

BARRE GAZETTE

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Superintendent presented MCAS scores

By Paula Ouimette
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NORTH BROOKFIELD – Superintendent Timothy McCormick provided a “big picture” view of the school district’s 2025 Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System testing results to the School Committee, including tracking student growth.

At the Nov. 17 meeting, he said the data was broken down into different categories,

including meeting and exceeding expectations, and not meeting and partially meeting expectations.

McCormick said the school district is not requiring assistance or intervention from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education or the state at this time.

“That is because we are making a lot of progress,” he said.

McCormick said district wide, North Brookfield Public

Schools showed “moderate progress” toward growth, with 38%. The high school saw 78% growth from 2024 MCAS scores to 2025, which fell into the “meeting or exceeding targets” range and the elementary school at 37%.

McCormick said despite the growth, the high school is still in need of assistance from the state due to only 94% of math students taking the test last year, just shy of the 95% required. He said he has

reviewed the testing data and discovered potential errors in reporting, so he has appealed this decision.

“It appears that some of the students who DESE believes should have taken the test should not have been taking the test, so we want to make sure those numbers are clear,” he said.

McCormick said the school district is really focusing on maintaining consistent, high-quality instruction for its

students. He said staff turnover has shown to have a negative impact on test scores.

He said many grade levels are showing consistent student growth, with some areas that need improvement, including grade five math scores.

McCormick said the school district has also seen an improvement in student attendance.

McCormick said even though it is no longer a graduation requirement, the MCAS

test is still a good “measuring stick” to see how students are learning.

Remembering Damian Sarrette

McCormick recognized 27-year veteran English Language Arts teacher Damian Sarrette who passed away on Oct. 30.

“During this long and decorated tenure, he taught, he guided and supported thou-

See MCAS SCORES, page 6

BOH heard proposal from food collaborative

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis
Correspondent

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The North Brookfield Community Food Collaborative, a food assistance program operated by a group of volunteers headed by Karen Farrington met with the Board of Health last Wednesday to discuss permits needed in order for the program to continue to operate.

According to the collaborative’s Facebook page, on Oct. 16, they were unable to distribute food as they had to immediately start the process of obtaining a permit for operation, per rule of the Board of Health. In that post, the collaborative alleged that “the board was not able to provide clarity in what the process looks like.”

In a speech to the board, Farrington explained that the collaborative is a “vital resource” and feeds 160 families in North Brookfield every week, many of whom are physically unable to provide for themselves. She said many of the people who depend on her service are elderly, disabled, or children.

She also said that the food collaborative is more accessible than other food pantries in the town, as they deliver and operate on a 24/7 basis, while the current food assistance programs in the town only operate 11 hours a month combined. The collaborative is also partnered with many reputable organizations, including Whole Foods, C&S distributors, and Hannaford, and they get deliveries weekly from these organizations.

In response to the board saying that they need a food

See BOH, page 7

Wild turkeys and Thanksgiving thoughts

By Mary Kronholm
Correspondent

BLANDFORD – Wild turkeys are the official game bird in the Commonwealth.

According to the Massachusetts Audubon Society, the last wild turkey in Massachusetts was killed on Mount Tom in 1851. Then, in the early 1970s, Massachusetts Wildlife in conjunction with the University of Massachusetts, received permission to live-trap turkeys in New York state and relocate them here.

The state considers the birds “an important natural resource” in the state.

Initially, there were only 37 birds released in 1972 and 1973. The population has grown. Now, the Audubon Society estimates there are over 35,000 wild turkeys in the state, and they now range east beyond the Connecticut River even though the first release was in the Berkshires.

And believe it or not, those birds know instinctively when Thanksgiving is nigh. Not a bird in sight, but earlier in the year they are abundant, especially during their mating season in the spring.

Hen turkeys will lay as many as a dozen eggs or



more. It’s only 28 days to hatch the brood, which will then stay with their mother for several months.

There was a flock that actually strutted down Glasgow Road from the Cooley home and took a left as they got closer to Main Street. They would peck and peck at the ground, eating who knows what.

The late Bob Lucas had mastered the call of the wild turkey. He and Andy Taylor used to hunt the birds and were more often than not, successful. The side effect of dining on a locally hunted creature is the buckshot one is apt to find in a bite of bird.

Rayette and Tom McMahon used to raise turkeys and the birds would respond to visiting vocal-

See TURKEYS, page 5



Turley Publications photos by Mary Kronholm



Bald eagle landed near Ware River



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette

A bald eagle landed in a field alongside the Ware River on Upper Church Street in Ware this Sunday after it had caught another bird for prey.

Board welcomed new Police Chief and TA

By Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Board of Selectmen Chair Jason Petraitis said two weeks prior, the board interviewed Lieutenant Ryan Daley for the position of Police Chief, which he has accepted.

Town Clerk Tara Hayes swore Daley in during the Nov. 18 meeting, and the board members welcomed him to his new role as the head of the Police Department. Petraitis also thanked former Police Chief Mark Smith, who took a position in another town.

“Welcome aboard Ryan as the Chief,” he said. “I’d also like to thank Mark Smith for his service to North Brookfield as the Chief of Police over the last few years. Mark, we wish you well in your endeavors going forward.”

New Town Administrator

Petraitis introduced new Town Administrator Ron Aponte during the meeting. Aponte started in the position on Nov. 17, and previously served as Town Administrator in Brookfield.

“I am looking forward to the challenge,” Aponte said.

Easement for National Grid

Petraitis said National Grid had approached the board previously about transferring an easement the town owns for sewer to the utility company in order to expand a substation.

“We were able to negotiate \$15,000. They’re going to purchase the easement from us for that,” he said.

National Grid will also tie-in to the town’s sewer system.

Petraitis said the sale would need to be approved

See N BROOKFIELD, page 7



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News of the Towns



ROUND TOWN

by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

Christmas in Barre Day

The Christmas in Barre takes place on Saturday, Dec. 6 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on the Barre Common and throughout surrounding businesses. This free, family-friendly celebration fills the town center with festive cheer. Enjoy a lively Santa parade, visits with Santa and Mrs. Claus, face painting, marshmallow roasting, crafts at Woods Memorial Library and so much more, with activities and surprises around every corner for all ages to enjoy. While most activities begin at 10 a.m., some participating locations will open earlier. Paper schedules with a full listing of events will be handed out around the Common on the day of the celebration and will also be available at Woods Memorial Library during the week leading up to the event. Event details may be updated as Dec. 6 approaches. For the latest information, people may visit www.christmasinbarre.org.

Barre Youth Theater auditions

Auditions for Barre Youth Theater's production of "The Enchanted Bookshop" will be held Dec. 8 and Dec. 9 from 6-8 p.m. at the Barre Players Theater, 64 Common St., Barre. Actors ages 7 to 14 are invited to auditions; they should arrive 15 minutes early to fill out paperwork. Auditions will consist of reading from the script. No preparation is necessary. Barre Youth Theater alum, Radien Bosquet, will direct. Rehearsals are Sundays from 2-4 p.m. and Mondays and Fridays from 6-7:30 p.m. Performance are March 6 and 7 at 7:30 p.m. and March 7 and 8 at 2 p.m.

Candy Cane Fair set for Dec. 6

The parish of St. Francis of Assisi will once again take part in Christmas in Barre with their newly named Candy Cane Fair on Saturday, Dec. 6 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in St. Joseph's Hall on South Street.

The Candy Cane Fair will be filled with handmade crafts perfect for gifts and the ever-popular theme baskets, bake shoppe and hot cocoa bar plus fun games for the children free of charge. There will be a raffle of a handmade quilt and a grand prize raffle. Anthony from Cash for Gold will be at the fair to buy broken gold and silver and platinum jewelry. The ever popular newly new costume jewelry table returns. People should also be sure to check out the silent auction table.

Cookie sale and gift table

Cradle Rock Chapter Order of Eastern Star will hold their annual Christmas cookie sale and gift tables on Saturday, Dec. 6 from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Mt. Zion Masonic Hall, 71 Pleasant St. Cookies are sold by the pond. People can pick their favorites.

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 and a corn chowder and sandwich lunch available to purchase.

Christmas in Barre Craft Fair

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.

Festival of Trees

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.

No. 4 Schoolhouse raffle

The No. 4 Schoolhouse will be selling raffle tickets at the Christmas in Barre Craft Fair on Saturday, Nov. 29 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Quabbin Regional High School, 800 South St. This is a major fundraiser for the non-profit. Raffle ticket pricing for this outstanding collection of items cost \$5 each, or \$10 for three chances and \$20 for 10 tickets.

Christmas in Barre lists events

BARRE – The Christmas in Barre Committee invites the community to kick off the festive season at its annual Holiday Craft Fair on Saturday, Nov. 29, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Quabbin Regional Middle/High School, 800 South St., in the cafeteria.

Held on Small Business Saturday, this event showcases more than 80 local vendors and artisans, offering a wide array of handcrafted gifts, décor and seasonal treasures.

Whether people are hunting for the perfect holiday present or a unique stocking stuffer, shoppers are sure to discover something special created by local crafters, makers, and creatives. From handmade jewelry and woodwork to festive wreaths, baked goods, and artwork, the fair offers a vibrant celebration of local talent. Visitors can also enjoy a festive hot chocolate bar and food will be available for purchase from Flippin' the Bird BBQ food truck throughout the day.

Festival of Trees

The Christmas in Barre Committee invites residents and visitors to celebrate the

season at the Third Annual Festival of Trees, taking place at the Barre Town Hall, 2 Exchange St., on Friday, Dec. 5 from 3-7 p.m., and Saturday, Dec. 6 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. This festive display features beautifully decorated artificial trees, wreaths, and themed gift baskets contributed by local businesses, organizations, and community members.

Guests will have the chance to purchase tickets for a chance to win the decorations on each tree, the gifts displayed beneath it, or a donated wreath or basket. Tickets will be available at the door and cost \$5 for a sheet of 10 or \$10 for a sheet of 25.

Christmas in Barre Day

The Christmas in Barre Committee, a volunteer group dedicated to supporting the town's holiday festivities, invites residents and visitors to join in the holiday magic at Christmas in Barre Day, taking place on Saturday, Dec. 6 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on the Barre Common and throughout surrounding businesses.

This free, family-friendly celebration fills the town cen-

ter with festive cheer. Enjoy a lively Santa parade, visits with Santa and Mrs. Claus, face painting, marshmallow roasting, crafts at Woods Memorial Library and so much more, with activities and surprises around every corner for all ages to enjoy.

While most activities begin at 10 a.m., some participating locations will open earlier. Paper schedules with a full listing of events will be handed out around the Common on the day of the celebration and will also be available at Woods Memorial Library during the week leading up to the event.

Event details may be updated as Dec. 6 approaches. For the latest information, people may visit www.christmasinbarre.org.

The Christmas in Barre Committee is a volunteer group dedicated to supporting the town's holiday festivities, relying solely on donations and community support. For more information about the committee and its events, people may visit www.christmasinbarre.org.



OAKHAM

by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

Greendale Friends' Chorus to perform Dec. 3

On Wednesday, Dec 3 at 11 a.m. the Greendale Friends' Chorus will be presenting a selection of Christmas music, at the Oakham Congregational Church. Following the program, there will be a lasagna luncheon downstairs from noon-1 p.m. People may call the Senior Center at 508-882-4073 if they plan to join the so they may plan accordingly.

Lottery Tickets

It is time for the Oakham Historical Association lottery tickets again. Cost is \$20 per ticket with 20 chances to win \$50. Only 100 tickets are sold. The lottery starts Tuesday, Jan 6 and runs to Thursday, March 12. Match the two middle numbers of the evening Massachusetts Lottery Number Game on Tuesdays and Thursdays and \$50 will be mailed to the winners. If interested send \$20 per ticket made out to Oakham Historical Association Lottery, P.O. Box 236, Oakham, MA 01068. Any questions, people should call Kathy at 508-882-3137.

OHA Christmas Party

The Oakham Christmas Party will take place on Saturday, Dec. 13 from 1-4 p.m. in the Oakham Historical Museum Annex, 1221 Old Turnpike Road. Children and adults may get pictures with Santa in his sleigh, Mrs. Claus and Buddy the Elf. Pictures with Santa are a \$5 donation to the Oakham Historical Association. There will be children's crafts, story time and refreshments.

Cookies with Santa

On Saturday, Nov. 29 from 10 a.m.-noon there will Cookies with Santa at the Fobes Memorial Library, 4 Maple St. Parents should bring their children and camera for a photo with Santa. Participants will enjoy cocoa and cookies, make a holiday craft and get into the Christmas spirit. This event is free and made possible by the Friends of the Fobes Memorial Library, Inc. No registration is required.

Lessons and Carols

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.

Senior Center news

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.

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.

Editorial deadline reminder

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

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 Dec. 1. 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 – Vegetable cheese bake, seasoned potatoes, green beans, cookies, whole wheat bread

TUESDAY – Burger with chili and cheese, potato wedges, fresh fruit. Sandwich roll

WEDNESDAY – Jambalaya, rice pilaf, green peas, Mandarin oranges, marble rye bread

THURSDAY – Ranch chicken, au gratin potatoes, spinach, spike cake, diet = small piece, pumpernickel bread

FRIDAY – Braised beef, mashed potatoes, Scandinavian vegetables, pears, Italian 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.

Barre Youth Theater to hold auditions

BARRE – The Barre Players Theater, 64 Common St., will hold auditions for a spring youth production of "The Enchanted Bookshop" by Todd Wallinger.

This production will be directed by Barre Youth Theater alum, Radien Bosquet and stage managed by Christa Belardo. Auditions will take place for parts for ages 7 to 14 on Monday,

Dec. 8 and Tuesday, Dec. 9 from 6-8 p.m. at the theater. Auditioners should plan to arrive 15 minutes early to fill out any paperwork. Auditions will consist of reading from the script. No preparation is necessary.

Rehearsals will take place Sundays from 2-4 p.m. and Mondays and Fridays from 6-7:30 p.m. Performances are March 6 and 7 at 7:30 p.m.

and March 7 and 8 at 2 p.m.

To sign up for an audition time and learn more details about the show, people should visit their website: at www.barreplayerstheater.com. If they have any questions,, they may email barreplayers@gmail.com. "The Enchanted Bookshop" is presented through special arrangement with Pioneer Drama (www.pioneerdrama.com).

Local dancers appear in 'The Nutcracker'

WORCESTER – This year's cast of The Nutcracker at The Hanover Theatre, 551 Main St., will feature four local students whose hard work and enthusiasm have earned them the chance to dance alongside world-class professional dancers.

Local Oakham students include: Cora LaCroix, 12, Teen Party Girl; Levi LaCroix, 10, Party Boy; Nova LaCroix, 14, Maid, Principal Angel, Understudy for Russian Corps and Rosalie

Stark, 14 Senior Angel. It's a wonderful opportunity to see young local performers alongside professional artists, including performers from Dance Theatre of Harlem (Delaney Washington, Micah Bullard), and celebrated Boston dancers Noah Parets and Mia Steedle.

Award-winning music director and conductor, Jonathan McPhee, will lead "The Nutcracker" at The Hanover Theatre.

The Nutcracker runs from

Friday, Nov. 28 to Sunday, Nov. 30. The 18th annual production will feature professionals from Dance Theatre of Harlem, Boston Ballet, National Ballet of Canada, New Chamber Ballet, and Sacramento Ballet, as well as a performance by the Worcester Children's Chorus.

Tickets are on sale now at The Hanover Theatre Box Office by calling 877-571-7469 or visiting <https://thehanovertheatre.org/event/the-nutcracker25/>.

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Fri., Sat. & Sun. 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
OPEN November 28th

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News of the Towns

HUBBARDSTON

by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

Seniors hold Christmas Fair

The Hubbardston Senior Center, 7A Main St., will hold its Holiday Country Christmas Fair on Dec. 6 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Senior Center. The now-famous Hunter's Stew will be available with a slice of homemade bread to take home or eat in. Mr. and Mrs. Santa will be there from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Visitors may bring cameras to get pictures. There will be handmade items by talented crafters, Chinese Auction, Lottery Tree, bake sale and much more.

Christmas Concerts

The Hubbardston Swingin' Singin' Seniors, now 30 voices strong, have been preparing for their annual Christmas concerts. The first of five concerts will be held at the Hubbardston Senior Center at 7A Main St. on Dec. 2 at 2 p.m. All are welcome to attend to hear these talented singers, soloists and instrumentalists perform everyone's favorite Christmas songs. Jeannine Como directs the group and Deb Page is the pianist. Refreshments will be served after the concert.

Tech Support

Tech Support will be offered Dec. 3 from 10 a.m.-noon at the Senior Center. Those attending will receive one-on-one help with electronic devices.

Health Insurance Decisions

The Hubbardston Senior Center will host a representative from Integrity Medicare Advisors on Wednesdays, Dec. 3 and 10 from 9 a.m.-noon. Appointments may be made by calling 978-928-1400, Extension 221.

Fuel Assistance

To get help with Fuel Assistance, residents may call Pat Lamoureux at the Senior Center at 978-928-1400. She can help with the paperwork needed to apply for discounts.

House Numbering Program

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

Senior Center Events

All artists are welcome to attend the art group at the Hubbardston Senior Center every Friday from 9-11 a.m. A new activity at the Senior Center is the Creative Needle and Thread activity every Friday from 9 a.m.-noon. All are invited to bring projects, such as embroidery, cross stitch, sewing and quilting. Questions may be directed to Michelle at 508-450-4476. Yarn-It-All group meets from 10 a.m.-noon. Knitting and crocheting projects will be worked on, and those who have questions will get help from others who attend. A Christmas Craft project led by Paul will be held Wednesday, Dec. 17 from 10 a.m.-noon at the Senior Center.

Games of Pitch are held the second and fourth Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. and the first and third Fridays at 6:30 p.m. Cribbage is played every Thursday at 12:30 p.m., Bingo is every Monday at 12:30 p.m. and Wii Bowling is every Monday and Thursday at 9 a.m. Functional Exercise Classes are held at the Senior Center Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

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.



Photo by Anthony Masciangioli

Rehearsing choreography for the number "Bend and Snap" are from left, Natalia Chiume, Rosemary Onofri, Lexi Rock, Meagan Dame, Lisa Rose Krabs, Renée LaRochelle, Hannah Seeley, Ellie Boyden, and Em Donahue.

Theater presents Legally Blonde

BARRE – There is a lot happening at Barre Players Theater, 64 Common St., in December.

As one show gets ready to open and round out 2025, another production begins to start the 2026 season.

For the first two weekends in December, Barre Players will present "Legally Blonde the Musical." The show is based on the novel by Amanda Brown and the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer motion picture. Music and lyrics are by Laurence O'Keefe and Nell Benjamin and the book is by Heather Hach.

The musical follows the transformation of Elle Woods as she tackles stereotypes

and scandal in pursuit of her dreams. Action-packed and exploding with memorable songs and dynamic dances; this musical is so much fun, it should be illegal.

Directed and choreographed by Barre Players member, Meg Masciangioli, the show features actors from all over the region, including Barre, Hardwick, Hubbardston, Princeton, North Brookfield, Worcester, Leominster, and Keene, New Hampshire. Performances will run Dec. 5 through Dec. 14 at the theater. Friday and Saturday performances begin at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinees begin at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for general admission or \$15 for seniors (65+) and

children 12 and under. To buy tickets, people may visit their website at www.barreplayertheater.com. If they have any questions, they may email barreplayers@gmail.com.

Legally Blonde the Musical is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mti-shows.com.

Productions for 2026 include "The Enchanted Bookshop," a Barre Youth Theater production March 6 and 7 at 7:30 p.m. and March 7 and 8 at 2 p.m. "A Midsummer Nights Dream" will be performed in the June..



Courtesy photos by Petersham Art Center

The Petersham Art Center is showcasing the work of 27 artists in their Annual Members' Show on exhibit through Sunday, Dec. 28.

Petersham Art Center presents Members' Show on Nov. 30

PETERSHAM – The Petersham Art Center, 8 North St., will present their Annual 2025 Members' Show featuring the work of 27 artists.

The public is invited to join the artists at an opening reception on Sunday, Nov. 30 from 3-5 p.m. The exhibition will showcase a wide range of medium including painting, ceramics, printmaking, jewelry, photography, mixed media, and more. The annual exhibition is a traditional culmination of the year's exhibition schedule and provides members with

an opportunity to show their work.

The Art Center's Barbara Ellis Gallery will be filled with the works of twenty-seven artists from all over the region presenting their recent work. The artists on exhibit are Guy Biechele, Bill Dolan, Dianne Dolan, Donna Eaton, Rick Flematti, Linda Paul Ganson, Cassandra Goldwater, Elisabeth Hyder, David Hayward, Bonnie House, Dale Kalberer, Sevim Kadi, Marcia LaCroix, Gary Lippincott, Ken Levine, Mary Lou T. Mitchell, Susan

Paju, Janet Palin, Cathie Palo, Julie Pepper, Joanne Quinn, Abigail Rorer, Richard Salvucci, Peggy Schneider, Geoffrey Smith, Kaitlin S. Walsh and Sandra Whaley.

Regular Art Center hours are Thursdays through Sundays from noon-4 p.m. For more information about the exhibition and the Center, people may call 978-724-3415. Since 1912, the Petersham

Art Center has been home to regional fine art and craft through its shop, gallery, classes and special events.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

BARRE

Planning Board – Dec. 1 at 5 p.m.
Planning Board – Dec. 1 at 5 p.m. and Dec. 2 and Dec. 10 at 7 p.m.
Conservation Committee – Dec. 1 at 5 p.m. and Dec. 9 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.
Library Trustees – Dec. 10 at 6:30 p.m.
Cemetery Commission – Dec. 11 and Jan. 22, 2026 at 11 a.m.
Barre Housing Authority – Dec. 11 at 1 p.m.
Master Plan Steering Committee – Dec. 11 at 5:30 p.m.
Special Town Meeting – Dec. 16 at 6:30 p.m.

HARDWICK

Planning Board – Dec. 2 at 6:30 p.m.
Council on Aging – Dec. 3 at 12:30 p.m.
Paige Library Trustees – Dec. 4 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 8 at 6 p.m.
Gilbertville Public Library – Dec. 10 at 3 p.m.
Hardwick New Braintree Cultural Council – Dec. 10 at 6:30 p.m.
Master Plan Steering Committee – Dec. 11 at 6:30 p.m.
Capital Planning Committee – Dec. 15 at 3 p.m.
Gilbertville Water District – Dec. 16 at 5:30 p.m.
Conservation Commission – Dec. 17 at 6:30 p.m.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

Downtown Development Committee – Dec. 1 at 6:30 p.m.
Cultural Council – Dec. 3 at 6 p.m.
Parks and Recreation – Dec. 4 at 6 p.m.
Planning Board – Dec. 17 at 6 p.m.

OAKHAM

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

PETERSHAM

Open Space and Recreation Committee – Dec. 2 at 6 p.m.
Conservation Commission – Dec. 2 at 7 p.m.
Select Board – Dec. 4 and Dec. 18 at 5:30 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.
Petersham Historic District – Dec. 18 at 6 p.m.

Festival of Trees celebrates 25th anniversary

RUTLAND – The Rutland Historical Society will host its 25th Annual Festival of Trees, starting Friday Dec. 5 through Saturday, Dec. 13 at the Rutland Free Public Library, 280 Main St.

To commemorate the 25th anniversary there will be many ways to join the celebration. People may visit their website at rutlandhistoricalsociety.org for a day to day schedule of events, time and locations.



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Opinion



Problem or predicament?

By Sue Coles

A problem is a situation requiring a solution. That solution will provide the answer. One that we learned in first grade is: 2 + 2 = 4. We all solve problems every day. Specialists solve much more difficult problems.

A predicament is a situation in which there is no simple answer. It occurs when issues are so complex that a prospective answer has unintended consequences or contra-indications that compromise a satisfactory solution. With this level of complexity, circumstances cannot be returned to their original state. A predicament can only be managed.

This summer Barre area experienced an extended drought and heat wave. Farmers could not rely on the rain, needed for healthy plant growth and many lost crops. Wells, streams and water reservoirs were lower than usual, some completely dry. This impacted the water needed for livestock as well. In the future, will these conditions affect our food supply?

The heat of summer 2025 was not just local. Record breaking temperatures throughout the world contributed to wildfires and drought, while other areas experienced floods. The last 10 years are the hottest on record. It is now established that, the gases emitted by the burning of fossil fuels trap the sun's heat radiating from the earth, and are causing the earth's temperature to rise. The North and South Poles are warming fastest. This leads to melting icecaps that cause sea level

rise and, more immediately for some, melting permafrost and sinking villages in Alaska, Canada, Greenland and Russia.

At the same time, our demands for energy to heat our homes, drive our cars, give us Artificial Intelligence or AI, and to manufacture and bring us the stuff that we want, are not diminishing. All of this means more warming green house gases in the atmosphere. Bill McKibben makes the case for solar power's potential to combat climate change in his book "Here Comes the Sun: A Last Chance for the Climate and a Fresh Chance for Civilization." But even this is not a simple solution.

A warmer Barre may lead to an extended growing season. Will that be good without a reliable source of water? Will the changing conditions around the world make some places unlivable? Will inhabitants find a way to stay in their own country?

There is no simple solution to these cascading and inter-connected conditions. Scientists expect these changes to continue on the same trajectory for some time and not be reversible. There is no clear guidance at this time from our leaders. Scientists have a lot of data but may not agree on directions to take. Many hope for yet-be-invented-technologies.

In the meantime, let's nourish our resilience, learn all we can and support each other for a wholesome future. For more information on the complexity, check the podcast Nate Hagens. "The Superorganism Explained in seven minutes. Frankly 97."

THANKS for GIVING



DAVE GRANLUND © www.davegranlund.com

In Past Pages

5 years (Dec. 3, 2020)

St. Francis of Assisi Parish will be providing a Christmas dinner for seniors Sunday, Dec. 20. All meals will be delivered. The menu is turkey, gravy, stuffing, mashed potato, squash, and apple crisp. Deliveries will start at 11 a.m. There are sign-up sheets around town at Grandview Terrace, Bradford Building and the Barre Mobile Home Park and at the back of each of their churches.

The Hardwick Board of Selectmen discussed a resident's complaint about sewer odors during their meeting Monday via Microsoft Teams. On Nov. 19, selectmen received a handwritten letter of complaint regarding the sewer odor from Gilbertville resident, Annette Flamand, who resides on Hardwick Road/32A. Flamand said she has lived in town for 30 years and never experienced such an overwhelming odor until Eagle Hill School tied into the system. She said she cannot stand to live with the smell, but is unable to sell her house due to the odor issue. Board members Kelly Kemp and Julie Quink both agreed the sewer odor is offensive. Selectmen Chairman Kenan Young said he spoke to Sewer Superintendent Scott Potter, who has since increased the amount of bioxide, a product used to treat sewage odors, to the line. Young stated that Potter has to be careful not to add too much bioxide, as it scales the pipe and can decrease sewage flow.

Look Back

St. Thomas-a-Becket Christmas Fair – 1989



Turley Publications File Photo

William Brewer is enwreathed in this creation, won at the St. Thomas-a-Becket Christmas Fair by his mother, Christine Brewer.

Kronhblmpup posters throughout the region with how to submit tips to Sullivan as part of their pact to offer their services to the family.

10 years (Dec. 3, 2015)

They have created a website, helpholly.com, devoted to the 10-year-old's story, including ways for anyone who still might have information about her abduction and murder to share it directly by email, regular mail or through a tip line. All tips will go straight to State Trooper Tom Sullivan, who is assigned to the Hampden County District Attorney Anthony Gullani's homicide unit. They have

Taylor Bibaud of Oakham was one of the winners of the 12th Annual Champlain College Ski and Ride Club Rail Jam. In addition, Taylor was awarded winner of the best trick competition for skiers.

History was made several times over at the Barre Senior Center when Bess E. Diflely and Warner F. "Bill" Smith

See PAST PAGES, page 5

Thanksgiving nostalgia and planning ahead for next year's gratefulness

The arrival of Thanksgiving always gets me a little nostalgic.

Gone are the days of sneaking into the kitchen with my sister for a little bit of the crispy dressing from the stuffed turkey still in our parent's oven. Or how about awakening to the wonderful scents the morning of, knowing mom had been up at 4 a.m. getting the bird prepared.

It was always so much fun to butter the brown and serve rolls and then transfer them from the oven to the pre-heated trivet in their little wooden basket. I can smell the smells if I think about it long enough, and surely I can see my dad at the counter with the carving knife in hand.

Another big tradition was the nut bowl and the nut cracker and tools. We only ate nuts at Thanksgiving, and at Christmas to a lesser extent. I remember the Brazil nuts and walnuts being especially hard to crack with my little hands, but the challenge was half the



by Roberta McQuaid

fun. watered some more. I made an investment in organic fertilizers and mulched the rows as best as I could. I lugged free compost home by the bucket. I harvested even when I was tired of it and preserved it all even after I grew weary.

Does all this make me a saint or a perfect gardener? By all means, no. I still planted too close and didn't weed as much as I should. I got my flowers in too late and didn't stake a single one.

Oh well, no one and nothing is perfect, but I guess my attention was directed towards the harvest and I am happy to have succeeded at that to a pretty good degree.

I ordered my first seed catalog for the 2026 growing season this past week, and I can't wait until it arrives. I can picture how much fun I'll have going through last year's seeds and notes while I plan my garden.

See GARDEN, page 7



If we both collect Social Security, will our benefits be affected?

Dear Rusty:

I reached full retirement age back in June, but I have not yet filed to collect Social Security. My husband currently collects SS funds, and he waited until he had reached full retirement age a few years ago. I am considering signing up now to receive my funds, but I am a little confused about whether I will receive my full benefit or is there some kind of adjustment made based on both of us collecting?

We are a simple case. We have been married for 46 years, so there are no other exes involved in this equation. He did everything online when he was ready to start receiving his funds, but we didn't consult with any advisor when my husband claimed. Now I think that adding me as a spouse might trigger some other things I should consider. Thank you for your advice.

Signed: Concerned Wife

Dear Concerned:

Since you and your husband have both reached your respective SS Full Retirement Age, you are both entitled to receive your full benefits without any reduction. And since you haven't yet filed, you are now accumulating Delayed Retirement Credits at the rate of .667% additional ben-

efit for each month you continue to delay. You will get your full SS retirement benefit plus any earned DRCs when you claim. The only question you need to consider is whether either you or your husband will be entitled to a "spousal boost," an increase when you claim.

If the SS retirement benefit you were entitled to at your FRA is less than 50% the amount your husband was entitled to at his FRA, then you will get a "spousal boost" on top of your own SS retirement amount (the "boost" amount would be the difference between your FRA amount and half of his FRA amount). But if your SS amount at your FRA is more than 50% of your husband's FRA entitlement, then you will only get your own SS retirement benefit based on your own lifetime earnings record. Spouse benefits are always determined from each partner's FRA entitlement and if one partner's FRA amount is less than 50% of the other partner's FRA amount, then a spousal boost will be given. And that also works if your FRA entitlement is higher than your husband's, if your FRA amount is more than twice your husband's FRA amount,

See SOCIAL SECURITY, page 5

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Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

It seems everything is wearing out including me.

We just replaced the washing machine after 37 years and now my printer has stop working. I have a hard time connecting a printer to my computer so I need to make sure I have someone to help before I purchase a new one.

I had a nice visit from Karen DeFranza, who lives in Goshen, but used to live on Hale Road in Hubbardston. She went to the Williamsville Thanksgiving sale after leaving here. I hope she got some nice veggies. She has a nice garden and dries things instead of canning or freezing. In her last house she had a root cellar which she said she misses. It was good having tea with her and she brought some delicious scones.

I started working on my Christmas cards with watercolor. My kind neighbor presented me with a generous sum of money to buy stamps for them, I am planning to

send more out this year.

I thought my readers would like this recipe for Impossible Pumpkin Pie. I cooked up a batch of sweet potatoes and plan to make a sweet potato pie also.

IMPOSSIBLE PUMPKIN PIE

serves 8 to 10 people.
1 can pumpkin puree
3/4 cup of heavy cream
1/2 cup water
2 large eggs at room temperature

1/2 cup firmly packed light brown sugar
1/2 cup Bisquick baking mix

2 1/2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice (or add cinnamon, nutmeg and cloves)

2 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
Preheat oven to 350 degrees and se a rack to the middle position. Spray a deep 8 inch pie plate with cooking spray and set aside.

In a large mixing bowl whisk together all ingredients until blended and smooth. Pour into the pie plate and bake until a knife inserted into the center of the

pie comes out clean, about 55 to 60 minutes. Let pie set for at least 30 minutes. It may be served warm or cold.

This and That

It has been a cold week. I am hoping to get the eaves cleaned out as they have been frozen in with leaves. Maybe we will get a day above freezing before winter sets in.

After our Thanksgiving meal, I will put away the decorations for this holiday and start putting out some Christmas things. I don't think I will put everything out this year and maybe wait to put the tree up. We have a small artificial one. I will pick some evergreens to make some wreaths for the door and upper deck. Sometimes I like to make roping for the deck railing, but this year I don't feel the urge. I guess I am getting old at age 89. Being so far off the main road no one sees it anyway but us.

Hope everyone had a joyous Thanksgiving. Were there any left overs?

Historical society and library take part in Christmas in New Braintree

NEW BRAINTREE – The New Braintree Historical Society, 10 Utley Road, will hold an Open House at their museum on Saturday, Dec. 6 from 4:30-6:30 pm.

People are invited to come in from the cold and get some

holiday shopping done while they enjoy a warm apple fritter. Saint Nicholas will have a gift under Christmas Tree for children 10 years and under. People may visit us newbraintreehistoricalsociety.org for more information.

The New Braintree Library will offer cocoa and cookies, family photo ops, letters to Santa and a book sale also on Saturday, Dec. 6 from 4:30-6:30 p.m Families and all ages are welcome.

PAST PAGES from page 4

were honored as Barre's eldest residents. Difley and Smith each received replicas of the Boston Post cane, given by the town of Barre to its eldest resident. Since both honorees were born on the same day, in an era before times of birth were noted on birth certificates, the two Barre citizens are sharing the honor.

For nearly a score of years, a small group of people have put their minds, hearts, ovens and cook stoves to work, and invited everyone, that's everyone who wants to come, to share in a Thanksgiving dinner at the North Brookfield Congregational Church. In 1999, two friends, Bonnie Holmes and Shelley Fullam decided with their husbands that no one should have to spend Thanksgiving lonely or in need.

25 years (Nov. 30, 2015)

Barre Selectmen voted unanimously Nov. 20 to continue with a single property tax rate in Barre minus a small business exemption. The Board cast its 3-0 vote based on a recommendation by the Board of Assessors. Board of Assessor Chairman John Meilus said the board recommended dispensing with the small business exemption, calling it a "nightmare where nobody benefits." It's pitting one agency against another," he said. Approval of the tax classification precedes the town's adoption of the tax

SOCIAL SECURITY from page 4

then he will get a spousal boost from you. Otherwise, each of you will get only your personally earned SS retirement amount and both of you collecting SS will not negatively affect each other's individual SS benefit.

FYI, the spousal boost amount stops growing at full retirement age, so if you are eligible for a spousal boost from your husband then you should claim your SS benefits now and ask for benefits retroactive to June (your FRA

rate. The current tax rate stands at \$17.30 per \$1,000 of assessed property value for all classes of property in Barre.

Sixty-one voters passed all eight articles on the Special Town Meeting warrant on Monday night in under 15 minutes. The meeting opened at 7:30 p.m. at the Oakham Center School. Voters approved the designating of a member of the Board of Assessors as a working assessor and set the rate of pay at \$1,028 per month. They also approved the transfer of \$2,000 from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation for the purchase of an ambulance stretcher. Also approved by the voters were articles for the purchase of valves for large diameter hose operation at a cost of \$1,500 and for the purchase and installation of ceiling fans in the Municipal Building at a cost of \$4983. Both these monies came from the overlay surplus. The next two articles required a 9/10 vote as both articles related to invoices from a prior year.

The Oakham Board of Selectmen held a tax classification hearing at the Monday night meeting that followed the Special Town Meeting. The Board of Assessors recommended a residential factor on one and no discount for open space or a small business incentive. The Board approved the residential factor of one. Working assessor Kathleen Usher told selectmen that

month). However, if you will not get a spousal boost from your husband, you have the option of delaying even further and earning more DRCs (thus a higher monthly benefit). You can earn DRCs up to age 70, at which time you will get the maximum possible Social Security benefit about 127% of your personal FRA amount if you delay that long.

The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or

she is waiting for approval of her new growth figure of \$25,399 from the Department of Revenue. If the DOR approves that new growth figure the excess levy will be \$52,150.

38 years (Dec. 3, 1987)

A special award was given to Lioness Louisa Fowler of Barre on Nov. 20 for her dedicated service to the Lions Club and the town of Barre. The award called the Fellowship Award District 33A was presented at the Roberts Farm by Past International Director Joseph J. Camarda of the Leicester Lions Club.

Senator Robert D. Wetmore (D-Barre) announced the towns of Barre, Hubbardston and Phillipston were awarded \$393,750 for their joint application under the Massachusetts Small Cities Program. The Senator explained that Barre is the lead community in the grant application. "The three town will use the majority of the funding for housing rehabilitation to serve the needs of allow to moderate income households," said Wetmore.

The Oakham Post Office will have extended window hours for Christmas mailings on Saturdays, Dec. 5, 12 and 19 and will be open from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. On Saturday, Dec. 12 from noon-2 p.m. Sant Claus will be dropping in to the post office to listen to all little and big boys' and girls' Christmas wishes and holiday tearts will be served.

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.



Golden-crowned kinglet

A Brimfield resident sent an email to report seeing a golden-crowned kinglet on Nov. 17 in a dwarf Alberta spruce tree in front of his house.

He said, "[It was] very active, but I got to see the bright yellow crown patch." Golden-crowned kinglets are a small bird, not much larger than a hummingbird. The male is boldly marked with a black eyebrow stripe and flashy lemon-yellow crest.

They spend much of their time high up in dense spruce or fir foliage and that is the place to find them.

Their high, thin call notes and song is often heard before catching sight of them.

The Brimfield resident called them "very active." They can survive 40 degrees below Fahrenheit nights. Sometimes huddling together for warmth.

They breed in the far north and montane west and visit most of North America during winter. Although it used to nest almost exclusively in boreal spruce-fir forests, the golden-crowned kinglet has

expanded its breeding range southward into conifer stands of the Midwest and Appalachians.

They usually raises two large broods of young, despite the short nesting season of the northern boreal forest. The female feeds her first brood

only up until the day after they leave the nest. She then starts laying the second set of eggs while the male takes care of the first brood. The male manages to feed eight or nine nestlings himself and he occasionally feeds the incubating female too.

An interesting fact about golden-crowned kinglet's is each nostril is covered by a single, tiny feather.

The oldest golden-crowned kinglet on record was a male and at least 6 years, 4 months old when it was recaptured and re-released by a Minnesota bird bander in 1976.

Other Brimfield birds

This month the Brimfield resident saw a Carolina wren flipping over leaves in his garden. He said, "We joined the 'leave the leaves' movement and don't do a major fall cleanup to benefit the critters that survive the winter under the leave and in the other material left in the garden."

He also noticed robins and cedar waxwings in the crab apple tree in his yard. He said, "We don't usual-

ly see these species eating the crab apples until later in the winter. Fortunately there is a bumper crop of fruit on the trees this year. A couple of robins were also on the ground searching for food and I saw one robin at some pokeberry aka, pokeweed, eating the fruit. He has not seen any water fowl at the local ponds he visits regularly.

Lots of bluebirds

I received an email from a reader, who said his wife saw approximately 40 bluebirds on the causeway stonewall at Quabbin Reservoir.

Bald eagles

My daughter, Paula, took photos of a bald eagle in a field along the Ware River, on Church Street in Ware recently.

I saw a bald eagle perched in a tree on the shore of the Ware River not far from the Gilbertville line. It may have been the same eagle.

Migrating geese

I saw a large flock of Canada geese in a small, pond along Route 32 in Ware on Nov. 15. They covered over half the pond.

Helping birds

When it is time to take the Christmas tree down, place it outside to offer shelter to birds and other critters. Some people hang peanut butter filled pine cones rolled in birdseed or pieces of suet to provide some high energy food. Planting evergreen trees especially spruce and firs are away to attract the golden-crowned kinglets and offer a living shelter year round.

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.

TURKEYS from page 1

ists. The McMahons had frequently hosted performers for the Bel Canto Opera held at The White Church. According to the story, one morning a soprano was outside vocalizing,

and brought the flock to her knees. That was later demonstrated for the disbelievers.

Interestingly enough, the wild turkeys do fly. If you're lucky just about dusk they will seek a roosting place off the ground and they actually do fly

into the trees.

Some residents in and near the center of town put out feed for the fowls. They seem to enjoy cracked corn, and especially regular bird seed and will become backyard regulars, just maybe not at Thanksgiving time.

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Giving with gratitude

Volunteers made Thanksgiving possible for all

By Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – For the second year in a row, volunteers from the North Brookfield Community Food Collaborative gathered to distribute everything needed to celebrate Thanksgiving for people facing food insecurity.

This year, the collaborative was able to give away 210 turkeys and bags filled with food, thanks to generous donations and strong partnerships both locally and across the region. The turkeys were donated to the cause and delivered to town by employees of C&S Wholesale Grocers, who also

helped to bring them to residents in need.

“They’ve been supporting us the past one and a half years,” North Brookfield Community Food Collaborative founder Karen Farrington said.

Farrington said the collaborative has been able to help more people this year, serving 160 families in addition to providing support to food pantries in Ware, Brookfield, Spencer and Southbridge.

She credited the collaborative’s success to its volunteers who work tirelessly to ensure everyone has access to food.

“It is exactly what it sounds like...everybody collaborates to make it happen,” she said.

Farrington said 15 volunteers worked to distribute bags that were filled by students from North Brookfield Jr./Sr. High School. Students



Photos by Paula Ouimette

Volunteers from the North Brookfield Community Food Collaborative distributed 210 turkeys and bags of food to make Thanksgiving meals last Thursday afternoon.

in North Brookfield Elementary School’s third grade class spread holiday cheer by creating handmade cards for each bag’s recipient.

Farrington said the collaborative surveyed residents in town about their food needs, and they expressed the importance of greater accessibility. Many are unable to attend scheduled food pantry distributions due to scheduling conflicts, lack of transportation and other barriers.

“People struggle to get to food pantries at designated times,” Farrington said. “Our food pantry’s open 24/7, 365 days a year.”

Farrington said the collaborative has gained support from its partnerships with local farmers, business and organizations. She added that the collaborative’s mission to fight food insecurity will continue to grow.

“We have an awful lot of community support, but we also know we need to get bigger,” she said. “More needs to be done.”

Farrington’s daughters Abby MacDonald and Audra Hogle were also on hand to assist volunteers with the “organized chaos” of the Thanksgiving bag distribution.

MacDonald said the col-

laborative has been a good thing for the town, and that it has brought people closer together. She said its success wouldn’t be possible without

everyone’s help and support. “At this point, I feel like we’re all family,” she said. “We care about each other.”



North Brookfield Community Food Collaborative founder Karen Farrington (right) directed Nancy Waldron where to bring a bag of food.



C&S Wholesale Grocers donated 210 turkeys to be given to people facing food insecurity

MCAS SCORES from page 1

sands of students,” he said. “Leaving a lasting impression on generations of learners.”

McCormick said Sarrette’s dedication to the students went beyond the school day, serving as National Honor Society advisor, Senior Class advisor and the Card Playing Club advisor.

“Damian consistently gave his time, his energy and the heart to the students of NBHS,” he said.

Sarrette also served as the Teachers Association president for over 10 years, “advocating fiercely for his membership while always maintaining a fair, steady and reasonable presence during contract negotiations.”

McCormick said Sarrette

was the loving father of Luke, Mason and Avry, whom he spoke of often and with tremendous pride.

“His loss is felt profoundly by his students, his colleagues and our entire school community. There will always be a significant void in his absence,” he said.

McCormick asked everyone to join him in a moment of silence to remember Sarrette.

Superintendent’s report

McCormick said Dave Kartunen of cartoonEDU, a former broadcast news journalist, recorded interviews with himself, STEM teacher John McNeil and several STEM students.

“What he does is turn these interviews kind of into a message for families, for teachers, for students, but he does it in a

way that is very easy to understand,” he said.

McCormick said this was paid for from grant funding received for Innovation Pathways.

McCormick said he and High School Principal Brian Beck attended an information session hosted by the One8 Foundation for Investigating History.

He said Investigating History is more of an elementary through early middle school history curriculum. He said the Democratic Knowledge Project, a curriculum for eighth grade civics students, was introduced as a curriculum this year.

“This grant, if awarded, will allow some training for our teachers, for our administrators...the hope is to phase this curriculum in upon

School Committee approval next fall,” he said. “We’re excited about this opportunity.”

McCormick said the Superintendent’s Advisory Council is now entering year two, and will hold its first meeting soon.

Special education procedural guide

McCormick credited Director of Student Services Dr. Michael Baldassarre for organizing the school district’s procedures for special education into a formalized manual in preparation for the upcoming audit in January 2026.

“This is going to help us not only with our audit, but also going forward and having a clear plan for our special education department,” he said.

Baldassarre said he worked with staff to review preexisting documents to build a comprehensive procedural guide.

“The purpose of it is simple,” he said. “We really want to make sure that everyone in North Brookfield has a clear and consistent direction that reflects not just the Department of Education’s requirements, but the way we actually serve our kids.”

Baldassarre said he hopes this guide becomes a reliable resource for teachers. He said the guide will also be posted on the school district’s website for parents to review.

Administrators’ reports

Beck thanked everyone who showed their support to the students and staff dealing with the unexpected loss of Sarrette. He said counselors from other school districts were on hand to provide support as well.

A Winter Fest Concert will feature elementary and high school ensembles on Thursday, Dec. 11 at 6 p.m. in the elementary school.

Beck said the annual Wellness Day event was held, and it included games of pickleball, crafts, rock painting, making magnets, karaoke, banking and financial wellness, stress reduction, board

games and weightlifting. He thanked the staff involved with organizing this event.

Baldassarre said the Special Education Parent Advisory Council is hosting its first spaghetti supper on Nov. 19, which will include a presentation about managing anxiety and stress at school and home. He said this event is open to all parents in the school district.

“For our parents to learn about ways to work with their children,” he said.

Baldassarre said the school district now has an official SEPAC and has appointed officers. He said this was a “badge of honor” for the special educational department to have pulled this off in such a short time.

Student Council update

Student Council Representative Noah Gillette said the annual Giving Turkey food drive has begun and donations will be accepted throughout the month. Nonperishable food items collected will be given to the North Brookfield Community Food Collaborative.

Gillette said the teacher whose class collected the most donations would have to wear a turkey costume on Nov. 26.

The Giving Tree will be put up in December. He said more information would be posted on the North Brookfield Student Council’s social media pages and around the school.

The annual Christmas in North Brookfield event hosted by the Student Council will return on Saturday, Dec. 6 from noon-2 p.m. in the high school. There will be crafts, free raffles, food, music, pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus, games and gifts from Operation Christmas Cheer.

Teacher and U.S. Army veteran McNeil will lead a ruck with his platoon to benefit Operation Christmas Cheer from the Police Station to the school to distribute toys. Toys will be collected at the Police Station prior to the ruck.

Gillette invited community members to follow the Student Council on Facebook and Instagram, and to attend their meetings, which are held every other Monday in the high school kiva.

Donations

The School Committee accepted a donation in the amount of approximately \$350 in supplies to repair the elementary school’s loading dock, and \$850 from a golf tournament to benefit the athletics department.

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BOH from page 1

handling permit to operate, Farrington said that is not the case.

Since the collaborative is only receiving deliveries and distributing them the same day, they do not need a food handling permit, because there is no cooking or preparation being done, Farrington said. She said to “think of the collaborative as a postal distribution center.”

However, even though there is no cooking or preparation, since there is food being held and distributed, permits must still be acquired, and inspections are still mandatory, according to the proposal.

Farrington said she found a permit which describes exactly what they are doing, which is in Massachusetts General Law Section 94 Section 66 Cold Storage Warehouses. This law describes operations similar to Farrington’s, which are separate from commercial kitchens, the proposal said.

Ethan Melad, chairman of the Board of Health, said that this license is given out on a state level, and that local boards may not have the authority to grant this license.

Farrington suggested a viable solution to this permit concern would be to draft a bylaw for the town, specifically allowing residential homes to distribute food so long as it is not prepared, and stays in its original packaging. She cited many organizations that are already doing this successfully, and without

issue, including the Greater Boston Food Bank, multiple churches, and Food Hero, another non-profit in the state.

Farrington also addressed inaction on behalf of the Board of Health, alleging that when the board instituted this necessity for a proposal, they gave no guidance, no transition period to let them continue distributing food, and no collaborative problem solving.

“Food insecurity is a public health issue. This board has both the authority and responsibility to address it,” she said.

The board’s response

At the onset of the meeting, Melad said that the board has been cooperative, and in communication with both Farrington and the food collaborative to try and find a solution to keep the program in operation. He said the allegations that the board has not been helping are inaccurate, and that their goal was never to shut down the collaborative.

He said that the goal of the board is to uphold regulations, and that they are not intentionally preventing the collaborative from operating, and that they never issued a cease and desist to the organization.

Questions were also raised by Farrington and the organization, as well as community members in attendance, as to why the board has waited until now to start enforcing the collaborative.

The board said they knew of the collaborative, but not that they were dis-

tributing “time and temperature sensitive foods,” which are foods that require freezing or refrigeration to be safe for consumption.

There was not a clear resolution to the issue, but the board provided the option of proposing a variance to the state, which if accepted would let her continue to operate as is, without deviation. The process would include Farrington and the collaborative writing a proposal to the state. Farrington asked if the board would help her write this proposal, to which they agreed.

The attendance of the meeting, which was moved to the North Brookfield Police Station because of expected turnout, was large, over-crowding the meeting room in the station. The public was staunchly on the side of the collaborative, and expressed their frustration that the board was allegedly creating excessive difficulty for a charity organization.

One community member, a volunteer with the collaborative named Nancy, said to the board “there is so much hurt,” and pleaded with the board to follow through. Another community member expressed her frustration saying that food stamps are not enough to cover food needs, and that organizations like Farrington’s make a huge difference.

“You can’t live off of 30 dollars,” she said.

The Board of Health meets on the third Wednesday of every month, and are currently scheduled to meet next on Dec. 17.

Paige Memorial Library lists events

HARDWICK – Come to the Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, for the weekly Story Hour with art and science activities, the Paige Book Club, the Cookbook Club, Celebrate Hardwick, the ongoing Friends of the Paige Memorial Library book sale, the Paige Writers, and the recently formed Movie Festival Committee.

The Friends of the Paige Memorial Library are hosting a Boxwood Christmas Tree Workshop on Tuesday, Dec. 9 at 6 p.m. at the Town House.

The arrangements will be 12 to 14 inches tall and will stay green and fresh for an extended period, if watered. They would be perfect holiday decorations, charming gifts for hostesses or homebound friends, and they could

last until Valentine’s Day. Hartman’s Herb Farm, 1026 Old Dana Road, Barre will provide instruction and all necessary materials, but you may bring your own ornaments to make it more personal. Register by calling 413-477-6704 or emailing paigelibrary.hardwick@gmail.com and by paying \$35 to the Friends of the Paige Memorial Library.

White Christmas takes place on Dec. 7

WEST BROOKFIELD – The 33rd annual White Christmas celebration takes place on Sunday, Dec. 7 from 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

There will be fun for folks of all ages going on throughout the day. All are encouraged to come out and enjoy the town’s annual kick-off of the holiday season by touring the historic town, strolling the downtown district, exploring local businesses and open houses, decorating

gingerbread houses in the Great Hall, meeting Santa for a quick picture, as well dropping off those letters headed directly to the North Pole.

There will be horse drawn carriage rides throughout the day as well as shopping with dozens of vendors set up throughout town. A puppet show, an elf hunt and ice carvings are sure to keep everyone’s spirits high. There will be plenty for the entire family to come and enjoy.

If they are lucky, people may just see Father Christmas strolling the streets and greeting the visitors in town. Stick around to close the day with a holiday concert at 6:15 a.m. located in the Great Hall of the Town hall to hear some lovely voices, courtesy of the Saint Thomas Aquinas School Choir. Parking is available free throughout town and shuttle services are available outside Gavitt Wire.

N BROOKFIELD from page 1

by voters at town meeting, and will appear as an article on the warrant at the special town meeting to be held on Wednesday, Dec. 10 at 6 p.m. in the high school kiva. He said if the article is approved, the \$15,000 will appear in free cash next year.

Petratis said the town had paid \$300 for the easement in 1887, which is equivalent to over \$11,000 now.

Trench fee increase

Highway Department Superintendent Randy Morgan presented a proposal to the board to increase the trench fee from \$30 to \$250. He said the fee has not been adjusted for years and other towns charge closer to \$300.

This fee is applied whenever a trench is dug in the road, and would be used to cover the cost of any repairs.

The board approved the increase in the trench fee.

Grant award and donation

The board accepted a grant in the amount of \$1,750 from St. Vincent’s Community Healthcare Fund to fund wellness programs and outreach as well as heart disease education for seniors citizens at the Senior Center.

The board also accepted a donation to the Council on Aging in the amount of

\$2,000 from Country Bank.

Public comment

John Tripp asked if the board had read a letter he submitted regarding the removal of a small children’s picnic table he built that was removed from the Little Park downtown. He said he did not receive a response from any of the board members.

Tripp said he was told the table was removed by the Parks & Recreation Committee due to concerns about the chain connecting it to another table being a tripping hazard.

“These tabled and benches were all built in my garage in November 2020 by my son and I,” Tripp said. “They were donated by many townspeople and others...They were donated in remembrance of family members and loved ones. These tables and benches should remain at the Little Park.”

Tripp asked for the table to be returned to the park, and offered to secure it to the pavers. He said if the table is not put back in the park, he would like it returned to him.

Petratis said the board has discussed his letter and

will be responding to him.

Tripp also offered to maintain Little Park, and to gather other volunteers to help him.

Change order for Fire/Highway building

The board reviewed and approved a change order for the Fire/Highway building project.

CDBG extension

The board signed an extension for the Community Development Block Grant to complete the final phase of the Mount Pleasant Street Improvement Project. The grant will now be extended to June 30, 2026.

Spending request

The board approved a spending request from the Highway Department in the amount of \$1,300 to repair the brake system on the 2011 F350 truck.

Budget development policy

The board read and approved a budget development policy letter that will be sent to all departments. The letter explained the due dates for various budgets and capital requests, allocating for line items and more.

GARDEN from page 4

When you undertake this process, keep in mind what you want your attention directed towards. Do you want to streamline, experiment or perfect?

I learned this year that I don’t need eight varieties of tomatoes to make a really good sauce. What I do need is a really good paste tomato variety, and maybe a two or three cherry types for salads, and one slicing variety to top an occasional burger.

That is just an example, but you get the idea. Streamlining is practical.

If you want to try growing new things, maybe Brussels sprouts like I wrote about last week, or sweet potatoes, like I experimented with this past summer, take some time over the offsea-

son to look up the particulars so that you will be successful.

I did a show and tell with some students recently and it was a lot of fun to show them some out of the ordinary things that can be grown at home, like popcorn and luffa sponges for example. Get creative.

Maybe what will inspire you is getting something right, doing a better job growing a certain crop.

Did your zucchini look like baseball bats? Don’t worry, next year you’ll harvest sooner and more often. Same thing goes for those blimpy cukes. And what about those carrots? Next year you’ll loosen up your soil and remove some rocks from the carrot patch so that they won’t all fork. Straight, long roots here we come.

Wishing you all a Happy Thanksgiving! Have fun when the planning stage begins for next year’s garden. It is, after all, just about six months away from our frost-free date.

Now that is something to be thankful for!

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

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Calendar of Events

FRIDAY, NOV. 28

THEATRE AT THE MOUNT will hold performances today, Nov. 29, Dec. 5 and Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m. and Nov. 30 and Dec. 7 at 2 p.m. of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," the beloved musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice. A special sensory friendly performance will be held at Dec. 6 at 2 p.m. Directed by Emily Smith, the production features musical direction by Dave Twiss, choreography by Kim Soel, scenic design by David Prescott, lighting design by Tim Smith and sound design by Sean Kyle. Tickets are available now at mwcc.universitytickets.com.

SANTA VISITS with children today at 5 p.m. at the Orange Town Hall, 6 Prospect St., Orange. The Orange Community Band will perform some familiar Christmas music beginning at 5 p.m. and last for about an hour while Santa greets the children.

SATURDAY, NOV. 29

'**POLAR EXPRESS**' will be read today from 3-5 p.m. by Youth Services Librarian Brianna Lamb at the Haston Free Public Library, 161 North Main St., North Brookfield. Children will get a chance to write their letters to Santa Claus during this fun event. There will be holiday music playing and it will be provided by On Q Piano Students. The event will also feature a bake sale and cookie walk with the proceeds going towards benefitting library programs.

SINGER SONGWRITER SERIES at Workshop13, 13 Church St., Ware in the Grand Hall will feature seven local and regional musicians today at 7 p.m. Workshop13 is excited to highlight seven local and regional musicians - Charlie Diamond, Eric Troy, Tobey sol Laroche, O'Leyra, Catie Verostick, Makayla Nelson, and featured artist Taija New - in its new Singer Songwriter Series. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the performance begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are priced on a sliding scale and are available at www.workshop13.org.

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 tbn8@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

Where is this?



Turley Publications photo by Ellenor Downer

This week's mystery photo is from New Braintree. If any readers know where this photo was taken, they may email edowner@turley.com or call the Barre Gazette at 413-967-3505, extension 100 with their answer by noon on Monday, Dec. 1. Bill Bowles, Paul Carlson, Peggy Civilik, Bridget LaChance and Cheryl Paul correctly identified the photo. The photo last week was of the Evangelical Church on Williamsville Road, Hubbardston.

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 ware-rivernatureclub@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.

TUESDAY, DEC. 2

HUBBARDSTON SWINGIN' SENIORS, now 30 voices strong, have been preparing for their annual Christmas concerts. The first of five concerts will be held at the Hubbardston Senior Center at 7A Main St. today at 2 p.m. All are welcome to attend to hear these talented singers, soloists and instrumentalists perform everyone's favorite Christmas songs. Jeannine Como directs the group and Deb Page is the pianist. Refreshments will be served after the concert.

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

25TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF TREES sponsored by the Rutland Historical Society takes place today through Saturday, Dec. 13 at the Rutland Free Public Library, 280 Main St., Route 122A. To commemorate their 25th anniversary there will be many ways to join the celebration. People may visit their website rutlandmahistoricalociety.org for a day to day schedule of events, time and locations.

BARRE PLAYERS THEATER, 64 Common St., Barre, presents "Legally Blonde The Musical" today, Dec. 6; Dec. 12 and 13 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 7 and Dec.14 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for general admission or \$15 for seniors (65+) and children 12 and under. To learn more about these shows, to buy tickets, or sign up for an audition time and additional information, people may visit their website at www.bareplayerstheater.com. 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.

HOLIDAY FAIR sponsored by the Women's Fellowship will take place today from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St., Barre. There will be quilt and basket raffles, craft vendors, a baked goods, candy table, wreaths and a corn chowder and sandwich lunch available to purchase. Potential vendors can call 978-355-4041 and leave a message.

FIFTH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR will take place today from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Saint Joseph and Saint Piux's X Parishes, 759 Main St., Leicester. New this year is a thrift store and furniture annex. There will be 50/50 raffle, scratch ticket raffle, face painting for children, crafts, food, meatball subs, chicken nuggets, fries, popcorn, desserts and more. Santa will also visit.

CANDY CANE FAIR sponsored by St. Francis of Assisi Parish will once again take part in Christas in Barre with their newly names Candy Cane Fair today from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in St. Joseph's Hall, South Street, Barre. There will be handmade crafts, theme baskets, bake shoppe, hot cocoa bar, free games for children, costume jewelry, Anthony from Cash for Gold and a raffle of a handmade quilt made by Beth Cunningham. There will also be a silent auction.

LIGHTS OF LOVE sponsored by the Rutland Historical Society will hold their annual Tree Lighting today at 6:30 p.m. on the Common, Rte. 122A, Rutland. The Rutland Historical Society needs help with the Lights of Love. People may send their name and address and the names of those you wish to place in memory, to honor or to celebrate along with a donation to the Rutland Historical Society, P.O. Box 69, Rutland, MA 01543. They appreciate the support.

Calendar Policy

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



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Espolon Reposado	1.75L ... was \$59.99 .. now \$56.99
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Quabbin grabs third win in Week 10

FITCHBURG – On Friday, Nov. 14, the Quabbin Regional High School football team picked up a win in Week 10 over host Montachusett Tech 20-6.

After allowing the first touchdown of the game, Quabbin had 20 unanswered points. Chase Talbot had a 60-yard kick return for a touchdown give Quabbin a 7-6 lead in the second quarter. Austin Holmes made a fumble recovery in the third quarter and went 55 yard for a touchdown.

Then Zakk Mielnicki had a quarterback keeper in the fourth quarter a four-yard touchdown run. Quabbin was 3-7 heading into their Thanksgiving Eve matchup with rival Gardner High School.

Zakk Mielnicki sends a pass attempt away.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Wes Sanderson enters the pack.



Logan Sherbloom attempts to block two players.



Chase Talbot looks to return the kickoff.



Brady Dennis makes a block on the line.

Cross country performs at district race

BARRE – Coach Brian Young was pleased with the performance of his team at the recent district race earlier this month. Here is what Young had to say about the meet:

“It started early this summer when a small group of young men would have parents drive them to different locations for training runs. The Quabbin boys’ cross-country team was on a mission to earn the right to run in the state meet, something that hadn’t been done in over 50 years. It’s not as big as the “Curse of the Bambino” in red sox lore but in the context of the cross-country program it was an issue. Individual runners had qualified in the past but to get to run with teammates in the most important race of the season is gratifying. As the season unfolded for the boys the wins were not as large as the defeats, but the training continued on with coach Paul Goewey urging then onwards towards the Goal, State Meet. Runs were faster and longer, 10 to 12 miles on Fridays were now normal as they got closer to the district race date of Nov. 8. When the team received its packet with lane assignment, box two, and bib numbers, was fate trying to mess with the goal?”

With 175 runners lined up in an area the length of a football field the mass of runners would be running towards the panthers due to their starting box number. Runners had a quarter of a

See CROSS COUNTRY, page 10

MIAA makes calendar change to start of fall

FRANKLIN – The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association recently approved a couple of changes in their calendar, including codifying a practice that is already in place. The biggest change will be the start of the fall season for football preseason while two other changes were denied.

The Board of Directors voted to set the official start date of all fall sports, including football at two Mondays prior to Labor Day, beginning with the 2026-2027 school year. In recent years, football would begin the Friday prior to that Monday with the rest of the sports beginning two Mondays before Labor Day.

A proposal was denied to delay the start of winter preseason to the Tuesday following Thanksgiving. Right now, practices immediately begin on Monday after Thanksgiving. The proposal sought to give an administrative day for schools to prepare for the winter season.

Another proposal denied was for all postseason tournament brackets to be released exclusively on weekdays, with the exception of the football brackets, which are released on the Sunday after Week 8 games conclude.

The final accepted proposal was establishing a firm date for the end of all spring athletic seasons to be no later than the third Sunday in June, to coincide with the end of the academic year. It ensures that all postseason play and championship would take place on a consistent timeline each year. This is the current practice so no noticeable change will be seen on the current MIAA calendar.

Pioneers beat Smith in vocational tournament

PALMER – On Friday, Nov. 14, Pathfinder football picked up a Week 10 win over Smith Vocational 42-12. Pathfinder had multiple turnovers in the first half to get up fast in the game. The

matchup was the first round of the vocational school football tournament, with Pathfinder advancing to face Cape Cod Regional Tech on Friday, Nov. 21. Highlights from that matchup



Stephen Curtis makes a tackle attempt.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Dustyn Cook kicks off for the Pioneers.



The Pathfinder defensive line goes for the ball carrier.



Grayson Griswold gets ready to make a handoff.



Jarett Skowyra takes the snap for a point-after kick.

Sports

In the Classroom

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Turleysports

Athlete of the Month

NAME: Chase Talbot
SCHOOL: Quabbin

In Week 10, Talbot got Quabbin's scoring going with a 60-yard kick return for a touchdown.

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



Quabbin Middle School lists honor roll

BARRE – The Quabbin Regional Middle School announced the first term honor roll.

Grade Six, High Honors
Leonna Barre, Moriah Baxter, Ella Bourgeois, Casey Coates, Troy Corbett, Nolan Cronk, Charlotte Daniels, Kayla Despres, Ralph DiBenedetto, Joshua Doherty, Elise Flores de Oliveira, Logan Grandmaison, Aria Jackson, Jase Johnson, Thendara Magario, Richard May, Avery Phelps, Nathaniel Putelis, Sophia Serrano, Vincent Stark, Jorja Thorpe, Richard Valcourt and Luna Yules.

Grade Six, Honors
Caiden Ahearn, Lia Aiesi, Bella Arriola, Elias Bellemer, Danica Bjorklund, Edgar Blanchard, Audrey Breault, Clayton Cranston, Ruby Dagbjartsson, Autumn Dahn, Derek Ferreira, Rose Fleming, Maxwell Gaidanowicz, Andrew Gingras, David Groner, Brady Holmes, Annabelle Ickler, Laine Jenkins, Mia Joyal, Abigail Kaijala, Mason Kazanovicz, Kylee Lomastro, Evelyn Lord, Elliott Macutkiewicz, Scarlett McDonald, Liam McKenzie, Logan McManaman, Chase McQueston, Anna Medine, Jonah Melad, Olivia Mellor, Tonseth Miller, Julia Montague, Valkyrie Moore, Sage Morin, Tyler Nadeau, Hunter Nagle, Owen Nally, Harris Paakkonen, Ivy Packard, Bridgette Parker, Wyatt Porter, Dylan Potter, Sadie Russell, Deklan Sampson, Jaide Stillman, Tristan Tesell, Andrei Timofeev, Katara Tran, Emma Tyler and Irelyn Venne.

Grade Seven, High Honors
Jaysen Cassano, Ayla Clark, John Cook, Anna Coomey, Lincoln Graves, Colby Hill, Theodore Minton, Annaleigh Moncoeur, Ximena Palomera-Espinoza, Hana Mae Tousignant and Joseph Youngstrom.

Grade Seven, Honors
Nevaeh Andres, Asher Baker, Julianna Bienvenu, Ava Blacato, Jacob Blanchard, Talasyn Boissoneau, Vincent Broten, Cameron Charpentier, Charley Chauvin, Ayla Cogoli, Ryan Colgate, Ella Critelli, Audrey Cutler, Hannah Cutler, Joey DeMalia, Ethan Donaldson, Hannah Dube, Pipsisewa DuBois, Elliott Feldman, Mason Ferguson, Matthew Flamand, Maia Flint, Andrew Fuller, Alexander Girouard, Jude Gomes, Davin Goodwin, Joseph Haley, Madilyn Houle, Silas Howe, Adrian Johnson Jr., Jack Johnson, Colin Kania, Nathan Kearchner, Ryan LaRange, Walker Larson, Maishao Lee, Carter Majoy, Brady Malin, Kayla McHugh, Sawyer Minton, Adelaide Moeller, Nolan O'Connor, Aviendha O'Neill, Chevy O'Shea, Terra Paradis, Harper Parcell, Bryce Pariseau, Chloe Phillips, Catheryn Racine, Waverly Rivard, Emily Schur, Hazel Serra, Liam Shaw, Ava Sherblom, Andie St. Clair, Weston Stukuls Barrieau, Brayden Surprenant, Landon Swindlehurst, Kenzie Thorpe, Regan Toohill, Emma Veinotte, Adrian Wahl, Everett Weisman, Alonzo White and Brady White.

Grade Eight, High Honors
Saylor Bissonnette, Julia

Blanchard, Winter Boyea, Eliza Brown, Christopher Dallair, Emily DeMalia, Brody Despres, Maria Hamm, Pele Johnson, Caiden Lance, Mathieu LeBlanc, Madeline Omasta, Sebastian Palomera-Espinoza, Owen Pears, Evelyn Priestley, Madeleine Proulx, Autumn Rector, Maci Roseberry, Katy Twarog, Maggie Ward, Lia Wilson and Raegyn Wnek.

Grade Eight, Honors
Brady Aiesi, Raiden Apraham, Addyson Barringer, Owen Black, Caleb Boyce, Amelia Breault, Caleb Brouillet, Ashlynn Casey, Jack Castell, Henry Corbett, Enzo Fagnoli, Lane Fagnoli, Benjamin Fisher, Carrick Fitz, Gabriel Fleury, Addison Ford, Eden Fortier, Lucas Gaspar, Jaidev Giumentaro, Meaghan Glidden, Kaylee Harrington, Nolan Herrick, Brayden Hurley, Aimee Ickler, Emily Johnson, Evelyn Johnson, Brynn Kelly, Amy Landrin, Theodore Langer, Grace Lantiegne, Maggie Leander, Jack Leclair, Pa Huam Lee, Mackenzie Levesque, Alessandra Lewis, Kyliegh Los, Chiara Manna, Ava Maxim, Cameron McDonald, Ryder McGee, Valeri Metterville, Rose Michael, Olivia Mosso, Brayden Nadeau, Jonathan Nunes, Cade Oliveira, Coleton Pina, Lily Ryan, Thomas Schoonmaker, Hannah Shotwell, Madalyn Simons, Bella Spring, Bentley St. George, Emma Stauder, Fiona Stevens, Brandon Strom, Baelin Sullivan, Arina Timofeev, Kailyn Traynham, Elizabeth Welch, Skylar Wisniewski and Lola Zantouliadis.

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T-Birds score win over Utica

SPRINGFIELD - The Springfield Thunderbirds (3-10-2-1) rode a magnificent night from their goaltender to a 2-0 shutout victory over the Utica Comets (2-9-2-1) on Friday night inside a sold-out MassMutual Center.

An unlikely source got the T-Birds onto the scoresheet just 4:04 into the period, as defenseman Leo Loof made a wise read from the defensive zone, jumping into a rush to create a 2-on-1 attack. With Jakub Stancl crashing the net from the left-wing side, Loof used the shooting lane available to him, snapping a wrist shot over Nico Daws' blocker, giving Springfield the one-goal edge off setups from Hugh McGing and Nikita Alexandrov.

Georgi Romanov got the nod in the T-Birds' goal crease and answered the bell in the opening 20 minutes, making eight stops while his defense in front of him limited Utica's high-danger chances.

The middle period did not produce much in the way of chances, but the Comets made a strong push in the final minutes of the frame, and Romanov was forced to be at his best with a handful of saves off redirections. The netminder also got some fortunate luck on one occasion as a Mike Hardman deflection attempt glanced off the underside of the crossbar, but stayed out.

Springfield also killed off one Utica power play attempt in the later stages of

the second, while Utica went 2-for-2 to begin its night on the penalty kill, including 1:16 of power play time for the T-Birds at the start of the third. The Comets relentlessly pressured the Springfield net throughout the third, but Romanov had answers time and time again. Utica finished the game with 33 shots, but Romanov had stops on every one.

Calle Rosen finally put the game away with 1:11 to play, taking a pass from Romanov behind the net and lobbing a shot 200 feet down the ice and into a yawning cage to round out the scoring. The netminder's first shutout and win as a T-Bird also gave Springfield its second straight win on home ice.

CROSS COUNTRY from page 9

mile of wide open space before it would funnel into a trail and if you don't get out fast enough you may get trapped behind a slower moving runner and thus lose precious time in your quest to have fastest finish possible. As the gun sounded and a mad dash occurred towards the trail head Brendan Welch was with his target group. Brendan has been the top runner for the panthers. Co-Captains Senior Garrett Erickson and junior Jacob Bassett along with junior Brody Faucher, and sophomore Jack Orsini have been the top 5 runners for the team throughout the season. The course consisted of 3 loops around an athletic compound with baseball fields inside the course where teams had set up their tents before races occurred. As coach Goewey ran to various locations encouraging his runners to

move up they followed his instruction. As the exhausted runners rounded the last corner before the straight 200 yards to the finish line, the runners pushed themselves to pass others before the finish line. Brendan Welch would be first panther to cross the finish line placing 15th and earning a medal, top 15 runners received them. Brody Faucher would outlast teammate Garrett Erickson and came in together taking 52nd and 53rd places respectively. As the crowd grew around the finish line as family members and school friends and teammates gathered to watch the end of the race 2 more panthers crossed that cherished line Jacob Bassett captured 67th place and Jack Orsini took 72nd place to end the team scoring. For team results it's the added score of your top 5 runners and the lower your score the better your place. Lucas Proctor would also finish in 102nd place

and Aiden Mahoney 123rd place rounding out the panthers' team. Waiting for results is almost as difficult as running the race as the exhausted team members waited together with coach Goewey word came in that they had accomplished their goal they earned 7th place and a ride to the state meet the following Saturday with another race at Willard Park at Devens. The 8th place team Southeastern Regional Voc Tech scored one more point and did not qualify as a team. Jack Orsini of Quabbin beat Rocco Gardner of Southeastern Regional Voc tech at the wire and was the difference in the race for last qualifying team spot in state meet. History will note the Panthers cross country team of 2025 is the first boy's cross country team of this century to qualify for state meet, a goal to check off and on to the state meet."

Follow Turley Sports on Instagram

Turley Publications sports department has recently joined Instagram. You can find our account by searching "turleysports." We will regularly feature samples of

photos that you will see in our publications on a weekly basis. Please follow and share with your friends and loved ones. We will be featuring photos from all 11 of

our sports sections, but as always, you can see all the photos that appear by subscribing to your local paper or picking up a copy in your community.

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Church News

Local pastor offers sermon

Give Thanks

Let us consider the topic of thanksgiving in light of this timeless yet timely account from the Gospel according to Luke:

Luke 17:11-19 (NIV)

11 Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. 12 As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance 13 and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us."

14 When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed.

15 One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. 16 He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him and he was a Samaritan.

17 Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine?" 18 Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?" 19 Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."

Within this selection we identify three groups of people:

1) The Ten

Verse 12 indicates that ten lepers encountered Jesus upon His entry into the village. Consider the lives these figures were forced to live. Leprosy in antiquity was a debilitating disease in every conceivable way. Because of the need to control the spread of a disease for which there was no cure, lepers were required to isolate themselves from society.

While thus excluded, they were to wear mourning clothes, leave their hair in disorder, and cry "unclean" so that the healthy might be warned of their presence. Forced to live outside of

the community, they were regarded as outcasts and accursed of God. Can you imagine the trauma such figures experienced physically, emotionally, socially and spiritually? Yet these men knew enough to call upon the power of Christ to remedy what ailed them.

We do well to see ourselves in the ten. Their physical condition symbolically pictures the spiritual condition of those outside of Christ. We deal with a "leprosy" all our own in human sinfulness. Sin has infected each of us with no earthly means of remedy (Rom. 3:23). It distorts and mars the image of God within us beyond recognition, causing us to live as outcasts, as those spiritually dead, in relation to the Lord (Eph. 2:1-3).

Of course, Christianity teaches that Jesus has made a way for both pardon and cleansing through His sacrifice. All we have to do is place our faith in Him (Eph. 2:1-10; John 3:16). To what degree do we know enough to call upon the power of Christ to remedy what ails us?

2) The Nine

The text is clear that ten lepers were healed (vv. 14, 17). However, nine failed to return to offer thanksgiving. Jesus was evidently dismayed by their ingratitude (Luke 17:17-18): "Jesus asked, 'Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?'" How tragic that 90% of those healed by Christ failed to offer a simple: "Thank you."

We do well to see ourselves in the nine. How often does the Lord bless us in some way, yet we fail to express our gratitude?

The sense of disgust we

feel toward the nine for failing to return to Jesus should be directed inwardly, as all-too-often we follow in their footsteps. In this season, are there blessings that have gone unrecognized? If so, take a moment to do better than the nine, giving thanks to One who is most worthy. It is the least we can do.

3) The One

Whereas nine failed to honor Christ after His marvelous work, one returned to glorify God. Luke records that the one, "when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice" (v. 15). Moreover, the text notes in the subsequent verse that he "hrew himself" at the feet of Jesus to offer thanks.

We do well to imitate the attitude and action(s) of this man. We may never have been healed of leprosy per se, but has not the Lord moved mightily in our lives? Look back over your years. Do they not evidence His kindness to you?

Thus said, maybe it is time to raise your voice loudly to glorify His Name. Perhaps it is time to humble yourself, fall at His feet and worship Him for who He is and what He has done. I cannot think of a better season to offer such thanks.

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

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

Public Notices

Attorney General's Notice Pursuant to G.L. c. 40, § 32

**Town of Barre
Case No. 12013
Annual Town Meeting of
June 24, 2025
Articles # 18 and 20**

Attorney General's Limited Authority to Waive Procedural Defects in the Notice of the Planning Board Hearing

Pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 40, § 32, if the Attorney General finds there to be any defect in the procedure of adoption or amendment of any zoning by-law relating to the form or content of the notice of the Planning Board Hearing prescribed by G.L. c. 40A, § 5, or to the manner or dates on which said notice is mailed, posted or published as required by that section, then instead of disapproving the by-law or amendment by reason of any such defect, the Attorney General may elect to proceed under the defect waiver provisions of G.L. c. 40, § 32. Under those provisions, the Attorney General is conditionally authorized to waive any such defect.

Defect Determined in Notice of Planning Board Hearing

The Attorney General has determined that the Planning Board Hearing Notice relating to the above Article failed to comply with the notice requirements for such hearing established by G.L. c. 40A, § 5. Section 5 provides in part (with emphasis added):

No zoning ... by-law or amendment thereto shall be adopted until after the planning board in a ... town has ... held a public hearing thereon ... at which interested persons shall be given an opportunity to be heard ... Notice of the time and place of such hearing, of the subject matter, sufficient for identification, and of the place where texts and maps thereof may be inspected shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the ... town once in each of two successive weeks, the first publication to be not less than fourteen days before the day of said hearing, and by posting such notice in a conspicuous place in the ... town hall for a period of not less than fourteen days before the day of said hearing. Notice of said hearing shall also be sent by mail, postage prepaid to the executive office of housing and livable communities, the regional planning agency, if any, and to the planning board of each abutting city and town In cases involving boundary, density or use changes within a district, notice shall be sent to any such nonresident property owner who has filed such a request with the city or town clerk and whose property lies in the district where the change is sought.

Based on the materials submitted to this Office, we have identified the following defect: (1) the Planning Board Hearing Notice was first published in a

newspaper of general circulation on May 22, 2025 for a Planning Board Hearing to be held on June 3, 2025, which was only twelve days before the hearing, not fourteen days as required by G.L. c. 40A, § 5. For this reason, the 90-day period prescribed for the Attorney General's review of Articles 18 and 20 is suspended in accordance with G.L. c. 40, § 32.

Suspension of Review of Zoning By-Law Amendments

The 90-day period prescribed by law for the Attorney General's review of local by-laws is therefore suspended in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 40, § 32.

Posting and Publication of This Notice

The Town Clerk shall post a true copy of this Notice in a conspicuous place in the Barre Town Hall for a period of not less than 14 days and shall publish a copy once in a newspaper of general circulation in the Town of Barre.

Filing of Claim That Defect in Notice Was Misleading or Otherwise Prejudicial

Within 21 days of the date on which this Notice is published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Town of Barre, any resident of the Town of Barre, or the owner of any real property in the Town of Barre or any other party entitled to notice of the Planning Board Hearing may file with the Town Clerk a written statement that the notice defect was misleading or otherwise prejudicial. The statement must include the reasons supporting the claim that the defect in the Planning Board Notice was misleading or otherwise prejudicial. This statement must be actually on file with the Town Clerk not later than 21 days from the date on which this Notice is published in the newspaper.

Town Clerk's Certification of Compliance with This Notice

After the expiration of the 21-day period, the Town Clerk shall submit to the Attorney General a true copy of this Notice with a certification of compliance with the publishing and posting requirements of the preceding paragraph, and a certification that either (a) no claim was filed within the 21-day period, or (b) one or more claims were filed within the 21-day period. The Town Clerk shall submit to the Attorney General true copies of any such claim(s).

Resumption of Attorney General's Review

Upon receipt of one original copy of this Notice with the Clerk's certification, the 90-day period provided for the Attorney General's review under G.L. c. 40, § 32, shall resume. If no claim is made, the Attorney General has the discretion to waive any such defect; if any claim is made, however, the Attorney General may not waive any such defect.

Note: By not filing a claim

under this provision, a person shall not be deprived of the right to assert a claim of invalidity arising out of any possible defect in the procedure of adoption or amendment, as provided in G.L. c. 40, § 32, and in G.L. c. 40A, § 5.

Date: November 10, 2025

Very truly yours,

ANDREA JOY CAMPBELL

ATTORNEY GENERAL

By: Tasheena M. Davis

Assistant Attorney General

Municipal Law Unit

10 Mechanic Street, Suite 301

Worcester, MA 01608

Tasheena.davis@mass.gov

413-523-7704

cc: Town Counsel Gregg J. Corbo
11/27/2025

TOWN OF OAKHAM PUBLIC NOTICE OF TAX CLASSIFICATION HEARING

The Board of Selectmen of the town of Oakham will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, December 8, 2025 at 6:00 pm at the Town Hall, 2 Coldbrook Road, Oakham, MA to discuss the percentage of the tax levy to be borne by each class of real and personal property for Fiscal Year 2026, pursuant to Chapter 369 of the Acts of 1982 of the Massachusetts General Laws relating to Classification and Taxation of Property, according to use. Interested tax payers may present their views either orally or in writing to the Board of Selectmen prior to or during said hearing.

Board of Selectmen

Donald Haapakoski, Chair

Michael Brunelle, Vice Chair

Dennis Bergin, Clerk

11/27/2025

TOWN OF BARRE Board of Water Commissioners PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held by the Board of Water Commissioners relative to increasing Water User Fees. **This hearing will take place on Monday, December 8, 2025 at 5:30PM at the Department of Public Works Building, 441 Wheelwright Road, Barre, Massachusetts.**

Any person wishing to comment may do so at that time. Any questions may be directed to the DPW by phone: 978-355-5013 or email: dpw@townofbarre.com
11/20, 11/27/2025



St. Mary's Parish has new priest

ORANGE – St. Mary's Parish in Orange announces that Bishop William Byrne appointed Rev. Mark Glover, Administrator, as Pastor. Fr. Mark has been stationed in Orange for just over a year, replacing Fr. Shaun O'Connor.

Parishioners received the news this past weekend and applauded the decision, which grants Fr. Mark a six-year term in Orange. He has been busy over the past year, encouraging Parish growth, following up on necessary repairs to the church and parish center and reorganizing committees. In fact, Bishop Byrne recently visited Orange to celebrate Baptisms, First Communions and Confirmations, a clear sign of parish growth this past year.

Upon arrival last year, Fr. Mark indicated he hoped to lead the Parish and community in learning from, honoring, and worshipping Jesus Christ, and said



Submitted photos

Fr. Mark Glover of St. Mary's Parish in Orange, administrator for the past year, was recently named as Pastor by Bishop William Byrne.

he would like individuals in the community to step forward and share their talents to help him make St. Mary's Parish run more smoothly and

be a vibrant, responsive resource for the community. All indications are that he has been successful in helping the parish move forward.

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

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Public Safety

Barre Police Log

Sunday, Nov. 2
9:19 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Sunrise Avenue, Information Given
10:08 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Main Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal
11:37 a.m. Larceny or Theft, South Street, Report Filed
2:10 p.m. Fire – Fumes/Odor/Gas Leaks, Nichols Road, Investigated
3:13 p.m. Juvenile Runaway, South Street, Transported to Hospital
4:08 p.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, West Street, Report Filed
4:14 p.m. Recovered/Confiscated Property, Worcester Road, Returned
5:26 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Stroke (CVA), Wauwinet Road, Transported to Hospital
8:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Summer Street, Vehicle Towed
9:04 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, North Brookfield Road, Transported to Hospital

Monday, Nov. 3
9:46 a.m. Animal Call – ACO, Sunrise Avenue, Officer/Chief Advised
12 p.m. Vandalism, Bandstand on Common, Investigated
2:32 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Williamsville Road, Area Search Negative
4:07 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Williamsville Road, Transported to Hospital
4:24 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Mutual Aid Transport
4:39 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Williamsville Road, Report Filed
6:05 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Fuller Road, Transported to Hospital

6:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Written Warning
9:03 p.m. Tree Incidents (No Wires), Pleasant Street, Removed from Scene

Tuesday, Nov. 4
9:27 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Ruggles Lane, Ambulance Signed Refusal
10:17 a.m. Fire – Public Service Call, Valley Road, Investigated
11:56 a.m. Stolen Vehicle – Cedar Street, Report Filed
6:03 p.m. Erratic Operator, Summer Street, Verbal Warning, Report Filed

Wednesday, Nov. 5
10:41 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Wauwinet Road, Area Search Negative
10:53 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Seizures, South Street, Transported to Hospital
11:36 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Lockwood Road, Mutual Aid Transported
12:19 p.m. Lockout (Home or Vehicle), Old Coldbrook Road, Entry Gained
1:51 p.m. Fire – Lost Person/Search and Rescue, Pleasant Street, Located/Found
4:29 p.m. Harassment, South Street, No Action Required
5:22 p.m. Missing Person, Worcester Road, Report Filed
7:25 p.m. Gunshots, Springhill Road, Area Patrolled
7:50 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, South Street, Transported to Hospital

Thursday, Nov. 6
2:17 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Bleeding (Non-Traumatic), Austin Street, Transported to Hospital
4:16 a.m. Tree incidents (No Wires), Williamsville Road, Removed from Scene

6:57 a.m. Animal – Wildlife, South Street, Officer/Chief Advised
8:15 a.m. Erratic Operator, Farrington Road, Officer/Chief Advised
10:17 a.m. Animal – Wildlife, West Street, Office/Chief Advised
11:34 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Stetson Road, Transported to Hospital

Friday, Nov. 7
7:47 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Ruggles Lane, Mutual Aid Transport
7:56 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, School North Street, Transported to Hospital
9:20 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Ruggles Lane, Mutual Aid Transported
11:59 a.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, South Street, Officer Spoke to Party
2:01 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, Williamsville Road, Referred to Other Agency
2:17 p.m. Harassment, South Street, Officer Spoke to Party
3:06 p.m. Property Dispute to Exchange, South Street, Officer/Chief Advised
5:44 p.m. Gunshots, Cat Alley Road, Area Patrolled

Saturday, Nov. 8
2:34 p.m. Erratic Operator, Hubbardston Road, Negative Contact
4:16 p.m. Landlord Tenant/Neighbor Dispute, Newton Street, Peach Restored
4:56 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Worcester Road, Arrest(s) Made
Arrest Lavallee, Clement Jospeh Jr., 44, Worcester
Charges License Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With, Subsequent Offense, Warrant, Ignorant
Interlock, Operate Without

Rutland Police Log

Sunday, Nov. 2
2:09 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Brunelle Drive, Citation Issued
2:15 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Winifreds Way, Written Warning
2:30 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Winifreds Way, Citation Issued
2:33 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Winifreds Way, Written Warning
2:38 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Majorie Lane, Written Warning
2:47 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Vista Circle, Written Warning
2:57 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Clealand Circle, Written Warning
3:02 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Grizzly Drive, Citation Issued
4:22 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, East County Road, Vehicle Towed
10:15 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Central Tree Road, Transported to Hospital
12:01 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Animal Bites, Campbell Street, Information Given
1:26 p.m. Property Damage, Barre Paxton Road, Report Filed
1:27 p.m. Erratic Operator, East County Road, Negative Contact
5:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Arrest(s) Made
Arrest Gilman, Jennifer Ryan, 47, North Brookfield
Charges Operating Under Influence – Liquor OR .08%, Speeding Rate of Speed Exceeding Posted Limit
9:57 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, East County Road, Negative Contact

Monday, Nov. 3
2:27 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Blair Drive, Written Warning
2:39 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Oakridge Drive, Written Warning
2:44 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Briarwood Drive, Written Warning
2:47 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Newman Drive, Written Warning
2:53 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Fernwood Drive, Written Warning
3:23 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Forest Hill Drive, Written Warning
3:29 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Forest Hill Drive, Citation Issued
3:41 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Highland Park Road, Citation Issued
3:51 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Highland Park Road, Citation Issued
4:01 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Birchwood Road, Written Warning
4:08 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Edson Avenue, Written Warning
5:31 a.m. Erratic Operator, Barre Paxton Road, Officer Spoke to Party
7:21 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Seizures, Miles Road, Transported to Hospital
9:16 a.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, Main Street, Information Taken
1:28 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
3:15 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
4:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
4:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Criminal Complaint
Summons Nogotho, Tom Kihu, 55, Worcester
Charges Register Motor Vehicle Improperly to Avoid Taxes/Premiums, Light Violation, Motor VehicleS

5:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Citation Issued
5:20 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Criminal Complaint
Summons Davison, Lakisha R., 46, Templeton
Charges License Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With
8:54 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
11:29 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, New Braintree Road, Transported to Hospital

Tuesday, Nov. 4
2:49 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Linwood Drive, Written Warning
3:21 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Edith Lane, Written Warning
4:08 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning
4:31 a.m. Road/Traffic Hazard, Main Street, Negative Contact
8:15 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
9:55 a.m. Animal – ACO call, Victoria Avenue, Officer/Chief Advised
12:02 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Main Street, Report Filed
12:26 p.m. Fire – Power Lines/Wires, Pommogussett Road, Investigated
12:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Citation Issued
1:12 p.m. ACO Animal Lost and/or Found – Wildlife, Fisherman's Road, Returned
1:22 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Lindsay Lane, Report Filed
Summons Ribeiro de Souza, Atila, 41, Worcester
Charges Forgery of Check, Utter False Check
1:59 p.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, Rutland State Park, Public Assist
2:52 p.m. Disturbance/Disorderly, Main Street, Peace Restored
4:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
4:13 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
4:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Citation Issued
5:34 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
6:02 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Citation Issued
8:18 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Barre Paxton Road, Investigated
10:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Barre Paxton Road, Party Departed Without Incident

Wednesday, Nov. 5
5:41 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
7:33 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Citation Issued
8:12 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
9:05 a.m. Road/Traffic Hazard, Maple Avenue, Information Given
12:48 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning
1:51 p.m. Fire – Lost Person/Search and Rescue, Pleasant Street, Located/Found
2:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Written Warning
3:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
3:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
3:42 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Whitehall Road, Officer Spoke to Party
3:53 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Citation Issued
4:08 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Brooke Haven Drive, Transported to Hospital
4:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
Summons Rios, Vincent M., 45, Worcester
Charges License Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With, Subsequent Offense, Unregistered Motor Vehicle
4:40 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Wachusett Street, Vehicle Towed
Summons Savell, Kate, 28, Lancaster
Charges Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle
6:17 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning
6:42 p.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Birchwood Road, Information Taken
8:21 p.m. Harassment, East County Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Thursday, Nov. 6
4:40 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Turkey Hill Trail, Transported to Hospital
8:08 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
8:24 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Vehicle Towed
Summons Lagos, LizziU Nathalia, 20, Clinton
Charges Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle
Summons Montas Acosta, Hengels, 23, Clinton
Charges Unlicensed/Suspended Operation of Motor Vehicle, Permit Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With Uninsured Motor Vehicle
10:36 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, East County Road, Officer Spoke to Party
12:45 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Bigelow Road, Information Given
4:54 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Wachusett Street, Report Filed
8:14 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Neurological/Head Injury, Birchwood Road, Transported to Hospital

Friday, Nov. 7
3:45 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Pioneer Circle, Written Warning
3:53 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Lindsay Lane, Written Warning
4:24 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Forbes Road, Written Warning
4:28 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Thurston Hill Road, Written Warning
8:21 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
8:47 a.m. Complaint, Brintnal Drive, Officer/Chief Advised
1:55 p.m. Fire – Power Lines/Wires, Glenwood Road, Referred to Other Agency
5:52 p.m. Fire – Fuel Spill, Barre Paxton Road, Removed From Scene

Saturday, Nov. 8
4:49 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issue, Tangelwood Circle, Written Warning
8:58 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Miles Road, Negative Contact
12:48 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Lincoln Road, Transported to Hospital
5:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Glenwood Road, Written Warning
5:30 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Main Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal
6:38 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Juniper Lane, Ambulance Signed Refusal
8:05 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Seizures, Vista Circle, Ambulance Signed Refusal
9:58 p.m. Gunshots, Jamie Ann Drive, Negative Contact

Hubbardston Police Log

Sunday, Nov. 2
1:27 p.m. Erratic Operator, East County Road, Negative Contact
4:01 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Westminster, Negative Contact
5:07 p.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Old Westminster Road, Animal Relocated
9:57 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, East County Road, Negative Contact

Monday, Nov. 3
6:22 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Bemis Road, Mutual Aid Transport
9:26 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Bleeding (Non-Traumatic), Twin Hill Road, Transported to Hospital
9:59 a.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, Main Street, Call Transferred
2:11p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Worcester Road, Officer/Chief Advised
4:09 p.m. Erratic Operator, Main Street, Peace Advised

Tuesday, Nov. 4
9:53 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Ed Clark Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Wednesday, Nov. 5
1:28 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Cross

Road, Transported to Hospital
4:25 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Authority, Birches Road, Investigated
5:44 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Transported to Hospital
5:59 p.m. Erratic Operator, Gardner Road, Negative Contact
11:32 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Ragged Hill Road, No Transport Required

Thursday, Nov. 6
7:46 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
8:04 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
8:20 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Gardner Road, Written Warning
8:34 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Gardner Road, Vehicle Towed
Summons Phillips, Alvina Lacey, 79, Hubbardston
Charges Uninsured Motor Vehicle, Unregistered Motor Vehicle
9:51 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Chicopee Drive, No Transport Required
10:27 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party
1:35 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Kruse Road, Officer/Chief Required
2:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
2:15 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Gardner Road, Written Warning
2:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Williamsville Road, Written Warning
2:32 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Williamsville Road, Criminal Complaint
Summons Acquah, Randy Ato, 32, Rutland
Charges Electronic Device, Use Operating Motor Vehicle, First Offense, Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With
3:07 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Written Warning
3:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Williamsville Road, Citation Issued

Friday, Nov. 7
9:30 a.m. Fire – Public Service Call, Madison Way, No Transport Required
3:01 p.m. Fire – Water/Ice Rescues, Comet Pond Worcester Road, Rescue

Saturday, Nov. 8
2:51 p.m. Disturbance/Disorderly, Gardner Road, Peace Restored
4:59 p.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Mt. Jefferson Road, Investigated
5:02 p.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, Old Westminster Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of Nov. 17-24, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 59 building/property checks, 50 directed/area patrols, 19 radar assignments, two traffic controls, seven emergency 911 calls, four citizen assists, one investigation, one scam, one larceny/theft/shoplifting, one fire, one motor vehicle accident, four complaints, three animal calls and 11 motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, Nov. 17
8:22 a.m. Assist Citizen, Lower Road, Officer Handled
6:37 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Merge

Tuesday, Nov. 18
4:54 p.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Crash, Hardwick Road, Services Rendered

6 p.m. 911 Animal Call, Upper Church Street, Negative Contact
7:51 p.m. Medical Alarm, Hardwick Pond Road, Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, Nov. 19
8:57 p.m. 911 Complaint, Bridge Street, Peace Restored

Thursday, Nov. 20
10:22 a.m. Assist Citizen, Unknown Location, No Action Required
4:45 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Investigated
5:10 p.m. Scam, Main Street, Officer Handled
5:44 p.m. Larceny/Theft/Shoplifting, Clapp Road, Report Taken

Friday, Nov. 21
12:26 p.m. Investigation, Clapp Road, Officer Handled

2:26 p.m. Assist Citizen, Telephone, Spoken To

Saturday, Nov. 22
12:53 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
1:40 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Muddy Brook Road, Death/Unattended
7:42 p.m. 911 Fire/Illegal Burn, High Street, Spoken To

Sunday, Nov. 23
2:32 a.m. Parking Complaint, Main Street, Written Warning
2:54 a.m. Parking Complaint, High Street, Written Warning
3:07 a.m. Parking Complaint, Taylor Street, Written Warning
10:07 a.m. Welfare Check, Dow Road, Officer Handled
7:23 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Patrill Hollow Road, Transported to Hospital

Oakham Police Log

Sunday, Nov. 2
5:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Arrest (s) Made
Arrest Gilman, Jennifer Ryan, 47, North Brookfield
Charges Operating Under Influence Liquor OR .08%, Speeding Rate of Speed Exceeding Posted Limit

Monday, Nov. 3
11:29 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, New Braintree Road, Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, Nov. 5
11:10 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Crocker

Nye Road, Unfounded
5:22 p.m. Missing Person, Worcester Road, Report Filed
10:08 p.m. Larceny or Theft, South Road, Information Taken

Friday, Nov. 7
10:14 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
11:34 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Barre Road, Report Filed

Saturday, Nov. 8
12:48 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Lincoln Road, Transported to Hospital
12:49 p.m. Erratic Operator,

North Brookfield Road, Negative Contact
3 p.m. Erratic Operator, North Brookfield Road, Negative Contact
3 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
3 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop – Disabled, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
3:09 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop – Disabled, Worcester Road, Officer Spoke to Party
3:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop – Worcester Road, Written Warning

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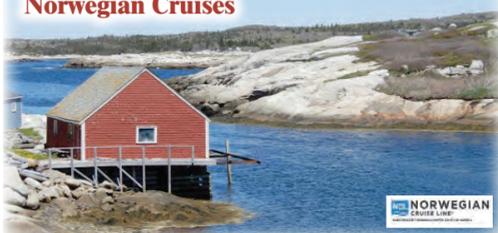
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