

BARRE GAZETTE

USPS 044560

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

December 5, 2024 | Vol. 190, No. 35 | \$1.00

www.barregazette.turley.com

Board fills BOH vacancy

By Ellenor Downer
Editor
edowner@turley.com

OAKHAM – The Oakham Select Board at their Monday, Nov. 12 meeting on the recommendation of the Board of Health appointed Jessica Katsoulis to fill a vacancy on the BOH until the next town election in May 2025.

Alcohol license renewals

The Select Board approved the alcohol license renewals for 2025. They included: Agronomy Farm Vineyard, wine only; Route 148 Package and Variety, all alcohol; Golfer Arms, all alcohol; Pine Acres Lodge, all alcohol and store at Pine Acres, wine and malt. The annual license fee is \$355 for an all alcohol license and \$205 for wine or wine and malt. Administrative Assistant Mirabel LaRange said she would have the licenses available for the Board's signature at a later meeting.

ARPA update

Oakham received \$565,852.99 in American Rescue Plan Act funds. There is a balance of \$19,107 remaining which must be spent or have a contract in place by the end of this year. Otherwise the remaining money would return to the Federal Government.

Monies with contracts include cable internet, Town Hall painting, Vadar Systems software and Skyline Drive. The Select Board will use some of the remaining ARPA fund to cover the cost of repairs to both the side door and the front door of Town Hall. They

See OAKHAM, page 7

Christmas in Barre takes place this Friday and Saturday

By Ellenor Downer
Editor
edowner@turley.com

BARRE – Christmas in Barre began last Saturday with the annual craft fair held at Quabbin Regional High School.

The Festival of Trees kicks off Friday, Dec. 6 from 3-7 p.m. and continues Saturday, Dec. 7 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Barre Town Hall, Exchange Street. Saturday morning beginning at 8:30 a.m. Cradle Rock Chapter Order of Eastern Star will hold a cookie sale and have a Christmas gift table at Mt. Zion Lodge, 71 Pleasant St. People should arrive early for the best selection of cookies.

Both the Barre Lions Club, located on South Common, and Mt. Zion Lodge, 71 Pleasant St., will be selling Christmas trees all day. People can walk over to St. Joseph's Church, 29 South St., for St. Francis of Assisi Parish Holiday Fair from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. in the parish hall. There will be a grand raffle, breakfast, lunch, themed basket raffle, jewelry table and baked goods. An underground railroad handmade quilt will be raffled off along with a grand raffle of \$1,000 cash first prize, 100 gallons heating oil or propane donated by R.J. McDonald and third prize a handcrafted doll house made by Gordon Robinson and many more prizes.

The Barre Lions Club will sell breakfast sandwiches on the common while the supply lasts from 9:30 a.m.-noon. People can head to the north end of the Common where Barre Congregational



File photos

The Santa Parade starts on Saturday, Dec. 7 at 12:15 p.m. from Ruggles Lane Elementary School.

Church, 30 Park St., hosts their craft fair from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. There are raffles, craft vendors, hot beverages and much more. People may either eat in or take out lunch with choices of homemade corn chowder, sandwiches and apple crisp. In addition, there is a baked goods table, candy table and crafts.

Other stops not to miss is the Woods Memorial Library, 19 Pleasant St. to make holiday crafts from 10 a.m.-noon. There also will be a take home craft available provided by

Athol Savings Bank. Making Opportunity Count, located at 7 Exchange St., Lower Level, will host gingerbread madness from 10 a.m.-noon. Participants will make cookies and a gingerbread ornament.

There will be a Kid's Christmas Farm Obstacle Course sponsored by the Barre Lions Club from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Blue ribbon prizes will be awarded. Cafe on the Common, 2 Common St., will hold an open house with complimentary hot chocolate, sample homemade baked goods

and enjoy Christmas music, movies and games.

The Lions Club will serve hot dogs, chips and a drink from noon-3 p.m., while supply lasts. People also may grab lunch at Barre Congregational Church or stop in pizza places located in the center of town.

At 12:15 p.m., the highlight of the day is the Santa Parade. The parade leaves Ruggles Lane Elementary School at approximately 12:15 p.m. Santa and Mrs. Claus will make a special

See BARRE, page 5

Select Board to update HCA with Hardwick Mill Greenery

By Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

HARDWICK – Attorney Phil Silverman, representing Hardwick Mill Greenery, 94 Main St., Gilbertville, came before the Select Board and said his client is requesting a new Host Community Agreement.

At the Nov. 25 meeting, he said recent changes from the Cannabis Control Commission have caused a lot of confusion for communities across the state. He said his client is renewing his license with the state and the CCC is requiring them to update it due to these changes.

"My client is kind of stuck right now," Silverman said. "We've put about \$2 million into this project... into that building. There's probably another \$2 million to spend there." Silverman said his client will be using the mill to cultivate marijuana to supply his retail operations.

"He is committed to this community, he wants to make this project happen," Silverman said. "We're just trying to find a way forward here and the way forward hopefully is to get a new Host Community Agreement," he said.

Silverman said the CCC will not review and approve the mill's architectural plans without an updated HCA.

George Lang, owner of Hardwick Mill Greenery, said the progress to develop the mill has

See HARDWICK, page 7



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette

Volunteers from the North Brookfield Community Food Collaborative and North Brookfield Junior Senior High School distributed 150 turkeys with all the fixings to families in need for Thanksgiving.

Community Food Collaborative distributes 150 turkeys

By Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Over a dozen volunteers gathered behind North Brookfield Junior Senior High School last week to make sure that the people in the community truly had something to be grateful for.

A generous donation of 150

turkeys, as well as 360 mini pecan pies, were donated by C&S Wholesale Grocers to provide Thanksgiving meals to those facing food insecurity in North Brookfield and beyond.

"This was just a bonus," said Karen Farrington, president of the North Brookfield Community Food Collaborative.

As volunteers unloaded the trucks, more volunteers arrived to sort the items into bags, and load cars for delivery.

Farrington said the collaborative, which was formed this past July, receives a weekly donation of two pallets of frozen food from C&S Wholesale Grocers each Thursday. This is then distributed to approximately 120 families in need.

C&S Wholesale Grocers has also volunteered to provide a

monthly donation of nonfrozen food items in the coming months, Farrington said.

Working with North Brookfield Public Schools, the collaborative has been able to utilize space at the school district's two food pantries, and gets weekly help unloading donations from both the students and staff.

"Tim has generously allowed us to be here," Farrington said of Superintendent Tim McCormick.

McCormick said the school district's food pantries have benefited from the collaborative to ensure that students have access to food, and that donations for the schools' pantries are always accepted from the community both after and during school

See TURKEYS, page 6

Christmas time has come to Hardwick



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

Santa Claus and friends arrived to the center of Hardwick for the town's Christmas on the Common event.

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

HARDWICK – The annual Christmas on the Common event took place this past Sunday in the center of Hardwick.

There was much to celebrate on the first day of December, which was chilly and beginning to feel like winter. Many residents gathered to watch the parade where Santa Claus and his friends would arrive on a hayride through the Town Common.

Santa was joined by Mrs. Claus, The Grinch, a snowman and many adorable children who were part of the hayride. The parade would stop at Santa Claus House, where many kids could go and visit Santa and get a picture with him.

While the kids got to go see Santa, there was a gingerbread house contest taking place. A total of 19 houses were entered and judges picked the three winners. Guests got to participate in a fan



The Grinch arrived during the Hardwick Christmas on the Common.

favorite vote to determine their favorite gingerbread house. The three winners were awarded for being the most colorful, the most creative and the funniest.

Guests also got to participate in raffles as prizes were displayed all over the bench seats upstairs in the

Town House.

A traditional element that is part of Christmas on the Common in Hardwick is the annual Cookie Walk. The Town House turned into

See CHRISTMAS IN HARDWICK, page 8



News of the Towns



Round Town
Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

American Legion Auxiliary meets Dec. 9
The American Legion Auxiliary, Barre Unit 2 Christmas meeting will be held on Monday, Dec. 9 at the Legion Post 2, 450 South Barre Road.
They will be enjoying pizza and desserts at 6 p.m. Those that wish to take part in the Yankee Swap should bring a wrapped or bagged present to participate.

Circle of Song
Circle of Song will perform "Requiem for the Living" on Saturday, Dec 14 at 7 p.m. in the Barre Town Hall, 2 Exchange St., Barre. "Requiem for the Living," a choral composition in five movements, was completed in 2013. "Requiem for the Living" is an extended setting of the Requiem, a Mass for the dead in the Catholic Church. In the Circle of Song performance of "Requiem for the Living," solos will be performed by Karen Guertin, Marna Mucha, Anne Kneeland, Nancy Afonso, Mark Doyle and Jennifer Williams. Under the direction of the COS pianist, Cailan McClure, "Aint a That Good News" and Ave Maria will also be sung. If people are interested in joining Circle of Song, they may email Julie Rawson, director, at julie@mhof.net, call 978-257-1192 or show up at the Barre Town Hall, 2 Exchange St., on Thursday, Jan. 16 at 7 p.m. To learn more about Circle of Song visit <https://circleofsong.net/>.

Barre Food Pantry
The next two Barre Food Pantry distributions will occur on Wednesday, Dec 11 from 10-11:30 a.m. and on Thursday, Dec. 19 from 5:30-7 p.m. at the Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St. Clients are invited to pick up groceries from the food pantry either in the morning on Wednesday, Dec. 11 or in the evening on Thursday, Dec. 19, whichever is more convenient for them. In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients Dec. 11 and Dec. 19 will again be "drive-through" style distributions.

Clients will line up in their vehicles on Park Street and proceed into the right hand (east) entrance driveway of the Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St.

They will remain in their cars. They'll drive up and be checked in by a volunteer, then continue up to the church building where their groceries will be put into the trunk or wayback of their vehicle by volunteers at multiple stations. On Tuesday night, Dec. 10 at 5 p.m. the Barre Food Pantry will be gathering volunteers at the Barre Congregational Church to unload incoming groceries from their truck, to sort through donated groceries, to pre-fill grocery bags and in other ways to prepare for the distribution the following morning. If people can help pitch in for an hour on Dec. 10, they should call Sonja Blaney at 978-355-6921. People should not arrive to volunteer on Dec. 10, 11 or 19 without first calling Sonja Blaney at 978-355-6921 or Chuck Radlo at 978-355-6463.

250th Masquerade Ball
Barre's 250th Anniversary Committee is hosting a New Year's Eve Masquerade Ball at the stunning Harding Allen Estate in Barre. This special event is the perfect way to end an amazing year of celebrations marking Barre's 250th anniversary. The event is black tie preferred and is being held from on New Year's Eve, Dec. 31 from 8 p.m.-12:30 a.m. Tickets are \$45 a person and include dinner, dancing, champagne toast at midnight and a fun-filled night with live music and a D.J. Tickets for this event are available now in limited quantities by visiting www.hardingalleneate.com. The evening promises an unforgettable celebration.



Clean Out Solutions
Basement, Attic, Shed & Whole House Cleanouts
Shed, Pool & Hot Tub Removals
Arthur "Skip" Gervais
(774)397-6500

Small group visits ancient black gum tree



On Friday, Nov. 29 Tom Rawinski lead this group to the 550 plus year old black gum tree located in Oakham. They are shown posing by the black gum tree.

Photo by Tom Rawinski

Circle of Song to perform 'Requiem for the Living' Dec. 14

BARRE – On Saturday, Dec. 14 at 7 p.m., the Circle of Song will be performing Dan Forrest's "Requiem for the Living" in the Town Hall, 2 Exchange St.

"Requiem for the Living," a choral composition in five movements, was completed in 2013. The Latin text that Forrest set combines sections from the Requiem with biblical texts from Ecclesiastes – (Vanity of Vanities, All is Meaningless) and the Book of Job (the problem of evil).

"Requiem for the Living" is an extended setting of the Requiem, a Mass for the dead in the Catholic Church. Forrest took some parts from the Requiem Mass, however arranged in different order and added a movement, "Vanitas

Vanitatum," as the second movement. The five movements are "Introit- Kyrie," "Vanitas Vanitatum," "Agnus Dei," "Sanctus" and "Lux Aeterna."

The first movement uses the traditional text Introit and Kyrie from the Requiem. The second movement deals with the transience of everything living. The third movement is Agnus Dei, normally found towards the end of a Requiem and requesting the Lamb of God to grant mercy and eternal rest. The fourth movement is Sanctus. The text "Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua" (Heaven and Earth are full of your glory) is set to music inspired by images taken from the Hubble Space Telescope and the imagination of a city full of life. The final movement, Lux Aeterna (Eternal light) also

includes text from the Gospel of Matthew, "Come unto me, all ye that labour."

In the Circle of Song performance of "Requiem for the Living," solos will be performed by Karen Guertin, Marna Mucha, Anne Kneeland, Nancy Afonso, Mark Doyle and Jennifer Williams.

Under the direction of the COS pianist, Cailan McClure, "Aint a That Good News" and Ave Maria will also be sung.

If people are interested in joining Circle of Song, they may email Julie Rawson, director, at julie@mhof.net, call 978-257-1192 or show up at the Barre Town Hall, 2 Exchange St., on Thursday, Jan. 16 at 7 p.m. To learn more about Circle of Song visit <https://circleofsong.net/>.

No. 4 Schoolhouse to hold Christmas party

BARRE – The No. 4 Schoolhouse, 209 Farrington Road, will hold their annual Christmas Party on Sunday, Dec. 15 at 3 p.m.

The festivities begin at 3 p.m. with an outdoor family craft, weather permitting. At 3:30 p.m., they will go inside to sing Christmas carols. At 4 p.m.

Santa will arrive.

All are welcome to this event. An RSVP must be received for all children 12 years and under to ensure the elves pack Santa's sack with a gift for every child 12 years old and younger. Reservations must be received by Tuesday, Dec. 10 by emailing no4schoolhouse@gmail.com or text Allison at 508-523-5850. They should include the child's name and age.

People are welcome to bring a snack to share. The No. 4 Schoolhouse group will be selling winter raffle tickets at this event. The raffle drawing will be held Dec. 17.

SUBMISSIONS ALWAYS WELCOME

Send your stories and photos to edowner@turley.com

Hubbardston

Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com



Senior Center holds fair

The Hubbardston Senior Center's annual Christmas Fair will held Saturday, Dec. 7 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Senior Center, 7 Main St. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be there from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. for photo opportunities and to say hello. There will be handcrafted goods from local crafters for purchase. Luncheon will be Hunter's stew served with slices of fresh, homemade bread. There will be raffles and a lottery tree.

Holiday craft night

A child's holiday craft night will take place Thursday, Dec. 5 at 5 p.m. at the Hubbardston Public Library. This special event is hosted as part of Quabbin High School student Izzy LaBelle's community service showcasing the incredible impact the students have on the local community. All ages are welcome.

Hubbardston Light Fight

Dec. 6, 7 and 8; Dec. 13, 14 and 15 and Dec. 20, 21 and 22 from 5-9 p.m. people grab a map and travel around town looking at those who entered the holiday decorating contest. Categories are traditional-classic, go big or stay home and brightest bulb (business category). For more information, people may email hubbardston250@gmail.com.

Senior Center

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

Library story time to be held on Dec. 16

NEW BRAINTREE – The New Braintree Public Library, 45 Memorial Drive, is offering a Story Time program for preschoolers on Monday, Dec. 16 beginning at 9 a.m.

The program's focus is on Christmas and will include a sing-along program with Rich Hennessy and his ukulele. The readings will include "Bear Stays up for Christmas" by Karma Wilson and "Mouse's First Christmas" by Lauren Thompson.

Parental supervision is required for this reading and craft program. People may call the library at 508-867-7650 during regular business hours for more information.

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. 9. 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, Mandarin oranges, Italian bread

TUESDAY – Teriyaki beef, steamed rice, broccoli, vanilla mousse, fortune cookie, whole wheat bread

WEDNESDAY – Chicken Milano, wild rice, spinach, brownie, diet = half piece, pumpernickel bread

THURSDAY – Salisbury steak with gravy, garlic mashed potatoes, pear crisp, diet = pears, sandwich roll

FRIDAY – Macaroni and cheese, stewed tomatoes, Capri blend vegetables, fresh fruit, marble rye bread

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

Editorial deadline reminder

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



Local Police Depts collecting unwrapped toys & K9 dogs demonstrations

HARDWICK CROSSING
EST. 2022

FREE PHOTOS WITH SANTA, HAY RIDES, 40+ VENDORS, COOKIE DECORATING & CRAFTS

Join us for a weekend of **Christmas Joy**...
Saturday & Sunday, December 14th & 15th • 12-5pm
RESERVATIONS RECOMMENDED FOR SEATING IN RESTAURANT.
Vendor applications – cletendre@hardwickcrossing.com

SANTA ARRIVING AT 1 P.M.

OPEN 7 DAYS FOR LUNCH, DINNER & GOLF
Specials Posted on Facebook & Instagram

Monday - 6:30 p.m. TRIVIA NIGHT
Large Wedding & Event Hall Available
BLACK FRIDAY Gift Card Deals Available

Wednesday - 6:30 p.m. MUSIC BINGO
Visit Our Website For More Details

Prime Rib
Every Thursday, Friday & Saturday
Online Ordering
& Curbside Pick-up Available

COUNTRY CLUB
262 Lower Road, Gilbertville
774-757-8907 • Pro Shop 774-261-2634
hardwickcrossing.com

Let Us Sweeten Your Holiday

- ★ Handmade Chocolates
- ★ Decadent Truffles
- ★ Fresh Roasted Nuts
- ★ Chocolate Santas

As Seen On Chronicle and in Yankee Magazine

Priscilla
Hand Made Candies

4 Main St., Gardner, MA • 978-632-7148
www.priscillacandy.com

Mon. through Fri. 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Sat. 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Sun. 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Celebrating 87 years in Gardner

CHECK OUT ALL THE

Turley Publications
www.turley.com

Free Estimates Fully Insured
Compare Our Rates References Provided

Gabe's
HARDWOOD FLOORS

Luxury Vinyl Plank • Install & Refinish • Stains
Bathroom Remodeling • We Supply Flooring

Installed • Finished • Custom Designed Floors
General Carpentry • Water Damage Restoration
We Install New & Refurbish Old Stairs

Michael P. Gabaree
Owner - Operator
508-886-4767
508-320-4744
gabeshardwoodfloors.com

News of the Towns

PUBLIC MEETINGS

BARRE

QRSD Policy and Review/Reform Subcommittee – Dec. 9 at 6:30 p.m.
 Water Commission – Dec. 9 at 6:30 p.m.
 DPW Commission – Dec. 9 at 7 p.m.
 Cable Advisory Committee – Dec. 10 at 7 p.m.
 Conservation Committee – Dec. 10 at 7 p.m.
 250th Anniversary Committee – Dec. 11 at 6:30 p.m.
 Library Trustees – Dec. 11 at 6:30 p.m.
 Barre Housing Authority – Dec. 12 and Jan. 9, 2025 at 1 p.m.
 Select Board – Dec. 17 at 6:30 p.m.
 Planning Board – Dec. 17 at 7 p.m.
 Sewer Commission – Dec. 19 at 7 p.m.
 Cemetery Commission – Dec. 26 at 11 a.m.

HARDWICK

Historical Commission – Dec. 5 at 7 p.m.
 Paige Library Trustees – Dec. 5 at 7 p.m.
 Hardwick New Braintree Cultural Council – Dec. 9 at 6:30 p.m.
 Planning Board – Dec. 10 at 6:30 p.m.
 Gilbertville Public Library – Dec. 11 at 4 p.m.
 Master Plan Steering Committee – Dec. 12 at 6:30 p.m.
 Board of Health – Dec. 12 at 6:45 p.m.
 Capital Planning Committee – Dec. 16 at 3 p.m.
 Wheelwright Water District – Dec. 16 at 7 p.m.
 Gilbertville Water District – Dec. 17 at 5:30 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – Dec. 18 at 6:30 p.m.
 Recycling Commission – Jan. 7, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

HUBBARDSTON

Public Safety Building Committee – Dec. 5 at 5:30 p.m.
 Library Trustees – Dec. 5 at 7 p.m.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

Finance Committee – Dec. 5 at 6 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Dec. 9 at 2 p.m.
 Sewer Commissioner – Dec. 10 at 4 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – Dec. 10 at 7 p.m.
 Board of Selectmen – Dec. 17 and Dec. 31 at 6 p.m.
 Planning Board – Dec. 18 at 6 p.m.

OAKHAM

Select Board – Dec. 9 and Dec. 23 at 6 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Dec. 13 at noon
 Planning Board – Dec. 17 at 7 p.m.

PETERSHAM

Select Board – Dec. 5, Dec. 19 and Jan. 2, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.
 Board of Health – Dec. 5 at 6 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Dec. 9 at 10 a.m.
 Cemetery Commission – Dec. 10 at 10 a.m.
 Cultural Council – Dec. 11 at noon
 Board of Assessors – Dec. 13 at 9 a.m.
 Petersham Historic District – Dec. 19 at 6 p.m.

RUTLAND

Rutland Development and Industrial Commission – Dec. 5 at 6 p.m.

Barre BOH Shred Day is Dec. 7

BARRE The Barre Board of Health will be hosting a shred event open to Barre town offices, residents and town businesses on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 10 a.m.-noon in the parking lot of the Henry Woods Building, 40 West St.

The event is free; there is a limit of two banker boxes (24x12x10) per household or business. For further information, people may call the Board of Health at 978-355-2504, extension 117 or email boardofhealth@townofbarre.com.

Hardwick Community Church's quarterly meeting is Dec. 8

HARDWICK – The quarterly meeting of the Hardwick Community Church will be held on Sunday, Dec. 8, at noon at the Hardwick Universalist Church on the knoll.

Acting officers will update church members on the financial status, repairs to the Calvinist Church building and any other items which may arise.

It is thought the federation of the two churches on Hardwick's Common may have occurred in 1721 before the U.S. was a nation. History will become a major focus as revival of community continues as the Hardwick Community Church.

All interested parties in this historic collaboration are welcome to attend.

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

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

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

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

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.

Tim Mara and Michelle Biron receive Joseph J. Camarda Fellowship award

BARRE – The Barre Lions Club honored two of its members on Wednesday, Nov. 20 with prestigious Joseph J. Camarda Fellowship awards.

Lions Tim Mara and Michelle Biron were both presented with recognition plaques and blue lapel pins. Tim has been a member of the BLC for almost 20 years and has served the club well with his participation in many public service activities over the years. He has been the BLC's top liaison in scheduling activities with the Barre Police and the Barre Selectmen. Tim is a two-time Past President of The Barre Lions Club and recently retired as a long time Sales Representative for the Barre Gazette.

Michelle Biron has been a member of the BLC for almost

seven years and is currently serving in her fourth year as Treasurer of the BLC. Michelle is extremely reliable and carries out all tasks in a timely fashion and with precision. She has provided the Lions Club with great ideas, continuity and continues to serve the BLC and the Barre community with pride. She is currently employed by Holden Hearing Aid Center as a sales associate.

The Joseph J. Camarda Award is awarded when a Lions Club wishes to honor someone that it deems worthy of recognition. This person can be a Lion or a non-Lion and was designed to let the recipient know that his/her contributions to society are recognized. Joseph J. Camarda was a member of the Leicester Lions Club, who was held in the highest esteem

by all of the Lions of District 33A. He was an International Director and was on his way to becoming President of Lions Club International until he was forced to back out due to health concerns. His love for Lionism was so strong and he wished to serve all of mankind. Receiving this award is a great honor and the Barre Lions Club is happy to introduce Tim Mara and Michelle Biron as Joseph J. Camarda Fellows.

The Barre Lions Club meets on the third Wednesday of every month at the Barre Congregational Church at 6:30 p.m.. People are welcome to visit or to introduce themselves to the BLC.

All are welcome. People may call Jean Alman, Membership Chair, at 978-355-2720 if interested in joining.

Food Pantry will hold distributions on Dec. 11 and Dec. 19

BARRE – The next two Barre Food Pantry distributions will occur on Wednesday, Dec 11 from 10-11:30 a.m. and on Thursday, Dec. 19 from 5:30-7 p.m.

Clients are invited to pick up groceries from the food pantry either in the morning on Wednesday, Dec. 11 or in the evening on Thursday, Dec. 19, whichever is more convenient for them. The Barre Food Pantry volunteers strive to continue to fulfill their mission to get food to hungry and food insecure clients. The Barre Food Pantry Board of Directors considered changing how the pantry currently operates, but decided that the most responsible path forward is to continue to operate as they have since March of 2020.

In order to maintain safe

physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients Dec. 11 and Dec. 19 will again be "drive-through" style distributions. Clients will line up in their vehicles on Park Street and proceed into the right hand (east) entrance driveway of the Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St.

They will remain in their cars. They'll drive up and be checked in by a volunteer, then continue up to the church building where their groceries will be put into the trunk or wayback of their vehicle by volunteers at multiple stations.

On Tuesday night, Dec. 10 at 5 p.m. the Barre Food Pantry will be gathering volunteers at the Barre Congregational Church to unload incoming gro-

ceries from their truck, to sort through donated groceries, to pre-fill grocery bags and in other ways to prepare for the distribution the following morning. If people can help pitch in for an hour on Dec. 10, they should call Sonja Blaney at 978-355-6921.

People should not arrive to volunteer on Dec. 10, 11 or 19 without first calling Sonja Blaney at 978-355-6921 or Chuck Radlo at 978-355-6463.

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

Paige Memorial Library list upcoming events

HARDWICK – During this season of giving, the Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, has a Holiday Hostess Basket to give away.

The basket is on display at the library. Stop by and make a monetary donation and receive a ticket for every dollar for chances to take home the basket with lots of fun items for entertaining. All donations will be given to the Hardwick Food Pantry. The drawing will be Saturday, Dec. 7.

On Saturday, Dec. 14 at 11 a.m. Jayne Foley returns to guide participants in making a Christmas tree. This is a fun

activity appropriate for children. People should register in person at the library or by calling 413-477-6705 so that there will be sufficient materials for all. They should bring buttons if they have some.

Ongoing activities include a weekly children's hour on Wednesdays at 11 a.m., which features art and science activities. Toys, puzzles and LEGOS are also available. The Paige Book Club meets monthly on the third Wednesday, Dec. 18 at 2 p.m.

The Paige Writers group meets on alternating Tuesdays at 3 p.m. The Cookbook Club meets monthly on the last Wednesday at

5:30 p.m. They will not meet on Dec. 25 due to the holiday.

The Fundamentals of ART a studio workshop for creating art and improving skills is open for all levels of expertise and a variety of art media and materials or people may bring their own project. Register for Tuesday or Thursday evenings at 6 p.m. once a month. They may also register for Family Game Night or "Away for a Day" Travel Club.

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

First Congregational to participate in White Christmas festivities

WEST BROOKFIELD – The First Congregational Church of West Brookfield, 36 North Main St., will host an open house on Sunday, Dec. 8 from 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m. during the town's White Christmas celebration.

The kitchen opens at noon and the menu includes: a plentiful and delicious hot turkey sandwich with stuffing, gravy and cranberry sauce, hot dogs and chili dogs, homemade chicken soup and corn chow-

der, chicken, egg and ham salad sandwiches, homemade pie - apple, blueberry and pumpkin, a variety of hot and cold drinks.

They will also offer a huge gift card raffle, a concert by a performance by the Hardwick Memorial Handbell Choir at 3 p.m., a Christmas carol sing along with free cookies and cocoa at 4 p.m., "Find-the-Elf" for the kids, free door prize raffle and a bountiful baked-goods table.

A special treat this year, is a raffle for a gorgeous handmade quilt. The pattern name is Pineapple Blossom and measures approximately 61 inches by 71 inches.

DJ Mic will be spinning Christmas tunes, and the atmosphere will be festive and cheery. The church is a wonderful place to be to welcome in the holiday season.

Call the church for more information at 508-867-7078.

Oakham

Ellenor Downer
 edowner@turley.com



Sunday School to hold Christmas pageant

The Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road, will hold their annual Christmas pageant on Sunday, Dec. 15 during the 10 a.m. worship service. This Sunday, Dec. 8 children will be assigned pageant parts. There will be no Sunday School Dec. 22, 29 and Jan. 5. Sunday School will resume Sunday, Jan. 12.

Christmas trees and wreaths

Dismas Farm, 687 Lincoln Road, will be selling Christmas trees and wreaths on Saturdays and Sundays, Dec. 7 and 8 from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. There will be homemade Christmas crafts, cookies, cocoa and hayrides.

OHA lottery tickets

The 20/20 lottery tickets, sponsored by the Oakham Historical Association, will start Tuesday, Jan. 7. Tickets are \$20 apiece, if their number is drawn, participants will receive a check for \$50 from the OHA. There are two drawings per week starting Tuesday, Jan 7 through Thursday, March 13. There is no limit to the number of times people can win. People can send a check to the Oakham Historical Association, P.O. Box 236, Oakham, MA 01068. They should include a SASE with the check. For questions, people may call Kathy Young at 508-882-3137.

Festivals of Lessons and Carols

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

COA events

The following are the Senior Center activities for December: podiatry from 9 a.m.-2.30 p.m. (call for appointment) and fourth Tuesday of the month blood pressure/glucose testing from 11 a.m.-noon. At the Rutland Senior Center activities are Wednesday Zumba Gold at 9 a.m. \$2 donation per class,

Wednesday Zumba Gold at 9 a.m. in the Rutland; second Thursday of the month blood pressure at 11 a.m. and third Thursday of the month SHINE from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. reservations are required. At the New Braintree Town Hall on Fridays, Functional Fitness takes place at 10.30 a.m., \$2 donation per class. Lunch Bunch, a group lunch at a local restaurant, will meet on Thursday, Dec. 19 at 12:30 p.m. for December only. Sign up is required. Sign up sheets are in the main room of the Oakham Senior

Center. Lunch Bunch for December will be at Barber's Crossing. People should bring cash to make settling their bill easier as the restaurant will not issue individual bills.

For sign ups that can't be made at the Senior Center or for required reservations or for more information on offerings, people may call the Senior Center 508-882-4073 and leave a message or email COA@Oakham-MA.gov. The COA is interested in starting a yoga class with eight sessions after the new year. People should all the Senior Center if they are interested, leave their phone number or email at COA@Oakham-MA.gov and the COA will notify them when they have cost and schedule details. 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.

Annual Stuff a Cruiser toy drive is Dec. 8

HARDWICK – The South Barre Rod and Gun Club, 2626 Barre Road (Route 32), will host the annual Stuff a Cruiser event to benefit the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department's Christmas for Kids Program on Sunday, Dec. 8 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

This event helps give kids in the Hardwick and New Braintree communities a wonderful Christmas holiday.

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 2 meets Dec. 9

BARRE The American Legion Auxiliary, Barre Unit 2 Christmas meeting will be held on Monday, Dec. 9 at the Legion Post 2, 450 South Barre Road.

They will be enjoying pizza and desserts at 6 p.m. Those that wish to take part in the Yankee Swap should bring a wrapped or bagged present to participate.

We Are Open Year Round! 9-5 In North Brookfield

Brookfield Orchards

Follow signs from Rts 9, 31, 67 or 148

Order Your Holiday Pies and Treats

Apple Dumplings • Cakes
Cider Donuts

Fudge

Apple Gift Baskets

Made to order
Cheese, jelly, maple, relish, etc. can be added. Must be picked up.

Snack Bar!! Hot Apple Dumplings with Ice Cream Cheese & Cider

508.867.6858 • 877.622.7555

www.browsethebrookfields.com • www.brookfieldorchards.com

J & J Family Restaurant

815 Worcester Rd., (Route 122), Barre • 978-355-2122

BREAKFAST All Day

Available for Small Holiday Parties

Gift Certificates • Take-Out Menu

Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.;
 Friday & Saturday 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.; Sunday 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Opinion

Guest Column



By Russell Gloor

Am I entitled to more Social Security from my ex-husbands?

Dear Rusty:

I am 76 years old and a retired high school counselor/teacher. I was married to my first husband from 1968 until 1981. He is still living and he remarried two more times and, I believe, he is currently divorced. He is 77 years old. His income was always much higher than mine. I was married to my second husband from May 1989 until we divorced in April 2017. My second husband died in June 2023. What I wonder is if I am entitled to receive Social Security benefits based upon the income of either of my ex-husbands?

Signed: Twice Divorced Spouse

Dear Twice Divorced:

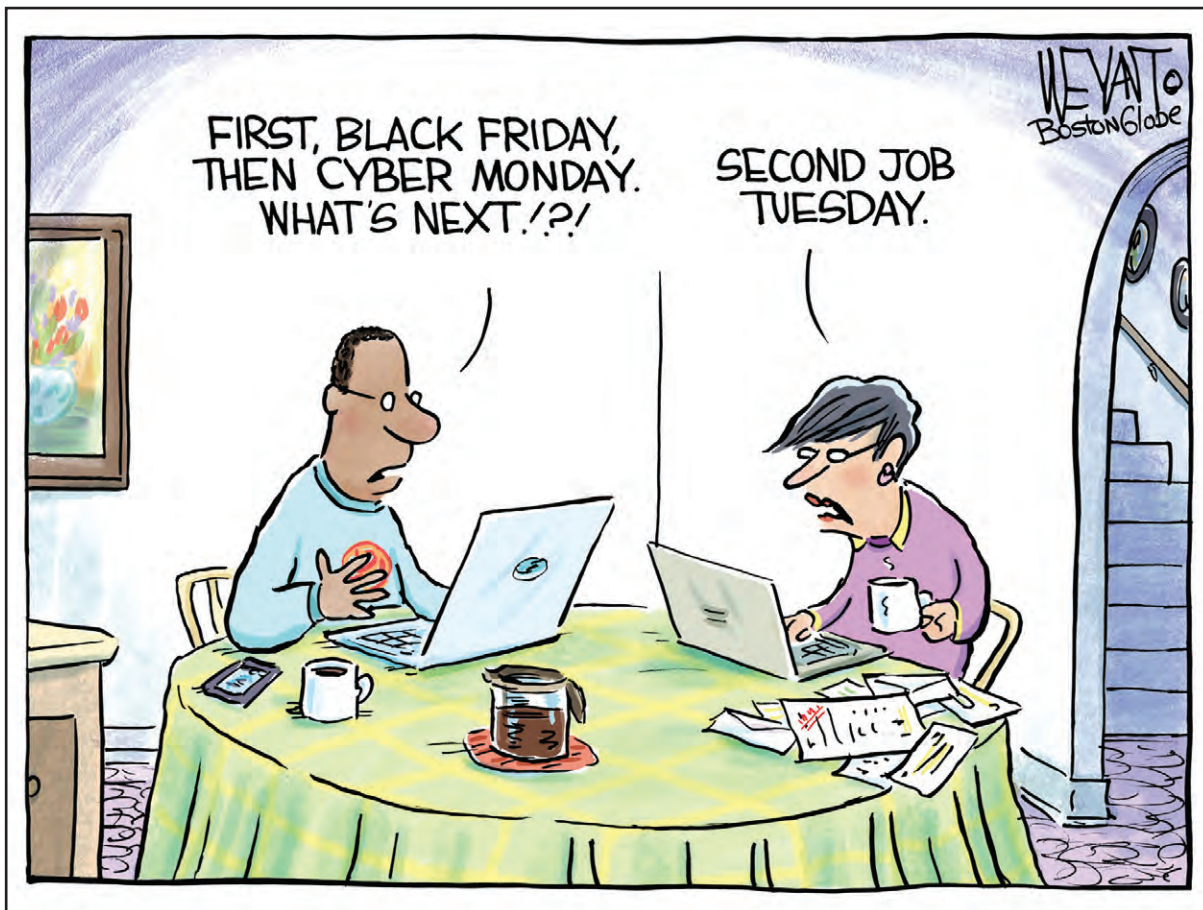
Divorced spouses are entitled to the same benefits as a current spouse if their marriage lasted at least 10 years which, in both cases, yours did. The other caveat is whether your own SS retirement benefit is less than you are entitled to from either of your ex-husbands. If your own SS retirement benefit is less, then you will get an incremental amount on top of your own SS retirement to bring your total monthly benefit up to your spousal or surviving spouse) entitlement.

Since your first husband is still living, it is likely that your best financial option is to claim a surviving ex-spouse benefit from your deceased second husband. The reason is that survivor benefits from husband # 2 are based on his actual benefit at his death, whereas benefits from a living ex-spouse, husband #1, are based upon his full retirement amount. In other words, it is likely that 100% of deceased husband #2's benefit at his death is more than 50% of living husband #1's current benefit at his Full Retirement Age.

It is, of course, possible that 50% of your first husband's FRA entitlement is more than 100% of your second husband's benefit at death, in which case your ex-spouse benefit from your first husband could be more. The only way to sort this out is to contact Social Security at -.800-772-1213 to make an appointment to apply for surviving ex-spouse benefits from your deceased second husband. Explain that your first ex-husband is still living and that you are unsure of what your benefits are as your first husband's ex-spouse.

Social Security will be able to determine from their records, which one provides you with a higher benefit amount, provide each husband's Social Security number when you call. As I said, your best financial option will likely be to take your survivor benefit from your deceased second ex-husband note, however, if your first ex-husband also dies before you, you can subsequently file for a survivor benefit from him, if that is more than you are getting from your second husband's record.

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



In Past Pages

5 years (Dec. 12, 2019)

Oakham Selectmen went with the assessor's recommendation and approved a single tax rate. Assessor Diane Peterson said the town always maintained a single tax rate. Only 28% of taxable property was commercial and industrial, she said. If approved by the Department of Revenue, the tax rate this year would be \$13.54 per thousand of valuation. It is lower than last year's rate of \$14.51 per thousand of valuation as property evaluations went up about 6.5%.

Almost two feet of snow that fell earlier in the week did not stop Christmas in Barre from happening last Saturday. "This is something we never anticipated and we will just have to let it play out an ad hoc the best we can on Saturday," said Sandy Hood, a member of the Christmas in Barre Committee, at the beginning of the week. Due to snow, there was no Kids Obstacle course on the Common. It did not stop the Barre Lions Club and Mt. Zion Lodge Masons from selling Christmas trees. The Lions Club also served breakfast sandwiches early in the morning and hotdogs at noon. The parade happened anyway thanks to the efforts by the Barre Department of Public Works to clear pathways, sidewalks and road.

It has been 25 years since the Oakham Congregational Church began its annual Festival of Lessons and Carols, performed by church and community singers. In 1995 Dawn Thistle, organist and choir director, wanted to offer the community a musical way to observe Advent and prepare for the Christmas celebration. Since then musicians, readers and the audience joined together for this special seasonal event. The early Oakham programs were accompanied only by piano, but over the years other instruments were added. The Festival moved in a new direction in 2009 by featuring a Christmas cantata, "I Hear the Prophet Callin'" by Pepper Choplin, accompanied by full orchestra.

10 years (Dec. 11, 2014)

The Oakham Board of Selectmen worked on the final draft of a letter to be sent to residents of Forest Hill Drive outlining the process from changing the cul-de-sac from a private way to a public one. Both the Planning Board and Highway Superintendent recommended to Selectmen that they proceed to seek acceptance for Forest Hill Drive at a Special Town Meeting. At the Nov. 19 STM voters accepted Forest Hill Drive as a public way and authorized the Board to acquire land rights including any drainage, utility access and other easements. The acquisition of all pertinent land rights must be accomplished within 120 calendar days from the STM vote on Nov. 19.

The Heart to Heart Foundation of North Brookfield has been devoted to raising money and subsequently delivering it to families of sick and needy children. This Christmas season, rather than holding its annual

LOOK BACK Legion Post 2 Installation - 1980



File photo

Members of American Legion Post 2 posed for this picture following the installation of officers held Oct. 11, 1980. Pictured from left are, seated, Ralph Willey, Jack Keenan and Stewart Reed and standing, James Sullivan, William Salminen, James Kowal, Charles G. Allen IV and Michael Kowal.

fundraising dinner, the foundation has decided to offer a gift to those who have helped fulfill the mission of the group. A Christmas Special will be held Sunday, Dec. 21 from 1-5 p.m. at the North Brookfield Senior Center. "I wanted the people to have something extra for Christmas," Heart to Heart Founder Dick Fiske said.

The Barre Board of Assessors announces that the tax rate for Fiscal Year 2015 was approved by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue. The rate has been set at \$18.64 per thousand dollars of valuation. The new rate represents an increase of \$2.58 over last year's tax rate. There has been a sizable drop-off in town receipts (landfill tipping fees have ended). In addition, this year payments begin for voted debt exclusions such as the Ruggles Lane roof and window project and the Barre Common Traffic Improvement Project.

25 years (Dec. 9, 1999)

Barre Treasurer Sandra Orszulak said after a very thorough search of her office, she found the 225th anniversary checks worth \$3,470 missing since May wedged between a file cabinet and the wall. She said she would be depositing them that afternoon. According to a letter from the 225th anniversary committee delivered to selectmen Monday night by anniversary committee member Lester Boyer,

11 checks were turned over to the Town Treasurer on May 11. As of Nov. 27, none had been deposited.

A packed house of voters turned down the proposal of the Ralph C. Mahar School Building Committee to be partners in a \$32 million bond issue for rebuilding and improvement. As a member of the school district since its inception in 1947, Petersham had to vote in favor, as did the other three towns, to give the project the go ahead. Wendell and New Salem had previously voted to approve the bond. Orange, voting later than Petersham, declined, feeling that the considerable jump in taxes was unsustainable in an area considered low in industry and business.

38 years (Dec. 11, 1986)

The Barre Sewer Commission has just received its largest single amount of funding to date, \$329,000, and construction is set to begin "any moment" according to Kathlin Inman, Chairman of the Barre Sewer Commission. According to Inman, the grant will help to defer actual construction costs as well as provide funding for a "rehabilitation program." The rehabilitation program will allow low and moderate income individuals to afford sewer hookup through outright grants and low interest

See PAST PAGES, page 5

Election letters to the editor welcome

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

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

Campaign news

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

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

Guest Column

My Adventurous Spirit Came Early

By Eric Goodhart
Correspondent

Note:
A neighbor had 24 family and friends over on Thanksgiving and we were all asked to write a memory to share. This was mine.



Not long after my 1942 arrival on Earth in Brooklyn, New York, I got hit by the travel bug.

In fact, it was 3 1/2 years later, in late September 1945. My dad was just sent by President Truman as part of the medical team to Hiroshima and Nagasaki to study the medical effects on the survivors of the atomic bombs that the US dropped on those Japanese cities in August 1945.

I got a terrific "state-of-the-art" tricycle on my third birthday the previous May. I had already gotten bored riding up and down my street. Because I knew my father would be away for the rest of the month, I decided to explore more of my town of Silver Spring, Maryland, where we moved after my birth. He had joined the Army and Navy Medical Corps, based in Washington, D.C.

I did not intend to go far, but wanderlust must have taken over as I pedaled along. I believe I started my excursion around 1 p.m. My older brother was with mom inside the house. It did not occur to me to tell them what I planned to do before I started.

About three hours later, a police car with flashing lights loomed behind me. By then, I was heading south on busy Route 1, which was a two-lane road at the time. I was on the side of the road in what I learned later was the breakdown lane.

For the first time, the Maryland police tracked me down using a two-way radio. When Mom finally realized I was no longer outside the house, she called the neighbors and then the police. She gave them my description. That did it. They got me. I was about five miles from home.

They took me to the police station and gave me a coffee ice cream cone, my favorite even today. My mom didn't drive a car. A neighbor drove her and my brother to the station to regain custody. My father's reception was not as pleasant a month later.

The memorable thing about all this is that it was the first time a two-way police radio was used to locate and capture a fleeing suspect from a place where he had been held hostage for over three years. The local news quickly picked it up. Eventually, the story found its way into a very short article in the back of the New Yorker magazine.

I am planning my next wanderlust excursion on an Indian motorcycle. This time, it will have technology that will make me invisible to satellite tracking.

Corrections policy

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

Turley Publications Letters to the Editor Policy

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

BARRE GAZETTE TEAM



EDITOR
Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

ADVERTISING SALES
Dan Flynn
dflynn@turley.com

SPORTS EDITOR
Greg Scibelli
sports@turley.com

The Barre Gazette (USPS 044560) is published every Thursday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069.

@ Barre Gazette
WEB
www.barregazette.turley.com

PATRICK H. TURLEY
CEO

KEITH TURLEY
President

DEANNA SLOAT
Graphics Manager

Turley Publications, Inc.
www.turley.com
Turley Publications, Inc. cannot assume liability for the loss of photographs or other materials submitted for publication. Materials will not be returned except upon specific request when submitted.

Tell Us What You Think

Share your thoughts and suggestions with our staff and your fellow readers. Participate in our opinion pages, or contact us anytime with your feedback!

Barre Gazette
Your Community Newspaper

www.barregazette.turley.com
edowner@turley.com • 413.967.3505

PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID AT BARRE, MA
The Barre Gazette is a weekly newspaper published every Thursday by Barre Gazette, Inc., with offices located at 5 Exchange St., Barre, MA 01005 and at 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069. Telephone at 978-355-4000 or FAX at 978-355-6274. USPS number is 044-560. Postmaster: Send address changes to: Barre Gazette, 24 Water St. Palmer, MA 01069 \$1.00 per copy Subscription rate: \$33 for one year, \$44 for two years Out of State: \$38 for one year, \$54 for two years

Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

Did you remember to change your calendar to December.

Once Thanksgiving is over Christmas is not far behind. I have put up all the decorations for the holiday except the tree. That will probably go up this week. I plan to make sprays for the door and upper deck, instead of wreaths like I usually make. Sharon, my helper on Tuesday and Friday helped me put up the Old Sturbridge Village and I put up the Nativity under the television set.

I have several quilts with a holiday theme on the banister and will put up the Log Cabin quilt closer to Christmas. It has a lot of red in it so I will wait until later to put it up. It was made by my great aunt on the Adams side of my family and I treasure it dearly.

I have the snowman display in the den and the red cardinal wallhanging behind Ken's lazyboy chair. The angel display is on the stairway. The paperwhite narcissus is budded and ready to bloom. Lots of pink geraniums are in bloom, which is unusual for they usually just bloom when I put them outside.

The kitchen has a gingerbread theme with the lovely gingerbread people and lambs that my friend Cyndee made me many years ago. I have them displayed in a wooden trencher with artificial greens. On the windowsill is a collection of gingerbread people.

I have been going through my large collection of recipe books to see what types of cookies and candies I will make for Christmas. Here is one I plan to make.

BUCK EYES

- 1/2 cup butter
- 1 cup peanut butter
- 2 3/4 cups confectioners' sugar
- 1 tablespoon shortening
- 12 ounces chocolate chips

Mix the peanut butter, butter and sugar together until play dough consistency. Roll into balls and place on a tray lined with waxed paper. Place tray in freezer. Melt chocolate and shortening and roll balls in mixture until covered. Place tray in refrigerator.

This and That

I have a couple of people on my Christmas list that are hard to find gifts for so I have decided to make copies of their mates early photographs and put them in an album. It is a timely task, but I believe they will appreciate them. They are all pictures of the person before they met them.

It is time to start collecting the greens for the sprays. On our property, we have holly, laurel, rhododendron, pine and lots of pinecones. I will also put some greens in the windowbox of the wood shed and in a large bucket on the front deck. I do put a floodlight on the door for the holidays, but no lights outside.

How is your Christmas shopping coming along? I use the spare bed to place the wrapped gifts and have about half the shopping done.

We had a very nice Thanksgiving at our youngest daughter's and the food was delicious. I made two appetizers, which turned out tasty. It was nice to get together. Have a restful week.

okay in a well-lit room as well, providing the lights are on for most of the day. Temperatures should range between 60-70 degrees during the day; slightly cooler at night.

It is important that the Norfolk Island pine be kept from temps below 50 degrees for any length of time or injury may occur. Therefore, be sure it is in a bag or protective sleeve when you bring it home from the store in chilly winter weather.

Keep its soil moist but not soaking wet. Sometimes lower limbs may brown and then drop. Age, as well as erratic watering can cause this problem. Repot and check watering practices.

Fertilize in the spring, once active growth resumes. Perhaps the most cherished of all tender herbs is Rosemary (*Rosemarinus officinalis*), the herb of remembrance. Its needle like leaves and fragrant foliage make it a wonderful candidate for use as a table top Christmas tree!

One of the more common questions when people toured Old Sturbridge Village's greenhouse in the off-season, was "How do you manage to overwinter your rosemarys? They are some of the biggest I've ever seen!"

In a controlled setting such as a greenhouse, it's really not that difficult. Tender plants can be given as much sun as Mother Nature provides, but with the use of thermostats and vents, temperatures can be kept to a minimum.

We set the thermostat at 55 degree night temperatures, and vents opened when daytime heat reaches seventy. Low temperatures like these won't push the plants into growth when winter day length and daylight can't support it. Because of this the plants are stocky, not lanky.

We watered when the soil is dry to the touch – sometimes this might be as infrequently as twice a week during an overcast stretch, or as often as every day if the sun is out. For home culture, a sunny but cool locale is best.

For me, it's my "mudroom!" One treat that many gardeners don't get to appreciate is the beautiful blue flowers that are borne on the plant in the short days of winter. Legend ties the plant to the Virgin Mary, saying that flowers that were originally white were turned to blue when she spread her cloak on its branches.

Yet another reason that makes it a great choice for a mini Christmas tree!

With any luck, a Norfolk Island pine and Rosemary can go from being great Christmas decorations to wonderful year round houseplants.

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.



Live tabletop Christmas trees become year-round houseplants

Norfolk Island pines are nearly as popular as poinsettias this time of year, gracing chain store and supermarket shelves just after the Thanksgiving holiday, or perhaps soon after Halloween, these days!

Not sure exactly what they look like? Think mini Christmas tree.

These cute conifers come table top ready, predecorated with tiny little ornaments and a festive foil sleeve. Most stand less than a foot tall, yet the amount of holiday cheer the bring to someone who otherwise wouldn't have a Christmas tree is immeasurable.

Unlike cut Christmas trees, potted Norfolk Island Pines need not be discarded once the holidays have passed. Simply take their decorations off and they become an easy to maintain houseplant.

Although they look as if they would be hardy to our area, they are not, so don't plan on giving them a spot outdoors come springtime, or you'll lose them with the first hard frost of fall. Norfolk Island, from which the plant hails, is situated in the southern Pacific Ocean, northeast of Sydney, Australia – a much warmer climate indeed!

The only locations within the United States that the Norfolk Island pine is hardy are Hawaii, and parts of Florida and California. Southern Florida is home to many commercial growers of the plant.

It is interesting to note that the Norfolk Island pine isn't a true pine at all. Rather it is an evergreen plant with needle-like leaves.

Side branches rise from the main stem at wide angles, giving it a symmetrical, triangular outline, especially when young. In the wild, heights can top off around 200 feet, with diameters between 9 and 10 feet. As a houseplant, it is very slow growing.

To keep your Norfolk Island pine looking its best for seasons to come, provide it with good quality light- a few feet from a south or west facing window is ideal. Give it a quarter turn at each watering and you will be rewarded with a nice straight stem.

If window space is out of the question, it will do

Festival of Trees takes place Dec. 6 to Dec. 8

RUTLAND – The Rutland Historical Society will host its 24th Annual Festival of Trees, Friday Dec. 6 through Sunday, Dec. 8 at the Rutland Public Library, 280 Main St.

Kicking off the event, on Friday Dec. 6 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. will be a concert featuring Booty and the Jett at Lilac Hedge Farm, 216 Wachusett St. There will be food available, fire pits and S'mores to be made. Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$20 for a family and free for children under 5. Tickets will be available at the door or by calling or texting Ben at 774-535-1295 or email, rutlandmafot@gmail.com to reserve a ticket.

Saturday, Dec. 7 from 4-8 p.m., there will be activities for all to enjoy including decorated trees, gingerbread houses, a basket drawing, visit with Santa and his elves, Santa's Sweet Shoppe, S'mores, hot cocoa, food provided by the Boy Scouts, holiday music and more. Also on Dec. 7 at 5 p.m. the CTMS Chorus will perform at the library. At 6 p.m. gather in the Congregational Church for holiday music and a reading of names in remembrance and celebration of loved ones. At 6:30 p.m. the Annual

Tree Lighting ceremony will take place on the Town Common immediately followed by a Fantastic Fireworks display.

On Sunday, Dec. 8, the festival will be held from 1-4 p.m.. From 1:30-2:30 p.m. a Hand Bell Concert with Hans Betancourt and students will fill the air with Holiday Spirit.

Steve Charette's Magic Strolling Entertainment will be on hand as well as children's craft activities, visit with Santa and his elves, food truck on site and more. Saturday and Sunday the festival will be held at the Rutland Library.

PAST PAGES, continued from page 4

loans. A committee will be set up in late 1987 to determine eligibility limits and Barre Savings Bank will assist with the paperwork on the loans, said Inman. Construction on the \$11 million facilities will begin as soon as the Federal Government approve sth e low bid contractor, which could be any day, said Inman.

Cathleen L. Bechan from Oakham left for the nation's capital on Dec. 7 with approximately 340

other outstanding men and women to attend the Fall 1986 National Youth Leadership Conference. Bechan, a student at Quabbin Regional Jr. Sr. High School, has been selected as a Congressional Scholar based on citizenship, leadership and academic achievement. The theme of the Conference is "Tomorrow's Leaders Meeting the Leaders of Today." Each day presents a focus on the three branches of government, the media and the diplomatic corps. The Barre Ecumenical Fund

Bank is now well stocked after the Thanksgiving offering of food was received at the Ecumenical service at the Barre Congregational Church. Money for turkeys and roasters was given by the Lioness Club of Barre. Squash was given by Steve McCormack. Money from Cat Alley Artisans was used for fruit, nuts and other goodies. Mr and Mrs. Hubbards gave a donation for other needs such as a start for Christmas. In all, some 16 families were fed turkeys with all the trimmings.

White Christmas celebration Dec. 8

WEST BROOKFIELD – Please join the White Christmas Committee in the town of West Brookfield as they kick off the 32nd Annual White Christmas celebration on Sunday, Dec. 8 from 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

There will be fun for folks of all ages going on throughout the day at this event. The committee encourages everyone to come out and enjoy our 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 you are lucky, you may just see Father Christmas strolling the streets and greeting visitors in town. Stick around to close the day with West Brookfield's annual tradition of gathering around the largest evergreen in town (located on the town common) while it illuminates for the first time this holiday season.

The West Brookfield White Christmas Committee 2024 is excited to be able to share this fun-filled day with both residents and non-residents alike. This is a free event brought to you courtesy of

local businesses and town supporters.

The committee encourages everyone from all walks of life to come and enjoy the town, and kick off the holiday season with lots of festive events throughout town to interest everyone.

Maps of town open houses and vendors can be picked up in various local business, by accessing the Facebook page ("32nd Annual White Christmas in West Brookfield") or by emailing whitexchristmaswb@gmail.com.

The committee looks forward to seeing everyone explore West Brookfield and all the excitement the holiday season brings. Committee members remind folks to be mindful as the health and safety of all our guests is priority in West Brookfield.

Country Bank partners with Wonderfund of Massachusetts

Country Bank, a full-service financial institution serving central and western Massachusetts, partnered with the Wonderfund of Massachusetts, with a \$10,000 donation.

This collaboration will make a difference in the lives of kids and teens served by the Department of Children and Families, allowing them to experience the magic of childhood during the holiday season. The Wonderfund, an extraordinary group of people on a mission, is dedicated to bringing the joy and meaning of childhood to children who have been impacted by trauma, abuse, and neglect.

You, too, can be a part of this magical initiative. Join the Wonderfund and Country Bank in making this holiday season special for kids in foster care by donating a new, unwrapped gift at any

of its banking centers until Dec. 14. Your contribution, no matter how small, will make a difference. Country Bank's team will shop for gifts to join in the efforts, and donations will be delivered to DCF Offices in Springfield and Worcester to be distributed throughout western and central Massachusetts.

"We are excited to partner with the Wonderfund again this year and the opportunity for our team and the communities we serve help us make a difference for children by putting a smile on so many faces this holiday season," said Shelley Regin, Chief Marketing and Community Relations Officer at Country Bank. "Last year, we had such overwhelming support and collectively, we donated over a thousand toys to local DCF offices who shared with us, without your

donations most children would have only received one toy."

If you're ready to help make some magic this holiday season, please visit <https://wonderfundma.org>. Your support is invaluable and will bring joy to children in foster care.

About Country Bank

Established in 1850, Country Bank has a rich history of supporting personal and business banking customers through financial solutions with FDIC and DIF insurance for added security. Country Bank is a full-service \$1.8B mutual community bank serving central and western Massachusetts with 16 offices in Ware, Palmer, West Brookfield, Brimfield, Belchertown, Wilbraham, Ludlow, Leicester, Paxton, Charlton, Springfield, (Opening soon) Uxbridge, and Worcester.

BARRE, continued from page 1

appearance. Following the parade, children can visit with Santa in the Heritage Center, 20 Common St., from 1-3 p.m. Also from 1-3 p.m. while children wait for Santa they can make reindeer food using oatmeal and glitter to sprinkle on the ground to guide the Santa's sleigh. Location will be determined.

Horse drawn wagon rides will take place from 1-3 p.m. and are sponsored by the Barre Historical Society and Museum, 18 Common St. and the Barre Lions Club. The Barre Historical Society and Museum stagecoach and historical exhibits will be open for viewing from 1-3 p.m.

People may roast a marshmallow on the Common from 1-3 p.m.



File photo

The Barre Santa Parade would not be complete without an appearance from Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Stasukelis
APPLIANCE & TV
WE SERVICE ALL MAJOR BRAND APPLIANCES
NAME BRAND APPLIANCES & TV'S AT WAREHOUSE PRICES
287 Main Street Gardner
978-632-0241

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 5 | 6 | 7 | | 8 | 9 | 10 | | |
| 11 | | | | 12 | | 13 | | | 14 | | | | |
| 15 | | | | | | 16 | | | 17 | | | | |
| | 18 | | | | 19 | 20 | | | 21 | | | | |
| | | | | | 22 | 23 | | | 24 | | | | |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | | | | | | | | | |
| 30 | | | | | | | 31 | | | | | | |
| 32 | | | | | | | | | 33 | 34 | 35 | 36 | 37 |
| | | | | | 38 | 39 | 40 | | 41 | 42 | | | |
| | | | | | 43 | | | 44 | | | | | |
| | 45 | 46 | 47 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 48 | | | | | 49 | | | | 50 | 51 | 52 | 53 | 54 |
| 55 | | | | | 56 | | | | 57 | | | | 58 |
| 59 | | | | | 60 | | | | 61 | | | | |
| 62 | | | | | 63 | | | | 64 | | | | |

- CLUES ACROSS**
1. Bar bills
 5. Recipe measurement (abbr.)
 8. Swiss river
 11. Czech Republic capital
 13. "Officially known as"
 14. A French abbot
 15. Having a strong sharp smell or taste
 16. Local area network
 17. Data transmission speed measure
 18. Embarrass
 20. When you hope to get there
 21. This (Spanish)
 22. Gives up
 25. Churchgoer
 30. Current
 31. Slang for gun
 32. Small drum
 33. Vanished union bigwig
 38. Rocker's tool of the trade
 41. Dearth
 43. 2024 Olympics host
 45. Excess blood in the vessels
 48. Afrikaans
 49. Agreement between provider and customer
 50. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
 55. Ancient Syrian city
 56. Witch
 57. Celebrations
 59. Long period of time
 60. A team's best pitcher
 61. Current unit
 62. One-time aerospace company
 63. French/Belgian river
 64. Swedish rock group
 2. Genus of clams
 3. Remark
 4. Actor LaBeouf
 5. Ohio town
 6. Olympic sport
 7. Cure
 8. Behave in a way that belittles
 9. Shares a boundary with
 10. Give advice
 12. Promotional materials
 14. Assist or encourage, usually in some wrongdoing
 19. "Agatha All Along" actress Kathryn
 23. Small piece
 24. King of Camelot
 25. Parts per thousand (abbr.)
 26. Small Milky Way constellation
 27. One who challenges authority (abbr.)
 28. Equal (prefix)
 29. Shawl
 34. S. American wood sorrel relative
 35. The end
 36. Supervises interstate commerce
 37. Yes vote
 39. Officer of high rank
 40. Church office
 41. Tire pressure measurement
 42. From a distance
 44. Photographs
 45. Industrial process
 46. Nobel Prize-winning physicist
 47. Map out
 48. Mammary gland part of female mammal
 51. Honorable title (Turkish)
 52. Spongelike cake leavened with yeast
 53. Speak incessantly
 54. Poetry term
 58. Relaxing space

ANSWERS ON PAGE 6

STAY ON TOP OF IT ALL!
Subscribe Today!

Turley
Publications, Inc.
12 HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS
413.283.8393
www.turley.com
24 Water Street
Palmer, MA 01069

Girl Scouts kick off Girl Scout cookie season

HOLYOKE – Four hundred plus Girl Scouts and their families will gather at the Mass Mutual Center on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 4-6 p.m. to kick off “Embrace Possibility,” which reflects the Girl Scout Cookie Program theme for the 2024/2025 season.

Activity stations set up around the concourse reflect the cookie season theme and are designed to build business savvy skills to help girls run and manage their Girl Scout Cookie businesses online and in person. The “cookie rally” begins at 4 p.m. and then at 6 p.m. Girl Scouts and their families join Boomer and the Springfield Thunderbirds for an action-packed hockey game.

During Girl Scout Cookie season, each girl sets out to sell delicious cookies while also building entrepreneurial and business skills that are imperative for leadership and future success. Girl Scout Cookie order taking begins Wednesday, Dec.

11. Community cookie booth sales begin Friday, Jan. 17 and continue through Sunday, March 16.

Girl Scouts and cookies share a rich history. While recipes and box designs have changed, selling cookies remains an important part of today’s Girl Scout leadership program. The annual Girl Scout Cookie Program takes place January-March each year. With nine varieties of tasty treats, these iconic favorites help to fund Girl Scout troop programs for the entire year. T

Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts serves over 5,000 girls in grades K through 12 with the strong support of over 3,000 adult volunteers in 186 towns and cities in central and western Massachusetts. The Girl Scout program allows girls to discover the fun, friendship, and power of girls together while building their personal leadership qualities.



Volunteers unload turkeys from the donation truck.

Turley Photos by Paula Quimette

Cornerstone Bank named ‘Champion for Youth’

WORCESTER – Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with locations throughout Central Massachusetts, has been honored with the 2024 Champion for Youth Award by the Southbridge-based Bridge of Faith Youth Center Board of Directors.

“We are excited and proud to be part of such a family-oriented community that consistently puts the highest value on engaging and empowering young people,” said Cornerstone Bank CEO Todd Tallman. “We’re invested in giving future generations the support they need.”

The award was presented before a crowd right before tip-off at the Harlem Wizards vs. Bridge of Faith

All Stars event at Southbridge High School on Wednesday, Nov 13. Over the last two years, Cornerstone has donated \$25,000 to the Youth Center’s “Bridge the Gap” campaign. The money is being used to renovate the organization’s historic building, and to support the organization’s mission to provide kids with essential social, academic and spiritual development in a safe, supervised atmosphere.

Cornerstone Bank is committed to supporting causes that improve the quality of life for the residents of Central Massachusetts. The bank frequently makes donations of money or goods and services to local schools and civic groups in the communities it serves.

TURKEYS, continued from page 1
hours. Monetary donations can also be sent to the school district and donations can remain anonymous.

Area farms and restaurants have also provided fresh produce and baked goods to the collaborative to distribute, and freshly cooked meals to deliver to the town’s senior citizens. Two local restaurants generously donate up to 70 meals each Wednesday to senior citizens.

Connect Restaurant, which opened its second location in North Brookfield this summer, offers senior citizens six different dinner options to choose from.

Farrington said the senior citizens often can get more than one meal out of these weekly dinners, and even share them with their neighbors.

She said the senior citizens have expressed their appreciation for these dinners, saying they are getting to enjoy “real people food.”

“It shows how hard food security is for the community and beyond,” Farrington said.

In just a short time, the collaborative has been able to form a network of volunteers and donors to ensure that nobody goes without access to nutritious food.



Students and staff from North Brookfield Junior Senior High School helped carry turkeys to be delivered.

“It’s really wonderful just having everything coming together,” Farrington said.

Food is distributed to the senior housing complexes in town each Thursday, and Farrington said the complexes’ residents have helped make the process smooth and efficient, even helping to set up tables and break down empty cardboard boxes.

“It’s like an assembly line,” Farrington said.

Farrington said these weekly visits have helped the collaborative volunteers form relationships with the senior citizens, who eagerly await the donation truck to offer their help.

“They’re proud now,” Farrington said of the senior citizens. “It gives them a purpose. The whole community has just come together.”

The collaborative is working with area churches, including the First Congregational Church of

North Brookfield, to reach more people in need. The collaborative has also teamed up with the day program from the Seven Hills Foundation in Worcester to provide prepared Thanksgiving meals for the homeless.

Anyone who would like to help the collaborative fight food insecurity, can mail donations to Coalition for a Healthy North Brookfield, P.O. Box 98, North Brookfield, MA 01535.

Gas prices increase a penny

WESTWOOD – Much like the lethargy experienced after downing a heaping plate of turkey and stuffing, Northeast gasoline prices are barely moving as markets enter the post-Thanksgiving winter driving period known for soft demand in the weeks leading up to the end of the calendar year.

Prices across most of the Northeast are flat or up or down by just a penny from last week after a notable, but not concerning, 1.2-million-barrel drop in regional gasoline inventories. The rest of the country, on the other hand, saw inventories increase by 3.3 million barrels, according to the Energy Information

Administration.

The average gas price in Massachusetts is up a penny over last week (\$3.02), averaging \$3.03 per gallon. Today’s price is one cent lower than a month ago (\$3.04) and 34 cents lower than this day last year (\$3.37). Massachusetts’s average gas price is one cent lower than the national average.

AAA Northeast’s Dec. 2 survey of fuel prices found the current national average down one cent from last week (\$3.05), averaging \$3.04 gallon. Today’s national average price is seven cents cheaper than a month ago (\$3.11) and 20 cents lower than this day last year (\$3.24).



Volunteers smiled while sorting the donated food.



Thanksgiving bags filled with side dishes and pecan pies accompanied the turkeys.

OAKHAM, continued from page 1

also voted to use \$5,145.58 of ARPA money to cover the increases building insurance premium, Verizon fax and cellphone, National Grid and Spectrum. Some of the bills were over a year old. The building insurance premium increased due to the higher valuation of town property.

WiFi password

Select Board Chair Lucy Tessnau discussed having a guest password rather than giving out the town’s secured password. Due to cybersecurity, they will change the employee and staff password and provide a guest password, which would be available for all. The estimated one time cost is between \$400 to \$500. The Administrative

Assistant will get an exact quote for the next meeting.

Social Media Policy

The Select Board reviewed the Social Media Policy and made some additions. They will have KP Law review the changes.

Senior Center regionalization

The Select Board did meet with North Brookfield and Barre to discuss a possible regionalization of Senior Center services with those towns. Barre also has a contract with Hardwick for Senior Center services. Both Barre and Hardwick would have to approve the contract for shared services. Select Board Chair Lucy Tessnau said they were only looking into possible shared services and none were being voted upon. Oakham currently shares a Zumba class with Rutland, which is held at the Rutland Senior

Center. Although Rutland was asked, they did not respond to inquires by the Oakham Council on Aging or met with the Select Board.

Select Board Vice Chair Donald Haapakoski said Rutland was looking into building a new senior center on the old Rutland Heights Hospital grounds. He said it cost less to build a new facility than to renovate the existing one.

Other business

Sue Collette of the Board of Health asked about the \$1,100 Rise Grant, which the town received for opioid related costs. She said Leicester was applying for a new grant and she asked if the money could be used toward paying Oakham’s percentage of the new Rise Grant. The Board would look into the matter and get back to her.

Turley Publications, Inc.

Scarlett Legasey
January 25, 2023
Parents: Thomas & Jessica Legasey, Rutland
Grandparents: Donald & MaryAnn Dunbar, Ware
Thomas & Sharon Legasey, Spencer

Baby’s Name: _____

Birthdate: _____

Parents’ Names: _____

Parents’ Town of Residence: _____

Grandparents’ Names & Town of Residence: _____

Telephone #: (not to be printed - for office use only) _____

Please check the newspaper you would like your announcement to appear.

Agawam Advertiser News

Barre Gazette

Chicopee Register

Country Journal

The Holyoke Sun

Journal Register

Quaboag Current

The Register

Sentinel

Town Reminder

Ware River News

The Wilbraham-Hampden Times

Deadline for photos and forms is Monday, December 16, 2024

Turley Publications would like to help you show off the newest member of your family this Christmas, FOR FREE!

Mail to:
Turley Publications
24 Water Street
Palmer, MA 01069
Attn: Jamie Joslyn
Include a self addressed/ stamped envelope if you would like the picture returned or email photo to: jamie@turley.com with subject line: BABY’S FIRST.
This offer is available to all babies born in 2024. Pictures will be published the week of December 23-27, 2024.

FOR RENT

Quabbin Estates

41 Church Lane, Wheelwright, MA 01094

Accepting applications for wait list.

The apartment features - w/w carpeting, kitchen appliances, maintenance coverage, laundry facilities. We specialize in Senior Housing and “Barrier Free” accessible units. Rent is \$810/mo. or 30% of income, whichever is lower. RD regulations. Handicap Accessible apartments when available.

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT
413-477-6496
TDD (800)439-2379

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| T | A | B | S | T | S | P | A | A | R | | | | | |
| P | R | A | H | A | O | K | A | A | B | B | E | | | |
| A | C | R | I | D | L | A | N | B | A | U | D | | | |
| A | B | A | S | H | E | T | A | E | S | T | E | | | |
| | | | | A | B | D | I | C | A | T | E | S | | |
| P | A | R | I | S | H | I | O | N | E | R | | | | |
| P | R | E | S | E | N | T | G | A | T | | | | | |
| T | A | B | O | R | | | | H | O | F | F | A | | |
| | | | | A | M | P | P | A | U | C | I | T | Y | |
| | | | | P | A | R | I | S | F | R | A | N | C | E |
| H | Y | P | E | R | E | M | I | A | | | | | | |
| T | A | A | L | S | L | A | R | A | B | B | I | | | |
| E | B | L | A | H | A | G | G | A | L | A | S | | | |
| A | E | O | N | A | C | E | A | B | A | M | P | | | |
| T | R | W | L | Y | S | | A | B | B | A | | | | |

Community Newspaper
ADVERTISING
Works!

Retailers and small local businesses put the lion’s share of their local advertising in newspapers. They know which media truly moves their products. Besides that, Google’s research shows that half of online shoppers are more likely to buy products they’ve seen in the paper.

CHRISTMAS IN HARDWICK,
continued from page 1

a huge cookie store as the Cookie Walk took place and guests certainly got to go on a delicious walk.

The Cookie Walk is presented by the Friends of the Paige Memorial Library. The Town House hosts the Cookie Walk every year and is always a beloved tradition in Hardwick. Next door there was a craft room where kids got to write their Christmas letters to Santa. The proceeds from the Cookie Walk go to the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department for their Christmas for Kids fundraiser.

Courtney Letendre along with volunteers Angelique Broussard and Emily Cartier helped put on a beautiful Christmas on the Common, which has now been celebrated for three straight years. The common featured 22 vendors and games. The proceeds from Hardwick Christmas on the Common go back to the Town. Letendre said, "whoever is struggling in town, that is where these



The Farmers Guild of Hardwick had a booth set on the Town Common.

donations go to."

On one side of the Common the Hardwick Community Church, which is part of the Tri-Parish Community Church, had several activities going on. While raising money for the food pantry, the church was also housing hundreds

of donated lacrosse gear for the people of Uganda.

Church member Dave Libby looks at this fundraiser as "a fun project" as they collect gear to help support a country that has found a significant interest in lacrosse. Approximately 300

boxes of equipment from helmets, sticks, jerseys and pads were stocked inside the upstairs chapel of the community church.

Throughout the room, the church windows have photos of dozens of lacrosse players from



Greetings from this happy snowman who wandered the Town Common during Hardwick's Christmas on the Common.

Uganda greeting Hardwick. One of the players, Ogik George, had donated beads and necklaces he made and are currently placed inside the church.

"We empower with some dona-

tions," Libby said.

The church was accepting donations for the food pantry while handing out candy and hot chocolate during Christmas on the Common.

HARDWICK,
continued from page 1

been slow due to water and sewer repairs, the construction of a new roof, demolition and more.

Developers are still unable to work on the parking lot due to the presence of protected clam shrimp. The clam shrimp will need to be relocated to an approved location.

The Select Board approved a motion to begin negotiations for a new HCA with Hardwick Mill Greenery.

Vacant properties

Town Administrator Justine Caggiano said the town has been working with municipal auction company Zekos Group to look at options for three vacant town-owned properties. Two of the buildings, the Paige building and the Ruggles Hill Road school, are in historic zones and the third, the former senior center, is located on Main Street in Gilbertville.

"They're very familiar with old buildings," she said.

Caggiano said the municipal auction company will be paid out of the proceeds from the auction, and the town would not have to come up with any funds beforehand. She said the auction is planned to take place in April to give people time to participate.

Assessor Jennifer Kolenda said this is the town's best option to dispose of these buildings. She said everything had been done in preparation for the auction, including surveys of the land around the buildings.

Requests for proposals to make use of these buildings were made in the past and had little to no response.

Capital Planning Committee Chair Mark Korzec said they recommended removing an under-

ground oil tank from one of the properties, due to its proximity to the public drinking water supply.

"Regardless of what decision you make, you should remove the tank," he said.

Korzec said the committee also recommended that the town vet the bidders on the properties, by doing an RFP. He said it could be in the best interest of the town to know what prospective buyers intend to do with the properties.

Korzec said the committee also recommended the Select Board start with selling or auctioning off the Ruggles Hill Road school first.

Caggiano said she is willing to speak with any residents about any concerns or questions they have regarding the auction process.

She will also ask the auction company if RFPs can be required of bidders. The Select Board will continue its discussion about auctioning the three buildings at its Dec. 9 meeting.

Visitor comments

Select Board Chair Kelly Kemp announced that visitor comments would now be heard at the beginning of Select Board meetings, and each visitor would have five minutes to speak.

Erin Wynne, Headmaster at Eagle Hill School, spoke about the proposed Payment In Lieu of Taxes policy being considered by the Select Board. She said she was concerned that the school's representatives were not part of the discussion.

"Eagle Hill itself is already in a signed arrangement with the town and has been for the last 10 years," she said. "That was entered into in good faith by both parties and to be considering something that would be averse to that would be rendering that void."

Wynne said the proposed

PILOT agreement was "financially not even possible" for the school.

"It should be a discussion between parties, and not something that's just happening among the board without talking to the entities in town," Wynne said.

Kemp said the board is still discussing this proposed policy, and if it's accepted, it would be voluntary.

Resident Bill Cole also spoke about both the proposed PILOT policy and granting conservation restrictions.

"We need to fully understand the cost of services to the town for various types of properties," he said. "That is, what does undeveloped land cost the town in services? Farmland, commercial and industrial development, single family housing, multifamily housing, what is the so-called 'lost' tax revenue from land put under conservation restriction? Especially for land that is already or would otherwise be put into chapter 61A or B."

Resident Nate Goddard spoke in support of the East Quabbin Land Trust and conservation restrictions. He said his family enjoys exploring the various properties throughout town.

"They do a wonderful job with the trails," he said.

Cheryl Wolfe said since she has lived in town for the past 50 plus years, there have been at least three economic studies of the town, all of which pointed toward the need for ecotourism.

"We have had growth...every year," she said. "People are coming out here to bike the trails...fish. I think you have to think of what is going to bring more people to the town to spend money. Sometimes the short term revenue is going to be lost over long term gains that we would have made."

Liz Reilly and Erik Fleming questioned the benefit of having visitor's comments before discussing the agenda items. Select Board Vice-Chair Eric Vollheim said he didn't agree with the format, noting the importance of other people's viewpoints.

Kemp said she decided to try this format, which many other towns utilize, due to people talking out of turn at a previous meeting. She said she is willing to allow having visitor input on discussions in the future.

Budget discussion

Caggiano said all departments

have budget sheets to work on and she will begin meeting with department heads the week of Dec. 16. This information will be compiled into binders for both the Select Board and Finance Committee.

Finance Committee Chair Christopher Culross said one of the objectives of the coming fiscal year is to fund stabilization to the 5% mark and funding capital "as much as possible."

"We still need to make baby steps," Culross said. "Having a very lean budget is going to be very, very important."

PILOT policy

The Select Board will hold a joint meeting with the Finance Committee on Monday, Dec. 16 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the proposed PILOT policy.

Town Administrator's report

Caggiano said they are close to selecting a company to provide an updated phone system for the town.

She said repairs were made to the municipal office building's boiler and radiators and she is also purchasing panic buttons for the building.

Holiday Craft and Vendor Fair

PALMER – St. Thomas the Apostle Parish will host a Holiday Craft and Vendor Fair from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Dec. 7 at the St. Thomas Parish Center.

The St. Thomas Parish Center is located at 1076 Thorndike St.

Craft and vendor spots are still available for \$35 per table with two chairs. Proceeds from table rentals will benefit the Parish's charitable programs.

There is no charge for admission, and ample free parking is available. The hall is wheelchair-accessible.

For more information, contact Melissa Boyer at 413-355-6355.

"Make us one of your stops on the Dec. 7 Craft Crawl!"



THE CENTERED PLACE
SINCE 1988

Yoga & Meditation Classes

Offering both onsite and online classes

Voted Best Yoga in the region by Town & Country Living Magazine

Yoga leaves you more relaxed, centered, open and energized. Come experience this for yourself.

413 436 7374
286 BRIDGE ST, WARREN MA
WWW.THECENTEREDPLACE.COM

YOGA FOR EVERY BODY

EARLY DEADLINE For All Advertising & CLASSIFIEDS

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>All Papers Will Deadline Thursday, Dec. 19 at Noon for Publication Dec. 23 - 27</p> | <p>All Papers Will Deadline Friday, Dec. 27 at Noon for Publication Dec. 30 - Jan. 3</p> |
|--|--|



24 Water Street
Palmer, MA 01069
413-283-8393



We're promoting the history of local businesses in our

Established
EDITION

of the Barre Gazette

We are inviting all of our community businesses to participate by purchasing an ad proudly displaying the year the business was established.

Ads will run in order from the oldest to most recently established.

WELCOME

OPEN

PLEASE COME IN

Whether its been 100 years, 50 years or just 5 years, your business is a vital part of our community. Don't miss out on this special issue.

★ AD CHOICES ★

3" x 3" ad \$70

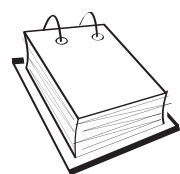
3" x 5" ad \$95

AD DEADLINE:
JANUARY 22

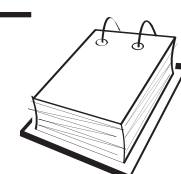
CALL DAN FLYNN
AT 413-297-5886



PUBLISHES FEBRUARY 6, 2025



Calendar of Events



FRIDAY, DEC. 6

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

24TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF TREES sponsored by the Rutland Historical Society today through Sunday, Dec. 8 at the Rutland Public Library, 280 Main St. Kicking off the event, today from 6:30-8:30 p.m. will be a concert featuring Booty and the Jett at Lilac Hedge Farm, 216 Wachusett St. There will be food available, fire pits and S'mores to be made. Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$20 for a family and free for children under 5. Tickets will be available at the door or by calling or texting Ben at 774-535-1295 or email, rutlandmafot1@gmail.com to reserve a ticket. Saturday, Dec. 7 from 4-8 p.m., there will be activities for all to enjoy including decorated trees, gingerbread houses, a basket drawing, visit with Santa and his elves, Santa's Sweet Shoppe, S'mores, hot cocoa, food provided by the Boy Scouts, holiday music and more. At 5 p.m. the CTMS Chorus will perform at the library. At 6 p.m. gather in the Congregational Church for holiday music and a reading of names in remembrance and celebration of loved ones. At 6:30 p.m. the Annual Tree Lighting ceremony will take place on the Town Common immediately followed by a Fantastic Fireworks display. On Sunday, Dec. 8, the festival will be held from 1-4 p.m.. From 1:30-2:30 p.m. a Hand Bell Concert with Hans Betancourt and students will fill the air with Holiday Spirit. Steve Charette's Magic Strolling Entertainment will be on hand as well as children's craft activities, visit with Santa and his elves, food truck on site and more.

SATURDAY, DEC. 7

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

WOMAN'S FELLOWSHIP HOLIDAY FAIR will be held today from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Barre Congregational church, 30 Park St., Barre. There will be basket raffles, baked goods and candy table, vendors, greens table and luncheon to include homemade corn chowder, finger sandwiches, homemade apple crisp and hot drinks.

HOLIDAY FAIR for St. Francis of Assisi Parish will be held today from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at St. Joseph's Church, 29 South St., Barre.

GINGERBREAD FAIR sponsored by the First Parish Unitarian Church, on the Common, Hubbardston will be held today from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. There will be spices, candy, home baked goods, crafts, knitting, quilt raffle, cord of woe raffle, fresh laurel wreaths and evergreen baskets.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE AND



Where is this?

This week's mystery photo is from Barre. 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. 9. The names of those that correctly guessed the location will appear in the following edition. Robert Augustine, Bill Bowles, Peggy Civilik, Stephen Craven, Evelyn Luukko, Cheryl Paul, Carolyn Semon and Philip Warbasse correctly identified the photo. The photo last week was of the gate to the Old Burial Ground, Main Street, Rutland.

Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

GIFT TABLES will take place today from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Mt. Zion Masonic Lodge, 71 Pleasant St. sponsored by Cradle Rock Chapter of Eastern Star. Cookies are sold \$8 per pound.

SHRED DAY hosted by the Barre Board of Health is open to Barre town offices, residents and town businesses and will be held today from 10 a.m.-noon in the parking lot of the Henry Woods Building, 40 West St., Barre. The event is free; there is a limit of two banker boxes (24x12x10) per household or business. For further information, people may call the Board of Health at 978-355-2504, extension 117 or email boardofhealth@townofbarre.com.

CHRISTMAS TREE AND WREATH SALE will take place at Dismas Farm, 687 Lincoln Road, Oakham today and Sunday, Dec. 8 from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. There will be homemade Christmas crafts, cookies, cocoa and hayrides.

HOLIDAY CHRISTMAS FAIR will be held today from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Hubbardston Senior Center, 7A Main St., Hubbardston. The Friends of the Hubbardston Senior Center, Golden Agers and COA/Senior Center run the fair. There will be vendors, complimentary hot cocoa and popcorn, baked goods, hunter stew, Christmas baskets for the Chinese auction and Mr. and Mrs. Santa will be available for pictures.

SUNDAY, DEC. 8

HOLIDAY CONCERT TICKETS. The 215th Army Band of the MA Army National Guard presents their annual free holiday concert at Symphony

Hall, 34 Court St., Springfield on Sunday, Dec. 8 at 2 p.m. Admission is free with ticket. Tickets available at Pride Convenience Stores; One Financial Plaza, 1350 Main St., Springfield (weekdays 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; Springfield Visitors Center, 1319 Main St., Springfield; or send a self-addressed stamped envelop to Spirit of Springfield, 1350 Main St., Springfield, Suite 1004, Springfield, MA 01103. Ticket holders seated first.

32ND ANNUAL WHITE CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION will take place today from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. In the town of West Brookfield. People will be able to tour historic town, stroll the downtown district, explore local businesses and open houses, decorate gingerbread houses in the Great Hall and meet 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 people are lucky, they may just see Father Christmas strolling the streets and greeting visitors in town. At the close the day is West Brookfield's annual tradition of gathering around the largest evergreen in town, located on the town common, while it illuminates for the first time this holiday season. This is a free event brought to the public by local businesses and town supporters. Maps of town open houses and vendors can be picked up in various local business, by visiting the Facebook page at "32nd Annual White Christmas in West Brookfield" or by emailing: whitechristmaswb@gmail.com.

EQLT HOLIDAY POTLUCK will be held today at 4 p.m. at the East Quabbin Land Trust, 120 Ridge Road, Hardwick. All ages are welcome. People are invited to bring a favorite dish to share, sweet or savory. People are welcome even if they don't bring a dish to share. There is always plenty.

MONDAY, DEC. 9

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 2 meets Dec. 9 at the Legion Post, 450 South Barre Road, Barre for their Christmas meeting. They will be enjoying pizza and desserts at 6 p.m. Those that wish to take part in the Yankee Swap should bring a wrapped or bagged present to participate.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 11

The next two Barre Food Pantry distributions will occur on today from 10-11:30 a.m. and on Thursday, Dec. 19 from 5:30-7 p.m. at the Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St. Clients are invited to pick up groceries from the food pantry either in the morning on Wednesday, Dec. 11 or in the evening on Thursday, Dec. 19, whichever is more convenient for them. In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients Dec. 11

"Join the team that does more by 9am than some do all day!"

Train now to a new career in 6 weeks. High hourly wages and generous bonus program. Van work available too!

Call or text 774-200-6762 or email jobs@mccarthybus.com to apply

J.P. McCarthy & Sons
WWW.MCCARTHYBUS.COM

and Dec. 19 will again be "drive-through" style distributions. Clients will line up in their vehicles on Park Street and proceed into the right hand (east) entrance driveway of the Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St. They will remain in their cars. They'll drive up and be checked in by a volunteer, then continue up to the church building where their groceries will be put into the trunk or wayback of their vehicle by volunteers at multiple stations.

BROWN BAG HOLIDAY CONCERT with the U.S. Navy Band Northeast today at noon in Mechanics Hall, 321 Main St., Worcester. Admission is free. Attendees are invited to bring a brown bag lunch or purchase one at the hall. Doors open at 11:30 a.m.

SATURDAY, DEC. 14

A **LIVING NATIVITY** will be held today and Sunday, Dec. 15 with performances at 4 and 5:30 p.m. at Mesa Farm, 67 Muschopaug Road in Rutland. The forty minute shows will consist of carol singing and a narration and re-enactment of the nativity story in a barn with live animals. There will be no charge although attendees are requested to bring a plate of cookies to share. There will also be an opportunity to donate to the City to Saddle non-profit organization to support equestrian programs at Mesa Farm. Hot chocolate and coffee will be provided. All performances will have sign language interpretation. For more information, people may visit www.mesafarmrutland.com or call 508-886-6898.

REQUIEM FOR THE LIVING will be performed by Circle of Song today at 7 p.m. in the Barre Town Hall, 2 Exchange St., Barre. "Requiem for the Living," a choral composition in five movements, was completed in 2013. "Requiem for the Living" is an extended setting of the Requiem, a Mass for the dead in the Catholic Church. In the Circle of Song performance of "Requiem for the Living," solos will be performed by Karen Guertin, Marna Mucha, Anne Kneeland, Nancy Afonso, Mark Doyle and Jennifer Williams. Under the direction of the COS pianist, Cailan McClure, "Aint a That Good News" and Ave Maria will also be sung. If people are interested in joining Circle of Song, they may email Julie Rawson, director, at julie@mhof.net, call 978-257-1192 or show up at the Barre Town Hall, 2 Exchange St., on Thursday, Jan. 16 at 7 p.m. To learn more about Circle of Song visit https://circleofsong.net/.

SUNDAY, DEC. 15

FREE CHRISTMAS CONCERT entitled "A Tinsel and Tunes Gala" by the Weir River Concert Band will be held today at 2 p.m. in the Stone Church Cultural Center, 283 Main St., Gilbertville.

FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS will be held at the Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road, Oakham on Dec. 15 at 7 p.m. A choir and community choir accompanied by a community orchestra will perform "Glory in the Highest" by Marty Parks. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

NO. 4 SCHOOLHOUSE CHRISTMAS PARTY will take place today at 3 p.m. at No.4 Schoolhouse, 209 Farrington Road, Barre. The festivities begin at 3 p.m. with an outdoor family craft, weather permitting. At 3:30 p.m., they will go inside to sing Christmas carols. At 4 p.m. Santa will arrive.

All are welcome to this event. An RSVP must be received for all children 12 years and under to ensure the elves pack Santa's sack with a gift for every child 12 years old and younger. Reservations must be received by Tuesday, Dec. 10 by emailing no4schoolhouse@gmail.com or text Allison at 508-523-5850. They should include the child's name and age. People are welcome to bring a snack to share. The No. 4 Schoolhouse group will be selling winter raffle tickets at this event. The raffle drawing will be held Dec. 17.

PIONEER VALLEY BRASS will perform today at 4 p.m. in the Unitarian Universalist Church, 126 Central St., Winchendon. The First Universalist Parish of North Dana will sponsor a free program of traditional and modern holiday music arranged for brass quintet. The concert is part of a series of Vespers programs with musical services sponsored by the North Dana Parish since 1930 when the Parish had to leave North Dana for the creation of the Quabbin Reservoir. This is the 811th such program benefiting from a trust fund set up by sisters, Catherine Mason and Mary Hale to ensure that the Parish will not be forgotten. Descendants and friends of original Parish members meet annually in April to oversee the Parish activity. The Pioneer Valley Brass was founded over forty years ago by Cedric and Jeri Bannister and has often performed these vespers services. Current members of the Brass include Dick Tandy and Steve Babineau on trumpet, Susan Lemei on tuba, Tabitha Greenlees on horn, and Dana Tandy on trumpet.

TUESDAY, DEC. 17

MAKING CONNECTIONS MEMORY CAFE will meet today at 2 p.m. in the Worcester Senior Center, 128 Providence St., Worcester on the first floor in front of the lunch room. Entertainment will be by Jim Perry and Johnny Bluehorn. People may also participate in the optional ugly holiday sweater contest.

FRIDAY, DEC. 20

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

SATURDAY, DEC. 21

PIONEER VALLEY BRASS will perform today at 4 p.m. in the Orthodox Congregational Church, North Main St., Petersham. On Sunday, Dec. 22 they will perform at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Greenfield. Maureen Riendeau is the Music Coordinator for the First Universalist Parish of North Dana.

The Whistle Stop Express

Our very own Winter Wonderland Train Car Experience

\$25 Adult • \$10 Child • Under 1 Free

Ticket Includes:
One Hour On The Parked Train Car, Hot Cocoa, Cookie Decorating, Coloring & Crafts, Popcorn, Stories and a Gift from Santa

Sat., Dec. 21 & Sun., Dec. 22
248 Main St., Gilbertville

For Reservations
Call 413-477-8888
Walk Ins Welcome
First Come, First Served

SPORTS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

SEND US YOUR SPORTS SUBMISSIONS

www.sports.turley.com

Touchdown makes difference in Panthers Turkey Day loss

BARRE – Quabbin High School football was looking to score its eighth win of the season last Thursday morning on Thanksgiving morning. Unfortunately, for the second time this season, Gardner prevailed and the Panthers suffered a 12-6 loss on a rain-soaked matchup on Gardner’s turf field. The Panthers season ends at 7-4 overall.



Luke Salvatore tries to take off on a run.



Bryce Venne kicks off for the Panthers during action in 2024.



Bryce Venne pounces on a fumble.



Noah Mielt makes a block on the line.

Jamyeson Pina attempts to make a tackle.

Late touchdown lifts Pioneers



Anthony Arventos sends a kick away.



PALMER – Last Thursday morning, Pathfinder and Belchertown were knotted 14-14. But a touchdown in the second half sealed the win for Pathfinder, giving the Pioneers its 10th win in the all-time series against the Orioles. The two teams were able to play the game on Palmer High’s Legion field with the Panthers on the road at Ludlow. Pathfinder’s win on Thanksgiving was its third for 2024.

Quarterback Anthony Arventos sends a throw up the middle.



Nicholas Pfister looks to avoid tacklers as he makes a run for the sideline.



The Pioneers huddle up before a play.



Jake Mastej looks to make a tackle.

Hall of Fame hosting pair of college matchups

SPRINGFIELD – The MGM Springfield Basketball Hall of Fame Classic, presented by the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism, takes place on “World Basketball Day,” Saturday, Dec. 21, at the MassMutual Center and will be televised nationally on CBS Sports Network.

“We are proud to work with local stakeholders to bring local businesses in as sponsors of the Basketball Hall of Fame Classic,” said John L. Doleva, President and CEO of the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame. “Thank you to MGM Springfield and the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism for supporting the Hall of Fame Classic and helping us fulfill our mission of celebrating and promoting basketball’s history and bringing four great teams to the ‘Birthplace of Basketball.’”

“This iconic event in the birthplace of basketball is a hoop See HALL OF FAME, page 10

All-Star soccer action

SPRINGFIELD – Last Monday night on the turf of Pope Francis High School, high school soccer held all-star games. Class C and D played in one match while A and B clashed in another. Lucas Alvan and Thomas Wadas were among the all-stars, representing Ludlow High School in the match.



Justin Davis and Evan Costa represented Pathfinder in this year’s boys all-star game.



Justin Davis moves up the field.



Evan Costa represents Pathfinder in the Class C and D game.

Sports

T-Birds climb back above .500 with win over Bruins

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — The Springfield Thunderbirds (10-9-1-0) got off to a quick start en route to a 3-2 win over the Providence Bruins (8-10-2-0) on Sunday afternoon at Amica Mutual Pavilion on a day when the two teams sported throwback jerseys. Springfield donned the Indians jerseys circa 1979, while the Bruins wore their late 1990s gold "Pooh Bear" logo jerseys.

The T-Birds jumped ahead on the scoreboard for a sixth consecutive game, this time just 3:51 into the contest. Scott Harrington settled a puck at the right point and fired it toward the net mouth with two teammates setting up screens. Aleksanteri Kaskimaki showed terrific hand-eye coordination, successfully spiking it down to the ice between the legs of Bruins goalie Michael DiPietro, giving the T-Birds a 1-0 lead. Harrington picked up his first point as a T-Bird, and Dalibor Dvorsky earned the secondary assist to extend his point streak to five games.

Colten Ellis drew the net for a second consecutive start, looking to extend a five-game streak without a regulation loss, making

nine stops in the opening period. The Bruins' first and only power play of the period, though, got the game evened when Patrick Brown cleaned up his own rebound following a splendid Ellis save at 13:49, evening the slate, 1-1.



Springfield failed to connect on its first power play, but the T-Birds took advantage with 1:56 of man-up time to begin the second. Samuel Johannesson got the play started from the right point, whipping a pass in the left circle to Marcus Sylvegard. The winger uncorked a shot that DiPietro deflected but could not cover. The rebound sat in the blue paint, where Matt Luff swooped in to backhand the puck across the goal line to give the T-Birds the 2-1 lead just 38 seconds into the middle period.

The Bruins attack could not

get anything going in the T-Birds end, registering just four shots on Ellis for the duration of the second. Springfield's offense remained opportunistic and extended the lead at 13:04 when Dylan Peterson flipped a puck toward the net, allowing Reece Newkirk to slip it into the blue paint and Drew Callin to bury the loose change to make it a 3-1 score.

Providence did not go down easily as defenseman Mason Millman connected for his first goal as a Bruin with a slap shot just 1:36 into the final period to make it a 3-2 game. The Bruins had the bulk of the offensive chances in the final period, but Ellis and the Springfield defense did enough to prevent the home side from finding an equalizer. Ellis, who is now 5-0-1 in his last six starts, had 25 saves in the victory.

The T-Birds, who now sit above the .500 plateau for the first time since they won their season opener, rest up before welcoming the Bridgeport Islanders on Friday night at the MassMutual Center, with puck drop set for 7:05 p.m.

Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

Bogey Doubles

EAST BROOKFIELD — The Bogey Doubles league on Monday nights had a night out of bowling prior to Thanksgiving.

The standings as of Nov. 25 have the doubles team of Tom Clauson and Gary Santora in first place with a total of 46 victories. In second place with 42 victories is the team of Erik Pellett and Jim Nester. Finishing in third place with 40 victories.

The league bowled the Monday night before Thanksgiving and will return to league play on the first Monday in December. One of the matches was between the team of Pellett & Nester bowled against Gauthier & Clough.

In game one, Gauthier & Clough defeated Pellett & Nester 265-245. The highest game in game one was bowled by Dan "Shoe" Gauthier with a 110. In game two, Pellett & Nester rebounded with a win of their own, 283-264. Jim Nester bowled a 121 and Pellett bowled a 111.

In game three, Gauthier & Clough won the last game 284-244. Gauthier ended the match with a 126 and a series of 347.

Total pinfall was won by Gauthier & Clough 813-772.

The team of Travis Sandman and Luke Marvin bowled against Jack Talamini and Bill Gravel. In game one, Sandman & Marvin defeated Talamini & Gravel 274-253. Sandman began the match by bowling a 122.

In game two, Talamini & Gravel won with a 303 combined score to Sandman & Marvin's 255. Jack Talamini bowled a great game, 141.

In game three, Sandman & Marvin bowled a 311 to win the last game. Sandman finished with a 120 and a series of 333. Luke Marvin finished with a 139 and a series of 351. Sandman & Marvin won total pinfall with a final score of 840-815.

Mondor & Brayton bowled against Renaud & Ward. In game one, Mondor & Brayton won 267-260. Steve Renaud Sr. started off with a 120. In game two, Renaud & Ward won 282-246. Tina Ward bowled a 131 to get her team the victory.

In game three, Mondor & Brayton won the last game 276-265. Ward bowled a 117 and a series of 344.

The total pinfall was won by Renaud & Ward 807-789.

The top seed Clauson & Santora bowled against Rando & MacDougall. In game one, Rando & MacDougall 283-267. Duncan MacDougall started off the match with a 113.

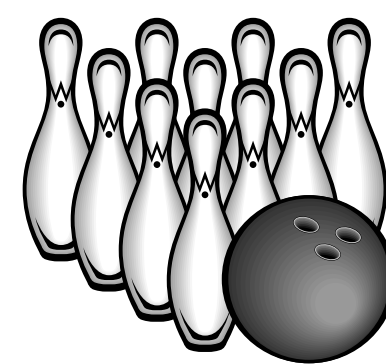
In game two, Rando & MacDougall won again 292-260. Dave Rando carried the team with a 116 in game two.

In game three, Rando & MacDougall won the last game to sweep the #1 seed, 269-253. The final score was 844-780 in favor of Rando & MacDougall.

The Aaron team, Halbedel & Fontaine, bowled against Murphy & Kenneson. In game one, The Aarons won the first game 277-244. Aaron Fontaine began the match by bowling a 139.

In game two, the Aarons won again 260-247. Fontaine bowled a 123 on his team's way to another win.

In game three, Halbedel & Fontaine won for a three game sweep over Murphy & Kenneson, 259-236. Fontaine bowled another 123 for a series of 385. Total pinfall was won by the Aarons, 796-727.



Diamond Junction Bowling Lanes Tournament

PALMER — Saturday, Dec. 14, Diamond Junction Bowling Lanes in Palmer is hosting its first ever King of the Hill bowling tournament.

This tournament will be an in-house tournament, meaning those who can compete are league candlepin bowlers at Diamond Junction. Fellow league bowlers will battle it out over the course of three games to qualify in a stepladder final to determine the first king of the hill.

The tournament will be 100% handicapped based off the bowlers' highest league average. Entry fee is \$35 and prize money will be awarded to the top five qualifiers in the stepladder.

Diamond Junction Bowling Lanes offers leagues during the week, Monday through Friday and many bowlers will experience a tournament format for the first time. The tournament is available for league bowlers at Diamond Junction Bowling Lanes only. The tournament will take place Saturday, Dec. 14 at 11am.

To sign up call the lanes at 413-289-0013. Diamond Junction Bowling Lanes is located at 1446 North Main St.

Railers takes two of three on the road

WICHITA, KS — The Worcester Railers HC (8-10-0-1 17pts) fell to the Wichita Thunder (10-9-1-0, 21pts), on Saturday night by the final score of 6-2 in front of a crowd of 4,009 at the INTRUST Bank Arena. The Railers are back on the ice next at the Cool Insuring Arena taking on the Adirondack Thunder on Wednesday, December 4 at 7:00 p.m. EST.

It was Wichita who tallied the first goal on the board as they took an early 1-0 lead 1:08 into the first period, with a goal from Jeremie Bucheler (1-1-2). Joe Carroll (1-0-1) extended the lead to 2-0 6:01 into the first. Colin Jacobs (1-0-1) then netted one for Worcester making it a 2-1 game. Wichita then scored two unanswered to finish the first period coming from Nolan Kneen (1-0-1) and Nolan Burke (1-0-1) making it a 4-1 Wichita lead headed into the second period. Anthony Repaci (1-0-1) scored the only second period goal with his power play goal with under a second remaining in the period. Wichita closed the game out with two third period goals, the first coming from Michal Stinil (1-1-2) on the power play while Braden Hache (1-1-2) was able to score on the empty net to close out the scoring, leaving the game with a 6-2 final score.

The scoring came early from Wichita through the first 20 min-

utes of play. Wichita got started with a goal from Jeremie Bucheler (4th) just 1:08 into the game. Joe Carroll (7th) extended the Wichita lead to 2-0 6:01 into the first. The Railers answered back with a goal from Colin Jacobs (2nd) with just over eight minutes to go in the first. Wichita finished the period by pushing their lead to 4-1 with goals from Nolan Kneen (1st) and Nolan Burke (3rd). Shots favored Worcester in the first 22-12.

Despite the five total goals in the first both teams scoring slowed down in the second period. It looked as if the second period would go without a score until Anthony Repaci (14th) scored a power play goal with under a second to go in the period making it a 4-2 game heading into the third period. Shots Favored Worcester 12-8 in the second.

The third period was another low scoring period on both ends. The stalemate was broken when the Thunder got on the power play and cashed in with a goal from Michal Stinil (10th) 16:15 into the third period. The Railers went with an empty net late in the third trying to make the comeback, but the Braden Hache (1st) of the Thunder was able to get the puck all the way down the ice and score on the empty net making the final score 6-2. Shots favored Worcester 16-12 in the third and 50-32 in the game.

Volleyball Hall mourns loss

HOLYOKE — The International Volleyball Hall of Fame announced the passing of Board of Directors member Charlie Diener on Oct. 29. He was a dedicated and long-time member of the IVHF Board of Directors.

Charlie's passion for volleyball and his unwavering commitment to the Hall of Fame were exemplified through his leadership as past Chair of the Events Committee and his many years of service to our mission.

"Charlie's legacy will live on in every event that we host, in every inductee that we honor, and in the many lives that he influenced while on the IVHF Board," said IVHF President Steve Bishop. "Back in 2017 we honored Charlie (and Rick Barry) with the inaugural IVHF President's Award for their longtime service. They set the standard for future recipients of this award."

"Charlie's contributions went far beyond the planning and execution of events," said George Mulry, IVHF Executive Director. "He brought energy, creativity, and a collaborative spirit that inspired those around him. His tireless work and genuine love for the sport have left an indelible mark on our organization, and his efforts have played a significant role in shaping the IVHF's legacy."

WNECA doubles returns to Bogey Lanes

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

EAST BROOKFIELD — The Western New England Candlepin Association returns to Bogey Lanes for their upcoming doubles tournament.

The WNECA is an organization that represents and promotes the game of candlepin bowling in the western region of New England. Bogey Lanes in East Brookfield has been one of the most common bowling centers to host tournaments and leagues in western and central Massachusetts.

Last year Bogey Lanes hosted one of the doubles tournaments during the WNECA tournament series. The doubles tournament returns to Bogey once again for the month of December and has

had an outstanding reception so far.

The tournament will consist of a total of four shifts, two on Saturday and two on Sunday. Shift times on both days are noon and 2 p.m. Each doubles team will bowl a total of three games with their handicap added afterwards. Prizes will be based on the number of entries the tournament will draw.

As of Dec. 1 the entries have grown and now have 40 teams signed up, which totals up to 80 bowlers. The tournament will take place on the weekend of Dec. 7 and 8. Many of the bowlers who compete in these tournaments come from all over western and even central Massachusetts.

During the tournament series bowlers will earn points to help determine the top 24 bowlers who compete in the season champion-

ship playoff. Last year's winner was Paul Green out of Agawam Bowl. Green is competing again in this year's WNECA tournament series and is seeking to defend the championship.

For any bowlers new to this tournament series, you must provide proof of your highest league average from last year. The average will help WNECA tournament directors determine the handicap for each bowler.

More information regarding the Western New England Candlepin Association can be found on their Facebook page. Point standings for this year's tournament series are listed on the WNECA Facebook page as well.

Cheer the bowlers on during the Doubles Tournament at Bogey Lanes, 199 North Brookfield Road.

REMEMBER TO SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SPORTS TEAMS

CHRISTMAS SALE!

GIANT TOY & BIKE DEPT!

MATTRESS SALE!

| | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| TWIN: \$199 (REGULARLY \$299) FULL: \$269 (REGULARLY \$499) FULL: \$299 (REGULARLY \$599) | FRIGIDAIRE DISHWASHER #7150 \$299⁹⁹ WAS \$599.99 | 18 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR \$599⁹⁹ WAS \$699.99 | 14 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR \$499⁹⁹ WAS \$499.99 |
| 7 CU. FT. CHEST FREEZER \$199⁹⁹ WAS \$299.99 | DELUXE WASHER OR DRYER \$399⁹⁹ WAS \$699.99 | MAYTAG DRYER OR WASHER \$549⁹⁹ WAS \$699.99 | WHIRLPOOL FRENCH DOOR BOTTOM FREEZER \$1599⁹⁹ WAS \$2,099 |
| DELUXE WHIRLPOOL WASHER \$499⁹⁹ WAS \$699.95 | AMANA GAS RANGE #AGR1533CBAS • Stainless Steel \$599⁹⁹ WAS \$699.99 | GE FRONT LOAD WASHER #GFWS05S1NWW \$699⁹⁹ WAS \$999.99 | 15 CU. FT. CHEST FREEZER \$499⁹⁹ WAS \$699.99 |
| 50" HDTV \$229.99 (Regularly \$549.99) | 55" Samsung \$379.99 (Regularly \$449.99) | 75" Samsung \$699.99 (Regularly \$799.99) | 85" Samsung \$1199.99 (Regularly \$1499.99) |

NO CREDIT? BAD CREDIT? NEW EASY FINANCING TERMS ON EVERYTHING IN THE STORE!

WHITCO

140 MAIN STREET SPENCER, MA
508.885.9343

SEE WHITCOSALES.COM FOR 100'S OF DEALS!

Store Hours: Mon. through Fri: 10am-8:30pm • Sat: 10am-8pm • Sun: 12pm-7pm

HALL OF FAME, continued from page 7

dream realized for many of the sports' up and coming stars," said Louis Theros, MGM Springfield President and COO. "MGM Springfield is incredibly proud to support and celebrate the Classic, honoring basketball's rich legacy, inspiring future generations, bringing visitors to downtown, and shining a light on the

City of Firsts."

"The Basketball Hall of Fame Classic is a slam dunk for Massachusetts tourism," said Kate Fox, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism. "By celebrating World Basketball Day in the sport's birthplace, we're inviting visitors from across the country to experience the excitement of the game and explore our state's diverse offerings."

Get Ready For Winter! It's Here!

Studded Snows Can Go On Nov. 1st

ORIGINAL TIRE CO.

Joseph West
SOUTH ATHOL ROAD, ATHOL 978-249-3477
OPEN MON., WED. & FRI. 8 A.M. TO 5 P.M.
TUES. & THURS. 8 A.M. TO 2 P.M.
SAT. 8 A.M. TO NOON

Tickets for the 2024 Basketball Hall of Fame Classic are on sale now via massmutualcenter.com and the MassMutual Center Box Office. For more information, please visit hoopball.com. Group ticket pricing and hospitality opportunities are also available.

Support the local businesses that support your local newspaper.

Let them know you saw their ad in the

Barre Gazette

Education

Be our guest for student production

On Nov. 15-17, 2024 the Quabbin Regional Middle High School Performing Arts put on an incredible performance of the beloved Disney classic Beauty and the Beast.

Every show ended up being a “sold out” event, which the team handled beautifully as they worked hard to settle audience members into seats and begin the show. One unusual aspect of the event was the unprecedented level of student involvement and participation.

As with many productions, there are always only so many roles to fill onstage. However, this year the performing arts group worked closely with the students from our Innovation Pathway program to involve them in authentic and necessary tasks that made the production even more spectacular. Ms. Lisa Payne, Artistic Director and Innovation Pathway teacher, worked with Madeline Oliver, design intern and Summer Young, Jasmine Young and Evelyn Giese on “set design,” which was truly spectacular.

The artistic elements were absolutely stunning and enjoyed by all. The costumes, designed by community member Linda Tomasi, assisted by student Rosilyn Lyden, brought this performance of “Beauty and the Beast” to the next level of artistry and perfectly complemented the spectacular set and the work of the student actors on stage.

Audience members could even have their picture taken in a Beauty and The Beast themed photo stand-in board that was created by students: Vanecia Tarquinio, Adelynn Prochnow, Madison Mertzitz and Lauren Orne. Additionally, they designed and produced all of the posters, programs, and merchandise. They are all students of our Innovation Pathway Capstone Class under the direction of Ms. Pam Chisholm.

Students, staff and beloved volunteers Cameron Christie, David Tuttle, Summer Young, Jasmine Young, Hunter Young, Owen O’Donnell, Andrew Erickson, Kailynn Schuster and Benjamin Metcalf constructed superbly well functioning sets. The sets allowed for an amazing flow and brought the audience deeply into the setting of the story.

To further immerse the audience, our sound and lighting team, made up of students Benjamin Darcey, Quinlan Fauteux and Sawyer Harmon under the direction of Ms. Toni Brown and Brian Silver, worked diligently to adjust lights and sound throughout the production. A real musical always has a fabulous pit band to accompany the performers and ours was filled with students, alumni, staff and more beloved volunteers. Thank you to Lisa Utzig, Music Director and her team: Eric Blumenthal, Abe Brown, Jason Brown, Toni Brown, Tess Dunphy, Margaret Reidy, Annabelle Silver, Brian Silver and Evalynn Vasseur. Their music made the audience feel every heartbeat.

Choreographer, Hannah Hall, from Next Step Studio of the Performing Arts ensured that our cast moved beautifully and seamlessly across the stage and around the theater itself. Triumphant kick lines and full production numbers left the audience awestruck. Dancers and performers Audrey Laursen, Anna Metcalf, Sophia Pascale, and Catherine Tucker exhibited emotion and joy through their movement.

Jahzara Tweedell, as the narrator, helped to set the context as the talented and articulate actors and actresses brought the tale to life. Ms. Julia Tuttle, Director and Drama teacher, could not have cast the characters any more perfectly as each student had the ability to showcase their strengths. Jordan Blanchard shined as Mrs. Potts where her melodic voice truly created a sense of welcome and well being. Luke Salvatore as Gaston entertained the crowd with his confident swagger and self assuredness. Luminere and Cogsworth, played by Eliza Brown and Irene Stolgitis, brought personality and spunk to their inanimate characters making them appear human and completely lovable.



The pit band provided the musical accompaniment for “Beauty and the Beast” put on by the Quabbin Regional Middle High School Performing Arts.

Sebastian Palomera-Espinoza, Adeelya Andrade, Aidan Mahoney, Sophia Pascale, Kayleigh Fuller, Bug Packard and Elizabeth Lambert brought wit, humor, grace and voice to each of their roles. Winter Boyea, Kalypso DeCologero, Emily DeMalia, Janelle Hutchinson, Ava Kinney, Grace Lantiegne, Rosilyn Lyden, Ryann Oliver, Arianna Riendeau, Bella Spring and JuJuTweedell, were also integral cast members as they worked to fulfill multiple roles.

The backstage crew, headed by alum Amanda Schuster and made up of students Andrew Erickson, Ben Metcalf, Owen O’Donnell, Kailynn Schuster, Jasmine Young and Summer Young worked hard to make all of the transitions seamless from one scene to the next.

Perhaps some of the most magical moments of the night were from the performances of Isabel Coviello as “Belle” and Auguste Bellerose as “The Beast.” Isabel’s lilting voice drew the audience into her pain and her joy while Auguste’s portrayal of The Beast resulted in transforming the audience’s emotions from strong dislike and revulsion to empathy and endorsement.

Ms. Julia Tuttle began the show by stating that “it takes a village” to be able to put on a production of the magnitude of “Beauty and The Beast” and I have to echo that statement. So many members of our Quabbin staff and community worked diligently for many months alongside our students to make this performance happen.

If you had the pleasure to take part in this magical experience, I know you’ll agree with me that Quabbin is a very special learning community and this production illustrates our belief in our students, their dreams and their abilities. Thank you to everyone involved- including our Pro Musica Booster Club, volunteers and staff. Kudos to our students, seeing each of you shine and share your joy is simply inspiring.



Quabbin Regional Middle High School Performing Arts presented “Beauty and the Beast Nov. 15 to Nov. 17.



This is a scene from the production of “Beauty and the Beast” at Quabbin Regional Middle High School.



The cast of “Beauty and the Beast” perform a dance number.

Quabbin Regional Middle Schools lists honor roll

BARRE – Quabbin Regional Middle School, 800 South St., announces the first quarter honor roll.

Grade 7 High Honors

Grade 7 students making High Honors are: Saylor Bissonnette, Julia Blanchard, Winter Boyea, Eliza Brown, Joyce Brown, Emily DeMalia, Brody Despres, Maria Hamm, Nolan Herrick, Pele Johnson, Chiara Manna, Madeline Omasta, Sebastian Palomera-Espinoza, Owen Pears, Madeleine Proulx, Katy Twarog and Elizabeth Welch.

Grade 7 Honors

Grade 7 students making Honors are: Albert Afonso, Harrison Ashton, Addyson Barringer, Owen Black, Amelia Breault, Cameron Bruley, Ashlynn Casey, Jack Castell, Henry Corbett, Christopher Dallair, Sophia Dittami, Lane Fargnoli, Addison Ford, Lucas Gaspar, Meaghan Glidden, Gabriel Houle, Aimee Ickler, Evelyn Johnson, Noah Kelter, Amy Landrin, Theodore Langer, Mathieu LeBlanc, Jack Leclair, Mackenzie Lesvesque, Ava Maxim, Bree May, Cameron McDonald, Valerie Metterville, Brayden Nadeau, Calleb Oliveira, Ashton Pride, Evelyn Priestley, Autumn Rector, Lily Ryan, Thomas Schoonmaker, Andrew Scott, Hannah Shotwell, Madalyn Simons, Bella Spring, Emma Stauder, Fiona Stevens, Arina Timofeev, Kailyn Traynham, Maggie Ward, Charlie White, Lila Wilson, Skylar Wisniewski and Raeyn Wnek.

Grade 8 High Honors

Grade 8 students making High Honors are: Kalina Bassett, Hazel Carter, Lauren Colleton, Caleb Conway-Dias, Adalyn Cranston, Madison Cyr, Kalypso DeCologero, Jeremy DeMoranville, Fiona Derr, Brynn Dunphy, Xavier Fjeld, Silas Flint, Nathan Gringras, Olivia Gregory, Hayston Hay, Madisyn Hill, Reese Jamieson, Sarah Jean-Francois, Gemma Mullins, Greyson Mullins, Olivia O’Connor, Whitney Reeves, Chloe Richardson, Ava Rogowski, Jacob Rosario, Zoey Salvatore, Dimas Santos Jr., Madisyn Shotwell, Annabelle Silver, Addison Surprenant, Michael Tabares, Robert Tobin, Launa Tran, John Tyler, Robyn Waltz and Jack Wynne.

Grade 8 Honors

Grade 8 students making Honors are: Oliva Abbas-Peck, Emma Ackert, Adeelya Andrade, Alison Baptiste, Joseph Cook, Natalia Cordero-Martel, Gabriel DelGiudice, Landon Devine, Aryanna Donofrio, Eli Doolittle, Jasmine Ewing, Maya Faucher, Finian Fauteux, Lindsay Fors, Tsadiku Fox, Juliana Guilderson, Madison Haley, Sawyer Harmon, Jace Jones, Aubrey Lawson, Weston Letendre, Allie Lipiec, Sage McQueston, Annalyce Miller, Morgan Montague, Lunabelle Moore, Layla Nally, Sarah Neal, William O’Neill, Dante Orcutt, Quinn Ouimette, Joseph Perrone, Nathaniel Perry, Lukas Potter, Kimberly Riendeau, Sophia Rogers, Connor Roohan, Alexis Savary, Madison Scanlon, Deven Skinner, Rosalie Stark, Tucker Talbot, Mackenzie Toupin, Hallee Vasquez, Maxwell Wade, Isabelle Wentworth, Gareth White and Sarai Zhindon.

Gemma Gabrielli inducted into Psi Chi, International Honor Society in psychology

WORCESTER – Assumption University’s Department of Psychology announced Gemma Gabrielli, of Barre, Class of 2025, became a member of Psi Chi, the International Honor Society in Psychology.

“We are extremely proud of our newly inducted Psi Chi members. May this honor be a stepping stone to even greater success,” said Associate Professors of Psychology Maria Parmley and Karen Lionello-Denolf, Co-Faculty Advisors to Assumption University’s Psi Chi Chapter. “We are confident that these members will support our chapter’s dedication to promoting the science and application of psychology and integrating it with the University’s mission of thriving in the company of friends. Congratulations to our inductees. May they continue to inspire others with their dedication, passion, and pursuit of excellence.”

Psi Chi was founded with the purpose of encouraging, stimulating and maintaining excellence in scholarship, and advancing the science of psychology. Membership is open to graduate and undergraduates, of sophomore, junior, or senior academic standing, who major or minor in psychology. Inductees must have completed nine semester hours of psychology courses, rank in the top 35% of their class, and have a minimum grade point average of 3.25. Members of Psi Chi have the opportunity to submit scholarly articles to the Psi Chi Journal of Psychological Research, apply for research grants, and attend and present at regional and national conferences.

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.

Tree and Wreath festival

PALMER— The Palmer Historical and Cultural Center is holding its 12th Annual Tree and Wreath Festival starting on Friday evening, Dec. 6, starting at 4 p.m. The festival continues on Saturday, Dec. 7 and Sunday, Dec. 8 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. PHCC is located at 2072 Main St., Three Rivers. Harmony Hall is fully decked out with over 35 trees and wreaths that are being raffled off. Admission is free. Live music performers are scheduled for entertainment and kids activities offered in the lower level Villages Room. A

Loved Ones tree is displayed where guests can purchase an ornament and write the name of a loved one they wish to remember. The Loved Ones tree is set up with each year with all ornaments purchased over the years are also displayed. Raffle tickets can be purchased at the door for \$1 each or 10 tickets for \$5. If you bring an unwrapped toy for the Palmer Lions Club you will receive a free ticket for each toy you donate.

For more information and images please visit the PHCC website www.palmerhcc.org.

Winter craft fair on Dec. 7

PALMER— Winter craft fair to be held on Saturday, Dec. 7 at Palmer High School, 4105 Main St., Palmer. Where creativity and holiday spirit merge. Wonderful unique and handmade treasures for a truly magical season. For more information contact nlachance5282009@gmail.com.

LOCAL KETONE PROMOTER

Call For Information
413-813-2391

Leave Message

Check Out Facebook at
Denise Dubowski

Save Up To 25% OFF
Retail Prices

McNeely Tree Service

Insured • References

- Hazardous Tree Removal
- Stump Grinding
- Bobcat Work
- Lot Clearing • Storm work
- Furnace Wood
- Firewood \$275/cord
- 101 ft Aerial Lift Rental POR
- Credit Cards, Cash & Venmo Accepted



H: 508-867-6119 • C: 978-888-1693

Church News

Local pastors offer sermons

Season of Giving Part 1

Christmas is a season of giving.

How can we not give in light of what the Lord has given us? Of course, I am not referring solely to the giving of gifts on Christmas morning. Rather, I am referring to the giving of ourselves for the benefit of others. What does such giving look like? What have we to offer beyond finances or the lovingly-wrapped tokens of our affection?

1) Time

One of my Bible school professors taught that "love" is spelled T-I-M-E and that we should give of that time to others. We invest significant portions of our time into our jobs, schooling, homes, hobbies, etc. Should we not be as diligent to invest in family, close friends, and those in need in our community? You and I must learn to give others quality time and undivided personal attention.

One of the things that amazes me about the life of Christ is how much He accomplished in so short a time. Do you realize that the whole of His public ministry lasted only about three years? Consider the schedule Jesus must have maintained in order to fulfill the will of His Father.

Yet He always made time to pour into His innermost circle of disciples, to minister to those in need and to connect with those who came across His path. Should we not emulate such an example? Let us heed the wisdom of this scriptural selection:

Psalm 90:12 (NIV)

12 Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

2) Gifts and Talents

Do you realize that everyone has been given gifts by God to use for the betterment of others?

Romans 12:4-8

4 For just as each of us has one body with many members and these members do not all have the same function, 5 so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. 6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; 7 if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; 8 if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

What gifts or abilities do you possess and how might they be used to serve others? In what ways can you invest your area(s) of expertise and relative strength into those around you? You never know the difference that someone just like you can make! Remember that heaven takes note of even the smallest act of kindness done in Christ's Name.

Matthew 10:42

42 "And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward."

3) Words

Many claim that "talk is cheap." I suppose this is true to a point, but few things can be as enriching or comforting as healthful words spoken in season. Have you ever been blessed by a kind word, compliment or

a hand-written card? If so, then you have experienced the reality of the following passage:

Proverbs 16:24

24 Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.

Scripture places a high premium on what pours forth from our mouths. In fact, we are under obligation to obey the following command (Eph. 4:29): "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen." This Christmas season, do not underestimate the power of your words, for the tongue has the power of life and death (Prov. 18:21a)!

Are you looking to give the perfect gift this holiday season? If so, consider the giving of your time, your talents and love-infused words. You will find that these are truly gifts worth giving.

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

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

Pastor James Foley

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

First Sunday of Advent

"The Power and the Glory of the Son of God"

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

Scripture Reading:

Luke 21 v 25 – 27

I. Introduction

We are at the doorstep of an extraordinary time in the life of the church, the remembrance of the birth of Christ. It is a beautiful time of year. Many homes and streets, and Christmas trees are being decorated with lights and colors of green and gold. Many of us are planning how we will spend our time during those very special days. There are also many who do not have the company of loved ones, and we have the opportunity to see where we can be a presence of love and care for those in these difficult situations.

II. The Power and the Glory of the Son of God

As we are approaching Christmas Day, we are reflecting on the importance of that day for all of us. His birth is set within a wonderful context, about the angel Gabriel who was sent by God to Mary to announce that she will give birth to the Son of the Most High. We read how Mary glorifies the Lord, who recognized her humble state and who will lift up the humble and bring down the rulers from their thrones.

Her God will fill the hungry and send the rich away. Her God will lift up the poor and the needy like herself. We read about Jesus being born in a manger, and that there was no room in the Inn for him and his parents. And then there are the shepherds in the fields who while watching their sheep were visited by angels who brought them the

good news of the birth of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

The circumstances surrounding the birth of Christ are both miraculous, glorious and majestic, and also so humble on the other hand. Despite His humble beginnings, He would be the King of Kings, the Messiah the prophets spoke about years before.

His birth would signal the power and glory of the Son of God, and His birth would be celebrated all over the world by many nations. He will have a power from within to save and forgive humanity for their sins and unite them with God Almighty. Christmas Day is therefore a Day of love and peace and joy for the world.

III. Advent as the Second Coming of our Lord

However, we are still on the first Sunday of Advent, the period of preparation for that special Day. The power and the glory of the Son of God stayed with Him throughout His 30 plus years on earth. We see that in His power to heal the sick, in the miracles He performed and more. His message had a power of love that would overcome hate, and bring people together instead of driving them apart. His message was simple, love God and neighbor as yourself.

And so, here in this passage in Luke we read about another coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. This time round we do not read about the nostalgia and wonder of His birth, but we read about a terrifying second coming of our Lord. He speaks about it Himself to His disciples about the end of time.

It is, as David Garland describes it in his Commentary on Luke, a climactic judgment of the world / the nations. Everyone will see and experience this second coming. It will be again the display of Divine power through the Son of God who had been sitting at the right hand of God, but in a different way.

He will come on a cloud in Divine glory. He will dethrone those who have dominion over others and will show this world a different kind of power, the power of love, but also the power of a Judge over the earth. Those who have followed Him will receive redemption, but those who persistently ignore His message of redemption will experience the terror of what they see around them. He calls upon those who believe in Him and His power to continue to pray, and to stand upright and be ready to face the Son of God.

IV. Conclusion

Advent is therefore both a message of the birth of Christ, and about His second coming. It is about the simple power of Divine love that wants to heal and redeem humanity and all the earth. We must therefore prepare ourselves to celebrate Christmas in all its beauty and message of peace and we must prepare and ready our hearts and lives always to receive our Lord when He comes again. It is not a message of fear, but one that encourages us all to live within the merciful presence of the Powerful Son of God.

Amen

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

Robert C. Grossman, 62

HARDWICK – God called home his faithful servant, Robert Cooper Grossman on Nov. 2, 2024, at age 62 after a long battle with mental illness. Born in Manhattan, Kansas to parents Rodney Charles Grossman and Judith Marie Berg, Robert grew up in Lafayette, Louisiana, an excellent student, who played trombone, starred in the city football league and was a proud Boy Scout. He worked as a busboy in Lafayette, Louisiana and in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Robert moved to Hardwick in 1978 to attend Quabbin Regional High School where he played trombone in award-winning Symphonic Winds. Robert's first break of mental illness occurred in 1979 before he could graduate; but he received a GED in 1981. For the next 45 years until his passing, Robert struggled with mental illness and spent his adult life striving to attain his goals in a blur of health care settings and residences. For a long period, he was able to live a contented life on his own in Gardner attending Mt. Wachusett Community College to fulfill his dream of earning an advanced degree.

Robert was a gifted design-

er and writer. He read intently, created models of geodesic domes, and wrote short stories based on characters imagined from his days working as a busboy. Besides reading and writing Robert maintained a strong relationship with God and Church. He was fluent with both the King James and Good News Bibles. Through the church, his councilors and peers, and programs like AA and NicA, he found structure and inspiration to stay well and helped others in return.

Robert became known in the mental health community as a powerful advocate for his peers and as a volunteer in recovery and support services like Genesis Club, Kiva Center, and Crystal House. A disabled American, Robert chose to "donate myself to science even if it only helps one person."

Robert joins his father Rodney Grossman, and leaves behind his mother Judith Kohn, stepfather Henry Kohn, stepmother Louise Trahan, his brother Geoffrey, sister-in-law Maryrose Grossman, and their children, his nephews,



Benjamin and Aiden. Robert also leaves behind his friend and the love of his life, Clara Dupel.

A Celebration of Robert's Life entitled End of Darkness and Return to Light will be held at the Gilbertville Stone Church 283 Main Street, Gilbertville, MA Sunday, Dec. 22, 2024, at 3 pm. Pastor Nathan Pederson of the Tri Parish Community Church of Hardwick New Braintree and Gilbertville will lead the service and Peter Krasinski will play the church's historic pipe organ.

Optional Soup and Social begins before the service at 1:30 p.m. and dessert will follow the 3 p.m. event. All are welcome.

A prior celebration to include the larger mental health community will take place at the Worcester Recovery Center Hospital Chapel 309 Belmont St., Worcester, MA on Dec. 15, 2024, at 1 pm.

Charbonneau Funeral Home, 30 Pleasant St. in Ware assisted with his care. An online tribute book is available at charbonneauhf.com

Thomas Frances Taylor, 79



BARRE/GREER, SC – Thomas Frances Taylor, 79, passed away peacefully at Sterling Village on Nov. 27, 2024 with brother-in-law Joe Petracone and sister-in-law Rosemary Petracone by his side.



Tom was born in Ludlow, the son of the late George and Mary Taylor, on May 15, 1945. He was a graduate of Barre High School and continued school earning a bachelor's degree from WPI and then his master's degree from Northeastern University both in mechanical engineering.

He was employed by GE for 43 years before retiring in 2010. Tom proudly served in the U.S. Army achieving the rank of Second Lieutenant as a field engineer stationed in Germany.

Tom was an avid golfer. He loved his yearly golf trips to

Myrtle Beach with the guys from GE and also loved spending time at Cape Cod with Jeanne. While Tom was stationed in Germany, he and Jeanne were very fortunate to tour Europe. Tom loved living in Greer, South Carolina. The warm weather allowed him to pretty much golf all year round.

Tom leaves behind his sister, Kathy Taylor, sister-in-law, Rosemary Petracone, brother-in-laws, John Petracone and his wife Diana, Joseph Petracone, Jr. and Michelle and Michael Petracone and his wife Margo, Aunt Sister Rose Aliquo; three nephews, a niece, three grandnephews and two grandnieces. Tom was predeceased by his wife of 55 years, Jeanne Petracone Taylor, on Sept. 15, 2024.

DEATH NOTICES

Grossman, Robert Cooper
Died Nov. 2, 2024

Celebration of Life Sunday,
Dec. 22 at 3 p.m.
Gilbertville Stone Church,
283 Main St., Gilbertville

Taylor, Thomas Frances
Died Nov. 27, 2024

Funeral Mass Dec. 6, 2024
at 11 a.m.
St. Thomas A Becket Church,
Vernon Avenue, South Barre

He will be greatly missed by everyone.

The funeral for Tom will be held on Friday, Dec. 6, 2024 with an 11 a.m. Mass in St. Thomas A Becket Church, Vernon Avenue, South Barre. Burial will follow in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Barre. Arrangements are under the care of Pillsbury Funeral Home, 96 South Barre Road, Barre.

New Life Assembly participated in Operation Christmas Child

SOUTH BARRE – New Life Assembly of God, 60 Main St., once again participated in the annual ministry of Operation Christmas Child.

Operation Christmas Child, a project of the larger Samaritan's Purse led by Rev. Franklin Graham, has collected and delivered over 220 million shoeboxes to children in more than 170 countries and territories since 1993. Each shoebox, containing an array of gift items packed by families like yours, serves to spread Christmas cheer and the message of Jesus Christ to impoverished children all over the world.

This year New Life packed over 220 shoeboxes for this global effort. Would you consider participating next year? Those looking for more information on Samaritan's Purse and the ministry of Operation Christmas Child should visit their website at <https://www.samaritanspurse.org>. They hope 2025 brings them the opportunity to do even more as a community. Those interested in the ministry of New Life can visit their website at www.NewLifeBarre.org.



Submitted photo

New Life Assembly of God in South Barre packed over 220 shoeboxes for the annual ministry of Operation Christmas Child.

New Life Assembly of God lists Christmas services

SOUTH BARRE – New Life Assembly of God, 60 Main St., will hold a Carols and Communion Service on Thursday, Dec. 19 from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

This Christmas gathering features Christ-centered carols, a message and Communion. The Christmas Sunday Service will be held Sunday, Dec. 22 from 10:30 a.m.-noon at the church.

Nativities From Around the World displayed Dec. 5-8

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The 15th annual Nativities From Around the World held at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 108 New Braintree Road (Route 67) will be displayed for four days, Dec. 5-8.

Dates and times include Friday, Dec. 6 from 4-8 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 7 from 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 8 from noon-2 p.m.

There will be over 500 nativities displayed this year and all will be in settings of various Christmas themes. Some are old,

some are new, some are classic and others modern.

It is always amazing how many ways the human spirit and artistry can portray the central theme of Christmas, the birth of Christ.

There is never a charge of any kind, nor any donation or solicitation for any event at the Church, including the Nativities display. All are warmly welcomed.

The Church is located 2.2 miles north of the North Brookfield town center.

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

Barre Gazette OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

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

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

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

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

Public Notices

**LEGAL NOTICE
REQUEST FOR
PROPOSALS FOR
THE REVALUATION
UPDATE OF REAL
AND PERSONAL
PROPERTY
FOR FISCAL YEAR
2026 WITHIN THE
TOWN OF OAKHAM,
MA**

The Town of Oakham is seeking proposals for the FY26 revaluation update required by the Dept of Revenue. Sealed proposals will be received by the Oakham Board of Assessors by 6PM on February 3, 2025.

Bid Specs can be found online @ www.oakham-ma.gov
12/05/2024

**BARRE
PLANNING BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING**

The Barre Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, December 17, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.** in the **Henry Woods Municipal Building, 40 West Street, 3rd Floor**, requested by American Tower, and LD Acquisition Company, LLC/Breitenwischer, James K. & Kelly L., holder of option, for a special Permit/Eligible Facilities Request for the modification of an existing wireless communica-

tion facility by collocating Verizon Wireless' wireless facility which includes an emergency back-up power generator on a proposed concrete pad within a vinyl fence with noise reduction equipment, the same design as previously approved at property located at 937 Hubbardston Road, Assessors Map F, Lot 79 and recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds Book 68695, Page 39.

Anyone wishing to comment on this matter should attend the hearing or submit comments in writing prior to the hearing to the Planning Board.
Floyd Kelley
Chairman
12/05, 12/12/2024

**BARRE
PLANNING BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING**

The Barre Planning Board will hold public hearing on **Tuesday, December 17, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.** in the **Henry Woods Municipal Building, 40 West Street, Boards' Office, 3rd Floor**, requested by James K. & Kelly L., holder of option, for a special Permit/Eligible Facilities Request for the modification of an existing wireless communica-

erty located at 499 Vernon Avenue, Assessors Map H, Lot 52 and recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds Book 67145, Page 251 and 252.

All persons who wish to comment on this matter should attend the hearing, or submit comments in writing prior to the hearing to the Planning Board.
Floyd Kelley
Chairman
12/05, 12/12/2024

**NOTICE OF
MORTGAGEE'S
SALE OF REAL
ESTATE**

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by William C. Dupell, III, Tanya M. Gryzowka-Dupell to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for CitiBank, N.A., dated October 16, 2015 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 54453, Page 120, as modified by a certain modification agreement dated May 24, 2022, and recorded with said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 67776, Page 234, of which mortgage the

undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for CitiBank, N.A. its successors and assigns to CitiMortgage, Inc., recorded on May 9, 2016, in Book No. 55296, at Page 345 CitiMortgage, Inc. to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., recorded on July 25, 2017, in Book No. 57470, at Page 376 Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. to NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, recorded on May 4, 2020, in Book No. 62326, at Page 290 for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at **2:00 PM on December 17, 2024**, on the mortgage premises located at 1476 Patrill Hollow Road, Hardwick, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage.

TO WIT: A certain parcel of land situated on the northwesterly side of Patrill Hollow Road, in Hardwick, Massachusetts and being the lot containing 4 acres shown on a plan entitled "Plan

of Land in Hardwick, Massachusetts, Surveyed for Karl D. and Brenda L. Germain" dated March 13, 1995, by Daniel A. Para, Land Surveyor, Inc., and being recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 692, Page 24, to which plan reference is made for a more particular description.

The Grantee takes the parcel conveyed hereunder with notice and acknowledgement that the parcel conveyed is adjacent to the Hardwick Landfill which is owned by Hardwick Landfill, Inc. and although not being operated as a landfill on the date of conveyance, the Grantor or a successor in interest may seek permits and, if granted, operate the Landfill in the future. As a part of the consideration for this conveyance the Grantees have agreed not to object to the reopening of the Landfill in the future. This provision shall survive the delivery of the deed.

For mortgagor's(s') title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 54452, Page 210.

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the ben-

efit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of Ten Thousand (\$10,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this

publication.
Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

**NEWREZ LLC
D/B/A SHELLPOINT
MORTGAGE
SERVICING**
Present holder of said mortgage

By its Attorneys,
**HARMON LAW
OFFICES, P.C.**
150 California St.
Newton, MA 02458
(617)558-0500
26043
11/21, 11/28, 12/05/2024

**PUBLIC AUCTION
NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN PURSUANT TO
THE PROVISIONS OF
M.L.C. 225 SEC.39A
THE FOLLOWING
VEHICLES WILL BE
SOLD ON **December
7, 2024** AT A SALE
TO SATISFY OUR
GARAGE LIEN
THEREON
FOR TOWING &
STORAGE CHARGES
AND EXPENSES OF
SALE AND NOTICE:**

- 2005 Acura RSX
VIN: JH4DC54805S001701
- 1973 Harley Davidson
VIN: 5A44349H3
- 2015 BMW 4 Series
VIN: WBA3T1C54FP821004
- 2010 Jeep Compass
VIN: 1J4NT4FB1AD595488
- 2018 Acura TLX
VIN: 19UUB1F32JA003496
- 2006 Infiniti G35
VIN: JNKCV51F66M600679
- 2014 Toyota Camry
4T4BF1FK3ER355803
- 2004 Pontiac Vibe
VIN: 5Y2SL62804Z434703
- 2008 BMW 7 Series
VIN: WBAHN83508DT86558
- 2010 Toyota Camry
VIN: 4T1BF3EK0AU570153
- 2012 Acura TSX
VIN: JH4CU2F45CC003095

THE SALE WILL BE HELD AT EARLY'S ON PARK AVE. 536 PARK AVE. WORCESTER, MA 01603
11/21, 11/28, 12/05/2024



MassDOT and RMV recognize older driver safety awareness week

BOSTON – The Massachusetts Department of Transportation and the Registry of Motor Vehicles are raising awareness about the unique challenges facing drivers, who are 65 years of age and older and encouraging families, friends and providers to initiate critical conversations about driver safety and mobility.

During Older Driver Safety Awareness Week, which runs Monday, Dec. 2, through Friday, Dec. 6, valuable information is shared to help inform driving decisions. This informational campaign promotes a wide range of resources that encourage discussions around older driver safety. The theme for this year, from the American Occupational Therapy Association, is "Understand, Be Proactive, Plan" to highlight the importance of building understanding as a means to planning and making decisions involving older drivers.

"Older Driver Safety Awareness Week is a reminder to all of us to support older drivers year-round with the resources they need to make informed decisions about mobility and road safety," said Transportation Secretary and CEO Monica Tibbitts-Nutt. "Every user of our transportation system deserves to feel safe, and we are committed to making older individuals who drive have the information and support they need to make the best decisions for themselves and others."

"Driving is an essential everyday task for many older adults, and it is important to recognize when action is needed to preserve safety," said Registrar of Motor Vehicles Colleen Ogilvie. "This year, we're encouraging individuals to engage in early planning discussions with families and friends and to use the resources we've developed to navigate any changes in driving ability. By working together, we can support older drivers in making informed decisions about their mobility options."

Decisions about driving ability should never be based on age alone. However, changes in vision, reflexes, physical fitness, and cognitive fitness may cause

safety concerns. Most older adults outlive their ability to drive safely by an average of seven to ten years, according to AAA Traffic Safety Foundation. Being proactive about safe driving skills, learning ways to identify changes early, and intervening as soon as possible can help older drivers maintain safe mobility.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the U.S. population of people 65 and older increased by 30% between 2013 and 2022. Additionally, in 2022, the number of traffic deaths involving a driver 65 years of age and older was the highest since at least 1975. NHTSA reminds motorists that simply getting older doesn't mean it's time to hang up their keys, but they should evaluate how they – or loved ones – drive.

The RMV offers the following resources and workshops for older adults and providers:

Visit the RMV's website for older driver resources and learn more about older driver safety.

Attend one of the RMV's free Safe Driving workshops, which can be requested by community organizations and associations that cater to older individuals:

Shifting Gears – rules of the road, defensive driving, and safe driving tips.

The Driving Decision – advice for families and providers who are concerned about a person's ability to drive safely.

View RMV's video, Shifting Gears, which highlights how age-related changes can affect a person's ability to drive and how everyone can support older driver safety and mobility.

Review "Your Health and Driving Safety" to learn about license policies and procedures, driving evaluation programs, warning signs of unsafe driving, and to identify alternatives to driving.

All RTAs in Massachusetts provide reduced fare programs for seniors who ride public transportation on RTA services – and 13 of the 15 RTAs are currently participating in fare-free service for all ages.

3

EASY WAYS TO SUBSCRIBE TODAY

**Don't miss a week
of your hometown
news source!**

PLEASE CONSIDER
SUBSCRIBING

Current recipients of our weekly paper enjoy town news, local stories and articles of interest generated in Barre, Oakham, Hubbardston and the surrounding communities.

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

Each week you'll receive

TOWN HALL NEWS • BUSINESS HAPPENINGS • AREA EVENTS • SPORTS
COMMUNITY STORIES • SCHOOL COVERAGE • CLASSIFIEDS & MORE!

1 Please complete the form below, and mail it in a secure envelope to:

Barre Gazette
24 Water Street
Palmer, MA 01069

2 **CALL NOW**

413.283.8393

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING
YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER!

3 Use our website to securely subscribe online at BARREGAZETTE.TURLEY.COM

Early Deadlines

for all LEGAL NOTICES...

**All Papers
Will Deadline
Thursday, Dec. 19
at Noon for
Publication
Dec. 23-27**

Happy Holidays!

Happy New Year!

**All Papers
Will Deadline
Friday, Dec. 27
at Noon for
Publication
Dec. 30-Jan. 3**

Yes!

**I want to
subscribe
to the
Barre Gazette!**

Enclosed is my payment for:

\$33 1 year in state

\$38 1 year out of state

\$44 2 year in state

\$54 2 year out of state

CHECK ENCLOSED

CHARGE MY CREDIT CARD

3 Use our website to securely subscribe online at BARREGAZETTE.TURLEY.COM

New Renewal Gift A GIFT CARD WILL BE SENT TO ANNOUNCE YOUR GIFT!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Credit Card #: _____

Exp. Date: _____ CW2 code: _____

Signature _____

GIFT TO:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

BG20

Public Safety

Barre Police Log

Monday, Nov. 18
 12:01 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident – No Fire Department/EMS Response, Hubbardston Road, No Action Required
 7:50 a.m. Animal – Wildlife, Worcester Road, Information Given
 4:21 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Root Road, Negative Contact
 5:01 p.m. Juvenile Runaway, South Street, Returned to Family/Guardian
 7:15 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, South Street, Information Taken

Tuesday, Nov. 19
 6:01 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Written Warning
 9:45 a.m. Property – Lost and Found, South Street, Public Assist
 12:01 p.m. Illegal Dumping, Barre Falls Dam, Negative Contact
 12:19 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Trauma, Sunrise Avenue, Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, Nov. 20
 10:28 a.m. Motor Vehicle Hit and Run, South Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 11:09 a.m. Public Assist, Barre Police Headquarters, Public Assist
 2:06 p.m. Fire – Brush and Wildland Fires, Gardner Road, Fire Extinguished

2:35 p.m. Harassment, South Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 5:01 p.m. Vandalism, Gauthier Road, No Action Required

Thursday, Nov. 21
 9:42 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, Franklin, Officer Spoke to Party
 12:25 p.m. Landlord Tenant/Neighbor Dispute, Barre Police Headquarters, Officer Spoke to Party
 3:57 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Exchange Street, Transported to Hospital
 4:31 p.m. Fire – Smoke Investigation, Worcester Road, Area Search Negative

Friday, Nov. 22
 9:25 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Vernon Avenue, Written Warning
 10:07 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Vernon Avenue, Written Warning
 1:18 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Ruggles Lane, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 3:29 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Trauma, Broad Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 7:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident –

No Fire Department/EMS Response, South Street, Investigated

Saturday, Nov. 23
 8:52 a.m. Fire – Power Lines Down/Arcing, Pleasant Street, Referred to Other Agency
 6:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Barre Road, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Boudreau, Michael R. Sr., 66, Barre
 Charges Uninsured Motor Vehicle
 6:56 p.m. Juvenile Runaway, South Street, Officer/Chief Advised
 7:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Walton, Hannah Jean, 22, Spencer
 Charges Uninsured Motor Vehicle, Lights Violation, Motor Vehicle
 10:54 p.m. ACO Lost and Found/Wildlife, Barre Common, Officer/Chief Advised
 11:58 p.m. Noise Complaint, Worcester Road, Report Filed

Sunday, Nov. 24
 5:25 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Bleeding (Non-Traumatic), Common Street, Transported to Hospital

Rutland Police Log

Monday, Nov. 18
 1:10 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Bleeding (Non-Traumatic), Maple Avenue, Mutual Aid Transport
 7:36 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Turkey Hill Road, Mutual Aid Transport
 8:01 a.m. Fire – Illegal Burn, Cedar Avenue, Fire Extinguished
 8:10 a.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Edson Avenue, Vehicle Removed
 8:54 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Wilson Way, Referred to Other Agency
 10:45 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Glenwood Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 12:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 1:27 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Glenwood Road, Transported to Hospital
 2:36 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, East County Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 3:50 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, East County Road, Investigated
 5:14 p.m. Illegal Burn, Campbell Court, Fire Extinguished
 7:52 p.m. Illegal Burn, Inwood Road, Investigated

of Motor Vehicle
 1:21 p.m. Suspicious Person – Vehicle Activity, Grizzly Drive, Officer/Chief Advised
 9:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning

Wednesday, Nov. 20
 4:39 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issue, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 9:53 a.m. Lockout (Home or Vehicle), Apache Trail, Entry Gained
 2:06 p.m. Fire – Brush and Wildland Fires, Gardner Road, Fire Extinguished
 2:31 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Stevens Way, No Fire Service Necessary
 2:56 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Juniper Lane, Mutual Aid Transport
 3:53 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Citation Issued
 4:40 p.m. Illegal Burn, Prescott Street, Fire Extinguished
 5:26 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Birchwood Road, Information Taken
 8:33 p.m. Property Dispute or Exchange, Briarwood Road, Property Returned
 9:47 p.m. Fire – Fumes/Odor/Gas Leak, Miles Road, Investigated

Friday, Nov. 22
 4:27 a.m. Fire – Power Lines Down/Arcing, Charnock Hill Road, Referred to Other Agency
 7:55 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 7:58 a.m. Landlord Tenant/Neighbor Dispute, Arline Drive, Officer Spoke to Party
 11:41 a.m. ACO Lost and Found/Wildlife, Jamie Ann Drive, Message Delivered
 12:04 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Paddock Road, Transported to Hospital
 2:17 p.m. Fire – Illegal Burn, Naquag Street, Fire Extinguished
 3:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Wachusett Street, Citation Issued
 3:53 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Wachusett Street, Written Warning
 4:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Bigelow Road, Citation Issued
 4:17 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Berard, Heather May, 32, Rutland
 Charges License Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With, Speeding Rate of Speed Exceeding Posted Limit, Inspection/Sticker, No
 5:12 p.m. Erratic Operator, East County Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 7:47 p.m. Erratic Operator, Wachusett Street, Negative Contact

Oakham Police Log

Monday, Nov. 18
 4:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Skyline Drive, Written Warning
 5:02 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, Deacon Allen Drive, Investigated
 7:01 p.m. Juvenile Runaway, South Street, Returned to Family/Guardian

Wednesday, Nov. 20
 2:06 p.m. Fire – Brush and Wildland Fires, Gardner Road, Fire Extinguished
 2:15 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Ware Corner Road, Written Warning

Thursday, Nov. 21
 10:38 a.m. Animal – Wildlife, East Hill Road, Referred to Other Agency
 11:21 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, East Hill Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 9:10 p.m. Tree Incidents (No Wires), New Braitree, Referred to Other Agency

Friday, Nov. 22
 11:57 p.m. Tree Incidents (No Wires), Robinson Road, Message Delivered

Saturday, Nov. 23
 1:05 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Robinson Road, Citation Issued
 1:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Road, Written Warning
 1:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Road, Written Warning
 1:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Road, Written Warning
 5:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning

Sunday, Nov. 24
 4:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Written Warning

Tuesday, Nov. 19
 11:23 a.m. Tree Incidents (No Wires), Charnock Hill Road, Information Given
 1:38 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Maple Avenue, No Fire Service Necessary
 3:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 3:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Glenwood Road, Written Warning
 4:56 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Brigham Road, Arrest(s) Made
 Arrest Jackson, Tamara Danielle, 36, Hubbardston
 Charges Operating Under Influence – Liquor OR .08%, Leave Scene of Property Damage, Negligent Operation

Thursday, Nov. 21
 6:04 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, East County Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 7:12 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Soucy Drive, Transported to Hospital
 8:40 a.m. Court Duty, East Brookfield District Court, Court Duty
 2:53 Identity Theft, Prouty Lane, Report Filed
 5:36 p.m. Erratic Operator, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 6:59 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Bushy Lane, Transported to Hospital

Saturday, Nov. 23
 10:19 a.m. Emergency Medical Services – Welfare Check, Glenwood Road, No Fire Service Necessary
 11:45 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

Sunday, Nov. 24
 9:20 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning
 11:11 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Wachusett Street, Written Warning

Hubbardston Police Log

Monday, Nov. 18
 5:06 p.m. Notification, Williamsville Road, Message Delivered
 6:42 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Lombard Road, Public Assist
 3:35 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Madison Way, Mutual Aid Transport

Tuesday, Nov. 19
 12:27 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Rogers, Savannah E., 25, Rutland
 Charges Mobile Phone, Operator Use Improperly, Unregistered Motor Vehicle, Uninsured Motor Vehicle
 1:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Gardner Road, Written Warning
 1:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Gardner Road, Written Warning
 1:47 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Gardner Road, Written Warning
 2:15 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 4:07 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Lombard Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 4:56 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Brigham Road, Arrest(s) Made
 Arrest Jackson, Tamara Danielle, 36, Hubbardston
 Charges Operating Under Influence OR .08%, Leave Scene of Property

Damage, Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle
 7:56 p.m. Suspicious Person-Vehicle Activity, Lombard Road, Negative Contact
 8:05 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Gardner Road, Public Assist

Wednesday, Nov. 20
 5:25 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Gardner Road, Mutual Aid Transport
 8:05 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Williamsville Road, Transported by Hospital
 9:01 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Mile Road, No Fire Service Necessary
 9:06 a.m. Court Duty, Gardner District Court, Court Duty
 10:25 a.m. Fraud or Forgery, Highbridge Road, Report Filed
 11:38 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Gardner Road, Message Delivered
 2:06 p.m. Fire – Brush and Wildland Fires, Gardner Road, Fire Extinguished
 9:51 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Underwood Road, Transported to Hospital

Thursday, Nov. 21
 10:54 a.m. Emergency Medical

Service – Breathing Difficulty, Underwood Road, Transported to Hospital

Friday, Nov. 22
 5:09 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Kruse Road, Mutual Aid Transported
 12:13 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Penobscott Avenue, Transported to Hospital
 1:29 p.m. Lockout (Home or Vehicle), High Street, No Fire Service Necessary

Saturday, Nov. 23
 12:04 p.m. Larceny or Theft, Gardner Road, Report Filed
 2:27 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Pitcherville Road, Party Departed
 22:43 p.m. Harassment Service Information Violent, Old Princeton Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 11:58 p.m. Noise Complaint, Worcester Road, Report Filed

Sunday, Nov. 24
 8:10 a.m. Fire – Power Lines Down/Arcing, Flagg Road, Referred to Other Agency
 10:27 a.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Main Street, Public Assist

New Braitree Police Log

During the week of Nov. 25-Dec. 2, the Hardwick/New Braitree Police Department responded to 14 building/property checks, 13 directed/area patrols, one radar assignment, three traffic controls, five emergency 911 calls, two citizen assists, one complaint, two safety hazards, one motor vehicle accident, one fire/illegal burn and one animal call in the town of New Braitree.

Tuesday, Nov. 26
 7:35 p.m. Safety Hazard, Ware Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency

Wednesday, Nov. 27
 5:13 a.m. Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital
 8:15 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Oakham Road, Negative Contact

Thursday, Nov. 28
 9:45 a.m. Assist Citizen, Bernard Whitney Road, Spoken To
 12:05 p.m. 911 Animal Call, Barre Cut Off Road, Officer Handled
 9:31 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Barre Road, Transported to Hospital

Friday, Nov. 29
 7:53 a.m. Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital
 8:03 a.m. Safety Hazard, Hardwick Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
 3:08 p.m. Assist Citizen, Ravine Road, Dispatch Handled

Saturday, Nov. 30
 4:02 a.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Accident, West Road, Vehicle Towed

Sunday, Dec. 1
 2:08 p.m. Fire/Illegal Burn, Mara Road, Services Rendered

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of Nov. 25-Dec. 2, the Hardwick/New Braitree Police Department responded to 66 building/property checks, 47 directed/area patrols, two radar assignments, eight traffic controls, eight emergency 911 calls, six citizen assists, one assist other agency, one trespass, four safety hazards, two complaints, one motor vehicle accident, three animal calls and four motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Tuesday, Nov. 26
 5:16 a.m. Safety Hazard, Turkey Street, Unfounded
 5:42 p.m. Assist Citizen, Petersham Road, Spoken To
 8:45 p.m. Assist Citizen, Petersham Road, Investigated
 9:56 p.m. Safety Hazard, Lower Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
 10:04 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Main Street, Investigated
 10:11 p.m. Safety Hazard, Lower

Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency

Wednesday, Nov. 27
 6:48 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hardwick Road, Citation Issued
 6:55 a.m. Safety Hazard, Petersham Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
 7 a.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Accident, Petersham Road, Transported to Hospital
 10:26 a.m. Welfare Check, Upper Church Street, Investigated
 5:23 p.m. Trespass, Pine Street, Investigated
 6 p.m. Complaint, Main Street, Officer Handled
 10:58 p.m. Disturbance, Prospect Street, Arrest(s) Made

Thursday, Nov. 28
 8:45 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Church Lane, Transported to Hospital
 12:39 p.m. Assist Other Agency, High Street, Officer Handled
 12:52 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency,

Fiske Road, Transported to Hospital

Friday, Nov. 29
 9:06 a.m. Assist Citizen, Petersham Road, Officer Handled
 10:20 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Church Lane, Transported to Hospital
 11:13 a.m. Assist Citizen, Unknown Location, Officer Handled
 4:05 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Vehicle Towed
 9:24 p.m. 911 Assist Citizen, Church Lane, Officer Handled

Saturday, Nov. 30
 10:39 a.m. 911 Lockout, Thresher Road, Services Rendered
 10:24 p.m. Assist Citizen, Hillside View, Officer Handled

Sunday, Dec. 1
 1:01 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
 4:46 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Church Lane, Transported to Hospital

Job Connection

HELPING YOU FIND HELP

If you have job postings to fill, get them the exposure they need.

Join us in highlighting what positions you have available in our Job Connection!

Each week this available jobs section will run in your community newspapers.

4.75" x 4"

\$150 for three papers
 \$40 for each additional paper

4.75" x 8"

\$300 for three papers
 \$80 for each additional paper

9.681" x 8"

\$600 for three papers
 \$160 for each additional paper

9.681" x 15.75"

\$1,200 for three papers
 \$320 for each additional paper



Choice of any three papers
 Buy two weeks,
 get the third week FREE

December is leading month for U.S. home fires

Christmas trees, holiday decorations, and festive meals – hallmarks of the holiday season – present potential fire hazards that collectively contribute to an increase in U.S. home fires each December.

According to the National Fire Protection Association®, Christmas Day and Christmas Eve were the second- and third-leading days of the year for home cooking fires, respectively, in 2022.

“When people are busy and trying to do many things at once, they’re more likely to get distracted from what’s on the stove or in the oven. Knowing that unattended cooking is the leading cause of home cooking fires year-round, it’s easy to see why the number of cooking fires spikes on these days,” said Lorraine Carli, NFPA vice president of Outreach and Advocacy in a press release.

Candles and lighting

Decorating homes with electrical lighting and candles also contributes to a higher fire risk during the holiday season. Between 2018 and 2022, U.S. fire departments responded to an annual average of 835 home structure fires that began with decorations (excluding Christmas trees).

Year-round, approximately one-third (32%) of home decoration fires were started by candles; in December, that number jumped to almost half (46%).

Christmas trees

Christmas tree fires don’t happen very

often, but when they do, they tend to be more serious. An annual average of 155 home Christmas tree fires resulted in four civilian deaths, seven civilian injuries, and \$15 million in direct property damage, with electrical distribution or lighting equipment involved in more than two in five home Christmas tree fires.

Lithium-ion batteries

Many people will be buying and gifting electronic devices that contain lithium-ion batteries. As the use of these devices has increased in recent years, so too has the number of related fires. It’s important to understand the risks associated with these batteries and ways to prevent them:

Only purchase and use devices, batteries, and charging equipment that are listed by a nationally recognized testing lab and labeled accordingly.

Use charging equipment that is only compatible with your device. To be safe, use only the charging equipment that is supplied with your device.

Do not keep charging the device or device battery after it is fully charged.

Do not put lithium-ion batteries in the trash. Recycling is always the best option. Take the batteries to a battery recycling location or contact your local waste department for disposal instructions.

Stop using your device if the battery shows signs of damage, such as an unusu-

al odor, excessive heat, popping sounds, swelling, or change in color.

Only have device repairs performed by a qualified professional.

“The commonality between the vast majority of all these fires is that they’re largely preventable,” said Carli. “By understanding when and where potential risks exist, people can take simple steps to reduce their likelihood, which can go a long way toward ensuring a festive, fire-free holiday season.”

NFPA offers a wealth of information and resources to help minimize the likelihood of cooking, candle, Christmas tree, and decoration fires. Learn more at nfpa.org/winterholidaysafety

About the NFPA

Founded in 1896, NFPA is a global, nonprofit organization devoted to eliminating death, injury, property and economic loss due to fire, electrical and related hazards. The association delivers information and knowledge through more than 300 consensus codes and standards, research, training, education, outreach and advocacy; and by partnering with others who share an interest in furthering the NFPA mission.

For more information, visit www.nfpa.org. All NFPA codes and standards can be viewed online for free at www.nfpa.org/freeclass.



12 Weekly Newspapers Serving The Local Communities
 Agawam Advertiser News • Barre Gazette • Chicopee Register • Country Journal
 The Journal Register • Quabog Current • The Register • Sentinel
 The Holyoke Sun • Town Reminder • Ware River News • The Willbraham-Hampden Times
www.turley.com

Call Dan today 413.297.5886 or 413.283.8393

Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce announces 2025 officers and directors

PALMER – The Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce, the non-profit organization that promotes business, development and tourism within surrounding communities of Hampden, Hampshire, and Worcester counties, has announced the election of its Officers & Directors following the Chamber's Annual Meeting conducted earlier this month.

"The Chamber is blessed to have a diverse group of business leaders who bring their wealth of experience, knowledge and dedication to our region," said James Przypek, Chief Executive Officer of the Quaboag Hills Chamber of

Commerce. "Each of them has demonstrated their commitment in assisting our member businesses with the tools and resources they need to grow, and to promote the Quaboag Hills region to visitors and residents alike."

The Chamber has elected Palmer resident and the co-owner of J. Stolar Insurance Agency, Renee Niedziela, as President of the Chamber. Niedziela first joined the Chamber's Board of Directors in 2016, and since 2018, has served on several Committees, and as both Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer during her tenure with the Chamber.

David Loos of Brimfield has been elected as the Chamber's 1st President, while Edward Fisher Jr. of Wales has been tapped as 2nd Vice President.

Loos, joined the Chamber's Board in 2023 following a successful law enforcement career and has since be named an Associate Partner with Keller Williams Realty Pioneer Valley. Fisher is the owner of Fisher Tech Solutions, a digital marketing agency that specializes in custom web development, search engine and pay-per-click optimization.

New appointments to the Chamber's Board of Directors include: Kaitlin Young of the

Hardwick Vineyard & Winery, Michael Moore, owner of Silver Bell Farm in Monson, Rebecca Maurer, owner of Quabbin Valley Eye Care in Palmer, and Michael Harris, owner of multiple businesses and development properties in both Ware and Palmer.

Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce Officers and Directors are: President, Renee Niedziela, J. Stolar Insurance Agency; 1st Vice President, David Loos, Keller Williams Realty Pioneer Valley; 2nd Vice President, Edward Fisher Jr., Fisher Tech Solutions; Treasurer, Julie Quink, Burkhart, Pizzanelli, P.C.; Assistant Treasurer, Lena

Buteau, Monson Savings Bank; and Clerk: Amy Scribner, River East School to Career.

Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors are: Susan Barbiasz, Westfield Bank; Eric Duda, Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical School District; Tracey Giard, Country Bank; Teresa Grove, Baystate Health Foundation; Michael Harris, Canna Retreat & Dioguardi Jewelers; Rebecca Maurer, Quabbin Valley Eye Care; Michael Moore, Silver Bell Farm; Lorna Stone, Christopher Heights of Belchertown; and Kaitlin Young, Hardwick Vineyard & Winery.

About the Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce

Established in 1978 and headquartered in Palmer, the Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce's purpose is to advance economic growth, interests and tourism for our members through policies, programs and development in the Quaboag Hills region, including the 15 towns of Belchertown, Brimfield, Brookfield, East Brookfield, Hardwick, Holland, Monson, New Braintree, North Brookfield, Palmer, Spencer, Wales, Ware, Warren and West Brookfield.

Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

FOR SALE

BALED HAY FOR SALE. First cut and second cut. Call 413-323-7120.

JOHN DEERE D-130 double bag lawn tractor. \$950. Very good condition. 413-687-8178.

TIRES: BRIDGESTONE BLIZARD 225 65R17. 102H four tires, used only two winters. No defects. \$300/cash. Chris 413-539-4866.

MAXIMUM EFFICIENCY. EXTRAORDINARY performance. Central Boiler certified Classic Edge Titanium HDX OUTDOOR WOOD FURNACE. Call today 413-296-4320.

FIREWOOD

FIREWOOD
Fresh cut & split \$200.00
Seasoned cut & split \$300.00
All hardwood.
Tree length available
*Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers. (Cheap). Quality & volumes guaranteed!! New England Forest Products (413)477-0083

MORE HEAT LESS WOOD. Central Boiler Classic Edge HDX Outdoor Wood Furnace. EPA Certified. Titanium Stainless Steel. 26% Tax Credit. Call (508)882-0178.

WANTED

WANTED TO BUY

ANTIQUES AND OLD STUFF WANTED.
BUYING Bottles, Crocks, Jugs, Pottery, Costume Jewelry, Toys, Games, coins, sterling, Glassware, Silver-plated items, watches, Musical instruments, typewriters, sewing machines, tools, radios, clocks, lanterns, lamps, kitchenware, cookware, knives, military, automotive, fire department, masonic, license plates, beer cans, barware, books, oil cans, advertising tins, hunting, fishing, signs, and more Donald Roy (860) 874-8396

Buy, Sell & Trade Video Games
Retro World
413-301-5020 M-S 11-7
187 Main St.
Indian Orchard, MA

JUNK REMOVAL

A Call We Haul FAST REMOVAL
Junk, Appliance, Cleanouts.
We load it & take it.
413-531-1936
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

ARA JUNK FURNITURE REMOVAL
Full house cleanouts, attics, basements, garages, pools, hot tubs, sheds, decks. Same day service. 8am-9pm. Credit cards accepted. Free estimates on phone.
Fully insured.
Call Pete 413-433-0356.

SERVICES

DRYWALL AND CEILINGS, plaster repair. Drywall hanging. Taping & complete finishing. All ceiling textures. Fully insured. Jason at Great Walls. (413)563-0487

JACKIE'S BOOKKEEPING SERVICES
Call (413) 455-4020
Email: jmbookkeeping24@gmail.com

ELECTRICIAN

NEED AN ELECTRICIAN?
Look no further!
Peter's Electrical offers fast and reliable electrical services for your home or business. Call now for a FREE estimate!
(413) 366-1703
LICENSED & INSURED

HEATING & AIR COND.

KELLUM HEATING & COOLING LLC. Licensed and insured HVAC Technician, 30 years experience, repairs, full and 24 hour emergency service. 413-275-4408.

HOME IMPROVEMENT

HANDYMAN RESIDENTIAL REPAIRS. Powerwashing, home repairs, interior/exterior painting, ceiling/wall repairs and chimney repairs. Fully licensed/insured. Lic. #105950CSL. Call 413-566-5596/413-433-5073.

HOME IMPROVEMENTS. REMODELING Kitchens, baths. Ceramic tile, windows, painting, wallpapering, siding, decks. Insurance work. Fully insured. Free estimates. (413)246-2783 Ron.

LANDSCAPING

A+ ROZELL'S LANDSCAPING & BOBCAT SERVICE
Excavator Services
Overgrown property? Extreme Brush Cutting! Shrub, Stump, Tree Removal
Lawn/Arborvitae Installed
Loam, Stone, Mulch, Sand
Storm Clean-up
Small Demolition/ Junk Removal
Insured
Josh Rozell 413-636-5957

MASONRY

STOP WET BASEMENTS

ABC MASONRY & BASEMENT WATERPROOFING
All brick, block, stone, concrete. Hatchway doors, basement windows, chimneys rebuilt & repaired, foundations repaired, basement waterproofing systems, sump pumps. BBB+ rating. Free estimates. Lic #14790. Call (413)569-1611, (413)374-5377

SERVICES

PAINTING

DUTCH TOUCH PAINTING
Interior only \$199.00 for average 12x16 room. Very neat, references, prompt service call (508)867-2550

KEN'S PAINTING SERVICES. Interior painting/staining, wallpaper removal, wall/ceiling resurfacing, cabinet painting. Quality workmanship, fully insured. Free estimates. Call 413-896-8264.

PLUMBING

GREG LAFONTAIN PLUMBING & HEATING Lic #19196 Repairs & Replacement of fixtures, water heater installations, steam/HW boiler replacement. Kitchen & Bath remodeling. 30 years experience. Fully insured. \$10 Gift Card With Work Performed. Call Greg (413)592-1505

SERVICES

ROOFING

JENKINS ROOFING specializing in residential roofs & repairs, chimney repairs. Hampden, MA - 413-566-5596/413-433-5073. Lic. #105950CSL. Fully insured.

RUBBISH REMOVAL

BOB ROBILARD'S RUBBISH REMOVAL Attics, Cellars, Garages cleaned, Pools/Hot Tubs Removed. Family owned/operated since 1950 (413)537-5090.

SNOWPLOWING

SNOW PLOWING Residential, commercial and business. 413-388-5854

SERVICES

TREE WORK

DL & G TREE SERVICE- Everything from tree pruning, tree removal, stump grinding, storm damage and brush chipping. Honest and Dependable. Fully insured. Now offering a Senior Citizen and Veteran discount. Call today for free estimate (413)478-4212

AAA-TROM'S TREE SERVICE PROFESSIONAL SERVICE. Residential removal of trees. Free estimates, Fully insured W/Workman's Comp. Remove them before the wind takes them down. Cordwood, stump grinding. Call 413-283-6374.

STUMP GRINDING

DL & G STUMP GRINDING Grinding stumps of all sizes, insured & certified. Senior discounts. Call Dave 413-478-4212

AUTO

CASH FOR JUNK AND REPAIRABLE CARS
FREE TOWING
FAST SERVICE
CASH PAID AS IS
CALL OR TEXT
413-219-6839

HELP WANTED

TOWN OF BLANDFORD HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

The Town of Blandford is seeking a qualified individual for the position of Highway Superintendent. Salary range starting at \$75,000-\$80,000+ negotiable based on experience/skills. Please visit our website TownOfBlandford.com or email Administrator@TownOfBlandford.com for more information.

REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY
ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

PROFESSIONAL OFFICE SPACE, shared with consultant. Artistically designed and decorated. Includes utilities, conference room, and kitchen. 3333 Boston Road, Wilbraham. 617-209-4882.

REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

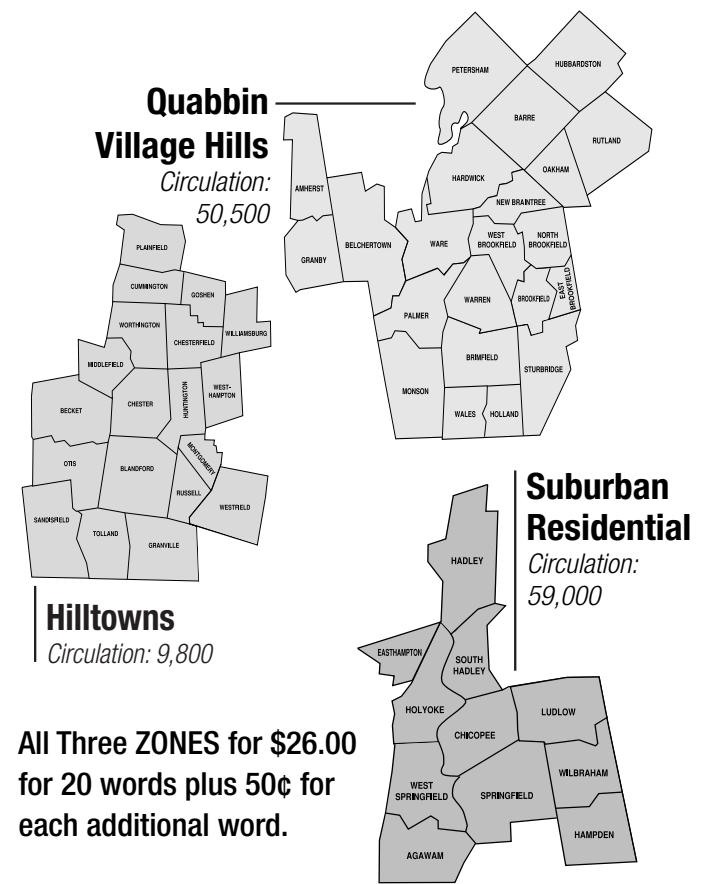
MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069
or call: 413-283-8393

DEADLINES: MONDAY AT NOON

| CATEGORY: | | | |
|-----------|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | 32 |
| 33 | 34 | 35 | 36 |
| 37 | 38 | 39 | 40 |

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Number of Weeks: _____ X per week rate = \$ _____
Credit Card: MasterCard VISA Discover Cash Check# _____
Card #: _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV _____
Amount of charge: _____ Date: _____

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!



All Three ZONES for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word.

GREAT VALUE!
ALL 3 ZONES NOW FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!



- Check Out Our For Sale, Services, Pets and Other Classifieds
- Real Estate: For Sale, For Rent & Vacation Rentals
- Help Wanted: Part Time & Full Time Career Opportunities

Call to place your classified ad: **413-283-8393**

the best around
CLASSIFIEDS
TURLEY PUBLICATIONS, INC.
Reaching readers in 50 local communities every week.



Your BUYLINE CONNECTION

CHRISTMAS SALE!!!

HUGE APPLIANCE REBATES!
HUGE BIKE SALE BLOWOUT!
GIANT TOY DEPARTMENT!!!
MATTRESS SALE!!!!
SEE AD INSIDE!!!

WHITCO TOY & BIKE 
 12 MONTHS 0% FINANCING
 140 Main St., Spencer
 www.whitcosales.com **508-885-9343**
 Open: Mon.-Fri. 10am-8:30pm, Sat. 9am-8pm, Sun. 12pm-7pm

POST ROAD REALTY 
 BUYING OR SELLING...
 WE HAVE THE PERFECT FIT FOR YOU!
 www.PostRoadRealty.com
NEW LISTING - \$679,900
46 RAGGED HILL RD., WEST BROOKFIELD, MA
 Create lasting Christmas memories in this magnificent 2-story colonial, nestled on over 2 acres of land in West Brookfield's scenic setting. The property boasts a charming Farmer's porch, 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, central air, 1st floor mud room and 2nd floor laundry room. The kitchen features custom cabinets, upgraded appliances and an 8-foot island with granite countertops and a walk-in pantry. The expansive primary suite offers a luxurious full bathroom with a tiled shower and a spacious walk-in closet. Start or end the day peacefully on the 12X12 composite deck. An oversized 2-car garage provides additional storage space. Schedule a tour to own this captivating residence before the holidays. The builder has occupancy in hand and a quick closing is possible!!!

Cassie Paolucci Follow us on Facebook
774-200-3523  

We Buy And Sell Precious Metals
 Gold, Silver, Rare Coins, Bullion Coins, Precious Metal Bars, U.S. & Foreign Currency, All Varieties of Coins
Always Buying
 Gold & Silver Jewelry, Class Rings, Wedding Bands, Gold & Silver, Coins, Sterling Silver, Flatware, Proof & Mint Sets, Commemorative and Estates
Gardner Rare Coins
 18 Parker Street, Gardner
 978-632-7123
 Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-5pm; Saturday 9am-2pm

 **GILBERTVILLE/HARDWICK MULTI FAMILY \$385,000**
 Gilbertville section of Hardwick prime investment property. Many updates done over the years. 2 large units. This could be a great in-law situation, mortgage helper or future income. Fantastic location and investment property which is located in a desirable area with easy access to the highway. Close to all area amenities. Property will be delivered tenant free. This is a must see and will not last long!

CENTURY 21 Century 21 North East **Ready to Buy or Sell? Call Me!**
 North East 180 West St., Ware **1-978-434-1990**

Support Your Hometown Businesses
SHOP LOCAL
 Bring more shoppers to your door with locally focused advertising in our weekly community newspapers.
Call Dan at 413-967-3505 for rates & information

TOP TEN THINGS TO DO WHEN SELLING A HOME
#1 call me

I'LL HANDLE THE OTHER 9
508-341-8299
 Broker/Owner • LISA CARON • Notary Public
 caronlisarick@aol.com • lisacaron.com
 42 West Main Street Brookfield, MA 01506
 ABR, GRI, SRES, MRP, CDPE, PSA, SRS, RENE, E-PRO, C2EX

WHERE EVERYONE GOES FOR THEIR PIECE OF THE EARTH!
WINTER IS COMING!
 BULK ROAD SALT • BULK TREATED SALT
 WASHED WINTER ROAD SAND • SAND/SALT MIX
STOCK UP NOW!
 Construction Stone • Landscaping Stone
 Title V Septic Sand • Presby Sand • Concrete Sand
 Stone Dust • Crushed Gravel • Cold Patch
Homeowner Friendly • No Minimums
PICK-UP OR CALL TO SCHEDULE YOUR DELIVERY TODAY!

 98 North Spencer Road, Route 31N, Spencer, MA
508-885-6100
508-885-2480
Sand, Gravel & Asphalt
 www.bondsandandgravel.com 

❖ **Every Wednesday**
SIP & KNIT
 12pm-2pm
 Free
 ❖ **Every Friday**
TOO GOOD TO TOSS
 7am-9pm
 Free baked goodies from the week while supplies last!
 Limits may apply.
 ❖ **Future Events**
 Contact us to plan your next private event.
508-637-1577

23 Summer Street North Brookfield MA 01535
 ❖ COFFEE
 ❖ BAKED GOODS
 ❖ GLUTEN FREE

508-637-1577
Tues.-Sat. 7am-3pm
Sun. 9:30am-3pm
 ❖ COOKIES
 ❖ MUFFINS
 ❖ PASTRIES
Bring in entire ad for one FREE Beverage with purchase of a baked good. Tues.-Thurs. 7am-10am

Adventure tours of Warren 
 Share the Adventure with us!

Happy Holidays!
 March 15.....**8-Night Bahamas Cruise**..... from \$1499
 May 23**7-Night Bermuda Cruise**..... from \$1699
 June 10-12....**Hampton Beach Getaway** \$529
 Sept 12-26....**Portugal & The Azores** \$6549
Share the Adventure with us soon!
 For further information call Randall at (413) 436-5357 or email adventuretours@att.net or go to www.adventuretoursofwarren.com



Pre-order your Premium Holiday Roasts
 Make your holiday gatherings truly special. From the luxurious tenderness of **Tenderloin Roast** to the mouthwatering richness of **Prime Rib Roast**, our premium cuts are the centerpiece your table deserves. Whether it's a **Standing Rib Roast** for a grand feast or a **Spoon Roast** for a cozy meal, you'll find the perfect roast to create cherished moments at home this holiday season.
 Order online at FarmerMatt.com or call **508-980-7085**
 **Farmer Matt** FARM-FRESH + LOCAL
 FarmerMatt.com
 860 West Brookfield Rd.
 New Braintree, MA


Farmer Matt FARM-FRESH + LOCAL
 860 West Brookfield Rd.
 New Braintree, MA
 FarmerMatt.com | (508) 980-7085

 **Farmer Matt** FARM-FRESH + LOCAL
GIFT CARD

Give the gift of farm-fresh food this season
 A Farmer Matt gift card is the perfect present for the food lover in your life. Whether they crave premium cuts of beef, poultry, pork, heat-and-eat meals, or freshly prepared dishes from our restaurant, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Available in any amount, it's a thoughtful way to share the taste of local, farm-fresh goodness.
 Order at FarmerMatt.com or stop by the farm store.