and will be part of the memorial effort.

Additionally, the commission has requested that as many bricks as possible be salvaged in their original condition and palletized for later use. Unfortunately, the company conducting the demolition has indicated that the best they can do is to pile the bricks into a hopper, leaving some questions about the logistics of their preservation.

A significant part of the Mary Lane Hospital campus's history will be preserved in the form of signage. The main sign from the building is being stored at Wing Memorial Hospital, along with a bronze plaque donated by the local Elks Club.

The town is also saving several historic lamp posts that lined the driveway to Mary Lane Hospital, which are currently being stored at the town hall.

Peter Banko, CEO of Baystate Health, reiterated that while the company is not eager to demolish the buildings, the high costs of maintaining an empty structure makes it economically unfeasible to continue its upkeep. Banko emphasized that the Gilbert Trust Fund, which could help fund new healthcare initiatives in the area, is a top priority for Baystate Health moving forward.

Banko said the cost of maintaining empty buildings is far higher than the costs associated with demolition, and they are committed to using the resources from the Gilbert Trust to help expand healthcare services in the region.

During the meeting, a concerned citizen voiced frustration over the town's focus on memorialization rather than preserving

the entire building.

"The community wants to save the whole building, but you're just looking to preserve a few bricks," the man said, questioning whether the commission was fully representing the public's wishes.

He then asked, "Does this commission have an objection to a private citizen trying to preserve the building, or are you just trying to save a few bricks from it?"

Several commission members quickly responded, stating that they were simply following the guidance provided by the Massachusetts Historical Commission, which has recommended focusing on memorialization efforts before the demolition proceeds.

The town has limited authority over the Mary Lane Hospital site, as the property is owned by Baystate Health, a private company, and any negotiations regarding the building's future must be directed to them. The town has already been granted three separate extensions from Baystate Health to delay the demolition, but the current request for a nine-month extension is considered the final opportunity to finalize plans for memorializing the building.

A commission member said, "It's out of our hands. We've done what we can, but Baystate has the final say."

The meeting concluded with the understanding that the town would continue its efforts to honor the history of Mary Lane Hospital through the creation of a memorial. However, for those who hope to preserve the entire building, the battle will ultimately lie with private citizens or other outside groups interested in negotiating with Baystate Health.

Christmas by Candlelight returns to Old Sturbridge Village

STURBRIDGE – Old Sturbridge Village is pleased to announce the return of Christmas by Candlelight, a cherished holiday celebration of New England's festive traditions.

Tickets are now on sale to the public for select dates in November and December.

The Village will transform into a stunning winter wonderland beginning Nov. 29, featuring over 85 beautifully decorated trees on the Christmas Tree Trail, over 80 wreaths, hundreds of candles illuminating the pathways, and 5,625 feet of garland adorning historic buildings. Each evening of the program will kick off at 4:30 p.m. with a magical lighting ceremony.

Visitors can experience a variety of activities, including knitting Christmas stockings and baking traditional holiday treats. Guests can stroll through the picturesque village and cross the enchanting Christmas Wish Bridge, a scenic path lined with trees along the Quinebaug River. Children will have the chance to meet Santa and Mrs. Claus in their new cabin, where they can

share their holiday wishes.

Visitors are also encouraged to participate in the annual Gingerbread House contest, where creative entries will be displayed for public voting.

"Christmas by Candlelight is a celebration of the cherished traditions that make the season truly special," said Rhys Simmons, Director of Interpretation at Old Sturbridge Village in a press release. "Our goal is to transport you back in time with an experience that delights all the senses. Picture twinkling lights adorning the trees, the enticing aromas and flavors of mulled cider and freshly baked gingerbread, and the familiar sounds of holiday carols echoing all around."

This year's Christmas by Candlelight will feature an array of live entertainment, including historical performances and readings of Christmas tales for children. New this year is "Upon a Midnight Clear – An Acoustic New England Christmas," a musical journey showcasing local artists reinterpreting classic carols.

In addition to the festivities,

guests can explore the origins of classic traditions such as nutcrackers and gingerbread, along with a remarkable miniature nativity scene featuring over 600 pieces. The Richardson House will showcase Italian Christmas customs.

There will also be plenty of opportunities for holiday shopping at the Miner Grant Store and the Ox & Yoke Mercantile.

"This event has become a tradition for so many guests year after year, and many families look forward to it as the highlight of their holiday season," continued Simmons. "We invite everyone to experience the joy of the season, relish in classic traditions, and create new memories with loved ones this winter at Christmas by Candlelight."

Christmas by Candlelight is made possible by our generous sponsors: Cornerstone Bank, Country Bank, G&F Precision Molding, and Southbridge Credit Union.

For more information on tickets and full event details, visit the Old Sturbridge Village website.



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Connor Foreman inducted into the Order of the Engineer

TROY, NY – On Wednesday, Oct. 30, Connor Foreman of Oakham, MA, was among the 210 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute seniors inducted into the Order of the Engineer, a national organization dedicated to upholding the highest ethical standards for the engineering profession.

In addition to taking the Order of the Engineer pledge, each inductee received a stainless-steel ring to be worn on the little finger of their dominant hand. The rings represent each student's daily commitment to serving humanity through engineering. These students will follow in the foot-

steps of RPI graduates who, since 1824, have applied technology and innovation to solving the world's toughest problems. Founded in 1824 for the application of science to the common purposes of life, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute is the first technological research university in the United States.

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Church News

Local pastors offer sermons

Convinced Part 5

Do you possess convictions? In other words, what bedrock beliefs both inform and impact the manner in which you live? In this series we are exploring an array of biblical truths that should shape your life and living. Let us continue accordingly:

1) God Can Change You

To what degree do you believe that God can change you? Tragically, many believe the deception that they are a lost cause; that they will forever wallow in the cycles of brokenness and sin that riddle their lives. This is simply not the case, for Jesus is a change agent.

Consider what the apostle Paul said concerning Christ and those who believe upon Him (2 Cor. 5:17, NKJV): "17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." I do not believe we rightly understand the intent or capacity of God to bring about lasting change-change which is vividly articulated in this illustration:

"London businessman Lindsay Clegg told the story of a warehouse property he was selling. The building had been empty for months and needed repairs. Vandals had damaged the doors, smashed the windows and strewn trash around the interior. As he showed a prospective buyer the property, Clegg took pains to say that he would replace the broken windows, bring in a crew to correct any structural damage and clean out the garbage."

"Forget about the repairs," the buyer said. "When I buy this place, I'm going to build something completely different. I don't want the building; I want the site." Compared with the renovation God has in mind, our efforts to improve our own lives are as trivial as sweeping a warehouse slated for the wrecking ball. When we become God's, the old life is over (2 Cor. 5:17). He makes all things new. All he wants is the site and the permission to build."

2) God Can Change the World through You

To what degree do you believe that God can change the world through you? Yes, I am talking about you! Sadly, so many of us live with what I call a ministry of disqualification, whereby we surrender to the lie that Christ could never use someone like us. What if He's looking for someone just like you? The following excerpt speaks decidedly to such a mindset:

"There are many reasons why God shouldn't have called you. But don't worry. You're in good company. Moses stuttered. David's armor didn't fit. John Mark was rejected by Paul. Timothy had ulcers. Amos' only training was in the school of fig-tree pruning. Jacob was a liar. David had an affair. Solomon was too rich. Jesus was too poor. Abraham was too old. David was too young. Peter was afraid of death. Lazarus was dead. John was self-righteous. Naomi was a widow. Paul was a murderer. So was Moses. Jonah ran from God. Miriam was a gossip. Gideon and Thomas both doubted. Jeremiah was depressed and suicidal. Elijah was burned out. John the Baptist was a loudmouth. Martha was a worry-wart. Mary

was lazy. Samson had long hair. Noah got drunk. Did I mention that Moses had a short fuse? But God doesn't require a job interview. He doesn't hire and fire like most bosses, because He's more our Dad than our Boss. He doesn't look at financial gain or loss. He's not prejudiced or partial, not judging, grudging, sassy, or brassy, not deaf to our cry, not blind to our need. As much as we try, God's gifts are free. We could do wonderful things for wonderful people and still not be...wonderful."

In the end, it's not about you but Him. Learn to glory in your weaknesses (2 Cor. 12) and watch what God can accomplish.

Thank you for taking the time to read this publication. Should you have any comments or questions, feel free to contact me at your leisure using the information below.

Also, feel free to check us out online at www.NewLifeBarre.org or visit us each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. We hope to see you soon.

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

Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost~

"The Fullness of God's Love"

Our services can be found on our website at www.barrechurch.com

Scripture Reading: Mark 12 v 28 - 34 I. Introduction

We as human beings have within us the ability to feel deeply, and to act in different ways according to those feelings. When we have feelings of love for others, we want to act lovingly towards those individuals. We want to shower them with good deeds and precious gifts. We don't want anything bad to happen to them. We will defend them, and we will make them feel special. On the other hand, when we have feelings of negativity, anger, bitterness or indifference, and lack of care, we may act towards others in a way that is not so warm, instead, we may have negative thoughts about them, which may consume us, and those negative thoughts and attitudes can lead to negative behaviors and actions towards them. Both emotions of love and negativity are powerful emotions within us, and those emotions could impact our lives and those around us.

II. The Fullness of God's love
God knows us so well, that is why Moses was given the ten commandments to give to the Israelites, so their lives and behaviors towards God and others would be regulated and create living conditions that were loving, kind, peaceful and respectful towards each other. Jesus refers to Deuteronomy 6 v 4-5 and Leviticus 19 v 17 - 18 in His answer to the Scribe who wanted to know what the most important commandment of all the commandments was: Deuteronomy 6:4- 5, "Hear, O Israel: The Lord

our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength,"and Leviticus 19 v 17 -18, "Do not hate a fellow Israelite in your heart. Rebuke your neighbor frankly so you will not share in their guilt. Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord."

His response to the Scribe, Jesus explains how human beings should live and act as children of the Kingdom of God. He speaks about the mind, the heart, and the soul as places from within where they should be filled with love for God and other people. Mark L. Strauss in his commentary on Mark describes beautifully the heart as the seat / foundation of physical, spiritual and mental health, the soul as the life principle or seat /center of the inner human life and the mind the faculty of thinking, comprehending and reasoning. Jesus speaks about love as the force of life that motivates the heart, mind and soul to be living examples of God's love.

So, someone could use their life force to love and act lovingly, or use their life force to be angry, hate, hurt and more. Jesus tells the scribe that the commandment to love God requires that inner strength and vitality to express and live a life of deep love towards God. That same love must also be shown to their neighbor, who had been created in God's image. If you say you love God, then that love would be pure and would be expressed in the same way towards all others.

Those who follow Jesus Christ must therefore not harbor any negativity in their hearts and minds and souls, and therefore be mindful not to act out their negativity towards others. The Scribe, who is an expert in Old Testament Law, and who was part of many who challenged Jesus and His message, had no objection to Jesus' answer, but instead validated Jesus' response to his question. Jesus pointed out that he, the Scribe was not far from the Kingdom of God, that he was on his way. This interaction between Jesus and the Scribe was the end of any further questions or challenges anyone dared to direct at Jesus.

III. Conclusion

Today, more than ever, we as children of God, have the opportunity to hear and respond to this answer of Jesus in a new and fresh way. He speaks of a commandment that affirms God as the only God, a God of love for all of humanity, and a commandment that requires that the children of God have the same love for humanity. Whatever and whomever we face in life, we must aspire to love the way God loves, forgive the way God forgives, and seek peace and mutual respect for all human beings, the way God does.

This world needs this kind of love and commitment from us, today, tomorrow, this week, the months and years ahead. This is the love that redeems, heals and make the world a better place. May God help each one of us to live out this message of Christ every day.

Amen

Pastor Margaret Keyser
Barre Congregational Church
30 Park St.
Barre

Obituaries

Michael A. Slezak 1955 – 2024



WILBRAHAM – Michael A. Slezak, 69, died peacefully at home on Tuesday, Oct. 29, 2024, after a sudden and courageous battle with cancer. Raised in Brandywine, Maryland by the late George and Helen (Kaltenbaugh) Slezak, Michael was a 41 year resident of Wilbraham. Michael was a driver for United Parcel Service for 37 years until retirement.

Michael will be lovingly remembered by family, friends and neighbors as a jack of all trades, who was always busy working on something. With no shortage of hobbies ranging from golf, cooking, to gardening and woodworking, Michael also had an eye for and loved bringing home antiques of any

form and fashion. His property in Wilbraham shows Michael's passions.

In addition to his parents, Michael was also predeceased by his sister, Dana Beth Gomez of Virginia Beach, Virginia. He will be dearly missed by his beloved wife of 47 years, Donna (Belliveau) Slezak; their children, Nicolette Slezak of Enfield, Connecticut and Joshua Slezak of Wilbraham and his sister, Denise Warfield and her husband Matt Warfield of Annapolis, Maryland. Michael will also be missed by many others he interacted with at

his weekly golf outings, antique events and along his UPS route in Barre, where he continued to frequent even after retirement.

Michael's Funeral Services will be private and at the convenience of the family. Wilbraham Funeral Home has been entrusted with the arrangements.

DEATH NOTICE

Slezak, Michael A.
Died Oct. 29, 2024
Funeral Service will be private.
Wilbraham Funeral Home

Worcester County Sheriff's Office receives ACA accreditation

WEST BOYLSTON – Worcester County Sheriff Lewis Evangelidis and the Worcester County Sheriff's Office announce the Worcester County Sheriff's Office completed all the requirements for re-accreditation through the American Correctional Association, receiving a compliance score of 98.7%.

For more than 152 years, the American Correctional Association has championed the cause of corrections and correctional effectiveness. The American Correctional Association provides a professional organization for all individuals and groups, both public and private that share a common goal of improving the justice system.

In April, the Worcester County Jail and House of Correction hosted a panel of ACA Auditors, who evaluated the facility on over 420 ACA industry standards. The standards focus on inmate safety, health care, mental health, education, programming, officer training, staff safety and facility administration.

In an exit interview with on-site ACA auditors and WCSO Administrative Staff, the auditors praised the work of the Sheriff's Office. The auditors mentioned that they regularly evaluate correctional facilities across the nation but have seen few institutions that operate at the level of the Worcester County Sheriff's Office.

"The auditor's comments strongly affirmed the excellent quality of the work our staff does," said Worcester County Sheriff Lewis Evangelidis. "It is incredibly valuable to receive such a high level of praise from the ACA auditors, especially considering their extensive careers in corrections and experience visiting correctional facilities through the ACA. Their feedback is not only important to hear, but



Submitted photo

Worcester County Sheriff Lewis Evangelidis, center, holds the American Correctional Association Accreditation document. The Worcester County Sheriff's Office received a compliance score of 98.7%.

also serves as a great source of motivation for us to continue our work."

Correctional institutions accredited by the American Correctional Association must be re-accredited every three years to maintain their accreditation status. The Worcester County Sheriff's Office has maintained its accreditation since its initial accreditation in 2008.

"When I took office in 2011, my administration inherited one of the oldest facilities in the state," commented Sheriff Evangelidis. "Initially, we faced significant challenges that jeopardized re-accreditation. Meeting ACA standards became a top priority for my administrative team. Striving to meet all standards has set our facility up for long-term success."

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts does not mandate an audit of correctional facilities by the American Correctional Association. However, other state departments regularly audit correctional institutions on various policies and procedures.

"It is important that we are held to the highest standards of care, custody and control of the inmate population," said Sheriff Evangelidis. "We also want to ensure a high level of professionalism and training across all staffing groups. The employees of the Worcester County Sheriff's Office play a crucial role in the overall safety and well-being of the residents of Worcester County. Thank you to the hard-working WCSO staff who strive every day to improve our communities."

Fall Frolic and Mystery Birthday takes place Nov. 16

EAST BROOKFIELD – St. John the Baptist Church, 131 Blaine Avenue, will hold their Fall Frolic and Mystery Birthday on Saturday, Nov. 16 at 5 p.m. in St. John's Church Hall.

There will be a catered buffet, music, games and raffles. Cost is \$25 per person. To reserve tickets, required, people should call the Parish Office at 508-867-6469.

Weir River Jazz and Ware River Concert bands hold Christmas concerts

GILBERTVILLE – On Sunday, Dec. 1 at 2 p.m. the Weir River Jazz Band will hold their annual free concert in the Stone Church Cultural Center, 283 Main St.

On Sunday, Dec 15 at 2 p.m. the Weir River Concert Band will hold their free Christmas Concert "A Tinsel and Tunes Gala" in the Stone Church Cultural Center.

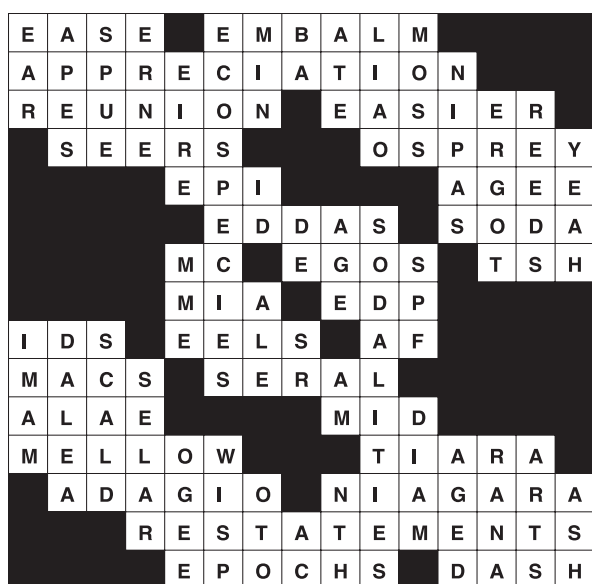
A Country Christmas' fair will Nov. 23

WEST BROOKFIELD – The George Whitefield United Methodist Church will host its annual Church Fair "A Country Christmas" on Saturday, Nov. 23 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at 33 West Main St.

Featured will be a bake sale, knit and handcrafted items, a Christmas shop of gifts and décor, fudge, jams and jellies, Gramma's Attic Thrift Store and lunch room. Come kick off the holiday season with the church.

SUBMISSIONS ALWAYS WELCOME

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

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

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

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

PEOPLE/MILESTONE NEWS

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

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

QVFPC reviews community food access assessment

By Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – The Quaboag Valley Food Policy Council welcomed new Coordinator Sawyer Blake at its general body meeting held on Oct. 23.

Blake is a 2021 graduate of Smith College, having studied food sustainability and biology. They interned with local food nonprofits Grow Food Northampton and Pioneer Valley Workers Center.

“My senior capstone project was studying HIP [Healthy Incentives Program] usage and comparing it to SNAP [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program] usage,” Blake said.

They also worked directly in the western Massachusetts food system as a farm worker, butcher and farm store clerk.

Blake said they love cooking, eating and spending time with their partner and cats.

Community Food Access Assessment

Nisha Humayun, Project Coordinator for Community Health with Healthy Quaboag and the Town of Ware, presented the findings of the council’s Community Food Access Assessment which was conducted in conjunction with the Collaborative for Educational Services.

“Our purpose was to get firsthand accounts from community members,” Humayun said.

Humayun said this included conducting individual and community interviews with various community members, including local veterans. The interviews also helped to strengthen connections with food policy council members.

She said the purpose of the assessment was obtain firsthand accounts from community members and using the results to supplement a study conducted by the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission.

Blake said key findings from the assessment include community assets, access barriers, priority needs and opportunities.

For community assets, they said there was a strong appreciation for living in a rural, small-town environment from residents, which still offers multiple grocery store options as well as local agriculture.

Blake said public transportation is also available through the Quaboag Connector, and there is also access to local resources including food banks, senior centers and churches.

Access barriers include distance and time, quality and avail-

ability of food, benefit programs, transportation, food costs and technology and delivery.

Distance, transportation and technology were some of the biggest barriers preventing residents from having access to nutritious food, Blake said.

The rising cost of food was the biggest concern of all interviewees. Those interviewed said monthly SNAP benefits were not keeping up with this cost, and farmers markets were expensive.

Senior Outreach Coordinator Carol Zins said many of her clients don’t use their SNAP benefits due to the small amount of food they can buy for \$23-30 a month.

Blake said while most people interviewed were aware of SNAP benefits and seniors centers and other services available to them, but not as many were familiar with HIP.

“HIP is a complicated process and it’s hard to understand,” Blake said.

HIP allows SNAP recipients to purchase fresh produce directly from local participating farmers, many of whom setup at local farmers markets in Belchertown and West Brookfield. The HIP program will reimburse the SNAP user’s electronic benefits card dollar to dollar up to a monthly cap of \$40, \$60 or \$80.

Priority needs of Quaboag Valley

Blake said priority needs of the Quaboag Valley include access to local agriculture, improvements to food pantries, improvements to SNAP/HIP, discount offers and nutrition education.

QVFPC Dashboard

Another outcome of the assessment is a dashboard made by CMRPC that shows all of the farms in the region that are avail-

able and that accept SNAP and HIP benefits.

“It would be a great resource to share out with our community,” Sawyer said.

To access the dashboard, visit <https://cmrpc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/fee2d96f3e-424316a71bb2c4e63c0c4>.

About QVFPC

The Quaboag Valley Food Policy Council is funded through a grant received by the Town of Ware in partnership with Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation, covering the towns of Ware, Belchertown, Palmer, Monson, Wales, Holland, Brimfield, Warren, Brookfield, West Brookfield, North Brookfield and East Brookfield.

The council is open to all, and everyone is welcome to join in the discussion.

Explore the Ware River Watershed Nov. 9

BARRE – Exploring the Ware River Watershed, a group hike via the Riis Farm trail, will be held on Saturday, Nov. 9 from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Participants should meet at the Ware River Watershed parking area on Route 62 (3.1 miles east of Barre center) at Gate 62-4 for this intermediate level hike. Google Maps parking area location: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/7YTLVh38CxZTWiF87>.

Join Department of Conservation and Recreation staff for a 3.3-mile lollipop loop hike in the Ware River Watershed. The route climbs/descends roughly 400 feet in elevation.

The hike travels around the former Riis Farm property.

Visit the following website for additional information on the route: <https://www.trailforks.com/route/riis-farm--burnshirt-river-from-rte-62/>

Register for this hike by visiting <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/93fb8bc9120047d894ff-0fa0d90c0878>

Library offers passes to local museums and more

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

This year, passes are available from the Rutland Public Library, 280 Main St., for Massachusetts State Parks, Old Sturbridge Village, Tower Hill Botanic Garden and Worcester Art Museum.

The program is funded in part by the Rutland Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

For more information, people may call the Rutland Library at 508-886-4108.

Gas prices decrease

WESTWOOD – Gasoline prices in the Northeast continue to trickle down, but petroleum markets are beginning to take notice of tightening supplies and a recent uptick in demand.

Last week, domestic stockpiles of oil and gasoline fell by 500,000 and 2.7 million barrels respectively, according to the Energy Information Administration. Much of the drawdown was fueled by Americans’ increased appetite for driving as of late: gasoline demand last week eclipsed 9.1 million barrels a day, which is 5.3% higher than the comparable week last year. Over the past four weeks, demand has been 3.4% higher than in the same weeks of 2023.

Outside of domestic market dynamics, global oil and gas markets are focused on the potential for continued conflict in the Middle East, which could send oil prices higher. Also increasing pressure on the markets is the OPEC+ announcement of a one-month delay in planned production increases of roughly 2 million barrels a day, which were supposed to begin in December.

The average gas price in Massachusetts is down a penny over last week (\$3.05), averaging \$3.04 per gallon. Today’s price is two cents lower than a month ago (\$3.06) and 48 cents lower than this day last year (\$3.52). Massachusetts’s average gas price is six cents lower than the national average.

“This fall, U.S. drivers have benefited from notably cheaper gasoline compared to last year and demand figures suggest it has helped spur more consumption,” said Mark Schieldrop, Senior Spokesperson, AAA Northeast. “If the trend continues, pump prices might not fall much lower in the short term.”

AAA Northeast’s Nov. 4 survey of fuel prices found the current national average down three cents from last week (\$3.13), averaging \$3.10 gallon. Today’s national average price is eight cents cheaper than a month ago (\$3.18) and 32 cents lower than this day last year (\$3.42).

AAA Northeast is a not-for-profit auto club with offices in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, New Hampshire and New York, providing more than 6.5 million local AAA members with travel, insurance, finance and auto-related services.



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Public Safety

Barre Police Log

Sunday, Oct. 20
 2:45 a.m. Noise Complaint, Worcester Road, Unfounded
 10:21 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, North Brookfield Road, Officer/Chief Advised

Monday, Oct. 21
 7:47 a.m. Follow-Up Investigation, South Street, Investigation (On-Going)
 10:08 a.m. Court Duty, East Brookfield District Court, Paperwork Served

Tuesday, Oct. 22
 7:30 a.m. Dislodged Feeding Tube, South Barre Road, Mutual Aid Transport
 10:19 a.m. Animal – Lost and/ or Found, South Street, Returned to Family/Guardian
 11:38 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 3:15 p.m. Erratic Operator, South Street, Verbal Warning
 6:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hubbardston Road, Citation Issued

Wednesday, Oct. 23
 7:05 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Pleasant Street, Message Delivered
 12:57 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Ruggles Lane, Officer Spoke to Party

2:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Vernon Avenue, Citation Issued
 2:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident – No Fire Department/EMS Response, Wheelwright Road, Report Filed
 5:34 p.m.; Disturbance/Disorderly, Broad Street, Transported to Hospital
 P/C Mortell, Maureen A., 61, Barre
 Charges Shoplifting by Asportation
 7:48 p.m. Erratic Operator, Mechanic Street, Officer/Chief Advised

Thursday, Oct. 24
 8:21 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Allergic Reaction, Main Street/Transported to Hospital
 9:27 a.m. Court Duty, East Brookfield District Court, Court Duty
 12:15 p.m. Home Invasion, Old Dana Road, Officer Took Call
 12:26 p.m. Disturbance/Disorderly, Austin Street, Report Filed
 Summons: Barr, Jerry Adrian, 66, South Hadley
 Charges Assault and Battery with Dangerous Weapon
 6:22 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Allergic Reaction, Main Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 8:53 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Oakham Road, Information Taken
 8:55 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle

Activity, Ware Corner Road, Negative Contact
 9:50 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Station Road, Information Taken

Friday, Oct. 25
 8:18 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Hancock Road, No Fire Service Necessary
 9:04 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Dana Road, Call Transferred
 9:57 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, Spencer, Information Given
 10:41 a.m. Fire – Illegal Burn, Old Coldbrook Road, Fire Extinguished
 12:53 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Hardwick Road, Report Filed
 6:28 p.m. Fire – Brush and Wildland Fires, Cut Off Road, Fire Extinguished
 7:46 p.m. Disturbance/Disorderly, South Street, Returned to Family/Guardian

Saturday, Oct. 26
 6:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident – No Fire Department/EMS Response, Worcester Road, No Police Service Necessary
 6:45 p.m. Harassment, Summer Street, Officer Spoke to Party

Rutland Police Log

Sunday, Oct. 20
 1:43 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Maple Avenue, Transported to Hospital
 11:41 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Kenwood Drive, Transported to Hospital
 12:57 p.m. Property Dispute or Exchange, Main Street, Property Returned
 2:17 p.m. Erratic Operator, Barre Paxton Road, Negative Contact

Monday, Oct. 21
 8:51 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Shea, Conor E., 32, Rutland
 Charges Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle C90 S10
 9:09 a.m. Court Duty, East Brookfield District Court, Court Duty
 9:18 a.m. Public Assist, Miles Road, Report Filed
 3:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Leary, Brian C., 41, North Brookfield
 Charges License Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle with C90 S23, Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle with C90 S23, Uninsured Motor Vehicle C90 S34J, Dangerous Weapon, Carry
 4:36 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Ridge Road, Transported to Hospital
 4:51 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Bushy Lane, Report Filed
 7:15 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Pommogusset Road, Negative Contact
 9:09 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Citation Issued

Tuesday, Oct. 22
 3:39 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Juniper Lane, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 6:17 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Seizures, Campbell Street, Transported to Hospital
 7:53 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Jamie Ann Drive, Information Taken
 7:58 a.m. Complaint, Jamie Ann Drive, Report Filed
 9 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, East Hill Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 10:28 a.m. Property – Lost and Found, Wheeler Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 10:53 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, East County Road, Message Delivered
 11:04 a.m. Open Door or Window, Pommogusset Road, Building Checked/Secured

11:28 a.m. Property Dispute or Exchange, Pleasantdale Road, Report Filed
 12:23 p.m. Property – Lost and Found, Miles Road Property Returned
 1:46 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Thurston Hill Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 4:26 p.m. Public Assist, Jamie Ann Drive, Officer Spoke to Party
 5:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Citation Issued
 6:01 p.m. Public Assist, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party

Wednesday, Oct. 23
 10:24 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Citation Issued
 1:25 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Ware Corner Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 4:06 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Hear Problem, Ware Corner Road, Mutual Aid Transport
 4:39 p.m. Disturbance/Disorderly, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 5:23 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Eye Problems/Injury, Lindsay Lane, Mutual Aid Transport
 6:10 p.m. Erratic Operator, Barre Paxton Road, Information Given
 Thursday, Oct. 24
 4:11 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Pommogusset Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 5:45 a.m. Fire – Vehicle Fires, Barre Paxton Road, No Fire Service Necessary
 7:09 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Pleasantdale Road, Transported to Hospital
 8:11 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Pleasantdale Road, No Action Required
 9:27 a.m. Court Duty, East Brookfield District Court, Court Duty
 9:48 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Cheryl Ann Drive, Transported to Hospital
 12:39 p.m. Fire – Illegal Burn, Pommogusset Road, Fire Extinguished
 1:38 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning
 3:37 p.m. Pubic Assist, Rutland Public Safety Lobby – Report Filed
 4:27 p.m. Complaint, Marjorie Lane, Officer Spoke to Party
 6:17 p.m. Be On the Look Out Notification, Barre Paxton Road, Area Search Negative
 7:44 p.m. Landlord Tenant/Neighbor Dispute, Hope Way, Criminal Complaint
 Summons McNamee, William L., 58, Rutland
 Charges Disturbing the Peace

8:07 p.m. Be On the Look Out Notification, Barre Paxton Road, Area Search Negative
 8:14 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Ware Corner Road, Unfounded
 8:27 p.m. Complaint, Stevens Way, Officer/Chief Advised
 8:59 p.m. Landlord Tenant/Neighbor Dispute, Edson Avenue, Officer Spoke to Party
 9:11 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Bushy Lane, Officer Spoke to Party
 10:58 p.m. Follow Up Investigation, Ware Road, Investigated

Friday, Oct. 25
 6:35 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Fisherman's Road, Transported to Hospital
 7:47 a.m. Safety Concern, Arrowhead Way, Officer Spoke to Party
 9:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Charnock Hill Road, Information Taken
 11:53 a.m. Larceny or Theft, Main Street, Report Filed
 1:05 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Carrion, David J., 29, Sturbridge
 Charges Uninsured Motor Vehicle
 1:38 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident – No Fire Department/EMS Response, Pommogusset Road, Gone on Arrival
 2:53 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, River Road, Call Transferred
 4:26 p.m. Identity Theft, Glenwood Road, Report Filed
 5:32 p.m. Harassment, Michael Drive, Report Filed
 8:20 p.m. Erratic Operator, East County Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 9:58 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Johnson Way, Transported to Hospital
 10:25 p.m. Erratic Operator, Main Street, Officer/Chief Advised
 11:38 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Prescott Street, Negative Contact

Saturday, Oct. 26
 1:21 a.m. Assist Other Town, Holden, Negative Contact
 10:46 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Jamie Ann Drive, Returned to Family/Guardian
 12:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Main Street, Vehicle Towed
 6:29 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Seizures, Kalloch Drive, Transported to Hospital
 9:11 p.m. Noise Complaint, Grizzly Drive, Officer Spoke to Party
 10:51 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Main Street, Unfounded

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of Oct. 28-Nov. 4, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 49 building/property checks, 27 directed/area patrols, two radar assignments, nine traffic controls, eight emergency 911 calls, three citizen assists, six assist other agencies, two safety hazards, two illegal dumpings, three complaints, one harassment, one fire, one trespass, one threat, one investigation, two motor vehicle investigations, one animal call and eight motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, Oct. 28
 12:37 p.m. Illegal Dumping, Joslyn Road, Investigated
 1:10 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Off Prospect Street, Report Taken
 2:34 p.m. Harassment, Main Street, Officer Handled
 5:25 p.m. Illegal Dumping, Joslyn Road, Investigated
 5:51 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Services Rendered

Tuesday, Oct. 29
 11:09 a.m. Assist Citizen, Sessions Road, Officer Handled
 2:39 p.m. Fire/Other, Old Petersham Road, Services Rendered
 8:21 p.m. Complaint, Hardwick Road, Services Rendered

Wednesday, Oct. 30
 12:43 a.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Hardwick Road, Spoken To
 9:28 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Main Street, Dispatch Handled
 9:51 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Parker Court, Transported to Hospital
 7 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Unknown Location, Spoken To
 11:15 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Upper Church Street, Officer Handled

Thursday, Oct. 31
 2:44 a.m. Fire Alarm, Old Petersham Road, Services Rendered
 11:10 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Unknown Location, Dispatch Handled
 11:55 a.m. Assist Other Agency, High Road, Officer Handled

Friday, Nov. 1
 3:58 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, North Road, No Action Required
 3:59 a.m. Medical Emergency, North Road, Services Rendered
 9:35 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Hardwick Road, Services Rendered
 9:48 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Bridge Street, Transported to Hospital

11:03 a.m. Assist Other Agency, High Street, Officer Handled
 1:04 p.m. Investigation, Broad Street, Officer Handled
 1:38 p.m. Trespass, Church Lane, No Action Required
 2:48 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Chagnon Road, Transported to Hospital
 5:24 p.m. Threat, School House Drive, Officer Handled
 6:52 p.m. 911 Assist Citizen, Barre Road, Dispatch Handled

Saturday, Nov. 2
 8:21 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Citation Issued
 4:02 p.m. Safety Hazard, Lower Road, Officer Handled
 4:15 p.m. Safety Hazard, River Run, Merge
 6:01 p.m. Complaint, High Street, Spoken To
 6:28 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Patril Hollow Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
 11:48 p.m. Complaint, Bridge Street, Spoken To

Sunday, Nov. 3
 4:49 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Collins Road, Transported to Hospital

Oakham Police Log

Sunday, Oct. 20
 11:03 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, New Braintree Road, Officer/Chief Advised

Monday, Oct. 21
 9:07 a.m. Court Duty, East Brookfield District Court, Court Duty
 4:03 p.m. Vandalism, Ware Corner Road, Message Delivered

Tuesday, Oct. 22
 9 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, East Hill Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 2:47 p.m. Landlord Tenant/Neighbor Dispute, North Brookfield Road, Investigated

Wednesday, Oct. 23
 1:25 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown
 4:06 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Hear Problem, Ware Corner Road, Mutual Aid Transport
 6 p.m. Vandalism, North Brookfield Road, Unfounded

Thursday, Oct. 24
 5:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old Turnpike Road, Written Warning
 8:55 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle

Friday, Nov. 1
 2:40 p.m. Safety Hazard, Hardwick Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency

Saturday, Oct. 26
 9:53 a.m. Public Assist, Barre Road, Public Assist
 2:38 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Citation Issued
 3:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hunt Road, Written Warning
 6:39 p.m. Abandoned Motor Vehicle, Worcester Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 6:47 p.m. Abandoned Motor Vehicle, Coldbrook Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Thursday, Oct. 31
 11:55 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Wine Road, Spoken To

Friday, Nov. 1
 2:40 p.m. Safety Hazard, Hardwick Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency

Saturday, Nov. 2
 7:35 a.m. Assist Citizen, Worcester Road, No Action Required
 Sunday, Nov. 3
 1:48 p.m. Complaint, Silver Bridge, Could Not Locate
 3:06 p.m. 911 Animal Call, Ravine Road, Voice Message Left
 3:59 p.m. 911 Animal Call, Ravine Road, Services Rendered

During the week of Oct. 28-Nov. 4, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 12 building/property checks, 33 directed/area patrols, three radar assignments, one traffic control, five emergency 911 calls, one citizen assist, three assist other agencies, two complaints, two trespasses, one safety hazard, four animal calls and two motor vehicle stops in the town of New Braintree.

Monday, Oct. 28
 4:10 p.m. Trespass, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

Tuesday, Oct. 29
 12:15 p.m. Assist Other Agency,

Hubbardston Police Log

Sunday, Oct. 20
 8:39 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Stroke (CVA), Gardner Road, Transported to Hospital
 5:20 p.m. Complaint, Underwood Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 5:37 p.m. Fire – Public Service Call, Hale Road, Public Assist
 6:22 p.m. Property – Lost and Found, Morgan Road, Report Filed

Monday, Oct. 21
 12:53 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Natty Pond Road, Mutual Aid Transport
 3:15 p.m. Follow-Up Investigation, Main Street, Information Taken
 3:30 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Ragged Hill Road, Report Filed
 5:05 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Elm Street, Public Assist
 7:11 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Seizures, Birches Road, Transported to Hospital
 7:39 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Madison Way, Information Given
 10:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Williamsville Road, Written Warning

Tuesday, Oct. 22
 11:58 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Chippewa Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 12:53 p.m. Open Door or Window, Cheyenne Drive, Investigated
 6:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Golding, Heather, 33, Royalston
 Charges Uninsured Motor Vehicle, Unregistered Motor Vehicle, Lights Violation, Motor Vehicle

Wednesday, Oct. 23
 5:32 p.m. RAD Training, Elm Street, Drill/Training
 5:35 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Gardner Road, No Fire Service Necessary

Thursday, Oct. 24
 8:57 a.m. Court Duty, Gardner District Court, Court Duty
 9:09 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Old Princeton Cutoff, Report Filed
 9:19 p.m. Be On the Lock Out

Notification, Barre Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 10:34 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Kruse Road, Transported to Hospital
 10:34 p.m. Property Damage, Gardner Road, Report Filed

Friday, Oct. 25
 2:34 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Gardner Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 3:27 p.m. Erratic Operator, New Templeton Road, Negative Contact
 8:38 p.m. Fire – Illegal Burn, Mayo Road, Fire Extinguished

Saturday, Oct. 26
 12 a.m. Noise Complaint, Old Westminster Road, Negative Contact
 3:26 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Templeton, Officer Spoke to Party
 6:09 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Williamsville Road, Citation Issued

New Braintree Police Log

Hardwick Road, Service Rendered
 12:54 p.m. Trespass, Memorial Drive, Spoken To
 5:51 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Hardwick Road, Services Rendered
 9:40 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Padre Road, Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, Oct. 30
 10:24 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Memorial Drive, Dispatch Handled
 10:30 a.m. 911 Welfare Check, North Brookfield Road, Transported to Hospital
 6:11 p.m. 911 Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Bernard Whitney Road, Negative Contact

Job Connection

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Public Notices

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
NOTICE TO COMMERCIAL TIMBER OPERATORS
 The Dept. of Conservation & Recreation, Division of Water Supply Protection, is offering for sale standing timber and cordwood located on the Quabbin Reservoir. For details, contact the Water Supply Protection Division Office on or before November

18, 2024 at 857-274-7090. 11/07/2024

Town of Barre
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
Tax Classification Hearing

TAKE NOTICE that the Select Board will conduct a Public Hearing on **Monday, November 18, 2024** at 6:00PM in the Select Board's Meeting Room at the Henry Woods Building, 40 West Street,

Barre, MA for the purpose of selecting a residential factor, which will determine the percentages of tax burden to be borne for each class of property for fiscal year 2025. Persons wishing to comment may do so at that time. The Board will also consider written comments received prior to the hearing.

For the Select Board...
 Tammy Martin
 11/07, 11/14/2024

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