

BARRE GAZETTE

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Turley Publications photos by Ellenor Downer

Sen. Peter Durant spoke at the Barre Veterans Day ceremony on Tuesday, Nov. 11.

Veterans Day observed on cold, windy day

By Ellenor Downer
Editor
edowner@turley.com

BARRE – With the wind blowing and the temperature barely above freezing, American Legion Post #2 held their annual Veterans Day ceremony.

This winter like weather included snow flurries, which fell from the sky off and on during the ceremony. A large crowd, bundled up with winter coats, hats and gloves waited for the bell in Town Hall to toll



Members of American Legion Post#2 Auxiliary are sitting in front of the Civil War Monument on Barre Common. Cadets from Quabbin Regional High School NJROTC are seen standing on the common.

See VETERAN'S DAY page 10

Barre FinCom reorganizes

By Ellenor Downer
Editor
edowner@turley.com

BARRE – Chairman Dan Jewell said he would not accept a nomination for chairman of the Finance Committee at the Tuesday, Oct. 21 meeting.

He said he will be traveling a lot with his job and would not have the time to continue serving as chairman. He then made a motion to nominate Zach Macutkiewicz, the current secretary for the committee, as chairman. His nomination was seconded and approved by the committee.

Macutkiewicz then nominated Leigh Ann Spring as vice chairman. His motion was seconded and the committee voted Spring for another term as vice chairman.

There were no nominations for secretary. Member Cory Bombredi was not present and Brian Inman said he would be retiring after over 20 years on the Finance Committee. The committee had not received a letter of resignation yet. Jewell said since two members were not at the meeting, the position of secretary

See BARRE, page 10

Highway Superintendent discusses drainage issue

By Ellenor Downer
Editor
edowner@turley.com

OAKHAM – Highway Superintendent Patrick Mardirosian discussed a drainage issue at 758 Spencer Road at the Monday, Oct. 27 Select Board meeting.

He said there was a culvert, pipe and headwall on town property. Water flows onto the homeowner's prop-

erty at 758 Spencer Road, which causes water build up and seeps into his basement. The owner said his deed did not show an easement. The owner was also concerned about damage to his property from the water.

Superintendent Mardirosian checked with the Registry of Deeds and they did not show an easement on the property. He

See OAKHAM, page 12

'Creepy Quabbin' presentation explored the unexplained

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis
Correspondent

HARDWICK – “Who can say?”

That phrase was uttered multiple times throughout the night last Tuesday by Sarah Hodge-Wetherbe during her “Creepy Quabbin” presentation sponsored by the Paige Memorial Library.

Residents gathered in the old, dimly lit Town House in Hardwick, the perfect setting for a night of spooky stories about the area we live in. Wetherbe told of many extraterrestrials that have been reported by residents of the general Quabbin area, including cryptids and UFOs.

Wetherbe started the presentation by setting the scene, and how the very existence of the Quabbin Reservoir lends itself perfectly to otherworldly activity, largely because of the history of the flooding of towns displacing families and unearthing gravesites.

First though, the presentation focused on some normal everyday creatures, the only mysterious thing about

them is the fact that this area is not particularly their hot-spot in terms of natural range. These creatures include notoriously elusive mountain lions, wolves, which are not native to central Massachusetts, and alligators, which are native to the southern states.

Alligators have been reported by Ware residents in 1922 and into the 1960s in the Dismal Swamp area of Ware, according to Wetherbe.

Some extremely strange creatures have also been reported, especially off of Route 202 near Pelham and Belchertown according to Wetherbe. These creatures include massive birds spotted in 1979 and 2017 by casual fishermen.

Their wingspan was reported to be anywhere from 30 to 50 feet wide, and onlookers described them as looking like small aircraft.

“Who can say?” Wetherbe repeated.

The strangest and most exciting creature to be seen near the Quabbin was the notorious, imposing figure known by many as Bigfoot. According to a witness who reported a Bigfoot type creature near Belchertown, it was “bi-pedal and quite large.” Interestingly, as elusive as Bigfoot may seem,

he has been reported in every state except Hawaii, Wetherbe said.

Along with Bigfoots, many people have also reported UFOs, including an incident way back in 1906 by a farmer named Isaac Spinney, where his barn inexplicably lit up during the night before whatever was causing it fled upon sight.

A resident in Belchertown – also along the ghostly hotspot of Route 202 – reported bright lights in the woods which caused his vehicle to malfunction. When the lights went out, his car functioned again.

Finally, ghosts have been reported in many various places around central and western Massachusetts, especially in old buildings and cemeteries. For example, the Wheeler Mansion in Orange is reportedly haunted by ghosts that can imitate voices to incredible precision.

Another building with ghostly inhabitants was the Hotel Barre, which burned down, but was haunted by a spirit who frequented room 306, much to the annoyance of neighbors of the room, as noise complaints were

See CREEPY HARDWICK, page 12

Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce held Annual Dinner and Meeting

By Richard Murphy
Correspondent

WEST BROOKFIELD – It gets dark early in November, and the evenings are chilly, but at the West Brookfield landmark, The Salem Cross Inn, it is warm inside, especially when there is a convivial gathering enjoying each other's company.

Thursday, Nov. 6 was the day of the Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce's Annual Meeting for 2025. Members and guests began coming around 5 p.m. and there was much catching up and getting acquainted as the people filtered in.

We were greeted warmly by the CEO James Przypek as well as Renee Niedziela of J.Stolar Insurance Agency, who also serves as president of the Chamber.

A couple of mischievous lads, Michael Rouette, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, and Dan Moriarty, President and Chief Executive Officer of Monson Savings engaged us in conversation. Who says a banker can't have a sense of humor?

Soon enough, it was time to take our seats. Guests were introduced and we would hear from state Sen. Ryan Fattman as presented by his District Director, Amanda Hellyar.



Turley Photo by Richard Murphy

A couple of bankers from Monson. Shown from left are Michael Rouette, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, and Dan Moriarty, President and Chief Executive Officer of Monson Savings Bank.

Niedziela then spoke about the Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce, and there was much to say. The list of actions and events is exhaustive, and we were provided with documentation.

This Annual Meeting, presented by Superior Plus Propane, was the largest turnout in over a decade.

Over the last 12 months the Chamber re-launched the Membership Committee, creating a Local Market Vendors level. Networking and seminar events were hosted, and a successful raffle fundraiser was conducted, courtesy of Pathfinder Tech.

The annual Business &

Recreation Guide was published, and membership in the Quaboag Referral Group grew. The Chamber's Mass Pike Exit 63 Billboard was rehabbed.

The meaningful Choice Awards were re-launched, with fun along the way, Bingo Night in March and a golf outing last month.

There were 22 new and returning members to the Chamber, and ribbon-cutting events were held. The QHMA.com website saw healthy growth.

Over the past 12 months,

See QUABOAG HILLS, page 12



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News of the Towns



ROUND TOWN

by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

Library hosts handbell choir

Woods Memorial Library invites the community to enjoy a morning of handbell music on Saturday, Nov. 22 at 11 a.m. This special event will feature a live performance by the Hardwick Memorial Handbell Choir, whose repertoire showcases the elegance, precision and beauty of handbell ringing.

Following the performance, audience members will have the opportunity to participate in a hands-on demonstration and experience the joy of ringing the bells themselves under the guidance of the performers. This free program is open to the public, and all are welcome to attend. For more information, people may call the library at 978-355-2533 or visit barrylibrary.org.

Christmas in Barre

The Christmas in Barre Craft Fair will be held Saturday, Nov. 29 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Quabbin Regional High School, 800 South St., in the cafeteria and middle school gym. The Festival of Trees is Friday, Dec. 5 from 3-7 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 6 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Barre Town Hall, 2 Exchange St.

Barre Players Theater

A Barre Players member memorial celebration will be held on Saturday, Nov. 15 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Barre Players Theater, 64 Common St. As they prepare to celebrate a major anniversary of Barre Players in 2026, they are mindful of the many members who worked on our stage, behind the scenes, and most significantly took care of the beloved building at 64 Common St.. In recent years they are sad to have said goodbye to some of Barre Players most committed members and miss having them as part of the season. They invite people to remember and celebrate these amazing volunteers, including Jeanne Hanson, Ed Yaglou, and Teri Mars. All three of them were instrumental in the care and maintenance of the building. They were also important to the little details that made each production happen. There will be a light meal, stories, laughter, and maybe a choice clip or two of a past production. People will see the refreshed basement and gathering area and learn about the centennial (plus) season in 2026. People may email barreplayers@gmail.com if they have a story or photo to share.

Annual wreath sale

The Barre Congregational Church annual wreath sale is underway. Wreaths are \$30, Kissing Balls are \$35. People may pick out bow color and decorations. Orders must be placed by Sunday, Nov. 23.

Wreaths will be picked up or delivered the weekend after Thanksgiving. If people would like to order a wreath, they may call Wendy Isgro at 978-928-5180. The wreath sale is an annual fundraiser for the Women's Fellowship. There is always room for help if people would like to come and decorate, deliver, or help clean up after, the ladies would appreciate the help.

Holiday Fair

The annual Holiday Fair sponsored by the Women's Fellowship will be held on Saturday, Dec. 6 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St. There will be quilt and basket raffles, craft vendors, a baked goods, candy table, wreaths

See ROUND TOWN, page 3

Barre High Class of 1955 holds reunion

BARRE – The Barre High School Class of 1955 recently held their 70th reunion at J & J Family Restaurant to relive the fond memories they have of their high school years and discuss their history and current situation, including careers and family situation.

A great time was had by all.



Submitted photo

The class members in attendance were from left, Dick Whipple, Stan Matthews, Barbara (Tolman) Gelinas, Lucille (Coppolino) Billings, Tony Maio and guest Sandy Cicero.

Gilbertville Players presents 'Nuncrackers'

HARDWICK – The Gilbert Players of Hardwick announce their holiday performance of "Nuncrackers."

This spirited and comical musical production centers around a small group of nuns discovering that their cook (Sister Julia), Child of God has accidentally poisoned 52 of the sisters and they are in dire need of funding to properly pay for the funerals.

The sisters decide that the best way to raise money is to put on a variety show in the Center at Eagle Hill so they

take over the auditorium. Here we meet Reverend Mother Regina, a former circus performer and other delightfully funny nuns, who have ventured from being a street wise punk, a wannabe ballerina and Sister Amnesia a delightfully wacky nun who lost her memory when

a crucifix fell on her head.

There is no doubt about it this performance is Habit forming as they tackle temptations and bring the audience into the convent with them. The Gilbert players have a

reputation of putting on top notch shows, sold out performance and family fun for all. You may remember their last production of "Chicago" well, some of the women behind bars have become nuns.

Tickets are \$10, \$17 and \$19 at the Center at Eagle Hill. Performance dates are Friday, Dec. 5 at 7 p.m.;

Saturday, Dec. 6 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 7 at 2 p.m. Tickets can be purchased on line or by calling the box office at 413-477-6746.

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. 17. 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 – Sloppy Joe, potato wedges, mixed vegetables, fresh fruit, sandwich roll

TUESDAY – Holiday Meal
Roast turkey and gravy, herbed stuffing, butternut squash, pumpkin mousse, Italian

bread
WEDNESDAY – Swedish meatballs, mashed potatoes, Scandinavian vegetables, peaches, marble rye bread

THURSDAY – Chicken cacciatore, Gemmeli pasta, roasted broccoli, birthday cake, diet = half piece, Italian bread

FRIDAY – Fish with crumb topping, lemon rice pilaf, Tuscany style vegetables, tropical fruit, whole wheat bread

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

'Shrek the Musical' performs Nov. 14 and 15

BARRE – The Quabbin Performing Arts will present "Shrek the Musical" in the auditorium at Quabbin Regional Middle/High School, 800 South St., on Friday, Nov. 14 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 15 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 if purchased in advance or \$12 at the door. Early ticket purchase is recommended as this show is likely to sell out for each performance.

A link to purchase tickets is available on the school district's website, www.qrsd.org or directly

at our.show/quabbin-shrek. Refreshments and Break-A-Leg Bags will be available for purchase through Quabbin Pro Musica during the intermission of each show. Proceeds will benefit students in the school district's music department.

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HAVE SOMETHING TO SHARE?

Send your photos and stories to edowner@turley.com



OAKHAM

by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

Lessons and Carols takes place Dec. 14

The 29th Annual Festival of Lessons and Carols will take place Sunday, Dec. 14 at 7 p.m. in the Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road. The chorus along with an orchestra will present "Rise Up A New Light Is Coming" by Lloyd Larson and Pamela Martin. Refreshments will follow in Fellowship Hall after the performance in the church sanctuary.

Harvest and Holly Fair

The Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road, will hold their annual Harvest and Holly Fair on Saturday, Nov. 22 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. There will be crafters, baked goods, white elephant table, raffles, quilt raffle, snack bar, cookie walk and church craft table. Uncooked frozen apple pies will also be on sale that day. The snack bar will feature chili, hot dogs, corn chowder and either turkey or chicken soup. Anyone wishing to have a craft table should call or text Ellie at 774-262-5882. Cost is \$25 plus an item for the raffle table. The church provides the tables.

Senior Center news

Senior pen pal letters to the students are due back at the library by Thursday, Nov. 20. Bemis workshop, a dried flower box-wood tree, will be at the Oakham Fire Station Tuesday, Nov. 25 at 1 p.m. Cost is \$15.

On Friday, Nov. 14 at noon the Council on Aging meets. On Monday Nov 17, the podiatry clinic takes place from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Reservations are required. Also on Monday, Nov 17 from noon-2 p.m. blood pressure/glucose testing. On Thursday Nov 20 a Serving Health Insurance Needs of Everyone representative will be at the senior center from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; reservations are required.

On Tuesday, Nov 25 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits information will be available from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. All are welcome; there is no age restrictions.

On going activities include: Monday through Thursday 9 a.m.-noon puzzling, Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. walking group (meet at senior center); Tuesday through Thursdays 11am. walking group (meet at senior center). For walking groups, people may ask to be added to the text MSG group by calling the senior center at 508-882-4073 and leaving their cell phone number.

Other activities include Wednesdays at 9 a.m.: Zumba Gold in the Rutland Senior Center - \$3 donation/class; Thursdays at noon: Weigh in at the Senior Center support weight loss group

Fridays at 10.30 a.m. and Functional Fitness at the New Braintree Town Hall - \$3 donation/class.

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

Lunch bunch meet the third Friday. On Nov 21 they will go to Eller's 190 Main St., Cherry Valley at 12:30 p.m. Sign up sheet is at the Senior Center Main Room.

If people can't get to the Senior Center to make reservations or sign up or for more information on offerings, they may call the Senior Center 508-882-4073 and leave a message or email COA@Oakham-MA.gov.

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 edowner@turley.com or call 413-283-8393. Corrections may also be requested in writing at Barre Gazette, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

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

Sewer Commission – Nov. 13 at 2 p.m.
 Barre Common Oversight Committee – Nov. 13 at 5 p.m.
 Master Plan Steering Committee – Nov. 13 at 7 p.m.
 Select Board – Nov. 17 at 5 p.m.
 Board of Assessors – Nov. 18 at 7 p.m.
 Planning Board – Nov. 18, Dec. 2 and Dec. 10 at 7 p.m.
 Quabbin Regional School District Committee – Nov. 20 at 6:30 p.m.
 Conservation Committee – Nov. 25 at 7 p.m.
 Felton Field Commission – Dec. 2 at 6:30 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Dec. 3 at 12:30 p.m.
 Board of Health – Dec. 8 at 5 p.m.
 Water Commission – Dec. 8 at 5:30 p.m.
 DPW Commission – Dec. 8 at 6 p.m.
 Cable Advisory Committee – Dec. 9 at 7 p.m.
 Cemetery Commission – Dec. 11 and Jan. 22, 2026 at 11 a.m.
 Barre Housing Authority – Dec. 11 at 1 p.m.

HARDWICK

Master Plan Steering Committee – Nov. 13 at 6:30 p.m.
 Capital Planning Committee – Nov. 17 at 3 p.m.
 Paige Library Trustees – Nov. 17 and Dec. 4 at 6 p.m.
 Gilbertville Water District – Nov. 18 at 5:30 p.m.
 Planning Board – Nov. 18 and Nov. 25 at 6:30 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – Nov. 19 at 6:30 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Dec. 3 at 12:30 p.m.

HUBBARDSTON

Select Board – Nov. 13 at 6:30 p.m.
 Board of Assessors – Nov. 13 at 6 p.m.
 Select Board and Assessors Joint Meeting – Nov. 17 at 6:30 p.m.
 Planning Board – Nov. 20 at 6:30 p.m.
 Hubbardston Cultural Council – Nov. 20 at 7 p.m.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

Cultural Council – Nov. 15 at 9:30 a.m.
 School Committee Special Meeting – Nov. 18 at 6 p.m.
 Planning Board – Nov. 19 and Dec. 17 at 6 p.m.

OAKHAM

Board of Selectmen – Nov. 24, Dec. 8 and Dec. 22 at 6 p.m.

PETERSHAM

Select Board – Nov. 13, Nov. 20, Nov. 25, Dec. 4 and Dec. 18 at 5:30 p.m.
 Advisory Finance Committee – Nov. 13 at 6 p.m. and Nov. 25 at 5:30 p.m.
 Petersham Historic District – Nov. 20 at 6 p.m.
 Board of Health – Nov. 25 at 6:30 p.m.
 Open Space and Recreation Committee – Dec. 2 at 6 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – Dec. 2 at 7 p.m.
 Board of Assessors – Dec. 5 at 9 a.m.
 Council on Aging – Dec. 8 at 10:30 a.m.
 Cemetery Commission – Dec. 9 at 10 a.m.

RUTLAND

Special Town Meeting – Nov. 20 at 6 p.m.
 Select Board – Nov. 13 at 6 p.m.

ROUND TOWN

and a corn chowder and sandwich lunch available to purchase. Potential vendors can call 978-355-4041 and leave a message.
‘Shrek the Musical’
 Quabbin High “Shrek the Musical” takes place

Friday, Nov. 14 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 15 at 2 p.m. at the Quabbin Regional High School, 800 South St., in the auditorium. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. Advance ticket sales are available by emailing Toni Brown at tbrown@qrsd.org or by visiting <https://our.show/quabbinshrek>.

Christmas in New Braintree Craft Fair seeks vendors/crafters

NEW BRAINTREE – Christmas in New Braintree Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, Dec. 6 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in the New Braintree Grade School and Town Hall.

The craft fair is being sponsored by the Tri-Parish Community Church. Eight foot by eight foot spaces are still available. To reserve, call 443-835-7530

Submitted Photo
Handcrafted stained glass items and jewelry by Bonnie Waterhouse will be one of the many items available at the Christmas in New Braintree Craft Fair to be held on Saturday, Dec. 6 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.



People’s history seeks memories and stories

PETERSHAM – Communities of the Quabbin Region have remarkable and important stories that can influence the daily lives of its residents.

To acknowledge this fact, the “Sustainable Petersham” Project is asking local townspeople to come together to share their memories and stories that will eventually be published in the next edition of the Petersham History Series.

To secure the stories of people who lived the history of the Hilltop Village, local historian and environmentalist, Larry Buell is inviting residents of Petersham and beyond to come to the Petersham Country Store on the third Thursdays of the next three months, on Nov. 15, Dec. 20, and Jan. 17, 2026 at 4 p.m.

It is a well known fact that when important information and stories of a community, its people and places are told through stories written down and distributed, this information becomes central to the town’s history, thus the lives of the residents. Buell’s intention is to start to collect the stories through oral history formats of people, who have experienced the community events, the special people, and significant places through their own direct experience or through stories passed down by their family members.

The stories will focus on events like the Petersham Agricultural Fair, band con-



Courtesy photo
The Petersham Agricultural Fair (1943-1962) will be discussed at the People’s History at three programs at the Country Store starting November 15 at 4:00 p.m.

certs and natural disasters. Selected members of the community who represent large families have been invited to attend the sessions at the Country Store, including family members of the Coolidge, Cooley, Robinson, Legare, Berry, Wade, Perkins, Warrington, Woolsey, Barnes and Anderson/Nelson families.

Others with local interest have also been invited, like David Tactlock, grandson of Richard Fisher, the first Director of Harvard Forest; local photographer, John Burk; local North Quabbin author, Allen Young and others with special stories.

Folks coming to the event are welcome to bring their own stories, written works, pictures and physical artifacts

to share. The program is sponsored by the nonprofit entity, Sustainable Petersham created by Buell to build a strong and resilient community.

All materials from the event, including oral histories will be directly deposited in the Petersham Historical Society Collections. According to the program creator, Larry Buell the eventual book “The People’s History of Petersham” could become the second volume of the Petersham History, which will add to the book written by Ruth Coolidge and published in 1948.

The program is free and open to the public. For information, people may call Larry Buell at 978-724-0412 or email Larry Buell2143@gmail.com

HUBBARDSTON

by Ellenor Downer
 edowner@turley.com

Hike set for Nov. 19

The Princeton Open Space Committee will host a senior hike at the Mt. Jefferson Conservation area in Hubbardston on Wednesday, Nov. 19 at 10 a.m. This is an easy to moderate 3 mile loop hike off Mt. Jefferson Road, behind the Chimney trail.

Thanksgiving Farmers’ Market

Thanksgiving Farmers’ Market sponsored by the Hubbardston Historical Society, takes place Sunday, Nov. 23 from noon-3 p.m. at the Williamsville Chapel. Nine local farms are selling organic vegetables, fruit, eggs, honey, maple syrup, holiday painted gourds and gifts, sheep wool products and lamb, macaroons, seasonal cookies, hot butternut squash soup, chili, wine and more. Folks may enjoy coffee or hot cider while they browse. It will be held rain, snow or shine. Home baked pies and other items will be for sale in the bake sale portion of the market, as well as a raffle basket filled with items that the farms supply for the basket. For questions, people may call Cathy Hansgate, market manager, at 978-928-3731.

Tree Lighting Ceremony

All are invited to the annual tree lighting ceremony on the Town Common on Sunday, Nov. 30 at 5 p.m.

From 5-5:30 p.m. there will be cookies, cocoa and singing holiday carols together. At 5:30 p.m., the lights will be turned on to brighten up the Town Common. There will also be a special appearance from Santa.

Hubbardston Light Fight

The Ninth Annual Light Fight is the first three full weekends of December. On Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights, from 5-9 p.m. each night people can follow the map, check out all the entries and vote for their favorites. For those who want to enter, there are three categories to choose from: Traditional / Classic, Go Big or Stay Home, Brightest Bulb Business category. Deadline to enter is Monday, Nov. 24. Paper listings and maps can be found at Hubbardston’s One Stop Shop (the gas station). Check out all the competitors on the list, people have the first three weekends to check them all out and vote. Voting will close on Monday, Dec. 22.

N Brookfield senior center lists upcoming events

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

Free art classes will be held on Thursdays with wreath ornaments on Nov. 20 at 11 a.m. Music bingo will be held on Monday, Nov. 17 at 10 a.m.

A fraud presentation by North Brookfield Savings Bank will be Tuesday, Nov. 18 at 11 a.m. A Thanksgiving luncheon will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 19 at noon. There is limited seating and the luncheon is first come, first served.



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Opinion

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor

Working septuagenarian asks about disability benefits

Dear Rusty:
I retired at my full retirement age, am now 79 and will be 80 in December.
I have been working consistently since. I get a meager Social Security benefit, only about \$800 due to my federal retirement offset. Most jobs I have held since filing and collecting SS have involved very labor-intensive work, to include my current position. This has taken a toll.
My question is there any provision in Social Security that permits re-evaluation of Social Security benefits for disability after one has collected and paid into the system for some 15 years? I suspect not but thought I would ask, since at my not so tender age, I am faced with having to cease employment that generates needed income.
Signed: Working Still at 79

Dear Still Working:
I'm afraid that Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits are no longer available once you reach your SS "full retirement age" or "FRA," which for you was age 66. Indeed, anyone collecting SSDI at full retirement age is automatically converted to their regular SS retirement benefits at the same amount they were previously receiving on SSDI. That's because SSDI benefits are intended to sustain workers up to their SS full retirement age, but SSDI goes away once FRA is attained.
Thus, the provision to apply for SS disability allows only those who have not yet reached their full retirement age to seek disability benefits. Once FRA is reached, SSDI benefits are no longer available. Simply for your awareness, there would be no financial advantage for you to receive SS disability benefits anyway, because the most you can get on SSDI is your full retirement age amount. Thus, since you retired and claimed SS at your full retirement age, no additional disability amount would be available anyway.
FYI, I admire, at your "tender age," that you are still actively working, but I'm afraid you cannot claim more now on Social Security disability because you've already reached your FRA. However, from what you've written, your SS retirement benefit has been affected by the so-called Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) which affects those

with a separate pension earned without contributing to Social Security.
If you've been separately working and contributing to Social Security since you left government service and you now have more than 20 years contributing to SS from other non-government "substantial earnings," it's possible that you can request a reevaluation of your WEP penalty.
WEP provides relief for those, who have more than 20 years contributing to Social Security. So, if you have more than that over your lifetime, you could ask that your WEP reduction be reevaluated to consider your additional years contributing to Social Security. If that is the case, your monthly amount would be increased to consider those additional years contributing to SS since you first claimed.
I suggest, if you now have more than 20 years of contributions to Social Security from your non-government work over your lifetime, that you call Social Security to request reevaluation of your WEP retirement amount. FYI, you can see exactly how many years of SS-covered work you have by requesting an "Earnings Statement" from Social Security. You can get this Statement by calling 1-800-772-1213 or you can also get it at your personal "my Social Security" online account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. Social Security will also be able to tell you this directly when you call. In any case, I wish you good fortune, and hope that reevaluating the WEP reduction to your SS benefit may offer some small financial relief as you go forward.

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.



In Past Pages

5 years (Nov. 19, 2020)

The town of Hubbardston recently became a "red" community since Thursday, Oct. 29. Town Administrator Ryan McLane said in a report to selectmen and posted on the town website, "The town of Hubbardston is now a "red" community according to the state. This means that we have greater than eight COVID cases per 100,000 residents. While this a low bar for smaller towns, it does demonstrate that we have had significant spread in the last 14 days. The report cites Hubbardston as having six cases in the last 14 days and 14 (including the new six) since the COVID-19 outbreak." McLane said at the Nov. 3 meeting a community would have to be "red" for three weeks before there was any impact. He said there was a change, the library went from 60% to 40% capacity. He said he inquired about schools switching to all remote or closing for a few days. The decision would be collaborative between the school district, the board of health and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Hubbardston Town Administrator Ryan McLane said procurement for the Hubbardston Center School roof would be in March 2021. The project would start in June and the town would begin paying for it in the fall. Selectman Chair man Daniel Galante said there should be a member of the board of selectmen on the roof committee. Selectman Jeffrey Williams said he has been part of the roof project since the beginning and volunteered to serve on the roof committee.

Quabbin Regional School District Superintendent Sheila Muir said Quabbin Regional High School in Barre held its annual Veterans Day Ceremony

Look Back Senior Thanksgiving Dinner – 1995



Randy Phelps, left, chef at Quabbin Regional High School, was in charge of ordering and preparing the Thanksgiving meal for senior citizens. With him are Sal Imperato, and George Buck, who worked the event.

virtually Tuesday, Nov. 10. Normally, the high school would hold an in person Veterans Day program and invite area Veterans. This year due to COVID-19 the program went virtual. Music director, Toni Brown, worked with three students, who provided patriotic music. The Hubbardston Center School kindergarten class recited a poem. Fifth graders at Oakham Center School lead the Pledge of Allegiance and also read a poem. State Rep. Anne Gobi spoke and Veterans participated from local vet centers and the Brookfield Institute.

10 years (Nov. 19, 2015)
The Barre Woman's Club members and guests attended at the club's Basil Izzi program were transported back to the story of a tragic experience in the life of one of Barre's own young men that served in the US Navy. Seaman Izzi was only 19 years old when the ship he was on as a gunner was twice torpedoed and sank in the South Atlantic on Nov. 2, 1942 as it was crossing from Cape Town South Africa to Brazil. His harrowing survival story and rescue along

with two Dutch merchant sailors 83 days after the ship when down is spellbinding. Questions from the audience were asked and some anecdotes from the residents, who had known him were added to the story. The program coincides with the theme of the Barre Woman's Club year 2015-2016. The centennial anniversary of the club is in 2016. The focus of the entire year is "what happened" that affected Barre and/or its residents during the 100 years.

University of Rhode Island student Emily Caron of Oakham recently completed a summer 2015 internship with Galapagos Boutique. Caron is majoring in journalism.

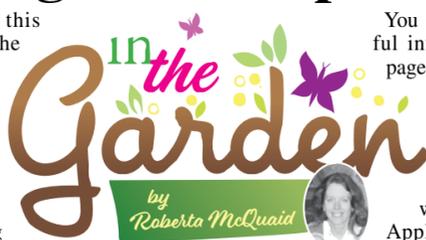
U.S. Congressman Jim McGovern announced that Tom Colyer, owner of Greenwood Hill Farm in Hubbardston, is among the newly appointed members of the 2016 Lamb Promotion, Research, and Information Board. Colyer and his wife Andrea naturally raise

See PAST PAGES, page 11

A healthy orchard begins in the planning phase

It was a lot of fun to take part in a "meeting of the minds" this past week, where we were discussing key maintenance tasks in the young orchard at Old Sturbridge Village.
I left the meeting inspired for my own young orchard, and with renewed interest in heirloom apples altogether.
I must make a trip to Cold Spring Orchard to get some Caville Blanc for the Thanksgiving pies before they are all gone! They are surely the best pie apples, to me at least!
Perhaps indulging in your favorite apple varieties have inspired you to consider a home orchard as part of

your landscape. If so, this column, straight from the archives, is for you. Enjoy the re-visit, as you ask yourself some important questions. We all know that the key to successful home apple orchards appears to be forethought. Purchasing fruit trees should not be an "impulse buy."
What variety do you want to grow? While I like heirlooms, you may prefer some of the newer, disease resistant types.
Or maybe you want apples that span the seasons, say Paula Red to start, Honey Crisp for mid-stream and Gold Rush to finish it off. Perhaps



you'd like to make cider or bake lots of pies.
There are apples that are specifically suited to how you'd like to use them. My favorite place to buy trees by mail order is through Fedco in Maine. Call 207-426-0090 or log on to fedcoseeds.com or trees to request their "Trees" catalog.

You will glean lots of useful information within the pages of this catalog. I am thrilled to know that they are grafted on site and accustomed to our climate!
How tall to you want your trees to get? Apple trees are available in dwarf, semi-dwarf and standard size.
Their ultimate size is determined mostly by the rootstock onto which the named variety is grafted.
Each has their pros and cons. Dwarf trees can generally be maintained without a ladder. They come into bearing sooner but because of their size produce fewer apples than

larger trees.
Staking and irrigation are often necessary, because of limited root systems. They can be planted relatively close together (six-eight feet) and are generally short-lived.
Semi-dwarf trees are mid-sized, bear well and are most productive for two or three decades. They are usually spaced 12-14 feet apart from one another.
Standard, or full-size trees are those beauties of our grandparent's era. Extremely hardy, many are still around and might even be bearing fruit! Plan on 18 feet or more between trees, with a mature

See GARDEN, page 5

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Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

It was fairly good weather this week.

I did get out and rake a couple of days, but the leaves keep falling down. The handyman left a huge pile of dead branches for shrubs that he cut and hopefully he will put them in a burning pile for burning season.

I took down the corn stalks and scarecrow, but I still have some pumpkins and squash on the front deck. I did make up a window box of greens and another pot of holly and evergreens.

Each year I think I will pick enough greens for wreaths before the first snowstorm. I like to make my own wreaths and do so in the basement. I use laurel, holly and some other greens. At one time I used to use Princess Pine, but that is not plentiful in our woods.

I want to make a Partridgeberry bowl before the snow comes. I have several containers for them and depending on how many I can pick will be what container I use. Rattlesnake plantain is nice to use in the bowls also. I usually find a small animal like a deer to put in them also.

Have you noticed that they are really rushing Christmas in the stores this

year. Usually they wait until after Thanksgiving. Have you started your Christmas shopping yet?

I have been going through my recipe folders and came across this recipe I plan to try again this week with some zucchini I purchased.

IMPOSSIBLE ZUCCHINI AND TOMATO PIE

2 cups sliced zucchini
1 cup of chopped up tomatoes
1/2 cup of chopped onions
1/3 cup grated Parmesan cheese

1 1/2 cups milk
3/4 cup Bisquick
3 eggs
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper

Sprinkle zucchini, tomato, onion and cheese in the pie plate. Beat the remaining ingredients until smooth. Pour into plate and bake until knife comes out clean about 30 minutes. Pie plate should be greased and set oven at 400 degrees.

This and That

I finished the squares for the Granny square afghan and now I am crocheting a border for it using triple crochet.

I am still doing a lot of watercolor pictures and cards and will have some for sale at the Historical Society Fall

Fair on Sunday, Nov. 23.

I got a big hug from my favorite Library Trustee when I went to the post office recently. He will know as he reads this column.

I noticed we have several large trees along the driveway that have rotted at the base. I will have to call the electric company as they will land on the wires if they come down. This happened another time. Having a long driveway part of the system is underground near the house, but not down by the main road.

We ordered a wooden number for our house which is being made by the Sheriff Department. They may be ordered at the Senior Center. It is important that house numbers are visible in emergencies. The only number visible was on our mail box and that is on the opposite side of the street from the driveway. That confuses some people.

Foliage is fading now, but some maples were fairly pretty. The squirrels are getting their winter supply of acorns. It is fun to watch them brining them up into the trees.

Have a good week and enjoy what is left of autumn.



By Ellenor Downer



Black-billed cuckoo

In October, Massachusetts Audubon Society reported a black-billed cuckoo at Wellfleet Bay Sanctuary and another was seen at a different location in Wellfleet.

The black-billed cuckoo is often heard more than seen. They spend a lot of time in densely wooded eastern forests and thickets. It is slender, brown bird with white belly, long tail and as its name implies a black bill. It has a red ring around the eyes and white tips on the underside of its tail. They also have a hunch backed look. It is about the size of a mourning dove 11 to 12 inches without the plump body.

Cuckoos eat lots of spiny caterpillars and can make quick work of tent caterpillars and webworms. The spines of the caterpillars stick to the lining of their stomachs. To rid themselves of the spines they periodically shed the stomach lining and coughing it up in one giant pellet, similar to an owl.

They sing especially at night in midsummer. Their song is a staccato with less of a knocking sound than the yellow-billed cuckoo.

They also perch motionless for long periods of time so they can be tricky to find. A good location to look for them are areas with tent caterpillars or fall webworms, a favorite food of these birds.

Audubon bird sightings

On Nov. 9, Massachusetts Audubon Society reported the following sightings at Wachusett Reservoir.

Sightings included: nine common loon, two horned grebe, one double-crested cormorant, two great blue heron, 135 Canada geese, four mute swan, one immature gadwall, two black ducks, 63 mallard, five ring-necked duck, 95 greater scaup, eight lesser scaup, 41 bufflehead, 11 hooded merganser, seven common merganser, one ruddy duck, one red-tailed hawk, three wild turkey, 11 ring-billed gull, one belted kingfisher, one northern flicker and one pileated woodpecker. Other birds included on common raven, one winter wren, one Carolina wren, 46 eastern bluebird, five cedar waxwings, 90 dark-eyed junco and 30 red-winged blackbird.

Black vulture

I received an email from a Palmer resident on Nov. 4. She said, "When I came home, I noticed two birds across from the house. I thought they might be vultures because of their face, but were not turkey vultures." She googled vultures and said, "It was easy to recognize them because of their face white feet and

legs. Plus the head appeared to be gray and like a helmet. They were definitely black vultures. They stayed in that one spot for quite awhile. They didn't appear to be scared of anything. Cars going by did not phase them." Since then she has not seen them again. She said, "They are really a beautiful bird."

Helping birds

Bird feeders and feeding platforms are also hotspots for disease. Many wildlife diseases, like mange and avian pox, are spread by physical contact between healthy and sick animals. It is important to clean bird feeders frequently and remove any molding seeds and debris from them especially during the rainy weather. Moving the location of feeders to different locations also helps prevent the spread of disease.

Flocking birds

Birds are migrating. Last week I saw a large flock of blackbirds flying overhead. I also have seen flocks of about a dozen Canada geese flying overhead. Last week, my granddaughter, Lizzie and I saw a flock of geese flying low over her house. We could hear their wings beating. The robins that head south have also been flocking in my field and along the roads. Some robins over winter living in the swamps.

Winter berries

Every year a flock of robins come and make short order of the winterberries on a bush in my yard. I've spotted the bright red winterberries in several spots during my travels. I will keep an eye out for birds at those bushes.

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

Guest Column

No Veteran should go hungry

By DAV National Commander and Marine Veteran Coleman Nee

According to U.S. government data and recent policy studies, nearly 25% of America's veterans live either below the federal poverty level or paycheck to paycheck, with little margin for unexpected expenses.

To get by, many adopt emergency-level budgets. But even the harshest austerity measures may not be enough. Life at the bottom still costs money. Mortgages and rent must be paid. Vehicles are needed to reach work or medical appointments. So, what can be cut? Too often, it's food, eating less or sacrificing nutrition. Tragically, many veterans and their families face this choice every day.

The latest data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture shows that 7.5% of veterans about 1.5 million are hungry or food insecure. The Department of Veterans Affairs reports that those ages 65-74 are now most at risk, a shift from only a few years ago when 55- to 64-year-olds faced the highest rates.

The picture grows bleaker within subgroups. Nearly 1 in 5 women veterans, many raising children, report food insecurity. More than a third of disabled working-age veterans struggle to feed themselves. These aren't abstractions; they're neighbors, fam-

ily and friends.

VA disability benefits are often treated as unearned income for the purposes of means testing in some federal programs. But these benefits were never meant to be treated as a paycheck. They were designed to offset the extra costs of living with a disability. In programs where they are counted toward income limits, this classification can unfairly block many veterans from receiving assistance through programs like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

SNAP can provide essential short-term relief, adding protein, vegetables and fruit to meals. Yet because disability benefits often push veterans over the income threshold too many are excluded. According to RAND, only 4.9% of food-insecure veterans in the U.S. received SNAP assistance in 2023.

It is a failure of our system when individuals who served this country bravely and honorably so that others could pursue the American dream now face malnutrition and hunger.

On Veterans Day, crowds gather to give speeches and host parades honoring those who wore the uniform with fierce pride. But veterans can't eat their pride.

On Thanksgiving, we sit down to abundant meals of turkey, vegetables, and homemade desserts, raising a toast to those who secured our

freedoms. But veterans can't eat our thanks.

Rather than simply thanking veterans for their service, we can show our gratitude through meaningful action. Immediate steps taken today can make a difference from supporting or volunteering with trusted organizations like DAV's Volunteer for Veterans program, to helping at local veteran food pantries and nutrition centers, or urging elected officials to ensure veterans and their families do not go hungry through efforts like DAV's Commander's Action Network. These frontline actions have a direct and lasting impact on veterans' lives.

Veterans stood up for us; now it's our turn to stand up for them. Through awareness, advocacy, and community support, we can work toward a future where all veterans live safe, healthy lives—free from hunger. Now that's something to give thanks for.

Disabled American Veteran National Commander and Marine Veteran Coleman Nee. Coleman Nee is a service-connected disabled Marine veteran currently serving as National Commander of Disabled American Veterans. He previously held positions as Massachusetts Secretary of Veterans' Services and on DAV's National Executive Committee.

GARDEN from page 4

height of 15-20 feet tall!

Where will you plant them? With the size of the trees determined, you can now figure out how many will fit in the space designated for your home orchard.

The best spot is one that receives six-eight hours of full sun per day.

Deep, well-drained soil is ideal; never plant where you know the water table is high. In my opinion, a few trees positioned close to the house will be maintained better because they are in eye-shot as compared to those placed strategically out in the back-forty. They tend to nag you as you walk by: "Time to prune!" "Why are those leaves

curled?" What is that orange spot?" You get the idea.

Is my soil any good? Fall is a great time to take a soil test.

First, slice a six-inch core of soil from your intended orchard with a stainless steel trowel. Remove surface debris and air dry.

Repeat several times and mix the cores together. Then, measure out a cup of soil to send to the lab. If the locations you plan on planting your apple trees vary considerably, test them separately.

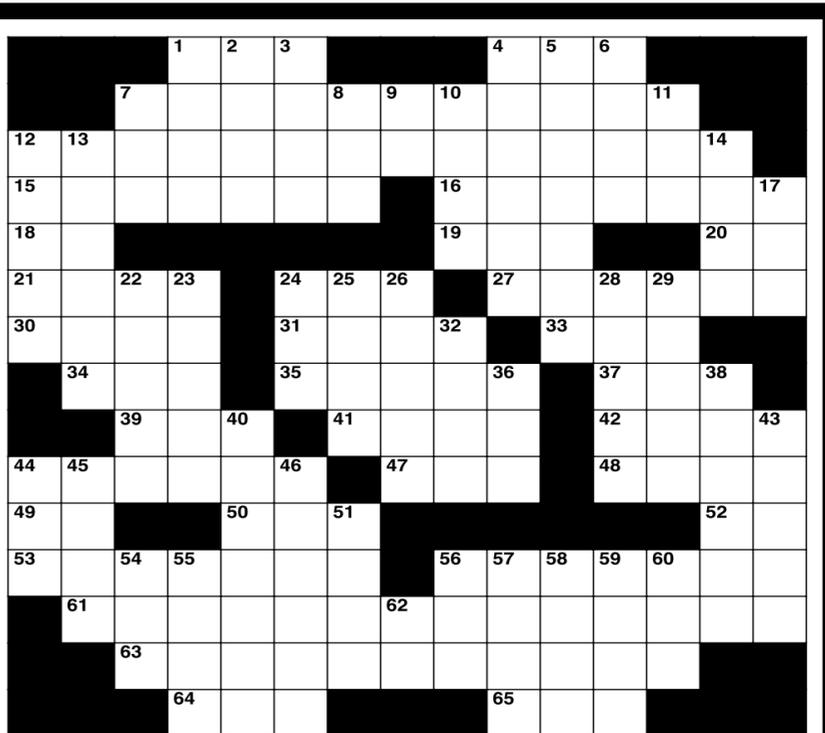
Official directions and an order form are found on <http://soiltest.umass.edu>. The standard soil test is \$20. Mention on the test that you are growing apples and pH and fertilizer recommendations will be specific to that crop.

You can do something this

fall to make planting easier next spring. Mark out where your trees are to go and dump a generous amount of compost on top of the grass in a circle three feet in diameter. This will start to break down the sod and get the microbes in the soil working.

With the planning part behind you, it will be a lot of fun to await the arrival of your trees come springtime.

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



CLUES ACROSS

- Expression of surprise
- Keyboard key
- One who works on lights
- Notable children's story
- Fall back into a bad pattern
- Eye parts
- Atomic #18
- Of she
- Farm state
- One point south of southeast
- British media entity
- Asian garment
- Drench
- Expressions of pleasure
- Turf
- UK trade union (abbr.)

CLUES DOWN

- Razorbill genus
- Longtime Baltimore tight end
- Performs on stage
- Supports a sentiment
- Rugged mountain ranges
- Broadway songwriter Sammy
- Snakelike fish
- Men's fashion accessory
- Hospital worker
- Something to scratch
- No (Scottish)
- Volcanic ash
- Of this
- American jazz drummer Watts
- Drop down
- English dialect
- Predatory seabirds
- Imams' deputies
- Fertility god
- Fence material

CLUES DOWN

- Parks and DeLauro are two
- Distinctive smell (Brit.)
- Protein-rich liquids
- Touch lightly
- Season for Catholics
- Boat race
- Police actions
- Chinese river
- Waterfall (Scottish)
- Walk ostentatiously
- Type of carpet
- Mauna __, Hawaiian volcano
- Sea eagles
- An enclosure for confining livestock
- Dry
- An increase in price or value
- The highest point of something
- Government lawyers
- Larry and Curly's pal

ANSWERS ON PAGE 11

Saluting Our Servicemembers



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Joshua Buck
U.S. Army
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William J. Bumpus
U.S. Navy
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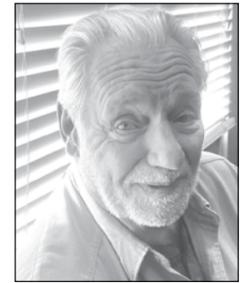
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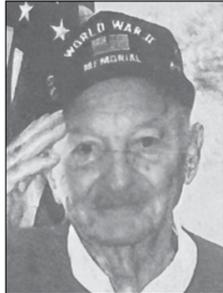
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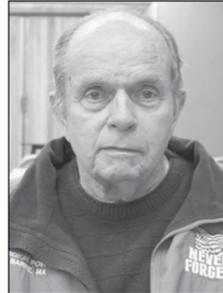
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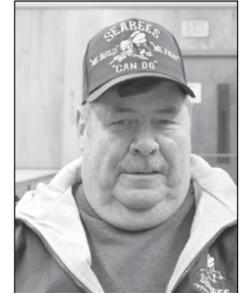
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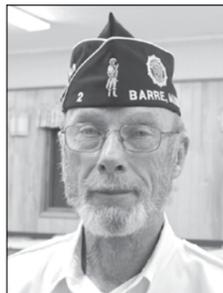
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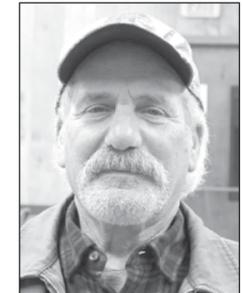
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Saluting Our Servicemembers



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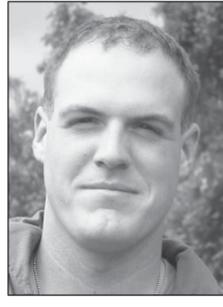
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Peter.Durant@MASenate.gov
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Saluting Our Servicemembers



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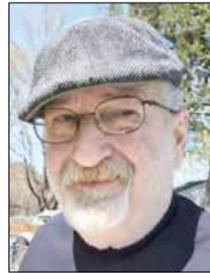
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By Dené Sarrette Ackerman
 Submitted Article

My dad, Dave Sarrette, was born in Palmer. He spent most of his life here and raised his family in the area. He spent 51 years with my Mom, 44 of which they spent as loving husband and wife. During their time together, my dad enlisted in the Army and volunteered for the draft during the Vietnam War in 1969. He was sent to war almost immediately and honorably discharged as an Army

Infantry Sergeant over a year later. During that time, he received many awards, including but not limited to The Bronze Star with Valor Device, The Combat Infantryman Badge and he was also an Air Medal Recipient. Things were different back then. We did not honor our veterans as we do today. With Vietnam veterans specifically, their return home was



often not met with gratitude. Rather, they were spit on and ostracized by many who did not agree with the war.

For the record, my father finds war abhorrent. I have come to find most veterans do. I do, as well. It, unfortunately, is sometimes a necessary evil. He spent several years helping veterans who needed

assistance in Palmer through the Veterans Affairs and then moved on to a career in Academic Administration. He never talked about the war. He still doesn't. He never talks about his medals, and is humbled in such a way I see paralleled in so many combat veterans. As they say, "If you know, you know." Growing up, I came to know Memorial Day and Veterans Day in a different way than most of my peers.

See SALUTE, page 10

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Field hockey defeats Nantucket, moves to quarterfinals

BARRE – Last Wednesday afternoon, Quabbin field hockey defeated Nantucket High School 2-1. The Panthers moved into the quarterfinals of the Division 4 State Tournament where they were scheduled to face off against the three-time defending state champion Uxbridge. Highlights from that game will be in next week's edition.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Farrah Wojcik makes an insert pass on a penalty corner.



Violet Kelley tries to play a bouncing ball.



Abby Rogowski sends the ball into the circle.



Kailynn Schuster makes a block.



Makenzie Casey looks to control the ball in the middle of the field.

Greylock edge's Pathfinder WMass final



Zander Auffrey turns to corral a loose ball



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Justin Davis gets ready to make a goal kick

SPRINGFIELD – In the Western Mass. Class D finals on Saturday, Nov. 2 at Central High School, Pathfinder's Adonis Dupre and Evan Costa scored goals to help the Pioneers come back in the game. But an overtime goal by Mt. Greylock would give the Mounties the Western Mass. title. Pathfinder would move on to the state tournament, facing Mystic Valley Regional Charter on the road to open the tournament.



Evan Costa looks to play the loose ball.



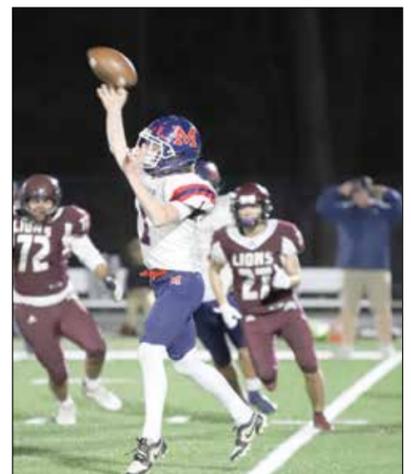
Jayden Delgado goes on a carry for the Senators.

Mahar beats Ludlow in slugfest

LUDLOW – Last Thursday evening, Ludlow continued to enjoy its new home turf with a Week 9 nonplay-off game at home against Mahar Regional of Orange.

The Senators and Lions went back and forth in the matchup, but Mahar pulled ahead late in the game and defeated the Lions 52-44.

In Week 10, the Senators will host Frontier Regional on Friday, Nov. 15 at 7 p.m. The Senators then face Athol on Thanksgiving morning at 10 a.m.



Quarterback Morgan Softic attempts a throw.



The defense tries to keep Ludlow out of the end zone.



Anthony Arventos emerges from the pack on a run.

Pioneers fall in nonplayoff action

PALMER – Last Friday night, Pathfinder football was in nonplayoff action for Week 9, facing off against Frontier Regional of South Deerfield. While the Pioneers were able to put some points on the board, Frontier's attack was too much for them in a 38-12 loss at home. The Pioneers will continue nonplay-off action at South Hadley High School for Week 10 on Friday, Nov. 15 at 6 p.m. Then, the Pioneers will face Belchertown on Thanksgiving morning.



Emerson Boronski, Kyle Moore, and Donald Charron work together to make a tackle.

Saluting Our Servicemembers

Stars and Stripes Diner honor Veterans



Turley Publications photos by Dan Flynn
Leah Felton Tucker and Wanda Felton Tucker proudly stand by William Felton's picture.



Scott Leblanc, US Army National Guard attends the breakfast on Oct. 4.



John Prentiss, US Air Force attends the breakfast put on for Veterans at Stars & Stripes Restaurant.



Turley Publications photos by Dan Flynn
Deborah Eckland, US Army, and David Chipps, US Army enjoy the breakfast.



Veterans enjoy breakfast at Stars & Stripes

Town erects memorial honoring veterans

By Emily-Rose Pappas
 Staff Writer

RUTLAND – The Police Department hosted a special ceremony on the town common to commemorate a new panel of veterans who earned the Honor Roll.

The panel highlights those who fought in the War on Terror and beyond, and features many men and women who served, honoring their service and sacrifice.

Eagle Scout Liam Dearden worked to refurbish the monument alongside the American Legion Post 310, for his Eagle Scout project.

Among the many men and women on the Honor

Roll, Stephen Winters was at the commemoration. He served for 32 years and was a part of the 58th Aerial Port Squadron during 9/11.

“I hope [those in attendance] get the understanding of the sacrifice of all veterans,” Winters said. “It’s really pleasing to see all the people here today. Veterans Day is very important to me.”

There were many more veterans in attendance, and there were a few in active service.

At the beginning of the service, Arya Monaco stunned the audience with her beautiful voice as she sang the National Anthem.

Pastor David Fish of First Congregational Church gave a touching

prayer and message, and many members of the town board were present to share messages of thanks for the service of these brave men and women.

U.S. Army Colonel Corey Critchley and U.S. Army Lt. Colonel Jon “Ed” Novak gave speeches about what their service meant to them, and thanked family and friends for their unwavering support.

The memorial stands proudly on the town common outside the church and anyone can go and read the names of all who received an Honor Roll from many wars. The brave men and women who served our country are valuable and deserve to be remembered for all time.



Turley Publications photo by Ellenor Downer

A large group bundled up in winter coats, hats and gloves attended the town of Barre's Veterans Day ceremony on Tuesday, Nov. 11.

SALUTE from page 8

They were not days for barbeques and beer. Rather, they were days of gratitude.

Memorial Day was a day spent primarily in silence. I came to understand why many years later.

My father and I could not be on farther ends of the political spectrum. He thinks I “overdo” it with my pride in America and my respect for the Flag. Maybe that’s because when you grow up loving a combat veteran, you see things through a different lens.

I tell him often that I wish he could – if just for a moment – see himself the way others see him.

His heroism didn’t end when he left the Army. His devotion to our family and unwillingness to ever give up on us no matter how many obstacles were presented before him defined him as a man and a parent.

He is the reason I believe I am such a good mom today. I learned loyalty from him.

I learned that freedom truly is not free. I learned that every single man and woman who signs up for the military writes a blank check

with their lives so that we may remain free.

We are the greatest country in the world. An experiment that, albeit not always perfect, renders us opportunities that no other country on earth does.

I used to have bumper stickers custom-made back in the 1990s that said “Proud Daughter of Vietnam Veteran.” That drove him nuts. Now, I just order shirts online with the same saying.

He thinks I go too far with it. I think he is too humble.

He is one of the greatest people I have ever known. Anyone close to him will tell you the same. He would not agree.

He never talked about being a veteran. He never talked about being a college dean. He grew up in a blue-collar household in Palmer and his dad was a decorated Korean War veteran.

He is not one to boast in any way that might make someone else feel “less than.”

But I will boast about him.

Even though he won’t talk to me for a week after see-

ing this in the paper, I will raise both my girls to respect our Flag, to stand for our National Anthem with their right hands on their hearts, and I will teach them the cost of freedom – when it is age-appropriate.

As my dad’s forearm tattoo says, “For those who’ve fought for it, life has a flavor the protected will never know.”

We are the protected. And may Veterans Day serve as a reminder to thank a veteran for their service. To welcome combat vets home (because not all experienced the welcome they deserved upon returning), and to shake their hands.

Everyone has the right to air their own opinion, political grievances, and so many other things as a direct result of the freedom that our combat veterans fought for. I will never forget that.

And it is my Dad who, inadvertently or not, taught me that.

I am proud to be the daughter of a veteran. And I would like to thank all of our veterans for their service and willingness to fight to keep us free.

Happy Veterans Day.

VETERAN'S DAY from page 1

marking the 11th hour, the 11 day of the 11 month. This date marked the end of World War I. American Legion Post #2 Commander Joseph Petracone thanked the Selectmen, state Sen. Peter Durant, Veterans, Quabbin High School Naval Junior Reserve Officer’s Training Corp for participating.

The post chaplain offered a prayer. Select Board Chairman Maureen Marshall said, “[we] are here to honor

veterans – far too few do so.” She said many served from Barre. Fifty from Barre died fighting in the Civil War.

State Sen. Peter Durant was the next speaker. He related how many farmers followed General George Washington to Valley Forge in the winter of 1777-1778. At the Continental Army’s winter encampment they trained to become soldier under hardships of cold, illness and lack of food. At the time, the United States of America did not exist, but this was the

beginning of a nation and its army. He said Veterans Day was a time to reflect and a time to say thank you to armed forces.

The honor guard gave a gun salute. “Taps” played by Paul Varney followed. Eliza Brown, an eighth grader at Quabbin Regional High School sang the National Anthem. This was followed by Post #2 chaplain ending the ceremony with a prayer. Post #2 commander dismissed the group and said “go home and warm up.”

BARRE from page 1

tary would be filled at the next meeting. He would contact Inman to see if he was retiring and if so, he would let Moderator Joshua Smith know so he could fill the vacancy.

Interdepartmental transfers

Town Administrator Melanie Jackson told the Finance Committee that by law all inter departmental transfers must be done by July 15. They also may be done in May and June.

She contacted the Department of Revenue and they made a one time exception that the interdepartmental transfers could be made as long as there was enough money in the accounts. If not,

they would allow an appropriation deficit, which was only allowed for snow and ice.

An amount of \$10,639.35 to the Town Administrator account would be allowed as an appropriation deficit and would come of the tax recap sheet. Town Accountant Jean Joel will be verifying the other transfers have sufficient funds. If not they would be added as an appropriation deficit. The maximum amount could be \$82,534, which would include the \$10,638.35. The \$82,534 amount would be if the Town Accountant found all the interdepartmental transfers did not have sufficient transferable funds.

Scheduling budget hearings

The Town Administrator would be sending out letters

in late November reminding department heads and board and committee chairmen to submit their Fiscal Year 2027 budgets. The letter sent last year did not include the date, they would be meeting with the Finance Committee to go over their proposed budgets. Jewell said it caused some confusion. This year the letter would include their meeting date as well. The budget cycle usually started the last week of January. This year they may start in mid-January.

The next meeting of the Finance Committee would be in early December. Town Administrator Jackson said she preferred to have the Finance Committee meetings the same weeks as the Select Board meets.

Calendar of Events

FRIDAY, NOV. 14

QUABBIN HIGH MUSICAL 'SHREK THE MUSICAL' will be shown on today at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 15 at 2 p.m., at the Quabbin Regional High School, 800 South St., Barre.

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

SATURDAY, NOV. 15

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

EMBRACING HOLIDAY GRIEF will be offered by Miles Funeral Home today from 1-3 p.m. at the Holden Senior Center, 1130 Main St., Holden. This is a free seminar. To reserve a space as seating is limited people should call 508-829-4434 or 978-422-0100 or register on the Miles Funeral Home Facebook. Light refreshments will be served and people will receive a free book.

SUNDAY, NOV. 16

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

TUESDAY, NOV. 18

REMEMBERING THE ICE STORM of Dec. 11, 2008 will take place today from 7-9 p.m. at the Rutland Historical Society, Wood House, 232 Main St., Rutland. The ice was not only visible, but, audible. The weird creaking noises, the snap of branches, the shotgun sound of trees toppling to the ground and the darkness due to power lines being snapped.

Rutland residents awoke to find their community "Beautifully Devastated." People are invited to share their stories, view the collection of news articles and pictures of the storm that changed the countryside forever. All are welcome. Light refreshments will be available.

FRIDAY, NOV. 21

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



Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer
This week's mystery photo is from Hardwick. 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. 17. Bill Bowles, Paul Carlson, Peggy Civilik and Bridget LaChance correctly identified the photo. The photo last week was taken of the World War I and II monuments on North Common in Barre.

information.

SATURDAY, NOV. 22

ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR sponsored by the Friends of the Wilbraham Seniors will be held today from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Wilbraham Senior Center, 250 Springfield St., Wilbraham. There will be crafters, pet products, pottery, greeting cards, metal work and holiday décor. There also will be raffles, baked goods, a light lunch for purchase and a visit with Santa from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. They are also asking to attendees to help stuff the Senior Center van with gifts for Veterans children, ages birth to 17. Donated gifts can be wrapped or unwrapped and labeled by gender and age range. All proceeds will be used to support the Wilbraham Senior Center programs and services.

WARE RIVER NATURE CLUB will hold a talk with Jim Morelly on Massachusetts mustelids today at 10:30 a.m. in the Rutland Public Library, 280 Main St., Rutland. Mustelidae are a diverse family of carnivorous mammals, including weasels, badgers, otters, polecats, martens, wolverines. They are typically small animals with elongated bodies, short legs, short skulls, short, round ears and thick fur.

thick fur. Their long, slender body structure is adapted to three main lifestyles: terrestrial, arboreal, and aquatic/semi-aquatic. Massachusetts is home to five species of Mustelids: North American river otter, American mink, ermine (short-tailed weasel), long-tailed weasel and fisher.

HARDWICK MEMORIAL HANDBELL CHOIR will perform today at 11 a.m. at Woods Memorial Library, 19 Pleasant St., Barre. Following their performance, audience members will have the opportunity to participate in a hands-on demonstration and experience the joy of ringing the bells themselves

under the guidance of the performers. This free program is open to the public and all are welcome to attend.

SUNDAY, NOV. 23

THANKSGIVING FARMERS MARKET/BAKE SALE sponsored by the Hubbardston Historical Society will take place today from noon-3 p.m. at Williamsville Chapel, 4 Burnshirt Road. There will be great food and more for the holidays from local farmers. People may enjoy apple cider or coffee while they browse. It will be held rain, snow or shine. For a full list of vendors and their products, people may visit www.hubbardston-historical.org. For questions, people may call Cathy Hansgate, market manager, at 978-928-3731.

SUNDAY, NOV. 30

CHRISTMAS SING ALONG by the Fanfare Brass Ensemble will take place today at 3 p.m. at The Federated Church, 8 Maple St., Sturbridge. The 10 part group's program includes O Come All Ye Faithful, Three Ships, Three Kings, Westminster Carol, Jingle Bell Rock, Twelve Days of Christmas, Away in the Manger, A Christmas Cannon, Jingle Bells, White Christmas, Sleight Ride, Oh Holy Night, Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree, Angels from the Realms of Glory, All I want for Christmas, O little town of Bethlehem, We Need a Little Christmas, Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer, Stars and Stripes for Christmas and more. For more information, people may email David Neill at tb8@aol.com or call 413-686-5027.

BIRDING AND NATURE WALK sponsored by the Ware River Nature Club will take place today from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Harvard Pond, 324 North Main St., Petersham. The trail around the pond with a few added short spurs offers easy walking of about three

miles. Participants should dress for the weather and bring snacks, lunch and beverage if they wish. People should pre-register by emailing warerivernatureclub@yahoo.com.

MONDAY, DEC. 1

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

THURSDAY, DEC. 4

WORCESTER CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY will present a concert entitled "Baroque on Fire" at Princeton's First Congregational Church, 14 Mountain Road, Princeton at 7:30 p.m. A pre-concert Talk will take place at 7 p.m. A concert will be held on Friday, Dec. 5 at 4 p.m. at the First Congregational Church Museum of Worcester, 30 Elm St., Worcester. They will perform Geminiani, Rameau, Scarlatti, Telemann, Praetorius and Vivaldi. All venues are handicapped accessible. Tickets are available by visiting <https://worcesterchambermusic.org/baroque-on-fire/> or by calling the WCMS office at 508-926-8624.

FRIDAY, DEC. 5

BARRE PLAYERS THEATER presents "Legally Blonde The Musical" today, Dec. 6 and 7 and Dec. 13 and 14. Music and lyrics are by Laurence O'Keefe and Nell Benjamin. The book is by Heather Hach. It is supported in part by the Mass. Cultural Council.

SATURDAY, DEC. 6

CHRISTMAS IN NEW BRAINTREE hosted by the Tri-Parish Community Church kicks off the holiday season today from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at the New Braintree Grade School and Town Hall, both located on Memorial Drive, New Braintree. Photos with Santa are from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. along with crafts for children. The New Braintree Congregational Church will be holding their traditional cookie sale and cafe during the craft fair. The New Braintree Historical Society will be hosting their Holiday Open House at the museum at 10 Utley Road from 4:30-6:30 p.m. There will be a town tree lighting ceremony at the Town Hall to bring an end to the festivities. All are welcome. Anyone who would like to participate as a vendor or volunteer may call Bonnie St. Cyr at 443-835-7530 or email her at bonniestcyr@yahoo.com.

Calendar Policy

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

PAST PAGES from page 4

Merino sheep and sell yarns, sheepskins and meat from their farm.

25 years (Nov. 16, 2000)

Barre resident and smoking rights advocate Dana Mascroft had the final work Monday, Nov. 13, when the Board of Health voted unanimously to adopt at bylaw banning smoking in public place. He tore the five page document in half and dropped in in a waste basket. Turning to the three member board, he vowed there "will be repercussions" and stormed out of the meeting room at Ruggles Lane School. Six other smoking rights advocates at the meeting were just as displeased but more subdued in their opposition to what they considered to an overly complex and unfair bylaw.

Oakham Selectmen signed an eight article warrant for a Special Town Meeting to be held on Monday Nov. 27 at 7:30 p.m. at Oakham Center School. Article 1 is to see

if the town will vote to approve having a member of the Board of Assessors designated as working assessors and fix the rate of at \$1,028 per month. Article 2 asks for a vote to transfer a sum of money from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved for the purchase of a stretcher. The next two articles were for the purchase of valves for large diameter fire houses and for the purchase of ceiling fans in the municipal building. Other article were to pay invoices from a previous year.

Hubbardston Police Chief Larry Barrett presented his quarterly report to Selectmen at a Selectmen's meeting on Nov. 6. In response to their request following the submission of his previous report, Barrett had broken down this report into many more categories than before. The Selectmen still had a number of questions to ask, such as the difference between a motor vehicle stop and a motor vehicle check. Barrett explained that a motor vehicle check was when the office on

duty asked the dispatcher to check a registration and to ascertain the owner of the vehicle. Since the murder of Officer Mark Hanna, this is always done.

38 years (Nov. 16, 1987)

The Quabbin Regional School District has been authorized by the town of Hardwick's voters to float a \$5.2 million bond issue for a new elementary school in Hardwick. A Special Town Meeting held on Nov. 9, one of the largest Hardwick has ever seen, voters approved the article 180 in favor and 141 opposed. The meeting was set to begin at the Town Hall at 7:30 p.m., but since the hall was so crowded, it was moved to St. Aloysius Church in Gilbertville and reconvened at 8:15 p.m.

A new town garage may be in the works according to Barre Selectmen at their meeting on Monday, Nov. 9. The Selectmen appointed a study committee, headed by Select Person Ruth Trifilo, to plan a new building for police, fire, ambulance and other town vehicles.

Raises are in store for many town employees after Hubbardston residents voted on the 21 article warrant at a Special Town Meeting las Monday, Nov. 9. Upon the approval of the Finance Committee, \$32,000 was allocated to various projects. Raises include \$1,200 for the town secretary, \$2,300 for the town accountant and \$1,700 for the assessor's clerk. Voters were informed they could not approve a raise for the town treasurer except at the Annual Town Meeting. Several other items were approved including \$12,000 for a study of the Center School expansion, \$15,228 for a new police cruiser and \$6,000 for an intercom in Town Hall.

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Hardwick Co-Op hosts food and sock drives thru Dec. 15

HARDWICK – The Hardwick Farmers Co-Op, 444 Lower Road, will be collection food donations for the Tri-Parish Food Pantry and new socks to benefit veterans through HomeFront Strong, now through Dec. 15.

People who bring in five nonperishable food items during this time will receive

5% off their purchase that day.

For every two pairs of socks that you buy from Hardwick Farmers Co-Op, the Co-Op will donate a pair to HomeFront Strong. People may also bring in new men's, women's and children's sized socks to be donated to HomeFront Strong.





Photo by Greyson Edgcomb

Pine Acres Resort staff and campers present a check for \$30,900 to Debbie Hart-Kline of the Karen Wellington Foundation.

Pine Acres Family Camping Resort raises over \$30,000 for Karen Wellington Foundation

OAKHAM – Every season Pine Acres Family Camping Resort, Bechan Road, chooses a charity to raise funds for throughout the camping season.

As Pine Acres Resort celebrated its 65th season in 2025 they chose an organization that honored the legacy of one of their team and family members. This season the Karen Wellington Foundation was chosen for the charity campaign. The foundation is based in Ohio, but has a New England Chapter.

The goal of the organization is to give women battling breast cancer fun only experiences to allow both them and their families to be able to focus on a positive moment. They do this by gifting recipients experiences like vacations, concert tickets and spa days. These gifts are a chance to take a break from the day to day worry and stress of doctors appointments and

treatments. This organization is particularly special to the team here at Pine Acres as their beloved daughter, sister, wife and team member, Tessa Wisnewski, was provided with a weekend away in Vermont with her family through the generosity of this organization during her struggle with cancer. The ability to step back from treatment momentarily and focus on the here and now is invaluable to these families.

The campers and staff raised money throughout the season with many different events. They offered clothing to remind everyone to “Fight Cancer Like A Mother,” just like Tessa had. Thanks to generous local businesses, they were able to offer weekly raffle prizes. These efforts plus tournaments, crafts, bake sales, bingo events and direct donations (<https://tinyurl.com/TessaFUNdKWF>) to the

Karen Wellington Foundation from friends, family and business partners made this year a successful fundraising campaign.

They are extremely proud to announce that the campaign raised \$30,900 for the Karen Wellington Foundation. This was one of our most successful fundraisers and they are very grateful for all of the support.

Previous organizations that Pine Acres Family Camping Resort has partnered with include Project New Hope Inc., Why Me & Sherry’s House, Compassionate Cares ALS, Pawsitively 4 Pink’s and Veterans Inc. Their 2026 partnership will be announced in May.

For questions or information about donating, people may call Meghan McGinn of Pine Acres Family Camping Resort at 508-882-9509 or email camp@pineacresresort.com.

OAKHAM from page 1

also looked at the Worcester County plans from 1950. At the time, there was only a field, no house on it. He told the owner to build a dirt swale on his property, but it did not alleviate the issue. He said a spring on the property above him runs constantly and fills the culvert.

Superintendent Mardirosian asked the Select Board what they wanted him to do. He said he could eliminate the catch basin or get an easement from the property owner to install a pipe to divert the water away from his property. Select Board Vice Chairman Michael Brunelle said for him to continue looking through the records as he remembered seeing easements for Spencer Road.

Retiree insurance

The Select Board received the new retiree insurance rates through Blue Cross for Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2026. Medex 2 was \$230.15 and increased to \$251.13, which was a 9.12% increase. For Blue Medex RX, the cost was \$223.08 and increased to \$262.12, a 17.5% increase. The current total amount was \$453.25 and the renewal cost was \$513.25, an increase of 13.24%. The town currently only had one retiree getting insurance. The Board approved the new Medex rates.

Senior gift cards

Susan Adamski of the Council on Aging requested the Select Board purchase from the Alden Fund gift cards for all seniors in town age 75 or older to a local supermarket usually Hannafords for the holidays. She said there were 188 seniors in town in that age group. She said the COA will pay for the postage to mail them. The Select Board approved the purchase \$30 Hannaford gift cards for those seniors.

Traffic study

Police Chief Fred Gehring said the posted speed for Adams Road was 40 mile per hour. He received complaints about speeding on the road. To officially lower the speed limit on a road, a speed study needed to be done. The study would take the average of the speed of a minimum of 100 vehicles in several locations following guidelines such as only in good weather. The speed posted would be in the 85 percentile of the speed study. Advisory signs could be posted, but they were not enforceable.

Grants

Police Chief Gehring said his department received a \$24,000 grant for radios. The Central Massachusetts Regional 911 District in Rutland was switching to digital; thus the need for new radios. The portable radios purchased last year were also compliant. He

also applied for a \$12,000 vest grant, which should get approved.

Oakham boiler issue

The Quabbin Regional School District notified the town the boiler at the Oakham Center School controls failed. To function, the boiler had to be turned “on and off” manually by staff. The district said it took some time on Mondays for the school to reach daytime temperature. The school district provided one quote for \$16,000 to replace the controls. Select Board Vice Chairman Brunelle said did the school staff turn down the thermostat manually or were they turning the boiler on and off. Select Board Chairman Donald Haapakoski said the heat should not be turned off over the weekend. The Select Board said the district, who handled procurement, needed to provide two more quotes for a total of three.

Other business

The Select Board voted to grant additional access to Town Counsel for Matthew Broderick, Chairman of the Battery Energy Storage System Committee.

They also approved a letter drafted by Town Counsel, which would be sent to property owners on Skyline and Old Schoolhouse Drives regarding town plowing and the need to obtain easements to be adopted as a town road at a town meeting.

CREEPY HARDWICK from page 1

regularly made, according to Wetherbe.

Sometimes, ghost stories can be tragic as well, as is the case with the reported haunting of the Belchertown State School, one of countless institutions across the country

that housed people with mental illnesses and treated them poorly.

Another tragic story comes in the case of Elsie Newton, a girl who was murdered in the early 1900s, and reportedly can be seen roaming the Hale Cemetery in New Braintree from time to time.

Wetherbe is a local

librarian from the Springfield area who makes trips across Massachusetts, presenting her “Mysterious Massachusetts” presentations. “Creepy Quabbin” is the newest edition of the series.

You can learn more about her on her website www.panelsbygeekgal.com.

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QUABOAG HILLS from page 1

there were promoted 694 member events, workshops, and seminars on the website that generated 90,478 views. The previous year’s views were a fraction of the current pace. Even better, member page views were 125,000, a 28% increase.

There was recognition of the Year’s Silver Underwriters: Country Bank, J. Stolar Insurance Agency, Monson Savings, and ServPro of Hampshire County.

Also, the Bronze Underwriters: Behavioral Health Network, Christopher Heights of Belchertown, Superior Plus Propane, and Westfield Bank

Among the Annual Meeting sponsors, the Presenting Sponsor was Superior Plus Propane.

The Speaker sponsors were Bay State Health and Burkhart Pizzanelli, CPAs. The Table sponsors were Bell & Hudson Insurance Agency, North Brookfield Savings Bank, Pioneer Valley Environmental, and SERVPRO of Hampshire County.

At the previous year’s

meeting, a number of By-Law edits were voted on. This year members are being asked to vote on Board Nominations below.

Nominated to serve as Officers for the Chamber for the next year are: President, Renee Niedziela; 1st Vice President, Edward Fisher Jr.; 2nd Vice President, Eric Duda; Clerk, Amy Scribner; Treasurer, Julie Quink; Assistant Treasurer, Lena Buteau

Nominated for new and continuing appointments to the Board of Directors for the Chamber: Through 2026: Michael Harris, Michael Moore, Teresa Grove. Through 2027: Anthony Marini, Kate Davignon, Rebecca Maurer. Through 2028: Jamie Fitzgibbon, Lorna Stone, Kaitlin Young.

The formal part of the meeting over, dinner was served, and it was quite a feast. The beef, and chicken that the Salem Cross is known for did not disappoint the diners as they engaged in spirited conversation.

Soon enough, the main course was done, and it was time for the evening’s speaker, Megan McDonough.



Turley Photos by Richard Murphy

Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce CEO James Przypek welcomed guests to the Annual Meeting.

McDonough is a thought leader, author, and founder of the Wholebeing Institute, a global organization teaching the science of well being to thousands of students across 48 countries, with programs translated into Spanish and Portuguese.

She has led growth strategies for international organizations such as the Women Presidents Organization and

the Krip-alu Center for Yoga & Health, designing programs that boost engagement, resilience, and leadership capacity.

With more than two decades of experience at the intersection of business and positive psychology, Megan helps leaders apply evidence-based practices – positive emotions, strengths, and meaning – to create workplaces where both people and organizations thrive.

The theme of the presentation: Grow Strong.

McDonough, through a skillful use of narrative and vignettes discussed tuning into one’s strengths, and finding meaning in a world where quiet quitting in the workplace is not uncommon.

When she finished, a local institution of 85 years, Rondeau’s Dairy was honored, with a presentation to Mike Rondeau.

After that, the raffle was drawn with prizes donated by Megan’s Wholebeing Institute, Baystate Health, The Chamber itself, and J. Stolar Insurance Agency.

Then, we were done, and the assembled left in a leisurely manner and departed into the chilly night air.

EARLY DEADLINES FOR ADS & LEGAL NOTICES

Thanksgiving will bring early deadlines for all legal notices to run in TURLEY PUBLICATIONS the week of November 24-28, 2025.

Thursday, Nov. 20 at 2 PM for November 27 issue

- Agawam Advertiser News • Country Journal
- The Register • Wilbraham-Hampden Times

Friday, November 21 at 2 PM for November 27 Issue

- Sentinel • Quaboag Current

Monday, November 24 at 2 PM for November 27 Issue

- The Journal Register • Ware River News • Barre Gazette

Tuesday, November 25 at 2 PM for November 28 Issue

- Town Reminder • The Holyoke Sun • Chicopee Register

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Church News

Local pastors offer sermons

Divine Materials Part 3

The following prayer was penned by Scottish minister and theologian, John Baillie (1886-1960).

It is worthy of deliberation:

"Teach me, O God, so to use all the circumstances of my life today that they may bring forth in me the fruits of holiness rather than the fruits of sin.

Let me use disappointment as material for patience;

Let me use success as material for thankfulness;

Let me use suspense as material for perseverance;

Let me use danger as material for courage;

Let me use reproach as material for longsuffering;

Let me use praise as material for humility;

Let me use pleasures as material for temperance;

Let me use pains as material for endurance."

This prayer is impacting, revealing that the circumstances of our lives serve as vehicles for spiritual growth or regression. Ultimately, we choose what we will make with the material God allows. Let us consider the following elements accordingly:

1) Let Me Use Success as Material for Thankfulness

We have the potential to react rather poorly to success. In fact, I posit that many handle poverty far better than riches (though we would all love to try success on for size). When did David, a man after God's own heart, commit vile treachery? Was it when he was on the run from Saul in the wilderness or when he sat upon the throne of Israel?

What of Solomon? Did he fall prey to carnal delights at the start of his reign or when he was well-established? We do well to heed biblical warnings concerning success and the accumulation of material means! For instance, consider this timeless yet timely text:

1 Timothy 6:6b-10 (NIV)

6 . . . godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. 8 But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. 9 Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. 10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

Yet success does not have to be a one-way ticket to diminishment. Success, rightly handled, can set the stage for the development of Christian virtues, including gratitude. As Baillie cried: "Let me use success as material for thankfulness." Earlier, we noted that David yielded to temptation amid success (cf. 2 Sam. 11-12), yet this was not the end of his story. Rather, we see that years of serving God as the king of Israel would ultimately generate gratitude. Note this beloved text, widely-believed to be penned in

the latter years of David's life. Does the following passage not abound with thankfulness?

Psalm 23

1 The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, 3 he refreshes my soul.

He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.

4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. 6 Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Do you know success in this life? If so, take a knee before the One who made such elevation possible, thanking Him in kind. In the days to come we will continue to explore this prayer one segment at a time. Until next time, thank you for taking the time to read this publication.

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

Pastor James Foley

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

Twenty Second Sunday after Pentecost

Stewardship Sunday

"Praying Together."

Scripture Reading: II Thessalonians 2 v 1-5 and 13 - 17 and John 17 v 20 - 23

I. Introduction

Whatever we do in our lives, if we act in a spirit of togetherness, and a common purpose, things usually work out, despite the occasional disagreement or struggles we face.

We see that in our home lives, our workplaces, community efforts and even here at our church. Coming together in a spirit of togetherness is what gives us strength, hope and faith to overcome challenges. God knew this from the beginning, so when the divine call came to those who led the people of Israel, they understood their mission was to keep the people together and close to God in prayer.

That was not easy, and so here we find ourselves in the New Testament when the Son of God and an apostle of God both offer their prayers for the church of God to be one with each other and with God.

II. How Paul and Jesus prayed for the believers in Christ

In our two scriptures we see how both Paul and

Jesus pray for the followers of Christ. Paul reminds the congregation in Thessalonica of the teaching about the Second Coming of Christ, the Day of the Lord. They must not be swayed by those who are deceiving them into believing that the Day of the Lord has already come. Nobody knows when that day will come.

They are experiencing the beginning of the Day of the Lord; in other words, they are on a journey to meet Christ when He returns. He then speaks about those who rebel against God, who are lawless and unwilling to submit themselves to the Holy One. In contrast to this lawlessness and rebellion against God, Paul wants the Thessalonians to know that he and his friends are thanking God for their salvation from sin, and the call they had received from God to be Body of Christ.

Given what they have been facing, he prays for them, because they cannot do the work of God through their own strength. Their source of strength is God. He prays that God will strengthen their hearts and their inner being, encourage them in their faith, and every every word they speak and work they undertake. They do not have to be concerned about those who walk around with evil intent, because God is their strength and hope, and that hope will endure until the coming Day of the Lord.

In John 17 we see how Jesus prayed for Himself, for His disciples and in our passage, for all believers, including us today. Jesus' focus in this prayer for the believers is that they be one, the way He is one with God. That unity between the church and Christ and God is what gives the church its identity and purpose. The church belongs to God, and it exists because of the great act of reconciliation through Christ's death and resurrection.

That is the nature of the church. He explains to God that He gave them God's glory, meaning the manifestation of God's essence, character, and presence. According to Edward Klink in his commentary on John, Jesus then asks God to consecrate them into the fullness of and oneness with God. This is not a oneness through human effort alone but is brought about by the Spirit of God and is therefore established through divine action.

III. Conclusion: Praying Together

Paul's and Jesus' prayers for God's church are strong demonstrations of God's love for believers worldwide. Their prayers demonstrate also the purpose of God with the church, that the church will be one, together in love and prayer and service. It is a unity by the Spirit of God, always dwelling among us. Who wants to enter our very beings, and Who wants to

See SERMONS, page 14

Public Notices

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
Docket No. WO25P3766GD
In the matter of:
Alexander M. Alfaro Acosta of Barre, MA
RESPONDENT
Alleged Incapacitated Person
CITATION GIVING
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, Section 5-304

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Department of Children and Families of Burlington, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Alexander M. Alfaro Acosta is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Department of Children and Families of Burlington, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 AM on the return date of 12/02/2025.

This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.

Date: October 29, 2025

Stephanie K. Fattman,

Register of Probate

11/13/2025

PUBLIC AUCTION NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF M.L.C. 225 SEC.39A THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES WILL BE SOLD ON November 22, 2025 AT A SALE TO SATISFY OUR GARAGE LIEN THEREON FOR TOWING & STORAGE CHARGES AND EXPENSES OF SALE AND NOTICE:

2012 Nissan Pathfinder
VIN: 5N1AR1NB9CC609886
2004 GMC Sierra 1500
VIN: 1GTEK14T14Z173876
2008 Toyota Camry
VIN: 4T1BE46K48U779834
2021 Toyota Corolla
VIN: 5YFP4MCE0MP061488
2009 Toyota Camry
VIN: 4T4BE46K49R137072
2012 Ford Explorer
VIN: 1FMHK8D86CGA58519
2008 Dodge Durango
VIN: 1D8HB58N28F149563
2007 Honda Civic
VIN: 1HGFA16567L031277
2009 Ford F-350 Super Duty
VIN: 1FTWX31515EC34207
2023 Yamaha R1
VIN: JYARN66E5PA003233
The sale will be held at
Early's on Park Avenue
536 Park Ave.
Worcester MA 0160
11/06, 11/13, 11/20/2025

Town of Barre PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Tax Classification Hearing
TAKE NOTICE that the Select Board will conduct a Public Hearing on Monday, November 17, 2025 at 5:30PM 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 2026. 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:
Melanie Jackson
11/06, 11/13/2025

Operation Christmas Child Nov. runs 17-24

Volunteers are preparing to collect Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts during National Collection Week, Nov. 17 - 24.

Nearly 5,000 drop-off locations will open across the country in November and shoebox packers can find their local drop-off locations in Massachusetts by visiting <https://www.samaritanpurse.org>.

Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has been collecting and delivering gift-filled shoeboxes to children including many who are suffering from war, poverty, disease and disaster. Operation Christmas Child hopes to reach another 12 million children in 2025.

Shoebox packing is fun for individuals, families and groups. People may find a step-by-step guide on the How to Pack a Shoebox webpage. The project partners with local churches across the globe to deliver these tangible expressions of God's love to children in need. Participants can donate \$10 per shoebox gift online through "Follow Your Box" and receive a tracking label to discover its destination.

"Samaritan's Purse works around the world to help people in need, but it's not about good works;

it's about the Gospel," said Franklin Graham, president of Samaritan's Purse. "Please prayerfully consider packing a shoebox this year with Operation Christmas Child. These simple gifts open the door for us to share the true meaning of Christmas."

Participants can find the nearest drop-off location and hours of operation as they make plans to drop off their shoebox gifts. The online look-up tool is searchable by City or ZIP code. Signs at each location will identify the drop-off. Local locations include Athol-Orange Baptist Church, 131 Ridge Avenue, Athol; Bethany Baptist Church, 72

Ryan St., Gardner; Christ Community Church, 1255 Federal St. Belchertown; Grace Baptist Church, 10 Stanley Road, Shrewsbury and Greenville Baptist Church, 674 Pleasant St., Rochdale.

Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse, seeks to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world and, together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 232 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 170 countries and territories.

Barre Gazette OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

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

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



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Public Safety

Barre Police Log

Sunday, Oct. 19
 11:24 a.m. Fraud or Forgery, Varney Lane, Officer/Chief Advised
 3:22 p.m. Missing Person, Mechanic Street, Located/Found
 11:17 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Ruggles Lane, Transported to Hospital

Monday, Oct. 20
 7:13 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Elm North Street, Report Filed
 10:48 a.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, Timpany Plaza, Information Given
 1:35 p.m. Larceny or Theft, North Brookfield Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Tuesday, Oct. 21
 9:27 a.m. Animal Wildlife, Pleasant Street, Negative Contact
 2:08 p.m. Complaint, Wauwinet Road, Negative Contact
 4:47 p.m. Erratic Operator, Phillipston Road, Area Patrolled

Wednesday, Oct. 22
 9:15 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, West Street, Report Filed

12:47 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Sunrise Avenue, Transported to Hospital
 1:36 p.m. Assist Other Agency/Non-Police, Maine Health, NO Action Required
 4:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Wauwinet Road, Written Warning
 5:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Vernon Avenue, Written Warning
 6:44 p.m. Juvenile runaway, South Street, Returned
 9:15 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
 9:59 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Ruggles Lane, Public Assist

Thursday, Oct. 23
 2:07 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Walnut Hill Road, Vehicle Towed
 7:21 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Everett Road, Transported to Hospital

Friday, Oct. 22
 3:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Hit and Run, South Barre Road, Information Taken
 4:35 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Old Dana Road, Officer/Chief Advised

5:58 p.m. Disturbance/Disorderly, South Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 8:01 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, South Street, Transported to Hospital
 8:14 p.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Maple Avenue, Investigated
 11:36 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, South Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 11:43 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Hubbardston Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Saturday, Oct. 25
 12:32 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Diabetic, Beech Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 8:31 a.m. Emergency – Sick/Unknown, Spring Hill Road, Officer Spoke to party
 8:37 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Kendall Street, Referred to Other Agency
 9:43 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Adams Road, Transported to Hospital
 10:07 p.m. Noise Complaint, Dana Road, Investigated
 11:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Barre Road, Written Warning

Rutland Police Log

Sunday, Oct. 19
 12:52 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 3:02 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, Princeton, Mutual Aid Assist
 5:20 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Seizures, Miles Road,, Mutual Aid Transport
 11:20 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Vehicle Towed
 Summons Uninsured Motor Vehicle, Unregistered Motor Vehicle
 2:18 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Barre Paxton Road, Transported to Hospital
 6:24 p.m. Safety Concern, Juniper Lane, Negative Contact
 8:29 p.m. Suspicious Person – Vehicle Activity, Spencer Road, Negative Contact2

Tuesday, Oct. 21
 6:32 a.m. Erratic Operator, Barre Paxton Road, Negative Contact
 8:57 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Skyline Drive, Officer/Chief Advised
 1:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, East County Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 2:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Written Warning
 2:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 3:19 p.m. Erratic Operator, Sassawanna Road, Unfounded
 3:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Wachusett Road, Written Warning
 3:27 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning
 6:03 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Worcester Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Action Required
 7:07 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Main Street, Transported to Hospital

Thursday, Oct. 23
 10:26 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Whitehall Road, Investigated
 1:59 p.m. Erratic Operator, East County Road, Negative Contact
 2:22 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Prison Camp Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 5:31 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Campbell Street, Information Taken

Friday, Oct. 24
 7:29 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 10:15 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Central Tree Road, Transported to Hospital
 3:50 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Skyline Drive, Information Given
 5:26 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Edith Lane, Officer/Chief Advised
 6:44 p.m. Serve Warrant, Gardner Inn, Arrest(s) Made
 Arrest Pellegrini, Michael J., 27, Rutland
 Charges Warrant
 8:14 p.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Maple Avenue, Investigated
 8:45 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Maple Avenue, Transported to Hospital
 8:57 p.m. Erratic Operator, Main Street, Officer/Chief Advised
 10:37 p.m. Lockout (Home or Vehicle), Jackson Avenue, Entry Gained

Saturday, Oct. 25
 1:03 p.m. Harassment, Skyline Drive, Officer Spoke to Party
 10:41 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Soucy Drive, No Transport Required
 11 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Blueberry Lane, Transported to Hospital

Hubbardston Police Log

Sunday, Oct. 19
 8:42 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Kruse Road, Referred to Other Agency

Monday, Oct. 20
 11:51 a.m. Disturbance/Disorderly, Gardner Road, Report Filed

Tuesday, Oct. 21
 10:40 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Gardner Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 12:56 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Cheyenne Drive, Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, Oct. 22
 6:05 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Bleeding (Non-Traumatic), Old Westminster Road, Transported to Hospital
 11:46 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Grimes Road, No Transport Required
 3:43 p.m. Erratic Operator,

New Westminster Road, Area Search Negative
 4:14 p.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, Flagg Road, Recovered

Thursday, Oct. 23
 9:20 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Gardner Road, Moved to Court/Lockup
 Arrest Mailloux, Tiera Lee, 30, Hubbardston
 Charges Default Warrant
 2:26 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Evergreen Road, Transported to Hospital

10:10 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Madison Way, Investigated
 11:01 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Old Boston Turnpike, Officer Spoke to Party

Friday, Oct. 24
 1:58 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Allergic Reaction, New

Templeton Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal

7:07 p.m. Unwanted Party, Gardner Road, Peace Restored
 8:14 p.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Maple Avenue, Investigated
 10:33 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Main Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Saturday, Oct. 25
 7:01 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Gynecology/Obstetrics/Pregnancy, Birches Road, Transported to Hospital
 11:11 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Worcester Road, Public Assist
 3:17 p.m. Erratic Operator, Old Boston Turnpike, Negative Contact

5:01 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Williamsville Road, Mutual Aid Transport

Saturday, Nov. 8
 10:59 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Sibley Road, Transported to Hospital
 1:11 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

Sunday, Nov. 9
 11:49 a.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled
 1:44 p.m. Assist Citizen, Oakham Road, Spoken To
 4:21 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Services Rendered

Monday, Nov. 10
 4:17 a.m. 911 Fire/Alarm, Worcester Road, Investigated

Agency, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled
 11:58 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled
 12:44 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled
 10:40 p.m. Medical Emergency, West Brookfield Road, Patient Refusal

Friday, Nov. 7
 8:07 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, West Brookfield Road, Services Rendered
 1:03 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled
 1:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Criminal Complaint

New Braintree Police Log

During the week of Nov. 3-10, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 11 building/property checks, 21 directed/area patrols, seven radar assignments, four emergency 911 calls, seven citizen assists, two assist other agencies, one safety hazard, one animal call and four motor vehicle stops in the town of New Braintree.

Monday, Nov. 3
 8:51 a.m. Safety Hazard, Barre Road, Referred to Other Agency
 11:34 a.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled
 11:53 a.m. Assist Other

Agency, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled
 11:58 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled
 12:44 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled
 10:40 p.m. Medical Emergency, West Brookfield Road, Patient Refusal

Friday, Nov. 7
 8:07 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, West Brookfield Road, Services Rendered
 1:03 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled
 1:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Criminal Complaint

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of Nov. 3-10, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 61 building/property checks, 38 directed/area patrols, 11 radar assignments, 16 emergency 911 calls, six citizen assists, three assist other agencies, two motor vehicle investigations, three safety hazards, two motor vehicle accidents, three complaints, one trespass, 10 animal calls and six motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, Nov. 3
 8:45 a.m. 911 Animal Call, Greenwich Road, Referred to Other Agency
 11:20 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Out of Town, Officer Handled
 12:47 p.m. Assist Citizen, Jackson Road, Spoken To
 3:35 p.m. 911 Animal Call, Sullivan Avenue, Unfounded
 4:49 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Summit Road, Transported to Hospital
 4:51 p.m. 911 Trespass, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled
 8:44 p.m. 911 Safety Hazard, Hardwick Road, Services Rendered

Tuesday, Nov. 4
 12 a.m. Complaint, Sullivan Avenue, Services Rendered
 1:39 p.m. Fire/Alarm, Church Lane, Investigated
 4:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Hardwick Road, Citation Issued
 4:45 p.m. Complaint, Patrill Hollow Road, Services Rendered
 10:47 p.m. Medical Emergency, High Street, Transported to Hospital
 11:38 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Church Street, Officer Handled

Wednesday, Nov. 5
 8:47 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Hardwick Road, Negative Contact
 9:24 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Birch Street, Transported to Hospital

Thursday, Nov. 6
 12:24 a.m. Safety Hazard, Petersham Road, Officer Handled
 5:08 a.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Crash, Lower Road, Report Taken
 10:19 a.m. Fire/Alarm, Church Lane, Investigated
 1:26 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Dispatch Handled
 4:15 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, School Street, Transported to Hospital
 6:38 p.m. Medical Emergency, Collins Road, Patient Refusal
 8:41 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Parker Court, Transported to Hospital

Friday, Nov. 7
 10:02 a.m. 911 Medical

Emergency, Greenwich Road, Transported to Hospital
 2:12 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Unknown Location, Referred to Other Agency
 3:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Main Street, No Action Required
 4 p.m. Assist Citizen, Old Petersham Road, Officer Handled
 6:31 p.m. Safety Hazard, Route 32, Services Rendered
 7:40 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Officer Handled
 11:47 p.m. Assist Citizen, Bridge Court, Services Rendered

Saturday, Nov. 8
 5 a.m. Medical Emergency, River Run, Transported to Hospital
 1:46 p.m. Assist Citizen, Petersham Road, No Action Required
 2:26 p.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Crash, Lower Road, Vehicle Towed
 10:39 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Lower Road, Services Rendered

Sunday, Nov. 9
 1:10 p.m. Complaint, Lower Road, Merge

Monday, Nov. 10
 1:03 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Collins Road, Transported to Hospital

Oakham Police Log

Sunday, Oct. 19
 3:07 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Coldbrook Road, Negative Contact
 8:29 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Spencer Road, Negative Contact

Monday, Oct. 20
 1:23 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Farm Pond Road, Officer/Chief Advised

Tuesday, Oct. 21
 6:03 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Worcester Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Wednesday, Oct. 22
 10:20 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Transported to Hospital
 12:45 p.m. Fire Mutual Aid, Westminster, Information Taken
 4:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, North Brookfield Road, Vehicle Towed

Friday, Oct. 24
 5:41 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
 6:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning

8:14 p.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Investigated

Saturday, Oct. 25
 1:04 a.m. Motor Vehicle Disabled – Worcester Road, Referred to Other Agency
 9:43 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Adams Road, Transported to Hospital
 3:32 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Robinson Road, Written Warning
 9:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Citation Issued
 9:20 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Worcester Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Quabbin Photo Group hosts wildlife biologist Jillian Whitney on Nov. 17

BELCHERTOWN – The Quabbin Photo Group will hold its next meeting on Monday, Nov. 17 at 7 p.m. p.m. at the Belchertown Recreation Department, 66 State St., Belchertown.

The meeting is open to the public and all are welcome to attend. This month's guest speaker will be Jillian Whitney, a wildlife biologist with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation's Division of Water Supply Protection. Whitney began her career with DCR in 2005 as a seasonal technician and has been with the agency ever since. She will share insights from her work studying wildlife around the Quabbin and Ware River watersheds, highlighting projects such as common loon monitor-

ing, vernal pool surveys and other efforts to better understand and protect local wildlife.

Founded in 1984, the Quabbin Photo Group traces its roots to the Belchertown Color Camera Club, which was established in 1948 by noted local photographer Les Campbell. What began as a small group of friends meeting in homes a few times a year has evolved into a vibrant organization that now holds monthly meetings and educational programs for photographers of all levels.

Les Campbell (1925–2020), who remained active with QPG well into his 90s, was a nationally recognized photographer whose deep love for the Quabbin Reservoir inspired generations of local photographers. His

legacy endures through the group's continuing mission to share nature images, learn from one another, and foster a greater appreciation for the natural beauty of the Quabbin region.

The Quabbin Photo Group welcomes anyone with an interest in nature photography, whether beginner or experienced. Meetings throughout the year feature educational presentations, guest speakers and "member nights," where participants share and discuss their work.

For more information, people may visit their website at quabbinphotogroup.com or email QPG President Mark Lindhult at mlindhult@gmail.com or Program Chair Ed Comeau at eco-meau@comeauphotography.com.

SERMONS from page 13

transform our hearts, minds and souls according to the divine love and will of God.

Therefore, when we come today anew before God to offer our lives, our gifts, our talents, and from the fruit of our labor, we are called by Godself to confess our sins, to receive our salvation from our sin-

ful nature, to give ourselves completely to God, and in doing so, God consecrates us and blesses us as we say yes to love and serve our church community.

God is asking from us this morning to look deep within ourselves and open up the places that need forgiveness and healing and reconciliation with God and with each other.

May God do this work this morning, this evening, tomorrow and every day. May God make us into a praying church and bind us into a community of togetherness.

Amen

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Mobile Home located in Waterwheel Village at 31 Edward Lane, Barre, MA 01005. This is a 55 and better community. This home includes a wonderful floor plan with very spacious rooms. Master bedroom includes a walk-in closet. Two full bathrooms. A four-season sunroom is off the kitchen. Includes two large woodsheds and a metal garage you can park under to fend off winter weather. Asking \$289,000. See listing on MLS # 73433198

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