

BARRE GAZETTE

USPS 044560

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

December 25, 2025 | Vol. 191, No. 38 | \$1.00

www.barregazette.turley.com

Barre 2025 Year in review

By Ellenor Downer
Editor
edowner@turley.com

BARRE – With the new year only a week away, it is time to reflect back on 2025

JANUARY

At the end of 2024, the Select Board meet on Dec. 30 to make sure all American Rescue Plan Act funds would be spent. Select Board Chairman Maureen Marshall said they did not want to send any ARPA

money back to the federal government. All ARPA funds must be expended or have projects under contract to be completed in 2025.

About 20 people attended the Monday, Jan. 6 Barre Select Board meeting on the Barre Reservoir dam. Last year the stat determined the dam at the reservoir, located on Williamsville Road and on the Prince River, to be a hazard. The state was unable to find out the present owners. The previous owners

were all deceased and no descendants were known. By default, the land would return to the town. The state had earmarked funds to mitigate the hazard by either removing the dam entirely and reverting back to the original state of the Prince River or replace the dam at its present level. The dam was lowered from its original level in 1987.

On Saturday, Jan. 11 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. the Barre Winter Market located in the Barre Town Hall, 2



File photos

Carly and Jaxon make their predator and prey cups during the Hands on Nature presentation of Predators held at the Woods Memorial Library.

Exchange St., Barre took place. Other dates are Saturday, Feb. 8; Saturday, March 8 and Saturday, April 12, all from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. This was the third year of the market. Local crafters and farmers sell their crafts and products.

The next Barre Food Pantry distribution occurred on Thursday, Jan. 16 from 5:30-7 p.m. In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and clients Jan.16 will again be "drive-through" style distributions. Clients lined up in their vehicles on Park Street and proceeded into the right hand (east) entrance driveway of the Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St. They remained in their cars. They drove up and be

checked in by a volunteer, then continued up to the church building where their groceries were put into the trunk or wayback of their vehicle by volunteers at multiple stations.

Matthew Erickson, Class of 2025 was the 2025 Superintendent Scholar Recipient for Quabbin Regional High School. In selecting him for this recognition what stood out the most was not just his academics or commitment to learning, leadership and community, but rather his character.

FEBRUARY

At the Monday, Feb. 3 Barre Select Board meeting, Town Administrator Tammy Martin said she was applying for a Community Development Block Grant through the United States

Department of Housing and Development. She said the previous Block Grant the town received was shared with Leicester. This grant was for Barre only and focused on South Barre. Town Administrator Martin said an income survey was part of the grant requirement.

Also at the Feb. 3 Select Board meeting, they approved the placing of a non-binding ballot question on the Monday, April 7 town election regarding the dam at the Old Barre Reservoir as approved by Town Counsel and the Town Clerk. The question asks the town to direct the Select Board to issue an opinion to Massachusetts Dam Safety the town

See BARRE YIR, page 6

Barre approves battery energy bylaw

By Ellenor Downer
Editor
edowner@turley.com

BARRE – At the start of the Special Town Meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 16, Sam Lipson of West Street, requested Article 5 be advanced to the first article of business.

Article 5, a bylaw amendment to the code of the town of Barre zoning, if approved would include a new section 140:10-2 Battery Energy Storage. Voters approved the request.

Planning Board Chairman Edward Kelley made the motion. During discussion, Theresa Kane of Williamsville Road said the Planning Board put a lot of work into this bylaw. She said she was opposed to any Battery Energy Storage System in town and supported the bylaw amendment. She also said those systems were not "green energy."

Moderator Joshua Smith asked the Planning Board if they held a public hearing on the BESS amendment, if the hearing was posted within the required 14 days and how they voted. Planning Board Chairman Kelley said a hearing was held, it was posted within the time frame

See BYLAW APPROVED, page 10



St. Cleophas Knights of Columbus members and Ashley Cranston, Ruggles Lane Elementary School Assistant Principal are shown from left, Paul Cranston, Ashley Cranston, Charlie Payne and Herm Eck.

Haston Library offered Santa's Workshop for children

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Santa Claus needed some assistance this holiday season and called the Haston Free Public Library.

The craft room in the children's library was converted into Santa's Workshop, featuring various activities for kids to create memorable gifts. Youth Services Librarian Brianna Lamb said one long-time patron of the library generously donated all these items for the workshop.

This was the first time the library hosted Santa's Workshop and was avail-



The wrapping and card station was part of Santa's Workshop inside the children's craft room at the Haston Free Public Library.

able for use over the course of several days during regular library hours. The stations

available in Santa's Workshop consist of tote bags, trinket boxes, photo frames, pottery station, jewelry, DIY ornaments, sewing, and wrapping and card station.

Lamb described Santa's Workshop as a "cute idea" that would give kids creative and imaginative ideas as they make their own gifts. Santa's Workshop first opened at the library on Dec. 15 and ran until Saturday, Dec. 20 during regular library hours.

Lamb said the kids who have dropped in to craft have enjoyed their time at the library and have made exceptional handmade gifts.

Submitted photo

Obsidia Debettencourt used the beads to embellish the trinket box's latch.



Submitted photo

The Christmas tree is a long standing Christmas tradition.

German Christmas traditions celebrated by many

By Ellenor Downer
Editor
edowner@turley.com

One did not have to look beyond the Christmas tree to realize the influence of German Christmas traditions.

As Germans migrated to other countries, they brought the tradition of the Tannenbaum or Christmas tree with them with its display of lights and ornaments. When supplies of evergreen trees diminished

due to over cutting, artificial trees made of goose feathers took hold in the 1890s. In the 1930s, a toilet brush company, manufactured artificial trees from brush bristle inventory. Today, these "fake" trees resemble the real thing without the fir tree fragrance.

Christmas tree The Christmas tree takes center stage during holiday celebrations in Germany, evoking a profound sense of nostalgia and festivity. Within this cultural prac-

tice, families come together to partake in the ritual of embellishing the tree with ornaments, garlands and more. This act not only beautifies the tree, but strengthens familial bonds. Children as well as adult family members love to decorate the Christmas

See GERMAN TRADITIONS, page 12



News of the Towns



ROUND TOWN

by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

Recreation Commission seeks applications

The Barre Recreation Commission is now accepting applications for fiscal year 2026 beginning now through Saturday, Jan. 31, 2026. The BRC sponsors several youth and adult programs with financial support, including baseball/softball, football, basketball, soccer, learn-to-swim, yoga, biking, and after-school enrichment activities and community events. Eligibility criteria are that the proposed programs provide a recreational or cultural outlet/opportunity for residents of Barre. Applicants are requested to contact the BRC (c/o Mary Ann Gendron) for an application form as follows: call 978-355-2504 extension 8 or e-mail barreboards@townofbarre.com Forms may be submitted in paper or electronic format and must be post marked by Jan. 31, 2026. They should mail hardcopies to Barre Recreation Commission, 40 West St, Suite 5, Barre, MA 01005.

Circle of Song

Circle of Song is a multi-generational chorus. Anyone interested in joining Circle of Song in January may email director, Julie Rawson at julie@mhof.net or call 978-257-1192 for more information.

Woods Memorial Library

Saturday story time will be held at the Woods Memorial Library, 19 Pleasant St. with Ms. Katie on Saturday, Dec. 27 from 10:30-11:30 a.m. in the multi-purpose room. This program is for preschool and school age children. Activities include a story, craft time.

Tuesday, Dec. 30 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. the adult book club will meet in Allen Hall at the woods Memorial Library.

Tiny tots and tales will take place Wednesday, Dec. 31 from 10:30-11 a.m. in the multi-purpose room for babies and toddlers. The library will close early on Wednesday, Dec. 31 at 3 p.m. to observe New Year's Eve. The library will also be closed on Thursday, Jan. 1, 2026. Adult craft circle will meet Tuesday, Jan. 6 from 3-4:30 p.m. in the Carrol-Healey Room. People may bring their crochet, knitting, needlepoint, sketchbook or and craft project to work on while enjoying the company of other crafters.

EQLT hosts 'Space Night' on Dec. 26

HARDWICK – The East Quabbin Land Trust's Learning Exchange will present "Space Night" at the office, 120 Ridge Road, with PhD candidates Maura Shea and Aman Kar on Friday, Dec. 26 from 6-8 p.m.

There will be stargazing and telescopes, depending on the cloud cover. Space enthusiasts of all ages and knowledge levels are encouraged to attend

RSVP is appreciated by not required by emailing eshea@eqlt.org.

EQLT hosts First Day walk on Jan. 1

WARE – The East Quabbin Land Trust will kickoff the New Year with a First Day walk on the Mass Central Rail Trail, Thursday, Jan. 1 at noon.

The walk will be held on the Church Street segment of the Mass Central Rail Trail in Ware. Well-behaved dogs on leash are welcomed.

For more information, visit eqlt.org or follow East Quabbin Land Trust on social media.



Sheriff Evangelidis stands with the 12 graduates of the WCSO B.R.T.A. #64 on Friday, Dec. 5

Sheriff Evangelidis administers oath to 12 graduates on Dec. 5

PAXTON – On Friday, Dec. 5, Worcester County Sheriff Law Evangelidis administered the Correctional Officers Oath to the 12 graduates of the Worcester County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) 64th Basic Recruit Training Academy (B.R.T.A.) in the Zecco Auditorium at Anna Maria College.

Among the graduates was Officer Joshua Barger of Rutland. The Worcester County Sheriff's Office is dedicated to protecting the residents of Worcester County and building a workforce that reflects the diversity of the communities it serves. The graduates of B.R.T.A. #64 form a capable group of new correctional officers, bringing unique skills and experiences to the department. This class comes from eight Massachusetts towns, as well as towns in Rhode Island and Connecticut and includes four individuals with current or prior service in the U.S. Armed Forces.

The Sheriff's Office Academy offers a paid, full-time 13-week training program designed to prepare recruits for maintaining the care, custody and control of inmates at the Worcester County Jail and House of Correction. Training combines classroom instruction with hands-on practice.

Recruits receive instruction in key areas, including de-es-



The WCSO Basic Recruit Training Academy #64 recruits sit at attention as they prepare for their academy graduation.

calation, the duty to intervene, fire safety, defensive tactics and first responder procedures, along with significant training on suicide prevention, mental health and substance abuse awareness.

Training also includes daily physical fitness, weekly academic assessments and guest instruction from various WCSO staff.

"After 13 demanding weeks, I am proud to present some of the best and brightest in corrections," said Worcester County Sheriff Law Evangelidis. "Our training department is among the strongest in the state and these graduates are ready to serve as full-time correctional officers and support our mis-



Officer Joshua Barger

sion. Congratulations to them as they begin their careers."

Applicants must complete a written exam, physical fitness test, background check and psychological screening. The Sheriff has also implemented hiring policies to ensure fairness including banning political recommendation letters and giving preference to those, who have served in the military.

The Worcester County Sheriff's Office is now accepting applications for its 65th Basic Recruit Training Academy, beginning in spring 2026. For more information, people may visit www.WorcesterCountySheriff.com/Careers/Correctional-Officer-Academy/.



OAKHAM

by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

OHA lottery starts Jan. 6

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

Fobes Memorial Library

The Fobes Memorial Library, 4 Maple St., hosts read and play every Wednesday from 10:20-11:30 a.m. Next dates are Dec. 31, Jan. 7, Jan. 14, Jan 21 and Jan. 28. No registration is required. The program is for birth to age 5. Participants will enjoy rhymes, songs, an activity and play time. It is funded by the Friends of the Fobes Memory Library, Inc.

The library will hold a homeschool do it yourself on Thursday, Jan. 15 from 11 a.m.-noon. They will make a Morse Code key chain. Registration is required.

COA news

Ongoing activities include: Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-noon puzzling. Monday through Thursday: 9.00am Walking Group meets at Senior Center Tuesday through Thursdays at 11a.m. For walking groups, people may ask to be added to the text MSG by calling the Senior Center and leaving their cell phone number.

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

Hot lunches are offered at the Senior Center dining area Monday through Thursday at 11.30 a.m. No meal will be served Christmas Day Thursday, Dec. 25 or Thursday, Jan. 1, 2026. Reservations are needed at least two days in advance and can be made through the Congregate Meal Coordinator from 9 a.m.-12.15p.m. by calling 508-882-4072.

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

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. 29. 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 – Macaroni and cheese, stewed tomatoes, green beans, cookies, Italian bread

TUESDAY – Meatballs with onion gravy, bowtie pasta, Scandinavian vegetables, pineapple, Italian bread

WEDNESDAY – Marinated pork loin, herbed potatoes, glazed carrots, vanilla mousse, marble rye bread

THURSDAY – New Years Day No meal served.

FRIDAY – Garlic brown sugar chicken, lemon seasoned potatoes, roasted California vegetables, fresh fruit, whole wheat bread

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

Corrections policy

The Barre Gazette will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 2. To request a correction, send information to Editor Ellenor Downer at edowner@turley.com or call 413-283-8393. Corrections may also be requested in writing at Barre Gazette, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

Editorial deadline reminder

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

www.turley.com

McNeely Tree Service

Insured • References

- Hazardous Tree Removal
- Bobcat Work
- Lot Clearing
- Emergency Services
- Firewood \$265/cord
- 101 ft Aerial Lift Rental POR
- Credit Cards, Cash & Venmo Accepted
- 100% Workers Compensation



H: 508-867-6119 • C: 978-888-1693

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.



THE CENTERED PLACE

SINCE 1988

Yoga & Meditation Classes

Offering both onsite and online classes

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



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

YOGA FOR EVERY BODY

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

News of the Towns

PUBLIC MEETINGS

BARRE

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

HARDWICK

Planning Board – Dec. 30 and Jan. 2026. 13 at 6:30 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Jan. 7 at 12:30 p.m.
 Master Plan Steering Committee – Jan. 8 at 6:30 p.m.
 Capital Planning Committee – Jan. 12 at 3:30 p.m. and March 16 at 3 p.m.
 Gilbertville Public Library – Jan. 14 at 3 p.m.
 Hardwick New Braintree Cultural Council – Jan. 14 at 6:30 p.m.
 Gilbertville Water District – Jan. 20 at 5:30 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – Jan. 21 at 6:30 p.m.
 Paige Library Trustee – Feb. 5 at 7 p.m.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

Water/Sewer Billing Information Session – Jan. 7, 2026 at 6 p.m.

OAKHAM

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

PETERSHAM

Open Space and Recreation Committee – Jan. 6, 2026 at 6 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – Jan. 6, at 7 p.m.
 Council on Aging – Jan. 12 at 10:30 a.m.
 Cemetery Commission – Jan. 13 at 10 a.m.
 Petersham Historic District – Jn. 15 at 6 p.m.
 Board of Assessors – Jan. 30.2026 at 9 a.m.

North Brookfield holds First Night Celebration

NORTH BROOKFIELD – North Brookfield Cultural Council and North Brookfield Parks and Recreation department are hosting the town's second annual First Night Celebration.

Events throughout town will take place on Wednesday, Dec. 31, starting at noon. The town's Waste Water Treatment plant, located at 59 East Brookfield Road, will be open for tours from noon-2 p.m. Starting at 2 p.m. and continuing until 4 p.m., the town will host events at the following venues: First Congregational Church - Music by Professor Sorghum's Good Time Music Review, local artist's will show their work. Christ Memorial Church - Creche Display, meditation in sanctuary. Pizza, snacks, games downstairs.

Herard Estates Common Room - live music, poetry reading, games, snacks. Historical Museum - open, scavenger hunt maps. Bike House Brewery - welcoming guests, snacks, games for all ages. Pets welcome.

Library - children's crafts, face painting, meet and greet with local author Jack McClintock, Colonial themed snacks, games. Senior Center, Forest Street: music by Ravenwood; hot chocolate served.

Town Hall - open, welcoming guests. DJ Tabby Leblanc - playing music at the Little Park.

Businesses in town will be open and ready to welcome guests: Shaman's Gift Shop, Jars Café, Subway, Angel Nails and Bliss Nails, Stone Stones Gift Shop, NB Liquor Store, NB Smoke shop, Jim's Pizza and NB Pizza Palace.

The day will end with a bonfire on the town's common, starting at 4 p.m. and ending at 7 p.m. The Fire Department will assist to make sure the bonfire stays safe.

People will enjoy music by DJ Tabby Leblanc, and food by Long Branch Hot Dogs and Jars Café. Complete scavenger hunt maps can be turned in for a chance to win a prize.



Submitted photos

Members of the Garner High School and Quabbin Regional High School football teams volunteered their time to make fire pits for Camp Putnam in New Braintree on Nov. 26.

Football teams help Camp Putnam

BARRE – The senior football players from Gardner High and Quabbin Regional continued the tradition of community service on their day off on Wednesday, Nov. 26 leading up to the Thanksgiving game.

They helped to build four fire pits for Camp Putnam in New Braintree. Tradition is for the home team athletic director to come up with a project for the seniors to complete in a couple of hours. This year's project was the fire pits.

Duncan Stewart of Camp Putnam was a great host and supervisor. He drove his tractor from each of the four locations to drop stone into the pits once the boys completed them. In addition to Stewart, Quabbin alum



The Quabbin Regional High School football team posed for a photo before their game under the lights against Gardner High School on Wednesday, Nov. 26 at Quabbin.

Corey Simpson was also there to help supervise the fire pit construction.

Special thanks to both booster clubs for sponsoring the luncheon afterwards

at Cafe on the Common in Barre. Quabbin defeated Gardner on Thanksgiving Eve 35-14, feasting on turkey provided by the boosters after the game.

Brookfields Lions Club to hold Ice Fishing Derby

BROOKFIELD – The Brookfields Lions Club will host its 37th Annual Ice Fishing Derby on Saturday, Jan. 31, 2026, at Quaboag Pond in Brookfield.

The event remains the largest single-day ice fishing derby in Massachusetts, attracting anglers and families from across the region.

A \$20 entry ticket qualifies participants for more than \$15,000 in cash prizes, including the \$5,000 Grand Prize, \$5,640 in "every five minutes" cash drawings, and \$4,375 in fish categories. Every ticket holder is automatically entered into the major cash drawings whether they choose to fish or not.

"This derby is one of the Lions' most important fundraisers - a major undertaking that requires hundreds of volunteer hours and a significant financial commitment each year - and every dollar raised directly supports the Brookfields Lions Club's charitable work and community initiatives throughout the region," according to club president Bill Cass.

Derby headquarters will be located at the Quaboag Pond boat ramp in Brookfield. Weigh-ins will take place from 7 a.m. until the derby closes at 3:30 p.m., with the children's division ending at 2 p.m. and youth prizes awarded at 2:30 p.m. The \$5,000 cash drawing for all ticket holders will take place at 4 p.m., and

a complete announcement of all derby winners will air on The Valley's Classic Hits 97.7 FM and 1250 AM (WARE Radio) at 5 p.m.

In the event that no safe ice exists by Thursday, Jan. 29, 2026, the derby itself will be cancelled, and all drawings will be held at the North Brookfield Legion Post 41, located below Subway in North Brookfield. No fish prizes will be awarded, but all tickets will still be valid for the five-minute cash drawings and the \$5,000 Grand Prize drawing.

As is customary for this derby, there is a "one fish per category per ticket" rule that helps ensure broader distribution of prizes and encourages a fair, community-minded competition. All qualifying fish must be caught within the Central Wildlife District.

Children up to age 12 compete separately using state minimum lengths, while young anglers who meet the adult minimum lengths may also qualify for the main leaderboard.

Tickets for the derby are available from any Brookfields Lions Club member, and at many long-time partner locations including: K&S Bait Shop (Barre), Central Package (Brookfield), R&R Sport Shop (Belchertown), 308 Lakeside Restaurant (East Brookfield), Fred's Variety & Package Store (Fiskdale),

Granby Bait Shop (Granby), Ben's Bait (Leicester), Red Ridge Bait & Tackle (Ludlow), Still Hart's (North Brookfield), Nick's Sport Shop (Palmer), Glenda's and River Town Bait Shop (Warren), Mathieson Bait Shop (West Brookfield).

Following the derby, all winners will be posted at www.brookfieldslionsclub.org, and at all ticket vendor locations.

For additional information, please contact the Brookfields Lions Club at brookfieldslionsclub@gmail.com, or visit the Club's Facebook page at facebook.com/BrookfieldsLionsClub.

As the world's largest, youngest and most active service organization, the mission of Lions Clubs International is to empower volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace, and promote international understanding. Members of the Brookfields Lions Club are dedicated to service and support in the communities of Brookfield, East Brookfield, North Brookfield, West Brookfield and New Braintree.

HUBBARDSTON

by Ellenor Downer
 edowner@turley.com

Town offices list holiday closures

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

Fuel Assistance

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

Library Book Club

The Adult Book club meets on Monday, Dec. 29 at the Hubbardston Public Library, 7 Main St. December's book selection is "Good Omens" by Terry Pratchett and Neil Gaiman. People may obtain a copy at the front desk.

Senior Center Events

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

Town hosts 'Top Dog' contest to improve pound

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The Town Clerk, Animal Control Officer and Police Department are holding a "Top Dog" contest to gather necessary supplies and materials to improve the town pound.

Items needed include lumber for interior walls, metal roofing for outdoor runs, unopened/unexpired dog food, soft dog treats, pill pockets, canned chicken/tuna/salmon, bleach/disinfecting cleaners, paper towels, laundry detergent, dryer sheets, dish soap, heavy-duty trash bags, dog waste bags, scrub brushes/mops/buckets, towels and blankets (new, clean or gently used), T-shirts and other fabric scraps for bedding, collars and leashes, harnesses, food and water bowls, grooming supplies, durable toys, pet-safe shampoo and deodorizer, potty pads and more.

Monetary donations or gift cards will also be accepted.

The fundraiser will be held until Dec. 31 at the Town Clerk's office.

People can bring a donated item from the above list to be entered into the raffle. Every donation will qualify for one ticket entry into the raffle to win dog tag number 1. The raffle will also include kennel tag number 1 (for kennels with five dogs or more).

Winners of the contest will be announced on Jan. 2, 2026.

For more information, call the Town Clerk at 508-867-0203 or email townclerk@northbrookfield.net.

Junk & Bulk Trash Removal



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

CHECK OUT ALL THE

Turley

Publications

www.turley.com

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.**



FIVE ISLANDS

Georgetown, Maine
 2 Bedrooms, 2 Bathroom
 Washer/Dryer, Fully Equipped

- Walk to Five Islands Wharf and Ledgewood Preserve Beach
- Close to Reid State Park

\$1200/week

207-607-9333



Opinion

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor

Why won't Social Security give me my benefits?

Dear Rusty:
I called the Social Security office, as well as went with my husband when he went to collect his Social Security. Because I work full-time at about \$800/week, they said I could not file for my Social Security. Yet I seem to read articles all the time about people doing so.

My husband just filed for his benefits and is now collecting them. Out of the two of us, his Social Security will be larger. Please advise me.

Signed: Wanting my Benefits

Dear Wanting my Benefits:

If you have not yet reached your SS Full Retirement Age and you are working full time, you are likely being affected by Social Security's Annual Earnings Test, which limits how much you can earn while collecting Social Security prior to your FRA. Your FRA is somewhere between 66 and 67, depending on when you were born. The annual earnings limit for those collecting SS benefits prior to FRA in 2025 is \$23,400 (changes yearly) and, if that is exceeded, Social Security will take away benefits equal to \$1 for every \$2 you are over the limit. If you applied for your benefits and are still working, and were denied, it's likely because Social Security determined that your current annual earnings considerably exceed the earnings limit and, thus, you cannot collect benefits. That's because the penalty for exceeding the limit would be more than your benefit amount.

FYI, the earnings limit will go away when you reach your full retirement age so, after FRA, you can claim your benefits even if you are still working. Or if you stop working before your FRA you can collect your SS benefits at that time.

None of this means you are losing money, because your monthly SS payment will continue to grow until you later claim (e.g., after you stop working, or only

work part-time), or until you reach 70 years of age. When you later claim, your monthly benefit will be higher and, depending on your longevity, you may recover what you didn't get now because you are working. And that includes both your own SS retirement benefit and any spousal boost you may be entitled to from your husband.

So, my suggestion is this: as long as you are working full time and exceeding Social Security's annual earnings limit, continue to wait to claim your Social Security. Then, when you reach your full retirement age – again, between 66 and 67, depending on the year you were born or if you stop working before that, go ahead and apply for Social Security again.

At that time, your application will be approved, and you will be awarded your own earned SS retirement amount plus any additional amount you may be due as your husband's spouse. To be entitled to a spousal boost from your husband, your own FRA entitlement must be less than 50% of your husband's FRA entitlement. But the amount you get will be reduced if you claim before your full retirement age.

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



In Past Pages

Look Back Gingerbread Houses – 1995



Making gingerbread houses, from left, are Danielle dela Gorgendiere, Amanda Bailey, Wendy Sandman, and her great-grandmother Justine Girouard, age 98, and Valentine Landya.

5 years ago (Dec. 31, 2020)

The School Committee unanimously approved retiring the district's Indian mascot and team name at its meeting on Dec. 21.

School Superintendent Richard Lind discussed the process the School Committee has gone through since receiving communication over the summer asking the district to consider changing its mascot, the Indian. He said they had a panel of indigenous speakers present an information session in November and reached out to the community for feedback. Lind said looked over all the information available and decided to ask the School Committee that they vote "to retire the current Indian nickname and logo. I understand that this is an emotional issue for a lot of people and some will be disappointed and some will be happy, but my recommendation lies in the fact that our role, my role, as an

educator is to create an environment that is safe for all members of our community, and it is clear from the

research and the feedback from our Native American panel that indicates that these nicknames, logos and mascots don't create a safe environment."

"We heard the bells on Christmas Eve, their old, familiar carols play..." In this case, it was the organ playing at the Tri-Parish Community Church in Hardwick on Christmas Eve. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, singing aloud has been banned; but through the talents of organist, Deborah Kent, those carols resounded both inside and outside the church. The organ has been quiet for quite some time with no one to play it. The service led by Jennifer Pollard was much appreciated in these trying times.

The 10 a.m. service on Sunday, Jan. 3, 2021 will begin four months of

worshipping at the New Braintree Congregational Church.

Woods Memorial Library became the first library in the C/W MARS Network to enable its new Curbside Pickup feature, which allows patrons to make appointments from their library accounts. For patrons who usually receive automated email and text hold notifications, those were also re-enabled on that day. To use the new feature, place holds online at catalog.cwmars.org or by contacting the library via phone or email. As soon as the hold becomes available at the library, the patron will receive an automated email or text notification, as well as a second email or text with a link to make an appointment. Those who do not receive these notices will continue to be notified by phone.

See PAST PAGES, page 5

An update on Connie's poinsettia – cut back or not

Connie, who wrote in this time last year about her mom's poinsettia, reached out with a follow up question and sent a picture to show her progress.

First, let me get you all up to speed with her first question: "We read your article about poinsettias in the Country Journal. I have been caring for my mother's poinsettia she purchased three Christmases ago. She is hoping you can help us as I never cut it back because I didn't know to do that. Now it is a small tree. There is bark on it. I had one red bract last Christmas but no yellow center. I did try to put it in a dark room but as you can see, it is too big now to do that. Any suggestions?"

Many years ago when I joined my brother on a trip to St. Thomas, I became fully aware of the poinsettia and its true, tree-like form. It looks like you are well on your way to replicating that in your house!

First, congratulations, from the picture you provided you are clearly growing a healthy specimen. The leaves are a beautiful shade of green. I would recommend that, if you want to make it more manageable in size, you do try to cut it back.

It looks as if there is a lower "tier" of leaves. If you can cut it back to those stems, I think that is a good place to start. Do that in April when it will be in active growth.

At that time I would also transplant it into a container one size bigger. So if it's in a six inch pot now, try one that is seven or eight inches, but not any bigger.

Fertilize with an all purpose houseplant fertilizer once a month. New growth should appear by the end of May.

After the danger of frost has passed, move the plant outdoors. Continue to water but increase fertilization to



every two weeks.

Pinch plants in late June or early July to promote bushy growth. Bring the plant indoors as temperatures fall in September.

The poinsettia is photoperiodic, and long nights of uninterrupted darkness encourage it to bloom. Bracts will turn red and the small yellow flowers in the center will form. Most people get on a 5 p.m.-8 a.m. schedule beginning on Oct. 1 and continue it for eight-10 weeks until color shows on the bracts.

Placing the plant in a closet or basement with no light interruption will work fine.

It is a commitment, that's for sure. Night temperatures should be no higher than 70 degrees or flowering may be delayed.

Good luck; I bet you will be successful this year!

Now, for her update: "I emailed you last year about our poinsettia. I did what you suggested. The only thing I couldn't do is move it into a totally dark room. It's too big to go through the door. You can see the trunk is getting bigger. More bark. It has certainly regrown to its size before I clipped it. I've fertilized it regularly, but no flowers. Any other thoughts? It is going into its fourth year soon."

Connie, the picture you sent of your poinsettia indicates it continues to be very healthy. Great job!

Again, the color of your leaves is bar none! I do understand that it is a large plant and it would

be difficult to move. So, why don't we create darkness?

I think if you purchased a contractor's size trash bag you could easily drape it over the plant next year and try to get the bracts to turn color. Any light at all will foil this process, so be sure to tuck it around the bottom of the plant.

Your plant looks so good, I am not certain I would cut it back this year, but you can repeat the process I shared last year; it's up to you. Keep up the good work!

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.

TEAM



EDITOR
Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com



ADVERTISING SALES
Dan Flynn
dfflynn@turley.com



SPORTS EDITOR
Greg Scibelli
sports@turley.com

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



@ Barre Gazette
WEB

www.barregazette.turley.com

PATRICK H. TURLEY
CEO

KEITH TURLEY
President



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.

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, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 or via email to edowner@turley.com. The deadline for submissions is Friday at noon.

Our advertisers make this publication possible.

Let them know you saw their ad in the

Barre Gazette

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

Happy New Year for the next column will be 2026.

Where did the year go to? I hope all my readers had a nice holiday season and have made some New Year Resolutions. One of mine is to stop collecting paper things. The office is so messy. I have files for everything. My daughters are informing me they do not want to clean up the mess.

Because I do genealogy for all the family members, I have about 30 notebooks in the closet and you are always updating them. Presently I do not have a printer connected to my computer so I can't print off things I want to.

Maybe after the new year I will purchase a new printer and get one kind soul to hitch it up for me. Any volunteers? I do have a printer that is not connected to the computer as we could not connect it. At one time you used to get a cd with the printer and now you don't.

I got a new supply of watercolor card stock so I have made a lot more cards. Also, I ordered a mixed size grouping of mats, which came hitched together and you had to separate them. They came in all sizes. Now I need to find frames to fit the mat.

I collect the articles on Hubbardston for the Historical Society so I am in need of

more looseleaf notebooks in case anyone has extras they would like to get rid of. I put the articles in plastic sleeves and label the date with each month separately. The notebooks were used to write the last history of Hubbardston by Leo Sullivan so they are helpful.

I went through a lot of recipes and found this old favorite which I plan to make this week.

CHICKEN STROGANOFF

2 whole chicken breasts cut into strips

1 tablespoon butter

2 tablespoons finely chopped scallions

1/2 teaspoon salt

1 can cream of mushroom soup

1 3 to 4 oz. can of sliced mushrooms

1/4 cup water

1/2 cup sour cream

hot noodles

Melt butter in a large skillet over high heat. Add chicken and scallions; sprinkle with salt. Cook six minutes, stirring occasionally. Add mushroom soup and sliced mushrooms with liquid and water. Heat to boiling, stirring until mixture is smooth. Reduce heat, blend in sour cream. Do not boil. Serve over hot noodles.

This and That

I am writing this before our Christmas celebrations so next

week I will report on them. Most of the snow has melted on Serenity Hill but it still has been fairly cold.

We have one problem living here. The house number is on the mail box across the street from our driveway so helpers who come to help us for the first time seem to go to the neighbor's house. I don't know how to correct this but have ordered a street number sign from the Sheriff's dept. and hopefully it will be here soon. We plan to put it on the side with the driveway. It seems that the car tracking system directs them to the wrong house.

Does anyone know where to dispose of old prescription drugs?

I received word from a friend in California that an old resident from town Carlton Martz passed away July 7. He lived in Redlands, California and I used to babysit him when he was a neighbor of my family. He was a history teacher and wrote many books. I always heard from him on Christmas. He was a graduate of Hubbardston Center School and we called him "Chip."

I received many lovely Christmas cards and many with pictures and messages. It is nice to keep up with friends and relatives. Happy New Year and a healthy one.

PAST PAGES from page 4

10 years ago (Dec. 31, 2015)

The Quabbin wrestling team headed out to Milford before the holiday break to take part in the Milford Tournament, and came away with some very good results. At the top of the great results, was Connor Thompson, who finished in first place in the 120-pound weight class.

There were most definitely angels visiting the Hardwick Elementary School last week. More than 30 extra large boxes of food were delivered to the school and then given to the families of many Hardwick Elementary School children to help provide nourishment during the two-week break from school. When schools are closed for weekends and vacations, the families of students that regularly receive free breakfast and lunch often have difficulty providing nutritious meals for their children. Linda Lloyd, executive director of Angels Answers Inc. came to the rescue.

About 50 children in Barre were smiling this Christmas as they received gifts through the Barre Police Association and Marine Corps League South Central Massachusetts Detachment 1094 Toys for Tots. Members of the Barre Police Association wrapped the gifts and filled a cruiser to deliver them just in time for Christmas.

Nault Architects of Worcester has been hired to evaluate the prospective sites for a senior center and to provide preliminary drawings for the Annual Town Meeting. Prospective sites for the center include American Legion Post 2 on Mechanic Street, the present meal site; Florence Hall on Main Street; a building at the gravel pit owned by Pete Trifilo on Peach Street and a location on Valley Road owned by Ellsworth. The town hopes to partially fund this project with a block grant.

Long time North Brookfield resident Ethel Forte once heard someone say, "A blanket is love." She couldn't agree more. "You put so many hours into making it, you can't help but love it," Forte said. And those who receive the blankets made by Forte and her

group of 18 other dedicated workers in the local Warm Up America Program certainly are not only warmed physically by knowing there are people in this world who care. Forte and her group of volunteers from North Brookfield, West Brookfield, Barre, Oakham, Brookfield and New Braintree meet each Friday at the New Braintree Town Hall to create the thousands of afghans and quilts they have donated over the past six years to Veterans homes homeless shelters, Salvation Army headquarters and nursing homes.

Despite torrents of rain and screaming winds, the annual pilgrimage to Bethlehem was safely carried out at both the Unitarian and Congregational churches Sunday afternoon. Always different, yet telling the same story, the productions are labors of love for those who direct or in other ways, give of their time to the respective church schools. Heralded by the incisive sounds of Christmas via a trio of young trumpeters, Carter Coolidge, grandson of Horace and Doris Coolidge and two of his classmates from Belchertown High School, the traditional version us all to the star-swept sky over Bethlehem.

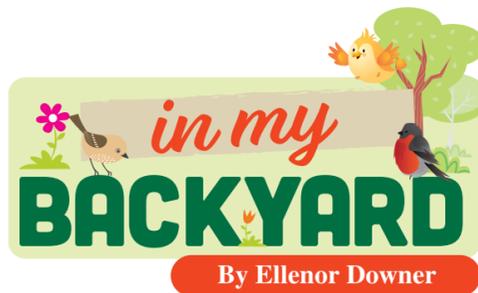
38 years (Dec. 31, 1987)

Senator Robert D. Wetmore (D-Barre) announced the winners in his seventh annual Christmas card design contest on Dec. 21, 1987. The theme of this year's contest was "what the holiday season means to me." The first place winner was Heather Reavey, a sixth grade student at the New Braintree Grade School. Her drawing depicts

an outdoor scene featuring an evergreen surrounded by a young girl and boy and a number of animals including squirrels, rabbits, birds and a horse. Runners up in the contest were Christine Irwin, Chestnut Hill Community School in Belchertown; Meghan O'Connor, North Brookfield Elementary School; Kirsty Stewart, Ruggles Lane School in Barre and Moriah Bolduc, Narragansett Regional High School in Templeton.

The financial aid seminar, which was to have been held at Quabbin Regional High School in December has been postponed due to weather. The seminar has been rescheduled to take place Jan. 7, 1988 at 7 p.m. in the school auditorium. Parents of high school seniors will be especially interested in the speaker's topics. The meeting should prove highly informative for students and parents of students who are seeking financial aid assistance this fall.

At its Nov. 8 dinner meeting the Executive Committee of Massachusetts Baseball Coaches Association, four veteran coaches were elected for induction into the Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame. Michael Dymon, originally of Barre and a 13 year resident of Holden, was chosen as one of the honored inductees. Dymon is a 25 year old veteran coach of baseball in the Central Massachusetts area and beyond, principally at Quabbin Regional High School in Barre. Dymon accumulated an outstanding record of 260 wins on the varsity level in his career.



Sora

The Massachusetts Audubon Society reported a sighting of a sora on Nauset Beach in Orleans on Cape Cod between Dec. 10 and 16.

Soras are small, chubby, chicken like birds with long toes and between eight to ten inches tall. Their stubby bill distinguished them from other rails in the United States and Canada, which have longer bills. They also frequently hold their short tail cocked up showing their white patch under the tail.

Soras are mottled gray and brown with white-edged feathers, but the feature that stands out the most is their yellow candy-corn bill. Other field marks include a black mask, throat patch and vertical white lines on the sides. Females tend to be less brightly colored than males and have less black on the face and throat. Juveniles also lack the black mask.

Soras have a distinct walk pushing their head forward with every step while nervously flicking the tail upward, exposing the white under tail feathers. They tend to forage in dense vegetation, but also venture into open areas from time to time. Their long toes help them walk on top of floating mats of vegetation. Soras make their homes in freshwater wetlands with emergent vegetation such as cattails, sedges and rushes. During migration and

winter, they also use brackish marshes, flooded fields and wet pastures.

The Sora makes its presence known with plaintive whistles and whinnies rising from the marshes all across North America. Despite its abundance, it is not often seen: As with other rails, it spends most of its time hidden in dense marshy growth or wet meadows. Occasionally it will walk about in full view at the edge of a pond, delighting any birders, who happen to be nearby. Although Soras might seem like weak fliers when seen fluttering over the marsh, they regularly migrate long distances, many going to South America for the winter.

Cape Cod bird sightings

Besides the sora, the following sightings were reported between Dec. 10 and Dec. 16. A western tanager was found at Mass Audubon's Wellfleet Bay sanctuary. The male painted bunting continued at a feeder in Brewster. Other bird sightings included a clapper rail and six western willets in South Chatham, two common terns in North Chatham, a blue-headed vireo and a yellow-breasted chat in South Orleans, a common yellowthroat and for northern shovellers in Harwich and a short-eared owl.

Birds seen at Race Point in Provincetown were a black guillemot, 200 razor-bills, 13 dovebies, three common murres, 45 black-legged kittiwakes, six Iceland gulls, a red-necked grebe and 75 northern gannets.

Other sightings around the Cape included two continuing Eurasian wigeon in Yarmouth Port, two Barrow's goldeneyes at

Loop Beach in Cotuit, a great egret at Mass Audubon's Skunknet River sanctuary in Barnstable, a Nashville warbler reported at a house in Yarmouth, continuing unseasonably large numbers of tree swallows in various places including over 50 in Falmouth, two western willets in Chatham and an American golden plover in North Truro.

Christmas bird count

From Dec. 15 to Jan. 5, the Christmas Bird Count will commence in the U.S., Canada and 18 other countries in the Western Hemisphere. Countries are divided into geographical regions with 35 in Massachusetts and each region will pick a single 24-hour period to count birds. Data from the CBC can be utilized in many ways, including to monitor trends in bird populations, document range shifts over time and examine how climate change may impact the winter distributions of birds.

CBC data has been used in hundreds of analyses, peer-reviewed publications and government reports over the decades.

Birds likely seen in Massachusetts are chickadees, titmice, many species of woodpeckers, bluebirds, Carolina wren and many raptors. Migrants from the north include kinglets, some raptors, snow bunting and some sparrows. Waterfowl seen mostly along the coast are dabbling and diving ducks. Irruptive

species that are only present in some years are evening grosbeak, red crossbill, white-winged crossbill, redpoll, pine grosbeak and red-breasted nuthatch.

Helping birds

People may help birds by participating in the Christmas Bird Count. It is an important source of data on birds.

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

Trinity church to hold Lessons and Carols

WARE - On Sunday, Dec. 28 at 10 a.m. the Trinity Episcopal Church will hold a service of Lessons and Carols.

On Sunday evening, Dec. 28 and again on Friday eve-

ning, Jan. 2 from 5-7 p.m. the church invites the public to a Candlelight Nativity walk in the church, which will be decorated with Nativity and creche displays from

its parishioners, as well as Trinity's traditional Christmas Putz display.

There will be refreshments, hot chocolate and coffee served.

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 Friday at 3 p.m.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

THE HARDING ALLEN ESTATE PRESENTS
ALL THAT GLITTERS
2026
NEW YEAR'S
EVE PARTY

DINNER & DESSERT
 CHAMPAGNE TOAST

MUSIC PROVIDED BY:
 The Evening Standard Jazz Band
 ft. Annie Huppert
 DJ Fusion

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31ST, 2025
 8PM-12AM

\$80/TICKET or \$160/COUPLE
 (978) 434-7800
hardingallenestate.com



Harman's Herb Farm was at the Barre Farmers Market on Saturday, May 2 for the opening of the farmers market season.



American Legion members march past the Barre Historical Building on Common Street, Barre in the Memorial Day on Monday, May 26.



The 9/11 Memorial is having a ceremony at the Global War on Terror Monument on Thursday, Sept. 11 at 10:30 a.m. This is the first remembrance since the Global War on Terror Monument, located on Barre North Common, was dedicated on Memorial Day of this year.

BARRE YIR from page 1

intends to take possession of the old res- reservoir dam and to maintain the dam to hold the current level of the reservoir. Mass. Dam Safety determined the dam to be in need of either repair, breaching or removal to return to its state before the dam was built.

The Barre Select Board meet on Monday, Feb. 24 to discuss the interview process for candidates for the Fire Chief. Municipal Resource Inc. of Plymouth, New Hampshire, who the Select Board hired to assess applicants and recommend candidates, presented four candidates for Fire Chief. Select Board Chair Maureen Marshall asked if the Board wanted to conduct all interviews in one long evening or hold two interviews on two different days. Chair Marshall and Select Board member Mark Regienus opted to do the interviews over a two day span.

The St. Cleophas Knights of Columbus Council of Barre recently donated 27 coats to the Quabbin Regional School District as part of the Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids program. Since 2009, the Knights of Columbus have donated over one million coats to children in need through their local councils.

A blood drive took place on Thursday, Feb. 27 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Quabbin Regional Middle High School, 800 South St., in the high school gymnasium. Ellie Frost, a senior at Quabbin Regional High School, put on a blood drive at the high school in partnership with the Rhode Island Blood Center. The blood drive was in partnership with the Rhode Island Blood Center, on Feb. 27 from 10 am- Walk-ins were welcome if space permitted, but they asked people to sign up

MARCH

Barre Select Board Chairman Maureen Marshall reported on the recent Massachusetts Water Resources Authority meeting she recently attended. She said the topic was a proposed bill brought forth

by state Sen. Joanne Comford of Hampshire, Hampden and Worcester district. The bill was tabled last year and will be discussed this year by the legislature, but not until summer. The proposed bill included access to using Quabbin Reservoir water by towns in the Western part of the state and increased Payment In Lieu of Taxes for the Quabbin Reservoir and watershed land for towns, which about the reservoir and those in the watershed area. The proposal would compensate towns through PILOT program, which about the water for the land under the reservoir, which is not done at this time. Marshall said Barre, which has no waterfront property would not benefit for the payment of land under the Quabbin Reservoir, but would possibly receive a large PILOT sum.

Barre Post 2, American Legion hosted their annual corned beef and cabbage supper on Saturday, March 15. Meals were served from 5-6:30 pm at the Post at 450 South Barre Road. Dinners were available to eat in or carry out. Ham was also available, tickets were \$16.

The Barre Select Board

received the resignation of Town Administrator Tammy Martin at their Monday, March 17 meeting. She tendered her resignation effective June 1. Select Board Chairman Maureen Marshall thanked her for all the work she did for the town especially on the playground. She said, she hoped Martin would come back for the High Plains playground dedication. When the Chairman asked for a motion, Select Board Member Mark Regienus said he did not want to do it. They accepted the Town Administrator's resignation with "deep regret." Select Board Chair Marshall said the town would begin the process of finding an interim Town Administrator and the search for a Town Administrator.

APRIL

Seven hundred seventy-two voters (401 precinct 1 and 321 precinct 2) of the 4,305 register voter (2,125 precinct 1 and 2,180 precinct 2) or 16.77% went to the polls Monday, April 7. Richard C. Stevens, 905 Coldbrook Road, won a three-year term on the Select Board with 482 votes (270 precinct 1 and 212 precinct 2). Stevens was the only candidate on the ballot, but Matthew Urban of 330 Williamsville Road received 211 write-in votes (109 precinct 1 and 102 precinct 2). here were also two ballot

questions. Question 1 passed with 387 (218 precinct 1 and 169 precinct 2) in favor of exempting from the provisions of Proposition 2 1/2 the bond issued to purchase and equip the new fire truck and 280 opposed (149 precinct 1 and 131 precinct 2). Question 2 was a non-binding advisory opinion on a dam located on the Prince River near Flaherty Road. It failed to pass with 440 opposed (252 precinct 1 and 188 precinct 2) and 254 in favor (133 precinct 1 and 121 precinct 2).

Second Chance Animal Services held a low-cost vaccine clinics on Saturday, April 19 from 9 a.m.-noon at the Barre Public Safety Building, located at 655 South St. in Barre. Rabies and distemper vaccines will be available for \$18 each, and microchips for \$22. Both clinics are open to cats and dogs from any community. Advance registration is recommended, as space is limited and same day availability is not guaranteed.

On Wednesday, April 23 at 10 a.m. at the Barre/Hardwick Senior Center, 557 South Barre Road, held a free information fair. Attendees explored a wide-range of local resources and discover the wealth of information, services and opportunities. They learned about local businesses, community organizations, educational programs and connect with experts in the field. This was a great chance to find what they need and meet their neighbors. There were raffle prizes and this event was free and open to the public.

On Saturday, April 26, the Barre Historical Society invited everyone to their first ever Repair Fair on the grounds of the Barre Historical Society and Museum, 18-20 Common St., from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in honor of Earth Day. This was a free community event focused on repairing things where a person with expertise in fixing various household

items, like electronics, clothing, furniture, houseplants, knife sharpening, etc. or other items, volunteers their time to help people repair broken belongings instead of throwing them away. They essentially teach and offer repair skills. This reduces waste while fostering a sense of community.

The Barre Community Resilience helped celebrate Earth Day on April 26 from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. on the Barre Common. There was a Native Plants table, where people found out why native plants are important in their gardens and fields and the many ways trees improve the environment.

Seedling samples were given away. Native plants need native pollinators, so information and illustrations of some native moths, butterflies and bees were on site. They also collected small electronic items for recycling.

MAY

The Barre Farmers Market opened for another season on Saturday, May 3 from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on the Barre Common in the center of town. The weather was perfect for the opening of another year for people to purchase farm fresh vegetables and fruits in season, plants, local milk and other dairy products from Barre, eggs, baked goods, crafts, soaps, jams and jellies and more.

Circle of Song celebrated the arrival of spring at their concert on Saturday, May 17 at 7 p.m. in the Barre Town Hall at 2 Exchange St. The chorus has always been of modest size, but of late numbers have swelled to the low 20s, which necessitated the purchase of a set of risers and sadly, a move away from the signature semi-circle performance style.

Barre Historical Society Directors carried the Barre Historical Society banner at the march and ceremony held at Quabbin Park Cemetery on Sunday, May 25. They were Jim Van Wert, Kay Potter Flick, Stephanie Young and Robert Bentley.

Once again American Legion Post #2 honored those in the words of Abraham Lincoln who gave "the last full measure of devotion." These words spoken by the 16th President at the dedication of the Gettysburg Cemetery referred to the Union soldiers, who gave their lives fighting in the Civil War. The words spoken over 160 years ago still ring true today. This year's Memorial Day in Barre on Monday, May 26 included the dedication of the 911 Monument as part of the ceremony as well as a parade. Dennis Fleming, Chairman of the 911 Memorial Committee spoke briefly before the dedication and ribbon cutting.

JUNE

One hundred two seniors graduated from Quabbin Regional High School on Friday, June 6. The rain and thunderstorms forced the event to move into the gymnasium. Despite the change of plans from an outside to an inside graduation the gym was set up to hold the event in the largest indoor venue, the school gym. The soon to be graduates processed into the gym wearing blue caps and gowns with the Symphonic Winds playing "Pomp and Circumstance" by Edward Elger. Senior class president Luke Salvadore and

valedictorian Irene Stolgitis led fellow members of the class.

The No. 4 Schoolhouse supporters hosted the spring fling/perennial-drop event on Sunday, June 8 from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. to sprucing up the schoolhouse. People were invited to stop by the No. 4 Schoolhouse, located at 209 Farrington Road, Barre to help dust off the area inside and out.

Two hundred and forty people gathered on Barre Common on Flag day, June 14, to support keeping the United States indivisible and part of a No Kings rally. People carried signs celebrating common values, shared by most citizens, such as: protecting our democracy, providing a livable, stable economy; fair taxes, justice and due process for everyone; eliminating waste and fraud with care and skillful assessment; affordable healthcare for all; protecting our water, air, soil, food supply, public lands and wildlife; keeping our planet healthy and protecting social security, Medicare and Medicaid.

The Quabbin Community Band will open their 2025 season on Father's Day, June 15 with the concert theme, "Summer is Here." This year's band includes more than fifty players. The first three con-

certs on June 15, 22 and 29 will be held at Nornay Park in South Barre. All remaining concerts from July 6 through Aug. 10 will be in Barre on the Harding Allen Bandstand. All concerts begin at 6 p.m. and generally run 90 minutes.

The Select Board met Monday, June 16 to review and approve the final Annual Town Meeting warrant of 23 articles for Tuesday, June 24 at 6:30 a.m. at Ruggles Lane School. Select Board member Richard Stevens attended remotely and Select Board Chairman Maureen Marshall and Vice-Chair Mark Regienus attended in person. Chairman Marshall read each article.

The Barre Historical Society and Department of Conservation and Recreation announce they are co-hosting a hike to the Prince Walker Burial Ground and the nearby homesite of Prince Walker on Sunday, June 29 at 10 a.m. Prince Walker was born June 24, 1774, so this hike will commemorate the 251st anniversary of his birth. The Prince Walker Burial Ground is the only African-American burial ground in Barre, and one of few in Central Massachusetts.

Last Wednesday June 18, attendees of the Quabbin Middle School graduation filled the gymnasium on a hot evening just days from the summer solstice. One hundred fifty two students received an eight grade certificate of completion. These students, members of the Class of 2029 will attend Quabbin Regional High School, a vocational technical high school or another school of their choice in the fall.

A Capstone project was a requirement to receive their eight grade certificate. It would also be one of the requirements of graduation from Quabbin Regional High School for the Class of 2029 student's diploma. Following the Quabbin Regional Middle School graduation, parents, relatives, siblings and friends got to view the eighth grade

graduates Capstone projects displayed in the cafeteria.

Due to extreme heat on the scheduled Tuesday, June 24, officials postponed the Annual Town Meeting to Thursday, June 26 when temperature was cooler. Moderator Joshua Smith presented voters with a consent calendar of articles, which appear yearly. One voter could request a hold on any of the articles presented if they wanted to discuss the article further. A voter requested a hold on articles 5, 6 and 17. Voters acted on Articles 1, 2, 10, 11 and 16 as a consent calendar. The four hour plus meeting was due to a lot of discussion on articles, several amendments from the floor and having 23 articles on the warrant.

JULY

At the Monday, July 7 Select Board meeting, Interim Town Administrator Greg Balukonis, said he received 25 applicants for the position of Town Administrator. An ad for the position ran for 30 days through the Massachusetts Municipal Association, an online website and the town of Barre website. The deadline to apply was Monday, June 30. Interim Town Administrator Greg Balukonis said he was reviewing the applicants. He would present the board with a preliminary list of six and he would recommend three or four of those applicants for the Board to interview.

The Barre/ Hardwick Senior Center was buzzing with excitement on Monday, July 21, as residents gathered for the highly anticipated Barre's Best Bites event, a free nutritional culinary experience that show- cased some of the area's most beloved local restaurants and food vendors.

From 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., guests enjoyed a variety of "bite-sized" samples, each bursting with flavor and representing the unique offerings of our local culinary scene. The event featured an impressive lineup, including Cafe on the Common, Country Gourmet, Hardwick Crossing, Hartman's Herb Farm, Mimi's Coffeehouse, Red Tomato Pizza and Wholesome Farmers Market.

AUGUST

The second part of the process to successfully pass a 2 1/2 override failed to get a majority yes vote at the Special Town Election held Tuesday, Aug. 5. According to the unofficial results from Town Clerk Ellen Glidden, only 154 voters said yes with an overwhelming 798 no votes. In precinct 1, 79 voted yes and in precinct 275 voted in the affirmative for the \$543,263 amount. In precinct 1, 427 said no and in precinct 2, 371 voted in the negative. Voter turnout was 21.98% with 950 of the town's 4,322 register voters. By precinct, voter numbers are 2,136 precinct 1 and 2,186 precinct 2. A total of 504 voters went to the polls in precinct 1 and 446 in precinct 2.

Quabbin National Night Out was held on Tuesday, Aug. 5 from 5-7:30 p.m. at Quabbin Regional Middle High School, 800 South St.. The free event was sponsored by Quabbin Drug Response Unifying Group and Quabbin Regional School District. Many organizations and businesses in the region partici-

ated.

The Select Board did not come to an agreement on the choice of Town Administrator at their Monday, Aug. 11 meeting. They held interviews of the candidates Melanie Jackson, Heather Munroe and Faye Zukowski on Wednesday, Aug. 6. Select Board Chairman Maureen Marshall checked references listed by the candidates. She talked to two of the three references for Zukowski and contacted another individual she knew, who worked with the candidate. Four of the five references for Munroe returned her calls. None of the references listed by Jackson returned the chairman's calls.

Select Board Chairman Maureen Marshall said she received advice from Town Counsel on how to proceed with the selection of the Town Administrator. Town Counsel listed steps for the Board to follow. Step one was to narrow the selection to two candidates. This could be done individually or collectively. Step two was to allow each member of the Select Board to discuss why he or she selected their choice of candidate. Step 3 was to either vote to extend a provisional offer to one of the final two candidates, to move to hold a second interview or to take no action on this.

Town Counsel said the Board had two candidates, who met the credentials sought in their advertisement – a minimum of a Bachelor's degree and experience as a Town Administrator: Melanie Jackson and Heather Munroe. The Board voted 2 to 1 to hire Melanie Jackson as Town Administrator with Chairman Marshall voting no on Monday, Aug. 18.

SEPTEMBER

The Select Board meeting room filled to capacity at the Sept. 2 meeting. Most of the residents present came over concern about the proposed Battery Energy Storage System for a 148 parcel of land on Wauwinet Road. The land currently is in Chapter 61, an agricultural property tax exemption. Michael Collins, a Barre resident, read a statement recommending the Select Board exercise their right of first refusal on the land. The town via the Select Board has the right to either purchase the land for the town or assign the right a non-profit land trust such as East Quabbin Land Trust. He also recommended the Planning Board draft a by law to protect the town against future battery storage systems.

The Barre Lions Club held their annual car show on Barre Common on Saturday, Sept. 6. Cradle Rock Order of Eastern Star held a pancake breakfast and the Barre Historical Museum was open for viewing. The car show ended before the severe weather that was predicted.

The 9/11 Memorial is having a ceremony at the Global War on Terror Monument on Thursday, Sept. 11 at 10:30 a.m. This is the first remembrance since the Global War on Terror Monument, located on Barre North Common, was dedicated on Memorial Day of this year.

Select Board Chairman Maureen Marshall report-

Baby's First Christmas 2025



Carter Legasey

September 28, 2025

Parents: Thomas and Jessica Legasey, Rutland

Sibling: Scarlett Legasey

Grandparents: Donald and MaryAnn Dunbar, Ware
Thomas and Sharon Legasey, Spencer



Ella Margaret Werth

May 8, 2025

Parents: Paul and Erin O'Connor, Werth Riverside, RI

Grandparents: Debra and Jordan O'Connor, Petersham
Kathy and Greg Werth, West Suffield, CT



Ethan Jordan

July 26, 2025

Parents: Krystal and Brett Jordan, Hardwick

Big brother: Connor Jordan

Grandparents: Laura and Jon Wilson, Barre
Dana and Mary Ann Jordan, Barre

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

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

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



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

GIACOMO'S GOURMET FOODS
"Cucinare con amore"
Jim & Laurie Del Garbino Partners

GRAB N GO MEALS, BAKERY, LOCAL FOOD & ARTISAN VENDORS

- ★ We Won the Best of Central Mass/Community Choice Award for Catering, Vegetarian/Vegan/Gluten Free Offerings ★
- ★ Jim Del Garbino was Voted Top 3 Chefs for the Same Award ★

Place Your Order Today!

32 Main St., Suite 2, Hubbardston
508-826-8808/508-826-2133
giacomogourmetgranola@yahoo.com
www.giacomogourmetgranola.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

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

Happy HOLIDAYS

www.turley.com
413-283-8393

Turley Publications, Inc.
24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069

With Our Thanks

Please accept our best wishes for a wonderful holiday!



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

HO HO HOPE

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

Thanks for sharing so many good times with us in 2025. We look forward to making more great memories with all of you in the years to come.

From Richie B., Brandon, Jake, 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

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

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

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



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



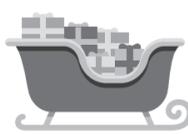
Happy Holidays!
 210 West Street,
 P.O. Box 579
 Barre
 (978) 355-2250
 www.WRBentley.com



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



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



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@StarsandStripes Diner



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



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
 508-886-4401 • 508-886-2371




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



Merry Christmas
 ...treemendous thanks and best wishes to everyone we know!
KIP'S CHRISTMAS TREE FARM
 New Braintree Center
 508-867-2423



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



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 2025.
 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 Lumber Co., Inc.
 199 Petersham Road (Route 32), Athol
 978-249-2206 • www.MannMemorials.com



Merry Christmas & Treemendous THANKS!
J.C. POOLS INC.
 108 Main Street, South Barre
 978-355-6465 • 508-882-3913



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



Season's GREETINGS
Talk to Tracy first!
Tracy LaRosa
 Managing Broker
 REALTOR®, GRI, SRS, ABR®, AHWD, GREEN, CPS, C-RETS, RENE, C2EX
 774-242-5314
 tracylarosarealtor@gmail.com
 www.tracylarosa.com




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



Pennington Painting Svc.
 INTERIOR • EXTERIOR
 RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL
 www.penningtonpaintingco.net
 Dustin Pennington
 413-813-7328
Merry Christmas To All of Our Family, Friends & Customers!

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. 2022
 COUNTRY CLUB
 262 Lower Road
 Gilbertville
 774-757-8907
 Pro Shop 774-261-2634
 hardwickcrossing.com



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



BARRE YIR from page 6

ed at the Monday, Sept. 15 meeting the new High Plains playground was almost complete except for some odds and ends. She said signage needed to be installed including a sign showing the playground fund- ing that included American Rescue Plan Act funds and a grant. She said, No smoking, vaping and marijuana use signs must also be installed. She recommended the Select Board work with the Board of Health in placing the no smoking, vaping and marijuana signs at the new playground. The annual Barre Historical Society fundraiser yard sale on Saturday, Sept. 20 was a huge success.

The society earned valuable income for the ongoing work of the Barre Historical Society and Museum efforts. The Historical Society Board of Directors thanks all who contributed in many different ways. They could not have been successful without these various contributions.

OCTOBER

In the midst of the changing seasons, the Quabbin



Members of the Quabbin Regional High School Class of 2025 switch their tassels on their mortarboards following the handing out of diplomas at the Friday, June 6 graduation.

Regional High School Hiking Club along with chaperones, Mr. Haley, Ms. Trumbull, Mrs. Frost and Mr. Cammuso embarked on a trip to Lincoln in the White Mountains of New Hampshire this past weekend, Oct. 3, 4 and 5. The weather was perfect and everyone had a wonderful time. The club stayed in a beautiful campsite right next to the river. They took two

great hikes, including a trip up 4,328 foot Mt. Flume. Everyone made it to the summit, and a few of the team added on Mt. Liberty 4,459 foot.

The Select Board met with Fire Chief Andy Lange to discuss new rates and to utilize a collection agency for past due ambulance bills on Monday, Oct. 6. The Fire Chief said current-



Firefighters from the Barre Fire Department participated as they have every year at the National Night Out on Aug. 5.

ly the charges for Basic Life Support are \$1,150; Advance Life Support 1 \$1,350 and Advance Life Support 2 \$1,950. He said he looked into other towns and opted to recommend the fees Westminster charges. BLS \$1,500; ALS 1 \$2,100 and ALS 2 \$2,500. The last time Barre's rates increased was six years ago in 2019. The Select Board approved

the new rates. He also recommended using a collection agency for past due ambulance bills.

During public comment at the Monday, Oct. 20 Select Board meeting, Sam Lipson said the Water Department and Department of Public Works repaired a long time water pipe leak. He said it had been leaking for some time and the town now was

not using as much water. Select Board Chairman Maureen Marshall said the leak the departments found had been a long time leak and the town was losing about 100 gallons per minute. The town water department is pumping a lot less water.

Chairman Dan Jewell said he would not accept a nomination for chairman of the Finance Committee at the Tuesday, Oct. 21 meeting. He said he will be traveling a lot with his job and would not have the time to continue serving as chairman. He then made a motion to nominate Zach Macutkiewicz, the current secretary for the committee, as chairman. His nomination was seconded and approved by the committee. Macutkiewicz then nominated Leigh Ann Spring as vice chairman.

NOVEMBER

The Select Board held a dangerous dog hearing Monday, Nov. 3 to determine if a pit bull located at 140 Valley Road was a potentially dangerous dog. The hearing was the result of an

See BARRE YIR, page 10

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

Wishing You Good Health, Good Fortune & TREEmendous Happiness
As we put the finishing touches on another holiday season, we can't think of a better place to celebrate than right here with all of you. Your friendship and support mean the world to us, and we hope this Christmas delivers everything on your wish list and more.

Best Wishes To You And Yours For A Merry And Bright Christmas Season And A Happy New Year!

BARRE GAZETTE
24 Water St., Palmer • 413-283-8383

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

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 • KATHLEEN F. FISHER
2 WORCESTER ROAD, HUBBARDSTON
978-928-5000 • WWW.BREKKALAW.COM

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

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

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

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

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

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!

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 2026.
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

Calendar of Events

THURSDAY, DEC. 25

FREE CHRISTMAS DAY COMMUNITY MEAL will be held at Timberyard, 555 East Main St., East Brookfield today at 2 p.m. The meal is open to everyone, with no cost and no requirements. Guests will be served a traditional holiday menu including smoked ham, chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, candied sweet potatoes, salad, rolls and desserts. While the meal itself is completely free, optional donations will be accepted, 100% of which will go directly to the Food Pantry at the East Brookfield Baptist Church to support local families in need. The Timberyard bar will be open from 2-5 p.m. for those who wish to purchase beverages. Guests are strongly encouraged to RSVP so organizers can plan and prepare accordingly. Walk-ins will be accommodated as best as possible.

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

SATURDAY, DEC. 27

STORY TIME with Miss Katie will take place at Woods Memorial Library, 19 Pleasant St., Barre today from 10:30-11:30 a.m. in the multi-purpose room. This program is for preschool and school age children. Activities include a story and craft time.

WEDNESDAY, 31

TINY TOTS AND TALES will take place today from 10:30-11 a.m. at the Woods Memorial Library, 19 Pleasant St., Barre in the multi-purpose room for babies and toddlers. The library will close early on Wednesday, Dec. 31 at 3 p.m. to observe New Year's Eve. The library will also be closed on Thursday, Jan. 1, 2026.



Turley Publications photo by Ellenor Dower

Where is this?
This week's mystery photo is from Rutland. 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. 29. Bill Bowles, Paul Carlson, Peggy Civilik and Dan Elliot correctly identified the photo. The photo last week was the Petersham Historical Society, North Main Street, Petersham.

READ AND PLAY will take place today from 10:20-11:30 a.m. at the Fobes Memorial Library, 4 Maple St., Oakham. Read and play takes place every Wednesday. Next dates are Jan. 7, Jan. 14, Jan 21 and Jan. 28, 2026. No registration is required. The program is for birth to age 5. Participants will enjoy rhymes, songs, an activity and play time. It is funded by the Friends of the Fobes Memory Library, Inc.

SATURDAY, JAN. 17

PETERSHAM HISTORY FORUM will take place today at 4 p.m. at the Petersham Country Store, Main Street, Route 32, Petersham. In an effort to collect stories of people, who lived the history of the Hilltop Village, local historian and environmentalist, Larry Buell is inviting residents of Petersham and beyond to come to the Petersham Country Store. This information is for vol-

ume II of the Petersham History, the last 100 years. The stories will focus on events like the Petersham Agricultural Fair, Band Concerts and natural disasters. The program is free and open to all. For information, people may call Larry Buell at 978-724-0412 or email LarryBuell2143@gmail.com.

SATURDAY, JAN. 31

THEATRE AT MOUNT AUDITIONS for "Willy Wonka Jr." will take place today by appointment at the Theatre at the Mount, 444 Green St., Gardner. Roles are available for children and teens. All experience levels are welcome. For more information and to schedule an audition, people may email box-office@mwcc.mass.edu or call 978-630-9388.

Vocal auditioners will be asked to sing a short vocal selection, which will be taught at the audition. All auditioners including chorus will participate in a dance audition. The combination will be taught at the audition. They should wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Some performers may be asked to do cold readings from the script. Rehearsals begin in early February with performances scheduled for April.

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.

BYLAW, from page 1

and they voted in favor of the bylaw. Voters concurred and voted unanimously to approve the new section. This vote required a 2/3 majority.

The meeting then continued in the warrant article order. Voters approved an increase in the tax collector demand fees from \$25 to \$30. Cheryl Southwood of Wauwinet Road said if people were already having trouble paying their taxes it did not seem right. In response to a question about how frequently demands were issued, Town Administrator Melanie Jackson said real estate and personal property tax demands were yearly. She said excise taxes were issued after their due date passed.

Article 2 was to transfer from the Capital Improvement Stabilization Fund the sum of \$64,389 to purchase and equip a new F550 crew cab pickup truck for the Department of Public Works Superintendent. DPW Superintendent Timothy Batchelor said he was a working superintendent and the truck would be used for plowing. He said he had a lot of expensive tools and this truck had an inside storage area for them. He said it was a ten year purchase. He said the F550 cost \$6,000 more than the F350.

Robert Kane of Williamsville Road said he favored the purchase of the truck and the "town needed to give the superintendent the equipment he needed." He needed the larger truck. Matt Urban of Williamsville

Road spoke to holding off on the purchase for another two years when the economy improved. He said the town failed to approve a proposition 2 1/2 override earlier this year. The voters approved the new truck purchase.

Article 3 also passed. It transferred \$7,212 from the outreach coordinator line item to the senior center director. This replaced the \$7,212 that was cut from the director's salary to fund the assistant treasurer at the Annual Town Meeting.

The town also approved Article 4 to transfer \$205,301 from ambulance receipts reserved to purchase a new ambulance to replace the one totaled in an accident with a Verizon truck. Town Administrator Jackson said the insurance companies were working on settling the claim. Mike Kowal said the town's insurance policy covers the cost value, but not the actual current replacement cost from the information he gathered.

At the request of the Select Board, the town voted to pass over Articles 6 and 7. Both articles involved a transfer of money from the Sewer Retained Earnings. They approved the final article to adopt the acceptance of provisions General Law c.44 s65 regarding vacation pay. This provision allows the accountant to make advance payment of employ regular vacation time in advance of their regular vacation to the extent of what they are entitled. The meeting lasts just under 40 minutes.



Denis delaGorgendiere of Oakham owns this 1961 Chevrolet pickup. He was one of over 170 car show exhibitors at the annual Barre Lions Club Car Show on Barre Common Saturday, Sept. 6.

BARRE YIR, from page 9

incident that happened on Aug. 22. Marie Petrides of 131 Valley Road owns three dogs. One of her dogs, Belle, was attacked by a dog owned by Thomas McConkey of 140 Valley while her mother and sister were walking her dogs. They were walking on the opposite side of the road when the dog at 140 Valley Road came out from his yard and attacked the much smaller dog, Belle. Regional Assistant Animal Control Officer Matthew DeCiero said there were no previous incidents with the dog. He said he quarantined the dog for ten days at the kennel in Rutland. The dog did not appear aggressive toward humans. His recommendation was the owner either install four foot fence in a section of his yard for the dog or a chain link kennel. The owner currently has an electronic leash system, but it did not stop the dog from leaving its yard and crossing the street to attack the smaller dog, which died from the injuries.

Quabbin Performing Arts is getting ready to peel back the layers of a reclusive ogre's life and reveal a beautiful love story more magical than any that has come before it. This Friday evening, Nov. 7 at 7 p.m., "Shrek the Musical" will take the stage at Quabbin Regional Middle/ High School, 800 South St., with a cast full of fairy tale characters, led by

a reluctant hero, his quirky sidekick and a princess with a big secret.

With the wind blowing and the temperature barely above freezing, American Legion Post #2 held their annual Veterans Day ceremony. This winter like weather included snow flurries, which fell from the sky off and on during the ceremony. A large crowd, bundled up with winter coats, hats and gloves waited for the bell in Town Hall to toll marking the 11thour, the 11 day of the 11 month. This date marked the end of World War I. American Legion Post #2 commander thanked the Selectmen, state Sen. Peter Durant, Veterans, Quabbin High School Naval Junior Reserve Officer's Training Corp for participating.

DECEMBER

After a fresh dusting of snow, the Santa Parade made its way from Ruggles Lane Elementary School to the town common on Saturday, Dec. 6, one of the highlights of the annual Christmas in Barre event.

While Santa Claus was unable to break away from his busy North Pole workshop this year, Mrs. Claus arrived and happily heard the Christmas wishes of children. She even had a special, huggable gift for each child to take home. Mrs. Claus was joined in the Santa Parade by elves, town officials and public safety personnel, as well as local



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



Mrs. Claus greeted children eager to share their Christmas wishes at Christmas in Barre this past Saturday.

organizations and businesses.

For the past 15 plus years, the members of Cradle Rock Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, have been hosting their annual cookie walk during Christmas in Barre. (Saturday, Dec. 6). The cookie walk is a fund-raiser to support the chapter, Worthy Matron Marna Mucha said. "And then through that we donate to the community and the Eastern Star Benevolent Fund," she said. The Benevolent Fund helps elderly members of Eastern Star when they are in a time of need.

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

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

Veterans Service Officer Garrett Skinner requested a parking space in the front of the Henry Woods Building reserved for Veterans. He said the Valor Act allowed for such a parking designation. The Select Board unanimously approved the parking space designation at their Dec. 15 meeting.

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 suffer loss at home

BARRE – The Quabbin Regional High School girls basketball team fell to Lunenburg 41-29 last Wednesday night to fall to 2-0 on the regular season. The Panthers are now 0-2 on the season as they also were defeated on the road at Leicester on Monday, Dec. 15. The girls will participate in a tournament on Saturday, Dec. 27 at Gardner High School with their first game at 5:30 p.m. The tournament will continue on Monday, Dec. 29.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Abby Rogowski crosses mid-court for the Panthers.



Mia Ducos passes on the run.



Makenzie Casey attempts a shot.



Izzy Doty squares up a shot.



Aubrey Torpe is pressured as she crosses mid-court.



Sienna Shaw looks for a way to get around her opponent.

Indians score win in opener

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Last week, North Brookfield grabbed a win against South Lancaster in its season opener 38-23. The Indians then faced off with Southbridge before getting a long break until the new year. The Indians will rematch with South Lancaster on Jan. 8.



Kalyn Roy holds the ball back as an opponent approaches.



Olivia Holmes tries to keep possession of the ball as she heads down the court.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli



Whitney Reno gets ready to shoot.



Sophie Dufresne drives into the arc.



Aiden Girard makes an inbound pass.



Cayden Bousquet attempts to get around an opponent.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Offense struggles in second half for Pioneers

SPRINGFIELD – Last Tuesday evening, Pathfinder had a tough time getting on the scoreboard in the third quarter and allowed Pioneer Valley Christian Academy to pull away with a 55-41 loss for the Pioneers.

Pathfinder would fall to 0-2 on the season after opening the season with a loss to Westfield Tech.

Pathfinder is back in action on Monday, Dec. 29 against St. Mary's High School at 7 p.m.



Angelo Rentas one-handedly throws the ball into the hoop.



Gabe Cardenales tries to overcome a block and shoot.

Panthers fall at Lunenburg

LUNENBURG – The Quabbin Regional High School boys basketball team opened up the regular season last week, with games against Leicester and Lunenburg.

Last Wednesday evening on the road at Lunenburg, the Panthers were defeated 65-58.

The Panthers have a pretty heavy schedule for the holidays as they will

participate in the Gardner Holiday Basketball tournament on Saturday, Dec. 27 and Monday, Dec. 29. The Panthers also face Oxford on Friday, Jan. 2 at 2 p.m.

Sports

@turleysports www.turleysports.com facebook.com/turleysports

Turleysports

Athlete of the Month

NAME: Mia Ducos
SCHOOL: Quabbin

Ducos is one of two seniors that is returning to the Panthers girls basketball team this season.

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



MOULTON

Insurance Agency

HOME – AUTO – BUSINESS – LIFE

Our Family Cares About Your Family

CONGRATULATIONS ATHLETE!

**Very Competitive Rates • Experienced Professional Staff
99% Claim Satisfaction Rate • On-site Registry Processing**

143 West Street
Ware, MA 01082

45 North Main Street
Belchertown, MA 01007

www.moultoninsurance.com

413-967-3327



Safety Insurance
AUTO • HOME • BUSINESS

Andrew Rogers recognized by MIAA

FRANKLIN – The MIAA recognized 21 game officials from across the state as the 2024-2025 Game Officials of the Year during a celebratory banquet held Monday, Dec. 15 at the Doubletree Milford.

The MIAA annually recognizes the best game officials from the over 5,000 officials in Massachusetts as nominated by their peers. The following individuals were nominated and ultimately selected as the best in their craft:

Among those recognized was longtime umpire Andrew Rogers from South Hadley. Rogers is also the umpire assignor for Western Mass. high school baseball and multiple adult leagues as well as American Legion summer baseball.

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20				21		22					23			
			24		25				26					
27	28	29		30				31			32	33	34	
35			36				37				38			
39						40					41			
42				43				44						
45				46				47				48		
			49					50			51			
52	53	54				55					56	57	58	59
60						61				62		63		
64						65						66		
67						68							69	

<p>CLUES ACROSS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Light cavalry 5. Coconut palms 10. Rounded knob 14. Central Japan city 15. Sandwiches 16. Shape produced by a curve 17. Ancient region in modern-day Syria 18. French modernist painter 19. Grandmother 20. Mammary gland of cattle 22. Rocky peak 23. Secret plan 24. Songs to one's lover 27. More (Spanish) 30. Father 31. Chinese principle underlying the universe 32. Ballplayer's accessory 35. Together 37. A person's brother or sister 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 38. Evil spirit 39. Monetary units 40. Partner to cheese 41. About Sun 42. Group of like-minded people 43. After B 44. Seaside room 45. Recipe measurement 46. Partly digested food 47. Flat-faced dog 48. People of southern Africa 49. Salts 52. Beard lichens 55. Sanders is one 56. Fencing sword 60. Ethnic group of Albania 61. Metric weight unit 63. Italian seaport 64. Longtime late night host 65. Extremely angry 66. Miami mascot 67. Mid-month day 68. Marked for omission 69. Body part 	<p>CLUES DOWN</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Two-toed sloth 2. Fat from a pig's abdomen 3. Romanian city 4. Specifies 5. Rounded, glaciated valley 6. Spoke 7. Collection of sacred books 8. Extravagantly theatrical 9. Very fast airplane 10. Forearm bones 11. Ancient kingdom 12. Legitimate: ___ fide 13. Semitransparent gemstone 21. Counsels 23. Head honcho 25. Cool! 26. Touch lightly 27. Extract money via taxation 28. Dyes 29. Cloying sweetness 32. Sodas 33. Coastal village in Guam 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 34. Chemical ring 36. The bill in a restaurant 37. Car mechanics group 38. One-time presidential candidate Dole 40. Health care for the aged 41. Wise persons 43. Passage with access at one end 44. Make a wound 46. America's spies 47. Roof of the mouth 49. Plants of the lily family 50. Pinkish-red color 51. Vaccine developer 52. Mottled citrus fruit 53. A place to store garden tools 54. Rare goose native to Hawaii 57. Popular Hollywood pig 58. Musician Clapton 59. A move exposing one to danger 61. Historic Spanish soldier 62. CNN's founder
--	---	--	--

GERMAN CHRISTMAS, from page 1

tree. In my family, my father always put on the lights and the angel for the top of the tree. My mother then placed her favorite ornament on the tree, followed by me and my brother.

Advent calendars
For young children, the days in December leading up to Christmas seem to take forever. For adults, the shortening days of the year make long nights that never end. Advent calendars, another German Christmas tradition, help make the time pass from the first day of the month to Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Advent, the arrival of a notable person, thing or event, in the Christian tradition noted the four Sundays leading to Christmas.

Advent calendars display the dates, Dec. 1 to Dec. 25 and often have pockets or tiny doors to hold a piece of candy or other small treat. There are advent calendar made of wood or some other durable material other than paper, which can be used year after year.

Embodying the spirit of German precision, the Advent calendars stand as a testament to Germany's cultural dedication to celebrating the holiday season.

Advent wreath
The Advent wreath is another German tradition adopted by many other countries. Many Christmas churches throughout the world observe Advent with the lighting of a different candle for the four Sundays leading up to Christmas.

The candle for the first week of Advent is the Hope or Prophet's Candle. The second week is the Love or Bethlehem candle. The third week is the Joy or Shepherd's Candle and is and the final week is the

Peace Candle. The candle in the center of the wreath is lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.

Some wreaths have purple candles for the first, second and fourth Sundays and pink or rose colored for the third Sunday. The center candle is usually white. Although some wreaths have candles of a single color such as red, blue or white.

The circular shape of the wreath represents the eternal nature of God. The evergreen branches represents the everlasting life found in Christ.

Christmas Eve candlelight service

Candlelit church services for Christians on Christmas is a cherished tradition for Germans over time. Worshipers gather as the night deepens and hold a lighted candle. Many churches for safety sake use battery powered candles. On church in Central Massachusetts has a crystal candle lite chandelier, which they light on Christmas Eve.

Christmas Eve

Christmas Eve or Heiligabend is known as the "Night of Wonder." For Germans and Scandinavian countries Christmas Eve, Dec. 24 holds a special place in the hearts of its people, as it marks the cherished tradition of the Holy Evening. This is the big gift-giving



Submitted photos
The Advent calendar is another German Christmas tradition. It marks the days of December to Christmas Day.



The Advent wreath is made with evergreen boughs shaped in a circular. It has four candles often three purple and one pink candle with a white candle in the middle. Many wreaths use the same color candle such as blue, red or white.

day. The eve also includes a feast.

Christmas Carols
Singing Christmas Carols is another German tradition. During the festive holiday season, cherished carols such as "Stille Nacht" (Silent Night) and "O Tannenbaum" (O Christmas Tree) evoke a profound sense of nostalgia and camaraderie among celebrants. Singing is an important part of the holiday season.

Christmas pyramids
Christmas pyramids or Weihnachtspyramiden are wooden structures adorned with intricately crafted figurines. As the candles placed at their base flicker, an age-old mechanism sets these pyramids into gentle motion, creating a mesmerizing dance.

Lebkuchen and Stollen
German Lebkuchen and Stollen are two baked items that are part of their Christmas tradition. Lebkuchen is a soft, nut filled ginger cookie. Stollen is a rum soaked spice cake.

Traditional Christmas drink

Feuerzangenbowle is another German tradition. This drink concoction involves a theatrical presentation that starts with a sugarloaf, drenched in rum, being set ablaze. The sugarloaf melts and drips into a steaming bowl of spiced wine, resulting in the popular holiday drink. T

Christmas Pickle

Incorporating a whimsical touch into the age-old tradition of adorning Christmas trees, some German households infuse a delightful element of surprise by discreetly concealing a pickle ornament amidst the lush evergreen boughs. This quaint custom, known as the "Christmas Pickle," has been a cherished holiday practice for generations. Children delight in the hunt to find the "Christmas Pickle."

Nativity Play

During the Christmas season, children eagerly participate in Krippenspiel, a Nativity play that reenacts the timeless story of Jesus's birth. They are complete with shepherds, angels and a humble manger. Many Christian churches hold Christmas pageants during the holiday season.

Other Christmas traditions

On St. Nicholas Day (Nikolaustag), Dec. 6 shoes are filled with surprises. St. Nicholas comes bearing small, but cherished gifts and delectable sweets. The day before, Dec. 5 marks the beginning of Krampusnacht in certain regions of Germany, where the ominous Krampus, the dreaded counterpart of the adored St. Nicholas is unleashed. Krampus roams the streets, punishing misbehaving children who end up on their lists of naughtiness.

Christmas Markets

In the realm of German Christmas traditions, one cannot omit the enchanting Christmas markets, affectionately referred to as "Weihnachtsmärkte." They offer an array of holiday foods ranging from sizzling bratwurst to sugary roasted almonds as well as handcraft-



No church Christmas is complete without a nativity play also known as a pageant, put on by children.

Church News

Local pastors offer sermons

Fourth Sunday in Advent

"The Son of God, our Love and our Salvation."

Scripture Reading:
Matthew 1 v 18 -25 and 1 John 4 v 7 - 12

I. Introduction

I was reflecting on how the birth of a child can bring so much joy into the life of the parents and loved ones.

This bundle of life is new to everyone and brings a distinctive set of characteristics that evokes deep feelings in those around her or him. It is also true, of course, that there are circumstances where the parent(s) of the little one may decide to let the baby go into foster care or for adoption. We also know that God is merciful to all involved and wherever the child is in loving care, those who have the privilege to receive this bundle of life are exposed to the deep source of life and love, Who is God, our Maker. Where there is loving care and the beautiful encounter with the little one, the intimate feelings of love and joy are remarkable.

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

It is clear from Scripture that the coming of the Messiah was the result of God's love for us

and that the role of this Messiah would be to love, to forgive our sins, to heal us and to bring us joy and peace.

The story of this child being conceived by a young woman, through the work of the Holy Spirit, makes God's participation in this relationship between Mary and Joseph unique, and powerful. It is filled with the Divine love of God and the Holy Spirit revealed through the birth of the Son of God, Jesus Christ. What a powerful act of Divine love in the history of the world. God's angel appears to Joseph here in Matthew and to Mary in the Gospel of Luke. They both received the miraculous and unbelievable news that would change their lives in that context, a period of the Roman Empire, a time of caution and fear.

Joseph was particularly concerned because of the law, which required the termination of the engagement in the case of adultery, according to R.T. France in his commentary on Matthew. But the angel encouraged him to accept Mary as his wife, give her son a name and Jesus would then be his son and the Son of David, his ancestor, as prophesied by Isaiah.

The love of God broke through the conventional

limitations of human laws and gave them a Child who would be the Messiah. It was a love that understood their circumstances, and the societal judgments that might follow and it is a love that sends a message to the world then and now, that God is love and God enters every circumstance, embraces everyone and God forgives and God heals our lives and cares.

The birth of Christ is an act of God's supreme love that is beyond the limitations of hdoes. The birth of Christ is God's way of saying, this Son of mine was born to show you a life of unconditional love, of compassion and of mercy and forgiveness. He wants to save you from yourselves and give you the love that gives you peace within. He wants to give you hope and joy.

He together with the Holy Spirit and God Almighty wants to walk with you and guide you in all your prayers, your sighs, your tears and your hopes and dreams. He was born to be near you, to fill the void in your life by entering those spaces in unexpected ways and bring you joy. And that's why, says John to his audience,

"Dear friends/beloved/ let us love one another, for love comes from God." Those who know God

will love, because they have received the capacity to love the way God wants them to love. And, that love does not hurt others, it can only be kind and gentle and caring.

III. Conclusion

This is what we are celebrating this week, the gift of God's love and act of forgiveness for

our sins and for giving us so many chances to come closer into the intimate circle of God's

love and peace. This is a week to bring to God our imperfections, and our desires to be like

Christ. It is a week to ask God for forgiveness and to forgive others.

It is a week to open our hearts and minds and souls to be filled with this love, and to go and show others what God has done for us. May Christmas 2025 be a time of love, healing and restoration and peace and joy in our homes and beyond.

May Christmas 2025 bring to our world this love and peace where there are pain and anger and violence and war and may we all find our own small ways to bring the message of this Christ Child to our world. May the Christ Child, Who is so much more than the little bundle, who arrives at the homes of their parents, inspire all of us to love with compassion and kindness.

Amen.

Pastor Margaret Keyser
Barre Congregationa
1 Church
30 Park St.,
Barre

Do You Know?

A series of enduring figures appear in the birth narratives of Christ.

Perhaps none are more central than that of Mary. Consider that this young girl, a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, was told she would supernaturally conceive a child, who would change the course of human history-a child who would be called the Son of the Most High, reigning over a kingdom that would never end (Lk. 1:31-33).

What did Mary feel toward this calling? More importantly for the sake of this edition, what did she know concerning the nature and mission of her child? These questions have fascinated scholars and students of Scripture for centuries! In many ways, answers shall forever elude us as Scripture reveals only the following concerning Mary and her response to the messages she received concerning her son:

Luke 2:19 (NIV)

19 . . . Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.

Of course, this has not stopped us from speculating: "What did Mary know?" In fact, one of the more popular songs of the season causes us to wonder at the depth and breadth of her insight through a series of unanswered questions: "Mary, Did You Know?"

Prayerfully consider the following lyrics:

Mary, did you know that your baby boy

Would one day walk on water?

Mary, did you know that your baby boy

Would save our sons and daughters?

Did you know that your baby boy

Has come to make you new?

This child that you delivered will soon deliver you

Mary, did you know that your baby boy

Would give sight to a blind man?

Mary, did you know that your baby boy

Would calm the storm with his hand?

Did you know that your baby boy

Has walked where angels trod?

When you kiss your little baby

You kiss the face of God

The blind will see, the deaf will hear

The dead will live again

The lame will leap, the

dumb will speak

The praises of the Lamb
Mary, did you know that your baby boy

Is Lord of all creation?
Mary, did you know that your baby boy

Would one day rule the nations?
Did you know that your baby boy

Is heaven's perfect Lamb?
That sleeping child you're

Holding is the great I Am

What did Mary know about the child that she bore? Truly, we do not know as the Word of God is silent on such matters. Perhaps we can ask her when we meet in eternity. However, I think a more pressing question is what do you know concerning Jesus in the here and now? What do you believe to be true about Him in 2022 and how does such knowledge impact the manner in which you live?

Give careful thought to these concluding questions:

Do you recognize His divine power? Do you know that the One who walked on water, calmed the storm, raised the dead and more is still alive and well, willing to work miracles on the behalf of those who look to Him (Matt. 7:7-8)?

Do you realize that Jesus is still able and willing to deliver you from the power of sin, restoring you to right relationship with God that you might know life eternal and abundant (John 3:16; 10:10)?

Do you know that Jesus is coming again to establish a kingdom that shall be both blessed and everlasting (Dan. 7:13-14)?

Do you recognize that an age will dawn when all who have been touched by Christ throughout space and time will assemble to glorify Him in a never-ending chorus of praise (Rev. 7:9-10)?

In some ways it doesn't matter what Mary knew in millennia past. What matters is what you know today and how you respond in kind. May this be a season of deeper devotion, enriched faith, and abounding joy.

Merry Christmas to you all.

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

Obituaries

Eugene F. Rich, 79

B A R R E / ALACHUA, FL- Eugene F. Rich, 79, of Alachua, Florida, passed away peacefully at home on Friday, Dec. 12, 2025.

He was born on July 20, 1946, in Boston.

Eugene grew up in Dorchester, and was raised by his mother, Edna Chase, and very special uncles and aunts. He is predeceased by his mother; his brother, Kenny and many aunts and uncles. He was also predeceased by the love of his life and angel, Donna Jean Kingsbury.

He leaves behind his loving children, son Michael Rich of Florida; son Eugene Rich and his wife Patricia Habink Rich of Ware; daughter Patricia Rich and her wife Jennifer Martin of Perry, Florida; and daughter Kimberly Rich of Tampa, Florida. He also leaves behind his Auntie Ronnie of Hyde Park; nine loving grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Eugene proudly enlisted into the Marine Corps on Dec. 22, 1967 and was Honorably Discharged on Jan. 8, 1972. During his time as a Marine, he served as a Rifleman, where he saw heavy combat action in Vietnam. He also served time as a Military Police (MP).

Some of the notable awards he earned include the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnamese Service Medal, and the Combat Action Ribbon, while rising to the rank of Sergeant (SGT).

Eugene married his best friend and love, Donna Jean, on May 17, 1975. He received a job opportunity to work for Stop & Shop in Marlborough, and it was here where the two of them started their family.

In the spring of 1986 Eugene moved his family to Barre, where he began his career in the United

DEATH NOTICE

Rich, Eugene F.
Died Dec. 12, 2025
Services Dec. 23, 2025

States Postal Service working at the Shrewsbury Distribution Center.

Eugene took pride in being a Marine, a husband, a son, and a father. He was well known for his strength, ability to persevere, and his GRIT. He would often remind everyone that when the going got tough, the tough got going. He also believed in not leaving anyone behind, a trait that was embedded in him from his years of service in the military.

His compassion, love, and determination all played pivotal roles in his later years as he took on the role of caregiver for his wife from 1996-2012. He demonstrated, with honors, what it meant to take care of the people you love and the sacrifices that come with that.

No one modeled that level of commitment better than him.

In 2019, Eugene moved to Alachua, Florida. Where he would spend his final years. He enjoyed sitting out on lanai, while watching golfers play the 15th fairway of Turkey Creek.

He loved cooking out, spending time with family, driving his golf cart around, and taking his dogs Charlie and Tim on walks. When he had time he would attend various Marine Corps gatherings, spending time bonding with others who had also proudly served their country.

The funeral for Eugene was held on Tuesday, Dec. 23, 2025 at 11 a.m. in Pillsbury Funeral Home 96 South Barre Road, Barre. Visitation was held from 10-11 a.m. prior to the service. Burial with full Military Honors followed in St. Joseph's Cemetery in Barre

Barre Gazette

OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

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

EARLY DEADLINES FOR ADS & LEGAL NOTICES

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

Friday, December 26 at 2 PM for January 1 issue

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

Monday, December 29 at 2 PM for January 1 issue

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

Tuesday, December 30 at 2 PM for January 2 issue

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

TURLEY PUBLICATIONS
24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069
413-283-8393 • www.turley.com



1158 Main Street Holden 508.829.4434 | 100 Worcester Road Sterling 978.422.0100

800-983-4434
www.milesfuneralhome.com



Honoring Lives ~ Celebrating Memories

Family Owned and Operated



Richard Mansfield
Director



Ricky Mansfield
Director

Nationally recognized as a Selected Independent Funeral Home with the highest ethical and professional standards.



BBB Award Recipient



Public Safety

Barre Police Log

Sunday, Nov. 30
4:51 p.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, Main Street, Returned

7:06 p.m. Fire – Structure Fires, Valley Road, Investigated
11:13 p.m. Safety Concern, Peach Street, Officer Spoke to Party

Monday, Dec. 1
8:32 a.m. Erratic Operator, Hubbardston Road, Verbal Warning

8:59 a.m. Vandalism, Root Road, Report Filed

9:13 a.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Old Petersham Road, Officer/Chief Advised

9:19 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Ruggles Lane, Transported to Hospital

10:29 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Main Street, Transported to Hospital

3:52 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Main Street, Investigated

7:33 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Everett Road, Gone on Arrival

11:53 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Ruggles Lane, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Tuesday, Dec. 2
5:12 a.m. Fraud or Forgery, Clem Court, Report Filed

9:46 a.m. Unwanted Party, South Street, Party Departed without Incident

10:30 p.m. Road Condition Notification, Hubbardston Road, Referred to Other Agency

12:37 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Main Street, Transported to Hospital

12:47 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Mechanic Street, Vehicle Towed

1:10 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle

Collision, School North Street, Vehicle Towed

2:15 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, South Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal

5:50 p.m. Road Condition Notification, Hardwick Road, Information Given

9:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Old Dana Road, Removed from Scene

Wednesday, Dec. 3
12:06 a.m. Animal – ACO Call, Gauthier Road, Officer Spoke to Party

1:41 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Fir Street, No Action Required

6:52 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Valley Road, Information Given

11:57 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Wheelwright Road, Transported to Hospital

12:40 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Ruggles Lane, Mutual Aid Transport

12:41 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Circle Road, Mutual Aid Transport

4:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, South Street, No Action Required

Thursday, Dec. 4
8:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Written Warning

4:09 p.m. Road/Traffic Hazard, Old Coldbrook Road, Unfounded

5:18 p.m. Harassment Service – Information – Violence, South Street, Criminal Complaint

Summons Ruggere, Todd A., 51, Southbridge
Charges Harassment, Criminal

Friday, Dec. 5
2:17 a.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Summer Street, Officer Spoke to Party

8:42 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, North Brookfield Road, Transported to Hospital

9:29 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident – No Fire Department/EMS Response, Common Street, Officer/Chief Advised

1:25 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident – No Fire Department/EMS Response, Old Hardwick Road, Report Filed

2:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hubbardston Road, Citation Issued

3 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Worcester Road, Report Filed

Summons Cordero, Alberto, 49, Worcester
Larceny By Check Over \$1200 c266 §37 & §30(1)

3:22 p.m. Property Damage, South Street, Report Filed

5:47 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Gauthier Road, Transported to Hospital

11:18 p.m. Abandoned Vehicles – Parking Issues, South Barre Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Saturday, Dec. 6
8:29 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Ruggles Lane, transported to Hospital

8:39 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, South Barre Road, Officer Spoke to Party

8:42 a.m. Fire – Power Lines/Wires, Oakham Road, Referred to Other Agency

8:58 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Stroke (CVA), Pleasant Street, Transported to Hospital

1:24 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Exchange Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal

8:53 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Old Dana Road, Negative Contact

Sunday, Nov. 30
1:56 a.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Pommogussett Road, Officer Spoke to Party

7:28 a.m. Fire – Power Lines/Wires, Pleasantdale Road, Unfounded

12:29 p.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Intervale Road, Information Given

23:37 p.m. Erratic Operator, Maple Avenue, Negative Contact

Monday, Dec. 1
3:22 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle/Parking Issues, Maple Avenue, Citation Issued

3:44 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle/Parking Issues, Oakridge Road, Citation Issued

3:58 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle/Parking Issues, Tanglewood Circle, Citation Issued

4:08 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle/Parking Issues, Cheryl Ann Drive, Citation Issued

5:29 a.m. Road Condition Notification, Barre Paxton Road, Investigated

8:40 a.m. Erratic Operator, Worcester Road, Negative Contact

11:07 a.m. Harassment, Main Street, Report Filed

11:07 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Brintnal Drive, Officer Spoke to Party

12:10 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Beechwood Drive, Transported to Hospital

3:37 p.m. Fire – Smoke Investigation, Glenwood Road, Fire Extinguished

4:21 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Miles Road, No Transport Required

7:51 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Main Street, Investigated

11:48 p.m. Abandoned Vehicle/Parking Issues, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party

Tuesday, Dec. 2
5:13 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

8:08 a.m. Follow-Up Investigation, Main Street, Investigated

Summons Bodwell, Erik G., 30, South Barre
Charges Assault and Battery, Vandalize Property c266 §126A

11:03 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Neurological/Head Injury, Muschopauge Road, Transported to Hospital

11:21 a.m. Fire – Miscellaneous Fire, Edith Lane, Fire Extinguished

11:52 a.m. Complaint, Paddock Road, Negative Contact

11:57 a.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Maple Avenue, Removed from Scene

12:36 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Maple Avenue, Report Filed

2:11 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Prospect Street, Officer/Chief Advised

2:57 p.m. Complaint, Paddock Road, Area Search Negative

4:16 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Pommogussett Road, Removed from Scene

5:06 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls/Injury, Main Street, Ambulance Signed

Refusal
Wednesday, Dec. 3
8:03 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Glenwood Road, Transported to Hospital

8:36 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Crawford Road, Report Filed

8:52 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Vehicle Towed

8:59 a.m. Fire – Propane Incident, Main Street, Investigated

9:28 a.m. Lockout (Home or Vehicle), Pommogussett Road, Entry Gained

12:12 p.m. Landlord Tenant/Neighbor Dispute, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party

1:42 p.m. Follow-up Investigation, Rutland Police Department, Investigated

Summons Ribeiro de Souza, Atila, 41, Worcester
Charges Forgery of Check, Utter False Check, Larceny Under \$1200 by False Pretense

4:28 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, East Hill Road, Officer Spoke to Party

5:37 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Barre Paxton Road, Transported to Hospital

8:01 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Pleasantdale Road, Transported to Hospital

8:38 p.m. Be On Look Out Notification, Rutland Regional Dispatch Center, Information Given

Thursday, Dec. 4
6:24 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Barre Paxton Road, Report Filed

7:27 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Main Street, Transported to Hospital

11:33 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning

11:45 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Citation Issued

12 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Brintnal Drive, Officer Spoke to Party

12:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Citation Issued

1:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Citation Issued

2:29 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, Campbell Street, Negative Contact

3:13 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Athens Avenue, Ambulance Signed Refusal

3:19 p.m. Disturbance/Disorderly, Main Street, Peace Restored

6:41 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Leominster, Investigated

7:12 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Lantern Lane, Ambulance Signed Refusal

7:28 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Animal Bites, Jamie Ann Drive, Referred to Other Agency

11:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

11:16 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written

Warning
11:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning

11:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Written Warning

Friday, Dec. 5
9:01 a.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Pioneer Circle, Returned

10:35 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Pleasantdale Road, Transported to Hospital

10:39 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Criminal Complaint

Summons Coleman, Christian Addison, 40, Worcester
Charges Registration Suspended, Operating Motor Vehicle With

10:58 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Citation Issued

10:58 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Citation Issued

1:22 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Ridge Road Transported to Hospital

1:48 p.m. Animal – Wildlife, Main Street, Negative Contact

3:46 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Abdominal/Back Pain, Main Street, Transported to Hospital

Saturday, Dec. 6
1 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint

Summons Simmons, Chagarius Lamarze, 37, Worcester
Charge Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle, Inspection/Sticker, No

8:07 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, Auburn, Officer Spoke to Party

10:47 a.m. Identity Theft, Kenwood Drive, Report Filed

11 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, East Country Road, Area Search Negative

11:48 a.m. Catheter Issues, Lewis Street, Transported to Hospital

12:14 p.m. Property – Lost/Found/Surrender, Village Way, Officer Spoke to Party

4:55 p.m. Lockout (Home or Vehicle), Main Street, Entry Gained

6:27 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Coldbrook Road, Transported to Hospital

6:33 p.m. Noise Complaint, Maple Avenue, Information Taken

6:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

8:56 p.m. Road Condition Notification, East Country Road, Referred to Other Agency

10:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued

10:36 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Overdose/Poisoning, Bethany Drive, Ambulance Signed Refusal

11:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Citation Issued

11:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning

Oakham Police Log

Monday, Dec. 1
8:40 a.m. Erratic Operator, Worcester Road, Negative Contact

12:33 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Crawford Road, Officer Spoke to Party

12:56 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Welfare Check, Rutherford Road, Negative Contact

Tuesday, Dec. 2
11:19 a.m. Fire – Public Service Call, Hunt Road, Mutual Aid Assist

7:44 p.m. Complaint, Old Schoolhouse Road, Officer/Chief Advised

Wednesday, Dec. 3
1:20 p.m. Lockout (Home or Vehicle), Old Turnpike Road, Entry Gained

3:11 p.m. Lockout (Home or Vehicle), Old Turnpike Road, Entry Gained

Thursday, Dec. 4
8:43 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Worcester Road, Negative Contact

10:58 a.m. Road /Traffic

Hazard, Skyline Drive, Officer Spoke to Party

3:39 p.m. Complaint, Edson Road, Information Taken

Friday, Dec. 5
11:42 a.m. Property Exchange, Coldbrook Road, Officer/Chief Advised

Saturday, Dec. 6
2:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Old Turnpike Road, Public Assist

6:27 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Coldbrook Road, Transported to Hospital

New Braintree Police Log

During the week of Dec. 8-15, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 15 building/property checks, 17 directed/area patrols, nine radar assignments, four emergency 911 calls, five citizen assists, two assist other agencies, one fraud, one complaint, one disturbance, one animal call and one motor vehicle stop in the town of New Braintree.

Monday, Dec. 8
11:03 a.m. Assist Other Agency, ACO Report, Dispatch Handled

11:06 a.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

11:15 a.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

1:57 p.m. Fraud, West

Brookfield Road, Investigated

Tuesday, Dec. 9
9:21 a.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

2:20 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

2:47 p.m. Medical Emergency, West Brookfield Road, Services Rendered

7:15 p.m. Disturbance, Memorial Drive Peace Restored

Wednesday, Dec. 10
10:23 a.m. Suspicious Activity, Unitas Road, Spoken To

Thursday, Dec. 11
4:13 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hardwick Road, Citation Issued

11:35 a.m. Utility Issues, Dennis Whitney Road, Referred to Other Agency

11:54 a.m. Complaint, West

Brookfield Road, Report Taken

12:46 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Oakham Road, Transported to Hospital

12:54 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Gilbertville Road, Spoken To

3:35 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Pierce Road, Officer Handled

Friday, Dec. 12
9:28 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Sibley Road, Transported to Hospital

1:10 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Barre Road, Transported to Hospital

4 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

Hubbardston Police Log

Sunday, Nov. 30
11:51 a.m. Fraud or Forgery, Main Street, Officer/Chief Advised

6:03 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Sick/Unknown, Burnshirt Road, Mutual Aid Transport

8:59 a.m. Fire – Fumes/Odor/Gas Leak, Woodview Drive, Investigated

Monday, Dec. 1
8:17 a.m. Landlord/Tenant / Neighbor Dispute, Williamsville Road, Officer Spoke to Party

12:20 p.m. Fire – Vehicle Fires, Flagg Road, Fire Extinguished

3:29 p.m. Suspicious/Vehicle Activity, Williamsville Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Tuesday, Dec. 2
8:07 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Pitcherville Road, Report Filed

11:45 a.m. Safety Concern, Williamsville Road, Officer Spoke to Party

1:35 p.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Mare Meadow Lane, Officer Spoke to Party

2:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Williamsville Road, Officer/Chief Advised

11:37 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Mutual Aid Transport

Wednesday, Dec. 3
2:56 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle – Parking Issues, Williamsville Cutoff Road, Information Given

6:26 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Ragged Hill Road, Vehicle Towed

11:28 a.m. Property Damage, Healdville Road, Report Filed

11:29 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Madison Way, No Transport Required

Thursday, Dec. 4
8:42 a.m. Larceny or Theft, Ed Clark Road, Report Filed

12:16 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, New Westminster Road, Officer Spoke to Party

12:57 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Old Princeton Cutoff Road, Transported to Hospital

4:31 p.m. ACO Lost and Found/Wildlife, Lombard Road, Area Search Negative

4:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Hale Road, Negative Contact

5:12 p.m. Tree Incidents (No Wires) Old Boston Turnpike, Removed from Scene

Friday, Dec. 5
12:13 p.m. ACO Lost and Found/Wildlife, Pitcherville Road, Returned

12:32 p.m. Road Condition Notification, Mt. Jefferson Road, Information Given

1:08 p.m. Property Dispute, Lombard Road, Report Filed

2:44 p.m. Emergency Medical Service – Falls, Evergreen Road, Transported to Hospital

3:01 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, New Westminster Road, Information Given

Saturday, Dec. 6
8:28 a.m. Lockout (Home or Vehicle), South Cove Road, Entry Gained

8:32 a.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Main Street, Information Given

9:09 a.m. Trespasser or Prowler, Brigham Street, Investigated

Job Connection

HELPING YOU FIND HELP

Town of Warren Town Accountant

JOB OPPORTUNITY
Full-Time – Town Benefited Position
32 hours per week, Monday to Thursday

The Town of Warren is actively seeking a qualified professional to fill the position of Town Accountant. The Town is seeking a dedicated and enthusiastic Accountant to join our team. Strong organizational skills, excellent customer service skills, municipal finance and Vadar experience preferred. A complete job description can be found on the Town's website www.warren-ma.gov.

Please email or mail your resume and cover letter to the Town Administrator, Jim Ferrera, townadministrator@warren-ma.gov or by mail to 48 High Street, P.O. Box 609, Warren, MA 01083.

Salary range is negotiable from \$60,000 to \$64,500 and is based on relevant work experience, certifications, and educational background. Position open until filled, with a first look at resumes starting on December 22, 2025.

Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

FOR SALE

FIREWOOD

DRY FIREWOOD
Oak/maple, cut/split/delivered, \$300 a cord, \$285 for 2 or more. Edwin Wroblewski Logging, 413-824-0731. *Buying standing timber, paying good money.*

FIREWOOD
Fresh cut & split \$225.00 Seasoned cut & split \$325.00 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. \$2K Tax Credit. Call (508)882-0178

WANTED

ALWAYS BUYING ALL ANTIQUES:
Musical instruments, guitars, horns, keyboards, vintage electronics, jewelry, coins, watches, military cameras, sports memorabilia, art, sterling, signs, automotive, hunting, advertising, radios, ham radio equipment, audio equipment, toys, one item or entire estate.
Call Paul 413-206-8688.

SERVICES

ELECTRICIAN

PJ's Electrical MASTER ELECTRICIAN
• Licensed & Insured •
Providing safe, reliable electrical services for residential and commercial projects.
NOW OFFERING FREE CONSULTATIONS.
Call today to schedule your appointment. (413) 366-1703 (Lic. #24046-A)

JAMES FERRIS: LICENSE #E16303
Free estimates. Insured. 50 years experience. No job too small.
Cell (413)330-3682

LICENSED ELECTRICIAN
I offer good quality electrical work, no project too small. Service upgrades, pools, trustworthy, dependable & insured. Master Elec. #20773A. Text/call Luis 413-218-3301.

SERVICES

HOME IMPROVEMENT

CHAMELEON PAINTING & REMODELING
INTERIOR/EXTERIOR
Remodeling & Deck Specialists
Residential/Commercial
Fully Insured • Free Estimates
413-351-1147

SERVICES

PLUMBING

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

SERVICES

STUMP GRINDING

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

PETS

GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPS Champion Czech and Belgian bloodlines. 30 years experience. 3M, 2F. Ready, w/shots. Now \$1,200. 413-218-2321

WANTED

WANTED TO BUY

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

JUNK REMOVAL

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

ZEN ELECTRIC COMPANY LLC
Fully licensed and insured; Master Electrician on staff. Call for all your electrical needs. No job too small. Senior citizen and Veteran Discount. A veteran owned company. MA License #8101A1.
Call John at (413) 206-6509
Every customer gets a free gem stone.

INSTRUCTION

NRA Certified Basic Pistol Course with Live Fire for License to Carry permit \$140. Matt Marcinkiewicz muscione@hotmail.com 413-537-0620

RUBBISH REMOVAL

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

AUTO

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

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.

TUNE-UPS

SNOWBLOWER & LAWNMOWER TUNE UP & REPAIR
A&M TUNE-UPS
Snowblowers, Push Lawnmowers, Riding Mowers & Small Engine Repair. Work done at your home.
Call Mike (413) 348-7967

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

SNOWPLOWING

RESIDENTIAL Snowplowing Service. Wilbraham residential only Call or Text now. Limited space available. 413-519-5439

HELP WANTED

LUDLOW PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT PARA-EDUCATOR.
Submit resume and letter of intent to: www.schoolspring.com

WANTED

WANTED TO BUY

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

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

TUNE-UPS

SNOWBLOWER & LAWNMOWER TUNE UP & REPAIR
A&M TUNE-UPS
Snowblowers, Push Lawnmowers, Riding Mowers & Small Engine Repair. Work done at your home.
Call Mike (413) 348-7967

PAINTING

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

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

REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT

EARLY DEADLINE

In observance of **NEW YEAR'S** for Dec. 29-Jan. 2 newspapers there will be an **EARLY CLASSIFIEDS DEADLINE!** Place your advertisement no later than **Friday, Dec. 26 at 3 p.m.**

A TURLEY PUBLICATION
24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069 • 413-283-8393 • www.turley.com

Buying? Selling?

Our Classifieds Get Results!

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

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Handyman Services
Walker Home Improvement
Finish Carpentry • Framing • Drywall • Painting • & more!
(413) 687-5552

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.

QUAINT WEST BROOKFIELD BROOKHAVEN LAKE by babbling brook, I-shaped 2bdm. ranch, 2/full baths, finished basement, walkout slider, enclosed front porch. Enjoy nature trails, very quiet private area. \$2850/monthly rental fee. Bernice Stone 774-262-6667.

FOR RENT

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

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

FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 DEADLINES: **FRIDAY 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 Base Price \$26.00
21 Base Price \$26.50	22 Base Price \$27.00	23 Base Price \$27.50	24 Base Price \$28.00
25 Base Price \$28.50	26 Base Price \$29.00	27 Base Price \$29.50	28 Base Price \$30.00
29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
37 Base Price \$34.50	38 Base Price \$35.00	39 Base Price \$35.50	40 Base Price \$36.00

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

Quabbin Village Hills
Circulation: 50,500

Suburban Residential
Circulation: 59,000

Hilltowns
Circulation: 9,800

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

GREAT VALUE!
ALL 3 ZONES NOW FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!
Make checks payable to Turley Publications

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

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

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

Boxwood trees made at the Town House

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

HARDWICK – The Friends of the Paige Memorial Library hosted a boxwood Christmas tree workshop at the Town House last week.

Boxwood is a thick shrub and a member of the evergreen family. There was a great turnout at the Town House for this workshop as dozens of boxwood trees were being put together.

Running the workshop was Lynn Hartman of Hartman's Herb Farm in Barre.

Hartman has been doing these workshops for 45 years and boxwood trees are usually offered during the holidays. Imagine how good a boxwood tree would look in your home as you decorate for the holidays.

"A boxwood tree for the house," Hartman said.

Hartman also instructs dry flower wreath workshops year-round.



A boxwood tree workshop was held at the Town House. The event had a great turnout as boxwood covered all the tables.

The supplies came from a farm in Williamsburg, Virginia. Hartman had boxes of boxwood from the Virginia Boxwood Company. This company provides a sustainable service that maintains, cultivates and harvests boxwood from the historic state of Virginia, which has some

of the oldest and finest boxwood to be found in North America.

Boxwood is used a lot for landscape and is capable to stay green all year. Though it dries out, Hartman said it keeps its' shape. For decorations, Hartman provided straw flowers, statice and

other trinkets to go with the boxwood.

This popular shrub made its way to the Americas in the 1600s, becoming a staple in Colonial and Victorian gardens. During the 19th century, boxwood became extremely popular for formal gardens and was used in holiday dec-



A sample of a boxwood tree made by Lynn Hartman of Hartman's Herb Farm in Barre.

orations, such as Christmas wreaths.

Having these workshops proves that boxwood is now famous for topiaries and formal designs.

Today, its popularity continues to exist for both ornamental shaping and historical significance. Historically, besides becoming a staple in landscaping, boxwood was used for medicinal purposes.

Its bark and leaves were used for fever and rheumatism.

There was floral foam being used to help keep the boxwood branches in place. It was messy but fun for those who attended the boxwood tree workshop.

The crafters who attended this workshop were excited to bring their own boxwood tree to their homes for the holiday season.

Your BUYLINE CONNECTION

END OF SEASON SALE!!!!
TOY CLEARANCE SALE!
SAVE UP TO 70%!!!

OPEN XMAS EVE 8AM-8PM!
GIANT APPLIANCE REBATES!!!
MATTRESS SALE!!!
GIANT TOY SELECTION!

12 MONTHS 0% FINANCING
WHITCO
140 Main St., Spencer
www.whitcosales.com
508-885-9343

Open: Mon.-Fri. 9am-10pm, Sat. 9am-8pm, Sun. 10am-7pm

AVAILABLE NOW - HOLLAND, MA

Beautifully maintained Colonial with beach rights! Nestled in Massaconnet Lake Estates, this charming 3-bed, 2.5-bath home blends comfort and convenience. Sun-filled living room w/ bay windows and hardwood flooring. Updated kitchen offers stainless-steel appliances, tile backsplash, and ample cabinet space. Formal dining area opens to a private deck, perfect for entertaining. Spacious primary suite w/ a walk-in closet and ensuite bath. Two additional bedrooms and another full bath complete the second floor. Fresh paint throughout, new flooring, and brand-new laundry room. Tantasqua school district, private yard, paved driveway with ample parking, and close proximity to Routes 84, 20 and the Mass Pike! Available for \$439,900.

YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS

We Do More So You Will Make More!!!

exp REALTY
130 W. Main Street
Spencer, MA 01562

Michelle Terry
Broker
michelleterryteam.com

GIVE US A CALL TODAY! 508-202-0008

Accepting New Patients

KELLY & VELÁZQUEZ EYE CENTER

PETER J. KELLY, M.D., P.C.
LEONARDO J. VELÁZQUEZ, M.D.
DENNIS M. DORANS, O.D.
KELLY N. POULIOT, O.D.

1504 North Main St. Palmer, MA 01069 (413) 283-3511
362 Sewall St. Ludlow, MA 01056 (413) 589-7308

PALMER HOURS: Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
LUDLOW HOURS: Hours vary, please call

MS + NN PAINTING AND HOME MAINTENANCE

INTERIOR/EXTERIOR Home Painting & Maintenance

Residential/Commercial – Deck Specialists
NO JOB IS TOO SMALL – FREE ESTIMATES
Fully Insured – HIC License Holders
81 Jackson Lane, Barre, MA 01005
774-321-4509
Mmguzman.2011@yahoo.com

Country Canine KENNELS

Boarding, Grooming, Daycare

Boarding starting at \$40 a night
Daycare starting at \$26 a day

84 Greenwich Plains Road
Ware, MA 01082
(413) 277-0334 Office Phone
countrycaninekennels@gmail.com

Get the Facts. Subscribe Today!

413.283.8393 • newspapers.turley.com

12 HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS
24 Water St., Palmer
80 Main St., Ware

Turley Publications, Inc.

WHERE EVERYONE GOES FOR THEIR PIECE OF THE EARTH!

LANDSCAPE STONE
White • Blue • Purple • Red
Lt Gray • Dark Gray • Beige • Rip Rap

SCREENED LOAM STORED IN BUILDING

Construction Stone • Title V & Presby Septic Sand
Concrete Sand • Chicken Coop Sand • Utility Sand
Pool Liner Sand • Stone Dust • Silt • Crushed Gravel
Crushed Asphalt • Crushed Concrete • Cold Patch

Homeowner Friendly • No Minimums
PICK-UP OR CALL TO SCHEDULE YOUR DELIVERY TODAY!

Bond Sand, Gravel & Asphalt
98 North Spencer Rd., Spencer
bondsandandgravel.com
508-885-6100
508-885-2480

JARS Café & Bakery

23 Summer Street
North Brookfield
MA 01535

- ❖ COFFEE
- ❖ GLUTEN FREE OPTIONS
- ❖ BREAKFAST SANDWICHES
- ❖ SOUPS
- ❖ COOKIES
- ❖ MUFFINS
- ❖ PASTRIES

508-637-1577
Tues.-Sat. 8am-2pm
Sun. 9am-2pm

Bring in entire ad for one FREE Beverage with purchase of a baked good. Tues.-Thurs. 8am-10am

Adventure tours of Warren
Share the Adventure with us!

Happy Holidays!

May 248-Day Bermuda & Halifax Cruise.....from \$1699
June 9-12 4-Day Boothbay Harbor Vacation\$899
June 27Lake George Cruise & Lunch\$185
July 18-Day Bermuda & Halifax Cruise.....from \$1699
Aug 30.....8-Day Nova Scotia Cruisefrom \$1699

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

NO ENTRANCE FEE

Mobile Home located in Waterwheel Village at 31 Edward Lane, Barre, MA 01005. This is a 55 and better community. This home includes a wonderful floor plan with very spacious rooms. Master bedroom includes a walk-in closet. Two full bathrooms. A four-season sunroom is off the kitchen. Includes two large woodsheds and a metal garage you can park under to fend off winter weather. Asking \$288,000. See listing on MLS # 73433198

NO ENTRANCE FEE

Brand New Mobile Home located in Waterwheel Village at 37 Gauthier Rd., Barre. This is a 55 and better community. This home features an open kitchen/living room concept, perfect for family gatherings. Two large bedrooms on opposite ends of the home. Master bedroom has a walk-in closet and large attached bathroom. Just off the kitchen is a laundry area with door leading to back deck and yard. There is a monthly HOA fee which includes water, sewage, rubbish removal, and taxes. All exterior and interior doorways are 36" wide. Asking \$194,000. See listing on MLS # 73397436

NO ENTRANCE FEE

Mobile Home located in Waterwheel Village at 32 Edward Lane, Barre, MA 01005. This is a 55 and better community. Includes large carport and two large garden sheds. Approx. living area 1,000 SqFt. Asking \$139,900. See listing on MLS # 73398863.

Call Today!
978-355-4438
978-355-3454
paulraymondvarney@gmail.com

WATERWHEEL REALTY Paul Varney Sr.
Real Estate Broker and Owner