

BARRE GAZETTE

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Stuff a Cruiser held at Rod & Gun Club

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

HARDWICK – It's the most giving time of the year as the South Barre Rod & Gun Club hosted the annual Stuff a Cruiser event to benefit area children for the holiday season.

Officers of the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department and the Barre Police Department parked their cruisers in front of the club to await the cars ready to drop off toys for the toy drive. Hardwick/New Braintree Chief of Police Kevin Landine said the South Barre Rod & Gun Club has been the host for the toy drive for the last couple of years and does fantastic work.

The Christmas for Kids program has been beneficial for the children of Hardwick, New Braintree and Barre for about 40



Turley Photo by Ryan Drago

Abigail Landine, left, Brielle Sullivan and Emma Landine volunteered to help collect toys for the Stuff a Cruiser event at the South Barre Rod & Gun Club.

See STUFF A CRUISER, page 5

Festival of Lesson and Carols 29th year

By Ellenor Downer,
Editor
edowner@turley.com

OAKHAM – Despite snow earlier in the day and cold temperatures that night, it did not keep people from attending the 29th Festival of Lessons and Carols at the Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road, Sunday night.

The cantata was Rise Up! A New Light A-Comin' by Lloyd Larson and Pamela Martin. This year the performance consisted of a 21 member chorus consisting of church choir members, community members and high school chorus member. The chorus included: sopranos Eliza Brown, Ellie

See LESSONS AND CAROLS, page 6

Select Board approves roads for drainage and paving

By Ellenor Downer
Editor
edowner@turley.com

BARRE – The Select Board approved drainage and paving of the following roads utilizing Chapter 90 funds at their Monday, Dec. 15 meeting.

The roads included Williamsville Road, Town Farm Road, Fruitland Road to Coldbrook Road and Chamberlain Road to Root Road to South Street. Department of Public Works Superintendent Timothy Batchelor said he also would be adding gravel and grading on all the dirt roads in town including Grogan Road and Cutoff Road.

Town Administrator report

Town Administrator Melanie Jackson said the town received a \$691,000 Community Development Block Grant. The grant included Fir Street and South Barre blight and slum inventory.

She said she met with

MassDOT officials to make sure the town was following rules for Chapter 90 money. She also said the tax rate was set at \$13.35 and the tax bills would be printed this week and mailed out.

She said Cory Bombredi posted on social media that the truck for the highway superintendent would reduce the Capital Stabilization Fund by 30%. She said the percentage was incorrect, the impact was 0.44%. She encouraged anyone, who had questions regarding social media posts, meetings, etc. to either email her or stop by. She would try to answer their questions.

Select Board report

Select Board Member Richard Stevens said the Inspector General in his report pointed out possible restitution from the former DPW Superintendent for funds paid out by the town that was not earned. He made a motion for the Town Administrator to reach out to Town Counsel about the feasibility of the town pur-

suing restitution.

Valor Act parking

Veterans Service Officer Garrett Skinner requested a parking space in the front of the Henry Woods Building reserved for Veterans. He said the Valor Act allowed for such a parking designation. The Select Board unanimously approved the parking space designation.

Remote call meeting participation

Town Administrator Jackson said Bombredi, a Finance Committee member, inquired about remote phone calling to participate in a committee or board meeting. Select Board Chairman Maureen Marshall said she was opposed to phone participation in a meeting. She said the Quabbin Regional School District Committee allowed members to participate via phone. However, they only were allowed to make comments, were not part of the quorum and could not vote. Town

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Jack McClintock named December Artist of the Month

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The Friends of the North Brookfield Town House named Jack McClintock as the Artist of the Month for December.

McClintock is a psychologist and author who moved to North Brookfield 10 years ago with his wife Kathleen after living in an urban life atmosphere in Worcester.

McClintock has spent over 50 years as a practicing psychologist in mental health services of nearly every kind. He's worked in rehabilitation and psychiatric hospitals, prisons, private practice, community clinics and school districts.

During his time in his profession, McClintock has experienced practically every situation a therapist can encounter. He has been practicing psychology since his early 20s and has reflected on his experiences through writing.

McClintock was working as a prison psychologist up until 1999. Though it was

a tough and stressful job, McClintock would adopt a healthy respect for life and is proud of the work he had done in his profession as a psychologist.

"I'm very proud of what I do and what I have done," McClintock said.

As of today, McClintock still works part-time in psychology offering mental health services online for a large international corporation. McClintock began writing, which started off as therapy for him.

Another psychologist gave McClintock the idea to write his own memoirs and soon this activity would lean towards the idea of writing a book.

"Writing a book I would say saved my life," McClintock said.

Being able to write gave McClintock a way to get out of a dark emotional space. Writing would lead McClintock to his first book, "Sin Eater: Memoirs of a

Prison Psychologist". Once his work was finished and published, he continued to write.

Since taken up writing, McClintock has published five stories and they're all available on Amazon. Starting in 2012 began publishing a series of literary works, which include "The Son of The Servant", a book of poems called "A Turn of Phrase", and a historical fiction called "New Age Warrior: Book I: The Sword of Retribution". A second edition of this book has just been completed.

This year McClintock recently published "New Age Warrior: Book II: The New World Order". More information about this book and McClintock can be found at this link, <https://www.amazon.com/stores/Jack-McClintock/author/>

See ARTIST, page 7



Jack McClintock

Ban of nips bottles failed at N. Brookfield town meeting

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Voters took action on 26 warrant articles at the Special Town Meeting held on Dec. 10.

Nips bottle ban

Article 26 was a citizen's petition, which asked voters to create a bylaw banning the sale of 100 milliliter or less bottles commonly known as "nips."

This petition was brought forward by Bruce Arnold, who spoke about the impact of nips bottles on the com-

munity. He and his wife walk their dog every day, and he said in three and a half hours, they were able to fill a garbage bag with just nips bottles.

"There's 400 nips in here," he said, displaying the bag. "Discarded nip bottles are litter."

Arnold said these bottles are a health risk and introduce nano and micro plastics into the water supply.

He said they also pose a safety concern by encouraging drinking while driving, and they are easily discarded out car windows by operators to avoid open container violations. He said they also encourage underage drinking.

"They are easy to conceal and dispose of," Arnold said.

Arnold said most of these

bottles are excluded from recycling programs in the commonwealth and have no deposit value.

"Our urban and rural roadways are strewn with them," he said. "The unsightly litter is washed into storm drains. The nip bottles make their way into brooks, streams, lakes, and eventually into the ocean. You can't rake the nano plastics out of the ocean...fish feed on the surface, that's where the nano plastics live."

Arnold said nano and micro plastics are ingested by fish and wildlife and absorbed into produce; and as the bottles break down they release harmful gases.

Resident John Tripp said in speaking to liquor store owners in town, he learned

that the sale of nips account for 40% of their sales, and he didn't think it was fair to ban a legal product, but he offered an alternative way to address the littering issue.

Tripp made a motion for an amendment on Arnold's motion, which proposed a 15 cent per bottle deposit to be held by the liquor store owners.

"They would be responsible to return said deposit as the bottles came back. This money/deposits would be the property of the seller if the bottles were not returned," he said.

The owner of Bob's Deli, Yogesh Patel, said as a business owner, he is concerned about people buying nips in other towns, and then cashing them in for a deposit in North

Brookfield.

He agreed that litter is a problem, but said it is not just nips bottles.

"Let's find a solution where we are not unfairly being punished, but we are also solving the problem," he said.

A resident said another state that imposed a deposit on nips bottles didn't see evidence that it reduced the amount of litter.

After taking a vote, the amendment proposed by Tripp did not pass.

Sue Lewandowski said she was one of the residents who signed the petition put forward by Arnold. She said she helps with roadside cleanups and is "appalled" by the amount of nips bottles littered.

As a person in recovery, Lewandowski, said she understands why these bottles are tossed out of car windows. She said a yes or a no vote won't solve the problem of alcoholism.

"We are faced with two competing truths," she said.

She said a bill has recently come out proposing the placement of a 10 cent deposit on all bottles up to a gallon size.

The article failed with the majority of voters opposed. A motion to reconsider the article also failed.

Zoning amendment article

Article 18 asked voters to approve the amendment of the zoning map from the

See N BROOKFIELD, page 7



News of the Towns



ROUND TOWN
by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com



Submitted photo

Scott Bryant directs "Seal Lullaby" during a December rehearsal of Circle of Song.

Circle of Song to hold concert Dec. 20

BARRE – Circle of Song celebrates 25 years of community singing with a concert on Saturday, Dec. 20 at 7 p.m. in the Barre Town Hall, 2 Exchange St.

For Circle of Song's 25th anniversary, the program will feature some of the best of the musical numbers that were performed over the years from 2002-2025. As is usual with the group, there will be a number of conductors for the music. Scott Bryant, local musician

and musical educator, will conduct "Seal Lullaby," an evocative look by composer Eric Whitacre into the life of a baby seal going to sleep in the ocean waves.

Nancy Afonso will direct "Mary, Did You Know?" by the Pentatonix, a performing ensemble that excels at richly intertwining the four- and five-part harmonies into a depth of musical excellence that is hard to duplicate. She is a retired music educator and long-time collaborator

with Circle of Song.

For the traditionalists, Jeff Williams, whose go to in the musical world is Broadway musicals, will conduct Irving Berlin's "White Christmas."

The concert is free and the refreshments are always tasty. To learn more about Circle of Song or to join in January, people may email director, Julie Rawson at julie@mhof.net or call 978-257-1192 for more information.

OAKHAM

by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

Church holds Christmas Eve service

A candlelight service will be held Christmas Eve, Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 7 p.m. the Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road. All are welcome to attend.

Christmas pageant

The Oakham Sunday School will present their annual Christmas pageant about the story of Jesus birth on Sunday, Dec. 21 at 10 a.m. at the Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road.

Lottery Tickets

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

COA news

On Monday, Dec 22 podiatry will be held from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Reservations are required Also on Monday Dec 22 from noon-2:30 p.m. there will be blood pressure and glucose testing. On Tuesday, Dec 23 SNAP Benefits Information is available from 11 a.m.-1p.m. All are welcome; there are no age restrictions. Ongoing activities include: Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-noon puzzling. Monday through Thursday: 9:00am Walking Group meets at Senior Center Tuesday through Thursdays at 11a.m. For walking groups, people may ask to be added to the text MSG by calling the Senior Center and leaving their cell phone number.

Yoga started Tuesday, Dec 2 at the Senior Center multipurpose room. Registration is required. Cost is \$30 and there will be six classes. Wednesdays at 8:45 a.m.. Zumba Gold meets in the Rutland Senior Center in Rutland. The location will change to the New Braintree Town Hall in January 2026. There is a \$3 donation per class. Thursdays at noon weigh in is at the Senior Center for support weight loss group. Fridays at 10.30 a.m. Functional Fitness takes place at the New Braintree Town Hall. There is a \$3 donation per class.

Hot lunches are offered at the Senior Center dining area Monday through Thursday at 11.30 a.m. No meal will be served Christmas Day Thursday, Dec. 25. Reservations are needed at least two days in advance and can be made through the Congregate Meal Coordinator from 9 a.m.-12.15p.m. by calling 508-882-4072.

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

Rec Commission is accepting applications

BARRE – The Barre Recreation Commission is now accepting applications for fiscal year 2026 beginning now through Saturday, Jan. 31, 2026.

The BRC sponsors several youth and adult programs with financial support, including baseball/softball, football, basketball, soccer, learn-to-swim, yoga, biking, and after-school enrichment activities and community events. Eligibility criteria are that the proposed programs provide a recreational or cultural outlet/opportunity for residents of Barre.

Applicants are requested to contact the BRC (c/o Mary Ann Gendron) for an application form as follows: call 978-355-2504 extension 8 or e-mail barreboards@townofbarre.com Forms may be submitted in paper or electronic format and must be post marked by Jan. 31, 2026. They should mail hardcopies to Barre Recreation Commission, 40 West St, Suite 5, Barre, MA 01005.

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. 22. 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 – Chicken Picatta, lemon seasoned rice, roasted broccoli, Rice Krispy Treat, pumpernickel bread

TUESDAY –Holiday Meal Stuffed chicken with gravy, cranberry stuffing, buttered carrots, carrot cake, diet = small piece,

dinner roll pineapple, fortune cookie,

WEDNESDAY – Teriyaki beef, steamed rice, California blend vegetables, pineapple, fortune cookie, pumpernickel bread

THURSDAY – Christmas Day No meal served.

FRIDAY – Lemon pepper haddock, rice pilaf, mixed vegetables, fresh fruit, marble rye bread, tartar sauce

*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.

Senior Center kicks off 'New Beginnings, New Joy'

BARRE/HARDWICK, – The Barre/Hardwick Senior Center, 557 South Barre Road, invites older adults in the community to start the new year with connection, laughter, learning and movement.

January launches the Center's year-long theme, "The Senior Center, Where Fun Begins," with a special focus on "New Beginnings, New Joy." January is all about fresh starts, trying something new, and rediscovering joy together. The Senior Center is more than a place to visit; it's a place to belong. Whether seniors are looking to stay active, meet new friends, learn something new or simply enjoy a warm drink and great conversation, there's something for everyone.

Walking Club, Barre to Los Angeles challenge kicks off at the Senior Center on Monday, Jan. 5, 2026 at 9 a.m. Start the year moving with the exciting Walking Club challenge as seniors "walk" from Barre, to Los Angeles, California together. They may get their tracker and track

their steps, stay motivated and celebrate the journey as a group.

Hot chocolate happy hour takes place Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2026 at 9 a.m. Warm up with a cozy morning of hot chocolate, laughter, and conversation. Dress in favorite winter attire, bring a favorite coffee mug for the coffee mug match up. People don't have to drink a beverage they can come for the fun and games. This is a perfect way to relax, socialize and brighten a winter day.

TED Talk Tuesday On Tuesdays, Jan. 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2026 TED Talk takes place at 9 a.m. People can expand their mind with inspiring TED Talks followed by engaging group discussion.

UMASS cooking class takes place on Friday, Jan. 16, 2026 at 10 a.m. They will join UMASS for a fun and informative cooking class focused on nutrition, healthy choices and practical tips they can use at home.

Veteran coffee hour will take place on Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2026 at 10:30 a.m. It will be held every third Tuesday of the month. Veterans of all ages are invited to gather for coffee, conversation and camaraderie in a relaxed and

supportive environment.

Let's talk civil rights with Fred Hamel on Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2026 at 10 a.m. Speaker Fred Hamel will hold an engaging and thought-provoking discussion on civil rights, history and the importance of community dialogue.

A year in review pizza party will take place on Thursday, Jan. 29, 2026 at noon. Participants will look back at 2025 and enjoy pizza.

100 cups of coffee challenge takes place at the senior center. Seniors are invited to bring a friend, share a cup of coffee and be part of the fun. Participants are invited to join the 100 Cups of Coffee Challenge, every visit counts. They are reminded to get their "Mug Shot" taken as they sip, smile and help reach the goal together.

Seniors are encouraged to start their year with New Beginnings and New Joy and discover why the Senior Center is "where fun begins." For more information or to participate in any January programs, people may call the Barre/Hardwick Senior Center at 978-355-5004, check out Facebook page-Barre MA Senior Center or stop by.

Library Story time takes place on Dec. 22

NEW BRAINTREE – The New Braintree Public Library, 45 Memorial Drive, is offering a Story Time for preschoolers on Monday, Dec. 22 at 11:30 a.m. The readings will include "Winter" by Elena Ulyeva and "What Could Be Keeping Santa" by Marilyn Janovitz. Parental supervision is required.

Editorial deadline reminder

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

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News of the Towns

PUBLIC MEETINGS

BARRE

Conservation Committee – Dec. 23 at 7 p.m.
 Felton Field Commission – Jan. 6, 2026 at 6:30 p.m..
 Council on Aging – Jan. 7, 2026 at 12:30 p.m.
 Barre Housing Authority – Jan. 8 at 1 p.m.
 Board of Health – Jan. 12 at 5 p.m.
 Water Commission – Jan. 12 at 5:30 p.m.
 DPW Commission – Jan. 12 at 6 p.m.
 Library Trustees – Jan. 14 at 6:30 p.m.
 Barre Common Oversight Committee – Jan. 15 at 5 p.m.
 Cemetery Commission – Jan. 22, 2026 at 11 a.m.
 Cable Advisory Committee – Feb. 10 at 7 p.m.

HARDWICK

Planning Board – Dec. 30 at 6:30 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Jan. 7, 2026 at 12:30 p.m.
 Master Plan Steering Committee – Jan. 8 at 6:30 p.m.
 Capital Planning Committee – Jan. 12 at 3:30 p.m.
 Gilbertville Public Library – Jan. 14 at 3 p.m.
 Paige Library Trustee – Feb. 5 at 7 p.m.

HUBBARDSTON

Planning Board – Dec. 18 at 6:30 p.m.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

Fire Highway Building Committee – Dec. 18 at 4 p.m.

OAKHAM

Board of Selectmen – Dec. 22, Jan. 5 and Jan. 20, 2026 at 6 p.m.

PETERSHAM

Select Board – Dec. 18 at 5:30 p.m.
 Petersham Historic District – Dec. 18 at 6 p.m.
 Board of Health – Dec. 23 at 6:30 p.m.
 Open Space and Recreation Committee – Jan. 6, 2026 at 6 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – Jan. 6, at 7 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Jan. 12 at 10:30 a.m.
 Cemetery Commission – Jan. 13 at 10 a.m.
 Board of Assessors – Jan. 30, 2026 at 9 a.m.

RUTLAND

Finance Committee – Dec. 18 at 6 p.m.
 Planning Board Bylaw Subcommittee – Dec. 18 at 6 p.m.
 Town Charter Committee – Dec. 18 at 6:30 p.m.
 Select Board Public Hearing – Dec. 22 at 6:15 p.m.

Quabbin 2026 history calendar is available

The year 2026 marks the centennial of the passage of the Ware River Act and the 41st annual edition of the calendar.

The calendar, compiled by historian J.R. Greene, a resident of Athol, includes images from the author's collection. The photos showcase factories, a railroad station, a summer camp, two schools and various businesses. The 2026 Quabbin History Calendar is out, featuring photos of the four towns lost to the Quabbin Reservoir and villages affected by the Ware River project.

Three images are from villages affected by land acquisitions for the Ware River diversion, a component of the Quabbin Reservoir project. J.R. Greene is the author of 16 books relating to the history of the Quabbin and the towns it destroyed.

The calendar and Greene's books are available at several local outlets, including Howe's Country Market, 217 Barre Paxton Road, Rutland; Haley's Antiques, 488 South Main St., Athol; Larry's Variety, 1503 Main St., Athol; Country Gourmet, 547 Summer St., Barre; Petersham Craft Center, 8 North Main St., Petersham; Petersham Country Store, 2 North Main St., Petersham; Quabbin Woods Restaurant, 8 Barre Road, Petersham; Kitchen Garden, 268 Baldwinville Road, Templeton and Old Furnace General Store, 1839 Lower Road, Hardwick. The calendar is spiral-bound and hole-punched with a retail price of \$17.95. Greene can be contacted via email at jrg01331@webtv.net.

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Submitted photo

People gathered to participate in a Petersham history forum. The next forum will be on Saturday, Dec. 20 at 4 p.m. in the Petersham Country Store.

History forums set for Dec. 20 and Jan. 17

PETERSHAM – The second session of the Petersham history forum will take place on Saturday, Dec. 20 at 4 p.m. at the Petersham Country Store, Main Street, Route 32.

In an effort to collect stories of people who lived the history of the Hilltop Village, local historian and environmentalist, Larry Buell is inviting residents of Petersham and beyond to come to the Petersham Country Store on the next two Saturdays of the next two

months on Dec. 20 at 4 p.m. and Jan. 17, 2026 to share information for volume II of the Petersham History, the last 100 years.

It is a well known fact that when important information and stories of a community, its people, and places are told through stories written down and distributed, this information becomes central to a town's history, thus the lives of the residents. Buell's intention is to start to collect the stories through oral history and small group gatherings

of people, who have experienced the community events, the special people and significant places through their own direct experience or through stories passed down by their family members.

The stories will focus on events like the Petersham Agricultural Fair, Band Concerts and natural disasters. The program is free and open to all. For information, people may call Larry Buell at 978-724-0412 or email LarryBuell2143@gmail.com

St. Aloysius Catholic School annual fund drive

HARDWICK – St. Aloysius Catholic School in Gilbertville has launched its Annual Fund Drive with a pledge of \$40,000 in matching funds from an anonymous benefactor.

The fund drive runs through March 15, 2026. Last year the fund drive raised just over \$95,000 including the match funds.

"To raise that amount of money was truly a miracle. Never in the history of our Annual Fund Drive or the Scholarship Drive that preceded it, did we ever exceed our goal to that extent," said Roberta McQuaid, Finance Manager and Enrollment Coordinator for the school.

The School Board implemented the Annual Fund Drive in place of the Scholarship Drive in 2025 to be able to diversify the use of the money earned, and there-

by keep tuition affordable for families.

"The cost of nearly everything it takes to run a school has increased, from utilities to insurance, to books and salaries. It is no small feat to make ends meet. We rely so heavily on those who support our mission; we couldn't do the good work we do if it weren't for our donors. While I hope and pray we will do well again this year, big gifts are not a given, and every donation, no matter the size, truly counts," continued McQuaid. "Catholic Schools provide a foundation of faith for the students we serve, and their families benefit too. Our students work hard academically and contribute to the local community. It's a well rounded education, and when they leave St. Aloysius for high school they are prepared to meet the challenges that lie ahead. It's a worth-

while goal to try and keep our tuitions prices stable so that families can continue to afford a private, Catholic education."

Tuition assistance is also available through the Roman Catholic Diocese of Worcester and from scholarships gifted by private foundations.

For more information about St. Aloysius Catholic School or to make a tax deductible donation that will be matched dollar for dollar to the Annual Fund please visit www.staloyuscs.com/support/. Donations can also be mailed to St. Aloysius Catholic School, P.O. Box 522, Gilbertville, MA 01031, noting "Annual Fund" on the memo line.

An Open House is planned for Monday, Jan. 26, 2026 from 3-5:30 p.m. Prospective families are encouraged to visit the school.

Paige Memorial Library lists events

HARDWICK – Special holiday gift wrapping day will be held on Saturday, Dec. 20 at the Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road.

The gift wrappers will make every gift special. Donations for this service will be collected for the Christmas for Kids program sponsored by the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Association. People may select gift wraps and matching ribbons in many colors and styles. Oddly shaped gifts must be placed in a box. All breakable items must have protective packing around them in the box. People should call the library at 413-477-6704 to

make an appointment.

The library has books on the history of Hardwick, ceramic tiles showing the village buildings, coffee mugs with Paige Library images, the Hardwick Fair winning recipes cookbook, Mary Lane Hospital tee shirts and lots of gently used books in their ongoing book sale. These sales support our local organizations.

Activities offered include a weekly children's story hour with art and science activities, the Paige Book Club, the Cookbook Club,

Celebrate Hardwick, the ongoing Friends of the Paige Memorial Library Book Sale, the Paige Writers and the recently formed Movie Festival Committee. If people have an idea for an activity to be offered at the Paige Library, to register for a program or more information, they may email paigelibrary.hardwick@gmail.com or call 413-477-6704.

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HUBBARDSTON

by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

Town offices list holiday closures

Town Offices will be closed Christmas Eve Dec. 24; Christmas Day Dec. 25; New Year's Eve Dec. 31 and New Year's Day, Jan. 1, 2026. Regular business hours will resume Monday, January 5, 2025.

Fuel Assistance

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

Special story time

The Hubbardston Public Library, 7 Main St., will hold a special story time with Miss Tricia On Saturday, Dec. 20 beginning at 10 a.m. No registration is required and children of any age are welcome.

Senior Center Events

All artists are welcome to attend the art group at the Hubbardston Senior Center every Friday from 9-11 a.m. A new activity at the Senior Center is the Creative Needle and Thread activity every Friday from 9 a.m.-noon. All are invited to bring projects, such as embroidery, cross stitch, sewing and quilting. Questions may be directed to Michelle at 508-450-4476. Yarn-It-All group meets from 10 a.m.-noon. Knitting and crocheting projects will be worked on, and those who have questions will get help from others who attend. Games of Pitch are held the second and fourth Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. and the first and third Fridays at 6:30 p.m. Cribbage is played every Thursday at 12:30 p.m., Bingo is every Monday at 12:30 p.m. and Wii Bowling is every Monday and Thursday at 9 a.m. Functional Exercise Classes are held at the Senior Center Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Hubbardston Light Fight

The Ninth Annual Light Fight final weekend is on Friday, Dec. 19; Saturday, Dec. 20 and Sunday, Dec. 21 from 5-9 p.m. Each night people can follow the map, check out all the entries and vote for their favorites. Paper listings and maps can be found at Hubbardston's One Stop Shop (the gas station). Check out all the competitors on the list and vote. Voting will close on Monday, Dec. 22.

Selectmen vote to retain single tax rate

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The Board of Selectmen and the Board of Assessors held a tax classification hearing on Dec. 10 for the next fiscal year.

The Selectmen voted to retain a single tax rate for residential and commercial taxpayers. The town's tax rate will later be determined by the Department of Revenue.

"Essentially, we can't know what the tax rate's going to be exactly until we send the information in to the state and they send us information back," Board of Selectmen Chair Jason Petraitis said. "But we are going to have one tax rate for commercial and residential, and we do that every year. Because we don't have very many commercial properties."

Christmas concert to be held this Sunday

HARDWICK – The Weir River Concert Band will perform a free Christmas concert on Sunday, Dec. 21 at 2 p.m. at the Stone Church Cultural Center, 283 Main St., Gilbertville.

All are welcome to attend and celebrate the holiday season.

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

2026 QUABBIN HISTORY CALENDAR
 by J.R. Greene

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Opinion



About remarrying and benefits from an ex-spouse

Dear Rusty:
I am almost 57, divorced after a 14-year marriage. My former spouse is 15 years older than I and made significantly more money than me. I am required to retire from my job at age 60 but expect to keep working in some capacity.

I have a girlfriend of a similar age to me. She did not earn as much as her former husband as she mainly raised their children. She is also divorced from an older spouse who made more money than she did. I am trying to figure out if we will be penalized if we marry or if it matters if we wait until after we reach 60 years of age. Can I claim my own benefits when I become eligible at 62, then claim survivor benefits later, whenever my former spouse passes? Is that affected if, or when, I remarry? I do not want to give up my potential survivor benefits from my ex-spouse. Are those affected if I remarry?

If I understand correctly, if I remarry even after 60, we would both forfeit divorced spousal benefits, is that right? Given that my girlfriend's former spouse probably made more money than I, would she be forfeiting her former spousal benefits if we were to marry, even after age 60?

Lastly, I am considering retiring abroad as an expat. Any suggestions about how that would affect our Social Security benefits?

Signed: Starting Over

Dear Starting Over:

With certain exceptions, benefits from a living ex-spouse cannot be collected if you remarry (regardless of your age when you remarry). So, from what you've shared, whenever you remarry both you and your new wife will forfeit eligibility for benefits from your respective ex-spouses while they are living (FYI, there are exceptions for those who are disabled).

However, the rules are different for a surviving ex-spouse: if you remarry before age 60, you will forfeit your surviving ex-spouse benefit. But if you remarry after age 60, you retain eligibility to collect survivor benefits from a deceased former spouse. So, if you and your girlfriend remarry after you are both age 60, you will both still be able to claim survivor benefits based on your former spouses'

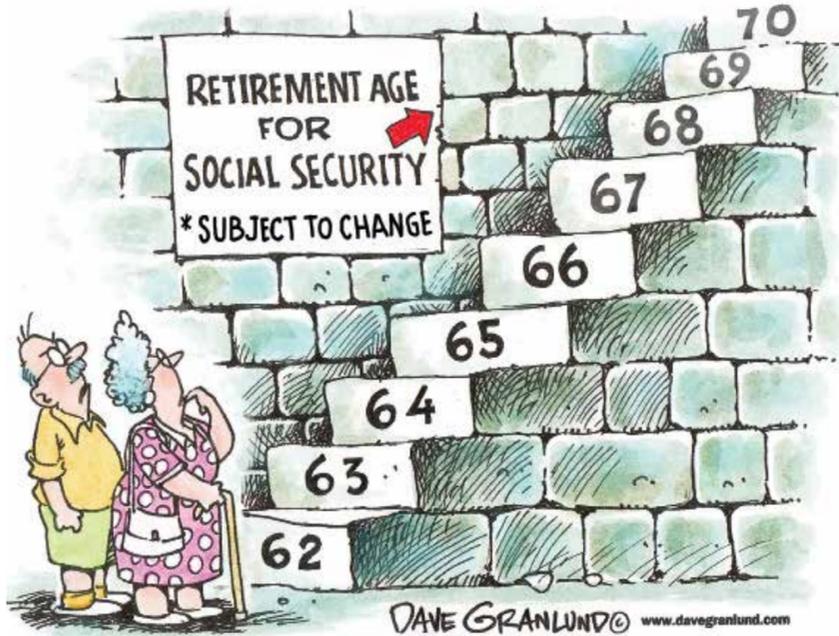
records.

And, yes, it is possible for you to initially claim your own SS retirement benefit at 62 and claim your surviving ex-spouse benefit later after your former spouse dies. Provided you remarry after age 60 you do not lose that option, but if you were to claim a surviving ex-spouse benefit before reaching your Full Retirement Age, the monthly payment amount would be reduced, all SS benefits taken before FRA are reduced.

Note too, that if you plan to continue working after you are first eligible for SS benefits, Social Security has an "earnings test" which limits how much you can earn from working while collecting early benefits. The limit changes yearly for 2025 it is \$23,400 and if exceeded, SS will take back \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit. And, as you likely know, claiming at age 62 will also mean a benefit payment of about 30% less than available at your FRA of 67. So, if you plan to work after age 62 and plan to claim early SS, you should take the "earnings test" into consideration. FYI, the earning test no longer applies after you reach your Full Retirement Age.

Now, regarding retiring overseas, be aware that Social Security has limits on where you can collect U.S. Social Security benefits. I suggest you use Social Security's Payments Abroad Screening Tool to find out if benefits are payable wherever you plan to retire abroad. That SSA tool can be found here: https://www.ssa.gov/international/payments_outsideUS.html.

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



In Past Pages

Look Back Gilbertville 8th Grade – 1951-1952



This photo shows the 1951-1952 8th grade class of the Gilbertville middle school.

5 years (Dec. 24, 2020)

East Quabbin Land Trust (EQLT), 120 Ridge Road, will host a New Year's Day, Friday, Jan. 1, walk/ski on the Rail Trail beginning at noon. They will meet at the Rail Trail, located at 1700 Hardwick Road, in New Braintree at noon. Masks and social distancing required. Leashed dogs are welcome. The event will be held rain or shine unless there's a blizzard.

As Christmas approaches, North Brookfield residents were not going to let the annual Santa Parade fall to the wayside. They organized and planned and held a drive-by parade, with floats and Santa, complete with goodie bags for children. Santa needed to be seen at a distance, but he was there

waving with carolers and others dressed for the event. The event was moved from its original date of Dec. 5 to Dec. 12 due to inclement weather. The rain came anyway, but the event forward and folks had fun anyway.

The Tri-Parish Community Church will meet at the Hardwick Universalist Church for the last time this year at 10 a.m. on Dec. 27. Social distancing and masks required. The service will be led by Deacon Ginny Rich. If Covid permits, the Tri-Parish will then move east for the New Year on Jan. 2, 2021 to the New Braintree Congregational Church.

10 years (Dec. 24, 2015)

While some people were enjoying a lazy Sunday

morning, Stephanie Hardy and Abbey Rigney, two local women from Barre, were joining over 500 people to participate in the annual Worcester Jingle 5K, and the results were fantastic. Hardy represented Barre well as she was the first female to jingle her way to the finish line with an impressive time of 18:36, earning her 10th place overall. Rigney also turned in a personal best, running the downtown streets of Worcester and clocking in with a 20:15 time, landing her 29th place overall.

The town of Hardwick now owns the last standing one-room schoolhouse, School House #6 at 1674 Petersham Road, through the work of the town's his-

See PAST PAGES, page 5

Two holiday plants suited for gift giving

Are you in need of a plant for a hostess gift this holiday season but poinsettias aren't your cup of tea? Look no further! I will give you my top two non-poinsettia picks, and share my experiences growing these plants.

Hopefully you will find the perfect gift for someone on your list.

Florist Cyclamen (Cyclamen persicum) is a delightful indoor plant that flowers during the winter months and is available at local nurseries and box stores. Its quarter-sized blooms in red, pink and white are unique in that the petals are bent back and held above pretty, heart-shaped, silver-margined leaves.

There are varying types available with fancy flowers and intricately patterned foliage.

The cyclamen plant is tuberous and unfortunately is best propagated by seed or by division of its fibrous roots.

Usually this task is left to the experts who are best able to deal with erratic germination and roots that are susceptible to rot.

A few years back I became the owner of my very first cyclamen (thanks, Mom!). I had a little trouble after awhile.

During the spring its leaves yellowed and fell off so I threw it out. Little did I know that leaf loss was supposed to happen! It was going dormant.

With the cyclamen's bloom time during the winter, it has a period of dormancy mid spring through the end of summer when it's leaves will yellow and shed and it will demand next to no water. This time frame is opposite of what we are used to with our perennial flowers that bloom during the summer and go dormant during the winter.

In late August, we can

begin watering again and leaves will sprout anew before the blooming cycle begins during the fall.

Another favorite holiday plant by the name of Paperwhites start out as a bulb. The bulbs are available now by mail and from local nurseries and garden centers.

Sometimes you can "fill a bag" with the exact number you want, which is really neat. Upon inspection of the bulb and the picture on the label, you'll note that Paperwhites look very much like our outdoor daffodils.

Paperwhites are cousins to these spring harbingers and

bloom easily inside with little more than light, something to anchor the developing roots (soil or rocks) and water to get them growing. They don't need to go through a period of cold in order to bloom like outdoor narcissus do.

In just about four weeks after planting you'll be delighted with flowers galore!

Decide for yourself if you like the fragrance or you find it a little overpowering. Prevent leaves and stems from stretching by placing your container in a cool spot in your home during the night and enjoy the flowers in your living spaces during the day.

After flowering is done, throw the bulbs out free of guilt; they won't bloom again consistently. One year you may remember that I did try to regrow the bulbs by allowing them to dry out within the container I had first grown them in. Of the four bulbs,



BARRE GAZETTE TEAM

EDITOR
Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

ADVERTISING SALES
Dan Flynn
dflynn@turley.com

SPORTS EDITOR
Greg Scibelli
sports@turley.com

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@ Barre Gazette WEB www.barregazette.turley.com

PATRICK H. TURLEY
CEO

KEITH TURLEY
President

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www.turley.com

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Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

I won't be writing 2025 much longer.

Where has the year gone? It has been a little slippery at Serenity Hill, but the plow man and the handyman took good care of us. The helper was able to come and she got our groceries for us.

The helper was talking about making Canadian French Meat Pie, otherwise known as Torti ere, so I looked up the recipe my sister -in-law gave me. Meanwhile I came across several other recipes I plan to try. This one was given to me by the late Sylvia Thompson and I remember it was very good. It is good to make for these cold winter days and will serve a couple of meals.

SYKVIA'S CHILI

1 large onion
2 green peppers, sliced
2 tablespoons margarine

or butter
2 cloves of garlic or garlic salt

salt and pepper to taste
chili powder to taste
1 ½ pounds hamburger
2 15 ounce cans of tomato sauce with bits

1 large can stewed tomatoes 18 ounce
1 teaspoon oregano
1 tablespoon chives
2 cans of pinto beans 15 ounce

grated cheddar cheese for garnish

Chop up one large onion and 2 green peppers sliced. Saute in two tablespoons of margarine or butter, until tender. Add garlic salt or 2 cloves of garlic, salt and pepper.

Set aside while you brown 1 1/2 lbs. hamburger.

SAUCE

Combine 2 15 oz. cans of tomato sauce with bits, 1

large can stewed tomatoes, 18 oz. size and 1 teaspoon oregano, 1 tablespoon chives; add onions and green peppers and chili powder to taste. Cook sauce 1 1/2 to 2 hours. About 20 minutes before sauce is done add 2 cans of pinto beans 15 oz. Size. Garnish with green peppers and cheddar cheese which has been grated. Corn bread is delicious served with chili.

This and That

I have mailed my Christmas cards and have all the decorations put up that I plan to do. Presents are wrapped and ready for the tree. I guess the next thing will be to bake some Christmas cookies.

I have a great collection of old time tin cookie cutters that I need to use.

Hope you all are enjoying preparing for the holidays.

Letter to Editor

Second Chance Animal Services says thanks

Second Chance Animal Services would like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who helped make our Barking '20s Cocktails for Tails fundraiser such a memorable night.

The Spencer Country Inn was filled with energy and compassion as we came together to support shelter pets with significant medical needs - pets for whom Second Chance is often their only chance. We're grateful to everyone who joined us in person and to all who took part in our Great Catsby online auction from home. A special thank-you to DJ Brian for generously vol-

unteering his time so guests could dance the night away and to the incredible volunteers who worked behind the scenes, gathering items or making sure the evening ran smoothly. We also appreciate the many local businesses that donated raffle and auction items to help raise much-needed funds.

We are truly thankful for our event sponsors whose support makes a real difference for the pets who need us most: Tito's Handmade Vodka, Herlihy Insurance Group, Joe Campisi, Patrick Motor Group, Cat Topia, Fontaine Community Foundation, Westside Billing,

GS-JJ, Ardor CrossFit Fitness, Associated Electro-Mechanics, Cornerstone Bank, Embie Industries, Florence Bank, McDonnell Contracting, Lyons Plumbing & Heating and TD Bank.

Thanks to the generosity of our community, more pets with serious medical needs will get the second chance they deserve. We are grateful for your kindness, your participation, and your continued belief in our mission.

With heartfelt thanks,
Lindsay Doray,
Second Chance Animal Services

PAST PAGES from page 4

torical commission, according to the Hardwick Historical Commission chairman Emily Bancroft. Historical commission member Jim Stafford has been working for months on cleaning the lot on which the school sits, and then shoveling out its interior. The town hopes Hardwick and area residents will be interested in donating and volunteering so it can either be restored or a replica built, Stafford said. The Jakshitis family, owned the schoolhouse since 1937 and used it for sorting a wide variety of objects including manure and a lot of wood to name a few. The family heirs gifted it to the town early this year. It was originally one of 10 one-room schoolhouses throughout the town, and #6 was used from 1888 to 1929. Its student population ranged from 12 to 15 in the early 1900s, to a low of eight in 1929, according to Bancroft.

Neil Viner of Rutland took a dip in the ocean at York Beach, Maine on Dec. 12. He did it this year and plans to do it every year to raise money for Atlantic Dippers for Homeless Vets of Worcester. The funds raised will be used to fill a wish list for the veterans of Worcester. Viner hopes to fill the back of his pickup truck with donations for deliver on Christmas morning.

25 years (Dec. 21, 2000)
Oakham Highway Superintendent C. Kevin

Currier and Fire Chief Richard Howe informed the Board of Selectmen at the Monday night meeting that the town need a spill prevention control and counter measures plan. Recently the town had the above the ground tanks inspected by Earth Safe. Although the tanks were fine, the inspector said that a federal regulation requires the owners of all tanks on with a total capacity of 1,320 gallons on a single tank of 660 gallons or more to have a plan. Since the town of Oakham has two above ground tanks with a total capacity of 1,500 gallons and one of two tanks has a 1,000 gallon capacity, the town must have a SPCC plan.

Town employees have found an old and better way to relieve job stress during lunch hour. For the past two Fridays instead of relaxing over cups of coffee in the break room at noon, they stretched their arms and legs in slow graceful motions on the carpet in selectmen's meeting room while performing "Falum Dafa," traditional Chinese form of meditation exercise. Town Administrator Lorraine Leno asked her fellow students, municipal secretary Lisa Harding and police dispatcher Kathy Howard.

Quabbin Regional School District Superintendent Maureen Marshall addressed a joint meeting of the Hubbardston Selectmen and members of the town's school and finance communities on Nov. 27. Marshall

explained how the school district's process of arriving at a visible school budget is fraught with difficulty and uncertainty especially when trying to predict and factor in the amount of state aid the Quabbin District will receive.

38 years (Dec. 24, 1987)

Senator Robert D. Wetmore (D-Barre) has unannounced that several area school systems have been awarded grants by the Governor's Alliance Against Drug Free Schools Act. The Quabbin Regional School District will receive \$3,871. The Barre lawmaker commented that the superintendent of the Quabbin District, Maureen Marshall, is to be commended for her active involvement in the crusade against drugs in the community.

The Barre Golden Age Club members, 123 of them to be exact, enjoyed a Christmas party at Caruso's Restaurant in South Barre on Monday, Dec. 7. The social hour at 4 p.m. was followed by a delicious dinner. Seated at the head table were officers of the club and their spouse or guest.

New England Telephone stresses that the change in area code, "will have no effect on rates," and says "calls that are not currently toll calls, will not become toll calls." After the 508 area code is implemented, New England Bell customers will have to dial "1" plus the area code to complete calls that cross the 508/617 boundary.

Sen. Durant praises grant change for Wachusett Regional High School

BOSTON - The Wachusett Regional High School is now eligible for a \$3,200 grant to promote financial literacy, but Senator Peter J. Durant is questioning how the administration can label the original denial of the funding as an "error."

Last week, The state Department of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation notified Wachusett Regional High School and Durant's office that the school's request for grant funding for Credit for Life Fairs (creditforlife.org) had been denied.

"We were told on two separate occasions by state Department of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation staff that the reason for the denial was because the Town of Holden was not in compliance with the MBTA Communities Law," Durant said. "The situation only changed after this was brought to light."

Durant said he pushed back against the Healey administration, arguing that students from the district's five towns should not be denied education-

al benefits because one of those communities was not yet in compliance with the law.

"As a state Senator, it is my job to pressure the administration to be fair, to recognize when they are wrong, admit that and reverse course," Durant said. "And as a steady advocate for my district, I am duty-bound to fight for students in the Wachusett District who were unfairly played as pawns in this political game."

Durant pointed out that Healey, while a critic of the current federal administration, seems to have taken a page from their playbook. "The irony of this is not lost on me. This is a Governor who has criticized the federal administration for threatening to withhold funds from states that don't comply with the law yet she is doing the same to cities and towns that push back against controversial laws like the MBTA Communities Law," Durant said.

Four schools in the state were denied grants from the nearly \$285,000 pool of funds available for the

Credit for Life programs. There were 93 applications for the grants. In addition to Wachusett, schools in Hanover and another in Dracut were denied, Durant's office was told last week. It appears that South Shore Regional Vocational Technical High School in Hanover will also be eligible for funding now.

The MBTA Communities Law, passed in January of 2021, was intended to address the state's need for housing by facilitating the development of transit-oriented, multifamily housing. Communities with access to transit hubs, and those cities and towns adjacent to such communities, must adjust zoning to allow one "district of reasonable size in which multi-family housing is permitted as of right."

Durant said many of the adjacent small towns are trying to work through the complicated requirements. Seven of the 22 communities in the Worcester and Hampshire District he represents are impacted by the law.

STUFF A CRUISER from page 1

years. Throughout the day, folks dropped off new and unwrapped toys at the club and the cruiser were ready and gained a trunk full of toys.

Landine said any kind of donation for Christmas for Kids is appreciated. Monetary donations can be mailed to the Hardwick/New Braintree police station at 20 Memorial Drive in New Braintree. The check can be made out to "Hardwick Christmas for Kids."

This annual fundraiser is all about giving back to the community, according to Landine.

"The community is always good at supplying what we need," Landine said.

On average, the annual Stuff a Cruiser toy drive supplies gifts to about 90 kids per year.

The department had some helpful volunteers to help during the toy drive. Abigail Landine, Brielle Sullivan and Emma Landine collected toys and



Turley Photo by Ryan Drago

Toys were waiting inside the South Barre Rod & Gun Club to be shipped to dozens of kids throughout the community.

stored them neatly in the cruiser that was parked in front of the South Barre Rod & Gun Club.

Barre Police Officer Mark Sawyer, who is also the School Resource Officer, arrived with the Barre Police cruiser and collected toys as well. This was the first toy drive Sawyer has been a part of and he thought the turnout was excellent.

Sawyer said this toy drive

worked out great to benefit all of the communities.

Inside the club were toys that were purchased thanks to club's spaghetti dinner fundraiser. There were bicycles, scooters, and bags of toys that will go to local children.

It may have snowed during the toy drive, but it didn't stop the steady traffic of cars dropping off toys for the children.

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For more information on business coverage for the Barre Gazette, please email edowner@turley.com.



Submitted photo

On Sunday, Dec. 7, one week ago, a group of 51 history enthusiasts from eight communities including Barre met for the first ever regional Christmas party at Harman's Herb Farm in Barre.

Barre Historical Society Christmas party

BARRE – On Sunday, Dec. 7 cold weather and snow cover, combined with the glowing seasonal decorations inside Hartman's Herb Farm, created the perfect winter atmosphere for the first every regional Christmas party.

For the first time, the Barre Historical Society and Museum issued invitations to area Historical Societies. They were pleased when members of seven other societies accepted the invitation. Those societies includ-

ed Gardner, Hubbardston, Leominster, Petersham, Princeton, Rutland and Westminster.

After enjoying a delicious buffet meal, a representative of each society spoke to the group, giving highlights of their plans for the year, problems, successes and challenges. One theme came through strongly everyone welcomed an opportunity to meet with other area historical societies to discuss these issues and to enjoy social engagement.

Although they talked business, the trivia game was full of fun and laughter. The Game master and team had developed some challenging questions about early American history, which produced a lot of head-scratching from the various teams. The twist was a Jeopardy-like ending in which each team had to wager points before hearing the final question. Various strategies were employed, and no team got the final question right. The winning team was

a combination of people from Rutland and Westminster. The team was awarded a specially-made trophy that will be up for grabs at next year's gathering/trivia competition.

Many thanks to the Programming Committee of the Barre Historical Society and Museum, which put together this wonderful party, Harman's Herb Farm, the attendees, who ventured out on a cold afternoon, sponsors and other supporters.

LESSONS AND CAROLS from page 1

Downer, Julianna Lindsten, Ana Peci, Sofia Peci, Julia Tuttle and MidgeWetzel; altos Laura Biro, Ellen Carpenter, Laura Guilbault, Jenelle Hutchinson and Virginia Morin; tenors, Abigail Bedard, Cam Burns, Dave Bigelow, Peter Guilbault, Carissa Rodriguez and Marianne Williams and baritone/bass, Jack Mellish, Brett Ouimette and George Paradis. Chorus members included a grandmother and two granddaughters, Ellen Carpenter, Ana Peci and Sofia Peci; a married couple, Laura and Peter Guilbault and an engaged couple, Julia Tuttle and Jack Mellish.

An orchestra consisting of Quabbin Regional High School orchestra and band members under the direction of Toni Brown accompanied the chorus. Orchestra members were Brent Benoit and Brendan Welch, violins; Niki Nikakhlagh, bass; Audrey Laursen and Kailynn Schuster, flutes; Brynn Dunphy and Catherine Tucker, clarinets; Arianna Riendeau, bass clarinet; Tess Dunphy and Tyler Ellis, alto saxophone; Caleb Conway-Dias, tenor saxophone; Brennan Gabrenas and Jillian Rigney, trumpets and Jesse Grillo and Abraham Brown, trombone.

Oakham Congregational Church organist and choir director, Dawn Thistle,

accompanied the orchestra on piano. She began the musical program with a medley of carols on the organ. The audience joined in singing three carols: "O Come, All Ye Faithful," "What Child Is This?" and Angels We Have Heard on High."

The cantata began with the "Overture: Rise Up, Go Tell It" by the orchestra. The chorus sang the first piece, "O Come, Little Children." Martha Bigelow read the first scripture reading. "Rise Up! A New Light A-Comin'" was the second selection. JoAnne Bedard read the second scripture reading. Brett Ouimette and Julia Tuttle performed the solo parts for the angel Gabriel and Mary in the selection "The Promise." The third reader was Chris Nahkala. "Manager Songs" was the next selection. Martha Bigelow also read the fourth narration.

The next selection was "Rise Up, Shepherd, Rise Up." The fifth reader was Andrew Bedard. "Led By a Star" was the next selection. The sixth reader was Linda Barringer. The final cantata piece was "Children, Go Tell It."

The final carol was "Joy to the World" played by Thistle on the organ. Lay pastor Carissa Rodriguez gave an opening prayer and then the benediction to end the program. Refreshments followed in Fellowship Hall.

BARRE from page 1

Administrator Melanie Jackson said phone participation makes for an awk-

ward meeting. The Select Board will check with Town Counsel on the matter.

Resignations

The Select Board accepted the resignation of Dennis Fleming from the Barre Common Oversight Committee. They also accepted the resignation of Susan Mason from the Council on Aging.

Annual license renewals

The Select Board approved the renewal of liquor licenses for Barre Art Center; Carter Stevens, LLC; Stone Cow Brewery, LLC and Harding Allen Estate. They approved a Class II motor vehicle license for BC Auto and inn holder/common victualler licenses for Harding Allen Estate and the Buddhist Center. Other license approvals were common victualler licenses for Barre Arts Center, Carter Stevens, LLC. and Stone Cow Brewer, LLC. and entertainment licenses for Stone Cow Brewery, LLC. and the Harding Allen Estate.

Other business

The Select Board approved the wage authorization for Jonathan Oberg, a 40 hour per week DPW truck driver, for \$28.61 per hour. They also approved the use of Town Hall on Saturday, Feb. 28 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. for a quarter auction fundraiser.

Under old business, the Town Administrator went over the draft for the employee performance evaluation form for non-union employees and the fringe benefit section of the personnel policy. They asked the Town Administrator to look at the policies of other surrounding towns. She did provide information from the town of Rutland for the meeting.

Select Board Chairman Marshall thanked the individuals, who made Christmas in Barre held Dec. 6, such a well participated success. Select Board Vice Chairman Mark Regienus and Select Board Member Stevens concurred.

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ARTIST from page 1

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McClintock also enjoys the outdoors and nature, and would regularly participate in activities such as hiking, mountain climbing and camping.

A photograph of McClintock was shared highlighting when he traveled to Churchill, Manitoba, Canada near Hudson Bay. McClintock described it as the Polar Bear capital of the world and was a beautiful place to witness the northern lights.

McClintock continues to enjoy the outdoors and loves the wooded area where he and his wife live near. When asked about being selected for the Artist of the Month, McClintock said it meant a great deal to him.

Living in North Brookfield, McClintock feels he has been accepted by the community that is filled with amazing, talented people. Having the honor of being Artist of the Month meant a lot to McClintock as he is recognized by a community, he and his wife picked to be

a part of.

"It feels good to be recognized by a community that we chose," McClintock said. "Now the community is choosing me back."

McClintock continues to write and will be working on a sequel for his New Age Warrior book series. He is working on a story that is about the community he is proud to call home.

"I've always written for myself, but I'm also motivated to share my understanding of things with others in hope that talking frankly about those things can make the world a better place," McClintock shared.

"My books are my therapy, and everybody needs a bit of therapy along the way," he said.

The Friends of North Brookfield Town House is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization focused on restoring, preserving, and sustaining the Town House as a cultural center of North Brookfield. Every month this organization recognizes a featured artist in their community.

For more about the Artist of the Month, visit nbtownhouse.com/all-featured-artists/jack-mcclintock.

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 20, 2025 AT A SALE TO SATISFY OUR GARAGE LIEN THEREON FOR TOWING & STORAGE CHARGES AND EXPENSES OF SALE AND NOTICE:

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2002 Ford F-250 Super Duty

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2022 Hyundai TUCSON VIN KM8JFCAE2NU103513

2015 Jeep Grand Cherokee VIN 1C4RJFAG5FC675627

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2011 Volvo VNM 4V4MC9DG2BN296105

The sale will be held at Early's on Park Ave. 536 Park Ave. Worcester, MA 01603 12/04, 12/11, 12/18/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508)831-2200 Docket No. WO25P4271EA Estate of: Robert F Smith Jr Date of Death: 04/07/2025 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Sally F Smith of Hardwick, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that Sally F Smith of Hardwick, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/06/2026. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without

further notice to you. UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE

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

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

Date: December 11, 2025
Stephanie Fattman, Register of Probate

12/18/2025



N BROOKFIELD from page 1

intersections of High and Adams streets and Bigelow and Summer streets to approximately 200 feet beyond the intersection of Bigelow Street and Downey Road. This amendment would change Residents Open District (R30) to Residents Central District (R11).

Planning Board Chair Bill King said this zoning change would allow for lots larger than 11,000 square feet to have accessory dwelling units, provide more opportunity for further subdivision of lots for the Water and Sewer departments as well as special permit opportunities for multi-family houses.

This article passed by a two-thirds majority vote with 44 in favor and 21 opposed.

Sewer easement articles

Voters took action on two articles related to a town sewer easement. The first article, article 24, which asked voters to grant and convey the sewer easement to National Grid was recommended to be passed over.

Board of Selectmen Chair Jason Petraitis said the utility company was originally going to purchase the easement to complete work at a substation on Donovan Road. He said now, the town will work with National Grid to grant it a licensing agreement instead, and there was no longer a need to take action on the article.

Voters agreed to pass over the article.

The second article, article 25, would authorize the Board of Selectmen to release certain rights and easements to effectuate the purchase of the sewer easement to National Grid on Donovan Road.

Petraitis said the town will never use the sewer easement under the substation

"National Grid is going to purchase that easement from us so they can expand their operation," he said.

Water Department articles

Voters approved three articles, which transferred funds from Water Retained Earnings to address necessary repairs.

With article 21, voters transferred \$5,000 from Water Retained Earnings to Water Repairs/Vehicles; and article 23, \$9,000 from Water Retained Earnings to Water Supplies and Materials.

Article 22 transferred \$46,000 from Water Retained Earnings to Water Building/Equipment Maintenance

Water Superintendent Jamie Flamand said the department's office has had no heat for three and a half weeks and it will cost \$28,000 to repair. He said one of the

water pumps at the pump station is also down.

Flamand said these repairs were unexpected and that the systems are maintained properly.

Financial transfers

The following financial transfers were approved by voters: article 1, \$300,000 from Free Cash to General Stabilization; article 2, \$675.88 from ACO Salary to Police Vehicle/Police Supplies; article 3, \$500

from ACO Salary to ACO expense; article 4, \$12,000 from Police Salary to Police Overtime Salary; article 5, \$1,755 from Free Cash to Police Facility Expense; article 11, \$22,500 from Highway Salary to Highway Vehicle Supplies to cover the cost of repairs to two vehicles; article 14, \$2,500 from Free Cash to Town Electric Sign; article 15, \$15,000 from Free Cash to Finance Committee Reserve Fund;

article 16, \$87,638 from Free Cash to School Expenses; article 17, \$95,348 from Sewer Retained Earnings to Sewer Department Repair/Vehicle to purchase a replacement truck and equipment; and article 19, \$15,000 from Free Cash to Town Counsel.

Prior years' bills

Voters approved the payment of prior years' bills by nine-tenths majority votes with the following articles:

article 6, \$112.93 Green Gold Lease Stabilization; \$180.67 Green Gold Police/Personnel Stabilization; \$158.06 Green Gold Fire/Personnel Stabilization; \$3,048.34 Free Cash to the Selectmen's prior year's bills. Voters also approved the closing of the three stabilization accounts.

Other prior years' bills authorized to be paid at town meeting included: article 7, \$100,000 from Free Cash

to Capital Improvement Plan Stabilization; article 8, \$180 from Free Cash to Highway; article 9, \$246.62 from Free Cash to Highway Office Supplies; article 10, \$1,602.40 from Free Cash to Highway Vehicle Supplies; article 12, \$36.21 from Free Cash to Parking Clerk; article 13, \$88.20 from Free Cash to Zoning Board of Appeals; and article 20, \$1,156.50 from Free Cash to Board of Health Expense.

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CONTACT: DAN FLYNN
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DEADLINE
January 28, 2026

PUBLICATION DATE
February 18, 2026



A SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT TO

Turley Publications, Inc.

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Calendar of Events

THURSDAY, DEC. 18

BARRE FOOD PANTRY FOOD DISTRIBUTION will take place today from 5:30-7 p.m. at the Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St., Barre. Clients are invited to pick up groceries from the food pantry either in the morning on Wednesday, Dec. 10 or in the evening on Thursday, Dec. 18, whichever is more convenient for them. In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients Dec. 10 and 18 will again be "drive-through" style distributions. Clients will line up in their vehicles on Park Street and proceed into the right hand (east) entrance driveway of the Barre Congregational Church. They will remain in their cars. They'll drive up and be checked in by a volunteer, then continue up to the church building where their groceries will be put into the trunk or wayback of their vehicle by volunteers at multiple stations.

FRIDAY, DEC. 19

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 20

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS GIFT WRAPPING DAY will be held today at the Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, Hardwick. The gift wrappers are self-proclaimed "obsessed" wrappers, who will make every gift special. A large selection of Christmas gift wraps and matching ribbons in many colors and styles, classic and fun, will be available. Oddly shaped gifts must be placed in a box. All breakable items must have protective packing around them in the box. People should register for an appoint-

Where is this?



This week's mystery photo is from Petersham. If any readers know where this photo was taken, they may email edowner@turley.com or call the Barre Gazette at 413-967-3505, extension 100 with their answer by noon on Monday, Dec. 22. Bill Bowles, Gary Brigham, Peggy Civilik, James Laramee and Jeremy Varnum correctly identified the photo. The photo last week of the Nativity in front of the Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road, Oakham.

Turley Publications photo by Elenor Downer

ment. Donations for this service will be collected for the Christmas for Kids program sponsored by the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Association. For more information and to register for any program, people should call 413-477-6704 or email paigelibrary.hardwick@gmail.com.

PETERSHAM HISTORY FORUM will take place today at 4 p.m. at the Petersham Country Store, Main Street, Route 32,

Petersham. In an effort to collect stories of people who lived the history of the Hilltop Village, local historian and environmentalist, Larry Buell is inviting residents of Petersham and beyond to come to the Petersham Country Store. A second session will be held on Saturday, Jan. 17, 2026 at 4 p.m. at the Country Store. This information is for volume II of the Petersham History, the last 100 years. The stories will focus on events like the Petersham Agricultural Fair, Band Concerts

and natural disasters. The program is free and open to all. For information, people may call Larry Buell at 978-724-0412 or email LarryBuell2143@gmail.com.

CIRCLE OF SONG CONCERT will be held today at 7 p.m. in the Barre Town Hall, 2 Exchange St., Barre. This is the 25th anniversary of the chorus. In September of 2001, Circle of Song came into existence under the co-direction of Julie Rawson and Beth Bryant, long-term community music colleagues. Under Bryant's direction, "Regina Coeli" will be sung. This upbeat minor work by Mozart of approximately eight minutes in duration, is a masterful and energizing celebration of Mary, Queen of Heaven, dating back to the 13th century in the Catholic Mass. On the other end of the spectrum, she will also direct Java Jive, made popular by the Manhattan Transfer. And as a special treat, Grace Jenkins and her dancers will put it to dance. Finally, Bryant, locally renowned for her expertise on clarinet, will accompany "Black is the Color of My True Love's Hair." The concert is free and refreshments will be served. To learn more about Circle of Song or to join in January, people may email director, Julie Rawson at julie@mhof.net or call 978-257-1192 for more information.

PIONEER VALLEY BRASS QUINTET will perform a free public concert at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon today at 2 p.m. The program is sponsored by the First Universalist Parish of North Dana. A trust fund was set up in the late 1920's with funds donated by sisters Catherine Mason and Mary Hale, specifically to fund musical programs to guarantee that the Parish would be remembered after it disbanded because of the creation of the Quabbin Reservoir, and the flooding of the five towns in the Swift River Valley.

See CALENDAR, page 10

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Panthers preview season with scrimmage at Ware

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

BARRE — Dennis Dextradeur is beginning his 35th season as the boys' varsity basketball coach at Quabbin Regional High School.

While the Panthers have five returning varsity players, there is only one senior listed on their roster.

"This is one of the youngest teams that we've had during the past 21 years,"

said Dextradeur following a home scrimmage against Ware High School on December 9. "We only have one senior on this year's varsity team. We also had one senior two years ago, but we had a bunch of juniors that season."

Twenty one years ago, the Panthers had mostly sophomores and juniors. The following season, they won the league title and the Clark Tournament title.

"Sophomores are erratic, juniors are inconsistent, and seniors are invaluable," Dextradeur said. "We're a very young team this year. This is a two year project for us."

Quabbin, who just missed qualifying for the Division 3 state tournament, finished the 2024-25 campaign with a 9-11 overall record.

The only Panthers senior this season is Anthony Quartarone, who's a center and a returning varsity player.

"We're looking for Anthony to be our leading rebounder," Dextradeur said. "We're also looking for him to be a physical presence in the paint, which we don't have right now."

Kyle Clark, who was one of the five Panthers players that graduated last spring, dominated the paint area during the past couple of years.

"We're going to be more of a transition team this year," added Dextradeur,

who's approaching his 400th win as the boys' varsity coach. "We're also going to be a man-to-man team defensively."

The juniors listed on the Panthers varsity roster are Evan Sherblom, who's a guard, Jacoby Dilling, who's a guard, Owen Twarog, who's a forward, Matt Wade, who's a forward, Calvin Hurd who's a forward, and Jake Doty, who's a forward.

Dilling is a returning starter, along with sophomore

guard Brady Patchen.

"We're going to be counting on both Jacoby and Brady a lot this season," Dextradeur said. "They're very important players to us."

Dilling and Patchen, who are the Panthers co-captains, joined the varsity team as eighth graders. The duo averaged more than ten points per game last year.

Another sophomore is Aiden Crane, who's a guard.

See PANTHERS, page 10

Pioneers open season

HOLYOKE — The Pathfinder Regional wrestling team took part in the Knight-Hawk Classic last Saturday at Holyoke High School. Pathfinder produced 39 points in the meet and will next wrestle a home meet against Ludlow on Monday, Dec. 22 at 7 p.m.

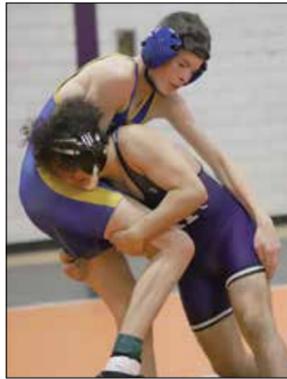
Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli



Thomas Barrett locks up at 138 pounds.



Jake Parker-Gregory goes for the pinfall



Jose Soto tries to avoid a takedown.



Logan Hayes attempts to secure his opponent's pinfall.



Crosby Turner tries to work out of trouble.

Railers score win over Pirates

PORTLAND, ME — The Portland Pirates ruined a lot of nights for the Worcester IceCats and Sharks through the decades.

The Railers got some revenge here Saturday evening by beating the Pirates, 4-2, in front of 4,803 fans as the Maine Mariners did a nostalgia game playing as the old AHL team.

The game went down to the final minutes with Worcester clinching it on Drew Callin's empty net goal with 26 seconds left in the third period. It was a 2-2 game with less than 10 minutes to go in the third, then Ryan Miotto broke the tie with a great wrist shot from the left circle at 10:25.

Cole Donhauser and Matt DeMelis had the other Railers goals. Max Andreev and Robert Cronin scored for the Pirates. Once again Worcester got splendid goaltending from Parker Gahagen who stopped 32

of 34 shots.

It was an outcome that could easily have been reversed except that Worcester refused to give in.



"I think we stuck with a lot of our game plan," coach Nick Tuzzolino said. "We got put back on our heels a little bit at the start of the second period after a pretty good first period but I thought we responded well."

The victory allowed the Railers to finish a seven-game road trip with a 4-2-1 record. They earned nine of a possible 14 points, a .643 pace. Worcester is 9-3-1 in its last 13 games.

The first period was played at a yellow light pace and ended 0-0 although Worcester out-shot the home team, 13-7. Things quickened in the second and intensified just before the clock hit the game's midway point.

The Railers were a man short when they developed a 3 on 1. They crashed the Maine zone but probably got in too deep. Ross Mitton was the last man to touch the puck but had no room to beat goalie Brad Arvanitis.

On cue, the Mariners came back with an odd-man rush of their own. They finished this one well with Andreev firing 20-footer under the crossbar from the left circle.

Worcester did not trail for long.

Donhauser stole the puck at center ice and out-skated a pair of defend-

See RAILERS, page 10

Hurricanes suffer shutout to E-Hamp

EASTHAMPTON — Last Saturday night, Amherst Regional ice hockey, which co-ops with Pathfinder Regional, opened up the regular season against Easthampton at Lessone Arena on the campus of Williston School. The Eagles scored a pair of early goals and rode that to a 2-0 win over the Hurricanes.

The Hurricanes were in action against Taconic on Dec. 17 and will next face McCann Tech at home Saturday, Dec. 20 at Orr Rink in Amherst.



Sawyer Ferro heads up the ice with the puck.



Alexander Marlin keeps the puck from crossing the blue line.



Joshua Feldman gets ready to shoot.



Grahm Arguin takes the faceoff.



Noah Latulippe reaches out to get the loose puck.

Sports

Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

Bondsville League

WARE – The Bondsville League at Roll-A-Way Lanes is 15 weeks into their season as the holidays are approaching.

Fire Mountain is in first place with a record of 65.5-39.5. Sandri is close by in second place with a record of 64-41. Night Hawks are in third place with a record of 62-43 as they try to close the gap with Fire Mountain, who have been leading almost all season.

In week 15, Zeke's Freaks bowled against Ironmen. In game one, Zeke's Freaks took the lead early and won by a score of 476-452. Zeke Sicard of Zeke's Freaks bowled over his league average with 105. Ryan Drago of Ironmen scored 128 in a losing effort in game one.

In game two, Ironmen bounced back with a win of their own, 481-433. Billy Brunk of Ironmen bowled well with 124 and Jason Swistack bowled 112.

In game three, Ironmen and Zeke's Freaks tied, 466-466. Brunk finished strong with 140 and a three-game series of 362. Drago

finished with 122 and a series of 352. As a result of the tie, each team received one point. The final score was 1399-1375 in favor of Ironmen.

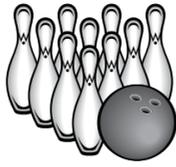
Slow Burners bowled against Cannonballs during week 15. In game one, Cannonballs defeated Slow Burners by a score of 463-408.

In game two, Cannonballs won again by a score of 467-436. Suzie Czarnecki of Cannonballs bowled well with 110 during the team's second straight win over Slow Burners.

In game three, Cannonballs and Slow Burners tied, 452-452. Cannonballs won six points out of seven and total pinfall by a final score of 1382-1296.

P&J Meats bowled against #1 seed Fire Mountain in week 15. In game one, P&J Meats pulled off the upset with a huge win over Fire Mountain, 526-481. Three out of four bowlers of P&J Meats scored in the 110s, 119 by Kristy Temple, 113 by Paige Stabach, and 116 by Shaun Midura.

In game two, Fire Mountain won by a score of 482-477. Midura remained consistent and scored 116



again. Rick Trott of Fire Mountain had the highest game on his team with 107.

In game three, Fire Mountain scored big and won 506-485. Gary Delisle of Fire Mountain bowled a 108 and a series of 331. Trott scored 110 and a series of 321. The final score was 1488-1469 in favor of P&J Meats.

Sandri bowled against Flaming Bowling Balls in week 15. In game one, Flaming Bowling Balls won by a score of 478-450. Steve McCarthy of Flaming Bowling Balls had the highest game on his team with 110.

In game two, Flaming Bowling Balls won again by a score of 462-458. Ryan McCarthy scored 109 during the team's victory over Sandri.

In game three, Sandri won by a score of 536-447. Every bowler of Sandri was over 100 with Ron Gouin having the highest score of 130. Don Paulus of Flaming Bowling Balls had the best game on his team with 122. The final score was 1444-1387 in favor of Sandri.

T-Birds get clutch goals for win over Utica

UTICA, N.Y. - The Springfield Thunderbirds (7-11-3-2) received a pair of clutch, tie-breaking goals in the final period en route to a 3-2 win over the Utica Comets (5-14-3-1) on Saturday night inside Adirondack Bank Center.

For a second straight road contest, the T-Birds had to lean on their goaltender in the opening period, as Georgi Romanov was a frequently-tested goalie, making 14 saves in the opening period, including a flashy left pad save on an in-tight chance from Utica captain Ryan Schmelzer on the first shift of the night.

Springfield had the lone power play in the first, but instead, Romanov was pressed into duty again, to which the Russian backstop answered the bell with a 2-on-1 denial on Nathan Legare.

The Comets' efforts finally led to a breakthrough at 6:14 of the second as Dylan Wendt slid a pass to a streaking Jonathan

Gruden, who threw a forehand over Romanov's shoulder from the left side to give Utica the 1-0 advantage.



Just over six minutes later, Springfield equalized as Chris Wagner drove the puck down the left wing to the goal before stuffing a forehand through Nico Daws to make it 1-1 at 12:39. The goal was Wagner's fifth in his last six games.

As the game entered the third, the T-Birds were about to receive two clutch connections from a pair of rookies. First, Nikita Susuev netted his first AHL goal, as he swooped to a rebound behind Daws' net before wrapping it around to the right post and behind the Comet netminder to

give Springfield a 2-1 lead just 1:48 into the third.

Lenni Hameenaho swiftly got Utica back to a tie score at 4:09, as he unleashed a wicked one-time slapper through Romanov's stick side, bringing the game to a 2-2 deadlock.

One more time, though, the T-Birds had a rebuttal, this time from Marc-Andre Gaudet, who uncorked a slap shot that ricocheted off a Utica defender before bouncing behind Daws at 8:47 for the go-ahead goal, 3-2.

Romanov and the Springfield defense batted down the hatches from there, killing off a Utica power play and receiving numerous shot blocks in the closing minutes, including a clutch denial by Alek Kaskimaki in the dying seconds. Romanov improved to 2-0 for the season against Utica, stopping 65 of 67 Comets shots over his two victories.

In the Classroom



Submitted photos
Dr. Rob Stephenson engages with educators



Quabbin educator Lani DiDiego models for students.

Showcase of Learning focus on science

BARRE – On Friday Nov. 21, educators from across the Commonwealth and representatives from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education visited the Quabbin Regional School District for a Showcase of Learning focused on the implementation of the OpenSciEd Curriculum.

OpenSciEd is recognized as a high quality instructional material that empowers educators to go beyond traditional methods for teaching science. Quabbin Regional School District is in its third year of implementation and to assist with strong teaching practices they have engaged in professional learning with Dr. Rob Stephenson from the Michigan Math and Science Leadership Network. During this event, educators from other schools and districts had

the opportunity to learn from Dr. Rob about instructional design principles and implementation insights.

However, the most exciting part of the showcase was without a doubt the visits to various classrooms across the Quabbin Regional School District. The day began at Quabbin Regional Middle High School and teams of visiting educators were broken into small groups as they engaged in observations focused on student work and then completed a Gallery Walk of Consensus Models and Driving Question Boards with Dr. Rob. Once this activity was complete visiting educators had time to meet with QRSD MS/HS educators to discuss instructional shifts, student engagement, and the implementation process.

What the visiting educators heard from QRSD educators

was that the implementation in Open Sci Ed has really increased student engagement. Some of the initial struggles with the programming included teachers having to think differently about the process of how students learn as the shift requires students to have time to work through the inquiry process. Allowing students to have some misconceptions and trusting that throughout the learning they will resolve these results in deeper more meaningful learning.

Visitors shared how helpful it was to see the vertical implementation of the curriculum. They were able to see how common practices are embedded at all levels and they connected how the units and prior learning build and develop over time.

See SHOWCASE, page 11

CALENDAR from page 8

MONDAY, DEC. 22
STORY TIME for preschoolers takes place today at 11:30 a.m. at the New Braintree Public Library, 45 Memorial Drive, New Braintree. The readings will include "Winter" by Elena Ulyeva and "What Could Be Keeping Santa" by Marylin Janovitz. Parental supervision is required.

THURSDAY, DEC. 25
FREE CHRISTMAS DAY COMMUNITY MEAL will be held at Timberyard,

555 East Main St., East Brookfield today at 2 p.m. The meal is open to everyone, with no cost and no requirements. Guests will be served a traditional holiday menu including smoked ham, chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, candied sweet potatoes, salad, rolls and desserts. While the meal itself is completely free, optional donations will be accepted, 100% of which will go directly to the Food Pantry at the East Brookfield Baptist Church to support local families in need. The Timberyard bar will be open from 2-5

p.m. for those who wish to purchase beverages. Guests are strongly encouraged to RSVP so organizers can plan and prepare accordingly. Walk-ins will be accommodated as best as possible.

"This meal is for anyone who needs it, whether that need is financial, social, or simply wanting a place to be on Christmas Day," said Matt Zarif, owner of Timberyard. For more information or to RSVP, people may visit Timberyard online at timberyardbrewing.com or follow Timberyard on social media.

PANTHERS from page 9

Crane, Sherblom, Quartarone, Dilling, and Patchen were the five starters in the home scrimmage against the Ware Indians.

"The starting positions are earned at practice," Dextrateur said. "Nothing is guaranteed."

The Indians are coached by Gene Rich, who graduated from Quabbin and he also played basketball for

Dextrateur.

Rounding out the varsity squad are sophomore forward Collin Leclair, and freshman guard Isaac Patchen, who's Brady's younger brother.

The Panthers were scheduled to begin the regular season with two road games against Leicester and Lunenburg before hosting Hudson in the home opener on Friday night.

Quabbin is a member of

the Mid-Wach C Division, along with Lunenburg, Hudson, Clinton, Maynard and Tyngsborough,

"All of our league games will be very challenging. The other five teams qualified for the state tournament last year," Dextrateur said. "There are a lot of talented players in our league."

The Panthers assistant coaches are Jason Ayer, Steve Carrington, and Nick Farrell.

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RAILERS from page 9

ers. He made a little move between the circles and as Arvanitis reacted, Donhauser put a short shot between his pads.

DeMelis gave the Railers a 2-1 lead at 5:41 of the third period, scoring from in close. Cronin tied it on a power play at 9:12. Once again Worcester responded quickly as Miotto hit the top far corner from the left circle at 10:25.

The home team pressed but Gahegan shut them down until the buzzer sounded.

The two Worcester AHL teams had played the Pirates many times through the years and it was a very intense rivalry. Including playoff games, they battled 206 times. Worcester's record was 91-86-29. The IceCats were 43-45-16, the Sharks 44-37-13.

The city's AHL teams were 36-45-18 in what is currently called Cross Arena.

The American Hockey League won't put this one in the standings, but the Railers were very happy to issue some payback for their predecessors.

Church News

Local pastors offer sermons

Divine Materials Part 6

The following prayer was penned by Scottish minister and theologian, John Baillie (1886-1960). It is worthy of deliberation:

“Teach me, O God, so to use all the circumstances of my life today that they may bring forth in me the fruits of holiness rather than the fruits of sin.” This prayer is impacting, revealing that the circumstances of our lives serve as vehicles for spiritual growth or regression. Ultimately, we choose what we will make with the material God allows.

Of course, and as we have noted in recent editions, Baillie expounds upon his plea with a series of specific requests. This week, let us conclude with the following elements: a) “Let me use pleasures as material for temperance” and b) “Let me use praise as material for humility.” Let us delve in.

1) Let me use pleasures as material for temperance

We have the capacity to react poorly to earthly pleasures. Pleasure has a way of sabotaging us, leading us to abandon healthful restraint, as we give ourselves over to sensual delights, to our loss. Some are so captivated by worldly treats that they cannot move beyond the trappings of their senses or contexts despite the high cost of carnality.

Don't believe me? Let us take a moment to do what Christ Himself commanded us to do (Luke 17:32): “Remember Lot's wife.” If I were you I would take a moment to read the story of Lot and his wife, recorded for us in Genesis 19:1-29. I'll wait a moment for you.

Welcome back. Can you not see this woman, freshly delivered from the doomed city of Sodom, looking back longingly upon that which should have been her condemnation. If only she had learned to restrain her neck and control her spiritual gaze, as the angel of God commanded: “Flee for your lives. Don't look back” (Gen. 19:17b). Tragically, she did not and her soul passed on from this life, leaving behind nothing but a pillar of salt (26). Was her home, her possessions, her station and the delights of that ancient city worth her very life?

We do well to contend with this query posed by Christ (Mark 8:36): “What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?” If you have earthly pleasures, delight in them as gifts of God, but be wary. Some of the best gifts of God become the worst of idols when divorced from proper priority. Let us lift our voice with that of John Baillie: “Lord, let us use the pleasures You richly provide as material for temperance.”

2) Let me use praise as material for humility

Similarly, we have the

capacity to react quite poorly to the praise of men. Human accolades all-too-easily lead us to believe our own press, as we succumb to pride and the perils thereof. How many have fallen prey to the flattery of their peers, leading them down the path of avarice, which culminates in judgment?

Would you like a frightening example of such in Scripture? Let us speak, albeit briefly, concerning the Herod of Acts 12: Herod Agrippa I. This particular Herod is but one member of the broader Herodian Dynasty that appears throughout the Gospels and the Book of Acts.

He should not be confused with Herod the Great, who was responsible for the Slaughter of the Innocents of Jesus' infancy (Matt. 2:16-18), or with Herod Antipas, who had John the Baptist killed (Mark 6) and later declined to pass judgment on Christ (sending Him back to Pontius Pilate) (Luke 23:7-12).

No, Herod Agrippa I was the man who had the apostle James, the brother of John, killed by the sword and Peter arrested-though God arranged a jail-break (Acts 12:1-19a). What does the Bible record regarding the final moments of his life? What enduring legacy has Herod left?

Acts 12:19b-24

19 . . . Then Herod went from Judea to Caesarea and stayed there. 20 He had been quarreling with the people of Tyre and Sidon; they now joined together and sought an audience with him. After securing the support of Blastus, a trusted personal servant of the king, they asked for peace, because they depended on the king's country for their food supply. 21 On the appointed day Herod, wearing his royal robes, sat on his throne and delivered a public address to the people.

22 They shouted, “This is the voice of a god, not of a man.” 23 Immediately, because Herod did not give praise to God, an angel of the Lord struck him down and he was eaten by worms and died. 24 But the word of God continued to spread and flourish.

Herod Agrippa I was all-too-happy to practice pride, and in the end he was grossly humbled. O that Herod had lived his life for the Lord and sought to honor Him. Sadly, he chose an adversarial position and sought self-aggrandizement accordingly, at horrific cost. Let us learn from this negative example.

I do hope that you are celebrated in this life and that your achievements are properly recognized, yet be wary of earthly praise. Seek humility and seek, ultimately, the praise of God. It pays far better dividends in both this life and in the life to come. Embrace this final portion of the prayer of John Baillie: “Let me use praise as material

for humility.”

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

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

Third Sunday in Advent
“The Son of God, our Joy and our Salvation.”

Scripture Reading:
Luke 1 v 46 -55

I. Conclusion
We often use the word joy or happiness when we wish those who have birthdays, anniversaries and important events in their lives.

We do that because we want them to have a joyful time as they celebrate these events and milestones. We also find joy in sharing celebrations or supporting teams at sports events together. We feel joy when we are with people we love, especially during this festive time.

To feel joy is so important for our overall well-being, because it is a deep inner feeling of peace and delight, which leads to feelings of gratitude and lightness of being, and makes us feel good. To feel joy, together with peace, and hope, which we focused on the last few weeks, helps us approach the world with contentment, strength and hopefulness.

II. The Son of God, our Joy and our Salvation

In our passage in Luke, we see much joy at display. Mary is praising God in this powerful hymn, for enabling her, by the Holy Spirit, to conceive the Son of God, who would become the Saviour of the world. She was also joyful, because she was visiting Elizabeth, her relative, who too received the message from God that she would give birth to a child at her high age and by the time Mary visited her, she was already six months pregnant.

But the joy Mary felt had especially to do with the powerful work of God through her, a woman from lowly and modest circumstances, a poor family and community choosing her to be the mother of the Saviour of the world. She also praises God, for what God had done for the people of Israel, delivering them from slavery in Egypt, but also leading them through the desert, and the same God is now doing this powerful work through her.

Her hymn then delivers a more powerful message, from a mother who understood why the poor and the hungry were suffering and trapped in their circumstances. She praised God for bringing down those in power from

their thrones, through the might of God's arm and lifted the humble, filled the hungry and sent the rich away, who looked down upon those in their humble state.

Mary does not just speak about her own situation that has changed. No, she speaks for all people who find themselves in the state that she had been in, and she proclaims the mercy and grace of God who sees their circumstances and wants to change it for the better, so that their lives will be filled with joy and jubilation like hers and Elizabeth's. She sings a Song of God, the just One, the Peaceful One, the

One who brings hope and joy and love to all people. The God who sees the intentions of the rulers who despise the people of God, oppress them and let them suffer in their poverty and hunger and lowliness, is the God whose Son will be born through this Mother, and who Himself will declare that He came to transform the circumstances of the poor the prisoners, the blind, the sick. He is not just the Child to be gazed upon and be adored, says David Garland and Clinton Arnold in their commentary on Luke, but He will be born to bring peace and hope and joy to all people, not just some.

III. Conclusion

The message of Christ's birth through His mother, the lowly one, is a message that must be conveyed to all the peoples of the world, to all communities, to the churches in the world, the leaders of the world, that Jesus was born to spread the Good News of God's justice and peace and joy for every person in this world. It is a message of transformation and hope that each day will be a better day than before.

The joy we experience when we see our loved ones and when we accomplish something for ourselves, is the joy that every person in this world yearns for. The birth of Christ represents that hope and joy for every human being. Christ's birth wants the whole world, every child, every young person, every family, every community to experience the joy of salvation, as well as the joy of living life to the fullest, where we all will have access to the things that feed us, heal us, and bring us comfort in our lives.

May we all once again reflect on the good and joyful message of Christ's birth and may that message inspire positive change throughout the world today. May God help us to share this Good News and be part of a joyful transformation, as the Son of God came to create change and bring happiness to the world.

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

Obituaries

Michaele Louise (Thayer) Bartus, 83 Dec. 3, 1941 - Nov. 26, 2025

PETERSHAM – It is with smiles on our faces and love in our hearts that we celebrate the life of Michaele Louise (Thayer) Bartus, affectionately known as Mickey, Mick, Mom, Mommy, Gram, Little, and Tricky to those lucky enough to be part of her world.



Born on Dec. 3, 1941, in Ware, Mickey was a lifelong Petersham

resident whose unwavering commitment to family, friends, and community touched everyone she met. Whether working at the Country Duffer, dispatching for the police and fire departments, or lending a hand at Templeton Spirits, Mickey was always there-ready with a helping hand and a generous spirit.

Mickey brought fun and a dash of mischief wherever she went. She was as dependable as the seasons, always showing up for her loved ones. A proud member of the “Cocktail Club,” she could often be found enjoying laughter and good company with Monika, Robert, Dickie, Rebecca, and the occasional passerby. Until recent years, Mickey was best known for her daily walks-miles through town with a wave, a smile, and a cheerful “hi” for everyone she encountered. Her greatest joy was her family, especially her three grandsons and three great-grandsons.

Mickey leaves behind a legacy of love and laughter, survived by her adoring husband Richard; daughters Anne-Marie Bartus (Mike), Margaret Cooley

and Jennifer Bartus (Tony); grandchildren Kyle Cooley, Tyler Cooley (Brittney) and Joshua Cooley (Kim); great-grandchildren Colton Cooley, Walker Cooley,

Cooper Cooley and Baby Cooley, expected to arrive soon. She is also survived by siblings Carolyn Coughlin, Patricia Kellogg, John Thayer, and sister-in-law Judy Thayer; as well

as many nieces and nephews. Mickey now joins her parents, Robert and Louise Thayer, and brother Robert Thayer, Jr.

We invite you to share your stories, raise a glass and celebrate Mickey's remarkable life on Sunday, Dec. 21 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Athol Legion, 325 Pequoig Avenue, Athol.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to French Connection Senior Homecare, 925 West Broadway, Gardner, MA; Care Central VNA & Hospice, 34 Pearly Lane, Gardner, MA or a charity of your choice.

Mack Family Funeral Home, Athol-Orange Chapel, 110 New Athol Road, Orange, is directing arrangements.

DEATH NOTICE

Bartus, Michaele Louisa (Thayer)
Died Nov. 26, 2025
Celebration of Life Dec. 21 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
Athol Legion, 325 Pequoig Avenue, Athol

Barre Gazette OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

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SHOWCASE from page 10

For Quabbin educators, they felt great pride in the work that they are doing and truly enjoyed sharing with others.

After a networking lunch, visiting educators hit the road to view the implementation of OpenSciEd at the elementary level. They traveled to Hardwick Elementary School, where their educators welcomed additional elementary visitors. These teams engaged in the same process for observations and debrief as did their middle/high school counterparts. Important take aways from this session included:

Quabbin Regional School District is proud of the work that their Science educators have engaged in and they are seeing improved engagement of students, increased inquiry, and greater student outcomes.

EARLY DEADLINES FOR ADS & LEGAL NOTICES

New Year's will bring early deadlines for all ads & legal notices to run in TURLEY PUBLICATIONS the week of Dec. 29, 2025 - Jan. 2, 2026:

Friday, December 26 at 2 PM for January 1 issue

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

Monday, December 29 at 2 PM for January 1 issue

- Sentinel • The Journal Register
- Ware River News • Barre Gazette

Tuesday, December 30 at 2 PM for January 2 issue

- Quaboag Current • Town Reminder
- The Holyoke Sun • Chicopee Register

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Public Safety

Barre Police Log

Sunday, Nov. 23
3:15 p.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, South Street, Returned

Monday, Nov. 24
4:09 p.m. Public Assist, Barre Police Headquarters, Information Taken
6:02 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident – No Fire Department/EMS Response, Officer Spoke to Party
7:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

Tuesday, Nov. 25
8:49 a.m. Motor Vehicle Hit and Run Worcester road, Officer Spoke to Party
4:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Barre Road, Citation Issued
5:37 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Oakham Road, Investigated
6:13 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written

Warning

Wednesday, Nov. 26
7:09 a.m. Prisoner Watch or Meal, Barre Police Headquarters, Removed to Court/Lockup
1:57 p.m. Fire – Fumes/Odor/Gas Leak, Vernon Avenue, Investigated
5:39 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Wauwinet Road, Vehicle Towed
5:44 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Main Street, Area search Negative
8:57 p.m. Erratic Operator, Williamsville Road, Area Search Negative

Thursday, Nov. 27
9:45 a.m. Trespasser or Prowler, Selfridge Road, Report Filed
12:40 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Bleeding (Non-traumatic), Wheelwright Road, Transported to Hospital

Friday, Nov. 28
5:46 p.m. Road Condition Notification, Whole Town, Referred to Other Agency
7:57 p.m. Fire – Power Lines/Wires, Washburn Road, Referred to Other Agency

Saturday, Nov. 29
12:20 a.m. Barre Falls Check, Barre Falls Dam, Citation Issued
12:31 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Root Road, Transported to Hospital
12:58 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Oakham Road, Mutual Aid Transported
3:27 p.m. Disturbance/Disorderly, Common Street, Officer Spoke to Party
10:44 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Transported to Hospital

Hubbardston Police Log

Sunday, Nov. 23
10:04 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Moosehorn Hill Circle, Transported to Hospital
6:09 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Gardner Road, Officer/Chief Advised
7:11 p.m. Fire – Fumes/Odor/Gas Leak, Old Princetown Cutoff Road, Investigated

Monday, Nov. 24
1:37 a.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Gardner Road, Public Assist
5:14 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Birches Road, Call Transferred

Tuesday, Nov. 25
6:26 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Old Boston Turnpike, Mutual Aid Transport
2:55 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Lombard Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
6:32 p.m. Fire – Power Lines/Wires Bemis Road, Investigated

Wednesday, Nov. 26
4:23 a.m. Fire – Power Lines/Wires, Brigham Street, Investigated
7:29 a.m. Fire – Power Lines/Wires, Brigham Street, Fire Extinguished
9:55 a.m. Erratic Operator, Williamsville Road, Officer Spoke to Party
1:11 pm. Vandalism, Gardner Road, Report Filed
4:57 p.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Mohawk Drive, Investigated
5:52 p.m. Erratic Operator, Worcester Road, Report Filed
6:47 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Elm Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal
7:15 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Elm Street, Transported to Hospital
8:21 p.m. Be On the Look Out Notification, Kruse Road, Area Search Negative
11:01 p.m. Follow-Up Investigation, Kruse Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Thursday, Nov. 27
9:45 a.m. Trespasser or Prowler, Selfridge Road, Report Filed
1:02 p.m. Erratic Operator, Williamsville Road, Officer/Chief Advised
5:14 p.m. Speak to the Chief/Officer, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party

Friday, Nov. 28
2 p.m. Road/Traffic Hazard, Brigham Street, Verbal Warning
2 p.m. Trespasser or Prowler, Main Street, Report Filed
3:03 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Mt. Jefferson Road, Transported to Hospital
6:57 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, New Westminster Road, Transported to Hospital
9:46 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Gardner Road, No Action Required

Saturday, Nov. 29
8:19 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Worcester Road, Transported to Hospital
9:06 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Burnshirt Road, Vehicle Towed

Oakham Police Log

Sunday, Nov. 23
1:16 p.m. Lockout (Home or Vehicle), North Brookfield Road, Officer Spoke to Party
10:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Written Warning

Monday, Nov. 24
1:13 p.m. Fire – Power Lines/Wires, North Brookfield Road, Information Given
5:29 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Main Street, Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, Nov. 26
7:24 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, New Braintree Road, Returned

2:29 p.m. Erratic Operator, Coldbrook Road, Officer Spoke to Party
9:48 p.m. Fire – Power Lines/Wires, Adams Road, Referred to Other Agency
11:51 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Adams Road, Canceled

Thursday, Nov. 27
1:25 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Old Turnpike Road, Information Taken
11:17 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Oakham, In Custody
2:51 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, North Brookfield Road, Transported to Hospital

6:35 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, North Brookfield Road, Report Filed

Friday, Nov. 28
7:06 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Edson Road, Transported to Hospital

Saturday, Nov. 29
6:57 p.m. Emergency – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, East Hill Road, Transported to Hospital
10:59 p.m. Missing Person, Old Turnpike Road, Report Filed

Hardwick Police Log

During the weeks of Nov. 24-Dec. 8, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 124 building/property checks, 85 directed/area patrols, 28 radar assignments, eight traffic controls, 19 emergency 911 calls, six citizen assists, one assist other agency, three motor vehicle investigations, three scams, one threat, one illegal dumping, three parking complaints, three trespasses, one property damage, four motor vehicle accidents, two fires, nine animal calls and 15 motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Tuesday, Dec. 2
1:43 p.m. Medical Emergency, Greenwich Road, Transported to Hospital
1:50 p.m. Assist Citizen, Barre Road, Unfounded
3:08 p.m. Parking Complaint, Prospect Street, Officer Handled
4:33 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Lower Road, Services Rendered
4:58 p.m. Safety Hazard, Prouty Road, Referred to Other Agency

Place, Officer Handled
2:28 p.m. Disturbance, Maple Street, Peace Restored
3:33 p.m. 911 Disturbance, Broad Street, Officer Handled
3:43 p.m. 911 Welfare Check, Ridge Road, Officer Handled
6:28 p.m. Complaint, Bridge Street, Officer Handled
8:03 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Out of Town, Services Rendered
11:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Main Street, Officer Handled
11:48 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued

Rutland Police Log

Sunday, Nov. 23
6:44 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Brintal Drive, Officer/Chief Advised
7:22 a.m. Road/Traffic Hazard, Pommogussett Road, Removed from Scene
8:05 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle/Parking Issues, Glenwood Road, Citation Issued
8:37 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Citation Issued
2:07 p.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Pleasantdale Road, Officer/Chief Advised
2:16 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Village Way, Officer/Chief Advised
4:35 p.m. Trespasser or Prowler, Village Market, Officer Spoke to Party
5:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
5:37 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
5:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Written Warning
6:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Citation Issued
6:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Citation Issued
6:53 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Citation Issued
7:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
7:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
7:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasantdale Road, Written Warning

Heart Problem, Main Street, Transported to Hospital

Tuesday, Nov. 25
12:32 a.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Barre Paxton Road, Public Assist
8:36 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
Summons Safranski, William E., 53, Hudson
Charges Uninsured Motor Vehicle, Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With, Unregistered Motor Vehicle
10:56 a.m. Property Damage, Main Street, Report Filed
11:03 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Maple Avenue, Ambulance Signed Refusal
12:21 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Maynard, Information Given
2:05 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, Central Tree Road, Referred to Other Agency
4:26 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Main Street, Mutual Aid Transport
5:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
6:21 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, North Brookfield, Officer Spoke to Party
6:55 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Brintal Drive, Officer Spoke to Party
7:17 p.m. Erratic Operator, Main Street, Call Transferred

3:52 p.m. Noise Complaint, Pommogussett Road, Unfounded
2:51 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, North Brookfield Road, Transported to Hospital
2:58 p.m. Noise Complaint, Bigelow Road, Officer Spoke to Party
3:16 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Written Warning
4:43 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, East County Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
6:22 p.m. Erratic Operator, Pommogussett Road, Officer Spoke to Party
6:35 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, North Brookfield Road, Transported to Hospital

Friday, Nov. 28
9:19 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Glenwood Road, Citation Issued
12:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
7:06 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Edson Road, Transported to Hospital
7:34 p.m. Property Damage, Main Street, Referred to Other Agency
8:22 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Neurological/Head Injury, Pleasantdale Road, Mutual Aid Transport

Saturday, Nov. 29
12:03 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
12:19 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning
2:51 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Grizzly Drive, Written Warning
11:02 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Glenwood Road, Transported to Hospital
12:12 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Birchwood Road, Report Filed
12:47 p.m. Property Damage, Maple Avenue, Public Assist
6:57 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, East hill Road, Transported to Hospital
8:42 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Fidelity Drive, Transported to Hospital
10:57 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning
11:06 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Barre Paxton Road, Officer Spoke to Party
11:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Criminal Complaint
Summons Oliveira, Kassime, 34, Everett
Charges Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle

Monday, Nov. 24
11:58 a.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Officer Handled
1:41 p.m. Threat, Main Street, Officer Handled
2:07 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Officer Handled
2:15 p.m. Scam, Main Street, Officer Handled
2:31 p.m. Safety Hazard, Church Street, Removed Hazard
3:32 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Pine Street, Transported to Hospital
6:34 p.m. Motor Vehicle Crash, Greenwich Road, Services Rendered

Wednesday, Dec. 3
2:06 a.m. Bylaw/Ordinance Violation, Prospect Street, Citation Issued
9:28 a.m. Trespass, Thresher Road, Negative Contact
1:47 p.m. 911 Lockout, Bridge Street, Services Rendered
2:59 p.m. Assist Citizen, Lower Road, Services Rendered

Thursday, Dec. 4
10:52 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Church Street, Services Rendered
7:22 p.m. 911 Safety Hazard, Barre Road, Services Rendered
11:02 p.m. Assist Citizen, Barre Road, Services Rendered

Tuesday, Dec. 9
12:24 a.m. Investigation, Barre Road, Officer Handled
9:04 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Main Street, Officer Handled
12:23 p.m. 911 Disturbance, Church Lane, Spoken To
1:53 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Upper Church Street, Transported to Hospital
3:32 p.m. Motor Vehicle Crash, Lower Road, Services Rendered
3:55 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Old Petersham Road, Transported to Hospital
6:05 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Old Petersham Road, Transported to Hospital
6:58 p.m. Parking Complaint, Broad Street, No Action Required

Tuesday, Nov. 25
7:29 p.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Crash, Greenwich Road, Report Taken

Wednesday, Nov. 26
8:15 p.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Crash, Petersham Road, Criminal Complaint

Friday, Dec. 5
2:46 a.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Prospect Street, Check/Secured
3:06 a.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, High Street, Officer Handled
1:39 p.m. 911 Scam, Hardwick Pond Road, Officer Handled
2:35 p.m. Fire/Illegal Burn, High Street, Extinguished
2:49 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Old Greenwich Plains Road, Spoken To
3:24 p.m. Welfare Check, Lower Road, Officer Handled
5:14 p.m. Scam, Hardwick Pond Road, Report Taken

Wednesday, Dec. 10
5:58 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Barre Road, Services Rendered

Thursday, Dec. 11
5:56 a.m. 911 Elevator Call/Alarms, Old Petersham Road, Negative Contact
9:05 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Ruggles Hill Road, Transported to Hospital
12:33 p.m. Safety Hazard, Miner Road, Referred to Other Agency
4:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
4:44 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Prouty Road, Patient Refusal
6:06 p.m. 911 Animal Call, Bridge Street, Officer Handled

Thursday, Nov. 27
4:33 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Church Lane, Transported to Hospital

Saturday, Dec. 6
7:14 p.m. Welfare Check, Pine Street, Transferred Call to C7

Friday, Dec. 12
7:16 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Bridge Street, Transported to Hospital
10:55 a.m. 911 Misdial, Prospect Street, No Action Required
1:06 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Main Street, Patient Refusal
9:22 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, River Run, Patient Refusal

Friday, Nov. 28
10:05 a.m. Assist Citizen, Telephone, Officer Handled
12:51 p.m. Illegal Dumping, Main Street, Officer Handled
3:17 p.m. 911 Complaint, New Braintree Road, Negative Contact
3:40 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, New Braintree Road, Vehicle Towed

Sunday, Dec. 7
8:02 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
3:04 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Main Street, Transported to Hospital

Saturday, Dec. 13
1:02 p.m. 911 Misdial, Hardwick Pond Road, Spoken To
1:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Greenwich Road, Citation Issued
6:37 p.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Crash, Church Street, Transported to Hospital
9:36 p.m. Harassment, Church Street, Investigated

Saturday, Nov. 29
3:14 a.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Prospect Street, Officer Handled
1:54 p.m. Parking Complaint, Main Street, Officer Handled
6:20 p.m. Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Negative Contact

Monday, Dec. 8
1:40 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Prospect Street, Transported to Hospital
6:30 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Main Street

Sunday, Dec. 14
2:33 a.m. 911 Suspicious Activity, Hardwick Road, Criminal Complaint
4:59 p.m. Investigation, Out of Town, Officer Handled
7:33 p.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Crash, Barre Road, Report Taken
8:49 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Turkey Street, Officer Handled

Sunday, Nov. 30
9:45 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Lower Road, Officer Handled
3:16 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Jackson Road, Report Taken

During the week of Dec. 8-15 the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 53 building/property checks, 23 directed/area patrols, 15 radar assignments, three traffic controls, 20 emergency 911 calls, one citizen assist, three assist other agencies, one motor vehicle investigation, two investigations, one parking complaint, one trespass, two complaints, one harassment, three motor vehicle accidents, one safety hazard, eight animal calls and six motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, Dec. 1
3:16 a.m. Parking Complaint, High Street, Written Warning
3:40 a.m. Medical Emergency, Pine Street, Patient Refusal
6:15 a.m. Safety Hazard, Main Street, Dispatch Handled
7:11 a.m. Trespass, Upper Church Street, Report Taken
4:28 p.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Crash, Barre Road, Officer Handled
6:49 p.m. 911 Fire/Other, Main Street, Services Rendered
7:11 p.m. Property Damage, Bridge Street, Report Taken
11:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued

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