

BARRE GAZETTE

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Select Board to interview Fire Chief candidates

By Ellenor Downer
Editor
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BARRE – The Barre Select Board meet on Monday, Feb. 24 to discuss the interview process for candidates for the Fire Chief.

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

Select Board Vice Chair John Dixon said if the meetings were held over a two day period the candidates could watch the earlier interviews. To avoid this situation, the meeting would not be streamed live and the recordings would be posted after all candidates were interviewed.

Select Board Chair Maureen Marshall recommended including Barre Police Chief James Sabourin and Department of Public Works Superintendent Timothy Batchelor in the interviewing process. Select Board Vice Chair Dixon said having a Fire Chief from another town would be helpful as well. At the request

See BARRE, page 6

Library hosts Hands on Nature program

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
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BARRE – The Woods Memorial Library welcomed Heather Simpson from the educational outdoor nature program, Hands on Nature.

Based out of Berlin, Hands on Nature offers outdoor nature programs for students from preschool to high school. This program is dedicated to connecting children to the natural world through educational hands-on experiences.

Hands on Nature provides after school programs, library programs, summer camps, and birthday parties. Library programs and school programs bring educational experiences into the libraries and schools, and provide hands-on learning in an indoor setting.

This past Thursday, kids got to learn about big predators such as bears, coyotes, wolves and mountain lions. Being in Massachusetts, Simpson went over which large wild predators are left in the state and which ones that are no longer around.

There were pictures of various predators including bobcats, coyotes, foxes and mountain lions. One of the unique predators discussed was the fisher. This carnivorous mammal is sometimes referred to as a “fisher cat”.

There was also a discussion about sky predators from owls to eagles. Simpson would then ask the kids if they know the difference between predator and prey. Predators feed on sick and weak animals.

Foxes can be seen in Massachusetts and the



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



Tommy, left, Ben and Harlan had fun asking questions during the predators presentation and got to work on their predator and prey cups.

most common fox in the Commonwealth is the gray fox. The red fox can also be seen in Massachusetts. There are no wolves in Massachusetts, but Simpson played a brief video about

wolves and their approaches to hunting. The video began with a quiet howl.

“At first I thought the kids were howling,” one of the parents said during the video. The wolf pop-

ulation increased out near Yellowstone National Park.

Simpson shared some big predator facts and how predators are an important part of the ecosystem. In recent years, there has been a decrease in the number of predators. Predators attacking humans are rare and predators only attack when they’re hungry or frightened.

On one of the side tables were samples of fur and claws by several known predators in Massachusetts. Examples such as claws from a bear, fur from a coyote and antlers from deer were looked at by the several kids who attended the Hands for Nature program.

The event wrapped up with a predator and prey

See NATURE PROGRAM, page 7

Town offices move to 48 Gardner St.

By Ellenor Downer
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HUBBARDSTON – Town Administrator Nathan Boudreau said the moving to the 48 Gardner St. location of town offices was a team effort at the Feb. 18 Select Board meeting.

The Select Board at this time will continue to meet at the current 7 Main St. address. In response to an inquiry about moving the vault from the library to the new location for the town clerk, he said that was not feasible. The plan was to build a new vault for the Town Clerk at the Gardner Street location. The library could use the old vault to house their valuable books and old records.

Public Hearing

The Select Board approved a change of manager for One Stop Shop, formerly Mr. Mike’s, at 35 Main St. The new manager is Mr. Patel

Town Clerk fee schedule

The Select Board approved the new fee schedule for Town Clerk Melody Green. The new fees were in accordance with Massachusetts General Law.

Town Administrator

Town Administrator Boudreau said residents may now apply for dog licenses and permits online. He also will be posting the Fiscal Year 2026 budget on the website. Legal fees were higher.

See HUBBARDSTON, page 11

Select Board sets STM for March 11

By Ellenor Downer
Editor
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OAKHAM – The Select Board voted at their Feb. 10 meeting to reschedule the Special Town Meeting, which was cancelled in January, to Tuesday, March 11 at 7 p.m. in the Oakham Fire Station, Barre Road.

The only change for the warrant was the adding of an additional bill for the previous fiscal year of \$894.49 from LHS Associates of Salem, New Hampshire to the Town Clerk article. The late bill was received after the cancellation of the January STM. The bill was for ballot printing and folding for May 2024. The company never sent any reminders of the overdue amount.

The acceptance of Skyline and Old Schoolhouse Drives as town roads would not be completed in time. The legal paperwork was still not approved and reviewed by counsel regarding right of ways. Planning Board can not approve until that is done and then has 45 days to make a decision. Vice Chair

Donald Haapakoski said it looks like the article would be on the Annual Town Meeting warrant.

Administrative Assistant Maribel LaRange said the previous warrant had approval from Town Council, KP Law, and she just needed to add the additional bill amount from LHS Associates for the Town Clerk article.

Fobes Memorial Library

The Select Board continued meeting with town departments to review their Fiscal Year 2026 budgets. Fobes Memorial Library Director Lauren Koblara Kostantin presented a level funded budget with an increase in the lending material line. The state mandates libraries the library spend 20% of its total budget to maintain its certification. This amount \$7,514, an increase of \$3,757 from the previous year met the state requirement. The budget also moved \$700 from the \$3,000 level funded budget for office supplies to technology. This covered the increased cost for technology, which resulted in the switch to CM Geeks Inc. of Oakham. The previous provider was \$1,700 per year and the new one \$2,400.

Select Board Vice Chair Haapakoski asked what

the library hours were. The Director said Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.-noon. He said he heard requests for longer hours on Saturday. A Zoom participant said 8 a.m.-noon would be appreciated.

In response to a question about using volunteers, Library Director Kostantin said they had several people interested in volunteering at a recent Friends of the Library meeting. She said they have teen volunteers in the summer as well.

Council on Aging

Clare Hendra presented the Council on Aging budget said office supplies costs were up due mainly to ink and paper for their printer. The other increase was for \$50 for recreation. Everything else was level funded. The COA ran an ad to fill the position of Activities Coordinator, a position left vacant with the resignation of Melanie Silva last year. The classified ad, which ran in the Barre Gazette, was for up to 12 hours per week with a rate of \$20 per hour depending on experience. That total cost, which was in their budget, was \$12,480. She said she plans to run

See OAKHAM, page x

St. Cleophas Knights of Columbus donate Coats for Kids



Submitted photo

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

BARRE – The St. Cleophas Knights of Columbus Council (Barre) recently donated 27 coats to the Quabbin Regional School District as part of the Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids program.

Since 2009, the Knights of

Columbus have donated over one million coats to children in need through their local councils. The Coats for Kids program has become synonymous with the Knights of Columbus mission of charity, as first established by their founder, Blessed Michael

McGivney, more than 140 years ago. If people are able, they may make a donation to Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids at kofc.org. One hundred percent of the donation will support the purchase of coats for children in need.



News of the Towns



ROUND TOWN

by Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

American Legion Auxiliary to meet March 10

The March meeting of American Legion Auxiliary, Barre Unit 2, will be held on Monday, March 10 at 7 p.m. at American Legion Post 2, 450 South Barre Road.

Refreshments will be provided by Kara Franciosi, Barbara Rossi and Karen Nurmi.

Drive-thru dinner

The Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St., will hold drive-thru baked stuffed chicken dinner with vegetables, potato, salad and dessert on Saturday, March 1 with pick up at 5 p.m. Cost is \$15 per adult and \$5 per child. For reservations, people should call the church office at 978-355-4041. The dinners are an ongoing fundraiser for the church. The suppers are paying for the trash pick-up and help with most needs of the kitchen. The Supper Committee would like to be able to help pay for a new kitchen floor and the floor in fellowship hall, one of the Supper Committee's goals for this year. Without support of the church and community, they will not be able to do this.

Sen. Durant and Rep. Berthiaume office hours

Staff from state Sen. Peter Durant's office and state Rep. Donald Berthiaume office will be available to meet with constituents to assist with issue involving state agencies or to hear legislative ideas and concerns. As always, staff would be happy to set up meetings at another time with any constituent who needs assistance. Kim Mongeau (Ring), Communications Director office of Sen. Peter J. Durant Worcester and Hampshire District at 413-896-0794. Donna M. Farmer, Chief of Staff Rep. Donald Berthiaume fifth Worcester District at 774-402-4742. Office hours will be held at the Barre Senior Center, 457 South Barre Road on Tuesday, March 11 at 11 a.m. and on Monday, April 14 at 11 a.m.

Magic Show March 2

St. Francis of Assisi will host the Matt Roberts Magic Show to be held on Sunday, March 2 at 2 p.m. in the auditorium at Quabbin Regional High School, 800 South St. Matt Roberts is a two-time Emmy nominated magician. He brings a unique mix of Clean Comedy, Ja-Dropping Mentalism and Time Travel. Tickets are \$10 for adults; High School students grades 9-12 \$4 and children under the ninth grade are free, but must be accompanied by an adult. Tickets will be sold at the door. Tickets will be sold after all Masses or call/text Judy at 508-320-5049.

Designer pancake breakfast

Cradle Rock Order of Eastern Star will hold a designer pancake breakfast on Saturday, March 1 from 7:30-10:30 a.m. at Mt. Zion Lodge Hall, 71 Pleasant St. Cost is \$9 per adult and \$5 per child age 6 and under. People may create their own designer pancake with chips, fruit, nuts and more. The complete breakfast includes designer pancakes, waffles, sausage gravy with biscuits, bacon, sausage, juice and coffee. All are welcome.

Food Pantry distribution

The next Barre Food Pantry distributions are Wednesday, March 12 from 10-11:30 a.m. and on Thursday, March 20 from 5:30-7 p.m. In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients March 12 and 20 will again be "drive-through" style distributions. Clients will line up in their vehicles on Park Street and proceed into the right hand (east) entrance driveway of the Barre Congregational Church. They will remain in their cars. They'll drive up and be checked in by a volunteer, then continue up to the church building where their groceries will be put into the trunk or wayback of their vehicle by volunteers at multiple stations. People should not arrive to volunteer without first contacting Sonja Blaney at 978-355-6921 or Chuck Radlo at 978-355-6463. Because conditions have been changing rapidly, please continue to check for updates on the Barre Food Pantry website by visiting <http://www.barrefoodbank.org/index.htm> and the Barre Food Pantry Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Barre-Food-Pantry-100156068300314/>.

Sheriff's office celebrates Random Acts of Kindness week



Submitted photos
Worcester County Sheriff's staff visit the Barre Public Library as part of their Random Acts of Kindness Initiative.

For the fourth consecutive year, Sheriff Lew Evangelidis and Worcester County Sheriff's Office staff celebrated the nationally recognized Random Acts of Kindness Week.

During the week leading up to the official Random Acts of Kindness Day on Feb. 17, citizens are encouraged to uplift one another and engage in random acts that elevate the spirits of others.

With its motto, "Make Kindness the Norm," the Random Acts of Kindness Foundation was founded during a mid-1990s summer when violence was at an all-time high on the West Coast. The idea to start the organization came from a television reporter, who pointed out that people should stop reporting on "random acts of violence" and start "practicing random acts of kindness and senseless acts of beauty." This foundation is now the driving force behind Random Acts of Kindness Week in the United States.

To spread joy and inspire kindness, the Sheriff's Office staff carried out a mission to visit every community in Worcester County during Random Acts of Kindness Week. They distributed over 3,500 goody bags, filled with donated items, to individuals



Sheriff's office staff stop for a photo with an Oakham DPW employee while handing out Random Acts of Kindness goody bags.

they encountered at various public venues. These bags symbolize support and care from local law enforcement.

This year, Care One at Millbury Rehabilitation and Long-Term Care, Pepsi of Worcester & Windham, and Polar Beverages sponsored the Sheriff's Office Random Acts of Kindness Week initiative. With the support of these organizations, the Sheriff's Office and the Worcester County Reserve Deputy Sheriff Association were able to acquire all 3,500 goody bags at no cost.

"Our duty as a law enforcement agency is to build bridges and strengthen the bond between our depart-

ment and the communities we serve," commented Sheriff Evangelidis. "Our team takes immense pride in contributing to the betterment of Worcester County and continuously looks for ways to spread positivity. We understand the importance of ensuring public safety and are committed to reinforcing that message. Let us all strive to make positivity the focus of this week."

The Sheriff's Office hosts community events year-round to engage the residents they serve. To learn more about the Sheriff's Office, people may visit their website at www.WorcesterCountySheriff.com, or follow along on social media for consistent updates.

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 March 3. 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 — Lasagna with meatballs, Marinara sauce, green beans, fresh fruit, Italian bread

TUESDAY — Chicken Fajitas, Spanish rice, black beans and corn, sour cream, pita bread, pineapple

WEDNESDAY — Baked potato with cheese and vegetarian chili, broccoli, sour cream, chocolate mousse, pumpernickel bread

THURSDAY — Burgundy pork, mashed potatoes, peas and carrots, apple crisp, diet = apple sauce, marble rye bread

FRIDAY — Fish with chimichurri sauce, rice pilaf, chuckwagon corn, brownie, diet = cookie, whole wheat bread

*Higher sodium entree Meal includes milk and margarine. Menus are subject to change. All meals are served at about 11:45 a.m. each week-day. 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.

Friends group hold all about owls program

NEW BRAINTREE — On Saturday, March 8 at 2 p.m. the Friends of the New Braintree Library will host the Massachusetts Audubon Society program all about owls for school age children at the library, 45 Memorial Drive.

They will learn about

the variety of owls that live in Massachusetts as they examine owl wings, feet and skulls. They will compare themselves to an owl - how long is their "wingspan" and how far around can they turn head.

They will discover what owls eat as they dissect an

owl pellet. There will be an optional take home craft: make an owl mask. This program is funded by the Hardwick/New Braintree Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a State Agency. This program is free and open to the public.

HUBBARDSTON

by Ellenor Downer
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HCT presents 'Lionel Bart's Oliver'

The Hubbardston Community Theatre presents "Lionel Bart's Oliver" on Friday, March 14 at 7 p.m.; Saturday, March 15 at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. and Sunday, March 16 at 1 p.m. in the gymnasium at Hubbardston Center School, 8 Elm St. Tickets are \$15 adults and age 12 and up, \$12 children age 3 to 11 and seniors and free for age 2 and under. Tickets available at the door or in advance by sending an email to hubtheatre123@gmail.com. "Lionel Bart's Oliver" is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International.

Office hours Sen. Durant and Rep. Berthiaume

Staff from state Sen. Peter Durant's office and state Rep. Donald Berthiaume office will be available to meet with constituents to assist with issue involving state agencies or to hear legislative ideas and concerns. As always, staff would be happy to set up meetings at another time with any constituent who needs assistance. Kim Mongeau (Ring), Communications Director office of Sen. Peter J. Durant Worcester and Hampshire District at 413-896-0794. Donna M. Farmer, Chief of Staff Rep. Donald Berthiaume fifth Worcester District at 774-402-4742. Office hours will be held at the Hubbardston Senior Center on Tuesday, March 11 at 9:30 a.m. and on Monday, April 14 at 9:30 a.m.

Town offices new address

The new temporary Town Office space is now located at 48 Gardner Street. Operations will take place in the left-flanking building, formerly occupied by MassDOT and a karate studio. Appropriate signage will be posted with financial services operating out of one entrance and town clerk and community development operating out of the other entrance. Both offices will be fully staffed during regular hours to assist the public. The Office of the Select Board and Town Administrator will be located on the second floor, above the veterinary clinic. If needed, staff can be called down to the main office area or scheduled for in-person meetings. All email addresses and phone numbers will remain active and monitored throughout the move. For more information or any questions, people may call the Town Administrator at 978-928-1400, extension 200 or email admin@hubbardstonma.gov.

Online dog licenses

Over the next few months, the town of Hubbardston will be rolling out permits and other applications online. The first license roll-out will be embarking on is the licensing of the town's dogs. Dog license applications are available online by visiting <https://www.hubbardstonma.gov/town-clerk/pages/dog-licenses>. From within the online dog license application, people will need to upload a photo of their dog's rabies certification as well as having the added bonus of being able to pay online from within the application, rather than going to a separate site and having to create a separate account. There will still be an additional \$1 fee for postage. If residents choose to mail in a check (made out to Town of Hubbardston), they should provide an addressed, stamped envelope for the office to mail their dog's tag. Licenses will be emailed to the email address people provide during the application process. Dogs must be licensed by April 1. Dogs not licensed by May 1 will face a \$25 late fee. Residents 70 plus years of age are exempt from payment.

Senior Center

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

Editorial deadline reminder

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



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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.

News of the Towns

PUBLIC MEETINGS

BARRE

Cemetery Commission – Feb. 27 at 1 a.m. and March 28 at noon
 Insurance Advisory Committee – Feb. 27 at 1:30 p.m.
 Select Board – March 3 at 6 p.m.
 Board of Assessors – March 4 at 6 p.m.
 Felton Field Commission – March 4 at 6:30 p.m.
 Planning Board – March 4 at 7 p.m.
 Council on Aging – March 5 at 12:30 p.m.
 Board of Health – March 10 at 5 p.m.
 Water Commission – March 10 at 6:30 p.m.
 DPW Commission – March 10 at 7 p.m.
 Library Trustees – March 12 at 6:30 p.m.
 250th Anniversary Committee – March 12 at 6:30 p.m.
 Barre Housing Authority – March 13 at 1 p.m.
 Election Day – April 7 from 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
 Cable Advisory Committee – April 8 at 7 p.m.

HARDWICK

Master Plan Steering Committee – Feb. 27 at 6:30 p.m.
 Recycling Commission – March 4 at 6:30 p.m.
 Council on Aging – March 5 at 12:30 p.m.
 Paige Library Trustees – March 6 at 7 p.m.
 Gilbertville Public Library – March 12 at 4 p.m.
 Hardwick New Braintree Cultural Council – March 12 at 6:30 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – March 12 and April 9 at 6:30 p.m.
 Gilbertville Water District – March 18 at 5:30 p.m.
 Board of Health – April 3 at 6:30 p.m.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

Post Owner/Architect/Contractor Meeting – Feb. 27 and March 6 at 3 p.m., March 13, March 20 and March 27 at 4 p.m.
 Fire/Highway Building Committee – Feb. 27 at 4 p.m.
 Sewer Commissioners – March 3 at 5:30 p.m.
 Insurance Advisory Committee – March 11 at 2:30 p.m.
 Board of Selectmen – March 11 and March 25 at 6 p.m.
 Planning Board – March 19 at 6 p.m.

OAKHAM

Sen. Durant and Rep. Berthiaume Office Hours – March 11 12:15-1:15 p.m.
 Special Town Meeting – March 11 at 7 p.m.
 Council on Aging – March 14 at noon
 Planning Board – March 18 at 7 p.m.

PETERSHAM

Select Board – Feb. 27, March 6, March 13, March 20, March 27, April 3, April 10 and April 24 at 5:30 p.m.
 Advisory Finance Committee – Feb. 27 at 6 p.m.
 Zoning Board of Appeals – Feb. 27 at 7 p.m.
 Board of Assessors – Feb. 28 at 9 a.m.
 Open Space and Recreation Committee – March 4 at 6 p.m.
 Conservation Commission – March 4 at 7 p.m.
 Board of Health – March 6 at 6 p.m.
 Council on Aging – March 10 at 10 a.m.
 Cemetery Commission – March 11 at 10 a.m.
 Petersham Historic District – March 20 at 6 p.m.

American Legion Auxiliary meets on March 10

BARRE – The March meeting of American Legion Auxiliary, Barre Unit 2, will be held on Monday, March 10 at 7 p.m. at American Legion Post 2, 450 South Barre Road.
 Refreshments will be provided by Kara Franciosi, Barbara Rossi and Karen Nurmi.

Historical Society hosts open house

PETERSHAM – The Petersham Historical Society, 10 North Main St., will host an open house

on Saturday, March 1 from 1-3 p.m. to welcome in the new year.

This event has become a tradition to invite guests to enjoy refreshments, friends and to see what's new and old at Petersham Historical Society. This year is the 250th anniversary of the beginning of the Revolutionary War, which is being commemorated across the nation.

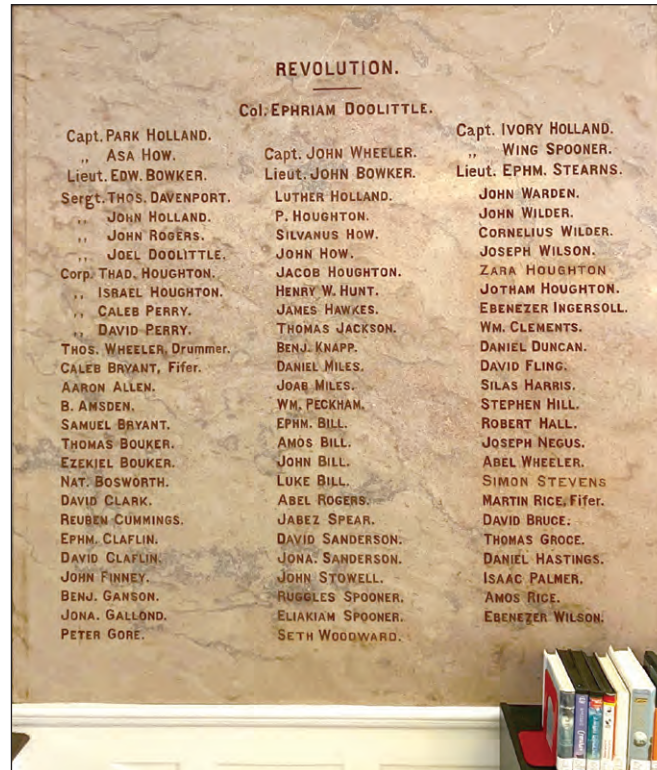
A contingent of Minutemen marched from Petersham on the alarm of April 19, 1775, when the "shot heard 'round the world" was fired in Concord. Some of Petersham's Tories and Patriots are returning to greet the visitors and remember their stories.

There are two Revolutionary War muskets on display from that era. One young girl, Sarah Howe, watched the events unfold and kept a diary that Petersham Historical Society has in its archives about the tumultuous times. Sarah promises to visit the Open House to meet the guests, too. For rebellion's sake, the infamous Daniel Shays, whose crusade came to an end right here in Petersham, will also be visiting.

The mysteries of flax can be explored with Joe Choiniere, woodworker and artist. Two flax spinning wheels from the late 1700s



Joe Choiniere of Hubbardston with a flax wheel, said to have been owned by the Spooner family of Petersham, in the late 1700s.



This is the plaque in the Petersham Memorial Library that lists the Revolutionary War soldiers. The library was actually built as a war memorial.

to early 1800s were recently donated. Almost every home

had a flax wheel in constant use in the old days. Every piece of clothing had to be handmade, from start to finish, commencing with raising the sheep for wool or growing flax plants to make linen.

Choiniere will do a show-and-tell about his quest to make a twig distaff for the wheels, made from the tip-top of a sapling tree. A distaff is the armature on which flax or wool is wrapped during the spinning process. Choiniere

became intrigued with spinning wheels while working as Property Manager at Audubon's Wachusett Meadow in Princeton, where he learned about many old-time practices. He watched how the spinners worked the magic of the wheels and he learned to be a master at keeping them in fine

working tune.

Besides these honored guests, there will be a display of "What Is This?" for guessing what some mysterious items were used for. Visitors can bring their own mystery items, too. There are revitalized maps to view, some elegant velvet and silk vintage clothing, a reproduction print and history review of the renowned Petersham Morgan horse, who was said to be one of the finest horses of the centennial year of 1875 and many other objects and exhibits to enjoy. The event is free and open to everyone.



The tools Joe Choiniere uses to make a distaff from a tree branch.

Paige Memorial Library lists events

HARDWICK – Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, plans many events celebrating Hardwick's 286 year and the library's 120 years.

A library sponsored baseball team will oppose the Westfield Wheelmen on Saturday, June 7 in a game using vintage rules. If interested in playing baseball, people may call 413-477-6704, emaildirector.paigelibrary@gmail.com or stop in at the library.

Paige Library MakerSpace offer weekly art workshops or workspace for creative activities. Registration is welcome so staff can have enough materials, but feel free to drop-in

on Tuesdays at 6p.m. Participants can bring their own art project or craft or try drawing, painting, printmaking or collage, or ask for assistance in a particular medium.

Calligraphy will take place on Tuesdays, March 4 and 11 and Pysanky egg dying on Tuesdays, April 1 and 8. Registration is required for calligraphy and egg dying by either calling

413-477-6704, emailing director.paigelibrary@gmail.com or stopping at the library.

Ongoing activities offered at the Paige currently include the Paige Book Club, the weekly Story Hour with art and science activities, the

monthly Cookbook Club, the bi-monthly Paige Writers, and knitting for adults with Pam Hinckley Saturdays, March 1, 8, 15 and 22 from 11a.m. to noon. People should bring their own project. For more information they may email pahinckley@gmail.com or call call Pam at 477-6004.

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

SUBMISSIONS ALWAYS WELCOME

Send your stories and photos to edowner@turley.com



OAKHAM
 by Ellenor Downer
 edowner@turley.com

Church to hold benefit breakfast

The Oakham Congregational Church, 4 Coldbrook Road, will hold a benefit breakfast for Kentucky flood victims on Saturday, March 8 from 8-9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. A freewill donation will be taken. The menu includes pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, strawberries, orange juice, coffee, tea and hot cocoa. All are welcome to attend.

Office hours Sen. Durant and Rep. Berthiaume

Staff from state Sen. Peter Durant's office and state Rep. Donald Berthiaume office will be available to meet with constituents to assist with issue involving state agencies or to hear legislative ideas and concerns. As always, staff would be happy to set up meetings at another time with any constituent who needs assistance. Kim Mongeau (Ring), Communications Director office of Sen. Peter J. Durant Worcester and Hampshire District at 413-896-0794. Donna M. Farmer, Chief of Staff Rep. Donald Berthiaume fifth Worcester District at 774-402-4742. Office hours will be held at the Oakham Town Hall on Tuesday, March 11 at 12:15 p.m. and on Monday, April 14 at 12:15 p.m.

Annual Church Meeting

The Annual Church Meeting will be held after on Sunday, March 9 after the 10 a.m. worship service. A potluck luncheon will follow the meeting.

Fire Department senior lunch

The Oakham Fire Department invites senior citizens to join them at the Fire Station on Friday, March 21 at 12.30 p.m. for lunch. Seniors should let the Council on Aging know if they can attend either by e-mailing COA@Oakham-Ma.gov or calling the Senior Center at 508-882-4073.

Podiatry clinic

Oakham Podiatry 2025 Clinics are by appointment only. Seniors may call Oakham Senior Center at 508-882-4073 and their call will be returned by a podiatry clinic volunteer. All clinics at Oakham Senior Center from 9 a.m.- 2:30 p.m. Schedule for March and April are: Monday, March 17 and Mondays, April 14 and April 21.

Senior Center activities

Oakham Senior Center activities in March include:

Monday through Thursdays at 9 a.m. walking group, meet at Senior Center and on Tuesdays through Thursdays at 11a.m. walking group meet at Senior Center. On cold days, the walking groups will walk to tapes inside the Senior Center. Other activities are Tuesdays from Feb. 4 to March 4 Yoga at 12.30 p.m.; Wednesdays Zumba Gold 9 a.m. in the Rutland Senior Center - \$2 donation per class; Thursdays at noon Weigh in support weight loss group and Fridays Functional Fitness 10.30 a.m. at the New Braintree Town Hall - \$2 donation per class.

Hot lunches are offered at the Senior Center dining area Monday through Thursday at 11.30 a.m. Reservations are needed at least two days in advance and can be made through the Congregate Meal Coordinator from 9 a.m. to 12.15 p.m. by calling 508-882-4072.

If those who can't get to the Senior Center to make reservations required for some offerings or for more information on offerings, seniors may call the Senior Center 508-882-4073 and leave a message or email COA@Oakham-MA.gov.

Edward Jones Member SIPC

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Opinion

Letters to Editor

Reader supports write-in candidate

Our town is at a turning point.

Financial uncertainty, high turnover in key departments and a lack of strong leadership are serious concerns that impact every resident. We need a leader, who understands these challenges and has the experience to guide us forward. That's why I, along with many other concerned citizens, am supporting a write-in campaign for Matthew D. Urban for Select Board.

Matthew Urban is no stranger to public service. He was first elected to the Select Board in 2016 and re-elected in 2018 serving two terms where he worked to improve fiscal responsibility, increase transparency, and ensure efficient town management. Since then, he has remained

active in town affairs as a Planning Board member, continuing to advocate for smart decision-making.

Matt did not seek this position, but when approached by concerned residents about the challenges facing our town, he made it clear: if elected, he would be honored to serve once again. That is the kind of steady, committed leadership we need.

A write-in campaign is not easy, but it's possible when a community comes together for the right reasons. On April 7, we have a choice. Let's make sure our voices are heard. Write in Matthew D. Urban, 330 Williamsville Road, for Select Board.

Sincerely,
Cory Bombredi
Barre

No. 4 Schoolhouse has successful fund drive

This is a little late, but I would like to personally thank each individual and business that donated so generously to the No. 4 Schoolhouse fund drive and made it a big success.

The funds will ensure that one of the last remaining one-room schoolhouses in the country will be kept up and continue to provide functions for the children throughout the

year. Especially the one at Christmas when Santa hands out presents. I still remember going when I was a kid and that was a long time ago. Again, thank you all so very much and I'll see you next year!

Sincerely,
Bridget Bullard Lachance
Barre

Guest Column

Beauty of simplicity and the sound of a crackling fireplace

Note: This was written during a snow storm in New England

By Elaine Daisy McKay

The crackle and glow from the fireplace seem to have more charm and meaning as the wind blows outside and secures its snowflakes to the edges of our windowsills and doors.

The wind grabs on to its opportunity to sculpture its own designs with the fresh fallen snow. The bushes and trees are laden with snow puffs and drifts gather in majestic white mounds, defying the wind to blow them further on. The entire yard is now covering with a layer of pristine white snow, resembling a smooth, velvet bedspread, as if prepared for a day of rest.

Yes, it is good to hear the crackle of the fire. The birdhouses on our proper-

ty begin to appear as decorated gingerbread houses as the northeaster blankets our area. My two-foot tall, raised garden beds resemble loaf cakes with puffy cream on top. Nature indeed has our attention.

All is white and it so appears as if we all have a new beginning. All is standing still in its white covering of winter's charm. There are very few sounds present. The wind is moving a branch that gently scratches against the house, which I might not hear at another time.

I recognize that it is more than the beauty of the white wonder of a storm in New England. It is a time to recognize, reflect and savor the beauty of simplicity. Yes, the hours on this day will pass along like any other, but for now it is so good to rest from the busyness of life and enjoy the crackle of the fire.

LET'S PLAY

Let's play lovers, you and me.

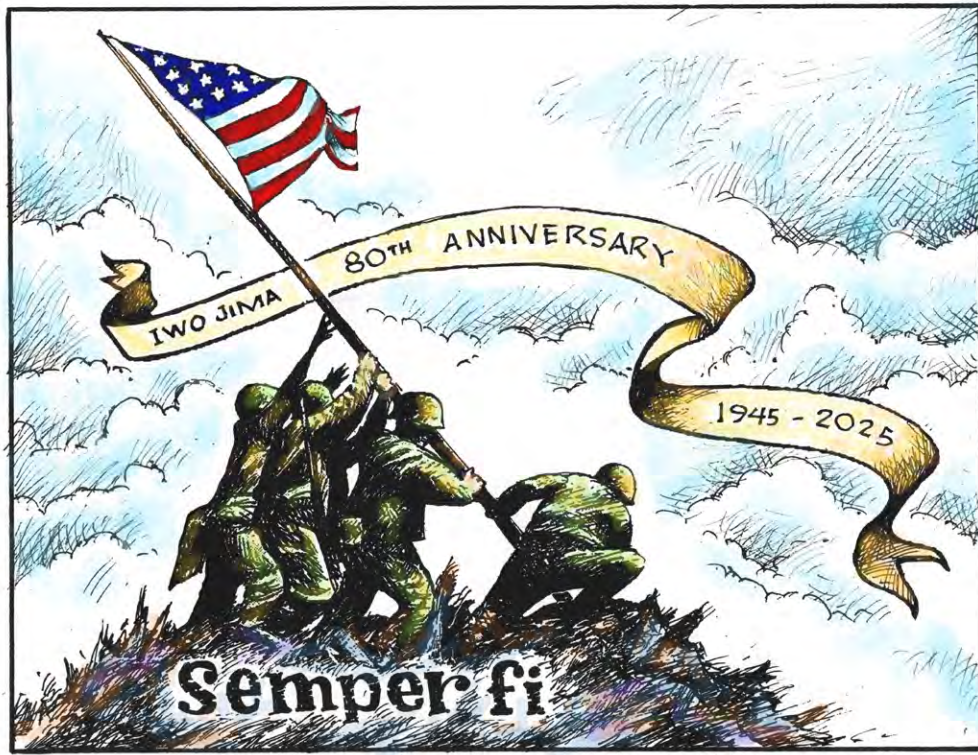
Walk on the outside for fear of a splash.
I'll be roast beef instead of the hash, (Thank You Paul).

Cover the puddle with your favorite threads.
While never noticing others that turn people's heads.

Nickname me Ivory, tell them I float.
I'll call you Captain, the original, "GOAT."

Let's play lovers forevermore,
For we ain't playing, that's for sure.

Patricia Masten



In Past Pages

5 years (March 5, 2020)

Selectmen discussed the Gaston Pond dam with Conservation Commission member Ronald Rich and Town Counsel James Baird. Town Counsel said he recommended sending a letter to the Department of Conservation and Recreation asking them for proof that the town owns the dam. He said Insight Meditation Center and Massachusetts Audubon Society were the current owners of an original parcel, which the Gaston family previously owned. He said Insight Meditation Center hired a law firm in Amherst to do a title search and the firm said Insight Meditation include Mass. Audubon and the town of Barre because of Mill Rod that runs over portion of the dam.

The fourth annual "All Thins Irish" night will be held Saturday, March 7 at the American Legion Post 2 at American Legion Post 2 at 450 South Barre Road, Barre with live Irish music, step dancing, Irish theme raffles, shepherd's pie dinner and a cash bar. "All Thins Irish" is a fundraiser for the Polus Center for Social and Economic Development, Inc. a Petersham bases 501 c3 non-profit organization that supports people with disabilities. Shillelagh Awards begin at 7 p.m.

Quabbin Regional School District Superintendent Dr. Sheila Muir said at last Thursday school committee meeting she "understood needs budget was unrealistic for towns to meet." Cheryl Duval, director of financial services, gave a PowerPoint presentation of the second proposal for the Fiscal Year 2021 budget. The \$36,023,026 budget was a 3.4% increase of the FY 20 budget and \$658,641 less than the first proposal of \$36,681,667, which was a 5.3% increase over last year. Dr. Muir said she looked at areas to cut with the least impact to education. The just over \$36 million proposal eliminated floor replacements in all school buildings (none are a safety issue) and did not replace a retiring

Look Back Kendall Street – 1956



This photo shows Kendall Street, looking toward James Street, after a snowstorm on March 22, 1956.

teacher.

10 years (March 5, 2015)

Paul Rochette, chair of the Finance Committee, told Oakham Selectmen that the partly collapsed barn on Rutland Road was highly visible and accessible to the public. He said the town needs to deem the building a public nuisance and either take the structure down or put up a permanent fence to keep people out. Selectmen told Rochette that the associate building inspector was working on the matter and had contacted the bank that owns the property.

Barre Chief Erik Demetropoulos, chair of the Public Safety Building Committee, informed the Board of Selectmen that the committee selected the architectural firm of Jacunski Humes Architect of Berlin, Connecticut. Neil Anders and Samuel Lipson voiced some concerns. Anders of the Energy Committee said that since the three million dollars the town received for the construction of the building might not be enough. He hope the town would not settle for a metal building, a costly building to heat. Lipson asked the board to hold off on awarding of the contract to look at alternative types of buildings.

Henry L. Woolsey won a three year term Petersham Board of Selectmen in the town's March 2 election. In the only contest on the ballot, he defeated incumbent Peter F. George with votes 247 to 127.

25 years (March 7, 2000)

Barre Town Administrator Lorraine Leno told the Board of Selectmen Monday night that it was time to reorganize. Each year the positions of chairman and clerk are appointed. Selectman Richard Stevens indicated things appeared to be running fine. Therefore, he nominated Daniel Trifilo for chairman. Selectman Charles Chase seconded the nomination and all voted in favor. Trifilo then nominated Chase for another run as clerk and Stevens seconded the nomination. Once again all were in favor.

Leone Daniels was Oakham's oldest citizen and holder of the Boston Post gold headed cane. She lived over a century – 103 years. She died in the home where her husband, Ralph and she raised their three children: Isabel, Charles and Ann. Correspondent Ellenor Downer said, I first saw Leone at a friend's wedding on June 3, 1978 at the

See PAST PAGES, page 6

Election letters to the editor welcome

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

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

Campaign news

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

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

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Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

I will be happy to see February go by.

It was a very cold month. I have my St. Patrick's Day decorations up. I am not Irish, but I like to help them celebrate.

I'm keeping my mind active by sewing and watercoloring. I made a new small wallhanging of bee skeps with some flowers. I hung it on the landing of the stairs. I tried a new experiment to see if I could watercolor on card stock and it seems to work out fine. I need to order some more card stock and envelopes.

I also have been looking through some flower catalogs. I think I will plant more flowers in containers this year as my walking days are over. I like tuberous begonias in hanging pots or in planters so instead of putting vegetables in the three planters I have I will put flowers

I will have a table full of herb plants on the deck. I will be able to keep them watered.

As soon as all the snow is melted, I will be looking for someone who would like to earn some money raking. I notice a lot of little branches have fallen over the back yard and the leaves were not raked there last fall.

It is fun to limp around the yard in the spring to see what comes up in the gardens. With the high snow cover, this year plants should be well protected. The bushes are another thing.

Here is a meal I made this week. When I belonged to the Worcester County Extension Service, my friend and I led a workshop on cooking on a barbecue and this could be done this way.

HOBO SQUARES

I made this using a cookie sheet in the oven for one hour at 350 degrees. Take aluminum foil squares about 8 to 10 inches square. Put a hamburger patty in the center. Cover it with sliced onions, cubed carrots, cubed potatoes

and sprinkle it with salt and pepper. Wrap it tightly and put the squares on a cookie sheet and bake for one hour. I did four of them as Ken and I had them for two meals by warming up the extra two. I try to make meals last for two meals in this age of high grocery costs.

This and That

I hope the new president can get the food prices down. Also, I wish the packaging could go back to what it used to be. I notice how small a loaf of bread is today Toilet tissue goes faster also. The price of paper goods stays high.

There are just two of us in this family so when I get meat I divide the package into serving sizes and put the rest in the freezer. We do get some bread and pastries from the Senior Center and eggs when they are available so every bit helps.

I usually make a batch of pancakes once a week and a batch of brownies and cupcakes. This week I made chicken corn chowder with a can of cream of chicken soup, added some milk, can of creamed corn, cooked some bacon and fried onions in it. Added a chicken thigh that I had boiled and cooked. It was rather tasty. Ask my Handyman. He is my tester.

Friday night we decided to send out for fish and chips for a special treat. Seems all I do is cook and bake. The ice on Serenity Hill is not melting yet, but when it does I hope it melts slowly.

I see where the town offices are moving to Breezy Hill Corners. That will be interesting to watch. The town is surely changing and I hope it is for the good. People have mixed emotions as to what happened to Main Street. I guess people don't like change. I miss all the shade trees.

Have a good week and I promise spring is coming it always does.

BarreFood Pantry lists distributions

BARRE – The next two Barre Food Pantry distributions will occur on Wednesday March 12 from 10-11:30 a.m. and on Thursday, March 20 from 5:30-7 p.m.

Clients are invited to pick up groceries from the food pantry either in the morning on Wednesday, March 12 or in the evening on Thursday, March 20, whichever is more convenient for them. The Barre Food Pantry volunteers strive to continue to fulfill their mission to get food to hungry and food insecure clients. The pantry must also continue to protect clients, volunteers and the larger community from the spread of disease viruses. Many clients and volunteers are

classified as high-risk due to their age and/or underlying health conditions. The Barre Food Pantry Board of Directors has considered changing how the pantry currently operates, but has decided that the most responsible path forward is to continue to operate as we have since March of 2020.

In order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and clients March 12 and March 20 will again be "drive-through" style distributions. Clients will line up in their vehicles on Park Street and proceed into the right hand (east) entrance driveway of the Barre Congregational Church. They will remain

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

Based on the success of distributions so far, the Food Pantry volunteers believe this "drive-through" style is the safest possible way to get food to clients and to help keep everyone well.

On Tuesday night, March 11 at 5 p.m. the Barre Food Pantry will be gathering volunteers at the Barre Congregational Church to unload incoming groceries from their truck, to sort through donated groceries, to pre-fill grocery bags and

in other ways to prepare for the distribution the following morning. If people can help pitch in for an hour on the March 11, they should call Sonja Blaney at 978-355-6921.

Please do not arrive to volunteer on March 11, 12 or 20 without first contacting Sonja Blaney at 978-355-6921 or Chuck Radlo at 978-355-6463.

Because conditions have been changing rapidly, please continue to check for updates on the Barre Food Pantry website: <http://www.barrefoodbank.org/index.htm> and the Barre Food Pantry Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Barre-Food-Pantry-100156068300314/>

Staff lists office hours for Sen. Peter Durant and Rep. Donald Berthiaume

Staff from state Sen. Peter Durant's office and state Rep. Donald Berthiaume office will be available to meet with constituents to assist with issue involving state agencies or to hear legislative ideas and concerns.

Staff from State Rep. John Marsi's office will be at the Spencer hours. As always, staff would be happy to set up meetings at another time with any constituent who needs assistance. Kim Mongeau (Ring), Communications Director office of Sen. Peter J. Durant Worcester and Hampshire District at 413-896-0794. Donna M. Farmer, Chief of Staff Rep. Donald Berthiaume fifth Worcester District at 774-

402-4742.

Scheduled hours include: Monday, March 3 Ware Senior Center at 9:30 a.m., Hardwick Municipal Building at 10:45 a.m. and New Braintree Municipal Building at 12:15 p.m.; Wednesday March 5 North Brookfield Senior Center at 9:30 a.m., 10:45 a.m. at Spencer Howe Village at 10:45 a.m. and Leicester Senior Center at noon; Monday, March 10 at 9:30 a.m. at West Brookfield Senior Center, 10:45 a.m. at Brookfield Town Hall and noon at East Brookfield Senior Center and Tuesday, March 11 Hubbardston Senior Center at 9:30 a.m., Barre Senior Center at 11 a.m. and Oakham Town Hall at

12:15 p.m.

April dates are: Wednesday, April 2 East Brookfield Senior Center at 9:30a.m., Brookfield Town Hall at 10:45 a.m. and West Brookfield Senior Center at noon; Monday, April 7 New Braintree Municipal Building at 9:30 a.m.; Hardwick Municipal Building at 10:45 a.m. and Ware Senior Center at 12:30 p.m.; Wednesday, April 9 Leicester Senior Center at 9:30 a.m., Spencer Town Hall at 10:45 a.m. and North Brookfield Town Hall at noon and Monday, April 14 Hubbardston Senior Center at 9:30 a.m., Barre Senior Center at 11 a.m. and Oakham Town Hall at 12:15 p.m.

Boy Scout Troop to lead map and compass event

HARDWICK – A map and compass/orienteering event for new learners as well as experienced map and compass users will be held on Sunday, March 9 from 1-4 p.m.

The event begins promptly at 1 p.m. at the East Quabbin Land Trust Office, 120 Ridge Road, This orienteering event is led by the Oakham Boy Scouts of America Troop 144.

The Scouts led demonstration will identify the parts of a compass, understand what a declination adjustment is and how to set it, use a compass to orient a map and understand what bearing mean and how they are used.

After the demonstration at the EQLT office, the group will head down the road to Mandell Hill on Barre Road for an outdoor orienteering event.

Pizza will be offered back at the office afterward so participants can refuel and see how each other did.

Orienteering involves using a compass and highly detailed map to reach predetermined checkpoints. Although typically a timed "race," participants are welcome to go at their own pace.

A few compasses are available to borrow and the maps will be provided by the Scouts. People who have a compass are welcome to bring it. This event is limited to 20 participants, so people should RSVP to reserve a spot by calling 413-477-8229.

Project 351 ambassadors list service sites for donation drive

Recently, five eighth graders from the Quabbin Regional School District towns were selected as ambassadors for Project 351, a nonprofit organization dedicated to community service and empowerment.

This honor allows them to play a vital role in uniting their communities and spreading hope throughout the year. The ambassadors will engage in various service projects, addressing local needs and supporting those facing economic hardships.

In Massachusetts, over one in three children aged 12 and younger live in

low-income or homeless situations, highlighting the urgent need for support. The ambassadors will lead the Spring Service campaign, the first of three statewide efforts coordinated by Project 351 for this year.

This campaign aims to support Cradles to Crayons, a nonprofit that has provided essential items to more than 3.4 million children since 2002. From March 31 to April 11, the ambassadors will set up donation bins at community locations, including Quabbin Regional Middle and High School, where a friendly competition will engage

students in donating.

Other participating sites include Oakham Center School, Hannaford Supermarket in North Brookfield, and Wholesome Farmers Market in Barre.

This initiative not only addresses immediate needs but also instills values of social responsibility and kindness in young people. By rallying their peers and local businesses, the ambassadors embody the idea that every small effort can lead to significant change.

Together, they aim to ensure that every child has access to the resources they need to thrive and realize their full potential.



Backyard sugaring a fond memory to revisit

It has been a few years since we tapped our maple trees and boiled down the sap.

My husband and I agreed that with the upcoming forecast of cold nights and warm days it was time to get out our supplies and give it another go 'round.

Our backyard syringing days go back to the dating phase of our relationship. Enjoying homesteading activities together made me certain that he was a "keeper."

I'm pulling this column straight from the archives and rereading it to be sure we get off to a good start.

Maybe you too will give sugaring a try!

Although the sap from most native species of maple can be used to make syrup, sugar maple sap is most desirable because it has a high sugar content. Sugar maples also bud out later than other species, a good feature considering sap from trees that have begun to break bud will produce syrup with an off-taste.

The trees you tap should be at least 10-12 inches in diameter at 4.5 feet off the ground. One tap is sufficient

for healthy maples that size, three for those over 25" in diameter and two for those that fall in between.

Tapholes are usually made 3-4 feet from the ground for ease of maintenance. You'll want to drill slightly upward 2.5-3 inches into healthy sapwood (not dark heartwood).

Space taps evenly around the tree. The metal spout or spile is inserted into the taphole and set in place with a gentle tap.

For small scale production, clean water or milk jugs with work great to collect the sap- simply cut a small hole to accommodate the spout. Over the years we have upgraded to plastic spiles that attach to tubing inserted into a hole in a five gallon food-safe plastic container.

Whatever containers you use, be sure to make sure they are covered to prevent rain and debris from getting inside.

When the weather is perfect, i.e. warm days and below freezing nights, sap will flow. On really good days I remember dumping the gallon jug mid-afternoon

See GARDEN, page x

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

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March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29

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Leah Bradley elected to board of directors

WORCESTER – The Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts announce the election of three new members to its Board of Directors.

Leah M. Bradley of North Brookfield, LCSW, CEO of Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance was one of the newly elected board of directors. The other two were Arthur O. DuBois of Uxbridge, LICSW, MSW, a licensed clinical social worker and Morgan A. Russell of Berlin, Esq., an attorney specializing in child welfare litigation and real estate transactions.

Five current directors were also re-elected to new three-year terms: Diane E. Gould, LICSW, MSW; Lindsay F. Greenfield, MBA; J. Michael Grenon, CIMA; Kathryn Y. Lee, MD and Carole M. Steen, MSA.

“We are thrilled to have both new and returning leaders from across the region helping to guide The Health

Foundation’s initiatives,” said Dr. Amie Shei, President and CEO of The Health Foundation. “The knowledge and dedication of each director allows us to be strategic in responding to the health needs of Central Massachusetts communities and ensures that we are optimizing our investments to improve health, address upstream social drivers of health and advance health equity.”

Bradley has dedicated her career to strengthening social services and housing stability across the region. At Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance, she leads a collaborative response to homelessness that fosters long-term housing stability through prevention, quality services, education and advocacy.



Leah Bradley

“It is an honor to join the Board of The Health Foundation,” said Bradley. “Their investments in the community continue to improve the systems of care for people in our community. I am excited to be

a voice at the table bringing housing expertise to The Health Foundation’s mission of addressing social drivers of health and advancing health equity.”

Bradley holds a Master’s Degree in social work from the University of Connecticut and a Bachelor’s Degree from Worcester State University. The North Brookfield resident has spent over two decades in strategic planning, system change and program development and her experience in housing stability will bring valuable

insight to the board.

The Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts is dedicated to improving the health of those who live or work in Central Massachusetts, with particular emphasis on vulnerable populations and unmet needs. Through its unique and impactful approach to grant making, The Health Foundation supports community-identified health issues, with health defined broadly to include social determinants of health and with a focus on promoting health equity.

As a health conversion foundation launched in 1999 following the sale of the not-for-profit HMO Central Massachusetts Health Care Inc., The Health Foundation’s grants have totaled over \$59 million to more than 230 unique organizations over its history. For more information, people may visit www.thfcm.org.

BARRE, continued from page 1

of the Select Board Chair, he will ask a Fire Chief to participate. If there is a Fire Chief present, there would not be a need to have someone attend from the consulting firm present.

Municipal Resource Inc. will provide a list of questions to ask the candidates for the Select Board to choose the ones they want to use.

The Select Board voted not only to hold interviews on two different days, but to invite Barre’s Police Chief, Barre’s DPW Superintendent and a Fire

Chief from another town. They voted to hold the interviews on Wednesday, March 12 and Thursday, March 13 beginning at 5:30 p.m. each evening in the Selectmen’s Meeting Room located on the first floor of the Henry Woods Building, 40 West St. The public is welcome to attend the interviews. The interviews would be the only business conducted on these two dates.

Town Administrator Tammy Martin will notify the four candidates and get the interview questions from the consulting firm for the Select Board.

PAST PAGES, continued from page 4

Oakham Congregation Church where she was church organist. She was a small woman sitting in front of the towering pipes of the Hook organ, but she played with skill and ease. I was surprised to learn she was 82 years old.”

A group of women meet every Wednesday morning at the Barre Congregational Church and sew quilts for disaster victims or needy families. Shirley Lewis cuts the material. Barbara Potter, Kathy Johnson, Fay Flood, Grace Marconi, Lucille Bergin, Ruth Doyle, Judy McCaffrey and Hope Pobst sew the quilts. Olive Tuttle and Joyce Russell tie the layers together. On Feb. 16 Captains Scott and Susan Kelly from Athol Salvation Army received 17 quilts.

38 years (March 12, 1987)

Barre resident Gordon Robinson appeared before the Barre Board of Selectmen at their regular meeting on Monday, March 9 to voice his complaints about water runoff on Nicholas Road. Robinson, who lives on Nichols Road raised his driveway three inches higher than the road to keep the snow runoff from flooding his driveway and yard. Apparently, last year Nichols Road was graveled and graded. The end result was a four inch higher road – one inch higher than Robinson’s new driveway. Robinson complained that after having

spent “a couple of thousand dollars” on a home improvement, his driveway was flooded with water after last weekend’s thaw. Selectman Chair Earl Sample suggested that the matter be looked into by James Greenfield of the Highway Department.

The state announced this week that they intend to buy former Pioneer Valley Academy in New Braintree and convert it into a 500-bed medium security prison. The state had advertised for other sites, but only came up with one other site, an old factory in Colrain. Conserve Our Small Town members insisted this does not signal an end to the fight against the prison. At their weekly meeting, COST Steering Committee member Susan Reed said the state would not be able to acquire the site for at least 120 days while it does the feasibility study and the environmental impact study. Reed said it may be as many as nine months before the studies are completed.

Jessica Linda Harding became a United States citizen on Dec. 2, 1986 in Worcester. She was born in Seoul, South Korea on May 5, 1984. A few weeks later she came to live with a loving, caring family, Linda and Dwight Harding of Old Dana Road, Barre and their three other children. Jamie Lisa is 11 years old, Jeffrey Donald Andrew is 9 and Jason Dwight Clayton is 5. Jessica Linda will be 3 in May.

GARDEN, continued from page 5

to make room for more!

With our new set-up we usually collect 3-4 gallons per tree on a good day. When my kids were little they would graph just how much each tree produced!

Don’t let too many days go by before you begin to boil down your sap, though, or it will spoil.

For our evaporator we rigged up a commercial stainless steel pan that fits over a stone outdoor barbecue that came with the property. It has worked out quite well for us.

Whatever you decide to use, be wary of boiling indoors – I have heard horror stories of the sticky steam doing a great job of lifting kitchen wallpaper!

As I recall, my urban sister-in-law once boiled sap down on a gas camp stove out on her deck. We weren’t talking hundreds of gallons here, but just enough to show my nephew how it’s done!

I kept notes from the last time we tapped our trees. Once we had collected 21 gallons of sap to boil down. My husband started with about 15 gallons of sap in the pan and as the water evaporated he added more – there is a careful balance between scorching and adding too much, not easily explained unless you’ve had

the experience and monitored the candy thermometer.

Finish your syrup by no longer adding sap and waiting until the syrup is 7.1 degrees higher than boiling water. Then, syrup can be filtered and stored in sterile containers at 185 degrees or higher for proper seal.

Forty-three gallons of sap are needed to make 1 gallon of syrup. It takes about 7 hours of boiling to get that precious gallon if you use a rectangular pan 2 foot wide by 1 foot deep.

Let these statistics be your guide so that you won’t get in over your head the first time you try it. Nothing is worse than having sap go to waste because you are too darn tired to boil into the late hours of the night.

Nothing is better, however, than the first bite of maple syrup drenched blueberry pancakes the following morning!

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

OAKHAM, continued from page 1

the position opening in a state COA Newsletter, which is free. The COA has not had any responses for the position. They may also run a display ad or in another local newspaper.

The Select Board will meet next with the Board of Assessors, Board of Health and Parks and Recreation. They still have Cemetery

Commission, Conservation Commission, Board of Appeals and Historical Commission.

Subcommittee appointments

Select Board member Michael Brunelle said the Quabbin Regional School District Committee needed two Oakham residents to serve on the Regional Agreement and Building Lease Subcommittee. Maribel LaRange, a QRSD Committee

member, said Walter Nutter, the other Oakham committee member would be serving on this subcommittee. The Board selected Clare Hendra to serve as she served on the previous subcommittee. A new resident, who was interested in volunteering, would be asked to be the silent member on the subcommittee.

Password

Administrative Assistant LaRange asked the board if she should give out the new password to town employ-

ees and committees or put the passwords into the town owned computers herself. Select Board Chair Lucy Tessnau said she preferred to have the Administrative Assistant do it.

The town also now has a guest password separate from the secure town website. A \$172,075 grant will fund the cost to run another cable from the Police Station to the Fobes Memorial Library to Town Hall.

Public Notices

Town of Oakham Transfer of On-site Liquor License

The Oakham Board of Selectmen as the Local Licensing Authority will hold a Public Hearing on **Monday, March 17, 2025 at 6 p.m.** in the Selectboard Meeting Room, 2 Coldbrook Rd., Oakham, MA pursuant to MA Gen. Laws Chapter 138 § 15A, on the transfer of the Application for licenses; and change of ownership from Golfers Arms, Inc, current owner Garrett Donlin, 1822, Old Turnpike Road, Oakham, MA to Quail Hollow Country Club, 1822 Turnpike Road, Oakham, MA and naming Carl Fitz as Owner/Manager.

Oakham Board of Selectmen 02/27, 03/06/2025

MORTGAGEE’S NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of an execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain Mortgage given by Bruce S. Bolivar and Brittani A. Beeso to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Freedom Mortgage Corporation, It’s successors and assigns, dated April 19, 2022 and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 67451, Page 329, subsequently assigned to Freedom Mortgage Corporation by Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Freedom Mortgage Corporation, It’s successors and assigns by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 69229, Page 133, subsequently assigned to Freedom Mortgage Corporation by Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for

Freedom Mortgage Corporation, It’s successors and assigns by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 69818, Page 265, subsequently assigned to Freedom Mortgage Corporation by Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Freedom Mortgage Corporation, It’s successors and assigns by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 69907, Page 189 for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at Public Auction at 1:00 PM on March 13, 2025 at 58 Ruggles Street, Hardwick (Gilbertville), MA, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

That certain parcel of land in said Village of Wheelwright, being Lot No. 35, Plan Book 77 Plan 8, on a plan of lots of Wheelwright Properties, Inc. and Hardwick Realty Corporation in the village of Wheelwright, drawn by S. G. Atherton, C.E., dated August 9, 1933 and recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds and being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a point in the southerly line of Ruggles Street, which point is distant two hundred (200) feet easterly from intersection of said southerly line of said Ruggles Street and the easterly line of Pine Street, as shown on said plan; thence southerly by land now or formerly of L.H. Ruggles, as shown on said plan two hundred fifty (250) feet to a point; thence turning and running easterly by a line parallel with said southerly line of Ruggles Street by land of Hardwick Realty Corporation one hundred (100) feet to a point

at the southwesterly corner of Lot No. 36 as shown on said plan; thence turning and running northeasterly two hundred fifty (250) feet by said Lot 36 to a point on said southerly line of Ruggles Street, which point is one hundred (100) feet distant from the point of beginning; thence turning and running westerly one hundred (100) feet by said southerly line of Ruggles Street to the point of beginning.

Together with the right to use the sewer with which said premises is now connected which sewer discharges upon land of said Hardwick Realty Corporation lying between the location of the Boston & Main Railroad and Ware River, it being specifically agreed and understood that there is no obligation on the part of the said Hardwick Realty Corporation to maintain the sewerage system.

For title see deed recorded herewith The premises are to be sold subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, encroachments, building and zoning laws, liens, unpaid taxes, tax titles, water bills, municipal liens and assessments, rights of tenants and parties in possession, and attorney’s fees and costs.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00 CENTS (\$5,000.00) in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer’s check or money order will be required to be delivered at or before the time the bid is offered. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Foreclosure Sale Agreement immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid within thirty (30) days from the sale date in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer’s check or other check satisfactory to Mortgagee’s attorney. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids, to continue the sale and to amend the terms of the sale by written or oral announcement made before or during the foreclosure sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagee, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee’s attorney. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication. **TIME WILL BE OF THE ESSENCE.**

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

Freedom Mortgage Corporation Present Holder of said Mortgage, By Its Attorneys,

ORLANS LAW GROUP PLLC
PO Box 540540
Waltham, MA 02454
Phone: (781) 790-7800
23-011198
02/20, 02/27, 03/06/2025

Quabbin Regional School District PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING

Quabbin Regional School District School Committee
In accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 71, Section 38N, the Quabbin Regional School District School Committee will hold a Public Hearing regarding the FY26 Budget on **Thursday, March 13, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Educational Support Center, 872 South Street, Barre, MA 01005. The public is invited to attend in person or via Zoom at 6:00 p.m. Please use the link below to join the presentation directly through Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting: bit.ly/QuabbinRSDSC
Meeting ID: 840 3950 2276
Passcode: qNR6R0

A copy of the FY26 budget will be available for review on our website at www.qrsd.org or at the Educational Support Center, 872 South Street, Barre, MA 01005 after 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 11, 2025.

**Pursuant to Section 13 of Chapter 4 (enacted by Chapter 174 of the Acts of 2015, entitled An Act Relative to Electronic Publication of Certain Legal Notices), it is stated that the newspaper is to post on their website and on the MNPA website: masspublicnotices.org 02/27, 03/6/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts NOTICE TO COMMERCIAL TIMBER OPERATORS

The Dept. of Conservation & Recreation, Division of Water Supply Protection, is offering for sale standing timber and cordwood located on the Quabbin and Wachusett Reservoirs and Ware River Watershed. For details, contact the Water Supply Protection Division Office on or before March 10, 2025 at 857-274-7090. 02/27/2025



PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

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

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

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com



Kids got to identify and craft their own predator and prey cups after the presentation on predators.

NATURE PROGRAM, continued from page 1

activity. The kids would cut out pictures of animals and align them to figure out the correct food chain order.

Simpson is the founder and director of Hands on Nature and has been offering the program for 20 years. The program mainly focuses on animals as Simpson believes that is what children enjoy learning about.

"The kids love it," Simpson said.

For more about Hands on Nature and their educational programming, visit www.handsonnature.org.



Samples of predator claws and fur were displayed inside the library.

'Infrared Obsessions' by Bruce Arnold opens March 1

WARE – ArtWorks Gallery announces the March 1 opening of "Infrared Obsessions," an exhibition of infrared photography by Bruce Arnold of North Brookfield.

This exhibition will be on display from March 1-31 at ArtWorks Gallery, located at 69 Main St, Ware, MA. It will open with a reception on Saturday, March 1 from 1-4 p.m. Gallery hours are Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4 p.m.

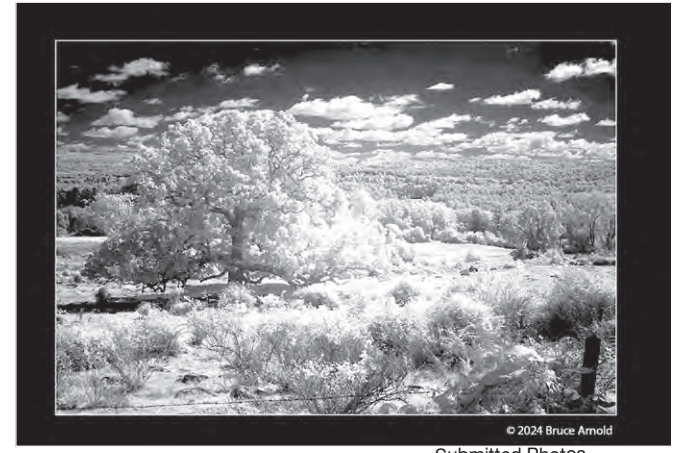
"Infrared Obsessions" presents the unique view of the everyday world when seen in the invisible infrared spectrum. This exhibition showcases the creative applications of infrared photography, featuring

landscapes and architectural scenes.

The body of work in this exhibition represents the culmination of years of Arnold's exploration and experimentation using digital infrared photography. The exhibition highlights how this unique photographic technique is used in fine art, and the overall effect illustrates the expressive potential within this little-known but powerful artistic medium.

About ArtWorks Gallery and Workshop13

ArtWorks Gallery is Workshop13's gallery on Main Street. This space features numerous art exhibitions each year and is also available to rent for individual or group shows.



"Chagnon" by Bruce Arnold. Submitted Photos

Workshop13 Cultural Arts and Learning Center is a rural non-profit arts innovator located in Ware and devoted to increasing the appreciation and acces-

sibility of the arts, strengthening the creative life of our community through instruction, collaborations, and arts-based initiatives.

Barre Players Theater to hold auditions

BARRE – Auditions for "Helen's Most Favorite Day" by Mark Dunn will be held Monday, March 3 and Tuesday, March 4 at 6:30 p.m. in the Barre Players Theater at 64 Common St.

Jessie Olson is the director. Auditions will consist of cold readings from the script. Audition forms will be available at the theater or save time by bringing a completed form to the audi-

tion by downloading the audition form by visiting barreplayerstheater.com/forms/audition.pdf.

People may email jessiebolson@gmail.com with any questions. All roles are open. The theater encourages diversity in casting and welcomes everyone to audition. Characters are Helen, forty-four; Ruta, forty-two, Helen's sister; Lily, mid to late forties – a fortune teller

and mystic; Jed, forty-four – a carnie; Herman, forty-three – possibly Ruta's boyfriend and Bolivia, seventy-two – Herman's mother.

Rehearsals will likely be Sundays, Mondays and Thursdays. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays, May 2, May 3, May 9 and May 10 at 7:30 p.m. as well as Sundays, May 4 and May 11 at 2 p.m.

SUMMER CAMP GUIDE

MacDuffie offers fun summer camp

Camp MacDuffie is an exciting summer day camp for rising 1st to 8th graders.

Participants spend the morning engaged in a program area of their choosing, enjoy lunch by Sage Dining Services (included), and then stay active with various outdoor/indoor activities and field trips throughout the week.

Their program leaders are passionate and experienced, and they all look forward to creating a fun and supportive environment for your child to thrive in this summer.

Come along and join Camp MacDuffie this summer.

MacDuffie Hoops Basketball Camp
MacDuffie Hoops Summer Camp available with Coach Steiner.

Are you ready to take your game to the next level? This summer, join Coach Steiner and the MacDuffie coaching staff for an elite basketball experience at MacDuffie Hoops Summer Camp!

- What to Expect:
- Skill development & fundamentals
 - Game strategy & IQ training
 - Conditioning & foot-work drills
 - Competitive games & scrimmages

• Hands-on coaching from Coach Steiner & MacDuffie's top coaches

This camp is for players who are serious about improving and want to sharpen their skills, build confidence, and grow their game.

The MacDuffie School is located in Granby, MA. Limited spots are available – Register today!

Don't miss your chance to train with Coach Steiner! Sign up now and get ready to work hard, compete, and have fun!

- #MacDuffieHoops
- #TrainWithCoachSteiner
- #SummerBasketball
- #GetBetter

Day and overnight camp for girls

It's in our DNA. Our founder, Juliette Gordon Low, was a famous lover of nature. Today, Girl Scouts honors her legacy by promoting respect and love of the great outdoors far and wide.

Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts (GSCWM) summer camps offer a wide variety of programs for all different interests.

Summer camp is a great way for girls to explore leadership, build skills, and develop a deep appreciation for nature. In a girl-led environment, all campers are able to challenge themselves and take healthy risks while

surrounded by supportive friends and camp staff. No prior Girl Scout experience needed to attend Girl Scout camp!

Camping has been a cornerstone of the Girl Scout experience for more than a century. While girls are swimming, hiking, and honing their skills on the archery range, they're also achieving valuable life skills whether at Day Camp at Lewis Perkins in South Hadley or Overnight Camp at Bonnie Brae in Otis. Girl Scouts' dedication to progression in outdoor programming means campers practice age-appropriate skills and gain experience

they need to feel confident taking the next step in their outdoor journey.

No matter which camp you choose or whether the stay is a few days, a week, or longer, your camper will have a ton of fun making new friends, trying new things, practicing new-found skills, and creating memories that will last a lifetime. Financial assistance is available.

Camp Lewis Perkins and Camp Bonnie Brae are American Camp Association Accredited. More information and sign up here: <https://www.gscwm.org/en/members/for-girl-scouts/camp-and-outdoors/summer-camp.html>.

The Hartsbrook School SUMMER CAMPS

FARM CAMP	WILDERNESS CAMP	CREATIVITY CAMP
CODING CAMP	COUNSELOR IN TRAINING (CIT)	JUNE 23 TO AUGUST 1

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN
Fun all summer long for ages 4-14!
hartsbrook.org/summer-programs

PACKARD MOUNTAIN Learning Center

We have summer enrollment options for school age children.

Hours 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., \$350/wk. Accepting vouchers.

Structured daily schedule to include curricular content, free play, and arts and crafts.

Lots of outdoor and weather permitting water play.

www.packardmountain.com

Girl Scout Camp For All Girls!
DAY & OVERNIGHT
www.gscwm.org

SIGN UP NOW
for a Summer of Fun

Greene Acres Equestrian Center L.L.C.
April Vacation Riding Camp - April 22-24
2025 Summer Riding Sessions
June 23-27 • July 14-18
July 28 - August 1 • August 18-22
9AM - 3PM LUNCH NOT PROVIDED
Basic Horse Care, Daily Riding, English & Western, Ages 5 & up
Call to Register (413) 813-9291
53 Ware Road, Belchertown
Email: Amanda.greeneacres@gmail.com

Belchertown Kidz Club

TODDLER • PRESCHOOL • SCHOOL AGE
Offering Flexible Care Programs For Kids Ages 15 mo. - 12 yrs.
Open 7:00 a.m.-5:30* p.m. / MONDAY - FRIDAY
Both Full Time & Sibling Discounts

Now Enrolling for Spring/Summer/Fall Programs

KIDZ SUMMER PROGRAM
Ages 5 - 12 yrs. • JUNE 23RD-AUGUST 22ND
9 Weeks • Full & Part Time Options/Single Weeks or All Summer!
Swimming • Field Trips • Close walk to Playgrounds & CHCS Pool
Daily Creative & Educational Indoor/Outdoor Activities!
*Start of camp based on Belchertown School Schedule

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE
K-6th Grade • Full & Part-Time • Homework Support
School Bus Pick Up & Drop Off • Indoor & Outdoor Activities

PRESCHOOL Year round program for Ages 3-5 yrs.
Full & Part Time • Choose from Full Day or 3/4 Day Options
Creative Educational Kindergarten Readiness Curriculum

TODDLER/YOUNG PRE-K Year round program for Ages 15 mos.-3 yrs.
Choice of Full Day 7:00-5:00 or 3/4 day option 8:30-2:30
Come Grow, Learn, and Play!

4 Stadler Street • (413) 323-5439
belchertownkidzclub@gmail.com

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EECLICENSED PROGRAM #177446

THE MACDUFFIE SCHOOL
VERITAS
1890

Race Into Summer at Camp MacDuffie!

Co-ed • Grades 1-8
June 30 - August 15

Be part of this year's camps and discover the true meaning of summer...having fun and making friends!

Camp MacDuffie offers seven weeks of exciting camp experiences:

Week 1: June 30 - July 3	Week 4: July 21 - 25	Week 6: August 4-8
Week 2: July 7 - 11	Week 5: July 28 - August 1	Week 7: August 11-15
Week 3: July 14 - 18	• Arts • Athletics • Coding • Science • Dance • Lego's • Creative Writing • Theater • Science • And More!	

Monday-Friday 9am-3pm • Area fields trips and lunch included
Extended care available if needed 7:30am-5pm

Register now for summertime fun at MacDuffie.org/summer-camp

The MacDuffie School • 66 School Street • Granby, MA 01033 • 413.255.0000 Ext.103

Calendar of Events

THURSDAY, FEB. 27

A BLOOD DRIVE will take place today from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Quabbin Regional Middle High School, 800 South St., in the high school gymnasium. Ellie Frost, a senior at Quabbin Regional High School, is putting on a blood drive at the high school in partnership with the Rhode Island Blood Center. The blood drive is in partnership with the Rhode Island Blood Center, on February 27th from 10 am- Walk-ins are welcome if space permits, but they ask people to sign up at ribc.org/drives and use sponsor code M102. Sixteen year old donors need parent/guardian permission. Permission slips are available at ribc.org/permission. Appointments are preferred however walk-in will be welcome if space permits. Donors should eat, drink and bring ID with their name and photo. Donation takes about an hour to give blood. People may also call 800-283-8385.

WORCESTER CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY presents "Voices Rising" today at 7:30 p.m. will perform at Mechanics Hall, 321 Main St., Worcester. This is a change of venue. There will be a pre-concert talk at 7 p.m. Worcester Chamber Music Society musicians are Tracy Kraus, flute; Krista Buckland Resiner, violin; Rohan Gregory, violin; Mark Berger, viola and Joshua Gordon, cello. Tickets are available by visiting <https://worcesterchambermusic.org/voices-rising/> or by calling the WCMS office at 508-926-8624.

FRIDAY, FEB. 28

DINNER AND SHOW FUNDRAISING GALA benefits the Mount Wachusett Community College Foundation today from 5-10 p.m. at Mount Wachusett Community College, 444 Green St., Gardner. A gourmet dinner prepared by local culinary talents will take place first and then participants will watch the musical "Into the Woods" at the Theatre at the Mount located at the college. All proceeds from the event will benefit the MWCC Foundation, which provides critical support for student scholarships, academic programs and other initiatives that empower students to achieve their educational goals. Tickets are available for purchase by visiting mwcc.edu/giving. Early reservations are encouraged as seating is limited.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

MARDI GRAS PANCAKE SUPPER will be held at the Rutland Congregational Church, 264 Main St., Rutland, today at 5:30 p.m. People will enjoy all you can eat



Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

This week's mystery photo is from North Brookfield. If any readers know where this photo was taken, they may email edowner@turley.com or call the Barre Gazette at 413-967-3505, extension 100 with their answer by noon on Monday, March 3. Bill Bowles, Peggy Civilik, Stephen Craven and Evelyn Luukko correctly identified the photo. The photo last week was taken from Utley Road in New Braintree of the ball field and the town hall building. Peggy Civilik identified last week's photo as well

pancakes, along with bacon, sausage and fruit. Gluten free pancakes will be available. Music will be provided by The Rutland Jazz Band and the Church Bell Choir. There will be raffles and games. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 ages 3-12 and free under 3. People should call the church at 508-886-4453 to reserve tickets.

DESIGNER PANCAKE BREAKFAST sponsored by Cradle Rock Chapter Order of Eastern Star will be held today from 7:30-10:30 a.m. at Mt. Zion Lodge Hall, 71 Pleasant St., Barre. Cost is \$9 per adult and \$5 per child age 6 and under. People may create their own designer pancake with chips, fruit, nuts and more. The complete breakfast includes designer pancakes, waffles, sausage gravy with biscuits, bacon, sausage, juice and coffee. All are welcome.

VALENTINE'S BREAKFAST has been rescheduled to do the weather the weekend of Feb 15 to day from 8-11 a.m. at Hope Lodge, 42 Central St., Gardner, hosted by the Gardner Demolay. The breakfast will

celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Menu includes sausage, green pancakes, bacon and juice.

DRIVE THRU CHICKEN DINNER hosted by the Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St., Barre will take place today. at to hold drive thru dinner. The menu includes baked stuffed chicken, vegetables, potato, salad and dessert. Cost is \$15 for adults and \$5 for children. For reservations, people should call the church office 978-355-4041. People may pick up their meal at 5 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 2

AMERICAN STEP DANCERS will perform today at 2 p.m. at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical High School, 1050 Westminster St., Fitchburg in the auditorium. Admission is \$10 per person and \$5 per senior.

MATT ROBERTS MAGIC SHOW sponsored by St. Francis of Assisi Parish will take place today at 2 p.m. in the auditorium at Quabbin Regional High School, 800

South St., Barre. Matt Roberts is a two-time Emmy nominated magician. He brings a unique mix of Clean Comedy, Ja-Dropping Mentalism and Time Travel. Tickets are \$10 for adults; High School students grades 9-12 \$4 and children under the ninth grade are free, but must be accompanied by an adult. Tickets will be sold at the door. Tickets will be sold after all Masses or call/text Judy at 508-320-5049.

WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN NINETEENTH CENTURY NEW ENGLAND will be presented by Lind Hixon, lead historian and president Hopedale Women's History Program today at 2 p.m. in Room 2 of the First Church of Sterling, 6 Meeting House Hill Road, Sterling. This is offered by the Lancaster Historical Society and is free and open to the public. People may call 978-733-6907 for more information.

SATURDAY, MARCH 8

BARRE WINTER MARKET located in the Barre Town Hall, 2 Exchange St., Barre will take place today from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Other date is Saturday, April 12 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. This is the third year of the market. Local crafters and farmers sell their crafts and products. For more information, people may email rebellbathandbeyond@gmail.com or call Celia at 978-355-0139.

ALL ABOUT OWLS, presented by the Massachusetts Audubon Society and sponsored by the Friends of the New Braintree Library will take place today at 2 p.m. in the New Braintree Library, 45 Memorial Drive, New Braintree for school age children. They will learn about the variety of owls that live in Massachusetts as they examine owl wings, feet and skulls. They will compare themselves to an owl - how long is their "wingspan" and how far around can they turn turn head. They will discover what owls eat as they dissect an owl pellet. There will be an optional take home craft: make an owl mask. This program is funded by the Hardwick/New Braintree Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a State Agency. This program is free and open to the public.

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

OPEN HOUSE AND TEA TASTING hosted by the Rutland Historical Society will take place on Sunday, March 9 from 2- 4 p.m. at the Wood House, 232 Main St., Rutland. Teas available for tasting will include black, herbal and specialty teas with origins from China, England, India and Iraq. This is a free event and is open to the public. People can taste some tea and browse the museum's collection of Rutland history.

MONDAY, MARCH 10

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY BARRE UNIT 2 will meet today at 7 p.m. in the American Legion Post 2, 450 South Barre Road, Barre. Refreshments will be provided by Kara Franciosi, Barbara Rossi and Karen Nurmi.

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

QRSD PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING will take place today at 6 p.m. in the Educational Support Center, 872 South St., Barre. People may attend in person or via Zoom. To join Zoom Meeting: bit.ly/QuabbinRSDSC, meeting ID 840 3950 2276 passcode qNR6R0. A copy of the FY26 Quabbin Regional School Budget will be available for review on their website at www.qrsd.org or at the EducationalSupportCenter, 872 SouthSt., Barre on Tuesday, March 11 from noon on.

Calendar Policy

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

New Braintree Library holds story time

NEW BRAINTREE - Story time will be held Monday, March 17 at 9 a.m. at the New Braintree Public Library, 45 Memorial Drive. The March 17 program for preschoolers focuses on St. Patrick's Day. The readings will include "The Night Before St. Patrick's Day" by Natasha Wing and "Pete the Cat, The Great Leprechaun Chase" by James Dean. Parental supervision is required for this reading and crafts program. People may call the library at 508-867-7650 during regular business hours for more information.

Farber and Lindley LLC

Carl Lindley

very good team here that works to help solve our client's problems," Lindley said.

Lindley has a background in insurance defense work and personal injury experience including auto accidents, dog bites and slips or falls.

"I represent clients and I oversee the other attorneys in the firm and provide them with guidance on the cases, as well as running the day-to-day business of the firm," Lindley explained.

The firm is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and there you can speak to a representative and find the help you need.

You can find more information by visiting their website farberandlindley.com and request a consultation, read reviews and find an attorney to represent and help you according to what you need.

"It's fun to advocate for your client," Lindley said. "I want the community to know that here in Barre we provide quality advice and counsel for businesses, personal injury victims and landlords. We are here to serve them in those capacities."

BARRE - Farber and Lindley LLC has opened a new location on Common Street and there you will find attorneys and partners ready to help and serve the community.

Carl Lindley and his partner, Lawrence Farber, began the business in 2015 and on Jan. 1 of this year, moved to open a location on Common Street in Barre.

"My favorite part about working with the firm is working with the other attorneys and support staff. We've got a

THE BARRE GAZETTE

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Season on line in final game for Quabbin boys



Quinn Geary considers his next move.

BARRE – Last week, Quabbin Regional High School boys basketball was in nonplayoff action after not making the Central Mass. Tournament. The Panthers, which had a tough stretch of losses near the end of the regular season, needed a win to make the state tournament. The Panthers would lose their first nonplayoff game against Nashoba last Monday 86-60. The Panthers then had their postseason hopes on the line last Tuesday night against Groton-Dunstable. Highlights from that game will be in next week's edition.



Jacoby Dilling drives down the court.



Jaxon Warburton sends a pass toward the corner of the court.



Brady Patchen goes up to catch a high pass.

Tough finish leaves Panthers out of state tournament

BARRE – Two weeks ago, losses against Hudson and Littleton along with a Central Mass. Tournament defeat against Auburn left the Panthers with a sub-.500 record. As a result, the Panthers will not make the state tournament after making it the past two seasons.

Quabbin closed out its season with a non-playoff game with Nipmuc. Highlights of that matchup will be in next week's edition.



Mia Ducos heads down the court during recent action.



Lianna Leger sends a pass away.



Bella Smith drives toward the hoop.



Christiana Dunn holds the ball outside the arc.



Abby Rogowski makes a rebound on offense.

Pioneers fall in tournament quarterfinals

LEE – Last Tuesday night, the 15-3 Pathfinder girls basketball team participated in its first Western Mass. Class D Tournament since the tournament changed formats. The Pioneers, however, had their offense shut down in a tough matchup at Lee High School, losing 59-21 in the matchup. Greenly Lagimoniere was limited to just eight points in the game. The Pioneers then went to nonplayoff action for their final game before the state playoffs.

Pioneers would suffer another defeat, losing 53-25 against Mahar Regional.

The Pioneers were scheduled to enter the state tournament and had a preliminary round matchup with Boston United earlier this week.

Top-seeded Hurricanes upset in semifinals by Taconic

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

WEST SPRINGFIELD - It's very difficult to defeat the same team three times in one season.

During the regular season, Amherst squeaked out a pair of 3-2 and 3-1 victories against Fay-Wright Division rival Taconic.

The two hockey teams met for the third time in the Western Mass. Class B semifinal match.

After falling behind 2-0 at the end of the first period, the top-seeded Hurricanes battled back in the second and third periods to tie the score at 2-2.

The fourth-seeded Thunder, who are the defending Class B champions, ended the match with an overtime goal which gave them a 3-2 upset victory at the Olympia Ice Center in West Springfield, last Thursday night.



Noah Latulippe, a Pathfinder member of Amherst hockey, works away from the wall.

"One of the hardest things to do in sports is beat the same team three times in a season," said Amherst hockey coach Michael Rousseau. "The two teams know each other very well."

Prior to 2020, Amherst's (11-6-1) season would've been over following a loss in the Western Mass. tour-



Benjamin Remesnyder heads up the ice.

with a 10-1-1 record."

Amherst's only league loss was to Agawam, who was scheduled to face the Thunder (8-6-2) in the Class B finals, last Saturday afternoon. They also tied Chicopee, 2-2, in the second game of the regular season.

The Hurricanes, who co-op with Pathfinder Tech

and Hopkins Academy, play their home matches at Orr Rink located on the Amherst College campus. They lost all three times that they played at the Olympia Ice Center this winter.

The four players from Pathfinder Tech listed on the

See HOCKEY, page 10

Sports

Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

Tuesday Night Commercial Elks League

PALMER – It is now week two of the final round of the season for the Commercial Elks League.

After week one, the Daft Kings, Team BK and Gutter Mouths began the round with a record of 3-1. Daft Kings and Gutter Mouths are the two teams who already qualified for the championship roll off by winning a round. The Mailmen, Compression and Last in Line have a record of 1-3 to begin round three.

In week two, Last in Line defeated the Mailmen in all three games and receive four points. The winners of round one, Gutter Mouths, bowled against Team BK in week two.

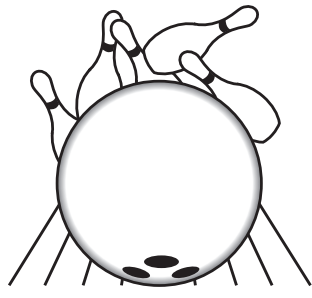
In game one, Gutter

Mouths defeated Team BK by a score of 403-395. Stephen Manolakis of Gutter Mouths lead his team to a win with a 115. Mark Fitzpatrick of BK bowled a 117 in a losing effort.

In game two, it was another close match as Gutter Mouths won the second game 372-368. In game three, Team BK came up with a big win by a score of 389-355. The substitute bowler for Team BK finished with a 122 to go with his scores of 118 and 113.

With the 34-point victory in game three, Team BK manage to win total pinfall by a final score of 1152-1130. Both Gutter Mouths and Team BK won two points and advanced their records to 5-3.

Daft Kings, the winning team of round two, bowled against Compression. In game one, Compression defeated Daft Kings by a score of 391-376. David



Bowman of Compression had a score of 105 to help his team take the first game.

In game two, Compression defeated Daft Kings again by a score of 379-352. Compression does not have a playoff berth and are trying to win the final round. In game three, Compression won for a three-game sweep over Daft Kings, 379-348.

With a sweep and total pinfall, Compression win four big points to better their chances at making the championship roll off at the end of the season. The final score was 1149-1076 in favor of Compression.

Railers get shutout win in road finale

CHARLESTON, SC – The Worcester Railers HC (24-23-2-4 54pts) lost to the South Carolina Stingrays (33-13-3-2, 71pts) on Sunday afternoon by a final score of 3-0 in front of a crowd of 4,503 at the North Charleston Coliseum.

The Railers are back on the ice next at the DCU Center taking on the Bloomington Bison on Friday, February 28th, at 7:05 p.m. for Monkey Wrenches weekend.

Jamie Engelbert (1-0-1) opened up the scoring with a goal for the Stingrays early in the second period. 8:35 into the third period Alexander Suzdalev(1-0-1) netted another goal for the Stingrays increasing their lead to 2-0. The Stingrays kept their momentum going



with a goal late in the third period by Tyler Weiss (1-0-1) which would be the final goal of the game to give the Stingrays a 3-0 win over Worcester.

Neither team was able to get the puck in the net in the first period. Hugo Ollas had 11 saves on 11 shots while Garin Bjorklund had 7 saves on 7 shots. The score was 0-0 going into the second period.

The Stingrays struck first with a goal from Jamie

Engelbert (14th) just 2:18 into the second period, placing a shot perfectly over the glove hand of Ollas to score what would eventually be the game-winner. This was the only action in the second period, while South Carolina out shot the Railers 15-4 in the second.

Alexander Suzdalev (10th) gave the Stingrays a 2-0 lead over the Railers in the third period. The Stingrays continued their scoring with a goal by Tyler Weiss (14th) who finished off a rebound along the far side on a wide open net. Weiss' goal was the final goal of the game giving the Stingrays a 3-0 victory over the Railers. The Railers out-shot the Stingrays 12-11 in the third period.

In the Classroom

Quabbin Regional High School lists Honor Roll

BARRE – Quabbin Regional High School, 800 South St., lists the Honor Roll for the second quarter.

Grade 9 High Honors

Students in Grade 9 attaining High Honors are Brent Benoit, Abraham Brown, Nicholas Carroll, Maya Fontaine, Chloe Howarth, Ellie Poulin and Erin Trotter.

Grade 9 Honor Roll

Students in Grade 9 attaining Honor Roll are Nicholas Antonio, Mary Asiedu, Anyiah Bergeron, Josephine Buck, Carlmorisia Campbell, Eleanor Carroll, Brian Colleton, Michael Condry, Aiden Crane, Kayla Curran, Adrien Cyr, Oliver Davis, Aliyah Edouard, Maya Edouard, Andrew Erickson, Audrey Faucher, Samuel Feldman, Sydney Freeman, Daniella Gaudreault, Matthew Labrousse, Alison LaRoche, Emma Lindsey, Lynn Diarra Michel, Niki Nikakhlagh, Anthony Noborini, John Orsini, Moira Powers, Kristen Schur, Ava Sobol, Haley Stoll, Benjamin Thompson, Catherine Tucker and Matthew VanScoy.

Grade 10 High Honors

Students in Grade 10 attaining High Honors are Jacob Bassett, Madeleine Boisselle, Isabel Doty, Tess Dunphy, Kathryn Ford, Anna Hautala, Kirk Kaelin, Ella Reeves and Jennavicia Roseberry.

Grade 10 Honor Roll

Students in Grade 10 attaining Honor Roll are Klavdiya Antonian, Skyler Bard, Halo Bissonnette, Makenzie Casey, James Cook, Leah Doucette, Katelyn Durant, Brody Faucher, Grace Flamand, Alijah Flint, Kaylie Howland, Sadie Kennan, Jillian LaMontagne, Audrey Laursen, Anna Metcalf, Mia Miville, Jesse Newton, Samantha O'Connor, Blake Parmeter, Arianna Riendeau, Abigail Rogowski, Emma Ryan, Sienna Shaw, Aubrey Thorpe, Owen Twarog, Grace Vanoudenove, Brendan Welch, Ellary White, Carlo Zolla and Leanna Zou.

Grade 11 High Honors

Students in Grade 11 attaining High Honors are Tricia Bruso, Kalina Dyer and Elizabeth Matheson.

Grade 11 Honor Roll

Students in Grade 11 attaining Honor Roll are Owen Breuer, Brandon Brooks, Troy Budreau, Micah Cerezo, Kylee Costello, Annabella DiMartino, Madeleine Hardy, Emma Kahlau, Anthony Landry, Collin Lindley, Grace Manna, Hunter McQueston, Parker Proulx, Aaron Rowell, Allison Sprankle, Madelyn Stauder, Cameran Vega and Bianca Wilder.

Grade 12 High Honors

Students in Grade 12 attaining High Honors are Haley Ayer, Jordan Blanchard, Quinn Geary, Isabel LaBelle, Sadie Sheldon, Julia Smith and Jaxon Warburton.

Grade 12 Honor Roll

Students in Grade 12 attaining Honor Roll are Eamon Arnold, Benjamin Bibik, Kyle Clark, Ava Conlee, Teaghan Earle, Adam Faulha, Ellie Frost, Ruby Gatulis, Kyra Grummell, Samuel Guertin, Hunter LaBier, Travis LaRoche, Vincent Marinelli, Ethan Salvadore, Sydney Slattery, Isabella Smith, Irene Stogitis, Vanecia Tarquinio, Jake Thao, Kevin Thompson, Richard Tucker and Abigail Ure.

Colleges and universities announce President's and Dean's lists

PRESIDENT'S LIST

Champlain College
Burlington, Vermont

Madisyn Kaijala of Hubbardston

DEAN'S LIST

Goodwin University
East Hartford, Connecticut

Cassandra Waugh of New Braintree

Salve Regina University
Newport, Rhode Island

Anya Kelley of Rutland

Seton Hall University
South Orange, New Jersey

Skyler Rudinski of New Braintree

Siena College
Loudonville, New York

Emily Marrone of Hardwick

University of Massachusetts Amherst
Amherst

Brianna Caponigro of Barre
Connor Geary of Hardwick
William Hood of Hardwick
Sophie Van Arsdell of Hardwick
Jaidyn Christanski of Hubbardston
Ava McEvoy of Hubbardston
Andrew Twarog of Hubbardston
Shaye McKeen of Oakham
Samantha Sands of Oakham
William Barnes of Petersham

Percival Burch of Petersham
Audrey Danielson of Petersham
Nathan Legare of Petersham
Marlena Niedzwiecki of Petersham
Chloe Andress of Rutland
Sofia Baker of Rutland
Sheahan Brush of Rutland
Aidan Cady of Rutland
Alexander Charlonne of Rutland
Julia Clabbers of Rutland
Andrew Colson of Rutland
Elizabeth DeMauro of Rutland
Ava Ehrenworth of Rutland
Andrew Guindon of Rutland
Nathan Judge of Rutland
Tyler Judge of Rutland
Elise Kennedy of Rutland
Amelia Kilian of Rutland
Sophie Letendre of Rutland
Benjamin Marien of Rutland
Cameron Naples of Rutland
Stefan Notchev of Rutland
Joseph Occhialini of Rutland
Jamie Quinn of Rutland
Amanda Towns of Rutland
Nicole Yang of Rutland

University of Tampa
Tampa, Florida

Declan Cady of Rutland, junior majoring in cybersecurity
Emily Kupstas of Rutland, sophomore majoring in advertising and public relations

HCC scholarship season now open

HOLYOKE — The Holyoke Community College Foundation began accepting scholarship applications for the 2025-2026 academic year on Tuesday, Jan. 21.

The application deadline is Friday, March 14.

Last year, the HCC Foundation awarded 388 scholarships worth about \$350,000 to 323 incoming, current, and transferring HCC students. Some students received multiple scholarship awards. The average scholarship award is typically around \$900.

"Awarding scholarships to deserving students has been a cornerstone of the work of the HCC Foundation since its founding," said Amanda Sbriscia, vice president of Institutional Advancement and executive director of the HCC Foundation. "Scholarships established by donors celebrate academic achievement, community service, and civic engagement, and, most importantly, these funds ensure hundreds of students have the resources they need to complete their college degrees."

Students must be currently

enrolled at HCC or have been accepted for the upcoming academic year to be eligible for scholarships.

"While the recent launch of MassEducate, the state's free-community-college-for-all program, has made HCC accessible to more individuals, that only means we have a greater responsibility to ensure students make it to the finish line," Sbriscia said. "Tuition and fees represent only a portion of the cost of being a college student today and oftentimes, a donor scholarship can truly change a student's life."

Applicants need only to fill out a single online form to be automatically matched with the scholarships they are most qualified to receive. There are scholarships for new students, current students and students transferring to other institutions, scholarships based on financial need, scholarships for students in specific majors, scholarships for residents of certain communities, and scholarships that recognize academic achievement.

To view scholarship oppor-

tunities and begin the application process, people may visit www.hcc.edu/scholarships.

Last January, HCC opened a dedicated Scholarship Resource Center to help current and incoming students navigate the process of applying for scholarships and filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. The office, located on the first floor of the Donahue Building, Room 158, is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

The HCC Foundation is a 501(c)(3) that works to advance the college's mission, vision and values. Founded in 1968 as the Friends of Holyoke Community College, in response to a devastating fire that forced the college to rebuild on a new campus, the Foundation now manages assets of more than \$20 million, the largest community college foundation endowment in Massachusetts.

Questions should be directed to the HCC Foundation office by calling 413-552-2182 or by emailing scholarships@hcc.edu.

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Turleysports

Athlete of the Month

NAME: Brooke Austin
SCHOOL: Quabbin
Austin led the Panthers with eight points in their Central Mass playoff loss against Auburn.



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

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Local pastor offers sermon

Proverbs Part 1

The Book of Proverbs is among the most beloved and beneficial works in the whole of Scripture.

It is my desire, therefore, to offer an extended series on this timeless and timely work in kind. In this edition, let us establish a suitable foundation for the editions to come.

1) Authorship Part I

The opening passage of Proverbs identifies its author (1:1, NIV): "The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel." What do we know to be true of Solomon? To begin, he was the son of the famed king, David. Also, he served as the king of Israel subsequent to the death of his father. Ultimately, he was famed for his extraordinary and God-imparted wisdom.

How did Solomon come to be blessed with such wisdom?

1 Kings 3:5-14

5 At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon during the night in a dream, and God said, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you." 6 Solomon answered, "You have shown great kindness to your servant, my father David, because he was faithful to you and righteous and upright in heart. You have continued this great kindness to him and have given him a son to sit on his throne this very day. 7 Now, Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties. 8 Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. 9 So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?"

10 The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for this. 11 So God said to him, "Since you have asked for this and not for long life or

wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, 12 I will do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be. 13 Moreover, I will give you what you have not asked for, both wealth and honor, so that in your lifetime you will have no equal among kings. 14 And if you walk in obedience to me and keep my decrees and commands as David your father did, I will give you a long life."

How wise was Solomon?

1 Kings 4:29-34

29 God gave Solomon wisdom and very great insight and a breadth of understanding as measureless as the sand on the seashore. 30 Solomon's wisdom was greater than the wisdom of all the people of the East and greater than all the wisdom of Egypt. 31 He was wiser than anyone else, including Ethan the Ezrahite-wiser than Heman, Kalkol and Darda, the sons of Mahol. And his fame spread to all the surrounding nations. 32 He spoke three thousand proverbs and his songs numbered a thousand and five. 33 He spoke about plant life, from the cedar of Lebanon to the hyssop that grows out of walls. He also spoke about animals and birds, reptiles and fish. 34 From all nations people came to listen to Solomon's wisdom, sent by all the kings of the world, who had heard of his wisdom.

It is no surprise, therefore, that Solomon came to pen that work which most centers upon the theme of wisdom: Proverbs.

2) Authorship Part 2

It should be noted, albeit quickly, that Solomon incorporated the wisdom of other figures into his book. Beyond Solomon, who is noted ongoingly throughout the writing (cf. 10:1; 25:1), other sages

are reported:

a) The Wise Men. Proverbs 22:17-24:34 contain thirty sayings or proverbs attributed to "the wise." Though we do not know the identity of these men, Scripture is clear that they were individuals of particular insight into godly life and living.

b) Agur. Proverbs 30 is attributed to a figure named Agur. His identity is unknown, though his name means "collector or gatherer." He seems to have been a man of humility (2-4), with an observant and inquisitive nature (5-33).

c) Lemuel. The final author, Lemuel, posited Proverbs 31. This name means "dedicated to God." We know that this figure was a king (31:1). It is speculated that this may indicate that Lemuel was a reference to Solomon, though most scholars view him as a different character entirely. There is an interesting note concerning this particular contributor in Proverbs 31:1: "The sayings of King Lemuel-an inspired utterance his mother taught him." Clearly, Lemuel was impacted by the wisdom passed down from his mother.

What is the purpose of the Book of Proverbs? Why did Solomon write this work? Great questions. I am so glad you asked. These are queries we will contend with next week. Until then, 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, check us out online at www.NewLifeBarre.org or join us each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. We hope to see you soon.

Pastor James Foley

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

said, "I don't care what the team's record is, you give a playoff hockey team a 2-0 lead, that's a tough hill to climb."

Ten minutes into the second period, Amherst senior Brach Applegate blasted a shot into the net, which sliced their deficit in half. The assist was given to senior Stephen Rich.

The Hurricanes had several shots on goal during a 5-on-3 power-play, but the score remained the same entering the final 15 minutes of the contest.

Amherst, who also lost to Belchertown in the Class B semifinals two years ago, netted the game tying goal with 2:31 remaining in regulation.

The play began with a shot from senior Nate Ziornek. The puck deflected in the air off the Thunder goalie. Applegate was in the right spot to knock home the rebound shot for his second goal of the match.

"Brach showed up in

tonight's game and that's what a senior does," Rousseau said. "His game was spot-on, spot-on tonight. He gave us a chance to win."

A little more than a minute into the overtime session, a slap shot by Harrington found its way into the net for the game winning goal.

The Hurricanes were hoping to capture the Western Mass. title for the first time since 2016 when they defeated Chicopee Comp, 3-2, in overtime in the Division 3 A finals. They're now hoping to make a run in the Division 3 state tournament.

The Blue Devils, who defeated Greenfield, 58-45, in the 2023 Class C title, game took a 47-37 lead against the Rams with 3:06 left in regulation when sophomore Jorge Bond (17 points) made a pair of free throws.

A little more than a minute later, Colon, who scored all his points after halftime, buried his second 3-pointer of the fourth quarter, closing the gap

all over the Commonwealth. COA

The Town Administrator said the Council on Aging budget for this year was already 99% expended. Select Board Vice Chair Heather Munroe said they spend their town budgeted amount first, then use the Elder Affairs money they receive.

Dog issue

A resident brought before the Select Board an issue with a neighbor regarding his dog allegedly rooming. The

Administrative Assistant will contact the Animal Control Officer and Town Clerk to look into the matter and get back to the resident.

Other business

The Select Board accepted the resignation with regret of Police Officer Christopher Bergeron after ten years of service to the town to take a new position.

They also approved the host agreement for Paper Crane. The agreement was in line with the Cannabis Control Commission.

Obituaries

John "Jack" Amidio, 81

OAKHAM- John "Jack" Amidio, 81, of Oakham, passed away on Feb. 19, 2025 at home. He was born on Aug. 24, 1943, Jack lived a life marked by dedication to his family, passion for business and love for the outdoors.

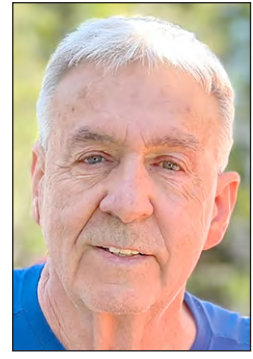
Jack was born in Barre, the son of the late Liberina and Joseph Amidio. He graduated from Barre High School and built a successful career as the owner/operator of Barre Artesian Well. His entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to his work was evident. You could always find him driving around town looking for his next project or having morning coffee with "The Crew" solving the worlds problems.

Beyond his professional endeavors, Jack had a deep appreciation for hunting, fishing and golfing.

He especially enjoyed camping at Scusset Beach, creating cherished memories with family and friends.

He leaves behind his beloved wife, Sue Tyck-Amidio; his children Michael

Amidio and his wife Cathy, Joseph Amidio and his wife Mary and Jennifer Amidio and his stepchildren, Jeremy, John and Sam Tyck. He was a devoted grandfather to Emily, Marissa, Michael and Audrey and his great-grandchildren Griffin, Mya, Leah and Michaela. Jack is also survived by his sister Ann Marie Smith and her husband Fred, along with nieces Christine Warburton and Julie Lajoie, nephew, Frederick Smith III,



many cousins and extended family.

Family and friends are invited to pay their respects during calling hours on Thursday, Feb. 27, 2025 from 4-7 p.m. in Pillsbury Funeral Home, 96 South Barre Road, in Barre. A private burial will be held for the family in Pine Grove Cemetery in Oakham. In lieu of flowers please make donations in his name to the MassWildlife.

Jack will be dearly missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him. His kindness, generosity and unwavering spirit will live on in the hearts of those he touched.

Barbara Lucille Belcher Begin, 91

BARRE - Barbara Lucille Belcher Begin 91 of Punta Gorda, Florida passed away peacefully on Jan. 29, 2025. Lucille grew up and lived in Barre before retiring to Florida. Lucille



celebrated 69 years of marriage to her loving husband Lawrence before his passing in July of 2024. She leaves her five children: Robert and Katherine Begin of Cape Cod, Kathleen and Brian Cirelli of Barre, Mark and Amanda Begin of Wheelwright, Lawrence and Patricia Begin of Barre and Michael and Doreen Begin of Barre. Thirteen grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren, along with several nieces and nephews. Lucille was the daughter

of H. Elgin and Viola (Spinney) Belcher. She is predeceased by her sister Andrea Belcher Goodwin.

Lucille was a licensed Insurance Broker by the state of Massachusetts

and worked for Healy Brothers Insurance and then Wm. Phelan Insurance in Barre for many years. She was on the Barre Finance Committee for seven years and chaired for two. Lucille was a member and treasurer of The Barre Congregational Church, also a member of The United Congregational Church of Christ Punta Gorda. She was a Cub Scout Den mother for many years, belonged to The Friday Club and Women's Fellowship. Lucille and Larry loved to

travel and enjoyed many trips throughout Europe. When not traveling they were at the beaches in Wells, Maine and Florida. Lucille loved to host large parties, reading, knitting and vacationing with grandchildren in Maine and her dog Saxson. Services will be at the convenience of the family.

DEATH NOTICES

Amidio, John "Jack"

Died Feb. 19, 2025
Calling hours
Feb. 27 from 4-7 p.m.
Pillsbury Funeral Home,
96 South Barre Road,
Barre

Begin, Barbara Lucille (Belcher)

Died Jan. 29, 2025
Services will be at the convenience of the family.

HOCKEY, continued from page 9

Amherst roster are freshman Landon Lukasik, freshman Nolan MacTavish, freshman Noah Latulippe, and junior Ethan Mooney, who's an assistant captain.

A couple of minutes into the opening period, a Mooney shot attempt deflected off the stick of Taconic senior goalie Hunter Shepardson (21 saves).

The Thunder took a 1-0 lead at the 3:29 mark of the first period when junior Eric Harrington fired a low line-drive shot from the blue line that snuck into the net past Amherst senior goalie Spencer McDonald (21 saves).

Another goal by sophomore Owen Odermatt, who assisted on Taconic's first goal, made the score 2-0 with 11.2 seconds left in the opening period.

"We didn't play very well in the first period," Rousseau

HUBBARDSTON, continued from page 1

He reported he was reviewing Spectrum's proposal on fiber installation. He said the communication tower was progressing. The town also submitted a Request for Proposal for 142 acres for overlay zoning on a former sand pit. He said many Department of Public Works employees left due to being underpaid. He said DPW workers taking higher paid positions in other cities and towns was a problem

to 49-43.

With 1:08 on the scoreboard clock, the Blue Devils held a 54-47 advantage after sophomore Zane Kaley made two more free throws.

At that point, Drury had made 15 of their 16 foul shots in the fourth quarter. They would only make one of their eight shots from the line during the final five minutes of regulation, which enabled the Rams to make a comeback.

Fernandez made a lay-up and a pair of free throws slicing the Rams deficit to 55-53 with 24.4 seconds remaining in regulation.

After Drury missed two shots from the line, Colon pulled down the rebound leading to a Goodhind layup tying the score at 55-55 with ten seconds left in regulation.

Then Colon stole the ball at midcourt, but Fernandez missed a 3-pointer from the top of the key at the buzzer, sending the contest into overtime.

The Rams took their first lead since the second quarter at 57-55 when Clarke hit a jumper with 2:55 left in OT.

Twenty seconds later, Goodhind made a foul shot pushing the Rams lead to three points.

Drury answered back with a pair of inside hoops from junior Connor Hinkell (8 points). Senior Sam Moorman (14 points) also made a foul shot, and the Rams found themselves trailing 60-58 with 15 seconds left.

Colon was fouled while making an off balance baseline lay-up. He made the bonus free throw completing the old fashion three point play giving his team a 61-60 lead with 5.8 seconds remaining.

Fernandez sealed the deal by making a foul shot with two seconds left before his younger brother, Zavien, who's a junior, stole the inbounds pass at the buzzer sending the Rams players and their fans into a frenzy.

The Rams held a 15-12 lead at the end of the first quarter.

Drury outscored Granby, 17-11, during the second quarter and headed into the locker room with a 29-26 advantage.

The third quarter was a defensive battle as both teams only scored five points.

Holding a ten point lead with three minutes left in the fourth quarter, the Blue Devils players probably thought they would be taking the championship trophy for the second time in the past three years.

The Rams players never gave up and they wound up taking it home for the first time in twenty years.

Granby will now be looking to make another successful run in the Division 5 state tournament.

The third-seed Rams are scheduled to host either Bartlett High School of Webster or Brooke Charter School in the round of 32.

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Barre Gazette

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