

BARRE GAZETTE

USPS 044560

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

December 19, 2024 | Vol. 190, No. 37 | \$1.00

www.barregazette.turley.com

Voters approve transfers at STM

By Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – At a special town meeting held on Dec. 4, voters approved the transfer of \$50,000 from Stabilization to Capital Stabilization to help cover the cost of capital projects.

Capital Improvement Planning Chair Jamie Gilman said the town has restarted the Capital Improvement Plan and there is currently \$104,000 in the Capital Stabilization fund. The Capital Improvement Plan will identify capital needs across various departments in the town in the coming years.

“When there is a need for a capital replacement, that’s all there is,” he said of the current balance.

Residents talked about the need to build the Stabilization fund, in the face of budget constraints. Some mentioned that the town has had to take money out of Stabilization in order to balance the budget, and has been able to replenish it with Free Cash.

Town Accountant Shiela LeBlanc said, “As a community, we have to stop living off our Stabilization...If we can’t fund what people need in a budget, then how are we going to make these capital purchases?”

Currently, the Stabilization balance is \$1,388,596.85, LeBlanc said.

LeBlanc stressed the need to include the cost of maintenance for a capital purchase in a department’s budget prior to getting approval for it.

“It has to be part of their budget, has to be part of the purchase before we take it to town meeting,” she said.

Capital Improvement Planning member Brandon Avery said the town does not have any borrowing capacity and has no extra source of income. He said the town has “been lucky” in years past with receiving extra income, including \$500,000 from Green Gold, around \$500,000 from COVID-19 funds and approximately \$1.4 million from American Rescue Plan Act funds.

“Those funds are gone and they’re not coming back,” he said. “We need to get to a point where we can save a little money for the future. If we don’t, we’re going to be in serious trouble when something comes up that we really need, we’re going to be between a rock and a hard place.”

Avery said the departments have to live within their budgets without dipping into Stabilization. He said the transfer will help the departments with capital needs.

The motion to approve the transfer passed by a two-third majority vote.

Fire Department hoses

Voters also approved the transfer of \$7,180 from Fire Assistant Chief’s Salary to Fire Supplies to replace the Fire Department’s hoses, which failed a recent inspection. Fire Chief Darin Anderson said any hose older than 1987 is considered “no good” and some of the department’s hoses date back to the 1970s.

He said eight nozzles also failed the inspection.

“We are trying to replace hose,” Anderson said. “We had cata-

See NORTH BROOKFIELD, page 6

Kids design wrapping paper at library



Several children arrived at the Woods Memorial Library to craft their own wrapping paper.

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

BARRE – The Woods Memorial Library hosted a fun kids activity where they got to design their own wrapping paper.

There is still time to shop for gifts and wrapping them takes time. The library wanted to offer an activity that adds some extra holiday to their gifts by wrapping them with their own

wrapping paper.

The library provided all the blank wrapping paper and decorative tools. Getting busy with her own wrapping paper was Youth Services Librarian Kayla Phillips along with Assistant Youth Services Librarian Kate Murray. The librarians always wanted to have this activity done at the library and thought the kids could enjoy decorating the same colorful wrapping paper they’re used to unwrapping on Christmas morning.

“These presents are going to look beautiful,” Phillips stated as the kids got to work immediately after getting big pieces of wrapping paper. Phillips did give a brief announcement mentioning the magic word “glitter” being available for kids to add to their wrapping paper. It may be an announcement for kids, but for the parents it

See WRAPPING PAPER, page 5



Vivian drew Santa Claus on her wrapping paper.



Kayla Phillips designed her own wrapping paper with markers, stamps and Christmas themes.

New Braintree resident celebrated 100th birthday

By Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

NEW BRAINTREE – This past Sunday, the town’s oldest resident and Boston Post Cane holder Stephanie Benoit celebrated her 100th birthday at home, surrounded by family and friends.

Born on Dec. 15, 1924, in Florence, New Jersey, Benoit served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II, from the age of 20 until the war ended.

During her time in the military, Benoit wrote letters to many young men serving overseas, including Norman Benoit, who went on to become her husband on April 12, 1947.

The couple started their lives in New Braintree moving from the Benoit Farm to the Gleason House, then to Daley’s Blacksmith Shop then to the “Old Cold House” before building their forever home on Hardwick Road, where Benoit still lives today.

The couple had 10 children, Christine, Norman Jr., Christopher, David, Paul, Justin, Gregory, Timothy, Jason and Christian.

Benoit’s four surviving children, Paul Benoit of Hardwick, Jason Benoit of New Braintree, Justin and Gregory all celebrated their mother’s centennial birthday along with extended family members, who took time to reflect on some of her many remarkable achievements.

In 1970, Benoit was the first woman to serve on the Board of Selectmen in town, and the second to hold that position in the commonwealth. A proud Republican, Benoit was eager to see who won the Presidential Election this year.

“She was heavily involved in local politics,” Paul said. This included successful-



Submitted Photo

Stephanie Benoit of New Braintree celebrated her 100th birthday with family and friends on Dec. 15.

ly fighting against the placement of a prison in town, on property that is now the State Police Academy. She also rallied against illegal dumping and groundwater pollution.

Last year, she received an award from the town’s Board of Selectmen, recognizing her “outstanding contributions and selflessness in the face of political adversity.”

“She also designed the town flag,” Jason said.

Benoit is known for her poetry and artistic talent, with many of her bucolic oil paintings displayed in her home and throughout the town, including at the New Braintree Historical Society Museum.

“She tried to preserve local buildings around town,” Paul said of her paintings.

Benoit was also a film star, having lent her voice to

See 100TH BIRTHDAY, page 6

Select Board hears comments regarding Zekos Auctions

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

HARDWICK – The Select Board began their Dec. 9 meeting with visitor’s comments regarding Zekos Group and the public auction of three municipal-owned properties.

Zekos Group is a professional team of real estate auction experts that focus solely on providing consultation, strategic analysis and exemplary auction services to municipalities and government agencies.

A multi property auction has been ordered for the three prop-

erties, which could have a historical value to the town. The auction will be held on a date to be determined, according to the Zekos Group website.

The buildings consist of a school house on 58 Ruggles Hill Road, the former Calvin Paige Building on Barre Road, both located off the common, and the former school building at 179 Main St. in Gilbertville.

During the visitor’s comments of the Select Board meeting, several residents and members of various town departments shared some concern. According to members of the Historical Commission these three build-

ings are deemed historic and are part of the character of the town’s historic district.

One of the residents asked if there is a procurement policy for the auction group to go through prior to selling these properties.

Town Administrator Justine Caggiano said, “we don’t have to go through the process of procurement”.

The residents who spoke before the Select Board are aware that Zekos Group has sold a lot of properties, but not buildings with historical value.

See HARDWIC BOS, page 5

Horse and sleigh wait for snow



Turley photo by Ellenor Downer

The horse with a sleigh is a yearly Christmas decoration parked near the garland draped Harding Allen Bandstand. This year a cut Christmas tree is included in the sleigh.



8 04879 13177 8

News of the Towns




Round Town
Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

Barre Winter Market
On Saturday, Jan. 11, 2025 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. the Barre Winter Market located in the Barre Town Hall, 2 Exchange St., Barre will take place. Other dates are Saturday, Feb. 8; Saturday, March 8 and Saturday, April 12, all from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. This is the third year of the market. Local crafters and farmers sell their crafts and products. For more information, people may call Celia at 978-355-0139 or email rebellbathandbeyond@gmail.


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

Christmas Masses and Services
St. Francis of Assisi Parish will hold a Christmas Eve Mass on Tuesday, Dec. 24 at 4 p.m. in St. Thomas-A-Becket Church, Vernon Avenue. The Parish will hold a Christmas Eve by Candlelight 10 p.m. St. Joseph's Chapel, South Street. On Wednesday, Dec. 25 Christmas Day there will be a 10 a.m. Mass at St. Thomas-A-Becket Church, Vernon Avenue.

The Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St., will hold the Fourth Sunday of Advent on Sunday, Dec. 22. Pastor Margaret Keyser is preaching from South Africa. On Christmas Eve, Tuesday, Dec. 24 there will be two services. A Family Service at 7 p.m. with Christian Education students doing the readings and participating in the service. A Candlelight Service will be held at 11 a.m. Rev. Charlie Page will preach and the choir will sing.



Schedule of Masses and Services



<p style="text-align: center;">BARRE</p> <p>Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St. Sunday, Dec. 22 Fourth Sunday of Advent Pastor Margaret Keyser preaching from South Africa Christmas Eve Tuesday, Dec. 24 Family Service at 7 p.m. with Christian Education students doing the readings and participating in the service. Candlelight Service at 11 a.m. Rev. Charlie Page preaching and choir singing</p> <p>St. Francis of Assisi Parish Christmas Eve Tuesday, Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Mass 4 p.m. St. Thomas-A-Becket Church, Vernon Avenue, South Barre Christmas Eve by Candlelight 10 p.m. St. Joseph's Chapel, South Street, Barre</p> <p>Wednesday, Dec. 25 Christmas Christmas Day at 10 a.m. St. Thomas-A-Becket Church, Vernon Avenue, South Barre</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HUBBARDSTON</p> <p>First Parish Unitarian on the Common Christmas Eve Service at 5 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OAKHAM</p> <p>Oakham Congregational Church 4 Coldbrook Road Christmas Sunday Service at 10 a.m. Rev. Carissa Rodriguez, guest minister and choir singing Christmas Eve Tuesday, Dec. 24 Candlelight Service at 7 p.m. Rev. Carissa Rodriguez, guest minister</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PETERSHAM</p> <p>First Unitarian Parish 1 Common St. Christmas Eve Tuesday, Dec. 24 Candlelight Service at 4 p.m. Rev. John Pastor Collecting non-perishables for Food Pantry</p> <p>St. Scholastica's Priory and St. Mary's Monastery (Benedictine) 271 North Main Street Vespers 4:30-5:10 p.m. Vigils Late Night liturgy 10 p.m.-midnight Midnight Mass Midnight-1:45 a.m.</p> <p>St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church 18 North St. Christmas Eve Mass at 6 p.m. Fr. Thien Nguyen</p> <p>Most Holy Trinity (Maronite) 67 Dugway Road Christmas Eve Mass 8 p.m.</p> <p>Orthodox Congregational Church 21 North Main St. Carols and Lessons at 9 p.m. Bob Lemoine organist Rev. Geoffrey Smith Christmas Eve Vigil Candlelight at 10 p.m. Collecting for Food Pantry Carols and Lessons 11:15 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SOUTH BARRE</p> <p>New Life Assembly of God 60 Main St. Carols and Communion Service Thursday, Dec. 19 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Christmas Sunday Service, Dec. 22 from 10:30 a.m.-noon</p>
---	--



Hubbardston
Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

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

First Parish Unitarian Church
The First Parish Unitarian Church, on the Common, will hold a Christmas Eve Service on Tuesday, Dec. 24 at 5 p.m.

MOD Grant
The town of Hubbardston has been awarded a \$41,515 grant from the Massachusetts Office on Disability to fund a comprehensive ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan. This initiative will ensure that our public buildings, recreational spaces, sidewalks, and services are accessible to all residents and visitors. Updating their 18-year-old accessibility plan is a crucial step toward identifying and addressing barriers town-wide. It also opens the door to future grants that can help us enhance Hubbardston's infrastructure and build a more inclusive community. Residents with experience or interest in accessibility are encouraged to get involved. Their input is valuable to this effort.

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

EQLT holds New Year's Day walk

NEW BRAINTREE – East Quabbin Land Trust will start off 2025 with a New Year's Day walk, Wednesday, Jan. 1 at noon at the New Braintree Trail Station Site, 1700 Hardwick Road.
This will be a casual walk on the Mass. Central Rail Trail in New Braintree and Hardwick. EQLT will also dedicate the Terry Briggs Memorial Bench in Wheelwright.

Listening Center lists upcoming classes

BARRE – Listening Center, South Street, lists upcoming workshops and new classes.
Rhonda Hamer will hold Strength and Stretch Fusion on Wednesdays, Jan. 8 to Feb. 12 from 1-2 p.m.; Understanding Osteoporosis on Wednesday, Jan. 22 from 5:30-7 p.m.; Gentle Yoga for Osteoporosis on Mondays, Feb. 24 to April 14 from noon-1 p.m.; Nutrition for Osteoporosis on Wednesday, Feb. 26 from 5:30-7 p.m. and Improved Posture Wednesday, May 14 from 5:30-7 p.m.
Body of Earth beginners class with Loren Magruder starts Thursday, Jan. 9 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. for five weeks \$100 to be paid at first class in the Yoga Studio at Listening, 28 James St. People may register by emailing loren@creativeyogaworks.com or calling 802-683-8383.
Loren Magruder will offer a Body of Earth Winter Yoga Journey beginning on Sunday, Jan. 12 from 7-8:30 p.m.
Yoga with Lisa classes are \$12 each or 8 for \$72 if paid at first class. People may try a free class to see if they are interested. They may call Lisa at 978-257-8180 or email lisa@burn-outblisshealth.com.

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. 23. 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 – Spaghetti and meatballs, marinara sauce, green beans, fresh fruit, Italian bread
TUESDAY – Chicken fajitas, Spanish rice, black beans and corn, sour cream, pita bread, pineapple
WEDNESDAY – Holiday no meal served
THURSDAY – Beef with onions and peppers, seasoned potatoes, honey glazed carrots, birthday cake, diet = half piece, sandwich roll
FRIDAY – Meatballs with onion gravy, mashed potatoes, Scandinavian vegetables, peaches, whole wheat bread
*Higher sodium entree Meal includes milk and margarine. Menus are subject to change. All meals are served at about 11:45 a.m. each weekday. Reservations should be made the day before by calling 978-355-5027 before 10:30 a.m. The donation of \$3.00 per meal helps keep the program running.

Attention all BARRE businesses!

We're promoting the history of local businesses in our

Established EDITION

of the Barre Gazette

We are inviting all of our community businesses to participate by purchasing an ad proudly displaying the year the business was established.
Ads will run in order from the oldest to most recently established.

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

★ AD CHOICES ★
3" x 3" ad \$70
3" x 5" ad \$95

AD DEADLINE:
JANUARY 22

CALL DAN FLYNN
AT 413-297-5886

Turley Publications, Inc.
— A TURLEY PUBLICATION —
WWW.TURLEY.COM

PUBLISHES FEBRUARY 6, 2025

Stasukelis
APPLIANCE & TV

WE SERVICE ALL MAJOR BRAND APPLIANCES

NAME BRAND APPLIANCES & TV'S AT WAREHOUSE PRICES

287 Main Street
Gardner
978-632-0241

2025 QUABBIN HISTORY CALENDAR
by J.R. Greene
Great Gifts!

ON SALE AT:

BARRE:
The Country Gourmet
HUBBARDSTON:
Country Trail Store
NO. BROOKFIELD:
Brookfield Orchards
OLD FURNACE:
Old Furnace General Store
PETERSHAM:
Quabbin Woods Restaurant
or email:
jrg01331@webtv.net

Our advertisers make this publication possible.
Let them know you saw their ad in the Barre Gazette

EQLT to hold hike to Soapstone Hill Hike Dec. 22

HARDWICK – On Sunday, Dec. 22 at 9 a.m. people interested in a hike up; Soapstone Hill should meet at East Quabbin Land Trust office at 120 Ridge Road. They will carpool to the starting gate in Petersham. The hike should take approximately three hours. Participants should dress for the chilly weather and bring a snack. The location offers great views of the Quabbin Reservoir. People should RSVP via email to chenshaw@eqlt.org

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

FOR RENT

Quabbin Estates
41 Church Lane, Wheelwright, MA 01094
Accepting applications for wait list.
The apartment features - w/w carpeting, kitchen appliances, maintenance coverage, laundry facilities. We specialize in Senior Housing and "Barrier Free" accessible units. Rent is \$810/mo. or 30% of income, whichever is lower. RD regulations. Handicap Accessible apartments when available.
CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT
413-477-6496
TDD (800)439-2379

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

News of the Towns

PUBLIC MEETINGS

BARRE

Select Board – Jan. 6, 2025 at 6 p.m.
 Felton Field Commission – Jan. 7, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Jan. 8, 2025 and Feb. 5 at 12:30 p.m.
 Joint Meeting with District Municipal Leaders and QRSD Administration – Jan. 8 at 5:30 p.m.
 Library Trustees – Jan. 8, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.
 Barre Housing Authority – Jan. 9, 2025 at 1 p.m.
 Board of Health – Jan. 13, 2025 at 5 p.m.
 Water Commission – Jan. 13, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.
 DPW Commission – Jan. 13, 2025 at 7 p.m.
 250th Anniversary Committee – Jan. 15 at 6:30 p.m.
 Cable Advisory Council – Feb. 11 at 7 p.m.

HARDWICK

Paige Library Trustees – Jan. 2, 2025 at 7 p.m.
 Planning Board – Jan. 7, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.
 Recycling Commission – Jan. 7, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.
 Gilbertville Public Library – Jan. 8, 2025 at 4 p.m.
 Board of Health – Jan. 14, 2025 at 6:45 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Feb. 5 at 12:30 p.m.
 Capital Planning Committee – March 17 at 3 p.m.

HUBBARDSTON

Planning Board – Dec. 19 at 6:30 p.m.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

Friends of the Library – Dec. 19 at 6:15 p.m.
 ARPA Committee – Dec. 19 at 6:30 p.m.
 Board of Selectmen – Dec. 30 at 6 p.m.

OAKHAM

Library Trustee Meeting – Dec. 19 at 5 p.m.
 Select Board – Dec. 23 and Jan. 6, 2025 at 6 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Jan. 10, 2025 at noon

PETERSHAM

Select Board – Dec. 19 and Jan. 2, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.
 Board of Health – Dec. 19 at 6 p.m.
 Advisory Finance Committee – Dec. 19 at 6 p.m.
 Petersham School Committee – Jan. 6, 2025 at 10 a.m.
 Open Space and Recreation Committee – Jan. 7, 2025 at 6 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – Jan. 7, 2025 at 7 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Jan. 13, 2025 at 10 a.m.
 Cemetery Commission – Jan. 14, 2025 at 10 a.m.
 Board of Assessors – Jan. 17, 2025 at 9 a.m.

RUTLAND

Finance Committee – Dec. 19 at 6 p.m.
 Select Board – Dec. 19 at 6 p.m.
 Planning Board – Dec. 21 at 11 a.m.

Historical Society Festival of Trees drew large crowd

RUTLAND – The Festival of Trees sponsored by the Rutland Historical Society was again a delight for young and old.

The Historical Society thanks all who attended the reading of names and contributed to the tree lighting and to Hans Betancourt, who played for the carol sing. Kerry Remington, Library Director, was the honored person to light this year's tree. The library staff allows the Historical Society to use the library for the festival and she and her staff change their hours to match.

Thanks also to Ray and Ida Larose and all those who contributed the spectacular baskets for the drawing. Ben Barakian and group made the Santa area sparkle. Thanks to Santa, Mrs. Claus and all the elves for helping families see Santa and play the Reindeer Game and to the outdoor elves, who kept us safe

with parking.

The Library Teen Group gave out hot chocolate and s'mores makings from Santa's Sweet Shoppe while the Historical Society served cookies and punch inside. The society was privileged this year to have Peter Pasierb, John Banach and Steve Charrette the magician, who all provided entertainment and music during the festival. Thirty seven members of the Central Tree Chorus under the direction of Megan Will performed holiday music to a standing room only audience. Thanks to Denis Suchocki, who did train rides in his special Santa train.

The trees and wreaths were exceptional again this year. The Adult Tree category was won by Rutland Events Committee, the fourth top eighth grade tree category was won by the Congregational Church Sunday School and in the third grade

and under category, the award went to Girl Scout Troop 65241. In the Gingerbread categories "The Reason for the Season" by Spencer and Heather Quiry won first place. Gingerbreads fourth to eighth grade was won by Josiah Corpuz and third grade and under was won by Jacob and Holianna Adamiak.

The Lambert Family won the Table Tree Adult contest with a Purrrfect Holiday. Liv Thomas won the fourth to eighth grade table tree with Jolly Jingle. Rutland Montessori Preschool and Daycare won the third grade and under Table Tree contest.

Many thanks to all who volunteered to help make this such a special event and also to the Rutland Public Library and staff for opening their building to the Historical Society. Again, sincere appreciation to all who donated time, baskets, talent, cookies and monetary gifts.

Stephen Maintanis named to Thrive Support & Advocacy Board

MARLBOROUGH – Thrive Support & Advocacy, a nonprofit empowering youth and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Central Massachusetts, announced it has appointed three new members to its Board of Directors, among them Stephen Maintanis of Rutland.

Stephen Maintanis of Rutland was elected one of three new directors along with Amy Reardon Doherty of Westwood and Mary Ellen Duggan of Northborough.

"Amy, Mary Ellen and Stephen bring rich and diverse work experience and varied professional capabilities to our board," said Thrive President & CEO Sean Rose. "They also bring a tremendous amount of passion for our mission and the individuals who we serve. We

are fortunate to have them."

Stephen Maintanis of Rutland, has over a decade of experience in banking and began his career at Main Street Bank, working his way up to his current role, serving as an advisor and mentoring a team of lenders to deliver support throughout the commercial loan process. In between these roles, he served as Assistant Vice President, Portfolio Manager at United Bank in Worcester, working with nonprofits among other organizations to facilitate business development, oversee loan servicing and manage portfolios. He earned a bachelor's degree in



Stephen Maintanis

sociology and a minor in psychology from Framingham State University.

Thrive Support & Advocacy has been empowering youth and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities to lead active and self-directed lives since 1973. The Marlborough-based nonprofit supports more than 1,200 individuals and families living in the Worcester County and Middlesex West regions of Massachusetts, providing recreational and social initiatives for youth and adults, community residences and individual and family supports.

For more information, people may visit www.ican thrive.org.

Paige Memorial Library lists events

HARDWICK – Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, is having a party on Thursday, Dec. 19 from 4-6 p.m.

Angelina Feliciano, the Quabbin Regional High School student volunteer, planned this event for the community's enjoyment. There will be music, crafts, sweet treats and stories. This is for children of all ages. People should register by emailing director.paigelibrary@gmail.com or calling 413-477-6704 so that there will be sufficient materials for all.

Ongoing activities at the Paige include a weekly Children's Hour on Wednesdays at 11 a.m., which features art and science activities. Toys, puzzles, and LEGOS are also available. The Paige Book Club meets monthly on the third Wednesday at 2 p.m. The Paige Writers group meets on alternating Tuesdays at 3 p.m.

The Cookbook Club meets monthly on the last Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. The FUNDamentals of ART a studio workshop for

creating art and improving skills is open for all levels of expertise and a variety of art media and materials or bring their own project. Register for Tuesday at 6 p.m. or Family Game Night or "Away for a Day" Travel Club.

For more information and to register: People may email, director.paigelibrary@gmail.com or call 413-477-6704.

Library hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2-7 p.m., Wednesdays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Haston Free Public Library lists events

NORTH BROOKFIELD– The Haston Free Public Library will be closed Tuesday, Dec. 24 and Friday, Dec. 25 in observance of Christmas and Tuesday, Dec. 31 and Wednesday, Jan. 1 in observance of the New Year.

The Friends of the library are conducting their annual fundraising appeal. The Friends of the Haston Library are conducting the annual fall fundraising appeal as we continue to support the library and its many programs and activities.

The Friends help fund the library's annual budget for books and materials as well as the library pass program which offers patrons free or reduced admission to sites such as the Worcester Art Museum, Ecotarium and Tower Hill Botanic Garden. The Friends of the Haston Free Public Library, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization; donations to the Friends are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. People may visit the library's website at www.northbrookfieldlibrary.org or call the library at 508-867-0208.

The Book Group will meet Tuesday, Jan. 28 at 7 p.m. at the library. The book is "Indian Horse" by Richard Wagames.

Notch Visitor Center open for winter 2024-2025

AMHERST – Winter at the Mount Holyoke Range is a magical experience, and a visit to the Notch Visitor Center, 1500 West St., Route 116, is the perfect way to enjoy it.

The Department of Conservation and Recreation's Mount Holyoke Range State Park is ideal for hiking, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing. The Notch Visitor Center enhances your park experience with engaging exhibits that highlight the unique features of the Mount Holyoke Range.

Special public programs provide a broader perspective of the park, and staff are on hand to offer trail information and hiking suggestions. There's something for everyone, from beginners to seasoned adventurers.

Free admission and parking. The center is open Tuesday through Sunday, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

For more information and upcoming programs, call 413-253-2883 or visit <https://www.mass.gov/locations/mount-holyoke-range-state-park>.

Oakham
 Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

OHA still has lottery tickets available

Oakham Historical Association still has some lottery tickets for sale. Deadline to purchase them is Tuesday, Dec. 31. Tickets are \$20 each. People may make out a check to the Oakham Historical Association and mail to P.O. Box 236, Oakham, MA 01068. There are two drawings each week beginning Jan. 7 to March 17. If their number is drawn, they will receive a check for \$50.00. Any questions, people may call Kathy Young at 508-882-3137.

Pen pal letters

The next senior pen pal letters will be ready for pickup on Thursday, Dec. 19 inside the lower level of the Fobes Memorial Library, Maple Street. Seniors should return their cards and letters in one envelope by Thursday, Jan. 9, 2025 at the box provided in the library.

Yoga

Yoga is starting again in January in the Senior Center at Town Hall running from Tuesday, Jan. 7 through Tuesday, March 4 at 12.30 p.m. There will be no Yoga on Tuesday, Feb. 18 as that is School Vacation week and grandparents may not be available. The cost is \$40 for the eight classes. Sign up is required either at the Senior Center (sign ups are on the bulletin board) or via email to COA@Oakham-Ma.gov or by calling 508-882-4073. Payment is required in advance or on the first day of class. Checks should be made out to the Town of Oakham.

Blood glucose screening

There has been a change in the scheduled Blood Glucose Screening in January. The date for January only is Tuesday, Jan. 21 from 11.15 a.m.-12.30 p.m. The Blood Glucose Screening in December has been cancelled.

Christmas Eve Service

The Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road, will hold a Candlelight Christmas Eve Service on Tuesday, Dec. 24 at 7 p.m. The Rev. Carissa Rodriguez will be the guest minister.

COA events

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

Wednesday Zumba Gold at 9 a.m. in the Rutland; second Thursday of the month blood pressure at 11 a.m. and third Thursday of the month SHINE from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. reservations are required. At the New Braintree Town Hall on Fridays, Functional Fitness takes place at 10.30 a.m. \$2 donation per class. For sign ups that can't be made at the Senior Center or for required reservations or for more information on offerings, people may call the Senior Center 508-882-4073 and leave a message or email COA@Oakham-MA.gov. The COA is interested in starting a yoga class with eight sessions after the new year. People should all the Senior Center if they are interested, leave their phone number or email at COA@Oakham-MA.gov and the COA will notify them when they have cost and schedule details. Hot lunches are offered at the Senior Center dining area Monday through Thursday at 11.30 a.m. Reservations are needed at least two days in advance and can be made through the Congregate Meal Coordinator from 9 a.m.-12.15 p.m. by calling 508-882-407

Corrections policy

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

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

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

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

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

MAILBOX DOCTOR
 978.844.2956

Granite Post with Mailbox
 Granite Lamp Posts
 Mailbox Repair Services

www.mailboxdoctorpro.com

Junk & Bulk Trash Removal

Clean Out Solutions
 Basement, Attic, Shed & Whole House Cleanouts

Shed, Pool & Hot Tub Removals
 Arthur "Skip" Gervais
 (774)397-6500

McNeely Tree Service
 Insured • References

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

H: 508-867-6119 • C: 978-888-1693

Let Us Sweeten Your Holiday

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

Priscilla
 Hand Made Candies

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

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

Celebrating 87 years in Gardner

Get Ready For Winter! It's Here!

Studded Snows Can Go On Nov. 1st

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

NOTICE

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

Opinion

Guest Column



Coriander makes a great cookie

Today was the designated day to begin to bake like crazy. Personally, I wish we could cull the number, and honestly the sheer volume of Christmas cookies we make, but if the kids or my husband hear of that I will be banished to Grinch status.

It's a tradition to go through the recipes ahead of time and decide what cookies we'll bake.

One of my all-time favorites, and one I would never consider culling, is the coriander cookie. My family tried a sample at Old Sturbridge Village's Christmas by Candlelight some years back and enjoyed it so much we added the recipe to our repertoire. Yummy indeed!

You may be surprised to learn that Coriander sativum is the Latin name for two herbs. Confused? Most folks are when they learn that the seeds of this plant are called coriander, while the leaves are known as cilantro.

Both have been used for culinary purposes since the beginning of time! All portions of the plant are edible but some argue that the green portion is barely that.

Read on.

I liken cilantro to be the "marigold" of the herb world. Either you love it or you hate it. I, for one, immensely dislike it and if given the chance to pick it out of my salsa I will certainly do it! Even in a restaurant.

I found it interesting to learn that some people possess a genetically predisposed aversion to it, according to studies by Charles J. Wysocki of the Monell Chemical Senses Center in Philadelphia.

To me it has a bitter taste that I have a hard time describing beyond that. Dirty? Soil-like?

Most people that do dislike it have a similar lack of descriptive ability; they just can't put their finger on it, but they don't like the taste...or the smell of it.

As I mentioned, cilantro is often used in salsa and other Mexican, Asian and Italian dishes including curries, sauces, salads and soups. If you prefer to grow the plant more for its greens and less for its seeds, manage it as you would spinach.

Sow seeds in the ground in the cool of the season and in succession every two weeks. It dislikes being transplanted but doesn't mind pot culture. Harvest greens rather aggressively – about one-third of the plant at a time.

Just like spinach, there are slow-to-bolt varieties to choose from such as aptly named "Slow Bolt" and "Longstanding."

Coriander seeds, on the other hand, have a pleasant (at least to me!) fragrance once dried. The scent is easier to pin-point too; nutty and spicy (ever so slightly) come to mind.

Coriander seed is also well known in various ethnic cuisines and is a favorite in spice blends, curry being the most popular. It is also used in the making of a number of distilled spirits and herbal liqueurs, and cookies.

It's funny that I can like one part of the plant and not the other. Coriander seed can be eaten whole, crushed or powdered.

The Herb Society noted that during World War II the seeds were coated in white or pink sugar and thrown from carnival wagons, earning the name "confections" or "confetti!" When the seeds were replaced by balls of colored paper the name confetti stuck. Take this one to your next game of Cruise Ship Trivia!

It is easy to harvest the seeds. Simply let the heads dry to brown right on the plant. Clip them and place inside a paper bag; as they dry further they will open and the seeds will pop out.

Even if you are only interested in harvesting the seeds, multiple plantings (or a big garden patch) are necessary to get a decent-sized harvest.

No matter how you like your Coriander sativum, sow the seeds in a sunny, well-drained spot in place for the best success. If you let a few drop their seed each year, chances are you will be blessed with volunteers.

Enough writing, I have four batches of cookies to get in the freezer!

Merry Christmas to all of my gardening friends out there!

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

Early Christmas shoppers...



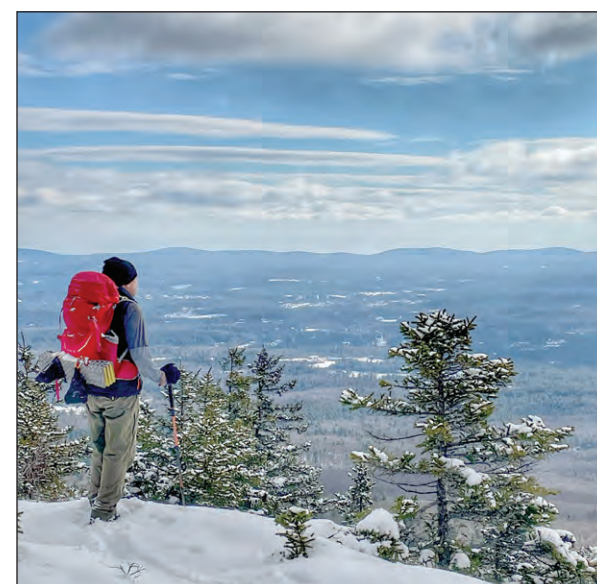
DAVE GRANLUND © www.davegranlund.com

Guest Column

A wintry hike on Mt. Monadnock

By Julie Midura

"I don't think we're on the trail anymore." Tom and I drove to Mt. Monadnock in New Hampshire last week following a recent snowstorm. After parking our car at the trailhead, we made quick work of the road walk to the old Halfway House site, where we had a choice to make. We could continue straight ahead onto the well packed out and very popular White Arrow Trail, or hang a sharp right onto the lesser used and more difficult to follow Hello Rock Trail.



Tom takes in the beautiful snow covered view.

We paused when we reached the junction. One look in the direction of Hello Rock Trail told us that we would have our work cut out for us if we chose that route. Not only was the snow much deeper than we expected, but there were no other boot prints in sight. We would be breaking trail.

After not hiking anything strenuous in weeks and feeling less than confident in our ability to tackle some moderate trail breaking, I hesitated for a fraction of a second. I took a deep breath, exhaled slowly, then turned right towards Hello Rock Trail. No time like the present to see just how out of shape we were!

As we broke through the calf-deep, thick blanket of white that covered the tread-way, the path was fairly obvious- four feet wide and slightly lower than the earth on either side. But we continued forward, undaunted by the fact that we were fairly certain we were no longer on the actual trail. After all, if we couldn't locate the path, we'd just follow our footprints in the snow back to where the trail was more obvious, and then attempt to find the spot where we had made a wrong turn. In the meantime, we enjoyed moving through the Narnia-like forest of white.

I was in the lead when I stopped suddenly at the base of a very steep rock outcropping. The thought of going up the hill made my heart rate soar. However, the hope that we might be able to catch sight of the trail from the top and reconnect with the path we were supposed to be on helped assuage my fear. I ignored my rapidly beating heart, slammed my trekking poles into the snow-covered rock, kicked my spike-clad boots into the snow, and hauled myself up.

Only to realize that "You can't get there from here." Upon reaching the top of the snow covered ledge, we discovered that we were mere feet from a sheer

See HIKING, page 13

In Past Pages

5 years (Dec. 26, 2019)

East Quabbin Land Trust, 120 Ridge Road, will hold a New Year's Day walk/ski. Participants should meet on Wednesday, Jan. 1 at noon at the Mass. Central Rail Trail, 1700 Hardwick Road, New Braintree. EQLT will toast Ed Yaglou, a consummate supporter of the Mass. Central Rail Trail, who passed away Dec. 8. People are invited to bring a story about Ed to share.

The Oakham Congregational Church Sunday School and Youth Fellowship held its annual Christmas pageant Sunday, Dec. 22 during the 10 a.m. Sunday worship service. The adult choir along with the children's choir sang "See the Little Baby" by Donald Swift. The Sinclair family lighted the Advent wreath and placed the symbol of the Baby Jesus on the Advent banner.

The Barre Food Pantry at the Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St., Barre, on the Common, welcomes volunteers Tuesday, Jan. 7 between 6:30-8:30 p.m. Volunteers are needed to help set up the room and sort, date and bag donated groceries for free distribution the next day. On Wednesday, Jan. 8, the Barre Food Pantry welcomes volunteers from 9:30 a.m. to noon to help staff the tables, help clients "shop" the food bank offerings and help carry groceries to clients' cars. They do not need empty egg cartons for now. Community Service hours can be provided for Quabbin Regional High School students that come to help.

10 years (Dec. 25, 2014)

On Wednesday, Dec. 10 at the Harding Allen Estate in Barre, the Central Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association held their monthly meeting. Their December meeting usually has the swearing in of their new executive board and officers. This month, the Executive Board Members were sworn in along with the new President of CMCOPA, Barre Police Chief Erik J. Demetropoulos. Chief Demetropoulos will hold the position for 2015 until the December's meeting and then the changing of the guard will happen again. Chief Demetropoulos stated, "It is an honor to be part of this association and now to be allowed to serve as its President."

The Fobes Memorial Library, Maple Street, has an electric train exhibition, a generous donation of time, energy and equipment from Oakham resident, James Szafarowicz. The display will be here until the New Year.

The Rutland Fire Department received grants from Student Awareness of Fire Education and Senior S.A.F.E. programs for Fiscal Year 2014. Rutland Fire got a \$4,423 S.A.F.E. grant. Nineteen years ago the S.A.F.E. program was

LOOK BACK Oakham Historical Association - 2004



File photo

Jeff Young waits in front of the Oakham Town Hall to pass out yard sale maps to folks participating in the town's annual event of that increasingly popular activity, yard sales.

created. Since that time average annual child fire deaths have been reduced by 705. The S.A.F.E. program is expanding in FY 2015 to offer funds to local communities in support of senior fire prevention training. Seniors are the most vulnerable of population at risk of fire related deaths.

25 years (Dec. 23, 1999)

Ever since Joseph Rogowski was a little tyke, he new he wanted to be a firefighter. His father, Stanley, was the Deputy Fire Chief in Barre and Joe and his brother, Gary, knew at a very young age they wanted to be firefighters like their dad. Joe said, "We used to have a siren that blew on the Town Hall. As soon as we were old enough and quick enough, when we heard that siren, we'd run and jump in the car." In May of 1974, when Joe was 17, he joined Barre's volunteer fire department. By 1982, he was appointed lieutenant and within three years he was appointed Assistant Chief. He served as Deputy Chief from 1986 to 1996, when he was named part-time Chief. Even though Joe was part-time Chief, he was working 32 hours a week, for the Fire Department while keeping a full-time job at Allen Co. He left his job at Allen Co. and is now full-time Fire Chief.

Barre Selectmen announced Monday night the United States

Postal Service has selected South Street across from Stetson Home as the site for the new Post Office. Town Administrator Lorraine Leno said she expects there will be a comment period before the plan is officially adopted.

On Sunday, Dec. 27, the second annual Quabbin community "Messiah" sing will be held at the New Braintree Congregational Church from 7-9 p.m. Refreshments will be served following the performance. All who are interested are invited to sing. There are no audience members in a "Messiah" sing. Everyone who comes becomes part of the performance. There is always someone to stand next to who knows the part.

38 years (Dec. 24, 1986)

Barre resident Warren E. Clark Jr., of Fruitland Road, who recently had a Zoning Board of Appeals decision rendered against him, is appealing to the Superior Court in Worcester to have the decision annulled. Clark is charging the Barre ZBA exceeded its authority in ordering him to discontinue and alleged commercial activity on his premises, which is in an area zoned residential. In August, Clark was charged by his neighbors with violating the zoning bylaws in

See PAST PAGES, page 5

Election letters to the editor welcome

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

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

Campaign news

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

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

Turley Publications Letters to the Editor Policy

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

BARRE GAZETTE TEAM

EDITOR
Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

ADVERTISING SALES
Dan Flynn
dflynn@turley.com

SPORTS EDITOR
Greg Scibelli
sports@turley.com

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

www.barregazette.turley.com

PATRICK H. TURLEY
CEO

KEITH TURLEY
President

DEANNA SLOAT
Graphics Manager



www.turley.com

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

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

Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

Better watch out better be good Santa Claus is coming to town soon.

The times sure goes fast from Thanksgiving until Christmas and I don't have all my shopping done.

I have gotten my cards and letters written and mailed. Postage is so high that I have cut down on the list.

I picked some boxwood and tried to make a kissing ball, but because I did not have a styrofoam ball the pins would not stay in the foam. I guess I don't need a kissing ball anyway. I put the boxwood in a bowl of water. The holly tree has produced some nice berries this year so I have some in the pottery bowls.

I also made a memory tree with items from the past 67 years. One that is fun to look at is the 1930s era parchment shades that were placed on the old type Christmas tree bulbs and the heat of the bulb would turn the shade around. I have six of them with different Christmas designs on each of them.

Of course I have lovely photos of the grandchildren when they were babies on half of styrofoam balls hung with ribbons and a very nice card one of the grandsons made us. He is talented like his Mother.

I did make two batches of the Buckeye candies that I had the recipe in the last week's Barre Gazette.

I was interested to see the picture of me in last week's Barre Gazette with my Valentine collection from years ago. I am a collector for sure.

I got another hug from a library trustee last week at the post office. His wife witnessed and approved it.

Here is a candy recipe I plan to make this week.

MICROWAVE PEANUT BRITTLE

equipment:
microwave oven 1000 to 1200 watts
baking sheet
parchment paper
large microwave safe glass bowl
offset spatula for spreading the hot brittle

Ingredients:

- 1 cup Spanish raw peanuts
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup light corn syrup
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1 1/2 teaspoon baking soda

1/2 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon vanilla
Set oven to 200 degrees. Line a baking sheet with a silicone liner or parchment paper. Put the pan in the oven to warm.

Place the peanuts in a single layer on a microwave plate on high for two minutes to roast them. Set aside.

Put the sugar and corn syrup in a large microwave glass bowl. Stir to combine. Microwave on full power for three minutes, then stir again and scrape down the bowl. Microwave for another three minutes. Add the butter and peanuts and stir. Put back in the microwave for two more minutes.

Quickly mix the baking soda and vanilla into it. The mixture will foam up and lighten in color. Spread the mixture on the warm baking sheets as thinly as possible. After 30 minutes of cooling they may be broken into small sizes. I like to store the candy in Christmas cans for gift giving.

This and That

I did go down the cemetery where my step-grandfather is buried and trimmed the boxwood bushes that I planted several years ago and got some nice greens.

The laurel, holly and some greens the Handyman brought me made a nice wooden barrel of greens for the front deck. The two Christmas green sprays have been placed on the windows side of the door and one on the fence in the front.

All of the presents are wrapped or packaged in fabric bags that I have made with drawstrings. Each year the participants give me back the bags in hopes I will fill them again next year. I also make tags with family pictures on them. Each person gets a package with a baby picture of them on the tag. Santa Claus has to guess who they are to give them their gift.

Does your family do a Yankee swap? That is a lot of fun. I remember one year at the Historical Society Christmas party they had one and a pottery duck was very popular, which my mother ended up getting. She hid it in her blouse so no one would see it and my father was so shocked. The group thought it was very funny. They sure got some good laughs.

I hope your Christmas will be fun also. And a very happy new year.

Pioneer Valley Brass to perform Dec. 21

PETERSHAM – The Pioneer Valley Brass will present a free public concert of various holiday music specially arranged for brass quintet at the Orthodox Congregational Church in Petersham on Saturday, Dec. 21 at 4 p.m.

The program is sponsored by the First Universalist Parish of North Dana as the 812th service funded by the Mason-Hale Trust. Services began around 1930 as the Church was forced to leave North Dana for the creation of the Quabbin Reservoir. Several descendants of the Parish have kept the Parish alive, with a small group meeting annually or as needed to conduct the business of the Parish.

Saturday's program will

include "Carol of the Bells" arranged by Price; "Christmas Carol Festival" arranged by Nagel; "Gesu Bambino" arranged by Tandy; "Deck the Halls" arranged by Holcombe; "The Christmas Waltz" arranged by Corbin; "A Little Suite" arranged by Whettam; "When Santa Got Stuck up the Chimney" by Grafton; "Christmas Lullaby Variations" arranged by Coolidge; "Make it Christmas Eve Every Night of the Year" by Ellison; "Away in a Manger" arranged by Marchand; "Jingle Bell Rock" arranged by Slechta; "March of the Kings and Une Juene Pucelle" arranged by Shackley/Tandy; "God Rest Ye Merry" arranged by Smith/Tandy and "It's Beginning to look a Lot Like Christmas" arranged by

Wilson. The program is always subject to change.

The Pioneer Valley Brass was founded in the 1980's by Cedric and Jeri Bannister. Members today include Dick Tandy and Steve Babineau, trumpet; Tabitha Greenlees, horn; Susan Lemei, tuba and Dana Tandy, trombone.

The First Universalist Parish of North Dana will also sponsor the Pioneer Valley Brass performing on Sunday, Dec. 22 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Greenfield. Several services throughout the year are presented throughout the North Quabbin area as memorial tributes to the First Universalist Parish of North Dana. Contact Maureen Riendeau, Music Coordinator of the Parish for information on services.

HARDWICK BOS, continued from page 1

Caggiano mentioned that the board has reviewed a zoning analysis, and the buildings do have restrictions on them as to what they could be zoned as after being purchased by an interested buyer. For example, one of the buildings cannot be turned into a CVS Pharmacy.

The zoning analysis that Caggiano spoke of is very specific as to what the buildings could become after being purchased. The Select Board would then discuss possibly tabling this discussion until they review the contract from Zekos Group and see if they could do a request for proposal.

The board agreed to table the discussion for now and take time to go to other departments for input. The approximate time period of having the auction is sometime around April.

od of having the auction is sometime around April.

The Select Board will plan to decide an auction date sometime in the new year.

Town Administrator's report

Caggiano shared some highlights in her report regarding some acknowledgements. Caggiano attended the Police Department's toy drive and sponsored a family. Caggiano also wanted to express her appreciation for the support from her assistant.

The town hall is looking for quotes for replacing their postage machine. The clerk uses the machine the most and the postage machine may need to be replaced.

Caggiano is also seeking an increase in her contract as Town Administrator. The Selectboard will further discuss her contract and do an evaluation on her performance at their meeting on Jan. 13. Caggiano expressed interest in

wanting to continue her career in the town.

There is also an earmark for town hall improvements. The letter will be sent out to Sen. Peter Durant's Office soon.

The Select Board had a discussion on communications between board, committees and departments. The board has brainstormed ideas on how to keep good organization of communication between town departments.

According to Caggiano, there has been a lot of positive feedback from multiple town departments.

NFPA offers tips for safe electrical vehicle charging

As electric vehicles enter the roadways, the National Fire Protection Association® has introduced a series of free resources, guidelines and information to help raise awareness about EV fires and safe EV charging practices at home.

According to the International Energy Agency, global sales of electric vehicles exceeded 10 million in 2022 and are expected to grow in the coming years. At the same time, consumer concerns about the fire safety risk of EVs are increasing. Lithium-ion batteries, the most widely used and reliable source of energy for electric vehicles, are central to questions about safety.

"It is widely known that electric vehicles provide environmental and cost-effective benefits," said Lorraine Carli, vice president of Outreach and Advocacy at NFPA in a press release. "However, as fires involving EVs are reported in the news, concerns about the risks they pose persist. Through advocacy efforts that highlight our new online resources and information, NFPA is working to better educate the public about the risks associated with EVs and other devices that use lithium-ion batteries, along with ways to use them safely."

The new online resources from NFPA feature more detailed information about lithium-ion batteries, EV maintenance, and what tips consumers can follow to stay safe when charging their electric vehicle at home.

Resources for safety educators and consumers including a safety tip sheet and social media cards are all free and downloadable. A free training course is also available to the public that helps address some of the common concerns and myths about owning an electrical vehicle, including safety features, charge types, and battery life.

NFPA recommends these tips when charging electric vehicles at home to help prevent fires:

Before charging an electric vehicle at home, have a qualified electrician check the electrical system to see if it can handle charging.

Install charging equipment in safe locations. Keep away from busy areas and things that could catch fire.

Use devices that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory.

Read and follow all manufacturer directions.

Check chargers and cords for damage before using. Never use if damaged.

Do not use more than one

plug or extension cords with the charger.

Keep charging items out of reach of children and animals when not in use.

Cover charging station outlet to keep water out.

Learn more about electric vehicle fire safety, find training information, and download the free safety tip sheet at nfpa.org/evsafetyinfo.

Information on the safe use of smaller devices that use lithium-ion batteries such as computers, smart phones, e-bikes and e-scooters, can be found at nfpa.org/lithiumionsafety and nfpa.org/ebikes.

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

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

WRAPPING PAPER, continued from pag1

was a warning. Glitter is messy, but for crafting and the kids, it is fun.

The library used materials such as stamps, stickers and markers for kids to decorate their own creative designs that would stand out as wrapping paper. One of the kids, Cora was designing her own Christmas character, the Christmas Dog man.

Vivian was another crafty designer with multiple characters on her wrapping paper. Vivian added a big drawing of Santa Claus and a big marshmallow man.

Murray got to crafting as well and stuck to two unique themes for her wrapping paper. One of her themes featured penguins and the other was all turtles. The kids got to take their wrapping paper home with them after crafting.

Also, if anyone had a Christmas present to wrap, participants are welcome to bring in a gift to wrap. The kids had a lot of fun as the parents observed the creativity of make your own wrapping paper.

For more activities for kids and teens at the Woods Memorial Library, visit barrelibrary.org or stop by the library at 19 Pleasant St. The library can be reached by calling 978-355-2533 or emailing barrelibrary@gmail.com.

Turtles designed on wrapping paper were created by Kate Murray.



Cora's design of a Christmas Dog Man on her wrapping paper.



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

Kate Murray also made wrapping paper with penguins on them.

PAST PAGES, continued from page 4

numerous ways and principally by conducting a noisy and offensive commercial field stone hauling operation at his premises.

Francis J. Cranston, Jr. received a Resolution from state Senator Robert D. Wetmore, naming him as the Wrestling Coach of the Year at a wrestling match held on Wednesday, Dec. 17 at Quabbin Regional High School, Barre.

John H. Allen of Barre was recently presented the National Quality Award at a meeting of the Montachusett Association of Life Underwriters in Fitchburg. This designation is issued by the National Association of Life Underwriters and is earned as a result of highly professional service in the areas of personal and business insurance and estate planning. Allen is a lifetime resident of Barre and had been an agent for the New York Life Insurance Company since 1983.

BUSINESS

Turley Publications is liberal with regard to its business coverage policies, but we do have some standards folks need to understand. First, local businesses and merchants are just as much institutions in our towns as the library and schools. Without them, there are no towns.

We will feature coverage of local businesses that are new, have a major expansion, moving, closing, under new management or ownership, celebrating a milestone anniversary, or have been thrust into the news realm. Merchants can request that coverage through the editor, or for our existing advertising clients, through their ad representatives.

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

A TURLEY PUBLICATION
www.turley.com

CHRISTMAS SALE!

INSTANT FINANCING - INSTANT FINANCING - INSTANT FINANCING - INSTANT FINANCING

GIANT TOY DEPT. CLEARANCE!

MATTRESS SALE! <p>TWIN: \$199 (REGULARLY \$299) FULL: \$269 (REGULARLY \$499) QUEEN: \$299 (REGULARLY \$599)</p>	<p>LG #3400 WASHER & DRYER Front Load, Reg. \$1599.99 \$1399.99</p> <p>SAMSUNG WASHER & DRYER #48300 Reg. \$1599.99 \$1299.99 AFTER REBATE!</p>	<p>TV'S on Sale!</p> <p>32" Smart.....\$129.99 Regularly \$139.99</p> <p>43" Smart.....\$199.99 Regularly \$249.99</p> <p>70" Samsung 4k TV..\$499.99 Regularly \$599.99</p> <p>75" Samsung 4k TV..\$599.99 Regularly \$799.99</p> <p>85" Samsung 4k TV..\$999.99 Regularly \$1799.99</p>	<p>SAVE UP TO 70% Off TOYS!</p> <p>SLEDS • TOBOGGANS ICE SKATES • TUBES</p> <p>G.E. 27 CU. FT. FRENCH DOOR REFRIGERATOR Reg. \$1999.99 \$1499.99</p> <p>LG 20 CU. FT. BOTTOM FRENCH REFRIGERATOR Reg. \$1299.99 \$1499.99</p> <p>MAYTAG DELUXE WASHER OR DRYER Reg. \$699.99 \$549.99</p> <p>G.E. DELUXE COIL TOP STOVE Reg. \$699.99 \$499.99</p>
<p>WHIRLPOOL WASHER & DRYER Front Load, Reg. \$1599.99 \$1299.99</p> <p>G.E. DELUXE AIR FRY GAS RANGE Reg. \$899.99 \$699.99</p> <p>FRIGIDAIRE DISHWASHER Reg. \$399.99 \$299.99</p> <p>SAMSUNG TOP LOAD WASHER & DRYER Pair - Reg. \$1199.99 \$1099.99 AFTER REBATE!</p>	<p>WHIRLPOOL 21 CU. FT. TOP MOUNT REFRIGERATOR Reg. \$899.99 \$699.99</p> <p>FRIGIDAIRE 18 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR Reg. \$699.99 \$599.99</p> <p>FAMOUS MAKER OVER THE STOVE MICROWAVE Reg. \$249.99 \$199.99</p> <p>LG 24 CU. FT. BOTTOM MOUNT REFRIGERATOR Reg. \$1599.99 \$1499.99</p>	<p>BIKES HUGE SELECTION!</p> <p>DELUXE FRIGIDAIRE INDUCTION STOVE Reg. \$1299.99 \$999.99</p>	

INSTANT FINANCING UP TO \$10,000!

WHITCO

140 MAIN STREET, SPENCER, MA
508.885.9343
 SPECIAL CHRISTMAS HOURS!

Holiday Hours: Daily 9:00am-9:00pm • Open Christmas Eve from 8:00am-8:00pm

Places to go... Things to do...

**Gift Cards Available
Catering Service**

Call for details



**491 Main Street
Athol
978-830-0001**

Open 7 Days
11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.



**The Country
Gourmet**

Sally Harrington, Proprietor

"Everything for the Discriminating Cook"

**Henckels
Holiday Baskets**

**CHECK OUR DAILY SPECIALS
Open Every Day Until Christmas**

547 Summer Street, Barre, MA 01005
Tel. 978-355-6999

Like Us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/country.gourmet.barre

**NORTH BROOKFIELD,
continued from page 1**

strophic failures...this is allowing us to buy at least some hose to help get us through.

Anderson said the department is working to secure a grant to replace the remaining hoses. He said the department will be able to purchase 100-foot long four-inch hose for \$600 each, which is a savings from the average cost of \$750-900.

"Luckily we worked with our vendors and a town had ordered some and then decided they didn't want it," Anderson said. "And they knew the desperation we were in."

Anderson said the department needs about \$50,000 worth of hoses and nozzles.

"This gets us a fraction of the por-

Police overtime

Voters approved the transfer of \$7,000 from Police Career Incentive to Police Overtime.

A resident asked why there have been so many transfers to the overtime account this year.

LeBlanc said the department has been without a full-time police officer since the beginning of the fiscal year. A full-time police officer was recently appointed to fill that vacancy and there are no part-time officers on the department.

Article 1

Voters were in favor of a motion made to pass over article 1, to rescind a portion of the vote from the Nov. 15 special town meeting that raised and appropriated \$66,564 to Group Health.

**100TH BIRTHDAY,
continued from page 1**

Geraldine the Cow in the educational children's movie "Hey, That's My Hay".

At the age of 98, Benoit was awarded the town's Boston Post Cane,

at a ceremony that was well attended and enjoyed by all. Along with the cane, Benoit received official citations from the Senate and House of Representatives.

Benoit continues to hold the cane and the title of oldest resident as she has now rounded out a full century of birthdays.

Book Your Event With Us



hardwickcrossing.com

262 Lower Road, Gilbertville
774-757-8907

HARDWICK CROSSING EST. 2022
COUNTRY CLUB

362 Lower Road, Gilbertville
774-261-2634

OPEN 7 DAYS FOR LUNCH, DINNER & GOLF

Specials Posted on Facebook & Instagram

New Year's Dinner Specials

Gift Certificate Special Until Christmas Eve
Receive \$5 Free for Every \$25 You Buy! *Can be combined in any way.*

Golf Membership Special
Purchase Membership & Get A Free Gift Card!

Visit Our Website For More Details

BAR ONLY WILL BE OPEN CHRISTMAS EVE DAY

Function Space Available



Wednesday, Music Bingo 6:30 p.m.

LADD'S
RESTAURANT & LOUNGE

"A Restaurant for the Whole Family"

**Barre Paxton Road
Route 122, Rutland**

**Ladd's Famous Hearty
Roast Turkey Dinner
Every Sunday**

**Holiday Gift Certificates Available
In Person, Over The Phone or Online**

**Prime Rib • Fresh Seafood
Brick Oven Pizza**

Open Saturdays & Sundays at 11:30 am
Great Draft & Cocktail Selection and Daily \$14.99 Dinners

Check Out All Our Specials at laddsrestaurant.net

508-886-4771

Wed. & Thurs. 4:00-9:00pm; Fri. 2:00-9:30pm; Sat. 11:30am-9:30pm; Sun. 11:30am-9:00pm

Perfect Gift for the hard to buy for!

Local News, Events & Information
Local & Regional Headlines
Local Jobs, Real Estate & Classifieds
Local Dining & Entertainment Updates
& So Much More

Support your local newspaper with the holiday gift that keeps on giving!



Classifieds
Business
Arts
Weather
Local
Stocks

Agawam Advertiser News
\$35/year (\$40 out-of-state)

Barre Gazette
\$33/year (\$38 out-of-state)

Journal Register
\$35/year (\$40 out-of-state)

Ware River News
\$31/year (\$36 out-of-state)

Country Journal
\$31/year (\$36 out-of-state)

Call 413.283.8393

Subscribe now at www.turley.com

Obituaries

John "Jack" L. Brigham, Jr., 84

BARRE- John "Jack" L. Brigham Jr., 84, a Barre resident of 47 years, died peacefully at home on Dec. 14, 2024 from complications of cancer.

He was born on July 21, 1940, in Honolulu, Hawaii to a Navy dad, John Sr. and his wife, Margie Brigham. Surviving the attack on Pearl Harbor, he moved to Boylston with his mother for four years, while his father was mostly on the USS Houston in the Pacific, during WWII. Torpedoed twice in October 1944, John Sr. was one of 190 men, who volunteered to save the ship. Chief Brigham was quoted as saying as the second torpedo hit, "I saw the plane coming in, I never made it to my station!"

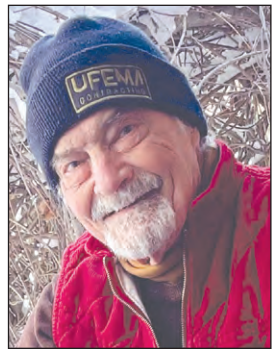
After the war, a brother and sister were added to the family. They moved around quite a bit, Brooklyn, Newport, Philadelphia, Saipan and San Diego. Saipan was an island paradise, San Diego, almost as good.

Thanks to his father, the family traveled across the country three times before Jack was 14. Stops were made at Yosemite, Sequoia National Park, Death Valley, the Painted Desert, Petrified Forest, Carlsbad Caverns, Salt Flats, Grand Canyon, Mount Rushmore and Niagara Falls. In 1954 the family moved back to Boylston and Jack attended South High in Worcester. A popular teenager, he

had a phenomenal time playing football, hockey and track. Jack was president of his senior class, graduating in 1958.

Married three times he didn't catch on until the third. He was married to Dale E. (Randall) Brigham for 35 years. In that time two children were added to the family of eight, sadly one was lost. Jack moved to Barre in 1977, first living at the infamous Barre Hotel with his two oldest sons, Ron and Eric and then joined Dale and the rest of the family at a rickety house, half a mile from the center of town. That was his 27th and final move. Having never figured out what he wanted to be, Jack spent most of his working days as a commission road salesman in central New England. After retiring in 2002 he drove a yellow cab part time for 10 years and then worked part time for 12 years at Quail Hollow Golf and Country Club in Oakham, where he also became a member. He is now entering into God's Hall of Fame (heaven).

He leaves seven children, all residing in Massachusetts, Shelli Harding and husband Rich of Milford, Ronald Brigham of Webster, Gregory Nye and wife Robyn of South Hadley, Tara



Lewis and husband Timothy of Barnstable, Joshua Nye and wife Jennifer of Barre, Jada McConologue and husband Dewey of Petersham and Miah Ufema and husband Alex of Petersham.

He also leaves his sister, Linda Bancroft, and husband John of Boylston, 20 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and friends too numerous to count. He was predeceased by his wife, Dale, son Eric Nye and brother David.

A celebration of Jack's life will be held on Sunday, May 18, 2025 from 1-7 p.m. at the American Legion Post 2 in Barre. Alex Ufema will be the master of ceremony and entertainment will be provided by The Rusty Buckets. All are welcome. Please join us.

Arrangements are under the care of Pillsbury Funeral Home, 96 SouthBarre Road, Barre.

DEATH NOTICE

Brigham, Jr., John L. "Jack"
Died Dec. 14, 2024
Celebration of Life Sunday,
May 18, 2025 from 1-7 p.m. at
American Legion Post 2 Barre

Red Cross seeks blood donations

MEDFORD – With just two weeks left in 2024, the American Red Cross asks donors to give blood or platelets now to help those in need enjoy the rest of the holiday season with loved ones.

Donors with type O negative blood and those giving platelets are especially urged to give now so patients can continue to receive the care they count on in the coming weeks.

This is a busy time for many. In addition to travel, seasonal illness and the threat of winter weather can also lead to lower appointment numbers and decreased donor turnout, making it tougher to keep the blood supply stable. Those who give regularly and those looking to give for the first time are encouraged to take one hour this December to help save lives with a blood or platelet donation.

Those who come to give Dec. 16, 2024-Jan. 3, 2025, will receive an exclusive Red Cross long-sleeved T-shirt, while supplies last.

Worcester Blood Donation Center, 381 Plantation St., Worcester list upcoming blood

donation opportunities. They include" Thursday, Dec. 19 from 11:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 20, Saturday, Dec. 21 and Sunday, Dec. 22 from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Monday, Dec. 23 from 12:15-7:15 p.m.; Tuesday, Dec. 24 from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Thursday, Dec. 26 from 11:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 27, Saturday, Dec. 28 and Sunday, Dec. 29 from 8:30-3:30 p.m.; Monday, Dec. 30 from 12:15-7:15 p.m.; Tuesday, Dec. 31 from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2025 from 12:15-7:15 p.m.; Thursday, Jan. 2, 2025 from 11:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. and Friday, Jan. 3, 2025 from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

To extend a special thank-you to donors for helping address the need for blood, platelets and plasma during the critical post-holiday time, those who come to give Jan. 1-26, 2025, during National Blood Donor Month, will be automatically entered for a chance to win a trip for two to Super Bowl LIX in New Orleans. Details are available at RedCrossBlood.org/SuperBowl.

Simply download the American Red Cross Blood

Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Blood and platelet donors can save time at their next donation by using RapidPass® to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, before arriving at the blood drive. To get started, follow the instructions at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Blood Donor App.

Second Chance reaches 55,000 pets helped in 2024

EAST BROOKFIELD – Second Chance Animal Services already helped over 55,000 pets this year, a new record for the nonprofit dedicated to improving the lives of animals.

This achievement reflects the growing impact of Second Chance's programs, but it also highlights the increasing demand for assistance as economic pressures challenge families and shelters alike.

"This year, we've already surpassed 55,000 pets helped and the year isn't even over," said CEO and Founder Sheryl Blancato. "It's both inspiring and sobering. Inspiring because our supporters are helping us make such a difference and sobering because the demand for help keeps growing. Every day, we see firsthand the financial strain families are under and the toll it's taking on pets."

Blancato highlighted the mounting challenges at Second Chance's four community veterinary hospitals. "We continue to see more pet owners than ever rely on subsidized rates to keep their pets healthy. At the same time, shelters nationwide remain at capacity. We're taking in as many pets as possible while also preventing surrenders by helping

struggling families access care and resources."

While Second Chance has expanded its services to meet this demand, financial pressures continue to strain the organization. Blancato is urging animal lovers to help ensure the nonprofit can provide lifesaving care for pets in need.

"Your support makes it all possible," Blancato said. "Every dollar directly helps pets—whether it's keeping a beloved pet with their family or saving the life of an animal in critical need. Together, we are transforming lives, one pet at a time."

The nonprofit is also encouraging supporters to consider becoming Monthly Pet Pal Champions by signing up for recurring donations. "Monthly gifts provide us with the stability to respond to emergencies and plan for the future," Blancato added. "Knowing we have ongoing support allows us to say 'yes' when pets need us most."

Supporters are encouraged to donate or enroll in monthly giving online at www.secondchanceanimals.org or by mail to Second Chance, P.O. Box 136, East Brookfield, MA 01515.

Second Chance is committed to providing innovative solutions to address the root causes of pet suffering, including affordable veterinary care, sheltering, spay/neuter services and pet food pantry assistance. The organization is calling on the community to join their efforts to help pets live better lives. For more information about Second Chance and how people can help, they should visit www.secondchanceanimals.org.

Second Chance Animal Services is a nonprofit animal welfare organization founded in 1999. Second Chance began as an animal shelter and grew to help more pets in need. Today Second Chance operates Community Veterinary Hospitals in North Brookfield, Southbridge, Springfield and Worcester providing access to the highest-quality veterinary care for all. Subsidized rates are provided to underserved communities to ensure access to care for all pets in need. Last year Second Chance helped over 49,000 pets live better lives through full-service veterinary care, spay/neuter services, adoption services, community & educational outreach programs, training, and a pet food pantry.

Church News

Local pastor offers sermon

The Gift that Keeps on Giving

Have you ever considered Christ as the gift of God that keeps on giving? We do well, this Christmas season, to consider what has been made available through faith in the Son of God. Take the time to carefully consider this non-exhaustive list:

1) Salvation from Sin

In Jesus we find release from both the power and penalty of sin. This was heralded prior to the Advent of Christ on earth:

Matthew 1:20b-21

20 . . . an angel of the Lord appeared to him [Joseph] in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

2) Life Eternal

John 3:16-17

16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

3) Life Abundant

John 10:10b

10 [Christ declared] ". . . I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

4) Access to God

John 14:6

6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

5) Citizenship in God's Kingdom

Ephesians 2:19b

19 . . . you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household.

6) Adoption into God's Family

John 1:12b

12 . . . to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

7) Peace

John 14:27

27 [Christ declared] "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

8) Provision

Philippians 4:19

19 My God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

9) Perspective in Suffering

Romans 8:28

28 And we know that in all

things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

10) Hope

John 14:1-3

1 [Christ declared] "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. 2 In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am."

Jesus is truly the gift that keeps on giving. May you receive and revel in the wondrous gift of God by faith, that you might experience all He has for you. May you have a blessed Christmas, realizing the significance of what God has given! Thank you for taking the time to read this publication. Should you have any comments or questions, feel free to contact me at your leisure using the information below.

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

Pastor James Foley

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

Congregational Church lists Christmas schedule

BARRE – The Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St., welcomes Rev. Charlie Page as the guest preacher on Sunday, Dec. 15.

On the Fourth Sunday of Advent, Dec. 22 Pastor Margret

Keyser will be preaching from South Africa. The Sunday School will have a Christmas Party. Sunday School students will decorate cookies and play games.

On Christmas Eve, Tuesday, Dec. 24 Sue Musnicki will coor-

dinate a Family Christmas Eve Service at 7 p.m. The Candlelight Christmas Eve Service will be at 11 p.m. with Rev. Charlie Page, preaching.

There will be no Sunday School on Sunday, Dec. 29.

Christian Community Choir presents cantata

EAST BROOKFIELD – The Christmas Community Choir presents the cantata Christmas is Forever on Sunday, Dec. 22 at 3 p.m. in the East Brookfield Baptist Church, 262 East Main St., East Brookfield and on Sunday, Jan. 5, 2025 at 3 p.m. in the St. John the Baptist Church, 131 Blaine Avenue, East Brookfield. The cantata is about unchanging love in an ever changing world.

St. Mary's Church offers Advent series on Sundays

WARE – The Power of Mary's Love is the theme of an Advent series to take place Sunday mornings in December prior to Christmas at St. Mary's Parish Hall in Ware.

The Blessed Virgin's power over evil, her path to Jesus, her motherly protection and her relationships with the three persons of the Blessed Trinity are

key focal points.

Free coffee and baked goods will start at 10:15 a.m. The program will run from 10:30 a.m. to noon and include a video, scripture references, sharing and singing seasonal hymns.

St. Mary's is located at 57 South St. All are welcome regardless of religious affiliation.

EARLY DEADLINE For All Advertising & CLASSIFIEDS

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

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

Barre Gazette

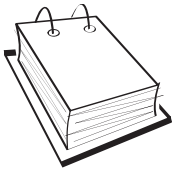
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

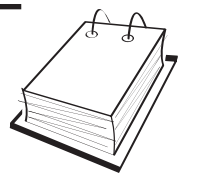
One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

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

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



Calendar of Events



THURSDAY, DEC. 19

The next Barre Food Pantry distribution will occur on today from 5:30-7 p.m. at the Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St. In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients today will again be "drive-through" style distribution. Clients will line up in their vehicles on Park Street and proceed into the right hand (east) entrance driveway of the Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St. They will remain in their cars. They'll drive up and be checked in by a volunteer, then continue up to the church building where their groceries will be put into the trunk or wayback of their vehicle by volunteers at multiple stations.

FRIDAY, DEC. 20

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

SATURDAY, DEC. 21

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

SUNDAY, DEC. 22

PIONEER VALLEY BRASS will present the #813 Dana Vespers Concert at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, in Greenfield today at 4 p.m. The free performance is made possible through a trust fund started by sisters Catherine Mason and Mary Hale in the 1930s, for the First Universalist Parish of North Dana, which was forced to close when the Quabbin Reservoir flooded five towns in the Swift River Valley. The trust fund was created to set up vespers programs to keep alive

Where is this?



Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

This week's mystery photo is from Hubbardston. 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. 23. The names of those that correctly guessed the location will appear in the following edition. Bill Bowles, Peggy Civilik, Stephen Craven, Evelyn Luukko and Phil Warbasse correctly identified the photo. The photo last week was the Hardwick Calvinistic Congregational Church on Hardwick Common.

the memory of the Parish.

SATURDAY, JAN. 11, 2025

BARRE WINTER MARKET located in the Barre Town Hall, 2 Exchange St., Barre will take place today

from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Other dates are Saturday, Feb. 8; Saturday, March 8 and Saturday, April 12 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. This is the third year of the market. Local crafters and farmers sell their crafts and products. For more information, people may email rebellbathandbeyond@gmail or call Celia at 978-355-0139.

SUNDAY, FEB. 2

THEATRE AT MOUNT AUDITIONS for "Curious George, the Golden Meatball" will be held today by appointment only for ages 8 to 12 at 11:30 a.m. and ages 13 to 18 at 2 p.m. at Mount Wachusett Community College, room A110 (formerly 182), 444 Green St., Gardner. People should call the Theatre at the Mount Box Office at 978-630-9388 Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. or email an appointment request to box-office@mwcc.mass.edu. Auditioners will be asked to sing a short vocal selection, which will be taught at the audition and there will be a dance audition, combination also taught at audition, for all roles and chorus. They should wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Some performers will be asked to do cold readings from the script. Performance dates are April 12 at 11a.m. and 2 p.m. for the general public; April 8 and April 9 at 10 a.m. and April 10 and April 11 at 9:30 a.m and 2 p.m. for school groups. Performances are held during school hours, so all cast members must be willing and able to take four days off from school/work. Tentative rehearsal schedule is Sundays from 2-5 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-8 p.m. beginning mid-February.

Calendar Policy

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

CALL YOUR TURLEY REP TODAY! 283-8393



YOUR LOCAL TRUSTED RELIABLE DEPENDABLE

HOMIE PROs

<p>1 SWIMMING POOLS</p> <p>D.J.C. POOLS 108 Main St. (Rt. 32) South Barre 508-882-3913 978-355-6465</p> <p>VACATION IN YOUR BACKYARD Two Types of In-Ground/Above Ground Pools In-Ground Liner Replacements • Heaters Service • Chemicals & Supplies • Water Testing</p>	<p>2 INSURANCE</p> <p>www.moultoninsurance.com MOULTON Insurance Agency BUSINESS • AUTO • HOME • LIFE</p> <p>Very Competitive Rates • Experienced Professional Staff 99% Customer Satisfaction Rate • On-site Registry Processing</p> <p>ARBELLA INSURANCE Ware 143 West Street 413-967-3327 Belchertown 45 N. Main Street 413-323-7229</p>	<p>3 PAINTING & PAPERING</p> <p>SABLACK PAINTING & PAPERING Professional Workmanship</p> <p>Interior & Exterior • Residential & Commercial PAPER HANGING • DRYWALL SERVICE • CERAMIC TILE FREE ESTIMATES • FULLY INSURED</p> <p>Warren, MA (508) 868-7312</p>
<p>4 HEATING OIL & A/C</p> <p>SHERMAN OIL Ensuring Comfort and Service Since 1962</p> <p>• FUEL • SERVICE 24/7 • INSTALLATION • AIR CONDITIONING</p> <p>508.867.7447 • ShermanOil.com CHECK YOUR A/C TODAY & BEAT THE HEAT!</p>	<p>5 PLUMBING & HEATING</p> <p>Residential • Commercial • Industrial</p> <p>BECA Plumbing and Heating, Inc.</p> <p>FOR ALL YOUR PLUMBING & HEATING NEEDS SIZEABLE REBATES MAY BE AVAILABLE TO YOU CALL US TO DISCUSS HEATING EQUIPMENT UPGRADES</p> <p>www.becplumbing.com Warren, MA 413-436-0076 Ware, MA 413-967-0076</p>	<p>6 HOME, YARD, GARAGE</p> <p>ESTABLISHED 1914 HARDWICK FARMERS CO-OP</p> <p>Rt. 32, 444 Lower Road, Gilbertville, MA 01031 413-477-6913 • www.hardwickfarmers.net Open: Mon-Fri 8AM-5PM; Sat 8AM-4PM, Sun 9AM-3PM</p> <p>For All Your Yard, Garden & Garage Needs Become A Member & Save Money!</p>

Free yoga and meditation class offered Jan. 9

WARREN – Welcome the New Year and experience an inner depth filled with peace and joy with Yoga & Meditation: For Vibrant Health & Peace of Mind on Thursday, Jan. 9 from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Centered Place, 286 Bridge St. and via Zoom.

Yoga and meditation are clinically tested for reducing stress and improving health. Enjoy a slower-paced yoga practice with simple poses that are easy and work like magic. Relieve back, neck and shoulder tension.

Improve mobility, vitality and stamina. Learn how to relax-stay calm and breathe easy even amidst the challenges that come with the holidays and the times we live in.

The event is free and for all ages, 14 and up. No previous yoga experience necessary. Attend in person or online.

Registration is required by calling 413-436-7690 or emailing warrenpubliclibrary@hotmail.com register. Zoom link will be provided upon request when registering. If attending via Zoom, have a chair handy (folding chair is best).

This workshop will be presented by Phil Milgrom of the Centered Place in Warren, and is sponsored by the Warren Public Library with a grant from the Warren Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the MA Cultural council, a state agency.



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

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

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

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



Find your MARKET

IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

413.283.8393 • classifieds@turley.com
24 Water St., Palmer • 80 Main St., Ware

SPORTS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

SEND US YOUR SPORTS SUBMISSIONS

www.sports.turley.com

Panthers open 2024-2025 season

BARRE – Last week, Quabbin Regional High School basketball transitioned from the end of their preseason quickly to their first regular season game. The Panthers started out by taking on Palmer High School in a preseason scrimmage last Tuesday evening. After two more days of practice, the Panthers would open their regular season on Friday, Dec. 13 and defeated Narragansett 44-31. Quabbin, now 1-0, had three games this week before the Christmas break. Next weekend, the Panthers will take part in the Gardner Holiday tournament.



Quabbin's is looking for a return trip to the state tournament this year.



The Quabbin High School girls basketball team continued its work to prepare for the season.



It was Quabbin's final scrimmage before starting the season.



The Panthers opened their regular season with a win last Friday.



The Panthers faced Palmer in a scrimmage last week.

Panthers start season with multi-meet event

BARRE – The Quabbin Regional High School wrestling team is looking for another successful campaign in the 2024-2025 season. The Panthers have a number of dual meets as well as tournament events this year. Quabbin started out its season by wrestling in multiple meets at Saint John's High School. The Panthers saw Holliston, Algonquin, as well as host Saint John.

The Panthers remained on the road earlier this week, facing North Middlesex in a regular dual meet. The Panthers will head to Marshfield this weekend, and then participate in the Phil Tomkiel Holiday Tournament at Agawam High School on Friday, Dec. 27.

Pioneers wrestle at Knight-Hawk



Dominic Jarry looks to avoid a takedown.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

HOLYOKE - Last Saturday, the Pathfinder wrestling team opened the season by participating in the Knight-Hawk Classic hosted by Holyoke High School. The Pioneers scored 49 points and placed 17th out of 19 teams that were at the event. Dominic Jarry was Pathfinder's top finisher, placing third in the 175-pound bracket.



Jake Parker-Gregory looks for a takedown in a 215-pound match.



Gustavo Vega locks up in an early round match.

Pioneers don't have answer for Duggan

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

PALMER— First-year Pathfinder Tech boys' varsity basketball coach Ethan Ortyl is hoping to win a lot of games during his coaching career. He had to wait a little bit longer before celebrating his first career victory.

The Pioneers suffered an 80-18 non-league home loss to powerhouse Duggan Academy in the season opening game, last Thursday night.

"This game was a good test for us against one of the best teams that we're going to play all season," said Ortyl, who replaced Zac Button as the Pioneers varsity coach. "The players continued to play hard in tonight's game, and they care about each other. We're going to bounce back and keep battling in every game that we play this season. I just love this group of players."

It was also the first varsity start for all five of the Pioneers starters. Those five players are junior Dustyn Cook, junior Dayne Shanley, junior Aiden Girard, sophomore Cayden Bousquet, and freshman Cassian Kowalik.

"We've only had four practices, which doesn't include tryouts,



Grayson Griswold sends up a three-point attempt.

before tonight's game. The players are still learning a new system and I'm still learning what they're capable of doing," Ortyl added. "We're going to work hard at practice before our next game against



Dustyn Cook goes low to avoid a defender.

Pioneer Valley Christian Academy on Monday night. There are a lot of things that we need to work on. Everyone just needs to keep improving, including myself."

Girard (3 points) and senior

Matthew Vanasse (2 points) are the Pioneers co-captains.

Duggan, who posted an 18-2 regular season record a year ago, also didn't have very much trouble dispatching the Pioneers in



Cassian Kowalik tries to avoid having his shot blocked.

their previous two meetings on the hardwood.

With the help of several turnovers, the Jayhawks were able to build a 27-0 lead at the end of the opening quarter in last Thursday's



Dayne Shanley takes a mid-range shot.

game, and they never looked back. Junior Isaiah Rodriguez scored 19 of his game-high 23 points for the visitors from Springfield during the first eight minutes of

See PIONEERS, page 10

BARRE GAZETTE

It's easier than ever to **SUBSCRIBE** to your hometown paper.

Visit barregazette.turley.com and click on SUBSCRIPTIONS!

You can also browse our archives, submit your news and view our facebook feed all from the same page!

\$33/Year | \$38 Out-of-State

Home Who We Are Find Us Contact Us Advertising Classifieds Submissions Turley Publications Archives **SUBSCRIPTIONS**



Sports

Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WNECA Doubles at Bogey Lanes

EAST BROOKFIELD – Bogey Lanes in East Brookfield was the host of the most recent Western New England Candlepin Association doubles tournament this past weekend.

WNECA is dedicated to promoting the game of candlepin bowling throughout western Massachusetts. For years, Bogey Lanes has been a gracious host for tournaments and continues to support tournaments through the WNECA.

The doubles tournament this past weekend was a great success with over 30 teams showing up over the course of four shifts. The results are in, and the winning team was Brandon Martins and Rob Poirier.

Both bowlers regularly bowl out of Agawam Bowl in Agawam, and bowled excellently during day one of the tournament. Along with their handicap and scratch totals the team of Martins and Poirier

combined for a score of 893 to win the doubles at Bogey Lanes.

It was a good day on the lanes for Martins as he bowled a series of 409. This was the second time Brandon Martins bowled a 400 series during the WNECA tournament series.

The team who finished in second place were Jason Gauthier Sr. and Tiffany Gauthier with a combined score of 850. In third place, the team of Erica and Craig Beaudry scored an 839.

A total of nine teams placed in the doubles tournament at Bogey Lanes. The teams who finished fourth through ninth were within fifteen points of each other. Chris and Laurie Lafreniere finished in fourth with an 830, Robby Wood and Nick Brown with a 826, Stacy Bloomberg and Steve Champagne with a 823, Tharen Ring and Chris Cincotta with 820 and the team of Cody Brunelle and Kyle Wilder tied at 815 with Trevor Kenneson and Sophia Hearnlaye.

The point standings for the tournament series have been posted on the WNECA Facebook page. After the doubles event at Bogey, Brandon Martins is leading in points as the #1 seed. His team-

mate from the doubles Rob Poirier is currently in third place.

The WNECA will host a championship bracket tournament featuring the top 24 bowlers after the conclusion of the tournament series. After a successful doubles tournament, Martins and Poirier are in good shape to compete in the championship tournament at the end of the year.

The next WNECA tournament will be in January at the Turn Hall in Adams and the event will be singles.

Commercial Elks League
PALMER – Compression bowled against Last in Line this past Tuesday night in the Commercial Elks League.

In game one, Last in Line defeated Compression by a score of 362-318. In game two, Compression bounced back with a win of their own, 409-342. In game three, Last in Line took the final game 396-350. Vinny Navarro of Last in Line finished with a 117 and his teammate Jeremy Laduke finished with a 114.

The final score was 1100-1077 in favor of Last in Line and the team received three points.

T-Birds grab point in Wilkes-Barre

SPRINGFIELD — The Springfield Thunderbirds (12-9-2-0) dispatched a 4-1 second intermission deficit to earn a standings point before ultimately falling in overtime, 5-4, to the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins (14-7-1-0) on Saturday night at Mohegan Arena at Casey Plaza.

Upstart rookie Rutger McGroarty quickly got the Penguins on the board on their Teddy Bear Toss night as he took a delicate saucer pass from Joona Koppanen and deked to the forehead to tuck it behind Vadim Zherenko just 1:53 into the opening period.

The T-Birds were able to draw two power play opportunities while trailing 1-0, but the Penguins' penalty kill dispatched both of the Springfield man-up situations. Special teams continued to trend in the home team's direction as the Penguins cashed in on their first power play on a goal by Emil Bemstrom at 16:06 of the frame to give Wilkes-Barre/Scranton a 2-0 lead into the intermission.

Filip Larsson was not heavily taxed in Penguins crease in the first, but he came up with the nine saves asked of him to start the night.

Thanks to their top offensive

unit, the T-Birds quelled some of the Penguins' momentum at 5:17 of the second. Aleksanteri Kaskimaki took a drop feed from Leo Loof and whipped it in the low slot to Dalibor Dvorsky. While Larsson slid across to deny the T-Birds' star rookie, the rebound trickled behind the netminder, allowing Marcus Sylvegard to backhand it into the yawning net to cut the deficit to 2-1.

Special teams, though, proved to be Springfield's undoing once again just 3:16 later as Valtteri Puustinen slipped behind the defense on a power play and chipped a backhander past Zherenko to make it a 3-1 Penguins lead.

Late in the period, the Thunderbirds thought they had solved Larsson on a power play scramble in the crease, but after a review, the goal was washed out, and Bemstrom took advantage with just 18 seconds left in the frame, snapping a wrist shot under the crossbar, extending the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton lead to 4-1 after 40 minutes.

The T-Birds' leaders rapidly turned the game around as the final period began. Captain Matthew Peca flung a wrister over Larsson's glove just 17 seconds into the peri-

od to make it a 4-2 contest. Less than four minutes later, crashing in for a rebound in the slot area, former Penguin Scott Harrington notched his first as a Thunderbird at 4:08 to cut the margin to 4-3.

Larsson and the Penguins tightened to hold the fort into the game's final two minutes, but a penalty with 2:09 on the clock handed Springfield another power play and a chance to get an equalizer. With Zherenko at the bench for an extra skater, the T-Birds seized the moment as Matt Luff found Kaskimaki in the slot, and the rookie's snapper eluded Larsson to tie the game with 1:56 left.

The Thunderbirds had another power play chance to close out regulation, but the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton penalty kill shut it down to get the game into the extra period.

Unfortunately, the T-Birds' magic ran out in the extra session as a penalty gave the Penguins a 4-on-3 power play, and Bemstrom completed his hat trick with a spinning jam shot at 4:27 of the overtime to snap the T-Birds winning streak. Despite coming short of victory, Springfield earned standings points for the 11th time in its last 13 games.

Railers get point, fall in shootout

WORCESTER – It has been one of those weekends that seem like a month for the Railers. They have battled one of the ECHL's best teams in the Trois-Rivieres Lions and changed a coach all at the same time.

Worcester lost its final game under Bob Deraney, 5-3, Friday night. They lost their first game under Nick Tuzzolino, 3-2, Saturday night but it was one of those half-a-loaf deals. The Railers earned a point with a shootout loss.

It says something about the Lions that Worcester played one of its best games in recent weeks and still could not get two points. Trois-Rivieres is loaded with offensive opportunists and flawless goaltending.

The Railers out shot the visitors, 41-26, but still could not outscore them.

It was, however, an encouraging start to Tuzzolino's head coaching career and in general

he liked what he saw.

"I don't want to say that I was excited about how we played," he said, "because the result wasn't there, but we made a few minor adjustments in clogging up the neutral zone and our forecheck, and I thought they were really good."

The goal scorers were Justin Kaplan and Matthew Kopperud for Worcester while the Lions got two goals from Cormier. The first was from Xavier Cormier, the second from Tommy Cormier. Alex Beaucage had the only shootout goal.

It was a good goaltending night both ways. Zachary Emond made 39 saves for the Lions. Michael Bullion, who had been in a slump, stopped 23 and made the save of the night early in the third period.

He stopped Logan Nijhoff on a penalty shot at 2:31. The period was Bullion's best as he also made some big saves late to keep

the score at 2-2.

Xavier Cormier put Trois-Rivieres ahead at 4:29 of the first period. It was a tap-in goal with the Lions on a power play. Kaplan tied it at 8:45, also on a power play. He beat Emond with a rebound backhander.

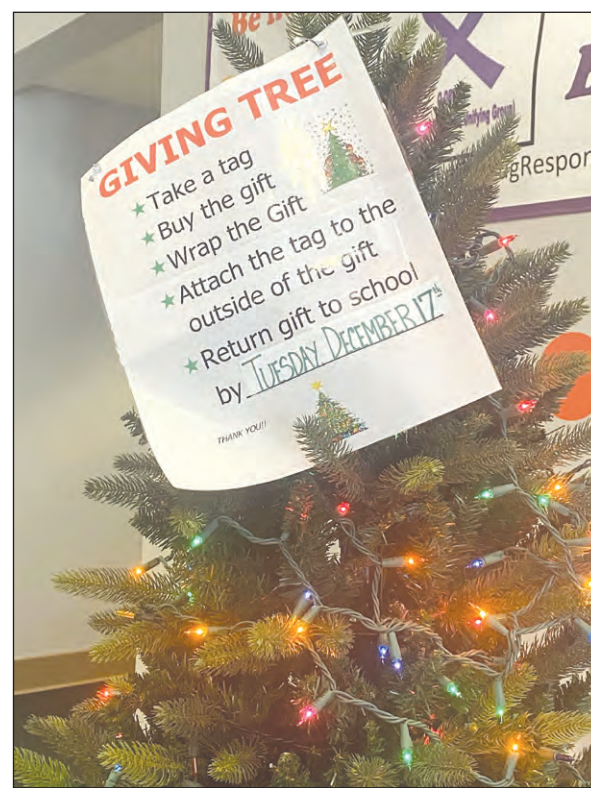
Kopperud scored from the right circle at 14:26 to give Worcester a 2-1 lead, then Tommy Cormier converted a long breakaway at 18:01.

"If we can carbon-copy what we did tonight," Tuzzolino said, "I don't see us losing more than a couple games here and there. It's one of those things where that type of system can plug in play some players and drive some teams wild up front."

"I guess my overall goal is to work on the consistency of that this week because we'll have a good stretch and really have all things firing for Maine. It's a very big weekend for us."

Education

Holiday spirit abounds at Quabbin schools



Submitted photos



This sign at one of the elementary schools encourages kindness.

The giving tree provides gifts for those who need it most.

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

While there is much to celebrate during the holiday season, it can also be a time when children and families may struggle with food insecurity and increased costs due to heating needs and more.

Quabbin Regional School District students, staff, families, businesses and community members have hosted and provided many wonderful opportunities to share resources with those who may need a little extra joy this season.

Several of our National Honor Society students embarked upon community service projects that brought people together as a community and provided them food and/or a meal. Sadie Sheldon hosted a wonderfully attended event at Ruggles Lane School. She, along with some of her National Honor Society peers, organized games and activities for the children while families brought a dish to share for a potluck style event.

This was a great way for families to connect with one another, pause and appreciate being together and enjoying good food.

Haley Ayer and Sydney Slattery organized a food drive with the support of the Hardwick Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization and donations from the community. At one of the PTO events, they collected canned goods which were then distributed to families as part of a Thanksgiving meal. Twenty-seven families were provided with a full Thanksgiving dinner including a turkey and all the fixings.

Many of our Parent Teacher Organizations sponsor Holiday Shoppes, where students can pick up small gifts for their families. The PTOs offer scholarships to students so that everyone can get something for a loved one. There are many "life lessons" for our young students as they learn about shopping within a budget and how to prioritize spending.

Each of our schools work with local businesses and community organizations to fulfill wishes that may go unmet for our students and families. Some schools have

a Giving or Angel Tree and others work closely on a "toy drive" style event. We are grateful and appreciative for all of the community support to ensure that our students and families have a brighter holiday season. Thank you all.

If you haven't heard, Quabbin Regional Middle High School has a Q-munity closet that is full of gently used clothing and shoes. Students and families may access the closet at any time. This week, there seem to be several "ugly" sweaters that are going fast. There will be an additional Q-munity closet location at New Braintree Grade School run by our Post Grad students. The expected opening date will be January 2025. They will specialize in clothing and items for adults and young children. Should you have a need for clothing or shoes, please do not hesitate to reach out to Mary Whitelaw via email mwhitelaw@qrds.org.

It is our wish that everyone in our communities enjoys a wonderful holiday season and we thank you for all you do to support our students, our programs and our schools.

Coaching classes available

Coaches hired after Aug. 1, 1998 are required to take a coaching course to be eligible to coach high school sports in Massachusetts.

According to the Pioneer Valley Interscholastic Athletic Association, all coaches hired prior to Aug. 1, 1998 are exempt from taking the Fundamentals

of Coaching Course. Coaches hired after that and before July 1, 2005 must have completed the NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching Course with the exception of Certified MA teachers.

All coaches (stipend or volunteer) first serving as an interscholastic coach after July 1, 2005 must complete the NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching Course, and an approved Sports First Aid course.

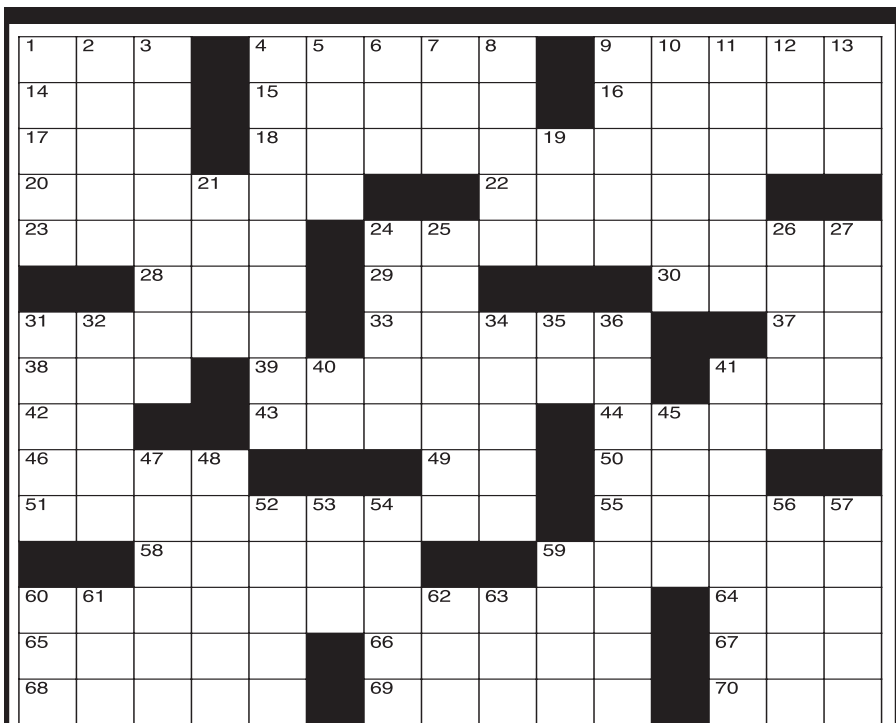
The NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching Course requirement must be met through attending an MIAA sponsored Fundamentals of Coaching Class with MIAA Certified Instructors. Must be completed and passed prior to coaching a second year.

The NFHS Sports First Aid may be met by completing on-line courses with the NFHS www.nfhslearn.com. Must be passed prior to coaching a third year.

Additional requirements for all coaches:

Massachusetts requires coaches to be certified in CPR per Section 1. Section 47A of chapter 71 of the General Laws. Additionally, AED training is required and will most likely be done in conjunction with the existing mandated CPR training.

All MIAA member school coaches (stipend or volunteer) are required to take annually the on-line



CLUES ACROSS

- Miller beer variety
- Member of people inhabiting Bering Sea islands
- Stomach
- Investment vehicle
- Fictional soccer coach Ted
- Irregular in botanical parlance
- Cease standing
- "American Horror Story" actress
- Grow milk teeth
- Plant parts
- Snow house
- Most contemptuous
- Note to repay
- Old English
- Wings
- Financial institutions
- Parks and Lopez are two
- Mr. T's "The A-Team" character
- Relative biological

effectiveness (abbr.)

- Give off
- Semitic alphabet letter
- Farm state
- Actress Sarandon
- Back parts
- Zoroastrian concept of holy fire
- Touchdown
- One point north of due east
- Refurbishes
- Silver and Dagg are two
- Former Tigers catcher Alex
- Type of envelope
- Seriously considered
- Unhappy
- Past (archaic)
- Asian wild dog
- Old English letter
- Young domestic sheep
- Football players need to gain them

70. Witness

- Dormant Peruvian volcano
- Norwegian composer
- Indicates location
- Pubs
- Unable to walk easily
- Electronic warfare-support measures
- World leader
- Midsection
- Jewish calendar month
- Urological condition
- A small quantity of anything
- Mountain Time
- Affirmative
- Word element meaning ear
- Carried away
- Short-billed rails
- Newborn child
- Sword
- Groups of people

CLUES DOWN

- Prickly, scrambling shrubs
- Become less intense
- Polishes
- Indicates position
- Songs sung to one's beloved
- The 12th letter of the Greek alphabet
- Insects
- Israeli politician
- Pre-digital
- Ambience
- Brew
- Late
- Make ecstatically happy
- Semitic alphabet letter
- Blend
- Dash
- Self
- Exclamation of satisfaction
- Hill or rocky peak

See COACHING CLASSES, page 13

Quabbin Middle School lists sixth grade honor roll

BARRE – Quabbin Middle School announces the sixth grade honor roll.

Sixth Grade High Honors
Sixth graders making High Honors are Nevaeh Andrews, Ava Blancato, Jaysen Cassano, Ava Clark, John Cook, Anna Coomey, Grayson Eddy, Colby Hill, Madilyn Houle, Brady Malin, Theodore Minton, Catheryn Racine, Liam Shaw, Zachary Thompson and Brady White.

Sixth Grade Honors
Sixth graders making Honors are Destiny Aiken, Lyric Alves,

Aubrianna Babineau, Elijah Baptiste, Zachary Barre, Julianna Bienvenu, Talasyn Boissonneau, Alistair Bombfield, Caleb Caban, Josie Castell, Cameron Charpentier, Charley Chauvin, Ryan Colgate, Ella Critelli, Joey DeMalia, Hannah Dias, Ethan Donaldson, Matthew Flamand, Andrew Fuller, Jude Gomes, Brynneley Gould, Lincoln Graves, Afina Griffith, Joseph Haley, Silas Howe, James Jackson, Adrian Johnson, Colin Kania, Nathan Kearchner, Levi Kniskern, Ryan LaRange, Walker Larson,

Marishao Lee, Ilyanna Lynch, Adalyn McHugh, Kayla McHugh, Lucy Merrill, Sawyer Minton, Annaleigh Moncoeur, Nolan O'Connor, Chevy O'Shea, Evelyn Palladino, Ximena Palomera-Espinoza, Bryce Pariseau, Bentley Parker, Chloe Phillips, Deegan Pope, Oliver Poulin, McKenna Rengo, Lillian Roohan, Cooper Sampson, Ava Sherblom, Andie St. Clair, Brayden Surprenant, Landon Swindlehurst, Kenzie Thorpe, Regan Toohill, Hana Mae Tousignant and Everett Weisman.

Thank you to these advertisers
for sponsoring
BABY'S FIRST CHRISTMAS



**Bright Tidings
at Christmas
and a Healthy,
Happy New Year!**



WHITE VALLEY MOTORS
843 Worcester Rd., Barre • 978-355-2200

Happy Holidays!
...and thanks for the gifts of
your friendship and support!

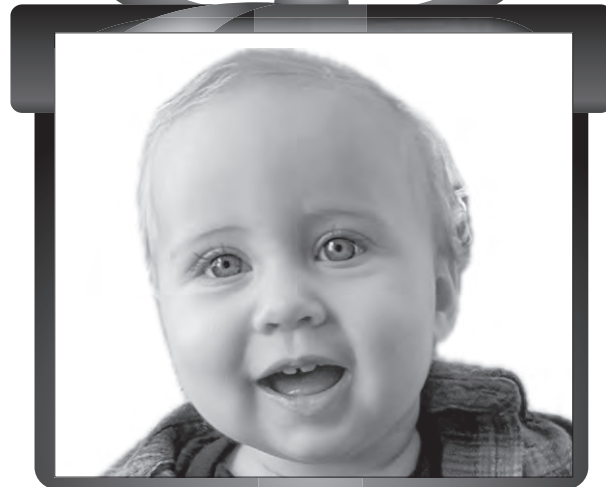


Landry & Meilus LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
21 Summer Street, Barre
978-355-2289

Delivering Our Best
*Thanks for everything this year!
We wish you and your loved ones
a merry and bright Christmas.*



ORIGINAL TIRE CO.
South Athol Rd., Athol • 978-249-3477



Nico Marlin Salvatore
February 25, 2024
Parents: Nicholas & Caitlin Salvatore, Sturbridge
Sibling: Evelina Rose
Grandparents: Michael & Patricia Tomko, Middletown, CA
Anthony & Laurie Salvadore, Barre
Great Grandparents: Caroline Nicholson, Lakeport, CA
Michael Tomko, Sonoma CA



Finley Jameson Neylon
February 15, 2024
Parents: Brennan & Brittany (Wokoun) Neylon, Boling, TX
Grandparents: Nancy Wokoun, Pomeria, SC
Peter & Amy Wokoun, Brookshire, TX
Matthew & Anne Neylon, Oakham
Beth & Bill Hallene, Quinneboag, CT
Great Grandparents: Donna Neylon, Charlton, MA



Rhea Sophia Alara Wilson
January 11, 2024
Parents: Brannen & Alyssa Wilson, Philipston
Grandparents: Cheryl & (the late) Pete Wilson, Hubbardston
Jeff & Robin Cummings, Barre
Great Grandparents: Arlene & John Wise, Philipston
Claire Giard, Barre

Happy Holidays
from
DONNIE BERTHIAUME
State Representative
5th Worcester District
Donald.Berthiaume@MAhouse.gov
State House, Room 540, Boston, MA 02133
617.722.2090 • cell 774.230.8282
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



Season's Greetings
With best wishes for peace and
harmony this holiday season and
throughout the new year.



~ **DORSEY MEMORIALS** ~
707 Main Street, Amherst • 413.253.5212
www.DorseyMemorials.com

To Our Dear Friends,
A wish for a season that
jingles with joy all the way!



NOW OFFERING:
Truck & Equipment Repairs

HUBB EQUIPMENT, INC.
31 Old Boston Turnpike, Hubbardston
978-928-4258

Merry Greetings
Thank You & Merry Christmas



At this special time of year, we're sending out a happy hello and our very best wishes for a festive season!


cakes by amanda

www.customcakesbyamanda.com

Happy Holidays
Dave's Appliance Inc.
VISIT US LAST!
Purchase from a dealer who also services!
• COMPLETE LINE OF NEW & SLIGHTLY USED APPLIANCES
• GREAT SELECTION OF WEBER GRILLS AND ACCESSORIES
6 & 12 Months Financing Available
— Servicing Household Appliances since 1978
All Makes & Models
508-867-3122
Parts Hotline 888-229-1027
42 W. Main St., Brookfield, MA
www.davesapp.com
Hours: Mon-Thurs 9-6 • Fri 9-5 • Sat 10-3



YOUR HOLIDAY SEASON IS HAPPY, HEALTHY, MEANINGFUL AND OH-SO JOLLY!



Thanks for sharing so many good times with us in 2024. We look forward to making more great memories with all of you in the years to come.

From **Richie B., Chris, Collin, Michelle, Carolanne, Vince, KC, Joe, Kerry, Rick & Ryan**

E.P. WINE INC.
Appliance & Gas Service
160 West Street, Barre
978-355-2311 • 800-684-7004 • Fax 978-355-6118

May happiness and good fortune surround you at Christmastime and all year!



Thank you for bringing so much warmth and joy to our year. We appreciate you!

HIGGINS ENERGY ALTERNATIVES
140 Worcester Rd. Barre
978-355-6343
higginsenergy.com

With Our Thanks

Please accept our **best wishes** for a wonderful holiday!



FARBER & LINDLEY
Attorneys At Law
56 Common Street, Barre • 978-257-8389

Wishing You

*Peace in your world.
Love in your home.
Joy in your heart.*



This Holiday Season

Fidelity Bank
800.581.5363 | fidelitybankonline.com

FROM OUR HOME TO YOURS,
MERRY CHRISTMAS!



In the air there's a feeling of Christmas, and we hope it fills your heart and soul with enough warmth, cheer and contentment to last all year!

Thanks for putting the merry in our Christmas, and for filling our year with so much joy and so many great memories. Serving you has been our pleasure, and we look forward to sharing more good times together in the coming year. We wish you and your family health, happiness and all the best this season and always!

CREATIVE FLOORS INC.
1653 North Main Street, Holden
508-829-7444
www.creativefloorsinc.com

That Christmas Feeling

It's in the air and all around, from the lights up high to the snow on the ground; A spirit of joy and goodwill too, and a feeling of gratitude for each one of you.

Merry Christmas, and thank you for another great year!

LAW OFFICE OF CRANSTON & CRANSTON P.C.
26 Valley Road, P.O. Box 938, Barre
978-355-2100

With Our Gratitude, MERRY CHRISTMAS!

To our valued customers and friends at Christmastime, best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season. **We hope it's decked out with every happiness your heart can hold!**




Changes Hair Salon
939 Worcester Road, Barre
978-355-6411

Hope Your Holiday Is Simply Floss-some

Thanks for filling our year with so many smiles!

Dhillon Family & Cosmetic Dentistry
173 West St., Ware • 413-967-7140
dhillonfamilydental.com



SEASON'S GREETINGS

To our dear friends and customers at Christmastime, warm wishes for a merry and meaningful season, and tremendous thanks for being a part of our year!



BREKKA & BREKKA
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
KENNETH L. BREKKA
CLARE FRAIN BREKKA • WILLIAM N. BREKKA
2 WORCESTER ROAD, HUBBARDSTON
978-928-5000 • WWW.BREKKALAW.COM

Merry Everything!

Wherever you are, however you celebrate, we hope the holiday season brings love to your heart, peace to your soul and joy to your spirit.

With our gratitude and best wishes,



Safety Insurance
AUTO • HOME • BUSINESS

BROBERG INSURANCE GROUP, INC.
9 Exchange St., Barre Tel: (978) 355-4028 Fax: (978) 355-6280
53 Gardner Rd., Hubbardston Tel: (978) 928-5875 Fax: (978) 928-1340
www.broberginsurance.com

Thanks for Making Our Whole Year Brighter

Christmas is right around the corner, so we'd like to take a moment to share our very best wishes with everyone we know! Thanks for sticking with us this year, and for making this community such a wonderful place to be at Christmastime and always.



CONCRETE SOLUTIONS
199 East Broadway, Gardner
978-669-0088
www.concretesolutionsonline.com

Baby's First Christmas 2024

Thank you to these advertisers
for sponsoring
BABY'S FIRST CHRISTMAS



Jade Fern Potter

July 24, 2024

Parents: Forest and Jenna Potter, Barre
Grandparents: Anthony & Laurie Salvadori, Barre
Ron Potter & Joyce Hamilton, Barre
The late LaDonna Stickler of North Carolina



Scarlett Legasey

January 25, 2024

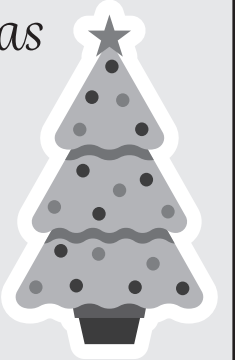
Parents: Thomas & Jessica Legasey, Rutland
Grandparents: Donald & MaryAnn Dunbar, Ware
Thomas & Sharon Legasey, Spencer

Merry Christmas

...treemendous thanks
and best wishes to
everyone we know!

KIP'S CHRISTMAS TREE FARM

New Braintree Center
508-867-2423



Frosty, Fun & Fabulous

Hope your season shakes out
to be everything you've wished
for and more!



PARKER GLASS

Owned & Operated by the Parker Family

The Clear Choice For All Your Glass Needs

441 Chestnut St., Gardner • 978-632-5382 / 800-564-5382 • parkerglass@comcast.net

We Appreciate You THIS Much!



Words can't say
how grateful
we are for your
support and
trust in us.
We wish you all
a very merry
Christmas and
a prosperous
new year!

TERRY'S AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE

60 Worcester Road, Barre • 978-355-0010

Merry Christmas & Treemendous THANKS!



J.C. POOLS INC.

108 Main Street, South Barre
978-355-6465 • 508-882-3913

Before the opportunity melts
away, we just want to say,
**"MERRY CHRISTMAS,
FRIENDS!"**

F.T. SMITH SAND & GRAVEL
53 Brooks Pond Road, North Brookfield • 508-867-0400

Sealed with a wish

We hope your
Christmas delivers
the best of everything

BILL'S GARAGE OF RUTLAND INC
74 Maple Avenue (Route 56), Rutland
CITGO 508-886-4401 • 508-886-2371

HAVE YOURSELF A MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS

From our gnome to yours, happy holidays
and best wishes for a wonderful new year!

We appreciate all the ways - big and small - friends and customers like
you have made our year so very special and meaningful. Thank you!

BARRE PIZZA

On the Common, Barre • 978-355-4595
OPEN 7 DAYS

Coming Through With Our Best Wishes for a Wonderful Holiday Season

Choo-choo, we're sending you our warmest thoughts and
very best wishes for a happy and healthy Christmas!

The support of friends and customers like all of you is what keeps us on
track, and we thank you for fueling our success all year.

W.R. ROBINSON LUMBER CO. INC.
Cleveland Road, Wheelwright
413-477-6050

Socking It to You:

Our Best Wishes for
the Brightest Holiday!

Thanks for all you've done
to make our year so happy
and rewarding. We really
appreciate your faith in us
and your friendship,
and we look forward to
continuing our
partnership in the
years to come.

TANGUAY JEWELERS

19 Connors Street, Gardner
978-632-1362

We're so grateful to all of the friends, neighbors and
customers who have contributed to our success and
filled our year with such wonderful memories.
We hope the kindness and generosity you've
shown us come back to you hundredfold!

Best Wishes and Happy Holidays,
**THANKS
A MINT!**

**R.N. GLIDDEN
LANDSCAPING SERVICE**
1750 Hardwick Road, New Braintree • 978-355-2827

Joy & Prosperity From All of Us

We are so grateful for your
continued business and support this year.
Thank you, and best wishes for
a simply wonderful Christmas
and a very happy new year!

Waterwheel Realty
Barre
978-355-4438

Happy Holidays!

Just dropping in with a wish to all of our neighbors,
friends and customers for a very Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year. We appreciate your support
and thank you for your visits!

R.J. McDonald

Propane - Heating Oil
71 Worcester Rd., Barre • (978) 355-6649

SALVADORE

FAMILY OF DEALERSHIPS
Enjoy Baby's
First Christmas!

CHEVY | CHRYSLER | DODGE | JEEP | RAM

They'll Be Driving Before
You Know it!

442 WEST BROADWAY, GARDNER
978-630-2001 | SALVADOREAUTO.COM

We're All Smiles Thanks to Customers Like You!

Thanks for giving us so
much to celebrate this
holiday season. We've really
enjoyed spending time with
all of you throughout the
year, and we look forward
to making more great
memories here in 2024.

With our heartfelt gratitude,
we wish you a very happy,
healthy and blessed Christmas!

Red Tomato PIZZA & RESTAURANT
11 Exchange Street, Barre • 978-355-3536
Sunday - Thursday 10am - 9pm; Friday & Saturday 10am-10pm

Feel the Joy! Share the Spirit!

Hugs and wishes at Christmastime
to everyone who has made
our year so very merry!

Being around friendly folks like you brings us joy each and
every day, and we're grateful to be a part of this community.
Thanks for sharing your smiles and support with us.
We hope you have a perfectly wonderful holiday season!

R.M.G. Services LLC

JUNK REMOVAL
CLEANOUTS • DEMOLITION
508-386-5734

MENTION THIS AD & RECEIVE 10% OFF ANY SERVICE!

All the Best... and then some!

Wishing you the brightest joy,
the warmest cheer and the greatest
happiness this Christmas season.
As we wrap up our year, we'd just like to
say thanks to all of the friendly folks and
loyal customers who have made it such a
success. Being a part of this community is
a gift we value beyond measure, and we
really appreciate everyone we know here.

HARDWICK CROSSING
EST. 2002
COUNTRY CLUB
262 Lower Road
Gilbertville
774-757-8907
Pro Shop 774-261-2634
hardwickcrossing.com

Wishing You a Frosty & Magical Season

Thanks for shaping our year
with so many delightful
memories and friendships!
Folks like you liven up
every day, and we wish
you warmth
and happiness
all season.

**Merry Christmas
and Many Thanks!**

J&J FAMILY RESTAURANT
815 Worcester Road (Route 122), Barre
978-355-2122

DELIVERING OUR BEST

A few warm wishes goes a long way
To added enjoyment to the holiday
Good to us, you've certainly been
So we wanted to thank you for just dropping in!

QUALITY WATER PRODUCTS
25 Town Farm Road
South Barre
978-355-6833

With Our Thanks, MERRY CHRISTMAS!

We hope the
Christmas season
delivers everything
on your wish list
and more!

Thank you for giving us
so much to celebrate
this year. We really
appreciate your
friendship and support,
and we wish you all
the best.

QUABBIN PLAZA LIQUORS
Quabbin Plaza, Barre
978-355-6496

HIKING
continued from page 4

vertical drop-off. At this point, we had three options. Well, in reality, just two, since plunging off the ledge onto the jagged rocks below was never really a viable option to begin with.

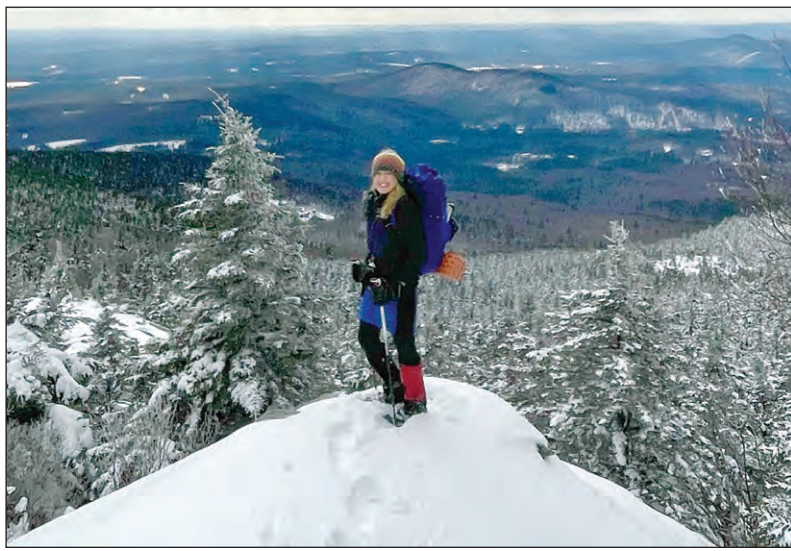
1- Continue bushwhacking upwards in an attempt to see where we would end up. The hope being that we'd eventually find Cliff Walk Trail. (Tom's idea)

2- Turn back and try to find where we zigged when we should have zagged, and get back on the actual trail. (My idea)

One of the great things about hiking with a partner is that when one of you has a harebrained, cockamamie, dare I say utterly ridiculous idea, the more rational one can help you dial back the crazy, so to speak

Now I'm not saying that I'm always the logical part of the equation. Quite the contrary. I'm usually the one who likes to push the envelope when we hike together. You know- find out just how much we are capable of.

In those instances, Tom graciously offers his unsolicited advice, both for the betterment of our marriage, as well as to ensure



Julie smiles brightly at the top of Mt. Monadnock

that we aren't put into a perilous situation by my occasionally wacky ideas.

On Saturday, however, it was my turn to be the sensible half of our partnership. With temperatures in the teens, I had no desire to continue bushwhacking in an area where a magnitude of snow had effectively erased the crevices and deep holes surrounding the enormous boulders which were lying in wait to swallow a leg or twist an ankle. And after only mild persuasion on my part, Tom agreed. Needless to say, 'self preservation'

won out over 'adrenaline rush' and we turned back, eventually finding the sharp right turn we had missed earlier.

And at the end of the day, the summit was reached, views were had, pizza was consumed, hot cider was enjoyed, joy was found. And we lived to hike another day.

Honestly, what more could we possibly ask for?

See you in the wintry wild places, my friends!

Follow Julie and Tom on Instagram @morethanthemountain for more of their hiking adventures.

PIONEERS
continued from page 9

the contest.

Duggan's other two double digit scorers were junior Allen Miranda, who scored 11 of his 21 points in the third quarter, and senior Kyle Combs (12 points).

The Pioneers, who beat Duggan by 14 points during the 2022 regular season, finally broke the ice with six minutes left in the first half when a steal by fresh-

man Grayson Griswold led to a Bousquet lay-up basket.

Bousquet, who was the Pioneers leading scorer with four points, also made another lay-up a minute later following another steal from Griswold.

In the middle of the second quarter, Griswold scored his first career varsity points on a lay-up.

The home team was trailing, 40-6 at halftime.

Pathfinder Tech's only made baskets of the third quarter were from Vanasse and Girard.

The Jayhawks only outscored the Pioneers, 10-7, during the final eight minutes of the contest.

Pathfinder freshman Jordan Mbi made an old fashion three point play with 5:47 remaining in regulation, which gave the home fans something to cheer about. Kowalik also hit a runner in the lane. Girard and Shanley each made a free throw.

The Pioneers players and supporters were looking to celebrate a win at home against PVCA on Monday night.

COACHING CLASS,
continued from page 10

National Federation Concussion Course, or other MA Department of Public Health recognized education program, prior to the start of

their season. Rugby Coaches must see Rule 76.2 for additional coaches' education information.

Any questions, please call Donna Harrington at 508-541-9804 or email dharrington@miaa.net. undamentals of coaching classes are being offered on

Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2025 from 4 to 8 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 8, 2025 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Classes are open until capacity is reached and then a waiting list is established. There are online components to the course once the classroom portion is completed

BBB lists the top 12 scams of the holidays

With the year quickly winding down, the Better Business Bureau has compiled its "naughty list" of the top 12 holiday scams.

When shopping or donating this holiday season, watch out for schemes trying to swipe your cash or steal your personal information.

You can avoid most of the scams on this list by taking a few simple precautions. Always exercise caution with social media ads promoting discounted items, holiday events, job opportunities, and donation requests, as well as direct messages from strangers.

If you are asked to make a payment or donation by wire transfer, through a third party, or by prepaid debit or gift card, treat it as a red flag.

Be mindful of these scams that could cut into your holiday cheer:

Misleading social media ads

As you scroll through your social media feed, you often see products advertised. Always research before you buy.

BBB Scam Tracker receives daily reports of people paying for items that they never receive, getting charged monthly for a free trial they never signed up for, or receiving an item that is counterfeit or much different from the one advertised. Before ordering, check out the business profile on BBB.org and read the reviews.

Social media gift exchanges

Each holiday season this scheme pops back up. The older version was called "Secret Sister." Newer versions of this scam revolve around exchanging bottles of wine or bourbon; another suggests purchasing \$10 gifts online.

Another twist asks you to submit your email to a list where participants get to pick a name and send money to strangers to "pay it forward." There is even a twist about "Secret Santa Dog" where you buy a \$10 gift for your "secret dog."

In all these versions, partici-

pants unwittingly share their personal information, along with those of their family members and friends, and are further tricked into buying and shipping gifts or money to unknown individuals.

It's also an illegal pyramid scheme. Stick to buying your friends gifts from trustworthy businesses, and check BBB.org before you buy.

Holiday apps

Apple's App Store and Google Play list dozens of holiday-themed apps where children can video chat live with Santa, light the menorah, watch Santa feed live reindeer, track his sleigh on Christmas Eve, or relay their holiday wish lists.

Review privacy policies to see what information will be collected. Be wary of free apps, as they can sometimes contain more advertising than apps that require a nominal fee. Free apps can also contain malware. Be sure to read reviews as well.

Michael Roy retires from Cornerstone Bank

WORCESTER – Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with locations throughout Central Massachusetts, announces the upcoming retirement of Senior Vice President, Chief Risk Officer Michael Roy.

"Mike has been an integral part of ensuring our systems are iron-clad and always in compliance with regulations that are constantly changing to keep up with evolving technology," said Todd Tallman, CEO of Cornerstone Bank. "We are grateful for his thorough work and unwavering commitment to excellence."

Roy's career spans 48 years in retail banking, operations and compliance, three of which were spent at Cornerstone. Roy said

it's been rewarding to help the bank meet the demands of a more tech savvy customer base.

"Opening an account used to take about 25 minutes. Now it takes three minutes," he said. "Cornerstone has done a great job of making sure we move along with what modern customers expect."

In his current role, Roy oversees the bank's governance and strategy for risk management and compliance and protects the investments of stakeholders. "I'm proud of my time at Cornerstone. I don't think there are too many banks out there that enjoy the reputa-



Michael Roy

tion we've built, and it's only going to get better," he said.

The Whitinsville native has a bachelor's degree from Bryant University in Rhode Island and an MBA from Anna Maria College in Paxton. He is looking forward to spending some well-deserved time

off, relaxing and traveling with family. "I'm going to miss the team I work with, a lot of great mentors and friends," said Roy. "But I've been working at this goal for a long time. Now that it's finally here, I'm really looking forward to it."

Our advertisers make this publication possible.

Let them know you saw their ad in the Barre Gazette



Baby's First Christmas 2024

Thank you to these advertisers for sponsoring BABY'S FIRST CHRISTMAS

Stars & Stripes Diner
32 Main St., Hubbardston • 978-820-1600
Season's Greetings
...and thanks for chilling with us this year! We've really enjoyed your visits, and we wish you a happy holiday season.
Check Out Our Facebook Page For Specials
Like Us On Facebook@hubbtowndiner

GRATEFUL
...for every little thing that makes this community so special.
Thank You & Merry Christmas!
QUABBIN AUTO REPAIR
8 Broad St., Barre • 978-355-6763

Hugs & Wishes
We hope your holiday season is filled with love and friendship, and we thank you for believing in us!
BROWN'S TRUCKING & EXCAVATING INC.
530 VALLEY ROAD, BARRE • 978-355-2745

Wishing You a Beary Merry Christmas
Thanks for your loyal support in 2023!
BRUCE COFFIN, C.P.A. INC.
926 Old Turnpike Road, Oakham • 508-882-3394
www.brucecoffin CPA.com

Merry Christmas to All
Here comes Santa Claus, and with him our best wishes for happiness, health and good fortune!
Thanks for pulling for us in 2023.
We appreciate your support!
PARKER HOUSE OF PIZZA
17 Pleasant Street, Downtown Gardner
(The Building With The Blue Awning)
978-632-9383

Magical & Merry
Hope this Christmas is a fairy tale come true!
T.S. MANN Memorials
A Division of T.S. Mann-Lester Co., Inc.
199 Petersham Road (Route 32), Athol
978-249-2206 • www.MannMemorials.com

Season's Greetings
from
PETER J. DURANT
State Senator
Worcester and Hampshire District
Peter.Durant@MASenate.gov
State House, Room 413A, Boston, MA 02133
617.722.1540
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
MASSACHUSETTS SENATE

Hope Your Holiday Season Is Extra-Extra Happy!

EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT! SANTA SIGHTED

Thanks to all of our readers and advertisers for supporting our publication and the future of local community journalism. We value our role in this community, and we're committed to keeping you current in 2025 and beyond with a focus on the local news and events that matter most to you.

We wish you an informed and fabulous new year!

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

BARRE GAZETTE
www.barregazette.turley.com

Public Safety

Barre Police Log

Sunday, Dec. 1
 5:25 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, South Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 9:11 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Main Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 10:03 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal Pain/Back Pain, Winter Street, Transported to Hospital
 10:17 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Summer Street, Officer Spoke to Party

Monday, Dec. 2
 9:38 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Peach Street, Transported to Hospital
 2:53 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
 8:25 p.m. Juvenile Runaway, South Street, Returned to Family/Guardian

Tuesday, Dec. 3
 10:12 a.m. Identity Theft, South Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 3:54 p.m. Juvenile Runaway, South Street, No Police Service Necessary
 4:07 p.m. Public Assist, Barre Police Headquarters, Public Assist

Wednesday, Dec. 4
 5:04 a.m. Emergency Medical

Service – Bleeding (Non-Traumatic), Varney Lane, Transported to Hospital
 9:49 a.m. Court Duty, Barre Police Headquarters, Court Duty
 11:32 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Old Stage Road, Message Delivered
 2:07 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hubbardston Road, Written Warning
 5:49 p.m. Harassment, Oak Street, Report Filed
 7:18 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Bleeding (Non-Traumatic), Varney Lane, Transported to Hospital

Thursday, Dec. 5
 1:11 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Vernon Avenue, Transported to Hospital
 1:36 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Celona Square, Vehicle Removed
 2:40 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Exchange Street, Vehicle Removed
 8:39 a.m. Road Condition Notification, Old Dana Road, Information Given
 10:31 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, South Street, Arrest(s) Made
 Arrest Tuckey, Leah Ann, 36, Gardner
 Charges Operating Under the Influence OR .08%, Marked Lanes Violation
 4:25 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle

Friday, Dec. 6
 12:09 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Main Street, Mutual Aid Assist
 2:53 p.m. Road Condition Notification, South Street, Referred to Other Agency

Saturday, Dec. 7
 9:14 a.m. Road Condition Notification, Allen Hill Road, Referred to Other Agency
 3:38 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Spooner Road, Vehicle Towed

Activity, Moulton Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 7:36 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Oakham Road, Transported to Hospital

SOUTH BARRE

Monday, Dec. 2
 3:57 p.m. Landlord Tenant/Neighbor Dispute, Oak Street, Officer Spoke to Party

Thursday, Dec. 5
 12:47 p.m. Property Damage, North Brookfield Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 3:50 p.m. Road Condition Notification, North Brookfield Road, Officer/Chief Advised

Friday, Dec. 6
 9:01 a.m. Tree Incidents (No Wires), Gardner Road, Referred to Other Agency
 1:46 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Diabetic, Gardner Road, Transported to Hospital

Saturday, Dec. 7
 1:39 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Madison Way, Transported to Hospital
 9:36 p.m. Erratic Operator, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 11:39 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Worcester Road, Report Filed

Rutland Police Log

Sunday, Dec. 1
 3:17 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Valley View Circle, Written Warning
 3:23 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Prouty Lane, Written Warning
 3:27 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Prouty Lane, Written Warning
 3:33 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Prouty Lane, Written Warning
 10:58 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Sawyer, Katherine Ronnie Rhianno, 23, Worcester
 Charges Uninsured Motor Vehicle, Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With
 12:14 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Bethany Drive, Officer/Chief Advised
 1:43 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Overdose/Poisoning, Glenwood Road, Transported to Hospital
 4:32 p.m. Vandalism, Prison Camp Road, Information Taken
 5:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 9:31 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Pommogussett Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Monday, Dec. 2
 7:58 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Gaffney Road, Transported to Hospital
 9:13 a.m. F-re – Motor Vehicle Collision, East County Road, Report Filed
 10:29 a.m. Fraud or Forgery, Glenwood Road, Report Filed
 2 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Maple Avenue, Transported to Hospital
 3:38 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Rolling Ridge Road, Transported to Hospital
 7:10 p.m. Threats, Brintnal Road, Report Filed

Tuesday, Dec. 3
 11:58 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Gaffney Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 12:25 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Central Tree Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 12:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 7:48 p.m. Erratic Operator, East County Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 7:54 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Campbell Street, Prisoner Bailed
 Arrest Rovezzi, Joseph Lawrence, 59, Rutland
 Charges Operating Under Influence

– Liquor OR .08%, Second Offense, Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle

Wednesday, Dec. 4
 7:38 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 9:38 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 12:55 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Old Turnpike Road, Transported to Hospital
 1:16 p.m. Harassment, Maple Spring Drive, Officer Spoke to Party
 3:15 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Barre Paxton Road, Report Filed
 7:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Citation Issued
 10:08 p.m. Road Condition Notification, Town Wide, Information Given

Thursday, Dec. 5
 12:44 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Trauma, Maple Avenue, Transported to Hospital
 1:10 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Beverly Hills Drive, Mutual Aid Transport
 5:25 a.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, East County Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 7:03 a.m. Motor Vehicle Hit and Run, Welch Avenue, Referred to Other Agency
 8:27 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Glenwood Road, Transported to Hospital
 9:10 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Wachusett Street, No Transport Required
 9:15 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Wachusett Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 9:35 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Emerald Road, No Action Required
 10:10 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
 11:19 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Citation Issued
 12:02 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Spencer Road, Transported to Hospital
 12:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East County Road, Written Warning
 12:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Arrest(s) Made
 Arrest Rios, Cruz A., 35, Worcester
 Charges Marijuana +2 oz., Possess Outside Residence, License Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With, Subsequent Offense, Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle
 12:35 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Maple Avenue, Message Delivered
 1:32 p.m. Complaint, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party

3:03 p.m. Animal – Wildlife Rescue, Pleasantdale Road, Area Search Negative
 7:45 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Holden, Mutual Aid Assist

Friday, Dec. 6
 7:54 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Kenwood Drive, Criminal Complaint
 Summons Daley, Zachariah Luke, 28
 Charges Uninsured Motor Vehicle, Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With, Unregistered Motor Vehicle
 8:31 a.m. Road Condition Notification, Stevens Way, Referred to Other Agency
 9:32 a.m. Erratic Vehicle, East County Road, Information Given
 1:39 p.m. Lockout (Home or Vehicle), Cheryl Ann Drive, Entry Gained
 2:05 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Citation Issued
 2:17 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 2:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 3:25 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Citation Issued
 11:15 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Citation Issued
 11:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning
 11:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

Saturday, Dec. 7
 12:08 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 12:16 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 12:20 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 12:29 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 12:49 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 12:59 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 10:47 a.m. Larceny or Theft, Crawford Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 1:06 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Maple Avenue, Negative Contact
 3:19 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Pleasantdale Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 4:34 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Ware Road, Vehicle Removed
 7:37 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Pleasantdale Road, Vehicle Towed
 9:36 p.m. Erratic Operator, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 11:40 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Main Street, Transported to Hospital

Hubbardston Police Log

Sunday, Dec. 1
 9:52 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Seizures, Morgan Road, Mutual Aid Transport

Monday, Dec. 2
 7:31 a.m. Road/Traffic Hazard, Underwood Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 9:12 a.m. Larceny or Theft, Worcester Road, Report Filed
 9:13 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, East County Road, Report Filed
 2:24 p.m. Erratic Operator, Brigham Street, Negative Contact
 2:59 p.m. School Zone Enforcement, Elm Street, Written Warning

Tuesday, Dec. 3
 2:39 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Worcester Road, Transported to Hospital

10:16 a.m. Fraud or Forgery, Old Boston Turnpike, Officer/Chief Advised
 12:18 p.m. Vandalism, Worcester Road, Report Filed
 5:42 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Madison Way, Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, Dec. 4
 11:50 a.m. Property Dispute or Exchange, Adams Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 1:37 p.m. Burglary, Adams Road, Investigated
 6:56 p.m. Erratic Operator, Worcester Road, Negative Contact
 6:59 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Worcester Road, Public Assist
 11:19 p.m. Road/Traffic Hazard, Gardner Road, Area Search Negative

Thursday, Dec. 5
 4:34 a.m. Emergency Medical

Service – Falls, Worcester Road, Public Assist
 10:12 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Old Boston Turnpike, Locate/Found

Friday, Dec. 6
 9:01 a.m. Tree Incidents (No Wires), Gardner Road, Referred to Other Agency
 1:46 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Diabetic, Gardner Road, Transported to Hospital

Saturday, Dec. 7
 1:39 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Madison Way, Transported to Hospital
 9:36 p.m. Erratic Operator, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 11:39 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Worcester Road, Report Filed

New Braintree Police Log

During the week of Dec. 2-9, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 10 building/property checks, 11 directed/area patrols, two radar assignments, three traffic controls, four emergency 911 calls, one assist other agency, five safety hazards, two motor vehicle accidents and one animal call in the town of New Braintree.

Wednesday, Dec. 4
 11 a.m. Safety Hazard, Gilbertville Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency

Thursday, Dec. 5
 7:16 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Gilbertville Road, Vehicle Towed
 7:27 a.m. Safety Hazard, Gilbertville Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
 7:40 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, West Brookfield Road, Investigated
 8:45 a.m. Safety Hazard, Wine Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency

Friday, Dec. 6
 4:32 a.m. Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital
 9:08 a.m. Safety Hazard, West

Brookfield Road, Dispatch Handled
 11:37 a.m. Assist Other Agency, West Brookfield Road, Dispatch Handled

Sunday, Dec. 8
 8:03 a.m. 911 Runaway, Barre Road, Report Taken

Monday, Dec. 9
 7:23 a.m. Safety Hazard, Dennis Whitney Road, Officer Handled

Oakham Police Log

Monday, Dec. 2
 7:58 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Gaffney Road, Transported to Hospital
 9:13 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, East County Road, Report Filed
 3:27 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old Turnpike Road, Written Warning
 3:37 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
 8:25 p.m. Juvenile Runaway, South Street, Returned to Family/Guardian

Tuesday, Dec. 3
 8:45 a.m. Court Duty, East Brookfield District Court, Administration/Test Complete

Wednesday, Dec. 4
 9:51 a.m. Wires Down, Maple Street, Referred to Other Agency

11:54 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
 12:17 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
 12:55 Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Old Turnpike Road, Transported to Hospital
 1:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Written Warning
 2:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old Turnpike Road, Citation Issued
 2:47 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old Turnpike Road, Written Warning
 2:59 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Written Warning
 3:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Citation Issued
 3:15 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Barre Paxton Road, Report Filed
 8:17 p.m. Harassment, Bullard Road, Report Filed

Thursday, Dec. 5
 12:02 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Spencer Road, Transported to Hospital
 6:14 p.m. Follow-Up Investigation, Bullard Road, Investigation (On-Going)

Friday, Dec. 6
 8:27 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Robinson Road, Information Taken
 9:06 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning
 11:15 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Written Warning
 2:41 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Written Warning

Saturday, Dec. 7
 11:12 a.m. Vandalism, Barre Road, Report Filed

Job Connection

HELPING YOU FIND HELP

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

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

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

4.75" x 4"
 \$150 for three papers
 \$40 for each additional paper

4.75" x 8"
 \$300 for three papers
 \$80 for each additional paper

9.681" x 8"
 \$600 for three papers
 \$160 for each additional paper

9.681" x 15.75"
 \$1,200 for three papers
 \$320 for each additional paper

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

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

Turley Publications, Inc.
 www.turley.com

Call Dan today 413.297.5886 or 413.283.8393



STAY ON TOP OF IT ALL!

Subscribe Today!

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

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of Dec. 2-9, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 53 building/property checks, 27 directed/area patrols, three radar assignments, eight traffic controls, 16 emergency 911 calls, six citizen assists, one assist other agency, one trespass, six safety hazards, three complaints, four motor vehicle accidents, three investigations, three motor vehicle investigations, one burglary, one property damage, one fraud, five animal calls and 13 motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, Dec. 2
 2:19 p.m. Assist Citizen, Simpson Road, Spoken To
 6:06 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, School Street, Services Rendered

Tuesday, Dec. 3
 3:52 a.m. Medical Emergency, Church Lane, Transported to Hospital
 10:05 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Sullivan Avenue, Services Rendered
 11:25 a.m. Complaint, Upper Church Street, Taken/Referred to Other Agency

Wednesday, Dec. 4
 8:03 a.m. 911 Elevator Call/Alarms, Old Petersham Road, Dispatch Handled
 9:02 a.m. 911 Elevator Call/Alarms, Old Petersham Road, Dispatch Handled
 9:14 a.m. Assist Citizen, Lower Road, Services Rendered
 3:44 p.m. Assist Citizen, Barre Road, Officer Handled
 4:30 p.m. Investigation, Main Street, Officer Handled
 6:39 p.m. Investigation, Church Street, Investigated
 6:39 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Petersham Road, Spoken To
 11:32 p.m. Safety Hazard, Barre Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency

Thursday, Dec. 5
 6:36 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Main Street, Vehicle Towed
 7:36 a.m. 911 Property Damage, Railroad Lane, Merge
 8:06 a.m. Safety Hazard, Barre Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
 8:07 a.m. Medical Emergency, Petersham Road, Transported to Hospital
 8:14 a.m. Safety Hazard, Greenwich Road, No Action Required
 8:56 a.m. 911 Misdeal, Main Street, Officer Handled
 9:06 a.m. Winter Parking Complaint, Barre Road, Citation Issued
 9:20 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Sessions Road, Report Taken
 11:27 a.m. Safety Hazard, Greenwich Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
 3:59 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Mellon Road, Vehicle Towed
 5:05 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Mellon Road, Officer Handled
 8:27 p.m. Fraud, Ruggles Street, Spoken To
 11:52 p.m. Medical Emergency, Parker Court, Transported to Hospital

Friday, Dec. 6
 10:32 a.m. Trespass, Upper Church Street, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
 11:56 a.m. Assist Citizen, Railroad Lane, Spoken To
 2:31 p.m. Assist Citizen, Unknown Location, No Action Required
 11:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Barre Road, Vehicle Towed

Saturday, Dec. 7
 4:35 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital
 7:35 a.m. Medical Emergency, Greenwich Road, Services Rendered

10:04 a.m. Assist Citizen, Greenwich Road, Officer Handled
 7:02 p.m. Burglary (Breaking and Entering), Lower Road, Services Rendered

Sunday, Dec. 8
 2:59 a.m. Safety Hazard, Townwide, Dispatch Handled
 4:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 4:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 4:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 5:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Written Warning
 5:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Written Warning
 5:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Written Warning
 5:47 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Written Warning
 6 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Written Warning
 6:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Written Warning
 6:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Written Warning
 7:10 p.m. Investigation, Lower Road, Spoken To
 9 p.m. 911 Animal Call, Hardwick Pond Road, Services Rendered
 10:06 p.m. Safety Hazard, Greenwich Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
 10:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Turkey Street, Officer Handled

Monday, Dec. 9
 7:25 a.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Main Street, Investigated
 7:27 a.m. Complaint, Main Street, Dispatch Handled

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

Public Notices

Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

Call us at 413.283.8393

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by **Eric Michael Allen and Angel Marie LeBlanc** to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Total Mortgage Services, LLC dated September 10, 2020, recorded at the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 63225, Page 27; said mortgage was then assigned to Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency by virtue of an assignment dated May 23, 2024, and recorded in Book 70578, Page 50; of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at PUBLIC AUCTION at 11:00 AM on **January 15, 2025**, on the mortgaged premises. This property has the address of **198 School Street North, Barre, MA 01005**. The entire mortgaged premises, all and singular, the premises as described in said mortgage:

(138.31) feet along a stone wall and land now or formerly of Pulliafico as depicted on said plan to a .6' m barrel set;

THENCE S. 89 degrees 43' 08" E. forty-three and 56/100 (43.56) feet along a stone wall and land now or formerly of Barbara J. Williams as depicted on said plan to a gun barrel set;

THENCE S. 21 degrees 28' 09" E. nineteen and 13/100 (19.13) feet along a stone wall as depicted on said plan to a drill hole set; THENCE S. 28 degrees 42' 01" W. one hundred fifty-nine and 82/100 (159.82) feet along land now or formerly of Steven W. Clark as depicted on said plan to a gun barrel set;

THENCE S. 74 degrees 47' 28" W. one hundred and 10/100 (100.10) feet along Lot A as depicted on said plan to a rebar set; Thence N. 45 degrees 42' 44" W. thirty-five and 20/100 (35.20) feet along Lot A as depicted on said plan to a gun barrel; THENCE N. 15 degrees 35' 33" E. thirty-nine and 67/100 (39.67) feet along Lot A as depicted on said plan to a railroad spike set;

THENCE N. 40 degrees 39' 02" W. seventy-three and 27/100 (73.27) feet along Lot A as depicted on said plan to a drill hole set;

THENCE N. 79 degrees 34' 13" W. eight and 76/100 (8.76) feet along Lot A as depicted on said plan to the point of beginning.

Containing 17,041 square feet, more or less, according to said plan.

Said premises are described together with an easement in perpetuity over Lot A to inspect, repair, and maintain the water lines and pipes which service Lot B. Said premises are described together with an easement to the grantee in perpetuity to pass and re-pass over the driveway, a portion of which is located on Lot A as depicted on the above-referenced plan.

For title see Deed recorded herewith.

Subject to and with the benefit of easements, reservation, restrictions, and taking of record, if any, insofar as the same are now in force and applicable. In the event of any typographical error set forth herein in the legal description of the premises,

es, the description as set forth and contained in the mortgage shall control by reference. Together with all the improvements now or hereafter erected on the property and all easements, rights, appurtenances, rents, royalties, mineral, oil and gas rights and profits, water rights and stock and all fixtures now or hereafter a part of the property. All replacements and additions shall also be covered by this sale.

Terms of Sale: Said premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and assessments, tax sales, tax titles and other municipal liens and water or sewer liens and State or County transfer fees, if any there are, and TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) in cashier's or certified check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of the sale as a deposit and the balance in cashier's or certified check will be due in thirty (30) days, at the offices of Doonan, Graves & Longoria, LLC ("DG&L"), time being of the essence. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

Dated: October 7, 2024
 Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency
 By its Attorney
 DOONAN, GRAVES & LONGORIA, LLC,
 100 Cummings Center,
 Suite 303C,
 Beverly, MA 01915
 (978) 921-2670
 www.dgandl.com 57682
 (ALLEN)
 12/19, 12/26/2024, 01/02/2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with Massachusetts General Law 105A, in order to satisfy past due rents and other expenses, the contents of Marlon Barrios Solano, Russell Seitz, Alyssa McAuliffe, and Shawn Stevens will be auctioned off at **Barre Self Storage, 50 Worcester Rd., Barre, MA at 9:00 AM on January 8, 2025**. Subject to all or partial cancellation for good cause.
 12/19, 12/26/2024



FOR SALE

ARIES DELUXE 28 SNOW-BLOWER. Electric start, drive fully rebuilt. \$600 or best offer. **413-426-8092.**

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

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

FIREWOOD

FIREWOOD
 Fresh cut & split \$200.00
 Seasoned cut & split \$300.00
 All hardwood.

Tree length available
 *Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & volumes guaranteed!! New England Forest Products **(413)477-0083**

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

WANTED

WANTED TO BUY

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

SEEKING: OLD COLLECTABLES.
 We are looking to pay cash for pipe holders, tobacco tins, advertising tins, beer trays, beer taps, beer signs, brass figures, etc. Please don't hesitate to reach out.
Teestreasures413@gmail.com
 Call or text:
413-374-7388 Marty,
 Located in Western Mass.

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

Read your local newspaper online at www.newspapers.turley.com

JUNK REMOVAL

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

SERVICES

A B Hauling and Removal Service

2*****A & B HOUSEHOLD REMOVAL SERVICE*****

Cellars, attics, garages cleaned, yard debris. Barns & sheds demolished. Swimming pools removed. Cheaper than dumpster fees and we do all the work. Lowest rates. Fully insured. **(413)283-6512, cell (413)222-8868.**

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

ELECTRICIAN

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

HEATING & AIR COND.

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

HOME IMPROVEMENT

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

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

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES
MONDAY AT NOON

SERVICES

MASONRY

STOP WET BASEMENTS

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

PAINTING

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

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

PLUMBING

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

ROOFING

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

RUBBISH REMOVAL

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

TREE WORK

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

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

SERVICES

TUTORING

TUTORING: Literacy, all ages. Math K-8, online, your home or library. Call **978-799-9096.** petedon151@live.com

STUMP GRINDING

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

AUTO

2009 NISSAN VERSA. 4-door, blue, all-wheel drive. Runs and looks new. One owner. 90,000 miles. \$6500. **413-466-4426.**

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

HELP WANTED

THE TOWN OF OAKHAM is seeking an experienced municipal **Treasurer/Collector.** 15 hours a week, negotiable pay based on experience. Please send resumes to admin@oakham-ma.gov.

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

TOWN OF WILBRAHAM ASST. ADULT SERVICES LIBRARIAN - P/T HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR I PUBLIC WORKS SKILLED WORKER

The Town of Wilbraham is looking to fill several vacancies. For application, and more information please visit www.wilbraham-ma.gov. Application deadlines vary. EOE

Post your job openings in our classifieds. WE GET RESULTS!

SERVICES

TUTORING

TUTORING: Literacy, all ages. Math K-8, online, your home or library. Call **978-799-9096.** petedon151@live.com

STUMP GRINDING

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

AUTO

2009 NISSAN VERSA. 4-door, blue, all-wheel drive. Runs and looks new. One owner. 90,000 miles. \$6500. **413-466-4426.**

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

HELP WANTED

THE TOWN OF OAKHAM is seeking an experienced municipal **Treasurer/Collector.** 15 hours a week, negotiable pay based on experience. Please send resumes to admin@oakham-ma.gov.

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

TOWN OF WILBRAHAM ASST. ADULT SERVICES LIBRARIAN - P/T HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR I PUBLIC WORKS SKILLED WORKER

The Town of Wilbraham is looking to fill several vacancies. For application, and more information please visit www.wilbraham-ma.gov. Application deadlines vary. EOE

Post your job openings in our classifieds. WE GET RESULTS!

HELP WANTED

TOWN OF WORTHINGTON Highway Position Opening

The Town of Worthington is soliciting letters of interest from qualified candidates to fill a part-time (six hours a week) **Administrative Assistant** position in the Town Highway Department.

Duties include providing customer service, handling department's incoming and outgoing correspondence, processing payroll and maintaining records.

The pay rate range for this position is \$18.16/hour to \$26.26/hour

A more in-depth job description can be found on the Town's website: www.worthington-ma.us

Questions will be answered by Highway Superintendent Devon Wolf - telephone number 413-685-5949. Please send letter of interest, resume and three (3) references with relevant contact information to: worthingtonhighway@gmail.com or to **Worthington Highway Department, PO Box 643, Worthington, MA, 01098.** This posting will remain pertinent until the position is filled.

The Town of Worthington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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

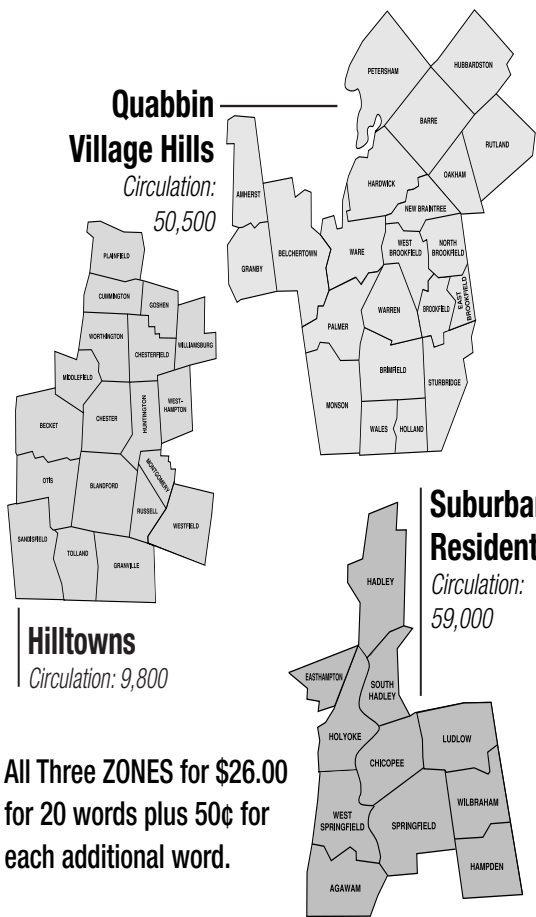
Advertise your **HOME IMPROVEMENT SERVICES** in our classifieds. **WE GET RESULTS!** Call **413-283-8393**



FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 DEADLINES: **MONDAY AT NOON**
 or call: 413-283-8393

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	Base Price \$26.50	Base Price \$27.00	Base Price \$27.50
22	Base Price \$28.00	Base Price \$28.50	Base Price \$29.00
23	Base Price \$29.00	Base Price \$29.50	Base Price \$30.00
24	Base Price \$30.00	Base Price \$30.50	Base Price \$31.00
25	Base Price \$31.00	Base Price \$31.50	Base Price \$32.00
26	Base Price \$32.00	Base Price \$32.50	Base Price \$33.00
27	Base Price \$33.00	Base Price \$33.50	Base Price \$34.00
28	Base Price \$34.00	Base Price \$34.50	Base Price \$35.00
29	Base Price \$35.00	Base Price \$35.50	Base Price \$36.00
30	Base Price \$36.00	Base Price \$36.50	Base Price \$37.00
31	Base Price \$37.00	Base Price \$37.50	Base Price \$38.00
32	Base Price \$38.00	Base Price \$38.50	Base Price \$39.00
33	Base Price \$39.00	Base Price \$39.50	Base Price \$40.00
34	Base Price \$40.00	Base Price \$40.50	Base Price \$41.00
35	Base Price \$41.00	Base Price \$41.50	Base Price \$42.00
36	Base Price \$42.00	Base Price \$42.50	Base Price \$43.00
37	Base Price \$43.00	Base Price \$43.50	Base Price \$44.00
38	Base Price \$44.00	Base Price \$44.50	Base Price \$45.00
39	Base Price \$45.00	Base Price \$45.50	Base Price \$46.00
40	Base Price \$46.00	Base Price \$46.50	Base Price \$47.00



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

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

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

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

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

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

Early Deadlines for all LEGAL NOTICES...

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

Happy Holidays!

Happy New Year!

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

Your BUYLINE CONNECTION

GIANT TOY CLEARANCE!

OPEN DEC. 23RD 8AM-9PM

DEC. 24TH 8AM-8PM

HUGE BIKE SALE BLOWOUT!

GIANT TOY CLEARANCE!!!

MATTRESS SALE!!!!

SEE AD INSIDE!!!!

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

POST ROAD REALTY
 BUYING OR SELLING...
 WE HAVE THE PERFECT FIT FOR YOU!
 www.PostRoadRealty.com
NEW LISTING - \$624,900
50 NUMBER 6 SCHOOLHOUSE RD., CHARLTON
 Discover the ultimate blend of modern luxury and timeless charm in this stunning new construction split-level residence that is beautifully set back from the road. As you step inside, you'll be greeted by a spacious open-concept main level, complete with a fully equipped kitchen boasting upgraded granite countertops and a large island perfect for entertaining or casual dining. The main bedroom offers a peaceful retreat, featuring a full bath with a double vanity and a walk-in tiled shower. The lower level reveals a generous bonus room, showcasing a custom-made wet bar, TV, and ample space for a wine fridge. Additional features include a generator outlet with lockout. Don't miss your chance to own this incredible property - schedule a viewing appointment today.
Cassie Paolucci
774-200-3523
 Follow us on Facebook

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

The Optical Shop
 at Kelly & Velazquez Eye Center
 "The Finest Quality at Reasonable Prices"
The Most Advanced Lens Designs Available
 Frames to Fit Any Budget
 Large Selection of Designer Frames For All Ages
SUNGLASSES
 Maui Jim • Ray Ban
 1504 N. Main St., Palmer, MA 413-283-3511
 362 Sewall St., Ludlow, MA 413-589-1806
 Expert guidance in selecting the right frame with the best fit & lenses for every lifestyle.

Looking for that Perfect Home to Buy or Sell?
 Call me - your local real estate expert.
 Serving Hampshire, Hampden, Worcester counties and beyond!
CENTURY 21 Century 21 North East
 North East 180 West St., Ware
 Ready to Buy or Sell? Call Me!
 1-978-434-1990

Feel right at home.
Merry Christmas & HAPPY NEW YEAR!
 Find the home made for you.
 Let us work with you to find your dream home.
Lisa Caron Real Estate
 42 W. Main Street, PO Box 447 Brookfield, MA 01506
 Cell : 508-341-8299
 Search Homes Instantly: http://www.lisacaron.com

WHERE EVERYONE GOES FOR THEIR PIECE OF THE EARTH!
WINTER IS COMING!
 BULK ROAD SALT • BULK TREATED SALT
 WASHED WINTER ROAD SAND • SAND/SALT MIX
STOCK UP NOW!
 Construction Stone • Landscaping Stone
 Title V Septic Sand • Presby Sand • Concrete Sand
 Stone Dust • Crushed Gravel • Cold Patch
Homeowner Friendly • No Minimums
PICK-UP OR CALL TO SCHEDULE YOUR DELIVERY TODAY!
Bond
 Sand, Gravel & Asphalt
 www.bondsandandgravel.com
 98 North Spencer Road, Route 31N, Spencer, MA
 508-885-6100
 508-885-2480

Every Wednesday
SIP & KNIT
 12pm-2pm
 Free
Every Friday
TOO GOOD TO TOSS
 8am-9am
 Free baked goodies from the week while supplies last!
 Limits may apply.
Future Events
 Contact us to plan your next private event.
508-637-1577
 23 Summer Street
 North Brookfield MA 01535
 COFFEE
 GLUTEN FREE OPTIONS
 BREAKFAST SANDWICHES
 SOUPS
 COOKIES
 MUFFINS
 PASTRIES
Bring in entire ad for one FREE Beverage with purchase of a baked good. Tues.-Thurs. 8am-10am
 508-637-1577
 Tues.-Sat. 8am-2pm
 Sun. 9am-2pm

Adventure tours of Warren
 Share the Adventure with us!
Happy Holidays!
 March 15.....8-Night Bahamas Cruise..... from \$1499
 May 237-Night Bermuda Cruise..... from \$1699
 June 10-12....Hampton Beach Getaway \$529
 Sept 12-26....Portugal & The Azores \$6549
Share the Adventure with us soon!
 For further information call Randall at (413) 436-5357 or email adventuretours@att.net or go to www.adventuretoursofwarren.com

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays from all of us at Farmer Matt's
 Wishing you and your loved ones a season full of joy, warmth, and delicious meals.
 Make the most of this holiday season by signing up for our weekly email to receive **exclusive email-only offers** and updates.
FREE PACKAGE OF GROUND BEEF when you sign up by the end of the year.
 Visit FarmerMatt.com to join today.
 860 West Brookfield Rd.
 New Braintree, MA

Farmer Matt
 FARM-FRESH + LOCAL
 860 West Brookfield Rd., New Braintree, MA
 FarmerMatt.com | (508) 980-7085
Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays from all of us at Farmer Matt's
 Wishing you and your loved ones a season full of joy, warmth, and delicious meals.
 Make the most of this holiday season by signing up for our weekly email to receive **exclusive email-only offers** and updates.
FREE PACKAGE OF FARMER MATT'S GROUND BEEF when you sign up by the end of the year.
 Visit FarmerMatt.com to join today.