

Digital Accordion Orchestrato perform at The Center

HARDWICK – Come witness one of the nation’s most unique and versatile musical ensembles this October with a performance by the New England Digital Orchestra at The Center at Eagle Hill, 242 Old Petersham Road, on Friday, Oct. 16 at 7 p.m..

Formed in 2015 by its conductor, internationally recognized accordionist and music educator Anselmo “Sam” Falcetti of Wilbraham, the New England Digital Orchestra is the first ensemble of its kind in the nation, and one of only two known in existence throughout the world.

Drawing members from four of the six New England states, the NEDO is unique because of its ability to produce a wide variety of instrumental sounds and musical styles, all using digital accordions. Whether it’s Broadway tunes, Hollywood soundtracks, rock ’n roll, country hits, classical compositions, Big Band swing, or patriotic favorites, music



Sam Falcetti and the New England Digital Orchestra will perform at The Center at Eagle Hill on Friday, Oct. 16 at 7 p.m.

lovers get a taste of each at a NEDO concert. Tickets are \$20 for all. The Center also offers dis-

counted \$10 tickets to EBT cardholders through Massachusetts’ Card to Culture Program.

For tickets and information, visit [www.thecenterateaglehill.org](http://www.thecenterateaglehill.org) or call the Box Office at 413-477-6746.

QUABBIN from page 1

while getting little payment in return.

“Your decisions today have generational impacts...I urge you to reject the MWRA’s application,” Comerford said.

She also recommended against future water transfers until fundamental questions are answered, saying, “I ask the commission today to recommend against any future water transfers from the Quabbin until the commonwealth has resolved fundamental questions of equity, stewardship and a common water future for all in Massachusetts.”

She said the region has chronic population decline, limited infrastructure and a dearth of economic activity, and asked what would happen when the region runs out of resources to protect the water.

Comerford said the towns took formal votes during town meetings and select board letters asking for more representation on the MWRA board of directors, since the region has no seat, and for more payment in lieu of taxes funding.

“The MWRA and its advisory board responded negatively with disinterest, disinformation and even open disdain,” Comerford said.

Durant said the water system is under stress and extracting with no compensation is not good, and he also spoke of the proposed battery energy storage sys-



Representatives from the communities surrounding the Quabbin Reservoir attended a public hearing on Sept. 30.

tem in Oakham.

Stephen Garabedian of the Belchertown Conservation Commission said he believes the application is a done deal, saying the governor wants this water to develop a former naval base and turn it into 6,000 housing units. He said since there are no resources for water near Boston, they are turning to the Quabbin.

“Water flows toward money,” he said.

Some leaders, including Patty Gamborini of the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission and Sue Cloutier of New Salem asked about desalination

plants, and whether one could be built on the coast of Boston. Cloutier said when she was in eighth grade, she did a study on desalination happening in Florida, saying the technology is there.

Matthew Broderick of the Oakham Planning Board said a third of their town was taken for the watershed, and the town takes its stewardship seriously, and they are also in support of protecting their self interests and the reservoir from the BESS facility.

“Our confidence in the stewardship of the MWRA has been severely eroded,”

he said, and noted there could be severe impacts if the BESS system experiences an accident.

Ed Comeau of Belchertown said the Quabbin is 12 feet below capacity, and the Quabbin/Wachusett system is still a good reserve, but with climate change and changes in precipitation, it could take years to build back to the levels the reservoir was once at.

The commission will make a decision about this request at a future public hearing, which is yet to be scheduled as of this publication.

CALENDAR from page 8

Sept. 26.

VACCINE CLINIC sponsored by the Hubbardston Board of Health contracted with Walgreen Pharmacy today from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. to offer vaccines for ages 6 and up in the Senior Center, Main Street. Vaccines offered include flu, COVID, shingles, measles, pneumonia, tetanus and others. People may sign up for vaccines at the senior center or call the Town Clerk at 978-

928-1400, extension 202. People should include their name and what vaccine and how many. This helps that the right amount of vaccines are available at the clinic.

SUNDAY, OCT. 18 15TH ANNUAL STATION LOOP RAMBLES takes place today from 9:30 a.m. There is a kids run, five-mile classic and 5K run/walk. All events incorporate part of the Mass. Central Rail Trail and start on Depot Road,

at the intersection of West and Hardwick Roads, New Braintree. The 5 mile classic is a hilly road and trail race with a flat fast finish on the Mass. Central Rail Trail. The kids run and 5K run/walk are entirely on a flat course on the Mass. Central Rail Trail. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.

Race begins and ends at the site of the former New Braintree Train Station, travels past scenic farmland through deep woods and skirts the Ware River. Start

time is 9 a.m. for kids run, 9:40 a.m. 6 to 12 years old (¼ mile), 10 a.m. 5 mile classic and 10:05 a.m. 5K run/walk. Awards ceremony is at 11 a.m.

Entry fee is free ages 5 and under, \$10 ages 6-12, \$25 early bird online registration by Oct. 17, \$30 day of adult registration and \$35 family registration for up to four members. People may register [www.eqtl.org/station-loop-ramble/](http://www.eqtl.org/station-loop-ramble/). People may call 413-477-8229 for more information.

Obituary

Joel R. Walker, 67

BARRE – Joel R. Walker, 67, of Barre, passed away peacefully at home on Sunday, Sept. 27, 2026.

Joel was born on Aug. 10, 1959 in Leominster. He attended St. Leo’s Elementary School in Leominster, before moving to Barre where he graduated from Quabbin Regional High School in 1977. As a junior in high school, he attended Mount Wachusett Community College in his senior year.

For most of Joel’s life, he fought a courageous, private, and often exhausting battle with mental health challenges. He carried this heavy burden with immense strength trying to shield others from the depths of his pain.

Those that knew him best not only saw his struggles, but also his profound resilience and his fierce capacity to love with incredible tenderness that he continued to offer the world even on his hardest days.

Joel is survived by his mother, Pauline Carlson of



Barre; a brother, Steven Walker and his wife Kathy of Shelbourne Falls; two sisters Shirley Chalmers (Walker) and her husband Steve of Spencer and his youngest sister, Susan (Walker) Derrick of Jefferson; many nieces and nephews and even great nieces and nephews that he cared about.

A private memorial service for Joel will be held at a later date. Memorial donations may be made in his name to the Grandview Tenants Association 146 Ruggles Lane, Barre, MA.01005. Arrangements are under the care of Pillsbury Funeral Home, 96 South Barre Road, Barre. [Pillsburyfuneralhome.com](http://Pillsburyfuneralhome.com)

DEATH NOTICE

Walker, Joel R.  
Died Sept. 27, 2026  
Private Memorial Service  
will be held at a later date.

Public Notices

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Probate and Family Court  
225 Main Street  
Worcester, MA 01608  
(508)831-2200  
Docket No.  
WO26P3273EA  
Estate of:  
Beverly Ann Despres  
Also known as:  
Beverly A Despres  
Date of Death: 04/29/2026  
CITATION ON PETITION  
FOR FORMAL  
ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Patricia Ann Schaaf of Wheelwright, MA and Suanne Despres of Ware, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that Patricia Ann Schaaf of Wheelwright, MA and Suanne Despres of Ware, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.  
IMPORTANT NOTICE  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/10/2026. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS

UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

WITNESS, Hon. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.

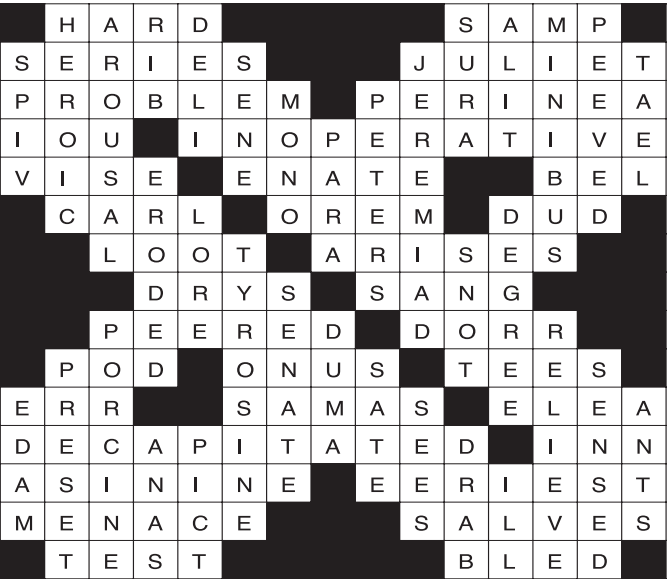
Date: October 05, 2026  
Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate

10/08/2026

PUBLIC AUCTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF M.L.C. 225 SEC.39A THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES WILL BE SOLD ON October 17, 2026 AT A SALE TO SATISFY OUR GARAGE LIEN THEREON FOR TOWING & STORAGE CHARGES AND EXPENSES OF SALE AND NOTICE:

2017 Hyundai TUCSON VIN KM8J3CA4XHU400713  
2015 BMW 5 Series VIN WBA5B3C54FD545903  
2012 Nissan Altima VIN 1N4AL2AP9CN465229  
2007 Volvo S40 VIN YV1MS382972275605  
2019 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 VIN 3GCUYDED4KG102252  
2010 BMW X5 VIN 5UXFE8C56AL311173  
The sale will be held at Early’s on Park Ave. 536 Park Avenue Worcester. MA 01603  
10/01, 10/08, 10/15/2026



Barre Gazette  
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries. One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice (with a word limit of up to 500 words) and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: [obits@turley.com](mailto:obits@turley.com).

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

PUBLIC NOTICES  
ARE NOW ONLINE

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

Public notice deadlines are Friday at 3 p.m.

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