

# BARRE GAZETTE

USPS 044560

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

December 28, 2023 | Vol. 189, No. 39 | \$1.00

www.barregazette.turley.com



File photos  
**Kelsey Marsh ties purple ribbons on the granite posts on Barre Common in February.**



**The ice rink on Barre Common is up and waiting for cold weather so skaters use it. The rink will again be installed for 2024.**



**Quabbin NJROTC senior cadets piped over the side at change of command**

## Barre Year in Review 2023

By **Ellenor Downer**  
Editor  
edowner@turley.com

**BARRE** – The town's oldest citizen, Bessie Difley, died at the age of 109.

The Quabbin Regional School District Superintendent Dr. Sheila Muir retired at the end of June and Town Administrator Jessica Sizer left on March 31 for another position.

### JANUARY

Quabbin Regional School District Superintendent Dr. Sheila Muir submitted her letter of retirement at the Jan. 12 Quabbin Regional School District Committee meeting effective June 30 of this year. She said she felt honored to

have worked here. She began as a student at Quabbin Regional High School, then a teacher, an administrator for the district, assistant superintendent and superintendent.

QRSD School Committee chair, Mark Brophy said at the Jan. 12 meeting she was an excellent leader and would have loved her to stay longer. He said the school committee would form a Superintendent Search Committee. He also said the superintendent is the "number one position" the school committee fills.

Craig Peacock, a partner for Powers and Sullivan, LLC, joined the school committee via Zoom to give the annual audit report on Thursday, Jan. 12. He said the audit was well run. Anything he asked the Quabbin team, he received right away. He said the school district

received "a clean audit," which is the best outcome possible.

He said the Director of Administrative Services Cheryl Duval and her team do a "great job" and he could not say "enough about your finance team." Every year, his firm received about 90% of the documents weeks before the audit began. During the year, if the team had a question on how to handle a transaction and were not sure how to do it, they asked the auditor. There were no permanent audit adjustment to make. He said the district received \$3.8 million this year in federal expenditures and federal money managed by the state of Massachusetts. It was all accounted for and properly spent.

The Barre/Hardwick Senior Center/Council on Aging held a

Health Day Fair on Thursday, Jan. 26 from 9 a.m.-noon. The COA put together a great list of partners for this Health Day Fair.

Matthew Urban, a member of the Planning Board and former Select Board member, attended Tuesday, Jan. 17 Select Board meeting regarding implementation of a general by-law passed at Annual Town Meeting to record board and committee meetings.

Marshall said more boards and committees could meet in the Select Board meeting room, which already had recording equipment. She said some boards and committee members said if they met in the room with recording equipment, they would not be close to their records. Select Board Vice-Chair Gregory O'Sullivan said they originally talk-

ed about having five hard wired sites. Marshall said even one more site would be helpful.

The Barre Lions Club will have the Mass. District 33A's new Sightmobile on site to do eye-sight and hearing screenings. Walgreens will administer Tetanus, Pneumonia, Flu, Covid and Shingles shots.

Mass. College of Pharmacy & Health Science The Wachusett Medical Corps will provide blood pressure and diabetes screenings.

Pfizer will be presenting informational materials.

About three to four inches of snow covered the area on the morning of Tuesday, Jan. 24. Snow began falling on Sunday, Jan. 22, turned to rain and then returned to snow later in the day.

The Barre Fire Department responded to a two alarm fire at Hartman's Herb Farm, located at 1026 Old Dana Road, Thursday, Jan. 26. The fire destroyed three greenhouses and the family lost a pet sheep. On Thursday, Jan. 26 at 1:28 p.m. Rutland Emergency Communication Center received a 911 call reporting a building on fire at the Old Dana Road address. Firefighters knocked down the fire in about ten minutes and companies remained on scene for 1.5 hours performing overall. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

### FEBRUARY

After previously holding a dog hearing regarding a barking dog, the

See **BARRE YIR**, page 9

## Select Board evaluates town administrator

**Boudreau receives a score of 84.7 out of 90**

By **Ellenor Downer**  
Editor  
edowner@turley.com

**HUBBARDSTON** – Select Board Chair Jeff Williams said he met with Town Administrator Nathan Boudreau on the results of his first year evaluation.

Four of the five members of the Select Board filled out evaluations. Town Administrator Boudreau received a score of 84.7 out of a possible 90. Select Board Chair Williams said this was a very good score.

At their Monday, Dec. 18 meeting, the Select Board gave him high scores on visibility, visual skills and ability to make presentations with easy to follow instructions. Chair Williams said he was a "driven" individual, which was a positive.

Other strengths he brings to the town included ability to handle limited resources, finding way to be inclusive, his eagerness to try new things and his "incredible network with politicians and other Town Administrators."

When the Select Board hired Boudreau, he admitted one of his weak points was budget and financial aspects of town government. Select Board Chair Williams said

he improved in that aspect. He thanked him for a good year and said he looked forward to many more.

Both Select Board Vice-Chair Katie Young and Select Board Clerk Heather Munroe said he had a good first year and looked forward to future years. Select Board member Peter Walker said he did a great job and he did more than previous Town Administrators in networking and transparency.

Host Community Agreements  
Select Board Chair Williams said when the town voted for marijuana establishments there was a chance of receiving revenue. Under a new agreement at the Boston level, the town will receive no funds from the marijuana establishments in town. Town Administrator Boudreau recommended the town hold off on doing anything at this time as Town Counsel KP Law said they expected potential new legislation or potential lawsuits regarding this matter.

Select Board member Walker said other communities that welcomed these establishments feel the same way and most expected to receive some money. Select Board Clerk Munroe said people felt burnt on this and said should the town keep the door open or say "no more."

Select Board Williams said the towns that got involved early did receive some payments, but Hubbardston was not one of those. Town Administrator Boudreau said there was still a possibility the town could invoice for police ser-

## Lyric Silhouette Workshop for Youth

By **Ryan Drago**  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

**BARRE** - The Woods Memorial Library offered a fun art workshop for kids in the form of lyric silhouettes.

Silhouettes are images of a person, animal, object or scene represented as a solid shape of a single color, usually black, with its edges matching the outline of the subject. The interior of a silhouette is featureless, but a lyric silhouette fills the interior of the image.

This fun music themed art features versus and lyrics to create a texturized style of artwork. The lyrics are included in the interior of the silhouette and is usually connected to the image that is initially chosen.

Running the workshop is Kayla Phillips, the youth services librarian at Woods Memorial Library. Phillips has hosted many workshops and activities for children and teens who visit the

library and is always working on new ideas that interest the youth.

Recently, Phillips offered a lyric silhouette workshop for kids and teens. Walks ins were welcome as Phillips had all the tools supplied for the workshop. Phillips even had a really creative sample of what a lyric silhouette might look like.

The image featured a character from a Gorillaz album with lyrics from songs by the band as part of the interior of the animated character. In addition to music, silhouettes can also be characters from books.

The process begins with finding an image of a character and printing out a hard copy for tracing. Then, artists do a simple tracing of the silhouette onto a blank sheet of white paper. Afterwards, when the silhouette is complete the text can be added to the interior of the image.

Many attendees of the lyric silhouette workshop new exactly what they wanted to create.

"I know the kids would like it",



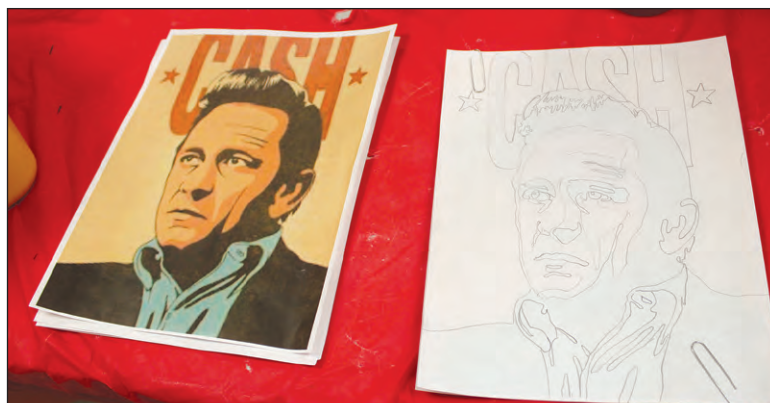
**Woods Memorial Library offers many art activities for children and teens, including a lyric silhouette art workshop. This lyric silhouette art piece is a sample created by Kayla Phillips featuring artwork from a Gorillaz album.**

said Phillips.

Several children looked through cartoon images and music artists. The most popular music artist chosen for the lyric silhouette was Taylor Swift. The staff

got involved with the project as one of the librarians did a silhouette of a guitar.

See **LYRIC SILHOUETTE**, page 6



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago  
**The silhouette begins with a sketch of an image that may feature an artist or a symbol. A sketch of Johnny Cash done by Phillips.**



**Children enjoyed the program as they used a table to sketch their chosen silhouettes.**



See **HUBBARDSTON**, page 5

# News of the Towns



**Round Town**  
Ellenor Downer  
edowner@turley.com

### Book signing takes place Jan. 14

A book signing party for "Many Hands Make a Farm" will be hosted by Jack Kittredge and Julie Rawson on Sunday, Jan. 14 from 2-5 p.m. at Barre Players Theater, 64 Common St. A pot luck will be held at the end. The Circle of Song will be performing three songs from the last concert at the Book Signing party.

### Art among the stacks

Andrew Headstrom of Barre is the featured artist for December and January. He is new to oil painting. Inspired by artists like Van Gogh, Headstrom presents a distinctive style that weaves together varying hues and intricate textures, transporting viewers to a world where imagination and reality intertwine seamlessly. Explore the canvases adorned with rich strokes and a profound sense of artistic exploration, as this newcomer promises to leave an indelible mark on the canvas of the art world. Many people may remember the art wall on the main floor of the library. Library staff had to move some things around, which resulted in utilizing that wall space for more bookcases. Trying something new, we've decided to launch "Art Among the Stacks," an initiative that allows the library to make the most of the space they have and invite local artists to display their work throughout the fiction and non-fiction collections. Artists can choose between a one- or two-month showing at the library. People should email Joe Hood, Library Director, at jhood@barrelibrary.org for more information or to schedule a showing.

### English Social Tea

The first event of the 250th anniversary year will be a free English Social Tea on Sunday, Jan. 14, 2024 from 2-4 p.m. at the Barre Senior Center, 557 South Barre Road. Reservations are required and may be made by email at 250anniversary@townofbarre.com. People may also sign up at the Barre Senior Center or at Grand View Terrace by Friday, Jan. 5, 2024.

## 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 Jan. 1. Lunches are back at the senior center, but require a pre-sign up. Volunteers are needed at the Barre dining site. Volunteers are needed for Meals on Wheels (mileage reimbursement) and in the kitchen. People should contact 978-355-5027.

MONDAY — New Year's Day No meal served

TUESDAY — Meatballs with onion gravy, bowtie pasta, Roasted California blend, Tropical fruit, white bread

WEDNESDAY — Marinated pork loin with gravy, herbed potatoes, carrots, apple crisp, diet = applesauce, whole wheat bread

THURSDAY — Chicken with barbecue sauce, mashed potato, summer corn, fresh fruit, pumpernickel bread

FRIDAY — Macaroni and cheese, stewed tomatoes, green beans, blondie, diet = half piece, Italian bread

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

## Penpal letters due Jan. 3

OAKHAM — Seniors received the second student penpal letters. Their response letters are due back by Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2024. They should put them in the box located by the back door of the Fobes Memorial Library.

**LOCAL KETONE PROMOTER**  
**Call For Information 413-813-2391**  
Leave Message  
Check Out Facebook at **Denise Dubowski**  
Save Up To 25% OFF Retail Prices

**Year End Clearance HUGE SAVINGS Throughout The Store Happy New Year!**

**S&S APPLIANCE**  
447 MAIN ST., ATHOL • (978) 249-7535  
Visit Our Website at [www.shopsandsappliance.com](http://www.shopsandsappliance.com)  
Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; Saturday 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

MOC COORDINATED FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

**JANUARY 2024**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Happy New Year 2024	2 No MOC CFCE PROGRAMMING THIS WEEK!	3	4	5	6
7 January Book Recommendations! In the Snow: Who's Been Here? By: Lindsay Barrett George	8 10AM Playgroup New Britain Public Library	9 10AM Supervision Playgroup 7 Exchange St. Barre SNAP ED Cooking Program (Registration Required) 10AM Outdoor Playgroup Crocker Park Playground, Fitchburg	10 10AM Playgroup Forthush Memorial Library, Westminster (No Gardner Playgroup)	11 10AM Playgroup 601 River St Fitchburg 20AM Infant Playgroup 7 Exchange St. Barre	12 10AM Supervision Playgroup 307 Main St Gilbertville 10AM Playgroup 601 River St Fitchburg	13 Please check our MOC CFCE and Parent Child + Facebook page for updates & cancellations
14 Do I have to wear a coat? By Rachel Isadora	15 MOC CLOSED Martin Luther King Day!	16 10AM Pajama Playgroup 7 Exchange St. Barre SNAP ED Cooking Program (Registration Required) (No Fitchburg Playgroup)	17 10AM Pajama Playgroup 68 Coleman St. Gardner	18 10AM Pajama Playgroup 601 River St Fitchburg (No Evening Playgroup)	19 10AM Pajama Playgroup 307 Main St Gilbertville 10AM Playgroup 601 River St Fitchburg	
21 The Mitten by Jan Brett	22 10AM Playgroup (Registration Required)	23 10AM Playgroup 7 Exchange St. Barre SNAP ED Cooking Program (Registration Required) 10AM Outdoor Playgroup Crocker Park Playground, Fitchburg	24 10AM Playgroup 68 Coleman St. Gardner	25 10AM Playgroup 601 River St Fitchburg (No Infant Playgroup)	26 10AM Playgroup 307 Main St Gilbertville 10AM Playgroup 601 River St Fitchburg	
28	29 10AM Playgroup (Registration Required)	30 10AM Playgroup 7 Exchange St. Barre SNAP ED Cooking Program (Registration Required) 10AM Outdoor Playgroup Crocker Park Playground, Fitchburg	31 10AM Playgroup 68 Coleman St. Gardner			

All MOC CFCE programs are funded by the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care. Free Playgroups, StoryWalks, and Family Events. No registration is required. For ages Birth to 6yrs and their guardians!

Program Manager -clapinskas@mocinc.org  
CFCE Coordinators -rburke@mocinc.org, kford@mocinc.org, qt1268@aol.com

## Petersham Montessori School celebrates Christmas, community



Friday, Dec. 15 was the Christmas pageant. Petersham Montessori has hosted events at the Petersham Congregational Church for 15 years. The school has been using the Peace Candle to honor Maria Montessori's peace education efforts and encourage reflection and gratitude since the Montessori Day of Peace in October.

PETERSHAM — Christmas traditions and community gatherings enriched the Petersham Montessori School's celebrations on Friday, Dec. 15 and Monday, Dec. 18, at Petersham Orthodox Congregational Church.

Students took turns at the center stage at the annual Christmas Pageant on Friday, showcasing the "Pledge of Allegiance" and approximately ten Christmas-themed songs. The "Reindeer Poke" and a "S-A-N-T-A" version of the "B-I-N-G-O" song prompted much laughter and buoyant energy.



Cookie decorating Monday, Dec. 18 with children with cookie decorating on Monday, Dec. 18.

Later, students in the roles of Mary and Joseph traveled through the audience, reenacting the search for an inn on the night of Jesus' birth.

Head Teacher Cheryl Calcar, impressed at the students' dedication to their performances, noted, "Having a very young group could have had them

running to (their) parents or crying. They were troopers and did what they had practiced so hard to do." Petersham Montessori students are three to six years old.

On Monday, Dec. 18, several families returned to the church for cookie decorating, hot cocoa and crafts. This was Petersham Montessori's first Cookie Decorating event and it is part of the school's efforts to rebound from the isolation and constraints of COVID-19 and increase parent involvement and community-mindedness. The event provided attending students with one last opportunity to craft and run around with each other before vacation. At the same time, it gave parents and teachers time to chat, relax and share their holiday plans.

Petersham Montessori School wishes everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a Peaceful and Happy New Year.



Families gathered in the church community room for refreshments. Ellen and Jamey Toner's daughters, Sonya and Rebecca, attend Petersham Montessori School. Their grandparents, Ann and Ted Turner, and aunt, Sarah Turner, are pictured on the left.

**McNeely Tree Service**  
Insured • References

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

H: 508-867-6119 • C: 978-888-1693

**MITA**  
WOODWORKING, LLC  
PAXTON, MA

Kitchen / Bath Design / Sales / Installation

**We Sell Cabinets**

Call to schedule an appointment in home or showroom

774-366-5517  
mitawoodworking@aol.com

**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.



**Hubbardston**  
Ellenor Downer  
edowner@turley.com

### Town holds Annual Town Report Cover Photo Contest

The town of Hubbardston seeks photo submissions from community members for the cover of the 2023 Annual Town Report. Amateur and professional photographers are encouraged to submit images that showcase "What Hubbardston Means to You," -whether it's landscapes, buildings, events or any scenes that capture the spirit of the town. Up to three photographs can be submitted by each entrant along with a short description of the meaning and location of each photo. The Select Board will vote to choose the winning photo during a meeting in February 2024. The selected entry will be featured on the cover of the printed 2023 Hubbardston Annual Town Report as well as online publications. The winning photographer can choose to have their name published with the report.

Submissions Deadline is Feb. 1, 2024. People should email entries to bos@hubbardstonma.us.

People may email contest questions to Toni Walker at bos@hubbardstonma.us or by call 978-928-1400, extension 200.

By entering the contest, photographers grant the town of Hubbardston the right to publish, print and display submitted photos for use in the Annual Town Report and related town promotional materials. The town may alter, edit or crop photos at its discretion.

### Senior center events

The Hubbardston Senior Center, 7A Main St., events include: Coffee with Friends Monday through Thursday at 9:45 a.m.; Bingo from 12:30-3 p.m. on Mondays; Knitting Group at 10 a.m. every Tuesday at 10 a.m. and WiiBowling beginning at 8:30 a.m. every Monday and Wednesday beginning at 8:30 a.m.

## Circle of Song resume rehearsals Jan. 11

BARRE — Coming off of a very powerful and well attended concert on Dec. 16, Circle of Song is starting the new singing season on Thursday, Jan. 11, 2024.

This community chorus that is finishing the second half of its 23rd year sings a wide variety of 4-8 part music that is chosen by the members. The program for the spring, with a culminating concert on Saturday, May 18 at the Barre Town Hall, Exchange Street, has not yet been chosen, but will prove to be challenging, enlightening and most importantly fun.

The chorus still boasts many of its founding members, yet is always accepting new folks, either accomplished singers or those who have always wanted to sing with others but have not yet taken that first step or not done so since school. People are welcome in Circle of Song if they love to sing and want to hang out with some great down to earth folks from around the Barre area.

The Circle of Song will be performing three songs from the last concert at the Book Signing party for "Many Hands Make a Farm" that Jack Kittredge and Julie Rawson are hosting on Sunday, Jan. 14, 2024 from 2-5 p.m. at the Barre Players Theater, 64 Common St. It will end with a pot luck.

People interested in joining Circle of Song, may email Julie Rawson, director, at julie@mhof.net, call 978-257-1192 or show up at the Barre Town Hall, 2 Exchange St., on Thursday, Jan. 11 at 7 p.m.

## Haston Free Public Library January events

NORTH BROOKFIELD — The Haston Free Public Library, 161 North Main St., announces upcoming events for the month of January.

### Shibori fabric dyeing

A Shibori fabric dyeing workshop will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 9.

Shibori is a Japanese manual resist dyeing technique. The resulting patterns are often emblematic of Japan's appreciation of the beauty of imperfection.

Space is limited; registration is required along with a \$5 fee for supplies.

### Food for Thought

Dave Brown will be continuing his program "Food for Thought" at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 12. He will explain his research into the relationship between diet and brain health.

### Bigfoot researcher

Come hear TV personality and Leominster native Ronny LeBlanc at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 26, as he regales the audience with tales of Bigfoot in Massachusetts and elsewhere.

## Girl Scouts kick off cookie season

HOLYOKE — Three hundred plus Girl Scouts and their families gathered at the Mass Mutual Center on Saturday, Dec. 9 to kick off "Own Your Magic," which reflects the Girl Scout Cookie Program theme for the 2023/2024 season.

During Girl Scout Cookie season, each girl sets out to sell delicious cookies while also building entrepreneurial and business skills that are imperative for leadership and future success. Girl Scout Cookie order taking began Wednesday, Dec. 13. Community booth sales begin Jan. 19 and continue through March 17.

CHECK OUT ALL THE

**Turley** Publications

[www.newspapers.turley.com](http://www.newspapers.turley.com)

# News of the Towns

## PUBLIC MEETINGS

### BARRE.

Board of Assessors – Jan. 2 at 6 p.m.  
 Felton Field Commission – Jan., 2 at 6:30 p.m.  
 QRSD Building, Grounds and Safety Subcommittee – Jan. 3 at 10 a.m.  
 QRSD Ad Hoc School District Configuration Subcommittee – Jan. 3 at 10 a.m.  
 Council on Aging – Jan. 3 at 1 p.m.  
 250th Anniversary Committee – Jan. 3 at 6:30 p.m.  
 Board of Health – Jan. 8 at 5 p.m.  
 Water Commission – Jan. 8 at 6:30 p.m.  
 DPW Commission – Jan. 8 at 7 p.m.  
 Conservation Committee – Jan. 9 at 7 p.m.  
 9/11 Memorial Development Committee – Jan. 10 at 5 p.m.  
 Library Trustees – Jan. 10 at 5 p.m.  
 Barre Housing Authority – Jan. 11 at 3 p.m.  
 Sewer Commission – Jan. 18 at 7 p.m.  
 Insurance Advisory Committee – Jan. 25 at 1:30 p.m.  
 Cable Advisory Committee – Feb. 13 at 7 p.m.

### HARDWICK

Planning Board – Jan. 2 at 6:30 p.m.  
 Zoning Board of Appeals – Jan., 8 at 5:30 p.m.  
 Board of Health – Jan. 4 at 6:30 p.m.  
 Paige Library Trustees – Jan. 4 at 7 p.m.  
 Board of Selectmen – Jan. 8 and Jan. 22 at 7 p.m.  
 Master Plan Steering Committee – Jan. 9 at 6:30 p.m.  
 Council on Aging – Jan. 10 at 9 a.m.  
 Gilbertville Public Library – Jan. 10 at 4 p.m.  
 Gilbertville Water District – Jan. 16 at 5:30 p.m.  
 Recycling Commission – Jan. 16 at 6:30 p.m.  
 Conservation Commission – Jan. 17 at 6:30 p.m.  
 Capital Planning Committee – Jan. 22 at 3 p.m.  
 Wheelwright Water District – Jan. 22 at 7 p.m.

### HUBBARDSTON

Open Space Committee – Jan. 4 at 7 p.m.  
 Planning Board – Jan. 18 at 6:30 p.m.

### NORTH BROOKFIELD

Board of Selectmen – Jan. 2, 16 and 30, Feb. 13 and 27 at 6 p.m.  
 Finance Committee – Jan. 3 at 6 p.m.  
 Parks and Recreation – Jan. 4 at 6 p.m.  
 Capital Improvement Planning – Jan. 10 at 6 p.m.

### OAKHAM

Finance Committee – Jan. 3 at 6 p.m.  
 Select Board – Jan. 8 and Jan. 22 at 6 p.m.  
 Special Town Meeting – Jan. 22 at 7 p.m.

### PETERSHAM

Select Board – Dec. 28 at 5:30 p.m.  
 Advisory Finance Committee – Dec. 28 at 5:30 p.m.  
 Planning Board – Dec. 28 at 7 p.m.  
 Open Space and Recreation Committee – Jan. 2 at 6 p.m.  
 Conservation Commission – Jan., 2 at 7 p.m.  
 Board of Health – Jan. 4 at 6 p.m.  
 Council on Aging – Jan. 8 at 10 a.m.  
 Cemetery Commission – Jan. 9 at 10 a.m.  
 Board of Assessors – Jan. 9 at 5:30 p.m.  
 Petersham Historic District – Jan. 18 at 6 p.m.

### RUTLAND

Ad Hoc By-Law Committee – Jan. 9, 16, 23 and 30 at 1 p.m.  
 Economic Development Commission – Jan. 10 at 6 p.m.  
 Planning Board Public Hearing – Jan. 9 at 6:30 p.m.



Sheriff Lewis Evangelidis addresses the Worcester County Sheriff's Office B.R.T.A. #60 in Zecco auditorium, packed with family, friends, and soon-to-be colleagues of the graduates.

## Sheriff Evangelidis swears in Academy-Trained Correctional Officers

PAXTON – On Friday, Dec. 1, Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis administered the Correctional Officers Oath to the 26 graduating recruits of the Sheriff's Office's 60th Basic Recruit Training Academy in Zecco Auditorium at Anna Maria College.

The Worcester County Sheriff's Office has demonstrated a strong commitment to ensuring the public safety of the cities and towns in Worcester County. The department recognizes the importance of having a team that is representative of the community it serves.

The graduates of B.R.T.A. #60 are a highly qualified and diverse group of recruits, each bringing unique skills and experiences to their new roles as correctional officers. These officers hail from sixteen different towns across Massachusetts, and many of them are veterans or reservists. B.R.T.A. #60 is the largest graduating class the department has had since 2017.

Graduates include: Cody Adams of Millbury, Jordan Albert of Westminister, Todd Allen of Templeton, John Alton-Bright of North Attleboro, Victor Asante of Worcester, Jesse Brown of Worcester, Christopher Clarke of Ludlow, Lucifer Chiv of Woonsocket, Curtis DelValle of Marlborough, Adam Fisher of Shrewsbury, Richard Glenn of Athol, Ahmed Ibrahim of Worcester, Jahquan

Jones of Gardner, James Lapierre of Worcester, Jason Moran Westborough, Alexander Nuñez of Webster, Robert Peters Westminister, Isaiah Pérez of Millbury, Melvin Pérez of Fitchburg, Dylan Pieper of Webster, Hector Reyes of Worcester, Stephanie Rivera of Southbridge, Joseph Shumsky III of Rutland, Daniel Smith of Southbridge, Urbern Swift of Agawam and Alyssa Wilson of Webster.

The Sheriff's Office Academy is a paid full-time 12-week program that teaches recruits how to handle and maintain the care, custody, and control of inmates at the Worcester County Jail & House of Correction. The program includes both classroom and hands-on instruction, covering important topics such as de-escalation, duty to intervene, fire safety, defensive tactics, first responder training, suicide prevention, mental health, and substance abuse. In the classroom, recruits learn about these topics, while hands-on training includes physical fitness, CPR/first responder, firearms, skid school and many other scenario-based exercises.

"The recruits of the B.R.T.A. #60 have just completed 12 weeks of rigorous training and will now join the ranks of our full-time staff behind the walls of the Worcester County Jail and House of Correction," comment-

ed Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis. "This class has demonstrated great strength and resiliency as they have navigated the academy. They represent the upcoming generation of correctional officers who will undoubtedly carry forward our mission to serve, protect, and foster a better and safer community for all."

Since taking office, Evangelidis has implemented several changes to enhance the professionalism and integrity of the department hiring process. The new standards for correctional officer applications include a minimum of an associate degree, two years of military service, or two years of relevant work experience. Additionally, applicants must pass a written exam, physical fitness test, background check, and psychological screening test. To ensure fairness and impartiality, Evangelidis has also implemented a policy that prohibits the submission of letters of recommendation from politicians and gives preference to hiring those who have served our country.

The Worcester County Sheriff's Office is accepting applications for its 61st Basic Recruit Training Academy, which will begin in March 2024. To learn more about what it takes to be a correctional officer, people may visit [www.WorcesterCountySheriff.com/Careers](http://www.WorcesterCountySheriff.com/Careers).



The Worcester County Sheriff's Office B.R.T.A. #60 poses with Sheriff Evangelidis and Training Staff after graduation.

## Oakham

Ellenor Downer  
 edowner@turley.com



### Library hosts read and play

The Fobes Memorial Library, 4 Maple St. hosts Read and Play on Wednesday for ages birth to five. Children will hear stories and rhymes and sing songs as well as an activity and playtime. No registration is required. Upcoming dates are Wednesdays, Jan. 3, Jan. 17, Jan. 24 and Jan. 31 from 10:30-11:30 a.m.

### Clothing donation

People may donate warm clothing for the Quabbin Regional High School Q-Munity Closet. They are looking for new socks, shirts, sweatshirts, hats, gloves or any new or gently used clothing items. All donations and proceeds go directly to families through the Quabbin Regional High School's Q-Munity Closet. There is a donation bin located at the Fobes Memorial Library, 4 Maple St. For more information, people may email Jason Bergman at [jbergman@qrsd.org](mailto:jbergman@qrsd.org).

### Homeschool Do it Yourself

Homeschoolers of all ages may participate in the Homeschool Do It Yourself on the third Thursday of the month. This program is funded by the Friends of the Fobes Memorial Library, Inc. Registration is required and opens up on Thursday, Jan. 4 at noon to register for the Thursday, Jan. 18 Homeschool DIY, which is held from 11 a.m.-noon at the library.

### Penpal letters reminder

Senior received he second student penpal letters. Their response letters are due back by Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2024. They should put them in the box located by the back door of the Fobes Memorial Library.

### Senior center activities

Ongoing activities include Zumba Gold Monday from 10:30-11:15 a.m., Wii Bowling Tuesdays: from 10-11 a.m., cards and cribbage on Tuesdays beginning at 1 p.m., coffee Wednesdays and social hour from 9-11:45 a.m. and BBC Thursdays at 12:30 p.m. which includes crafts and BBC miniseries. FUNctional Fitness Fridays is held at 10:30 a.m. in the New Braintree Town Hall, Memorial Drive, New Braintree.

### Meal site

Elder Services of Worcester effective the first of January increased the suggested donation for meals served at the Back Door Cafe from \$2.50 to \$3 per meal.

## Knights host spaghetti dinner on Jan. 23

WEST BROOKFIELD – Knights of Columbus Council 11080, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish, is sponsoring a spaghetti dinner on Saturday, Jan. 13, 2024, in Dugan Hall, Sacred Heart Church, 10 Milk St.

Dinner includes pasta fagioli, garden salad, meatballs and sausage, spaghetti and sauce, garlic bread, dessert, water, soda and coffee. The cost is a \$15 donation and \$10 for children under 12 years old.

Take-out is available at 6 p.m. and sit-down dinner is served at 6:30 p.m.

Advance ticket purchase is encouraged and appreciated. Tickets are available from any Knight or by calling 508-612-1649 or 41-813-8100 or by emailing [bobfalter@gmail.com](mailto:bobfalter@gmail.com) or [wallyconnor122@gmail.com](mailto:wallyconnor122@gmail.com).

Tickets will only be available at the door while they last. Admission tickets are also good for entry for special door prizes.

Raffle tickets for a 50/50 raffle and more will be available.

Proceeds from this event will help provide ongoing support to children orphaned by the conflict in Ukraine coordinated by Supporting Orphans Nationally & Globally (S.O.N.G.) of Brookfield.

Wally Connor, past Grand Knight of Council 11080, and Executive Director of S.O.N.G., Inc. recently returned from Rzeszow, Poland, and Irpin, Ukraine coordinating support for orphaned children in Refugee Centers and for children who have recently lost a parent, and some cases, have lost both parents in the war. S.O.N.G. has been providing ongoing direct support to these children since shortly after the invasion.

## Teddy Bear Toss benefits Friendly House and the Shine Initiative

LEOMINSTER – It was raining Teddy Bears on Saturday, Dec. 9 at the DCU Center in Worcester as Fidelity Bank once again proudly presented this year's Teddy Bear Toss at the Worcester Railers game, benefiting Friendly House and the Shine Initiative.

Although the Worcester Railers fell short, losing 3-2 in an overtime shootout, local area children were the real winners with over 1,500 bears and other stuffed toys tossed onto the ice after the hometown team scored their first goal of the game, a rebound tap-in from Forward Keegan Howdeshell during the first period.

Leading up to the game, Fidelity Bank also collected stuffed animals at its Front Street and Shrewsbury Street Worcester banking centers, with each donor receiving tickets to the game as an expression of gratitude. Worcester Railers players also wore specialty-themed jerseys, which will be auctioned to benefit the Shine Initiative to support youth mental health programs.

"We are so appreciative of our partnership with Fidelity Bank, enabling us to have another successful Teddy Bear Toss game," said JT Hennigan, manager of corporate sponsorships, Worcester Railers HC. "The kids were the real winners tonight."

Here's to new beginnings, opportunities and memories to be made in 2024!

### Revel in the Possibilities

We're so excited to be spending another year here with all of you, and we look forward to your continued visits. Happy New Year!

**HARDWICK CROSSING**  
 EST. 2022  
**COUNTRY CLUB**  
[hardwickcrossing.com](http://hardwickcrossing.com)  
 262 Lower Road, Gilbertville  
 774-757-8907 • Pro Shop 774-261-2634

**Support the local businesses that support your local newspaper.**

Let them know you saw their ad in the **Barre Gazette**

# END OF THE YEAR SALE! TOY CLEARANCE! OPEN: New Year's 10am-7pm

INSTANT FINANCING - INSTANT FINANCING - INSTANT FINANCING - INSTANT FINANCING

## SMART TV SALE

32" Smart TV \$129 <sup>99</sup>	5 CU. FT. CHEST FREEZER \$249 <sup>99</sup> (WAS \$299.99)	FRIGIDAIRE DISHWASHER #7150 \$329 <sup>99</sup> (WAS \$599.99)	SAMSUNG WASHER \$699 <sup>99</sup> (WAS \$899.99)	MAYTAG DISHWASHER #MDB4949SKZ \$549 <sup>99</sup> (WAS \$849.99)
65" High Resolution Smart TV \$399 <sup>99</sup>	FRIGIDAIRE SIDE-BY-SIDE REFRIGERATOR \$1099 <sup>99</sup> (WAS \$1,599.99)	AMANA WASHER OR DRYER #NED4655EW \$499 <sup>99</sup> (WAS \$599.99)	MAYTAG DRYER #VEDC46HW \$549 <sup>99</sup> (WAS \$699.99)	WHIRLPOOL FRENCH DOOR BOTTOM FREEZER \$1599 <sup>99</sup> (WAS \$2,699)
70" High Resolution Smart TV \$399 <sup>99</sup>	50" Vizio ..... \$259.99 (Regularly \$549.99)	LG TOP FREEZER 18 CU. FT. \$699 <sup>99</sup> (WAS \$899.99)	AMANA GAS RANGE #AGR1533CBAS • Stainless Steel \$599 <sup>99</sup> (WAS \$699.99)	GE FRONT LOAD WASHER #GFWS05SNWW \$749 <sup>99</sup> (WAS \$999.99)
TV DEALS	55" Samsung ..... \$329.99 (Regularly \$449.99)	75" Samsung ..... \$699.99 (Regularly \$799.99)	85" Samsung ..... \$999.99 (Regularly \$1599.99)	20 CU. FT. CHEST FREEZER \$899 <sup>99</sup> (WAS \$1099.99)
				LG SMOOTH TOP ELECTRIC STOVE \$699 <sup>99</sup> (WAS \$999.99)
				G.E. OVER-THE-RANGE MICROWAVE \$199 <sup>99</sup> (WAS \$279.99)

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

# WHITCO

140 MAIN STREET SPENCER, MA 508.885.9343  
 SEE WHITCO SALES.COM FOR 100'S OF DEALS!

Store Hours: Mon. through Fri: 9am-9pm • Sat: 9am-8pm • Sun: 10am-7pm

# Opinion

## Guest Column



By Russell Gloor

### Are spousal benefits always a factor?

Dear Rusty

Both my wife and I have worked our entire lives. When we retire, will we both be entitled to full benefit amount each or will there always be a spousal factor in there? Also, how are those benefits calculated – based on your highest salaries throughout your career, or your ending salaries when you retire?  
Signed: Looking Ahead

Dear Looking

Prior to retiring from work is a smart time to investigate how Social Security will fit into your golden years. To answer your second question first, each person's personal SS retirement benefit is based on the highest earning 35 years over their entire lifetime, with earlier years adjusted for inflation.

The person's Average Indexed Monthly Earnings, essentially the person's lifetime average inflation-adjusted monthly earnings amount, is first determined.

Using AIME, the person's Primary Insurance Amount is calculated using a special benefit formula which will yield a PIA of about 40% or less of the person's AIME. The PIA is the amount received if benefits start in the month full retirement age or "FRA" is attained, as you can see, Social Security likes acronyms.

Since you and your wife were both born after 1959, FRA for both of you is 67. The age when you claim benefits, relative to your FRA, determines how much you'll get. Claim before FRA and your benefit is reduced; claim after your FRA and your SS retirement benefit will be more (up to age 70 when maximum is reached); claim at your FRA and your benefit will equal your PIA – the full (100%) amount you've earned from a lifetime of working.

Spouse benefits only come into play if the PIA for one of you is less than 50% of the other's PIA. In that case, the spouse with the lower PIA gets a "spousal boost" to their own SS retirement benefit when claimed.

The amount of the "spousal boost" will be the difference between the lower PIA and half of the higher PIA, but the amount of the "spousal boost" (as well as the person's own SS retirement amount) will be reduced if benefits are claimed before full retirement age. Any time SS benefits are claimed before full retirement age, those benefits are permanently reduced.

If one spouse is entitled to a "spousal boost" from the other, the spousal amount will reach maximum at the recipient's full retirement age. Thus, if the lower earning partner's highest benefit will be as a spouse, then that spouse should not wait beyond their FRA to claim. If, instead, the lower earning partner's own SS benefit at age 70 is more than their spousal amount, waiting longer than FRA to claim could be prudent, depending on life expectancy.

So, as you can see, deciding when to claim Social Security benefits should consider many things, including financial need, work status if claiming before FRA, marital status and life expectancy. But it is your lifetime earnings which determines your SS retirement benefit amount, and it is how your FRA entitlements compare to each other that determines whether spousal benefits will be paid.

*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 informational 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](http://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at [ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org). Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.*

### Editorial deadline reminder

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

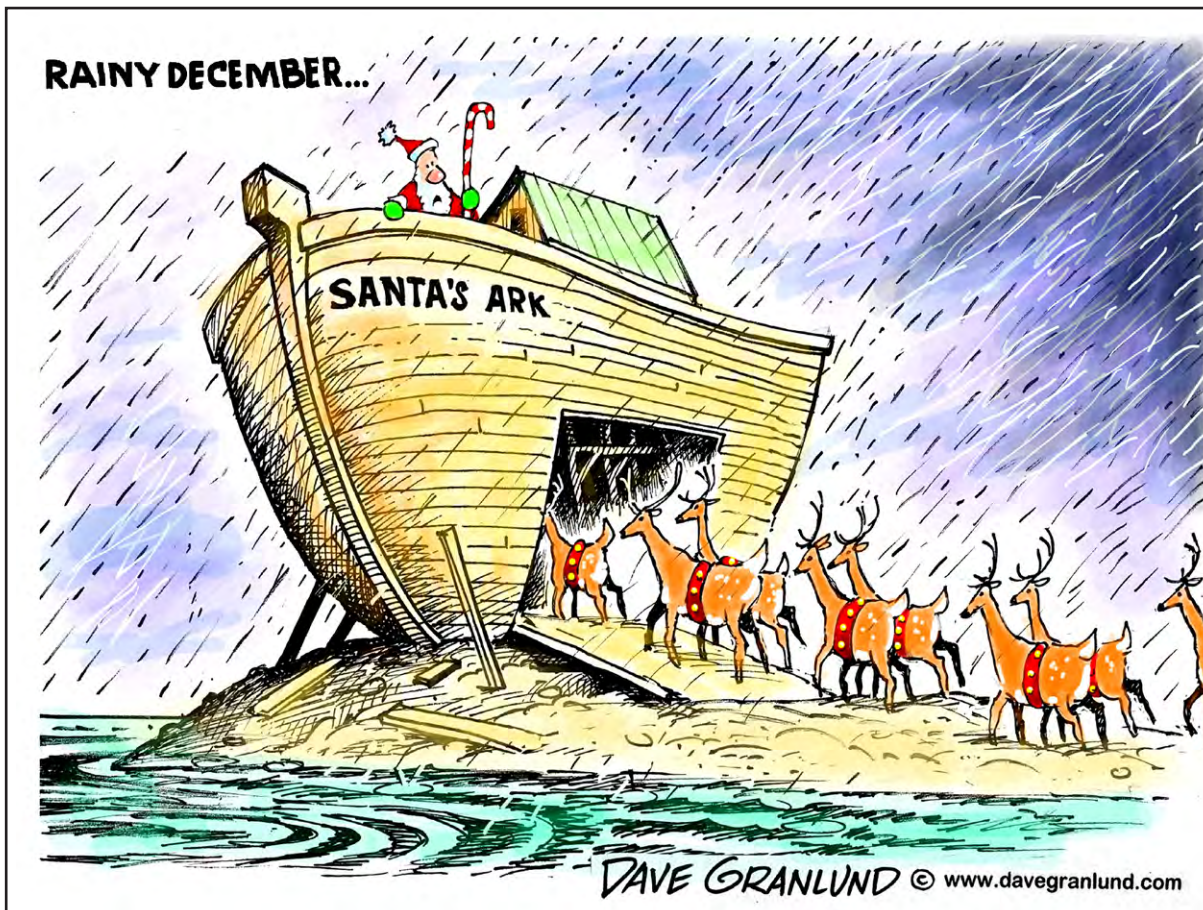
### PEOPLE/MILESTONE NEWS

As a free service for our readers, we will print all births, weddings, engagements, milestone anniversaries, major birthdays, military achievements, honors and awards. We have a "people news" form available for you to submit these listings. This material is provided to us by our readers and local institutions and we do not charge to print this content.

For more information, or to submit people or milestone news for the Barre Gazette, please email [edowner@turley.com](mailto:edowner@turley.com).

A TURLEY PUBLICATION  
[www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)

**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.



## Guest Column



### Pre-planning this year's vegetable garden

It's so exciting to think about planning my vegetable garden; all kinds of possibilities await.

Right after Christmas is usually when I get started. There are less paper catalogs arriving in the mail lately, but it is still my preferred method of shopping.

I like to peruse the pages, "starring" items and bending the corners of the pages so that I know to come back and consider whatever vegetable variety I think I must have. It's here in the early stages that I dream big.

I save the tailoring to later, once I've inventoried my seed stash and know exactly what I need.

But before I even get out the blue container that contains all of my seeds, I have some thinking to do. What did I have too much of last year? Too little? What consistently performs well in my garden? What doesn't do well? Am I ready to simplify by paring back or do I like the challenge of a big garden?

So many things to consider.

What did I have too much of? Roasting peppers come to mind.

I roasted and roasted and roasted some more. In between roasting I was giving them away.

"Carmen" is grown specifically for that purpose, and last year I grew eight plants more than normal. Maybe I'll cut back this year.

My "Picnic" peppers did well, too. They were great to eat right from your hand, and in yellow, orange and red, they certainly made my husband's salads colorful.

I was pretty well spot on with 12 total plants. Sadly, I struggled with tomatoes last year. I didn't have anywhere near enough!

This was the year that the girls grew to love my roasted tomato sauce, too. I couldn't make very much of it because the tomatoes petered out early.

Oddly enough, I enjoyed tomatoes that self-sowed in different spots of my yard much later into the season. It gave me an idea that I ought to make a couple of indoor sowings. One the third week of March as always, and maybe another two weeks later.

Regardless, now that the sauce is a hit, I'm going to increase the number of transplants I grow, and definitely improve the soil where the tomatoes are planted. Something that probably went unthought of is that the buckets of rain we had last summer likely leached nitrogen from the soil.

I had best remember to fertilize that planting then supplement after the first month or so.

Another area where low nitrogen may have been a factor is with my winter squash. My harvest wasn't just disappointing, it was embarrassing!

The Garden Lady better figure this one out, especially with the squash habit she has. Soups, breads, lasagna, and more all require that amazing orange flesh; and if you don't grow your own it can certainly

See GARDEN, page 5

## In Past Pages

5 years (Jan. 3, 2019)

This year Oakham Congregational Sunday School Superintendent Heather Stewart declared the annual pageant "the best ever." Before the Sunday School students and Youth Fellowship presented the annual Christmas pageant, the Stark family lighted the Advent candle and placed the symbol of baby Jesus on the Advent banner. The children's choir sang "Oh What a Glorious Night" by Sidewalk Prophets. Members of the Youth Fellowship Fawn Disley, Katherine McMenemy and Sarah McMenemy narrated as Sunday School students in costumes acted out the Christmas story.

"I love watching birds," said one woman at the first ever holiday bird count sponsored by East Quabbin Land Trust. A love of watching birds was the reason over 50 people ranging in age from preschoolers to seniors attended. Jess Cusworth and Haley Hewin, two Terra Corps members during an internship at EQLT organized the event. Hewitt said originally they wanted to participate in the annual Christmas Bird Count sponsored by the Audubon Society. However the Audubon Society wanted a list of participants in advance, so she and Cusworth decided to organize their own bird count. They modeled the EQLT holiday bird count after the Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count that started in 1900. The advantage of doing their own allowed them to pick the site. The selected seven sites were on EQLT preserved land.

The Barre Lions Club held their annual Christmas dinner Thursday, Dec. 20 at the Barre Senior Center. In lieu of their regularly scheduled monthly meeting the Lions Club enjoyed a Turk dinner with all of the fixings along with invited guests and friends. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of three \$1,000 checks by Club President Dana Hardy to the Barre Police Department, the Barre Fire Department and the Barre Emergency Medical Service. Deputy Chief James Sabourin and Fire Chief Robert Rogowski accepted the checks on behalf of the police, fire and EMS.

10 years (Dec. 26, 2013)

The Hubbardston tax rate for the Fiscal Year 2014 has been approved by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue. The rate has been set at \$14.52 per thousand dollars of valuation. The new rate represents an increase of \$.88 from last year's rate. The actual third quarter tax bills will be mailed on or before Jan. 1 and due on or before Monday, Feb. 3. Applications for real estate and personal property abatements will be due the same date as the February tax bill.

True North Holistic Center, formerly The Gathering Inn, a non-profit training and retreat center at 82 Healdville Road, is offering a retreat for couples entitled: "Mindful Makeover for Your Relationship." The retreat is led by Sue and Ray Medeiros. They have been married for 19 years. Together they have led retreats and several workshops on the subject.

### LOOK BACK Rainbow Installing Suite



The Rainbow installing suite included front, from left, Pamela Barkman, Past Worthy Advisor and Jodi Johnson, Past Worthy Advisor and back row from left, are Christine Erickson, Past Worthy Advisor and Rebekah Fraser.

The Barre Senior Center currently conducts yoga classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-10 a.m. at the center. The group is contemplating the addition of another class on Wednesday either at 11 a.m. or 1 p.m. depending on the level of interest. People do not have to be a senior to participate.

25 years (Dec. 30, 1998)

The Oakham Historical Association recently published a book entitled, "Images of American: Oakham." In the introduction to the book the Oakham Historical Association Committee wrote: "During the early 1900s, several Oakham residents wrote histories of their families, about events of the day and the history of the town. When the OHA decided to publish this book it was with the intent to organize the pictures held by the association and to provide information about the people and places seen in these pictures." There is a lot of truth to the old adage that a picture is worth a thousand words and this book exemplifies just that.

Several Barre residents have taken out nomination papers for the March 1 Annual Town Election. The Town Clerk said incumbents, who have taken our nomination papers or signed the blank nomination paper include Paul M. Cranston, moderator for one year; Daniel J. Trifilo, selectman for three years; Michael G. Landry, assessor for three years; Margaret R. Frost, Board of Health for three years; Daniel A. O'Brien, Quabbin Regional School Committee member for three years. Also, Amerigo "Mike" Simeone, Planning Board for five years; Patricia B. Jewell and Gerald E. Perry, library trustees for three years, two positions; Kurt R. Wells, cemetery commissioner for three years and Kathlyn

Inman, sewer commissioner for three years. Others seeking election include Robert Beauvais and Edward R. Rogowski, water commissioner for three years and James F. Malley, Quabbin Regional School Committee for three years.

The Barre Council on Aging has arranged to have Kerri Sandberg, the Regional Serving Health Information Needs of Elders at Central Massachusetts Agency on Aging, present a program on Thursday, Jan. 7 in the Town Hall. She will speak about changes in the Medicare Program and how they affect seniors.

38 years (Jan. 2, 1986)

Having received a written resignation from the Board of Health from Anthony Giaquinto, the Oakham Board of Selectmen and the remaining two members of the Board of Health in a joint meeting, appointed Vincent Lucchesi to fill the post vacated by Giaquinto. Lucchesi is a ceramics engineer at Norton Company.

Petersham voters speedily approved granting money from available that will smooth the path toward Denis Legare becoming the full-time police chief. The Dec. 23 Special Town Meeting was called to order after only a few minutes wait for the required 10% quorum. Action on the first measure, to use \$1,500 from salaries and \$2,265 for expenses, both for the police department, was without question.

Senator Robert D. Wetmore announced the winner in his fifth annual Christmas card design contest. The theme of the contest was "What the 1985 holiday season means to me." The first place winner was Christine Hardaker, sixth grade student at the Ruggles Lane School in Barre. Nancy Cranston was named a runner up in the contest.

### Turley Publications Letters to the Editor Policy

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

### BARRE GAZETTE TEAM



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](http://www.barregazette.turley.com)

PATRICK H. TURLEY  
CEO

KEITH TURLEY  
President

DEANNA SLOAT  
Graphics Manager



[www.turley.com](http://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.

# Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

This will be the last Serenity Hill Sampler for the year 2023 so Happy New Year to all my readers.

This has been a very trying year for our family. We hope the new year will be a better one. So far we have survived the Covid problems, but they seem to be getting bad again and that worries me.

I have been working on several projects for the two daughters in the crocheting line so that gives me a chance to relax. One is a head band made with Granny square crochets. The other is the kitchen towels crocheted with a button hanger. I still make crocheted scarves for my eldest daughter's students.

Here is the recipe that my friend Nancy sent me. It is a good standby when you don't know what else to make and a variety of meats can be used. This one uses bacon.

## BASIC QUICHE

- 1 inch piecrust
- 1 cup half and half or milk
- 4 eggs, slightly beaten
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 8 slices bacon, crispy cooked and crumbled

1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese  
 1/4 cup of grated Parmesan cheese  
 1 tablespoon of chopped onion, if desired  
 Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Place pie crust in 9 inch pie plate. In a medium bowl mix milk, eggs, salt and pepper, set aside.

Layer bacon, cheeses and onion in crust lined plate. Pour egg mixture over top. Bake in the oven for 15 minutes, reduce heat to 350 degrees and bake until crust is golden and filling is set. Allow to set for 5 to 10 minutes before serving.

## This and That

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Christmas with their families. We chose to stay home this year, but we did receive a lot of beautiful cards and messages with some family pictures.

Our Handy Handyman has been catching up with some projects that needed to be done. The driveway is free of leaves and a new banister is installed on the bottom of the cellar stairs. Several trees need to be taken down as they are rotting.

I hope the winter will not produce too much snow. We have contracted for a plowman. Have a nice week.



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimet

Santa Claus and Santa Paws paid a visit to Hardwick Playgroup last Friday.

# Children enjoy visit from jolly elf and pup

HARDWICK – Children at Hardwick Playgroup, held Friday mornings at the Myron E. Richardson Municipal Building, 307 Main St., Gilbertville, enjoyed a special visit from two North Pole friends last week.

Santa Claus made a surprise visit to Gilbertville one last time before he returned with his reindeer and sleigh on Christmas Eve. Also arriving, was Santa Paws, a four-legged, tail-wagging spreader of holiday cheer.

Children enjoyed telling Santa Claus what they would like for Christmas, and made sure to give Santa Paws pets and hugs.



Santa Claus waits patiently while a child prepares a make-believe snack for him.



Santa Paws (who is rumored to be Gilbertville's own Abbie Jo in costume), watches the children play at Hardwick Playgroup, held upstairs in the Myron E. Richardson Municipal Building in Gilbertville.

# Red Cross seeks blood donations

MEDFORD – When blood products are fully stocked on hospital shelves, patients don't have to wait for critical care.

Holiday gatherings, travel and seasonal illnesses can all impact donor availability, making it hard to collect enough blood and platelets. Unfortunately, trauma patients in the emergency room, those undergoing cancer treatment and new parents in need of lifesaving transfusions can't take a holiday break. Donors are needed every single day.

Donors, who come to give blood, platelets or AB Elite plasma now through Jan. 5, 2024, will receive an exclusive Red Cross

long-sleeved T-shirt, while supplies last. To extend a special thank-you to donors for helping address the need for blood, platelets and plasma during the critical post-holiday time, those who come to give Jan. 1-31, 2024, National Blood Donor Month, will be automatically entered for a chance to win a trip for two to Super Bowl LVIII in Las Vegas. Details are available by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/SuperBowl.

Donations dates at Worcester Blood Donation Center, 381 Plantation St., Worcester include: Thursday, Dec. 28 from 11:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 29 from 8:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.; Saturday,

Dec. 30 from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 31 from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Monday, Jan. 1 from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Tuesday, Jan. 2 from 12:15-7:15 p.m.; Wednesday, Jan. 3 from 12:15-7:15 p.m.; Thursday, Jan. 4 from 11:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.; Friday, Jan. 5 from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Saturday, Jan. 6 from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Sunday, Jan. 7 from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Monday, Jan. 8 from 12:15-7:15 p.m. and Tuesday, Jan. 9 from 12:15-7:15 p.m.

Schedule an appointment by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

# Author Paula Grandpre Wood presents 'Letters to Ancestors' on Jan. 13

HARDWICK – Author Paula Grandpre Wood presents "Letters to Ancestors" on Saturday, Jan. 13 at 1:30 p.m. at Paige Memorial Library 87 Petersham Road.

Space is limited and registration is recommended by emailing director.paigelibrary@gmail.com or calling 413-477-6704.

Grandpre Wood's book "The Long Walk Home with the Ceinture Fléchée: The Arrow Sash" invites readers to walk in the steps of real people with real joys and terrible heartache as they make the fateful decision to leave behind everything they knew in La Rochelle, France and begin life anew in New France.

After serving indentureships, they began families, and some of her ancestors were caught up in

the Acadian Dispersal. In the more recent past her ancestors immigrated once again, this time to the U.S.

Through genealogical research of Grandpre Wood's ancestors that was gifted to her by a family member, she learned the bare facts of the many generations of her forebears' lives.

One day these ancestors began speaking to her heart. She responded by delving into the broad story of the times they lived through. She began writing a series of letters to specific grandparents, asking them unanswerable questions and telling them how she longed to know them better.

Her family's Ceinture Fléchée (Arrow Sash) has been passed down through six generations. The Sash binds the various parts

of Grandpre Wood's story into a coherent whole.

Undertaking a quest to bring the family's heirloom to each ancestor's grave, she discovered one ancestor after the next. With each discovery, she wrapped the tombstones with the family's Sash.

While learning and then writing about her nine-times grandparents she walked the Long Trail in Vermont, discovering parts of herself she had never known existed. Along with her growing sense of closeness with these ancestors, she found her way back to the Catholic Church. Every step of her journey, she knew her ancestors were praying for her.

For more information about Grandpre Wood, visit paulagrandprewoodsash.com.

## GARDEN, continued from page 4

get expensive. I definitely want to grow butter-nuts in abundance again.

On the flip side, I didn't need as many cabbage or broccoli plants. The sauerkraut is taking up lots of space in the fridge, but hasn't made its way into our bellies for some reason, and as far as broccoli goes, I just can't seem to freeze it in a way that is palatable.

Someone told me to give up blanching it. Just cut it up and throw it in bags in the freezer. After all, it worked well for kale, and they are cousins, right?

I tried a stalk that way, then thawed it out and ate it the next day. I thought it worked great, so

I froze the rest of my harvest that way.

A month or so later I steamed some up and it was the most incredible thing that ever popped out of my freezer. Silly me, if this was the preferred preservation method it would have been touted as such long before I hit the gardening scene.

Maybe I should grow three or four different varieties of broccoli with different days to harvest, so that the majority of the harvest can be enjoyed fresh over a longer period.

I always analyze if my vegetable garden is too big for my lifestyle these days. I really don't want to pare back because it is important that I grow a good amount of our family's food.

What I have to accept is that it may become a jungle. I will keep up until I can't anymore. Someday there will be time for more order, but these are not the days, at least for me, and that's okay.

As you begin planning this year's garden there are a lot of things to consider. But maybe for now, make a lot of "stars" and bend those corners.

Enjoy dreaming! Reality doesn't really have to play a part until the order is placed.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 31 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.

## HUBBARDSTON, continued from page 1

vices and legal fees, but just not receive a percentage of revenue.

### Town Administrator report

Town Administrator Boudreau said there was a tentative agreement with the Hubbardston Police union and he sent it to Town Counsel for review. He said he hoped to present the five year Capital Improvement Plan to the Board in February. He also said he was working the KP Law regarding easements for the Williamsville Bridge replacement project set to begin in April 2025.

He said a survey will be sent out with the census regarding recycling and trash. The survey will also be sent to Princeton and Rutland residents as the three towns were looking to apply for a regional grant.

He reported Hubbardston would receive additional funding of \$229,200 for Fair Share Roads. The town with this added revenues will be able to pave all of New Westminster Road now. The bids on a new boiler for the Hubbardston Center School were due Thursday, Dec. 21.

### Public comment

Resident Michael Stoll said he thought public comment should be after each motion is made and not at the beginning of the meeting. He said this was included under Select Board rules in the general bylaws. Select Board Chair Williams said his understanding was the chair had the right to say no public comment on a motion. Select Board Clerk Munroe said if the chair had to ask for public comments at every motion, it would slow up the meetings. The Town Administrator will follow up on this matter.

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

Happy New Year



560 West Broadway, Route 2A, Gardner  
 978-632-0010

**SENIOR BOWLING LEAGUE**  
 New Session Begins Monday, January 8th  
 Every Monday at Noon



hardwickcrossing.com

262 Lower Road, Gilbertville

HARDWICK CROSSING

774-757-8907

COUNTRY CLUB

Pro Shop 774-261-2634

OPEN 7 DAYS FOR LUNCH, DINNER & GOLF

Specials Posted on Facebook & Instagram

**New Year's Eve Party**

With Live Music Beginning at 8 p.m.

Monday Trivia Night 6:30 p.m. • Wednesday, Music Bingo 6:30 p.m.

**Sip & Paint**

Tuesday, Jan. 2, Tuesday, Jan. 16 & Tuesday, Jan. 30

Starting at 6:30 p.m.

Visit Our Website For More Details

**BOOK YOUR EVENT WITH US!**

## Corrections policy

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

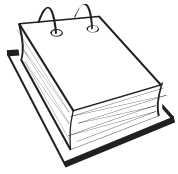
**Get Ready For Winter! It's Here!**

**Studded Snows Can Go On Now!**

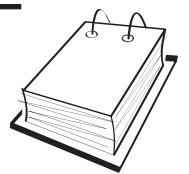
**ORIGINAL TIRE CO.**  
 Joseph West  
 SOUTH ATHOL ROAD, ATHOL 978-249-3477  
 OPEN MON., WED. & FRI. 8 A.M. TO 5 P.M.  
 TUES. & THURS. 8 A.M. TO 2 P.M.  
 SAT. 8 A.M. TO NOON

Function Space Available





# Calendar of Events



## SATURDAY, DEC. 30

**SATURDAY STORY TIME** will be held today from 10:30 a.m.-noon at the Woods Memorial Library, 19 Pleasant St., Barre in the multipurpose room at the library. The program is recommended for ages three to six. Each week Ms. Katie will read a story and pair it with a craft or related activity. To request sign language interpretation or other accommodation for special needs for any program, people should call the Library Director at least two weeks before the program date at 978-355-2533 extension 101 or email [jhood@barrelibrary.org](mailto:jhood@barrelibrary.org).

**QUABBIN CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT** will take place today. Compiler is Scott Sumner and for more information email him at [ssurner@aol.com](mailto:ssurner@aol.com). This year is the 124th Christmas Bird Count by the National Audubon Society. It is held now through Jan. 5, 2024.

## MONDAY, JAN. 1

**NEW YEAR'S BIRDS IN WORCESTER** will be held today at noon. The leader is John Shea. Participants should meet at the entrance to All Faith Cemetery, 7 Island Road Worcester. For more information, people may call John Shea at 508-667-1982 or email [John@beachewells.com](mailto:John@beachewells.com).

**NEW YEARS DAY GROUP HIKE** sponsored by the East Quabbin Land Trust will take place today at noon. Participants should meet at the Massachusetts Central Rail entrance, located at 1700 Hardwick Road, New Braintree.

## FRIDAY, JAN. 5

**FRIDAYS WITH FRIENDS** will be held today from 3:30-4:30 p.m. at the Woods Memorial Library, 19 Pleasant St., Barre in the multipurpose room for school age children. Different activities



## 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](mailto:edowner@turley.com) or call the Barre Gazette at 413-967-3505, extension 100 with their answer by noon on Monday, Dec. 25. The names of those that correctly guessed the location will appear in the following edition. **Stephen Craven, Evelyn Luukko, Bill Bowles and Dan Elliott correctly identified the photo. The photo last week was the flagpole on Petersham Common.**

Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

are held each week ranging from arts and crafts to STEAM based challenges all meant to bring the community closer together. The program is held Fridays during January, February and March and is recommended for ages five plus.

## TUESDAY, JAN. 9

**TWEEN AND TEEN BOOKEND DECORATING** will take place today from 6-7 p.m. at the Woods Memorial Library, 19 Pleasant St. Barre in the multi-

purpose room. All materials are provided. In person registration at the library is required. There are 15 seats available.

## THURSDAY, JAN. 11

**CIRCLE OF SONG REHEARSALS** will resume tonight at 7 p.m. in the Barre Town Hall, Exchange Street, Barre. The choral group of 23 years sings in four-part harmony and often in other languages. People may email [julie@mhof.net](mailto:julie@mhof.net) or call 978-257-

1192 for more information. They perform several concerts during the year. The next concert will be Saturday, May 18 at the Barre Town Hall. New members are always welcome. Membership dues are sliding scale from \$25 per year for students and \$40 - \$70 for adults according to ability to pay. If people are interested in joining Circle of Song, they may email Julie Rawson, director, at [julie@mhof.net](mailto:julie@mhof.net), or call 978-257-1192 or show up at the Barre Town Hall, on Thursday, Jan. 11 at 7 p.m.

## SUNDAY, JAN. 14

**BOOK SIGNING PARTY** of Many Hands Make a Farm will be hosted by Jack Kittredge and Julie Rawson today from 2-5 p.m. at Barre Players Theater, 64 Common St., Barre. A pot luck will be held at the end. The Circle of Song will be performing three songs from the last concert at the Book Signing party.

**ENGLISH SOCIAL TEA**, the first 250th Anniversary event, will be held today from 2-4 p.m. at the Barre Senior Center, 450 South Barre Road, Barre. Admission is free. Reservations are required by Friday, Jan. 5 by email at [250anniversary@townof-barre.com](mailto:250anniversary@townof-barre.com) or by signing up at either the Barre Senior Center or Grand View Terrace. Snow date is Sunday, Jan. 21.

## FRIDAY, JAN. 19

**SUPPORT GROUP** for grandparent raising grandchildren will be held today from 9:30-11 a.m. at Worcester Family Resource Center, 20 Cedar St., Worcester. This group meets the third Friday of every month. People should call 508-796-1411 or email [yiwfrycyouice@sevenhillsg.org](mailto:yiwfrycyouice@sevenhillsg.org) to register or for more information.

## North Brookfield Public Schools post special education child find notice

**NORTH BROOKFIELD** – Under federal and state special education regulations, North Brookfield Public Schools has a duty to locate, identify, refer, evaluate and, if eligible, provide a free, appropriate public education to students with disabilities who reside in North Brookfield.

For parents or guardians of children ages 3-21 years of age who have a disability or developmental delay, and who would like more information, please contact: Ann Knapp Interim Director of Student Services and Child Find

Coordinator at the following: Ann Knapp, Interim Director of Student Services, 10 New School Road, North Brookfield, MA 01535 or call 508-867-3166.

### Parent's Notice of Procedural Safeguards brochure

A special education Parent's Notice of Procedural Safeguards is available from the Office of Student Services. This brochure is available in a number of different languages at <http://www.doe.mass.edu/sped/prb>.

### §504 Child Find Notice

Pursuant to Section 504 of the

Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibits discrimination in publicly funded activities the North Brookfield Public Schools has a duty to identify, refer, evaluate, and if eligible, provide access to public education to students with impairments in its jurisdiction.

For additional information about the rights or parents of eligible children, or for answers to any questions you might have about identification, evaluation and placement into Section 504 programs, please contact the District's Section 504 Coordinator at the following: Ann

Knapp, Interim Director of Student Services, 10 New School Road, North Brookfield, MA 01535 or call 508-867-3166.

### McKinney-Vento Child Find Notice

If your family lives in any of the following situations: in a shelter; in a motel or campground due to the lack of an alternative adequate accommodation; in a car, park, abandoned building, bus, or train station; or doubled up with other people due to loss of housing or economic hardship, your school-age children may qualify for certain rights and protections under

the federal McKinney-Vento Act.

There also may be support available for your preschool-age children

If you believe your children may be eligible, contact the North Brookfield Public School's McKinney-Vento liaison to find out what services and supports may be available.

The District's McKinney Vento Liaison is: Ann Knapp, Interim Director of Student Services, 10 New School Road, North Brookfield, MA 01535 or call 508-867-3166.

## Fidelity Bank earns 5-star rating from BauerFinancial

**LEOMINSTER** – Fidelity Bank announces it has earned a 5-star rating from BauerFinancial, the nation's leading independent bank rating and research firm.

A 5-star rating ranks Fidelity Bank among one of the strongest banks in the nation on BauerFinancial's Recommended Report.

Fidelity Bank was evaluated in several areas including the bank's financial strength, sound track record and increased customer confidence. No institution pays BauerFinancial to rate it, nor can it choose to be excluded.

In addition to this strong rating,

clients of Fidelity Bank also benefit from 100% of their deposits being insured through a unique combination from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the Depositors Insurance Fund.

Founded in 1888, Fidelity Bank is one of the strongest independent community banks in Central and Eastern Massachusetts. The bank offers a range of personal and business banking solutions to clients in 13 full-service banking centers in Leominster, Worcester, Fitchburg, Needham, Gardner, Shirley, Barre, Millbury, Paxton, Princeton and Winchendon.

### LYRIC SILHOUETTE, continued from page 1

A fun activity for children and teens that will certainly return to Woods Memorial Library. The Barre Library has a lot of events in store for 2024. Next segment hosted by the library will be Create your Own Board Game on Thursday, Jan. 11 of the new year.

Participants will be provided with a blank game board, spinner, and character cards

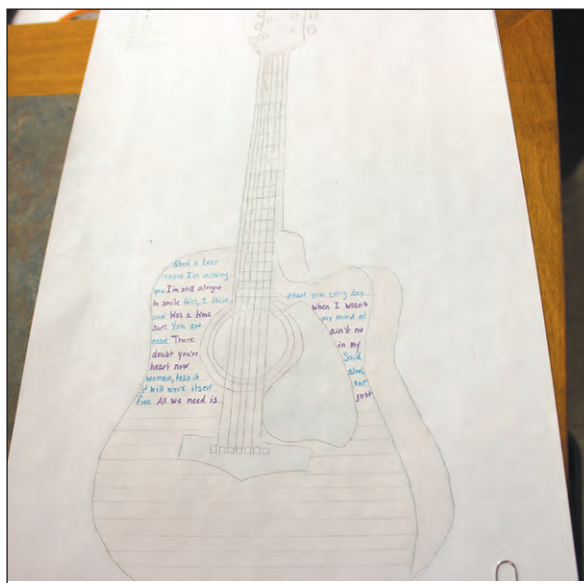
that they can use to recreate an alternate version of their family favorite game. If not, participants can create a whole new game of their own and take it home and teach their family and friends how to play. This event will be for ages 7-13. To register, visit [www.barrelibrary.org](http://www.barrelibrary.org).

Other upcoming events during the new year at Woods Memorial Library include constructing a loom out of simple supplies and learning the basics of weaving. A valentine station will be available during the

month of February from the 9th to the 13th in the children's room.

Every Friday, the library offers Friday with Friends as kids ages 5 and up can drop in every Friday during the winter months to have some fun and meet new friends. Different activities will be available ranging from arts and crafts to STEAM based challenges.

Visit the Woods Memorial Library at 19 Pleasant Street in Barre for fun activities and new memories.



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

One of the librarians got involved with the workshop and did a silhouette sketch of an acoustic guitar.



Some kids chose an image of Taylor Swift and will soon include lyrics of some of her songs on their silhouettes.



### 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 FOR EVERY BODY

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

413 436 7374  
286 BRIDGE ST, WARREN MA  
[WWW.THECENTEREDPLACE.COM](http://WWW.THECENTEREDPLACE.COM)

## CANTERBURY TAILS

Veterinary Clinic  
40 East Main Street, Ware



(413) 967-4545

Proudly serving Ware and its surrounding communities  
Dogs ★ Cats ★ Rabbits ★ Ferrets

**10% Off First Visit**  
IF YOU MENTION THIS AD  
(New Client Only)

### Stasukelis APPLIANCE & TV

WE SERVICE ALL MAJOR BRAND APPLIANCES  
NAME BRAND APPLIANCES & TV'S AT WAREHOUSE PRICES

287 Main Street  
Gardner  
978-632-0241

### Community Newspaper ADVERTISING Works!

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

## EARLY DEADLINE

In observance of **NEW YEAR'S**

There will be an **EARLY CLASSIFIEDS & ADVERTISING DEADLINE**  
Place your advertisement no later than

**Thurs., Dec. 28 Noon**

A TURLEY PUBLICATION

24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069 • 413-283-8393 • [www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)

# SPORTS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

SEND US YOUR SPORTS SUBMISSIONS

www.sports.turley.com

## Quabbin falls to Maynard at home

BARRE – Last Friday night, Quabbin boys basketball was defeated by Maynard 59-41. In the defeat, Quinn Geary had 11 points while Kyle Clark and Frederick Jenoure had eight points each. The Panthers are 2-3 heading into the holiday break.



Turley photos by Ray Duffy  
Rickey Jenoure takes a hook shot.



Nick Whitelaw hits a jumper from the top of the key.



Quinn Geary goes for a three-point shot.



Jacob Dilling brings in the layup.



Kyle Clark with a jump shot over the defenders.

## Panthers pick up fourth win

BARRE – After just barely edging into the state tournament last year, Quabbin is almost halfway to a tournament berth and the calendar has not changed to 2024.

Last Friday night, Quabbin girls basketball defeated Maynard 36-29. It was a bit of a lower-scoring affair, but the Quabbin defense played excellent throughout the

matchup. Their strength was early on, limiting host Maynard to just two points in the opening frame. The Panthers held the Tigers to just six points in the third, holding strong off the break as well.

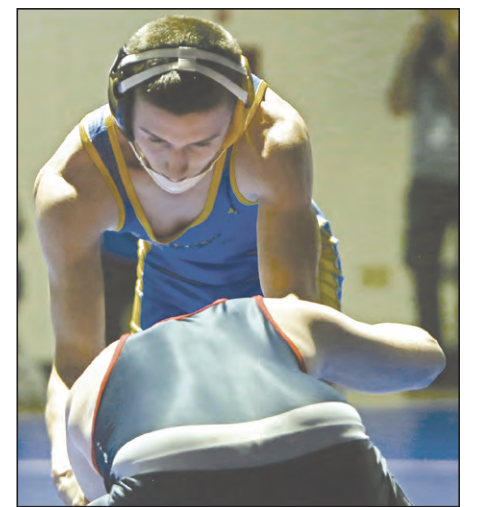
For Quabbin, Meaghan Doyle had 12 points to lead the team. Riley Bassett and Mia Ducos had seven points each.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com  
Bruno Medionero gets the leverage.

## Forfeits help lead Pioneers to win

PALMER – Last Wednesday night, there were few matches, but Pathfinder was able to pick up the 41-30 win over visiting Frontier Regional. Taran Prak got a big win at 113 pounds with a technical fall by a 16-1 score. Pathfinder faced Northampton earlier this week. The Pioneers head to Mohawk on Jan. 3 at 7 p.m.



William Burke locks up in his match.



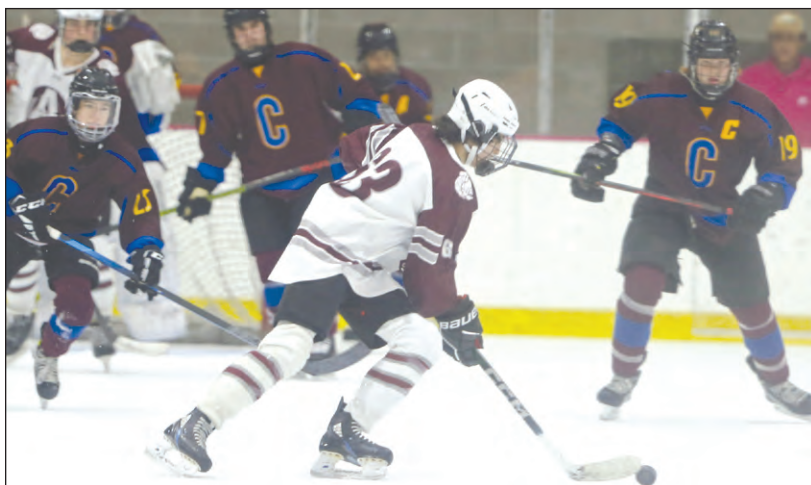
Max Alicnegena tries to turn over his opponent.



Taran Prak gets the tackle takedown.



Gustavo Vega tries to break down his opponent.



Sawyer Ferro makes his way up the ice.

## Amherst hockey perfect to start season

AMHERST – Last Monday night, Amherst hockey welcomed Chicopee to Orr Rink on the campus of Amherst College.

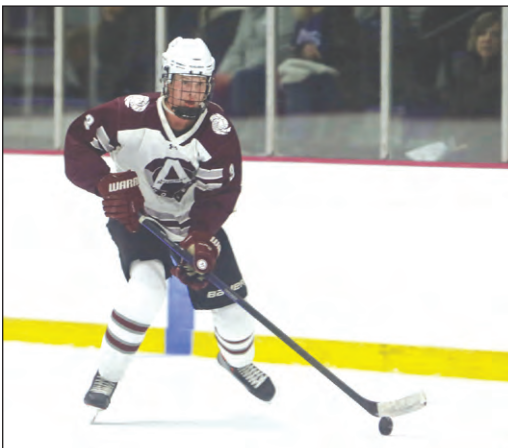
The Hurricanes got a great offensive effort in a 6-1 win to improve to 4-0 for the season. Jack Dyjack had two goals and Benjamin Remensnyder also

added a pair of goals.

Pathfinder's Ethan Nompleggi had a pair of assists in the matchup.

Amherst has vacation week matchups with Taconic and on Saturday, Dec. 30 against Agawam at Olympia Ice Center at 6:30 p.m.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



Liam Flynn looks to flick the puck up the ice.



Ethan Nompleggi sends a backhand pass away.



Josh Goodhind chases down the puck.

## T-Birds coach gets call to NHL, named interim coach of Blues

Daniel Tkaczuk will take over as interim head coach in Springfield

SPRINGFIELD – On Dec. 13, St. Louis Blues President

of Hockey Operations and General Manager Doug Armstrong announced the team has relieved Craig Berube of his coaching duties and named Springfield Thunderbirds head coach Drew Bannister interim head coach.

Bannister will travel to

St. Louis on Wednesday and serve his first game behind the bench on Thursday when the Blues host the Ottawa Senators. Bannister, 49, has spent the past three seasons with the Blues' AHL affiliate in Springfield, leading the team to a 93-58-19 regular-season record.

The Belleville, Ontario, native has also guided the Thunderbirds to consecutive playoff appearances, including 2021-22, when they won the Eastern Conference and reached the Calder Cup Final. Bannister began his coaching career in the Ontario Hockey League (OHL), where he spent three sea-

sons as an assistant with Owen Sound and three as head coach with the Soo Greyhounds

He also served as head coach of the AHL's San Antonio Rampage and as an associate coach with the Utica Comets.

As a player, Bannister's career spanned over 20 years and includ-

ed 164 NHL regular-season games between the Tampa Bay Lightning, Edmonton Oilers, Anaheim Mighty Ducks, and New York Rangers.

In addition, Thunderbirds general manager Kevin Maxwell has announced that Daniel

See T-BIRDS, page 10

BARRE GAZETTE

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

Visit [barregazette.turley.com](http://barregazette.turley.com) and click on SUBSCRIPTIONS!

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

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

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



# Sports

## Granite State announces Pro Stock Series 2024 schedule

WALPOLE, N.H. – Granite State Pro Stock Series officials announced Friday the schedule of events for the 2024 racing season. The series slate includes a nine-race championship battle spread from May to October, with the championship event taking place at Lee USA Speedway's Octoberfest weekend.

The Granite State Pro Stock Series will visit five different tracks in 2024: Lee, Star Speedway, Claremont Motorsports Park, Riverside Speedway and Speedway 95. The schedule begins with the annual 100-lap spring event at Star Speedway in Epping, New Hampshire, this year on Saturday, May 4 with a Friday night practice on May 3. From there, teams will roll to Claremont Motorsports Park for the Memorial Day weekend, with a main event set for Sunday, May 26.

On Saturday, June 8, the series will make the first of two visits to Lee USA Speedway. That will be followed by the first of two races at Hermon, Maine's Speedway 95 on Saturday, June 16. After a few weeks off, the schedule continues with a return to Claremont for Independence Day weekend on Friday, July 5 with a special event.

The high-banks of Hudson International Speedway will host the series again on Sunday, July 14, while Riverside Speedway returns to the schedule with an event on Saturday, August 10. The final two events of the year will take place at Speedway 95 on Sunday, September 15 and Lee's Octoberfest weekend, where the cham-

ion will be decided, on Saturday and Sunday, October 5-6.

"Our 2024 schedule is shaping up to be one of the best in our history," Mike Parks, President of the Granite State Pro Stock Series, said. "Return trips to places like Star, Speedway 95, Lee USA and Riverside, mixed with us getting back on the high-banks of Hudson, will produce an exciting championship battle for fans to follow during the summer of 2024."

Additional information regarding the 2024 Granite State Pro Stock Series schedule including event registrations, rules and more will be available soon.

For the latest news, fans and teams are encouraged to visit [gspss.net](http://gspss.net) and follow the series on social media.

### 2024 Granite State Pro Stock Series Schedule

Saturday, May 4 - Star Speedway - Epping, N.H.

Sunday, May 26 - Claremont Motorsports Park - Claremont, N.H.

Saturday, June 8 - Lee USA Speedway - Lee, N.H.

Sunday, June 16 - Speedway 95 - Hermon, Maine

Friday, July 5 - Claremont Motorsports Park - Claremont, N.H.

Sunday, July 14 - Hudson International Speedway - Hudson, N.H.

Saturday, August 10 - Riverside Speedway - Groveton, N.H.

Sunday, September 15 - Speedway 95 - Hermon, Maine

Saturday/Sunday October 5-6 - Lee USA Speedway, Lee, N.H.

## Olympic team among eligible Hall candidates

SPRINGFIELD – The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame announced the list of eligible candidates for the Class of 2024, including several high-profile, first-time nominees, including the 2008 U.S. Olympic Men's Basketball Team ("Redeem Team"), Vince Carter, Seimone Augustus, Bill Laimbeer, Rick Barnes, Mike Fratello and Penny Taylor.

A first look at the list of eligible nominees will be provided by "NBA Today" on ESPN, hosted by Malika Andrews, with Class of 2023 Hall of Famer Becky Hammon, Kendrick Perkins, Chiney Ogwumike, and Brian Windhorst. A complete list of eligible candidates can be found below.

Finalists from the Honor's Committee for the Class of 2024 will be announced on Friday, February 16, in Indianapolis, Indiana, during NBA All-Star Weekend.

The entire Class of 2024 will be

unveiled during the NCAA Final Four in Phoenix, Arizona, on Saturday, April 6, in a nationally televised broadcast.

The announcement time and broadcast network for both the Finalist and the Class Announcement will be announced in the near future.

Enshrinement weekend will begin at the Mohegan Sun on Friday, August 16, with the Tip-Off Celebration and Awards Gala, followed by the Enshrinement ceremony on Saturday, August 17, at Springfield's historic Symphony Hall.

VIP Packages for the Hall of Fame Enshrinement Weekend will go on sale on Friday, February 16. All single-event tickets to the Ceremony, Tip Off Celebration, and Awards Gala, as well as other ancillary events, will go on sale on Saturday, April 6, at 12:00 p.m. EST. All packages and tickets will be available for purchase at [hoophall.com](http://hoophall.com).

# In the Classroom

## News from the Quabbin Regional School District

From the desk of Colleen Mucha, Interim Superintendent of QRSD

Do you ever wonder what it is like to spend a day with children ages 3-5 in our preschool programs?

Some would say it is absolute joy. Upon walking into our preschool classrooms, you are greeted with curiosity and warm grins.

The children want to know "What's your name?" "Why are you here?" and "Can I show you what I'm doing?" You can't help, but be drawn into their world of learning. Thematic play areas, books, puzzles, letter tiles, craft materials, puppets and games fill the space.

During the 2023-2024 school year, QRSD is piloting a full day Preschool Program at Hardwick Elementary School. Students attend Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and they come from all of our five towns. We have half day programs at Hubbardston Center School, New Braintree Grade School and Ruggles Lane Elementary School.

We recently surveyed our parents of full day preschoolers to elicit feedback on their experience so far this year. "There is more structure during the full day and my son does well with the routine. His language has improved significantly because of more hours." There are "more in depth lessons that work through the alphabet and various themes that better prepare them for kindergarten."

Another parent recognized that there is increased socialization and this has resulted in her child having more fun and learning a lot more through these interactions. "This program is giving my child a head start on numbers, colors, child interactions, learning to share and learning to attend." "I think it was a big change, but he loves coming to school."

"I think he has made more prog-



Submitted photo

Preschool students from Hardwick Elementary School work on math activities on the rug. Shown, top of the 1/2 circle to the bottom are Levi Lund, Wayland O'Gara, Julian Overstreet, Grace Letendre, Ryan Lowe, Maddox Peddle, Anthony Camp, Micah Morrison-Horne, Gabriel Harrington, Roman Marte and Portia Lee Ziemba.

ress being in a full day program between speech and kindergarten readiness skills, he's made leaps and bounds this year." "A full day keeps his brain engaged. He's made friends and he has more opportunities to be social. He is ready for a full day kindergarten program."

Teachers and administrators report that the students have adjusted very well to the full day program. Currently, there is a brief nap time and on most days all students do fall asleep. They believe that the structure and predictable routines that mix both academic and social learning times really have helped students to adjust. There are lots of opportunities for thematic play as well as quiet times such as reading

aloud that allows for our youngest learners to release energy as needed and build stamina for activities that require more sustained attention.

You may be wondering about how to register your child for our preschool programs? Registration is ongoing, however, as students transition from Pre-Kindergarten to Kindergarten we do have more opportunities for enrollment at the start of each school year and we assign slots to families in late spring.

People may visit our QRSD website for more information or you can email Laura Holbrook at [lhobrook@qrsd.org](mailto:lhobrook@qrsd.org). We look forward to welcoming our youngest learners.

# Church News

## Local pastor offers sermon

### 2023 Year In Review

This is the final publication of 2023 and what a year it has been. Before we move into 2024, it would be beneficial to look back in a spirit of reflection. Please take note of the following:

#### 1) High Points

What were your high points in 2023? Do any positive, memorable moments stand out in your recollection?

Perhaps your high point revolved around an answered prayer. After all, Scripture affirms that God responds to the prayers of His people (Matt. 7:7-8, NIV): "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened."

Perhaps your high point revolved around some personal achievement. Was 2022 the year in which you were promoted at work, completed your education or surpassed some key milestone in life and living (e.g., birthday, anniversary, etc.)? In what way(s) have you advanced throughout the year?

Perhaps it revolved around personal relationships or moments with those you love. There is nothing like healthful companionship!

#### Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

9 Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor:

10 If either of them falls down, one can help the other up.

But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.

11 Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm.

But how can one keep warm alone?

12 Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves.

A cord of three strands is not quickly

broken.

What is the rightful response to your high point? What should you do in light of the blessing you have experienced? Firstly, recognize that "every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down" from our heavenly Father (James 1:17).

Secondly, take the time to offer thanks and praise to the Lord in kind. Let us follow the example of the psalmist:

#### Psalms 103:1-5

1 Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

2 Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his benefits-

3 who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, 4 who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion,

5 who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

#### 2) Low Points

Of course, life can also abound with difficulty. Christ spoke clearly to this reality:

#### John 16:33b

"33 . . . In this world you will have trouble . . ."

What was your low moment in 2023? What trial or tribulation did you endure?

Perhaps your low point revolved around a seemingly unanswered prayer. There are moments in life wherein we pray and heaven seems to have no response (or not the response we wanted). Sometimes the Lord loves us enough to say, "No." This can be jarring for even the most faithful of believers.

Perhaps your low point revolved around personal connections with friends and family or the lack thereof. Perhaps 2023 was the year in which you experienced an unexpected setback. Did you lose your job, your business,

your health or a loved one?

What is the rightful response to your low point of 2023? What should you do in light of the challenges you have had to face? Though I cannot offer an exhaustive response in so short a space, allow me to note the following: a) cast your cares upon the Lord; b) consider the reality of His presence and power; and c) respond to His offer of comfort. May these accompanying passages speak to your heart:

#### 1 Peter 5:6-7

6 . . . humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, 7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

#### John 16:33b-c (Christ Speaking)

"33 . . . In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

#### Matthew 11:28-29 (Christ Speaking)

28 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

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](http://www.NewLifeBarre.org) or visit us each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. We hope to see you soon.

*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**.

Barre Gazette

## OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

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

# Turleysports

## Athlete of the Month

NAME: Kyle Clark

SCHOOL: Quabbin

In a defeat at Hudson earlier this month, Kyle Clark had a big game for Quabbin with 19 points.

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



## Moulton Insurance Agency

HOME – AUTO – BUSINESS – LIFE

## 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](http://www.moultoninsurance.com)

413-967-3327



**Our Family Cares About Your Family**



1158 Main Street Holden 508.829.4434  
100 Worcester Road Sterling 978.422.0100

800-983-4434  
[www.milesfuneralhome.com](http://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.





**BARRE YIR,**  
continued from page 1

Select acted on the recommendations of the Regional Animal Control Officer to remove an Australian shepherd/cattle dog from town after complaints of non-stop barking continued. At the Monday, Feb. 6 meeting the ACO said the owner had concerns that wearing the bark collar had changed her two-year old dog's personality. The dog remains unlicensed as well. The dog owner, who lives in a duplex on Valley Road owned by her parents, did not attend the Monday night meeting.

At the Feb. 6 meeting Lucy Allen presented the board with a draft letter to the Department of Conservation and Recreation Committee in Boston and asked the Barre Select Board to sign it. She said there are also petitions being circulated against closing road access to vehicles in the watershed. The public comment period ends Feb. 28. The Select Board voted to sign the letter and they would send a copy of the letter to the other three towns of the Ware River Watershed - Hubbardston, Oakham and Rutland.

Nekr Jenkins and Kathy Inman attended the Feb. 6 meeting and asked the Select Board to grant permission for Quabbin Drug Response Unifying Group to decorate town commons with purple ribbons. The ribbons would be put up on Sunday, Feb. 26 and removed two weeks after Purple Prevention Week.

Town Administrator Jessica Sizer announced her resignation at the Feb. 21 Select Board meeting. She said her last day would be Friday, March 31 and she would be starting her new position with the Department of Revenue on Monday, April 3.

**MARCH**

At a meeting in February, the Select Board decided not to hold a Special Town Meeting and wait until the Annual Town Meeting. Since their decision, they received a letter from the 250th Anniversary Committee regarding their request for funds from the town for the 250th Anniversary events. The committee said many of the organizations needed to be booked at least a year in advance. Now that the state certified free cash, some of that money was available to support the committee. Select Board Chair Marshall said she checked with the Town Clerk, who recommended Tuesday, April 25 for a STM.

Before the start of the public budget hearing, the Quabbin Regional Budget Subcommittee Chair Mark Wigler recommended a \$39,209,041 preliminary budget for Fiscal Year 2024. The QRSD Committee unanimously approved the \$39 million number at the Thursday, March 9 meeting. Wigler proposed to take \$500,000 from the Excess and Deficiency Account to fund a portion of the Quabbin budget. This preliminary budget was a 7.96% increase over the previous fiscal year.

A long standing tradition for the Quabbin Regional High School Naval Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps program, the annual ROTC Navy Ball was held this year on Friday, March 10 at the Colonial Hotel in Gardner. After the ball, the fun continued back at Quabbin Regional High School with the new annual post ball lock-in.

Over a foot of snow arrived the beginning of this week on Sunday, March 12. It was heavy, wet snow and caused branches and small trees to bend under the weight of the snow.

Select Board Chair Maureen Marshall and member John Dixon interviewed two candidates for the position of Interim Town Administrator. The two candidates were both retired Town Administrators, Robert Reed and Greg Balukonis. Following the interviews, the board held its regular meeting on March 27. At the ending of the meeting, Chair Marshall said both candidates were qualified for the position. She said Greg Balukonis would be a good fit for the position. Board member Dixon said he rated both candidates and his top choice was Balukonis. They voted to appoint Balukonis Interim Town Administrator and instruct Town Administrator Sizer to check his references.

**APRIL**

Mark A. Regienus won a three-year term on the Select Board with 295 votes over Gregory P. O'Sullivan, candidate for re-election with 106 votes in the April 3 Annual Town Election. In the only other contest of two positions for Library Trustee, incumbent Catherine Chase was the top vote getter with 269 votes. Charlotte Gareau also won a seat as Library Trustee with 156 votes. Voters nar-



Hartman's Herb Farm will be selling hanging plants, flowers and herbs at the Barre Farmers Market. The market runs May through October on Barre Common.



Margo Petracone rides her horse in the Barre Memorial Day parade. Every year she carries the American flag. She wears red, white and blue and her horse has red, white and blue leg wraps and saddle pad.

rowly supported a debt exclusion by a margin of five votes with 189 yes and 184 no. The debt exclusion exempted from proposition 2 1/2 the purchase of Fire Department Self Contained Breathing Apparatus, Engine one, Engine 4, and ambulance, highway one ton dump truck with plow and a solar array.

The Quabbin Regional School District Committee, following an executive session to discuss collective bargaining at the beginning of the Thursday, April 6 meeting, returned to open a session to ratify the summary for the Quabbin Regional Teachers Association contract. The new contract will run from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026.

Cadet Jaden Gonzalez, Class of 2024, took over as Commanding Officer at the change of command for the Quabbin Naval Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps held Friday, April 7. He replaced Commanding Officer Summer Barringer, Class of 2023.

Following the Annual Town Election, the first order of business was to reorganize the Select Board at their Monday, April 10 meeting. Select Board member John Dixon nominated Maureen Marshall as chair and newly elected member Mark Regienus seconded the motion. In addition to electing Marshall chair, they also elected John Dixon, Vice Chair and Regienus, Clerk.

The Select Board opted to hire a consultant to help them in the search for a new Town Administrator. Following the Boards' unanimous vote at their Monday, April 24 meeting, Interim Town Administrator Greg Balukonis said he would reach out to three firms and ask them to send a letter of services to the Select Board. He said for a town the size of Barre the fee would be about \$10,000. He said if the boards went with a Search Committee it would add at least a month to the process.

**MAY**

The Select Board opened the warrant for the Annual Town Meeting at their Monday, May 1 meeting and close it two weeks later on Monday, May 15 at 5 p.m. They also set the date for the Annual Town Meeting for Tuesday, June 13 at 6:30 p.m. The location would be announced later, but it would either be at the Quabbin Regional High School or Ruggles Lane Elementary School.

This Saturday, May 13 from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. the Barre Farmers Market, on the Barre Common, will focus on planting and home gardening. There will be demonstrations of container planting and gardening questions answered. Children will be planting bean and pumpkin seeds in a cup to take home and watch grow. In addition, there will be a raffle of a gift basket with something from each vendor. The raffle will go to support Barre's 250th Anniversary celebration in 2024.

After the Select Board declared a dog at 160 Valley Road a nuisance due to excessive barking,

the owner has not complied with the conditions. The Board ordered the dog to be vaccinated for rabies and licensed at a previous hearing and as of Monday, May 15 was unlicensed and unvaccinated for rabies. They also recommend the dog wear a no bark collar when tied outside. The Select Board after hearing from the ACO unanimously voted to reaffirm their decision to have the dog removed from town or re-homed.

The Finance Committee will hold their annual budget public hearing on Tuesday, May 23 at 6:30 p.m. in the Barre Senior Center, 557 South Barre Road. The Finance Committee will present their proposed Fiscal Year 2024 budget to the public at his time before the Annual Town Meeting set for Tuesday, June 13 at 6:30 p.m.

American Legion Post 2 listed the order of exercises for the Memorial Day, Monday, May 29. The American Legion group will assemble for the Memorial Day parade around the Common to North Park. The ceremony will be at noon on the Barre Common.

**JUNE**

Quabbin Regional High School held their graduation on Friday, June 2 in the gymnasium due to rainy weather Friday and more rain predicted for Saturday and Sunday, school officials made the decision to hold an indoor graduation. With the indoor graduation each student received six tickets. The wet weather did not dampen the Class of 2023's spirit or the enthusiasm of family members and friends attending.

On Thursday, June 8, the third grade from Ruggles Lane Elementary School watched the musket firing demonstration of the American Revolution Col. Henry Knox Regimental Artillery Color Guard held in North Park.

The Quabbin Regional School Committee unanimously appointed Colleen Mucha Interim Superintendent at their June 8 meeting. She will serve from July 1 to June 30, 2024.

It took almost 2 1/2 hours for 135 voters to complete all town business at the Annual Town Meeting on Tuesday, June 13. In an effort to facilitate the process, Moderator Joshua Smith proposed placing 20 for the 27 articles on a Consent Agenda. Voters opted to hold five of those articles from the Consent Agenda to permit discussion. All these articles involved money and included the \$6,621,213.13 omnibus budget and \$6,878,718.67 for schools. Voters approved both of those budgets.

The end of this month, Dr. Sheila Muir will retire as the Quabbin Regional School District Superintendent, a post she held for five years. A graduate of Quabbin Regional High School, she taught at Quabbin and served in administrative positions including Assistant Superintendent before becoming Superintendent. She plans to do some gardening and grow dahlias.

Jim Powers of Powers and

Sullivan, LLC of Wakefield said the town received an unqualified audit opinion for Fiscal Year 2022. He gave a presentation on the audit to the Select Board at their Monday, June 20 meeting and said "the paperwork was fine." An unqualified opinion or "clean audit" does not have any kind of adverse comments or any disclaimers about any clauses in the audit process. This means the auditors were satisfied with the financial reporting.

**JULY**

Interim Town Administrator Greg Balukonis said the state has a pilot dam program, which would fund either repairing or breaching of the dam on the old Barre Reservoir. The dam, located off Williamsville Road, holds back about 570 acre feet of water and the reservoir is about ten to 12 feet deep. It was built in the mid 1800s possibly for hydro power use and later for a recreational fishing area under the ownership of three men, who formed the Prince River Association. The Interim Town Administrator said the state did extensive research on who owned the dam, once they deemed the dam hazardous, but they could not find any descendants of the long deceased three owners. Since the owners, who would be responsible for maintenance and repairs to the dam could not be found, the pilot program would fund the project at no cost to the town.

The sole item on the July 24 Select Board meeting was immediate attention of flooding in the Henry Woods Building basement, boiler room and Town Clerk office. The two Select Board members present, Chair Marshall and Vice-Chair Dixon, voted to convene the meeting to inspect the damages to the basement of the Henry Woods Building where they met. The building had serious flooding issued during a downpour the evening of Friday, July 21.

Select Board Vice Chair said the paperwork with Massachusetts Department of Transportation for Chapter 90 money reimbursement was submitted by the Monday, July 17 deadline. He said at the Monday, July 24 meeting Mass DOT also agreed to allow the town to use Chapter 90 money to cover the overage on road work, but they would like to meet with the Select Board. Vice Chair Dixon said he appreciated all the work done on the paperwork.

**AUGUST**

Quabbin Drug Response Unifying Group sponsored National Night Out on Tuesday, Aug. 1 in the Quabbin Regional High School parking lot.

**SEPTEMBER**

The rain failed to hold off until the conclusion of the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony in Barre on Monday, Sept. 11. Many attendees had umbrellas, but many just stood in the rain. The Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps from Quabbin Regional High



The Lions Club Sightmobile will be at the Barre Health Fair from 9 a.m.-noon on Thursday, Jan. 26. Shown from left are Tim DeVault, Principal Director General and Sightmobile maintenance coordinator, Louis Vacon.



Members of Quabbin Regional High School Class of 2023 toss their mortarboards into the air after graduating June 2.

Church where she was married and was a member. Born on July 29, 1914, she died on Sept. 23 at the age of 109.

**NOVEMBER**

Grade 4 students at Ruggles Lane Elementary School learned about Veterans Day's importance. Students watched videos, read books and articles, wrote star poems and wrote over 60 letters to Veterans. Fourth grade students and their teachers, Mrs. Murphy, Ms. Whitaker and Ms. Klein, planned a special Veterans Day ceremony on Wednesday, Nov. 8. The ceremony honored local veterans from Barre, veterans and active military members of students' families.

The Quabbin Performing Arts presents "Matilda the Musical" at Quabbin Regional High School, 800 South St. Show dates are Friday, Nov. 10 at 7 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 11 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 12 at 2 p.m.

The sun shone on Barre Common for the Annual Veterans Day Ceremony held on Saturday, Nov. 11. The Quabbin Regional High School Naval Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps cadets took part in the ceremony and their color guard. The event sponsored by American Legion Post #2 included a moment of silence as the Town Hall clock struck 11 a.m.. This commemorates the Armistice of Work War I, which went into effect on the 11th hour, the 11 day of the 11th month. Newly elected state Senator Peter Durant (R-Spencer) attended the ceremony and spoke to the large group gathered in Veterans Park on North Common. State Representative Donald Berthiaume (R-Spencer) attended and also spoke.

The Barre Select Board discussed the federal grant for a tanker fire truck. Following town meeting, Fire Chief Rob Rogowski received word, the town of Barre received the grant. The town's share was 5% or about \$23,000. Select Board member Regienus did not fine either a signed contract or any record of a vote on how the town would fund its here of the grant. Select Board Chair Marshall said the town's here could be funded with American Rescue Plan Act funds.

Administrative Assessor Jesse Warren said the Board of Assessors recommended the town adopt a residential tax factor of one at the Monday, Nov. 20 Select Board meeting. Barre is about 97% residential and the remaining 3% is commercial and industrial. He said the Assessor did not recommend the open space discount as it did not apply to Barre.

Just under 60 voters attended the Special Town Meeting held at Ruggles Lane School on Wednesday, Nov. 29 to act on a seven article warrant. The Town Administrator By-Law garnered much discussion. The Moderator ended discussion and the by-law passed with a standing vote of 32 yes and 25 no. It required a simple majority.

**DECEMBER**

The Christmas season doesn't truly start until the first Saturday in December, when the annual Christmas in Barre event bring Santa and Mrs. Claus to town, with a day all of activities and a parade. This year, the jolly elf and his wife rolled in on the back of a beautifully decorated red wagon, pulled by steam of horses. After making a full lap of the common, Santa and Mrs. Claus made their way into Town Hall, where eager children of all ages lined up to greet the.

Select Board Chair Marshall introduced Tammy Martin, Barre's new Town Administrator at the Monday, Dec. 18 meeting. The Town Administrator said she met with employees and department heads. She reported a few flood issues in the Henry Woods Building. Chair Marshall said Town Administrator Martin has been meeting with the finance team as well.

# Public Safety

## Barre Police Log

**Sunday, Dec. 10**  
 6:33 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Main Street, Vehicle Towed  
 11:09 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Mechanic Street, Written Warning  
 12:52 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Hubbardston, Mutual Aid Assist  
 3:50 p.m. Emergency Medical Services – Falls, Brigham Street, Transported to Hospital  
 5:51 p.m. Emergency Medical Services – Sick/Unknown, Nelson Way, Mutual Aid Assist  
 11:31 p.m. Emergency Medical Services – Breathing Difficulty, Wauwinet Road, Transported to Hospital

**Monday, Dec. 11**  
 10:04 a.m. Fire – Smoke Investigation, Hubbardston Road, Fire Extinguished  
 3:05 p.m. Animal – Lost and/or Found, Sunrise Avenue, Message Delivered  
 6:01 p.m. Harassment, Williamsville Road, Officer Took Call  
 6:10 p.m. Tree Incidents (No Wires), South Street, Removed Hazard  
 11:28 p.m. Emergency Medical Services – Breathing Difficulty, Ruggles Lane, Transported to Hospital

**Tuesday, Dec. 12**  
 12:11 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, Paxton, Negative Contact  
 2:15 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Summer Street, Criminal Complaint  
 Summons: Prado De Souza, Sabastiao, 46, Milford  
 Charges: Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle.  
 8:15 a.m. Emergency Medical Services – Sick/Unknown, West Street, Transported to Hospital  
 10:10 a.m. Emergency Medical Services – Welfare Check, Varney

Lane, Officer Spoke to Party  
 10:30 a.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problems, West Street, Transported to Hospital  
 11:30 a.m. Confiscated/Seized Property, Coldbrook Road, Information Given  
 12:47 p.m. Be On the Lookout Notification, Wheelwright Road, Transported to Hospital  
 Summons: Prentiss, Justin A., 34, Gilbertville  
 Charges: Stop for Police, Fail, Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle, Marked Lanes Violation, Speeding Rate of Speed Exceeding Posted Limit  
 2:03 p.m. Police – Fraud/Forgery, Old Dana Road, Officer Took Call  
 5:14 p.m. Police – Erratic Operator, School North Street, Negative Contact  
 5:43 p.m. Fire – CO Alarm (No Illness), Williamsville Road, Investigated  
 7:52 p.m. Road Condition Notification, Mechanic Street, Information Given

**Wednesday, Dec. 13**  
 6:48 a.m. Emergency Medical Service – Breathing Difficulty, Ruggles Lane, Transported to Hospital  
 8:45 a.m. Animal – Animal Complaint, Phillipston Road, Message Delivered  
 9:47 a.m. Road Conditions Notification, South Street, Officer Spoke to Party  
 7:32 p.m. Public Assist, Wilton Street, Referred to Other Agency

**Thursday, Dec. 14**  
 10:09 a.m. Emergency Medical Services – Allergic Reaction, Worcester Road, Transported to Hospital  
 3:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Barre Road, Criminal Complaint  
 Summons: Grecken, Joshua Watson, 45, Spencer

Charges: Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle, License Not in Possession, Speeding Rate of Speed Exceeding Posted Limit  
 4:17 p.m. Threats, South Street, Officer Took Call  
 4:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, School North Street, Written Warning

**Friday, Dec. 15**  
 8:06 a.m. Road Condition, Town Farm Road, Message Delivered  
 3:15 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hubbardston Road, Written Warning  
 3:25 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hubbardston Road, Citation Issued  
 4:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Mechanic Street, Citation Issued  
 11:14 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Gardner, Mutual Aid Assist

**Saturday, Dec. 16**  
 7:27 a.m. Serve Warrant, North Brookfield Road, Arrest(s) Made  
 Arrest: Murray, Ashley, 36, South Barre  
 Charges: Warrant Drug, Possess Class B, Subsequent Offense  
 11:35 a.m. Suspicious Person Vehicle Activity, Old Coldbrook Road, Officer Spoke to Party  
 5:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Wheelwright Road, Written Warning  
 7:37 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Vernon Avenue, Written Warning

**SOUTH BARRE**

**Monday, Dec. 11**  
 Be On the Lookout Notification, Wheelwright Road, Officer Advised

**Wednesday, Dec. 13**  
 12:08 p.m. Animal – ACO Call, Oakham Road, Officer Advised

9:30 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Citation Issued  
 4:52 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Old Turnpike Road, No Fire Service Necessary  
 7:36 p.m. Suspicious Person – Vehicle Activity, Muddy Pond, Officer Spoke to Party

**Saturday, Dec. 16**  
 1:49 p.m. Emergency Medical Services – Sick/Unknown, New Braintree Road, Transported to Hospital  
 2:51 p.m. Gunshots, Scott Road, Officer Spoke to Party

## Rutland Police Log

**Sunday, Dec. 10**  
 12:06 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued  
 12:19 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Glenwood Road, Citation Issued  
 12:27 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued  
 7:55 a.m. Suspicious Activity, Barre Paxton Road, Negative Contact  
 2:22 p.m. Police – Erratic Operator, East County Road, Officer Advised  
 2:32 p.m. Illegal Dumping, Kenwood Drive, Investigated  
 6:21 p.m. Police – Fraud/Forgery, Blueberry Lane, Report Filed

**Monday, Dec. 11**  
 1:21 a.m. Emergency Medical Services – Falls, Lewis Street, Public Assist  
 8:27 a.m. Fire – Power Lines/Wires Down, Wheeler Road, Investigated  
 8:48 a.m. Property Damage, Maple Avenue, Officer Took Call  
 8:49 a.m. Emergency Medical Services – Sick/Unknown, Lewis Street, Transported to Hospital  
 8:52 a.m. Emergency Medical Services – Lift Assist, Main Street, Public Assist  
 10:31 a.m. Emergency Medical Services – Breathing Difficulty, Anthony Drive, Transported to Hospital  
 12:24 Police – Larceny/Theft, Pommogussett Road, Report Filed  
 12:44 p.m. Fainting, Main Street, Transported to Hospital  
 2 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued  
 4:59 p.m. Emergency Medical Services – Choking, Peters Avenue, Public Assist

**Wednesday, Dec. 13**  
 1:02 p.m. Lockout (Home or Vehicle, Main Street, Entry Gained  
 2:42 p.m. Assault and Battery, Glenwood Road, Transported to Hospital  
 5:10 p.m. Erratic Operator, Main Street, No Police Service Necessary  
 6:33 p.m. Emergency Medical Services, Maple Avenue, Transported to Hospital  
 6:41 p.m. Erratic Operator, Pleasantdale Road, Negative Contact  
 8:27 p.m. Erratic Operator, Maple Avenue, Negative Contact

**Thursday, Dec. 14**  
 2:09 a.m. Prisoner Watch or Meal,

Main Street, Removed to Court/Lockup  
 7:51 a.m. Motor Vehicle – No Fire Department/EMS Response Grizzly Drive, Vehicle Towed  
 9:35 a.m. Motor Vehicle – Disabled, Barre Paxton Road, Public Assist  
 10:09 a.m. Emergency Medical Services – Allergic Reaction, Worcester Road, Transported to Hospital  
 2:40 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, East County Road, Criminal Complaint  
 Summons: De Souza Pereira, Thiana, 28, Framingham  
 Charges: Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle, Failure to Use Care when Starting  
 4:37 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Paxton, Negative Contact  
 6:31 p.m. Assist Other Police Department Southbridge, Mutual Aid Assist  
 8:31 p.m. Emergency Medical Services – Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Maple Avenue, No Action Required  
 11:55 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Holden Mutual Aid Assist

**Friday, Dec. 15**  
 8:58 p.m. Emergency Medical Services – Seizures, Miles Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal  
 9:34 a.m. Identity Theft, Athens Avenue, Report Filed  
 9:44 a.m. Keep the Peace, Barre Paxton Road, Public Assist  
 2:01 p.m. Back Pain, Maple Avenue, Transported to Hospital  
 2:20 p.m. Gunshots, Glenwood Road, Negative Contact  
 4:52 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Old Turnpike Road, No Fire Service Necessary  
 6:36 p.m. Suspicious Person – Vehicle Activity, Maple Spring Drive, Officer Advised  
 6:46 p.m. Suspicious Person – Vehicle Activity, Prospect Street, Officer Spoke to Party  
 7:01 p.m. Emergency Medical Services – Falls, Main Street, Public Assist  
 7:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued  
 7:17 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
 7:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued  
 7:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main

Street, Citation Issued  
 7:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
 7:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued  
 7:59 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint  
 Summons: Powell, Kevin B., 32, Leominster  
 Charges: Uninsured Motor Vehicle, Unregistered Motor Vehicle  
 8:28 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street, Vehicle Towed  
 Summons: Magnuson, Jeffrey W., 35, Jefferson  
 Charges: Light Violation, Motor Vehicle, Uninsured Motor Vehicle, Unregistered Motor Vehicle  
 9:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
 9:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued

**Saturday, Dec. 16**  
 9:29 a.m. Threats, Arrowhead Way, Report Filed  
 1:49 p.m. Emergency Medical Services – Sick/Unknown, New Braintree Road, Transported to Hospital  
 4:18 p.m. Complaint, Michaels Drive, Officer Spoke to Party  
 4:42 p.m. Complaint, East County Road, Officer Advised  
 5:41 p.m. Road/Traffic Hazard, Barre Paxton Road, Referred to Other Agency  
 5:53 p.m. Erratic Operator, Main Street, Negative Contact  
 8:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
 8:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Charnock Hill Road, Written Warning  
 9:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Citation Issued  
 9:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Citation Issued  
 10:05 p.m. Erratic Operator, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party  
 11:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Avenue, Written Warning  
 11:28 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Written Warning  
 11:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pommogussett Road, Written Warning  
 11:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Paxton Road, Written Warning  
 11:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Woodside Avenue, Written Warning

## Oakham Police Log

**Monday, Dec. 11**  
 9:02 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Road, Written Warning  
 9:17 a.m. Court Duty, East Brookfield District Court, Court Duty  
 10:05 a.m. Police – Suspicious Person/Vehicle, North Brookfield Road, Message Delivered  
 8:28 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Rutland, Mutual Aid Assist

**Tuesday, Dec. 12**  
 8:52 a.m. Animal Wildlife, Spencer Road, Officer Advised

**Wednesday, Dec. 13**  
 5:46 p.m. Illegal Dumping, Worcester Road, Report Filed  
 7:39 p.m. Suspicious Person-Vehicle-Activity, North Brookfield Road, Officer Advised

**Thursday, Dec. 14**  
 10:50 a.m. Court Duty, East Brookfield District Court, Court Duty  
 5:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old Turnpike Road, Citation Issued

**Friday, Dec. 15**  
 8:27 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Citation Issued

9:30 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Worcester Road, Citation Issued  
 4:52 p.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle Collision, Old Turnpike Road, No Fire Service Necessary  
 7:36 p.m. Suspicious Person – Vehicle Activity, Muddy Pond, Officer Spoke to Party

**Saturday, Dec. 16**  
 1:49 p.m. Emergency Medical Services – Sick/Unknown, New Braintree Road, Transported to Hospital  
 2:51 p.m. Gunshots, Scott Road, Officer Spoke to Party

## Hubbardston Police Log

**Sunday, Dec. 10**  
 12:49 p.m. Police – Vandalism, Brigham Street, Report Filed  
 10:27 Emergency Medical Services – Stroke (CVA), Ragged Hill Road, Transported to Hospital

**Monday, Dec. 11**  
 9:04 a.m. Court Duty, Gardner District Court, Court Duty  
 11 a.m. Emergency Medical Services – Welfare Check, Old Princeton Road, Report Filed

**Tuesday, Dec. 12**  
 8:48 a.m. Court Duty, Gardner

District Court, Administration Complete  
 9:56 a.m. Public Assist, Old Princeton Road, Officer Took Call  
 12:11 Road Hazard, Williamsville Road, Removed Hazard

**Wednesday, Dec. 13**  
 3:21 p.m. Emergency Medical Services -Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Old Princeton Cutoff Road, Transported to Hospital

**Thursday, Dec. 14**  
 9:27 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Gardner Road, Citation Issued  
 1:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main

Street, Written Warning

**Friday, Dec. 15**  
 5:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Gardner Road, Written Warning

**Saturday, Dec. 16**  
 3:45 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle Activity, Barre Road, Negative Contact  
 7:06 a.m. Escort/Transport, Worcester House of Correction, Removed to Court/Lockup  
 9:59 p.m. Emergency Medical Services – Abdominal-Back Pain, Seminole Avenue, Ambulance Signed Refusal

### T-BIRDS, continued from page 7

Tkaczuk will take over the head coaching duties in Springfield on an interim basis. Tkaczuk, 44, joined the St. Louis Blues organization in 2016 as an assistant coach with the club's AHL affiliate, the Chicago Wolves. After spending the 2017-18 season as a Skills Coach with the Blues, he rejoined the AHL affiliate as an assistant coach under Bannister in 2018, a role he has held ever since, including a promotion to Associate Head Coach in 2022.

The Toronto, Ontario native began his coaching career in the OHL as an assistant coach with the Owen Sound Attack from 2011-15 before spending the 2015-16 season with the Kitchener Rangers. Tkaczuk and Bannister were co-assistant coaches with Owen Sound from 2012-15. Tkaczuk was the sixth overall draft pick in the 1997 NHL Draft by the Calgary Flames and played 12 professional seasons in both North America and Europe. As a member of the Saint John Flames, Tkaczuk captured a Calder Cup championship in 2000-01. He was tied for sec-

ond among Flames skaters with 10 goals in the Calder Cup Playoffs that season. In 286 AHL games with Saint John, the Worcester IceCats, Bridgeport Sound Tigers, Charlotte, Syracuse, Rochester, and Hartford, Tkaczuk posted 59 goals and 109 assists for 168 points. He was a career point-per-game performer in the playoffs, scoring 14 goals and adding 17 assists in 29 career Calder Cup playoff contests. Tkaczuk also skated in 19 NHL games with Calgary, putting up 11 points (four goals, seven assists) in the 2000-01 season.

## Local farms receive disaster recovery funds

BOSTON – Senator Peter J. Durant (R-Spencer) along with Representatives Kimberly Ferguson (R - Holden), Todd Smola (R - Warren), Paul Frost (R - Auburn), Jon Zlotnik (D - Gardner), and Meghan Kilcoyne (D - Clinton) announced funding to 36 farms Worcester and Hampshire Senate District that were greatly affected by recent natural disasters. All the farms receiving payments lost significant amounts of crops due to this past February's deep freeze, a late May frost, and the catastrophic flooding in July. The farms in the Worcester Hampshire District that are receiving this funding are: Fay Mountain Farm in Brookfield; Waugh Farms in New Braintree; Meadowbrook Orchards, Inc. in Sterling; Davis Carlson Farm in Ware; Coldbrook Springs Winery and Stevens Farm in Barre; Center View Farm in Spencer; Agronomy Farm Vineyard, LLC in Oakham; Alta Vista Farm, LLC, Rutland; Ashland Farm in New Braintree; Breezy Gardens in Leicester; Brookfield Orchards, Inc. in North Brookfield; Coy Brook Farm in West Brookfield; Cranberry Pond Farm in Brookfield, Heavens Harvest Farm in New Braintree; Hickory Lane Farm, LLC in North Brookfield; Howes Farm and Garden, LLC in New Braintree; Hunt Road Berry Farm, Inc. in West Brookfield; Jordan Dairy Farms, Inc. in Rutland; Clover Hill Farm, LLP in Gilbertville; Lone Birch Blossoms in Gilbertville; Kettle Brook Farms, LLC in North Brookfield; Maple Hill Farm Grass-fed Beef, Inc. in Hardwick; Lilac Hedge Farm, LLC, Jefferson; P & A Petruzzi Farms in East Brookfield; Pease

Orchard in Templeton; Prairie Orchard in New Braintree; Ragged Hill Orchard in West Brookfield; Rattleroot Farm, LLC in Princeton; Red Apple Farm, LLC in Phillipston; Royal Crest Farm, LLC in Spencer; Schultz Farm in Rutland; Stillman Quality Meats, LLC in Hardwick; Stillmans Greenhouses & Farm, Inc. in New Braintree; Sunny Crest Orchards in Sterling; Walker Farm at Whortleberry Hill in New Braintree and Wildberry Acres Farm in Brookfield. "These funds come at a crucial time for farmers across the Worcester and Hampshire District and across Central Mass as a whole. Thirty-six farms in my district will directly benefit from this much needed funding. I applaud the efforts of the Administration, and all involved for helping farmers get the relief they need," said Senator Peter Durant. "These funds will go a long way to assist our farmers and I appreciate the commitment made by the Administration and the legislature. This has been an incredibly difficult year for farms across the state, and we need to support them in whatever way we can," said Representative Kimberly Ferguson. "Support to farmers in Central Massachusetts is well founded. Farmers deserve the necessary tools to overcome the losses sustained from weather conditions in February, May, and July of this year. This funding will enable farms to continue their vital work. I am grateful for the diligent efforts of the Administration and the legislature to help the Commonwealth's agricultural industry," said Representative Todd Smola. Representative Paul Frost said,

"Having farmers in communities I represent in Charlton, Leicester and Millbury receiving this much needed disaster relief is very welcoming news. I'm pleased to see the support for farms, which contribute to the local economy and add their own special charm to each of these communities." "This funding is important stabilize farms in years like this when the weather and other conditions dealt a bad hand. I'm happy to support this and glad central Mass farmers have been able to access this support," said Representative Jon Zlotnik. "This summer, I personally saw the devastating impacts of this summer's severe weather on our farms. Now, I am grateful that those same farms that suffered will be getting much needed support through \$20 million in disaster relief funding," said Representative Meghan Kilcoyne. "This funding will go directly towards helping our famers recover from July's devastating floods, protect our local produce, and help them prepare for future climate challenges. I am pleased that part of this funding will go directly to ten farms in the 12th Worcester District and ensure they will continue their vital contributions to our communities. I am grateful to both the Healey Administration and my colleagues in the Legislature for supporting this effort." Governor Healey's Administration announced this funding on Monday, Dec. 11 that \$20 million has been made available to 347 farmers in Western and Central Massachusetts through the Natural Disaster Recovery Program. According to the Administration, to receive funding through the NDR Program, applicants were required to be a Massachusetts-based agricultural operation growing field crops, hay and forage crops or produce crops. Eligible farms had to demonstrate that they suffered losses of greater than 15% of their total planted acreage during one of the 2023 natural disasters. Funds from the NDR Program will be distributed immediately in time for local farms to begin the work needed for next year's growing and harvesting season.

**Sale of Real Estate Under M.G.L. C. 183A:6**

**Friday, January 5, 2024 @ 12:00 noon**

18 Palmer Road, Unit 5, Monson, MA  
 Woodridge Place Condominium

This 2-bedroom, 2-bathroom townhouse unit has +/- 1,470 sq ft including eat-in-kitchen and living/dining room. Central air. Full basement. Private back patio. Oversized 1car garage.

**Terms of Sale: A deposit of \$5,000 per unit, by cash, certified or bank check will be required at the time & place of sale. Balance due within 30 days. All other terms announced at sale. Auctioneer makes no representations as to the accuracy of the information contained herein.**

**HARVARD AUCTIONEERS COMPANY**  
 www.harvardauctioneers.com  
 617-817-0462 MA LIC# 1431

**SCHOOL VAN DRIVERS**  
 Monson - Palmer - Barre - Brookfield  
 \$19.50/hr.

**WE WILL TRAIN & LICENSE YOU**

Paid sick time, Paid FMLA,  
 Paid holidays.  
 Work the school schedule,  
 split shifts.

**JP MCCARTHY BUS**  
 email [jobs@mccarthybus.com](mailto:jobs@mccarthybus.com)  
 text or call 774-200-6762

**PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE**

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

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

visit [www.publicnotices.turley.com](http://www.publicnotices.turley.com)

# Public Notices

# Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

Call us at 413.283.8393

### LEGAL NOTICE MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Edwin R. Kilpatrick and Eileen M. Kilpatrick to Sherwood Mortgage Group Inc., dated February 5, 2000 and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 22297, Page 336 (the "Mortgage") of which mortgage Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as Trustee for Residential Asset Mortgage Products, Inc., Mortgage-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2004-SL2 is the present holder by Assignment from Sherwood Mortgage Group, Inc. to Mortgage Amenities Corp. dated February 5, 2000 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 22297, Page 352, and Corrective Assignment from Sherwood Mortgage Group, Inc. to Mortgage Amenities Corp. dated March 6, 2018 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 58536, Page 381, and Assignment from Mortgage Amenities Corp. to Residential Funding Corporation dated May 22, 2000 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 22622, Page 77, and Assignment from Residential Funding Corporation to Bank One National Association as Trustee dated October 1, 2003 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 31880, Page 233, and Assignment from Bank One N. A. as Trustee to Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as Trustee dated April 24, 2008 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 42807, Page 357, and Confirmatory Assignment from Bank One, National Association f/k/a The First National Bank of Chicago as Trustee to Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as Trustee dated April 24, 2008 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 52373, Page 369, for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the mortgaged premises located at 2230 Old Turnpike Road, Oakham, MA 01068 will be sold at a Public Auction at **12:00 PM on January 19, 2024**, at the mortgaged premises, more particularly described below, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

THENCE N. 09° 52' 50" W., 665.09 feet along Lot 4 to a stake in a stone wall at Wiersma land;  
THENCE S. 76° 06' 58" E., 95.31 feet along a stone wall to a point;  
THENCE S. 75° 19' 07" E., 300.12 feet along said stone wall to a stake;  
THENCE S. 02° 09' 20" E., 161.33 feet along a stone wall to a point;  
THENCE S. 03° 27' 24" E., 344.22 feet along a stone wall to the iron pin at the point beginning.

Containing 4.47 acres, on said plan recorded in Plan Book 720, Plan 46.

Being the same premises conveyed to Edwin R. Kilpatrick and Eileen M. Kilpatrick by deed of Eileen M. Kilpatrick, Trustee of the Turnpike Road Realty Trust, under declaration of trust dated June 1, 1999 and recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds at Book 21488, Page 27, deed dated February 5, 2000 and recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds at instrument no. 14481.

For mortgagor's title see deed recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 22297, Page 334.

The premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal assessments and liens, and subject to prior liens or other enforceable encumbrances of record entitled to precedence over this mortgage, and subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record and subject to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession.

**Terms of the Sale:** Cashier's or certified check in the sum of \$5,000.00 as a deposit must be shown at the time and place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder (the mortgage holder and its designee(s) are exempt from this requirement); high bidder to sign written Memorandum of Sale upon acceptance of bid; balance of purchase price payable by certified check in thirty (30) days from the date of the sale at the offices of mortgagee's attorney, Korde & Associates, P.C., 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA or such other time as may be designated by mortgagee. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

**Other terms to be announced at the sale.**

Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as Trustee for Residential Asset Mortgage Products, Inc., Mortgage-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2004-SL2

Korde & Associates, P.C.  
900 Chelmsford Street  
Suite 3102  
Lowell, MA 01851  
(978) 256-1500  
Kilpatrick, Edwin R. & Eileen M. Kilpatrick,  
16-027089  
12/28/2023, 01/04, 01/11/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Worcester Probate and Family Court  
225 Main Street  
Worcester, MA 01608  
(508)831-2200  
Docket No.  
WO23P4122EA  
Estate of:  
Clara M Pettee  
Date of Death: 09/17/2023  
CITATION ON**

### PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Deborah B Moriarty of Barre, MA and Linda J Mclellan of Glendale, AZ requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Deborah B Moriarty of Barre, MA and Linda J Mclellan of Glendale, AZ** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/23/2024.**

This is **NOT** a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**

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

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A Keamy, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: December 22, 2023  
**Stephanie Fattman**  
Register of Probate  
12/28/2023

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

### FOR SALE

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

### FIREWOOD

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

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

### WANTED

### WANTED TO BUY

ANTIQUES AND OLD STUFF WANTED **BUYING** Bottles, Crocks, Jugs, Pottery, Costume Jewelry, Toys, Games, coins, sterling, Glassware, Silver-plated items, watches, Musical instruments, typewriters, sewing machines, tools, radios, clocks, lanterns, lamps, kitchenware, cookware, knives, military, automotive, fire department, masonic, license plates, beer-cans, barware, books, oil cans, advertising signs, 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

### 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.**

**A DUMP TRUCK** Cleaning out attics, cellars, garages, estate cleanouts, scrap metal removal. **413-569-1611 or 413-374-5377.**

### SERVICES

**CHAIR SEAT WEAVING** & refinishing - cane, fiber rush & splint - Classroom instructor, 20+ years experience. Call Walt at **(413)289-6670** for estimate.

### HOME IMPROVEMENT

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

**HOME REPAIR & REMODELING** for all your interior & exterior needs. Carpentry, woodworking, porches, patios, windows, doors, painting, drywall, siding, landscaping, clean-outs. Competitive pricing. References. Please call Brendan **(413)687-5552**

### MASONRY

### STOP WET BASEMENTS

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

### PAINTING

**DUTCH TOUCH PAINTING** Interior only \$199.00 for average 12x16 room. Very neat, references, prompt service call **(508)667-2550**

**FORBES & SONS PAINTING & STAINING** Interior, residential, commercial and new construction, wallpaper removal, sheetrock and plaster repairs. Quality products. Since 1985. Free estimates. Fully insured. Call Brad Forbes at **413-887-1987.**

### RUBBISH REMOVAL

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

### TREE WORK

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

### SERVICES

### STUMP GRINDING

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



**SAW Stump Grinding** Call for a Free Estimate, Veteran Owned, Fully Insured **413-213-5470**

### HELP WANTED

### TOWN OF PALMER: CLERK BOARD OF HEATH

Duties include responsibility for performing secretarial and general office support activities. Work often involves public contact and effective coordination with other Town departments and outside organizations. Work requires sound exercise of judgment, initiative, and discretion based on knowledge of administrative or operating policies and procedures. For a full job description please go to [www.townofpalmer.com/jobs](http://www.townofpalmer.com/jobs) or contact Nicole Gauthier at [ngauthier@townofpalmer.com](mailto:ngauthier@townofpalmer.com). The Town of Palmer is an EOE/AA employer.

Find archives of this local newspaper at [www.newspapers.turley.com](http://www.newspapers.turley.com)

### HELP WANTED

### GATEWAY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Gateway Regional is seeking a 6-hour custodian for the Littleville Elementary School/Main Complex. Hours will be 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

- Work days Monday-Friday. Looking for a highly motivated individual who is able to:
- Read and follow instructions
  - Have knowledge of cleaning procedures
  - Experience in cleaning and maintenance a plus
  - Lift 50 lbs or more
  - Be self-motivated
  - Work alone or with a group
  - Good communication skills with staff and the public
  - Knowledge of operation of equipment such as a floor scrubber, snow blower, etc.
  - Work in the extreme cold and heat
  - Have a valid driver's license
  - High school degree or GED

Send letter of interest and resume to: William Sullivan, Interim Principal; Gateway High/Middle School, 12 Littleville Road, Huntington, MA 01050  
Deadline: January 5, 2024  
GRSD is an EOE

### REAL ESTATE

### FOR RENT



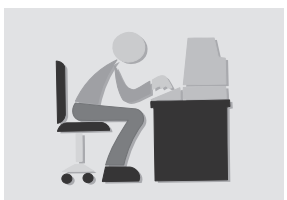
### EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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

### FOR RENT



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



Post your job openings in our classifieds.

**We get results! Call 413-283-8393**

Recycle Your Stuff for Cash in the **CLASSIFIEDS**

Call, email or use the form in the papers to sell.

**Turley Publications, Inc.**  
**CLASSIFIEDS**  
classifieds@turley.com • 413-283-8393

## FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

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

DEADLINES: MONDAY AT NOON

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 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

**Quabbin Village Hills**  
Circulation: 50,500

**Hilltowns**  
Circulation: 9,800

**Suburban Residential**  
Circulation: 59,000

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

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

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

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

**EARLY DEADLINE**

In observance of **NEW YEAR'S PUBLIC NOTICES** WILL HAVE AN **EARLY AD DEADLINE** Place your public notice no later than **Thurs., Dec. 28 Noon**

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

# Your BUYLINE CONNECTION

## YEAR END SALE!!! GIANT TOY CLEARANCE SALE!!!

**OPEN NEW YEAR'S EVE & NEW YEAR'S DAY 10AM - 7PM**  
**1,000s OF APPLIANCES!**  
**BEST PRICE**  
**FAST DELIVERY OR PICK UP**  
**GIANT TOY & BIKE DEPT!!!**  
SEE AD INSIDE

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



## PRIME RIB

**Fridays & Saturdays**  
Available after 5pm  
While it lasts!

*'Where friends, family, and neighbors meet!'*

**E.B. FLATTS**  
508 867-6643 | 245 W. Main East Brookfield

### Why call the Michelle Terry Team to sell your home?

*We have a great marketing plan that includes:*

- Home staging services • Home warranties
- 3D videos • Professional photography
- Ramped up open houses! • And so much more

**YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS**

*We Do More So You Will Make More!!*



Michelle Terry  
Broker/Owner



**EXIT** Real Estate Executives  
130 W. Main Street  
Spencer, MA 01562

michelleterryteam.com

**GIVE US A CALL TODAY! 508-202-0008**



North Brookfield, Lake Lashaway Community  
\$369,900

Ranch, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, deck, partially finished basement. Move in ready! Quick Closing possible.

*Call me for an appointment!*

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



### Brookhaven Assisted Care

19 West Main Street, West Brookfield, MA 01585

**UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT TEAM:**  
Erin, Laura and Nancy

Over 55 years of service.  
24 hour care, Medical Management, Assistance with activities of daily living, Activity Program, well trained, compassionate and caring staff.

**Services Available In-House:**  
Physician's / Nurse Practitioner services, Pharmacy services, Podiatry services

**VNA services:**  
Physical, Speech, Occupational Therapy, Hospice, Mobile X-Ray, Geriatric-Psych services  
Transportation available, Hairdresser / Barber  
Manager: Erin Tierney  
508-867-3325 ~ erin.brookhaven@gmail.com



**Michael Toomey & Associates, Inc. Real Estate**

East Brookfield | Maryellen Brunelle | 774-230-1419  
Oakham | Irene Caruso | 774-696-9794  
Worcester / West Brookfield | Macey Gaumond | 413-233-8967  
Spencer | Zac Leach | 508-277-5209  
Holden | Sarah Mahoney | 774-245-1218  
Barre | Dan Mankin | 760-617-0548  
Leicester | Lee Martinelli | 774-253-0364  
Paxton | Scott Moss | 508-847-6330  
Spencer | Amy Ekleberry Perro | 508-769-7025  
Brookfield | Meghan Robidoux | 508-414-2518  
North Brookfield | Mike Toomey | 508-951-6460

*Serving all your Real Estate needs!*

### WHERE EVERYONE GOES FOR THEIR PIECE OF THE EARTH!

## WINTER IS COMING!

BULK ROAD SALT • BULK TREATED SALT  
WASHED WINTER ROAD SAND • SAND/SALT MIX

### STOCK UP NOW!

Construction Stone • Landscaping Stone  
Title V Septic Sand • Presby Sand • Concrete Sand  
Stone Dust • Crushed Gravel • Cold Patch

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

**Bond** Sand, Gravel & Asphalt  
98 North Spencer Road, Route 31N, Spencer, MA  
508-885-6100  
508-885-2480

www.bondsandandgravel.com

### NOTHING SAYS FALL LIKE A FIREPIT IN THE BACKYARD

We stock 6 different styles  
Prices starting under \$360  
For Firepit and block



## CONCRETE SOLUTIONS

199 East Broadway (Rt. 2A), Gardner  
978-669-0088

## Support Your Hometown Businesses

# SHOP LOCAL

### Adventure tours of Warren

Share the Adventure with us!

### 7-NIGHT BERMUDA CRUISE - May 24-31, 2024

Call now - January 15 deadline!



Dec. 30 .... **Moulin Rouge!** ..... \$125  
Jan. 27 ..... **Ain't Too Proud - Temptations** ..... \$99  
March 16. **Frozen at P.P.A.C.** ..... \$130  
May 4 ..... **Kennedy Library** ..... \$95  
Aug. 30..... **7-night Nova Scotia Cruise** from \$1499

**Share the Adventure with us soon!**  
For further information call Randall at (413) 436-5357 or email [adventuretours@att.net](mailto:adventuretours@att.net) or go to [www.adventuretoursofwarren.com](http://www.adventuretoursofwarren.com)



**FARMER MATT'S SIGNATURE SELECTION**

Choose Farmer Matt's Signature Selection for a variety of meats and your choice of premium steaks. It's the perfect gift for the food lover on your list. **3-month or 6-month subscriptions** available.

Order online or in-store  
[FarmerMatt.com](http://FarmerMatt.com)

 **Farmer Matt** FARM-FRESH + LOCAL  
FarmerMatt.com  
860 West Brookfield Rd.  
New Braintree, MA



### Ring in the NEW YEAR with GREAT EATS AND TREATS

Ring in the New Year with a mouthwatering spread of delectable delights from Farmer Matt's kitchen. Jumbo wings, mac & cheese, eggrolls, beef & broccoli, tachos, bavarian pretzel, and spinach and artichoke dip. Whether you're hosting an intimate gathering or a lively bash, our diverse selection of dishes promises to satisfy every palate.

Order online or in-store [FarmerMatt.com](http://FarmerMatt.com)