



# *Uniquely Quabbin*

Free • Volume 2 • Issue 2  
September - December



A COLLABORATION OF  
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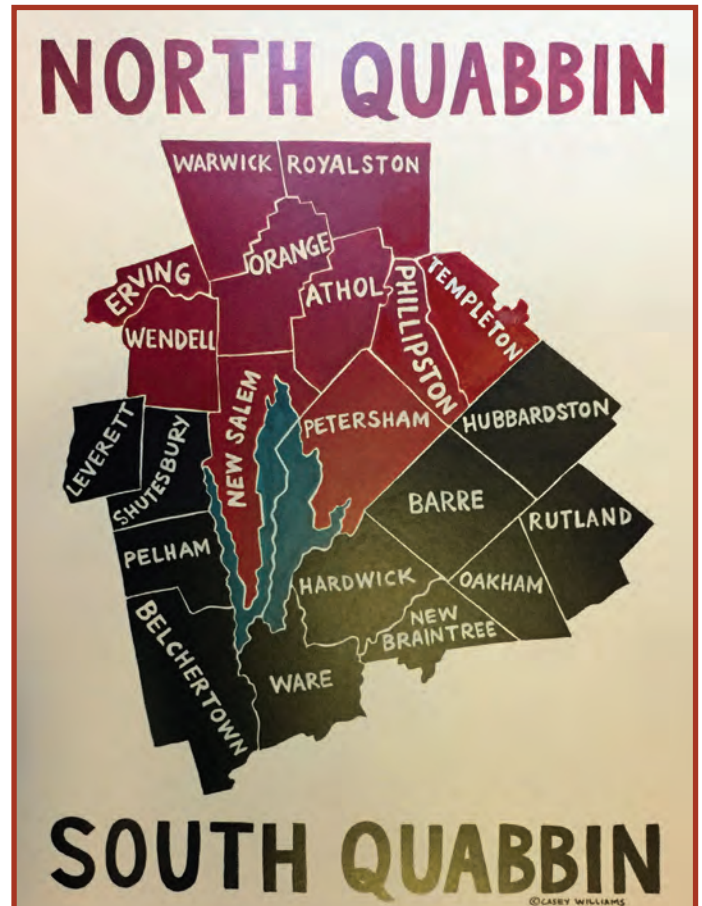
volume 2, number 2 • September-December 2017

*this issue features itinerant artists, fall festivals, history, events, and  
sights to see in the uniquely Quabbin heart of Massachusetts*



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Kayakers, upper left, enjoy Quabbin Region waterways during serene autumn paddles.

maps, bottom, show Quabbin towns past and present • photo © John Burk / maps © Casey Williams

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## On the front cover:

Margaret Marshall of Barre Historical Society and  
Anne Barnes of Hardwick Historical Society  
take in a painting by James Franklin Gilman  
in anticipation of exhibition at Athol Historical Society  
from 11 am to 3 pm Saturday, September 30



*Photography by John Burk  
featuring New England and the  
Quabbin region*

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*a note of thanks from Athol Historical Society*

Dear Generous Donors,

On behalf of Athol Historical Society, thank you for attending the events during our Uniquely Quabbin Weekend in May and your thoughtful contributions to Uniquely Quabbin magazine.

We want to thank Kathleen Cygan, Charles and Karen Mallet, and Pat Tedford for their generous donations as well as the people who made the weekend a success. We had wonderful programs presented by Dale Monette with his presentation on the Quabbin, Tom Ricardi with his "Birds of Prey," The Definite Maybes, an amazing band of talented, local musicians, and Dorothy Johnson with reading from her anthology. We are truly fortunate to have all this talent in our area.

Thank you as well to those who wish to remain anonymous and for the many cash donations we received.

We are also thankful for our advertisers and ever growing list of businesses and organizations that support our magazine. Please bring your business to them.

Gratefully,

*Debra Ellis*, treasurer  
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NORTH QUABBIN AND  
SOUTH QUABBIN EVENTS  
BEGINNING ON PAGE XX.**

a note from the publisher of *Uniquely Quabbin*

As harvest season brings abundance to our region, we at *Uniquely Quabbin* magazine look forward to sharing our perspective on the beautiful area we inhabit at this truly colorful time of year.

Our dedicated writers, photographers, artists, and production personnel once again bring you our magazine full of words and images highlighting unique circumstances that distinguish our region.

We hope you enjoy this issue of *Uniquely Quabbin*. We wish you happy reading.

Sincerely,  
Marcia Gagliardi, publisher  
Haley's

### Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I lived in Athol for twenty-eight years and recently moved to southern New Hampshire. A friend brings me *UQ*, wherein I see all my writer and journalist friends contributing fabulous articles about life past and present north and south of the Quabbin Reservoir. The quality of the photographs and the magazine itself keeps improving to the point where it is getting some traction. I can't wait to visit there again and support the attractions I have learned about through the writing of Clare Kirkwood, Sharon Harmon, and Paula Botch.

Sally Sennott  
Milford, New Hampshire

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about *Uniquely Quabbin*

Quabbin region, Massachusetts—*Uniquely Quabbin* serves the twenty-one Quabbin region towns.

Athol Historical Society, Athol Press, Haley's Publishing, and North Quabbin Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau collaborate to produce *Uniquely Quabbin* in cooperation with writers, photographers, and artists from the greater Quabbin area.

# Uniquely Quabbin

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September-December.

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We invite contributions to *Uniquely Quabbin* magazine. Contact Marcia Gagliardi at [haley.antique@verizon.net](mailto:haley.antique@verizon.net) or 488 South Main Street, Athol, MA 01331 with proposals to contribute to *UQ* or for letters to the editor.

*Uniquely Quabbin* magazine serves the twenty-one communities of the North Quabbin and South Quabbin.





Barre Common and its bandstand elegantly welcome autumn.  
photo © Mitchell R. Grosky



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# in praise of elderberries

text and pen and ink drawing by Abigail Rorer

The elderberry is a humble shrub often growing along streams and roadsides and overlooked by many as just another rank wild thing. Yet, by the end of June and the beginning of July, elderberry shrubs are covered in large showy, flat clusters of small, creamy, fragrant white flowers followed by sweet, purple-black berries in September. About the first of September, according to Thoreau, wild cherries and elderberries are the two prevailing wild fruits. Berry-eating birds, such as bluebirds, cedar waxwings, cardinals, and grosbeaks, gather around gorging themselves. And people in the know will gather around these berries to make wines, syrups, extracts, and jams.



pen and ink drawing © 2017 by Abigail Rorer

The variety commonly used is American Elder *Sambucus canadensis*. It is important to know that the seeds, stems, leaves, and roots are all poisonous to humans. The seeds contain cyanide-inducing glycosides, which can make you quite ill, but cooking the berries destroys the glycosides in the seeds, making the berries and seeds safe to eat. ***Always cook the berries.*** Modern research has shown that elderberries may have anti-inflammatory, antiviral, and anticancer properties and are anti-oxidant rich. Some doctors recommend that pregnant and breastfeeding women avoid eating elderberries.

David and Lori at Home Fruit Wine in Orange make a delicious elderberry wine. I purchased a bottle and found it to be a dry, fruity wine, not overly sweet. They gather the fruits from their own shrubs or from the wild. They also purchase from other growers. According to David, elderberries are “wicked healthy for you.” This year they made 325 bottles, and there should be plenty available this fall.

The American Elder is a very easy plant to grow but can get quite tall and bushy, around thirteen feet in height, so it is best to plant it at the edge of your property.

Petersham resident Abigail Rorer is proprietor of The Lone Oak Press: [theloneoakpress.com](http://theloneoakpress.com)





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# A Woman Who Drinks Quabbin Water Knows Her Good Fortune

by Allen Young

Walking through piney woods along a grassy berm adjacent to granite pump houses is one of Carol Spack's pleasant memories of her childhood in the eastern Massachusetts town of Framingham. Today, in her sixties, Carol still lives in the house where she grew up and still takes walks along that berm—but she knows a lot more about what's under the grass than she did when she was a child.

Her childhood playground belongs to the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA), formerly the Metropolitan District Commission (MDC). The berm protects a large aqueduct that carries water to the people of Framingham from the Quabbin and Wachusett reservoirs halfway across the state to the west.

In recent years, she has come to know a lot about the berm and the pump houses, the Quabbin Reservoir, the “lost towns,” and many of the North Quabbin and South Quabbin towns, too.

It started with a new friendship in 2004 when she met Harold Gordon of Templeton. He introduced her to the popular Rietta Flea Market in nearby Hubbardston, where Carol found some interesting old maps. Before long, collecting maps became an obsession. Some of her favorites depicted the towns of the region “with integrity before the fragmentation” caused by creation of the reservoir.

Many of the maps she unearthed were for sale by antique dealers throughout the region. She also met Kay Gleason of Athol, who had developed a specialty in selling reproductions of antique maps.

On one of her forays from her friend's home in Templeton—which became a kind of second home for her—Carol discovered *Uniquely Quabbin* magazine, which she enjoyed reading. That's how she got in touch with me, desiring to tell her own unique Quabbin narrative that started with that berm in Framingham.


Before I began my interview with Carol, I remarked to myself, “What's so special about this woman? There are about three million people in the Greater Boston area, after all, who drink and wash with Quabbin water and also flush their toilets with it.” After sitting down and getting into a deep conversation about the region we both appreciate so much, I could see the value of her experience and perspective.

While her narrative begins with her childhood, it has significance because it connects to the present day, as she has cultivated a mission of informing all the eastern Massachusetts people she meets about the Quabbin Reservoir's pure water, the four towns that sacrificed to make it possible, and the many other towns whose watershed land, along with streams and rivers, produces and protects this precious resource.

“I have a desire for people who live close to Boston to learn about and experience the Quabbin region and its history,” she said. “For many of those people, the Quabbin is only an hour and fifteen minutes away from their homes. The physical connection can be an important experience.”

She noted that she has hiked in the area surrounding the Quabbin and paddled on Pottapaug Pond, a portion of the reservoir in Hardwick. Though the MWRA itself does not allow dogs in the Quabbin watershed, Carol has had an opportunity to hike elsewhere with her

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as with Quabbin towns: a flood control project brings



The main street of Walpack, New Jersey, appears utterly still after implementation of Tocks Island project.  
photo © Nicholas A. Tonelli

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# turmoil, sadness, and utter stillness to New Jersey town

by Paula J. Botch

*"I told them I have a shotgun by the door . . . I still own my property and I intend to die here."*

Imagine thriving towns founded in colonial times, communities bustling with homes and families, churches and businesses.

Imagine suddenly being told by the government that you had to abandon everything you hold dear.

Imagine all the places you treasure being lost to a watery grave, drowned on purpose.

Imagine the turmoil and sadness.

Imagine utter stillness

Our very own Quabbin communities know the story all too well. It never crossed my mind that other places encountered similar experiences. And then I stumbled across Walpack.

A mostly agricultural community, its history dates back to the 1700s and Dutch roots. The story of Walpack, a Sussex County ghost town in the Delaware River Valley of New Jersey, became prominent with the proposed controversial mid-twentieth century Tocks

Island Project. The Tocks Island proposal ended up mired in myriad details of government and politics, possibility and necessity, commercial interests and conservation ideals that happened at ground level to the town and its people.

Flooding along the Delaware River occurred several times over the early part of the twentieth century with proposals for damming the river as early as the 1930s. After massive flooding, property damage, and loss of life from Hurricanes Connie and Diane in 1955, the door opened for another run at a dam project. In 1962, the US Congress authorized the federal Army Corps of Engineers to build a dam and reservoir along the Delaware River running between Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

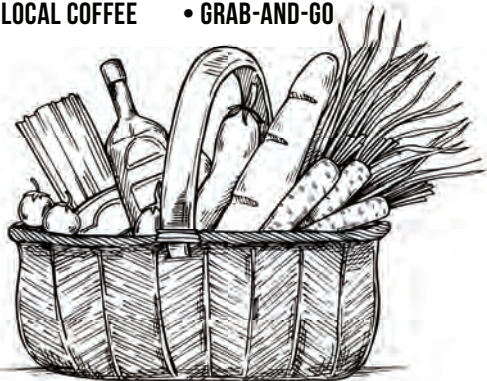
Six miles above the Delaware River Gap, the dam would be sixty feet above the river and between

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# climate effects, invasive insects and fungi

by Jonathan von Ranson

The Quabbin reservation, that relatively natural, almost remote accidental wilderness, has a beauty in places that's pristine, powerful: cathedral-like stands that include trees from thirty inches to four feet in diameter. Sadly, though, even aside from logging, a long-time bone of contention, the Quabbin's forests, like those of the towns surrounding the reservation, are suffering the gathering consequences of modern excess.

Threats include invasive insects and fungi—invaders let in by global trade . . . but also stress from the climate effects of gases released over the last ten or fifteen decades by a still unabating level of industrial activity.

Problems mount in number, and interact, and whole species fail to thrive, even die. All agree: the stands may not remain recognizable for very long. "It's going to be a struggle to keep them in this state, under these conditions," commented Bruce Spencer, retired longtime chief forester for the Metropolitan District Commission, predecessor to the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority that governs Quabbin.




The American chestnut disappeared from the Quabbin watershed more than fifty years ago.  
public domain photo from the internet.

Given how tightly the global economy has the bit between its teeth, the lag time to develop strategies to deal with the consequences, and Nature's sometimes leisurely self-healing process, Spencer and others can imagine the Quabbin losing familiar climax tree species one by one and becoming a shadow of its present self.

"When I started fifty years ago," the tall, laconic New Salem forester said, "most of the local

tree species had been here when European settlement occurred—except the American chestnut and elm, which were already gone. Today, the species we're losing, like beech—it's almost gone. Hemlock, maple—all the species—but hemlock is next." Hemlock, he said, "is dying from one end of the reservoir to the other. Then, ash, when the emerald borer gets here. It's something else that's killing it now."

Before he retired, Spencer said, he "saw a decline of white pine from needle cast fungus. It attacks and leaves very thin crowns, worst in dense stands. The southern pine beetle," he added, "is coming."



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# threaten Quabbin reservation tree species

“That leaves the oaks and birches. And oaks have several moths after them. On oaks on the Massachusetts islands,” he said, “gypsy moth caterpillars did a lot of bad stuff. If we have another dry spring, we’ll be in more serious trouble.” Dry springs because the fungus that controls gypsy moths requires moist conditions.

Much rides on the performance of natural agents like that fungus—*Entomophaga maimaiga*. Itself alien to these shores, it was imported from Japan in the early 1900s specifically to control the gypsy moth. It languished for decades but finally took hold to end the great gypsy moth infestation of the early eighties. That’s a process I experienced first-hand, from my home in a forest cabin. For the first couple of years it felt like a battlefield. Finally, well into the third year, I noticed the caterpillars hanging, bent to a right angle, dying. The virus had infected their gut.

I’d felt a gulf between myself and the other species, and it was around that time that it was breached—first with our cat. Willie figured he could play me by pretending not to understand—or maybe he wanted to annoy this *sapiens*, this supposed owner. One day I picked up on his dumb-cat act and impatiently called him on it. From that moment a respect began to develop that I think was mutual.

I hated those hairy red and black worms raining frass, or excrement, on us while defoliating the whole visible world. My partner and I squished,



Gypsy moth caterpillars did a lot of bad stuff, say Quabbin region foresters. public domain photo from the internet.

swatted, and swore randomly at the invading army. One day, though, I took a better look at one little foot soldier climbing a twig. Up close, it was actually quite beautiful, and, though many-legged, it moved up the branch somehow recognizably. I touched it with my finger, and it recoiled exactly as I would have if I’d been unexpectedly poked by a huge

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# learning about fabulous fungi

by Laurie Smith

Have you ever driven down a country road and seen clumps of mushrooms growing on a tree or hiking in the woods and seen a variety of unique and colorful mushrooms on the forest floor? Did you ever wonder what they were, if they were poisonous, if they were edible, or how they grew?

Until I was ten, I lived in an area of Athol close to the Harugari Woods near Hapgood and Chestnut streets. Although private property, people have walked and hiked through the land for many decades, and when I was a child, my family foraged mushrooms there.

We had an expansive garden then, in the 1970s and 1980s, as did my relatives who lived in the same neighborhood. We fished, gardened, canned, and preserved, making almost everything at home. We also collected mushrooms every fall in the woods near our home. We usually added them to my Italian-American father's homemade spaghetti sauce. I have fond memories of being a young child walking in those woods

with my parents in the rain, looking for slimy yellow buttons in the soil.

The study of mushrooms, or mycology, has gained popularity. Most people looking to collect wild mushrooms are foragers, herbalists, and restaurateurs. Some new mushroom hunters simply want to spend time outside in nature and discover its beauty.

If you have never been mushrooming, do not begin without an experienced and knowledgeable guide. Never guess at the identity of a mushroom. Because some mushrooms can poison, never eat a questionable one.

For proper identification, experienced mushroom hunters learn both common and scientific names. In the Quabbin area and throughout New England, medicinal species grow, such as Chaga (*Inonotus obliquus*) and Turkey Tail (*Trametes versicolor*). Medicinal mushrooms build the immune system and have cancer-fighting properties.

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advertisement signed by Hattie Nestel of Athol

painting © Candace Anderson of Petersham

## Adam's Apples a visual haiku

by Ami Fagin

Emotional mind states, observations of day to day reality, and the cheekier flashes of life's paradoxes are all fodder for visual haiku, according to artist Ami Fagin. Visual Haiku came as a sudden inspiration of daily watercolor meditative expressions.

Ami created Visual Haiku #42, "Adam's Apples," when her neighbor, Adam Laipson, brought up a basket of apples from his orchard for Amy and her husband, Wayne, to enjoy. The apples on their kitchen table made a "charming subject for a visual haiku," said Amy.

Amy Fagin (who works sometimes as Ami Fagin) specializes in traditional manuscript illumination at her 20th Century Illuminations print studio in New Salem. Author of *Beyond Genocide*, she is an independent scholar in genocide studies.



© Ami Fagin

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## THE QUABBIN REGION IN SHAYS'S REBELLION OF 1786-1787

by J. R. Greene

Since college—based protest movements of the 1960s, we have seen other widespread protests in the United States. As with the Tea Party movement beginning in 2009, Occupy Wall Street a few years later, and “resist-the-president” protests of 2017, Americans have often formed groups to agitate for or against government policies or actions.

An armed rebellion took place in central and western Massachusetts 230 years ago. It had a great influence on the formation of our national system of government.

In 1786, many farmers in central and western Massachusetts suffered from effects of the economic depression after the Revolutionary War ended. Continental paper currency issued by the weak Confederation government proved almost worthless, and state notes issued by Massachusetts traded at a large discount. So-called specie (silver) and gold coins rarely surfaced in rural parts of the state, although eastern Massachusetts creditors often demanded specie in payment.


To raise enough money to pay for government functions, Massachusetts levied several taxes in the mid

1780s. Sums owed could be partially paid with items ranging from cattle to nails, but impoverished farmers did not find it easy to pay taxes. That difficulty and debts to local businessmen and other private parties resulted in foreclosure sales ordered by courts to address debts. Some farmers gathered to try to block courts from holding sessions where foreclosures would be ordered.

Citizens of Athol voted in early 1786 to instruct their selectmen to petition the state to suspend the next sitting of the court in Worcester to give debtors relief. Voters of Greenwich and Pelham also petitioned the legislature to provide relief for indebted farmers.


Daniel Shays, a farmer born in Hopkinton in 1746 who served as a captain in the Revolutionary War, resigned his commission in 1780 to return to his home in Brookfield. He moved his family to a farm in what would soon become the East Parish of Pelham (later Prescott). He headed Pelham's militia company by 1786. Shays did not do very well with his new farm and fell heavily into debt.

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Captain Daniel Shays's former home stood on a Pelham hillside in 1898 when Charles Oscar Parmenter included it in his *History of Pelham, Massachusetts, from 1758-1898*. By the beginning of creation of Quabbin Reservoir in the 1920s, only the cellar hole remained, where it can be found on what has become known as Prescott Peninsula

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## hoods up and HEMIs exposed during cruise

by Kathryn Chaisson

During the season for warm weather outdoor activities, towns north and south of Quabbin Reservoir uphold long-standing traditions by hosting family-friendly events. From the Belchertown Fair to Orange's Celebrate the Harvest, the mix often features vintage vehicles. Once weather turns favorable, you may pass a Ford Model A traveling through the back roads of Petersham, view a Plymouth Businessman's Coupe at the Barre Lions Club car show, or, on a Wednesday night in Athol, spot a gold GTO with vertical headlights heading for the Market Basket parking lot to join a gathering of a hundred plus classic cars hosted by the North Quabbin Cruisers.

*... be-bop-a-lula, she's my baby ...*

Oldies music matching the era of many of the show cars overlaps onlookers' remarks as they stroll past lines of cars in a spectrum of colors—baby blue, bright pink, shiny black, lime green, lipstick red, raspberry, faded, and rust. Their eyes follow unique, attractive favorites: the curvy profile of the Studebaker, a Ford Mustang with its hallmark racing horse adornment, an endearing Volkswagen Beetle. Hood ornaments resembling rocket ships indicate popular space-age designs featured from the late 1950s to early 1960s. For some vintage vehicles, original characteristics of a different time remain: running boards, porthole windows, push-down door

handles (a far cry from push button remotes), whitewall tires and chrome—lots of chrome.

An assortment of makes and models dot the lineup, among them a scattered collection of aerial names: The Hornet, Javelin, Cyclone, and the Comet.

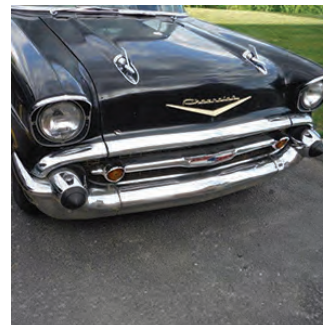
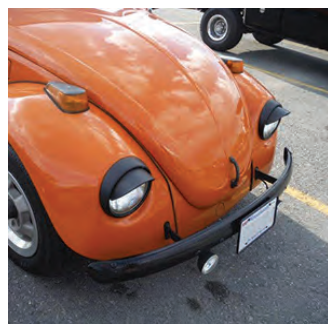
*... he's a clown, that Charlie Brown ...*

Hoods up and HEMIs exposed prompt a shift from small talk to high-gear dialogue about mechanical experiences and advice, tastes, memories, and dream cars of long ago youth. A car collector quizzes his girlfriend on the differences between the '55, '56, and '57 Chevy based on headlight design.

Added decorations hint about a car's possessor. "Get In, Shut Up, and Hold On" belongs to a '68 Camaro owner. "Live Free or Try" encourages another. "In Memory of Vietnam" brings a serious tone. A "YI Work" license plate triggers a knowing chuckle in those who have invested time and money into their own car restorations, which may include flames, pin stripes, more chrome, and mechanical or cosmetic overhauls.

The popular tradition of hanging fuzzy dice from the rearview mirror, once the sign of a rebellious driver, now speaks of a nostalgic emblem.

Stickers on windshields and windows showcase an automotive scrapbook of numerous show attendances.







## nights

At the annual Adirondack Nationals in New York, it's not uncommon to encounter more than one familiar face from a Quabbin-area town.

*... walking hand in hand... the night was so exciting...*

The pink and orange sky preludes nightfall as one by one, the revving engines and rumbling of horsepower signals the departure for the last ride of the day.

Kathryn Chaisson is on the hunt for a 1948 or 1949 Ford F1 pickup.




Hardwick Road shimmers with autumn light in a painting in pastels by Gail Oswald of Royalston.

Car parts include, from left, top, hood ornaments from a late 1940s-early 1950s Mercury; a 1930s Dodge Ram; a mid twentieth century Ford Thunderbird; a 1950s unknown vehicle and a Ford Model A; from left, bottom, grilles from a 1955 Chevy Bel Air, 1970s Volkswagen Beetle, 1957 Chevy Bel Air 1950 Studebaker, and 1955 Chevy Bel Air.

Photos by  
Kathryn Chaisson


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# traditional fall festivals and fairs

by Chaynna Campbell

Walking in New England's fall foliage while socializing with vendors and patrons at an autumn fair invites cozy, settling thoughts of the season upon us. Like New Salem's Hilltown Brewfest and New Braintree's Town Fair, festivals and fairs feature moments of special interest. Harvest and fall jamborees kick off the autumn season with zestful spirit.

The North Quabbin Fall Festival, billed as a block party, features a parade and an assortment of games along with face painting, street food, artisan food, and booths with local crafts. The annual event takes place this year from 9 am to 4 pm Saturday, September 16 on Main Street in Athol.

Also taking place from 9 am to 5 pm Saturday, September 16 is the third annual Christian Festival at the Forster Farm in Orange on 60 Chestnut Hill Road, site where the Garlic and Arts Festival will take place two weeks later. Anticipated events include music, tag

sales, child/youth activities, speakers, and food. Staff and volunteers offer the event free of charge, including free parking.

Belchertown will host its 160<sup>th</sup> Belchertown Fair and parade from 4 pm Friday, September 22 through 5 pm Sunday, September 24 with the theme, "The Fairest of Them All." The parade of the fairest will pass by the town common, site of the fair.

The North Quabbin Garlic and Arts Festival will celebrate its annual two-day homage to peace, love, and garlic from 10 am to 5 pm Friday, September 23 and Saturday, September 24, rain or shine, at the Forster Farm, 60 Chestnut Hill Road in Orange. The festival will feature a giant "Earth is in Our Hands" globe for the first time as well as an accompanying parade and theatre piece. The festival offers family-friendly workshops, demos, and games along with garlic-lover's cuisines and local artists' creations. Admission is \$5.00 per person,

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# dot the Quabbin region landscape

including parking. Festival proceeds support the festival's community grant program for local art, agriculture, health, and energy projects. Travel and parking directions are available at [www.garlicandarts.org](http://www.garlicandarts.org)

Rutland's Global Festival at Heifer Farm will take place from 10 am to 4 pm Saturday, September 30 and Sunday, October 1. The festive weekend features international crafts and games in the Global Village at Heifer Farm, live music, delicious food, face painting, and hay rides with live bands, farm-to-table lunch, and the Daily Dale Perkins Horse Show at 1 pm. Admission is \$10.00 per person, rain or shine, with events modified in case of rain.

The town of Erving will celebrate its annual Fall Festival on Saturday, September 30. The event features a bouncy tent for toddlers, trampoline bounce pad/Euro bounce, rock wall, and inflatable obstacle course. Local vendors, food, and face painting add to the day's fun from 9 am to 5 pm. In the event of bad weather, the Fall Festival will take place on Sunday, October 1.

Featuring live music, barbecue, and locally grown farm foods, the Old 78 Farm Fall Festival will take place on Sunday, October 7 at 823 Orange Road in Warwick. Craft and veggie vendors will line up with family-friendly activities including balloon creations, face painting, and a few of the farm's animals available for your viewing pleasure. Advance tickets are \$10. Tickets at the gate are \$15.

New Salem's annual Hilltown Brewfest in early September will feature an afternoon of regional bands, raffles, beer, wine, cider tasting, and local food. The event's proceeds will benefit the New Salem Fire Department and fire departments and emergency services in Wendell, Petersham, and Shutesbury. Rick and Lori Oliver, proprietors of New Salem General Store, founded the Brewfest.

Hardwick's Community Fair, one of the oldest in the country at 255 years and counting, went off in August.

Chaynna Campbell is a free-lance writer.

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## Quabbin region dance studios offer range of classes

# DANCE LIKE NOBODY'S WATCHING . . .

by Sharon Harmon

### Studio in the Pines

A hidden little gem in the forest, Studio in the Pines of Rutland offers instruction in ballet, tap, jazz, and ballroom dancing, fitness classes, Zumba, and yoga.

Owner Marcia Warrington and I had an enchanting conversation. The delightful blonde, blue-eyed, busy woman opened the studio in September, 1995, and boasts about a hundred students between the ages of three and eighty.

Warrington's first dance school operated in West Boylston in 1975. She left to perform in New York City and later decided to head to Rutland where she and her artist husband run the General Rufus Putnam House Bed and Breakfast. Later, she built the Studio in the Pines. Her dance classes do not have recitals. "I like to think

of it as a school that prepares a child to perform lessons that last a lifetime," she said. "I like to provide lessons for children that teach them how to think and solve problems."

Open from September to May, Studio in the Pines offered fitness classes throughout the summer and a culture camp that provided sessions in pottery, art, glass-making, table setting with different daily themes, learning manners, swimming in the pool on the gracious beautiful grounds, and even a sleepover the last day in Warrington's bed and breakfast with great online reviews. "Small and intimate, it wasn't your cookie cutter day camp," Warrington stated.

Open 4pm-9pm Monday-Thursday and 9am-1pm Saturday.

Closed Friday and Sunday

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### Get Up and Dance

Dancing with the feet is one thing but dancing with the heart is another, according to Sara Nydam, owner of Get Up and Dance. Before becoming proprietor, she had worked at the studio for five years. "When I was eight years

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# OR DANCE LIKE EVERYBODY'S WATCHING

old, I went to see the Alvin Alley dancers in Boston, and it was then that I knew I wanted to be a dancer," she said. Sara is a warm, vivacious, and dedicated instructor.

The studio offers dance classes entitled Mommy & Me, creative movement, ballet, tap, jazz, hip-hop, modern, lyrical, Afro, pointe, and Zumba.

Students ranging in age from eighteen months to eighty-one hail from New Braintree, Barre, Hubbardston, Oakham, and Petersham. Annual recitals take place at Eagle Hill School in Hardwick.

"Every time I dance, I turn into a better version of me," proclaims a sign on one of Sara's studio walls.

Open 2-8:30 pm Tuesday to Friday and 8:30 am to noon Saturday from the Thursday after Labor Day until the second week of June

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## The Dance Studio

The Dance Studio in the North Quabbin is located on 34 North Main Street in Orange.

The motto is *Train the Body • Nurture the Soul*. The studio has been part of the community for more than

thirty-five years, beginning with Brenda Schatz's independent dance studio. The Dance Studio hosts the Inside/Out Dance Company, with members performing in Starry Starry Night, a New Year's Eve event in downtown Orange and at the autumn Garlic and Arts Festival on Chestnut Hill Road in Orange.

Owner Ingrid Schatz took over the business from her mother, Brenda. Ingrid loves to create choreography, has a BFA in dance, and enjoys the business.

"I love being a studio owner," she said, "and I love living in the area."

The studio has 185 students and growing with two studios in the building and opening a third soon. Fifty-eight ongoing classes include ballet, modern, jazz, tap, Afro, hip-hop, creative movement, and boys' hip-hop and tap. Dance supplies can be purchased at the studio.

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# sweat lodge, farming help veterans with PTSD

by Ellen Woodbury

*All human beings are sacred whatever their culture, race or religion, whatever their capacities or incapacities and whatever their weaknesses or strengths may be. Each of us has an instrument to bring to the vast orchestra of humanity and each of us needs help to become all that we might be.*

—Jean Vanier

“We met at a Rowe Center Poetry weekend in 2004. He was a poet who could use power tools,” observed Pat Worth at her hundred-acre Greenfyre Farm on Gulf Road, Royalston.

“I told her I wanted to meet her spiritual teachers, and she said she wanted to meet mine,” added her partner, Michael Young.

So began a relationship that has produced a safe haven for animals and people. Oscar, an eight-year-old Great Pyrenees dog, accompanied us on our walk past an inviting cabin, a former tool shed. We reached the framework of the sweat lodge built by indigenous Malaseet friends from New Brunswick, Canada. The lodge consists of saplings cut and bent into a dome-like structure covered with blankets at the time of the sweat.

Inside the peace-filled main house, the couple explained how a sweat lodge ceremony can help vets with post-traumatic stress syndrome.

“Vets lose their individuality in the military and often have difficulty ‘fitting in’ upon coming home,” said Michael.

Some Native American traditions require a purification before returning to society after war. According to tradition, a sweat lodge serves as a welcome with the potential of purifying a vet of his or her moral wounds.



Michael Young and Pat Worth provide sweat lodges to help returning US military veterans who have post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)  
photo by Ellen Woodbury

In a safe, dark, anonymous atmosphere, the ceremony lasts about an hour: an hour of sweating, sharing stories, praying.

“You pray in the manner you were taught,” according to Pat.

As the pourer, Michael adds water to heated stones in the fire pit at the center of the lodge after everyone has found a place to sit on the ground inside the enclosure. Adding to a sense of community, is the healing power of nature which surrounds the lodge.

Pat’s gentle way of answering questions and arranging beautiful foods brought by participants create a safe space for people to connect with others.

“All we do here is our way of giving back,” said Pat. “It’s the circle of life: to receive and to give.”

Although participants join a sweat lodge free of charge, Pat and Michael welcome donations of food, money, and firewood.

“How did you learn to do this?” I asked.

“My teachers found me,” Pat answered, and Michael agreed.

“When we do this work, we are doing the universal work coming down through the ages,” said Michael.

The two offer their own blend of spirituality from many teachers and spiritual traditions and welcome others’ beliefs.

continued on page 42

# Nature's Nuances

by Clare Green

## Yarrow

### *Achillea Millefolium*

As the abundant and gracious summer eases into fall, remember to harvest the herb yarrow for wintertime use. Yarrow sang its brilliant anthem all season long. It surely shouts its herbful glory in the silent reverie of blossoming.

Have you noticed yarrow growing from two to three feet tall along the roadside in poor, sandy soil or as a weed in your field or garden? Yarrow resides in the composite family of flowers. It is the tall umbrella-like cluster of tiny, white flowers with alternate feathery and delicate leaves. The leaves appear as finely toothed segments. The clustered ray and disc-like flowers are sometimes pink. You can detect its pungent odor by rubbing its leaves slightly between your fingers to smell its scent.

Considered a bitter, yarrow has a strong taste when brewed as tea. Carol Joyce, community herbalist of White Buffalo Herbs of Warwick, relays her recipe to make *yarrow tea*:

*Put one teaspoon dried yarrow OR one tablespoon fresh yarrow flowers into a mug. Pour one cup boiling water over. Let steep for ten to fifteen minutes. Strain. Sip and enjoy.*

Joyce offers herbal classes from her Still-Willin Herb Farm in Warwick. Contact her at [whitebuffalo-herbs@yahoo.com](mailto:whitebuffalo-herbs@yahoo.com).

Since it is a bitter, you may combine yarrow with any mint to soften its taste.

The ancient Greeks and Romans

appreciated plants and used them as medicines.

Tradition says that Achilles used yarrow to treat his soldiers' bleeding wounds and thus the genus origin of the official name, *Achillea millefolium*.

Collect the most potent upper leaves and flowers of yarrow, and dry them for winter. Drinking yarrow tea will help relieve a fever, reduce cold symptoms, increase blood circulation, or cleanse the liver.

Yarrow tea also provides a good mouthwash for canker sores. Apply yarrow tea to relieve burns, bruises, or other skin irritations. Or chew it to relieve a toothache.

Some have called yarrow's pungent leaves "old man's pepper." While in Sweden, the botanist Carl Linnaeus said that beer brewed with yarrow was more intoxicating than beer brewed with hops.

Joyce says it best, "Yarrow is an awesome herb!" but, "Be cautious when using herbs, consult with your doctor. Pregnant women should not drink yarrow tea."

Lynne Hartman of Hartman's Herbs on Old Dana Road, Barre, off Route 32 offers a venue for events or leisure walkabouts amidst the beauty of herbs and flowers where yarrow grows freely. Lynne has amassed a wealth of herbal and floral wisdom.

Clare Green, educator and naturalist, invites folks to visit her woodland labyrinth and fairy cottage. Her herb primer, *Hearts and Hands on Herbs*, is available for purchase at the Petersham Craft Center.



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# forest specialists seek to eradicate pests and diseases hurting

continued from page 11

digit. I realized with a shock that I couldn't hate that *particular* caterpillar—it acted and reacted too much like me and mine.

However lovable they may be individually, the pests and diseases that, with our inadvertent help, are threatening Massachusetts trees aren't just deadly, they're numerous and varied, as I learned from Ken Gooch, forest health program supervisor for the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation. As he listed them, they include the Asian longhorn beetle, emerald ash borer, hemlock woolly adelgid, beetle cast disease, winter moth, gypsy moth, oak wilt, Dutch elm disease, and "a plethora of fungi." He mentioned ongoing studies, experimental trials, and whole publicly administered programs in response to some if not all of them. However, he added, "we're playing catch-up."

A major push that Gooch now oversees is an eradication program in Worcester County for the Asian longhorn beetle. That infestation started in the late eighties in New York City, he said, having come in from China on wood packing material. In 2008, the Asian longhorn was found in Massachusetts. In certain areas

of the state it's already declared eradicated, but where it remains, survey staffers climb trees looking for the tap-sized exit hole of the beetle or its egg sites. When they find one, Gooch said, "we remove the tree, burn it, and grind the stump."

He called the work "difficult, hard, tedious." It's also expensive. In Massachusetts, according to Gooch, the federal government is spending between eleven and thirteen million dollars per year on the longhorn beetle alone.

A different strategy is being used against the emerald ash borer. It involves those aforesaid biological control agents—organisms that feed on the pest. First, Gooch explained, his personnel "find out where the disease is, using traps, girdling trees to stress them, cutting them down and examining them." Workers also go to the nests of a specific variety of wasp "to see what it's bringing back." Such clues to pests' whereabouts tell scientists where to release the biological control agents, which he told me are propagated at labs.

Finally, he said, "We see if the [organism] establishes by continuing to monitor it." If it does, chances improve of limiting that pest's population.

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## native tree populations

Gooch's unit does such treatments on hemlock . . . as well as some pesticide applications. "This is the first year the state ever gave us money to do pesticide treatments," he said—"only on DCR property." The hemlock woolly adelgid and elongated hemlock scale are the chief threats to that conifer, one of the most useful construction woods in the Northeast. For the other ubiquitous New England conifer, the white pine, "the state is trying to figure out the problems," he said. "It's not just needle cast. There are fungal diseases and insects. The US Forest Service gave us a small grant to monitor" the threats to that beautiful and distinctive species with its easily worked wood.

Might these interventions someday restore forests to health? Gooch first responded positively: "We're going to eradicate the Asian longhorn beetle," an outcome that will help maples, birch, ash, and several other species. Beyond that, he would only say, "Our forests will always be green. If one species dies, another will take over. When chestnut died, oak and pine took over. Where beech died, red maple has filled in." He acknowledged that the trees' enemies "will spread. You're not going to stop them. But we know our strategies can slow down the spread of, for example, the emerald ash borer. At some point after my lifetime," he said, "I expect things will stabilize, and there will be outbreaks, then they'll go away. Outbreaks, and go away."

I asked Robert Leverett to weigh in on the situation and the future of the Quabbin forests. Nationally recognized as the go-to expert on old growth forests, he said, "Trees are getting hammered." His opinion is that "we're probably going to lose species—even in our lifetime." As to what to do: "For the long range," he said, "it's better leaving it to Mother Nature." Letting species "duke it out," he explained, "is ideal." But because the problem is so acute, because human social factors seem to make that decades- and centuries-long process politically unthinkable, he feels "the better course is to save individual trees while research is working out the genetics of a broader solution. Find causes, focus on looking for clues."

Maybe so, but doesn't it also involve...me? I remember the gypsy moth caterpillar on that branch and how familiar, and human, in a way, its behavior was. Every day, any one of these pests and I are similarly eating, digesting, pooping, finding our way, recoiling from threats. On



Bruce Spencer, retired Quabbin reservation chief forester, surveys a hemlock forest decimated by woolly adelgid.

photo © Jonathan von Ranson

the other hand, Joe or Mary Caterpillar probably can't similarly reflect on *their* kinship with *me*—one clue that I may not really be consigned to behave like them!

Though doing so seems almost illegal, I can and do go AWOL from our insatiable, invading global human "army." As a less enthusiastic servant of the global economy I begin to face the well-known crisis. No longer do I help stretch the global ecology so thin it recoils with a great snap—our version of The Dread Fungus. I draw my neighbors aside and talk seriously with them about local focus of our work, about how attracted I am by indigenous simplicity, agriculture, and trade.

That's really how I'm different from the caterpillar I touched. Being the species I am, I can choose to acquire things and accumulate financial cushion, but I can also recognize a greater wealth through my infinitely expandable heart, my appreciation of natural beauty and growing sense of *system function* on teeming, chattering, splashy, breezy, green, warm Earth. There's a *family belonging* I can recover—the family of life. A place where my heart and intelligence can merge.

That shift, maybe, is what the crisis is really about—a call to expanded empathy and imagination. I feel it dissolving my own fear. Pretty sure it could draw many another toward participation in the fine-tuned totality, as I feel it drawing me. To choose such a way would amount to a biological control policy for our own lives and truly lift us above the other creatures. Qualify as human-worthy. And save the forests, and, ultimately, us.

Jonathan von Ranson, a longtime resident of Wendell, is a retired editor and stonemason.



# Captain Daniel Shays Leads Rebellious Farmers in 1780s Crusade

continued from Page 14

The first rebellious outbreak occurred in Northampton in August, 1786 when the insurgents shut down the courts. The state government reacted to news of the event with a proclamation from Governor James Bowdoin calling upon officials and citizens of the state to suppress "treasonable acts and assemblies." The legislature passed the Riot Act, which called for the arrest of participants in such demonstrations along with confiscation of their property. Shays and his associates set as their next goal prevention of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court session in Springfield in late September.

Getting wind of the plan, Governor Bowdoin ordered General William Shepard of Westfield to guard the Springfield courthouse with six hundred militiamen. Shays and his fellow regulators, as they called themselves, gathered in Springfield in late September. On the September 26, Shays and more than two thousand of his men appeared at the courthouse, seeking to prevent the court from sitting.

The request was denied, but no session took place that day due to the need to clear Shepard's troops from the

courthouse. The next day, no jurors could be found to serve at trials. The third day, court officials learned that a body of troops sent from the eastern part of the state to support Shepard's force deserted to the Shaysites.

The judges then left the court without sitting, and Shepard moved his men to the nearby armory. Having accomplished their goal of shutting down the court, Shays and his men dispersed and went home. After considering a march on Boston, Shays and his men returned to Springfield on December 26 and prevented another court from holding session there.

Lacking state funds to do so, Governor Bowdoin sought contributions from eastern Massachusetts businessmen to raise and equip a force of 4,500 men to suppress Shays and other rebels in the state. When the army was raised, the governor appointed General Benjamin Lincoln to head it. In late January, 1787, Lincoln's troops marched to Worcester for a scheduled sitting of the court. State forces then headed toward Springfield to support Shepard's defense of the arsenal there.

Along with Luke Day of West Springfield and his insurgents, Shays decided to attack the arsenal before Lincoln and his troops arrived. On January 25, Shays's force



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attacked the arsenal. Due to a mix-up, Day's force did not join Shays, who was routed with several casualties. Some of Shays's force deserted while he withdrew to the north, ending up in Pelham by January 30. There, a remnant of Luke Day's contingent joined Shays's reduced force and some men who later came over from New Braintree.

Even though Shays had set up a defense perimeter in Pelham, he and his men left that town on February 3 when they heard that Lincoln planned to attack them. Shays's forces fled northeast through Greenwich and what later became the town of Dana to Petersham. Upon hearing of Shays's flight, Lincoln ordered his troops to pursue them that evening.

A snowstorm blew up during the night, hampering Lincoln's men, but they surprised Shays's force in Petersham the next morning. Shays and his men fled the scene north towards Athol, many leaving their weapons and breakfast behind. After capturing about 150 of Shays's men, many of Lincoln's troops ate the insurgents' unfinished breakfasts. A marker in Petersham Center commemorates the engagement.

Shays and Day fled northwest through Athol to Warwick, where they arrived on February 4. Lincoln wanted to pursue them but was asked to assist in putting down insurgents in Berkshire County, a task he accomplished during the following month. Shays and his remaining forces left Warwick on February 5 and fled into New Hampshire and Vermont. Shays ended up at Sparta in upstate New York, where he settled until his death in 1825. By mid 1787, newly-elected Governor John Hancock pardoned the insurgents.

While many residents of western Massachusetts participated in Shays's Rebellion, many stayed loyal to the state, some even joining forces suppressing the uprising (including twenty from Athol). The late Athol town historian, William G. Lord, notes that former insurgents swore oaths of allegiance to the state in the following numbers from eventual Quabbin towns: Athol, 1 (Captain John Oliver); New Salem, 75; Orange, 13; Petersham, 30; Phillipston, 14; and Royalston, 11. A history of Hardwick notes that sixty men from that town signed the oath, including insurgent leaders Benjamin Converse and Captain Hazeltine. From Pelham, 110 men, including Dr. Nehemiah Hinds (or Hines), signed the oath. Dr. Hinds's cousin, Joseph Hinds of Greenwich, was one of 54 men from that town to sign the oath. Other

area towns with large numbers of insurgents were Belchertown, Shutesbury, Ware, and Wendell.

Captain Park Holland, who served with the state troops against Shays, wrote a fitting epitaph to the rebellion:

... there are many things to be considered before we condemn the misled followers of Daniel Shays: their leaders were ignorant and many of them deceived. Our government was a new and untried ship, with many joints that needed oiling... with no chart of experience to guide us, nor map of the past, by which to lay course. We, who stood by the side of these men in many hard fought battles [of the Revolutionary War] with a powerful enemy and witnessed their hardships and sufferings borne without complaint, would much rather remember the good service they rendered their country, than dwell upon what historians have set down as a black spot upon their country's pages.

The rebellion influenced the state government to pass some reforms, including reducing salaries of state officials and lowering the number of sessions held by courts of common pleas. The rebellion had a greater effect on the thirteen colonies as a whole, as many historians viewed the rebellion as one cause of the constitutional convention held in Philadelphia in 1787.

Both George Washington and Alexander Hamilton were appalled at the ability of rebels to shut down courts and the inability of the Confederation government to assist Massachusetts in suppressing the rebellion. Among other factors, reaction to Shays's Rebellion led to adoption of the federal Constitution in 1788 with more power authorized to the central government than to the states.

Daniel Shays's old farm, located in what became the town of Prescott in 1822, was owned by Ansel Johnson in the 1870s but remained only a cellar hole by the time initial construction of Quabbin Reservoir began in the 1920s. The cellar hole remains on Prescott Peninsula, a section of the reservoir watershed off limits to the public.

The greatest monument to the memory of Daniel Shays is the section of US Route 202 named after him between Athol and Belchertown when it was built to bypass the reservoir in the 1930s.

*The author acknowledges two major sources for this article: "The Ballad of Daniel Shays" by Michael Paulin (1986) and History of Athol Massachusetts by William G. Lord (1953).*

J. R. Greene, a lifelong resident of Athol, is the author of twenty books, sixteen of which relate to the history of Quabbin Reservoir and the towns destroyed to build it.,



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## **COMING EVENTS**

**SEPTEMBER 22 • 7 pm**  
**Dale Monette**  
**"Secret Lives of the Quabbin Watershed"**

**SEPTEMBER 30 • 11 am-3 pm**  
**James Franklin Gilman Art Show**

**OCTOBER 5 • 7 pm**  
**Chris Daley**  
**"The Roaring Twenties"**

## **at Athol Historical Society** **paintings by itinerant**

**by Marcia Gagliardi and Debra Ellis**

Once upon a time before phones took pictures of everything under the sun and cameras became cheap enough for anyone to own, itinerant artists recorded daily life by making pictures of people, places, and things. Working in pastels, oils, watercolors, charcoal, crayon, and other media, they trolled the landscape for salable subject matter and, sometimes, places to stay while they made their art.

Among nineteenth-century itinerant artists in the region that eventually became known as Quabbin were:

- Ruth Henshaw Bascom (1772-1848), active around Worcester, Massachusetts, and superintendent of Phillipston's central school
- Erastus Salisbury Field (1805-1900), born in Leverett and sometimes working in Ware
- James Franklin Gilman (1850-1929), active in Athol, Hubbardston, Orange, New Salem, North Dana, and Wendell
- Thomas Wilder (1791-1862), active for a time in Athol, Oakham, and Ware

(See portraits of Bascom and Field on page 55)

Long considered the premier itinerant artist of the Quabbin area, James Franklin Gilman created charcoal, crayon, oil, pastel, and watercolor portraits and representations of scenes, according to Adele Godchaux Dawson, Gilman's biographer, and J. R. Greene, Quabbin historian.

Collectors prize Gilman's paintings. Often from slightly distant, possibly fanciful vantage points, the artist's images conjure long bygone years for modern viewers. Late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century moments on a farm, near a factory, at the fairgrounds spring to life through Gilman's highly objective style. Though attentive to detail, Gilman leaves space for imagination to interpret features or activities lightly touched by the artist's brush.

Raised in Vermont, Gilman began his painting career in Billerica, Massachusetts, before moving back to Vermont, where he painted for years near Montpelier. He lived in Massachusetts during his final forty or so years. He became a Christian Scientist in the 1870s after meeting the practice's founder, Mary Baker Eddy, whose portrait he painted.

# James Franklin Gilman on display September 30



Using pastels, James Franklin Gilman painted Hubbardston's *John Allen Farm* in 1896.  
photo from *James Franklin Gilman, nineteenth century painter* by Adele Godchaux Dawson

From 11 am to 3 pm Saturday, September 30, Athol Historical Society will display an array of Gilman's works, assembled from owners in the Quabbin region, Vermont, and Boston, including the Christian Science Society. First organized in 1976 by the late Pauline Whipps of Athol, the Gilman show, as fans call it, fills the historical society easels, walls, and pews every few years.

Greene writes:

Gilman left behind more than three hundred paintings and sketches of New England life and scenery. Gilman was a classic itinerant, wandering from place to place, often paying for his room and board with a painting.

Gilman could do most farm chores well, which suggests a rural upbringing. He often did work at the farms he painted.

Dawson reports that Gilman painted farms with their owners often at work in rolling north central Massachusetts cleared land with animals and wagons busy in gentle landscapes featuring clearly detailed representations of known houses, outbuildings, and barns.

In the mid twentieth century, residents of Athol, Orange, Royalston, Petersham, and Barre may have seen another artist Barbara Ellis (1910-2005) at her

continued on page 44

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@ Barre Library, 19 Pleasant St.

Nov. 2, 7 pm: God's Seven Houses on Barre Common  
@ Barre Senior Center, 557 S Barre Rd

Feb. 11, 2 pm: Black History Month, Oney Judge Story  
@ Barre Library, 19 Pleasant St.

May 3, 7 pm: Annual Meeting @ the Society

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## ghostly New Jersey town similar to Quabbin drowned towns

continued from Page 9

four hundred and nine hundred feet wide to create a twelve-thousand-acre reservoir that would extend thirty-seven miles with depths up to 140 feet. Varying accounts note that flood control wasn't necessarily a top priority for the Tocks Island project. Other reasons included a clean water supply for New York City and Philadelphia, hydroelectric power, and a large recreation area.

To make way for the project, the Corps and National Park Service were authorized a budget for land acquisition and eminent domain. Although some people refused to leave, at least eight thousand were eventually evicted from their homes, businesses, and churches in both New Jersey and Pennsylvania towns. Homes in families for generations were condemned—that very word struck townspeople to the core of their beings. Many buildings, some a century or more old, were quickly demolished. Other homes left standing were eventually rented to newcomers as government funding faltered and the project lagged. Ultimately, renters were thrown out, too. In some cases, residents faced the threat of forced eviction by armed government agents.

After years of protests and actions by local people and groups from across the nation, Congress deauthorized the Tocks Island Project in 1992. Unlike the drowned Quabbin towns, Walpack exists. It is part of the spectacular Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area maintained by the National Park Service. Founded in 1984, Walpack Historical Society works diligently to maintain the history and memory of Walpack while preserving the legacy of the town, its people, and historic buildings. Some twenty people live in Walpack Township with an area of twenty-four square miles. No one lives on Main Street in Walpack Center.

If you have a chance to visit the Walpack area, the must-go place for dinner is the Walpack Inn. Way off the beaten path, the restaurant is rustic wood and beams, stone fireplaces and antler chandeliers. There's a greenhouse-glassed room where diners can view the Kittatinny Mountain Range and watch deer feeding just outside. Walpack Inn's motto: "We feed the deer and people, too."

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While enjoying a great meal at Walpack Inn, I fell for the story of Walpack. Waiting for dinner seating, I browsed a book table set up by the historical society and found myself swapping tales about Walpack and Quabbin with trustee Audrey Schwab. Cheerful, helpful, and informative, Audrey was surprised to learn about Quabbin's similar history. A kindred connection, the historical society made space in its library for literature about Quabbin Reservoir and our story.

In the Yeti Nest Films documentary *Ghost Waters*, survivors of the events in Walpack contemplate that, if not for the defunct Tocks Island Project, growth and development might eventually have overtaken the area. As with events leading to creation of Quabbin, many sacrificed a great deal, and yet, we and they find blessings of incredible beauty and grace in the accidental outcomes in our communities.

Audrey sums it up this way:

The personal legacies of the people of the Walpack area and the historic homes they built and called home represent a cultural gift to us all. Historians among us seek to preserve, protect and pass along their story as a remembrance of what once was here. The ordinary;

the vernacular; that part of ourselves that must never be forgotten.

For further information:

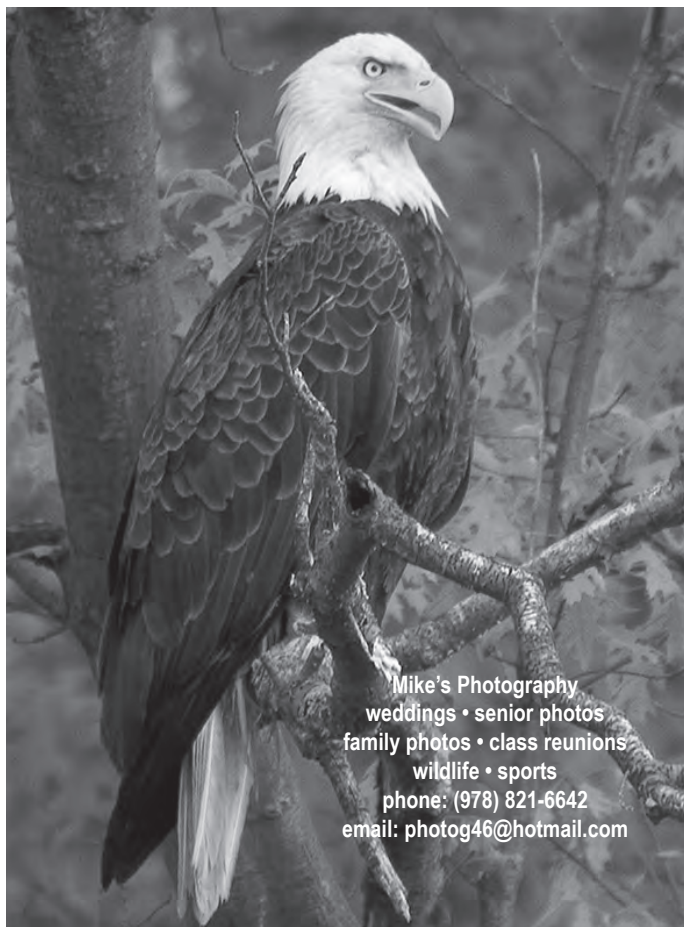
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Paula J. Botch is a writer and photographer who lives in Orange, Massachusetts. She enjoys traveling on occasion.

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# TV's *Castle Rock* set in downtown Orange location, location, location!!!

by Mark Wright

The world of real estate is not the only one where location reigns. For more than a century, movie makers in the US have taken their craft on the road to make magic for the silver screen and, later on, for television. At the beginning of the industry, making a film at an existing location offered more than buildings and vistas. It supplied one of the most critical components to film: illumination.

Film requires light for exposure, and early film required lots of light. Generally speaking, the only way to get that much light was from the sun. Outdoor locations in midday were common, but indoor locations, not so much. Today, we have the ability to light the way we please, when and where it's needed, making a location all about its visual texture, style, and relevance to a story.

Castle Rock is an oft-referenced and visited fictional town in Maine from the cannon of work by the much-loved author Stephen King. Given the town's

inhabitants proclivity for creating or attracting mayhem, it's a wonder anyone would live there. Nonetheless, it survives and most recently, Orange, Massachusetts, wears its costume. Orange's Central Square has been transformed into a post-industrial downtown down on its luck with closed shops and weary offices but clinging to life and hoping for that one thing that fully revives it.

Closely located in the Ball Street neighborhood behind town hall, there's a "hero house," where one of the main characters "resides." In addition to made-over Orange's Central Square and its collection of familiar storefronts from King's novels, the First Universalist Church provides the backdrop for part of the story while buildings that surround it lend the feeling and texture TV artists need to do their work.

It's almost always the case that no single community ends up able to provide all locations that a film or television show needs. That's certainly true for interiors,

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*Downtown Orange*, a mid-twentieth-century watercolor by the late Barbara Ellis captures the ambiance of the central square.  
painting used with permission of Constance Milusich

most of which are filmed in a specialized production studio facility. Even when a show or movie centers on a limited locale, it likely will not have all the buildings needed or available for filming. Such is the case with Castle Rock. Locations have been selected and scenes filmed

in several spots between Orange and the old Fort Devens, location of the only full-scale production studios in Massachusetts. The local television audience will recognize sites in Athol, Royalston, and several other North Quabbin towns when the series airs in the future. More locations for the show emerge as production continues.

It's exciting, this film business with its promise of exposure, economic impact, and, for some, a chance to spot themselves as extras in the show. What may be most exciting is having our communities be part of a new, enduring story that will be seen by millions.

As femme fatale Norma Desmond once said, "Nothing else! Just us, the cameras, and those wonderful people out there in the dark."

Mark Wright is executive director of North Quabbin Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau.



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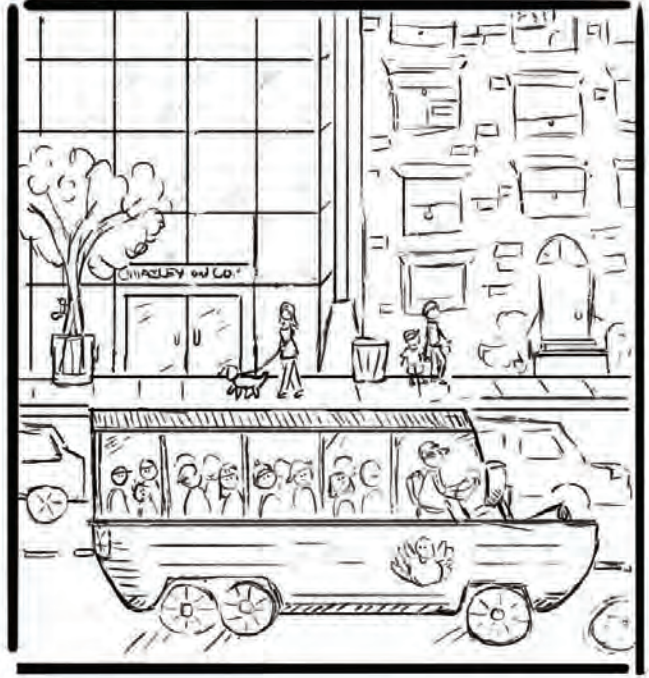
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# Let's go for a duck tour!



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cartoon © Emily Boughton



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## DANCE STUDIOS

continued from page 21

"People come from Athol, Gardner, Gill, Greenfield, Petersham, and Templeton," Ingrid said.

The Dance Studio is closed on Sundays. Check the website for the schedule.

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E-mail: [arielle@Limelightdancecenter.com](mailto:arielle@Limelightdancecenter.com)

Director: Arielle Lask

Sharon Harmon is a poet and freelance writer. She lives in Royalston.

## Quabbin region dance instructors demonstrate cool moves



Third-generation dancer Ingrid Schatz, top, has her students sitting in sync *en pointe* at Orange's The Dance Studio. Dancer-owner Sara Nydam leads students in a seated, arched pose, below.  
photos © Jennifer Sund, top, and Sharon Harmon, below.





Autumn fog fills Royalston's Birch Hill area.  
photo © John Burk.

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# mycologists identify treasure during woodland fungi forays

continued from page 12

Poisonous varieties such as Amanitas include the Death Cap (*Amanita phalloides*) and its cousin, the Destroying Angel. They contain amanitin, which causes death by shutting down the liver and kidneys. Also highly poisonous are the Jack o' Lanterns (*Omphalotus olearius*), often mistaken for gourmet edible Chanterelle species.

While it does not cause death, the chemical muscarine causes severe cramps and diarrhea, often requiring hospitalization. Some gourmet varieties of mushrooms that contain muscarine include the very popular hen of the woods (*Grifola frondosa*), which is also medicinal, and the Chanterelle (*Cantharellus cibarius*). Some Boston gourmet restaurants send foragers to the western part of our state to bring back delicacies to sell in their high-end establishments.

Hundreds of species of mushrooms sprout in the Quabbin area. The importance of caution and correct identifications is paramount. Books, field guides, and the internet provide potential sources of identification. *Edible and Medicinal Mushrooms of New England and Eastern Canada* offers a comprehensive guide to foragers, and foragers should consult more than one reference before ascertaining a mushroom's identity.

Joining a mushroom group or club offers one of the best ways to learn. Monadnock Mushroomers Unlimited, led by Joanne Gulbicki, and Pioneer Valley Mycological Association, led by Dianna Smith, offer seminars, classes, and forays in the woods with experienced mushroom foragers. Athol, Barre, Erving, North Orange, Petersham, and Rutland organizations and farms also host forays.

Learning about mushrooms takes a lifetime of reading, researching, listening to experts, exploring, and asking questions.

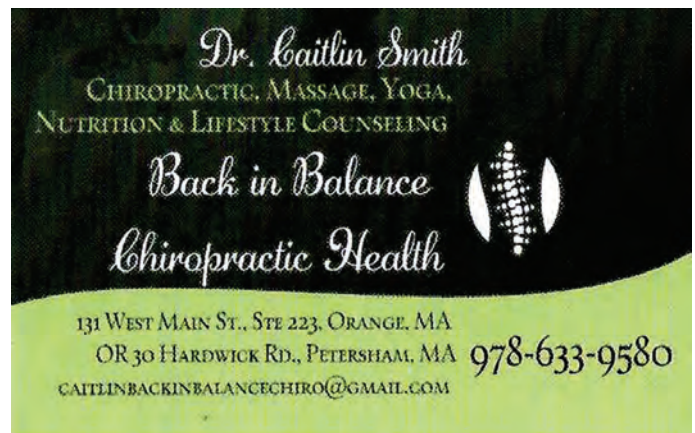
The website mushroom-collecting.com has excellent rules for collecting and anyone, whether new to the hobby or a long-time collector, should read them.

The best part of mushroom hunting is being out in nature and enjoying the beauty we have right out the door in the Quabbin region.

Happy hunting!



Laurie Smith shows off her find of hen of the woods (*Grifola frondosa*)  
photo courtesy of Laurie Smith



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# roads of the Quabbin region hosted equine means

by Carla Charter




A stagecoach housed at Petersham Historical Society appeared in a 1923 pageant in Petersham. Also starring, according to information from the historical society, were Miss Marie Williams, Miss M. Frislee, Mr. Spaeth, Mrs. John Woolsey, Mrs. Fisher, and Mrs. Richard Fisher, each identified in the style of the day..  
photo courtesy of the Petersham Historical Society

It's hard to imagine today, but the roads of the Quabbin area, where we drive cars and trucks daily, once hosted a more equine mode of transportation, the stagecoach.

Stagecoaches provided the prevailing US mode of mass transportation from the late 1700s to mid 1800s during what some have called the golden age of stagecoaches. You could think of them as nineteenth century buses. The Quabbin area was no different. Stagecoaches provided reliable transportation from one town to another, near and far. They also provided employment in a number of different ways.

Stage drivers, of course, had to run the coaches. A number of drivers lived in the Quabbin area, including Levi Newton, who drove the mail coach from



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# of transportation during golden age of stagecoaches

North Dana to Barre and for whom the Nichewaug section of Petersham is named. Another driver named Barrett often threw a handful of pennies in the road so boys would scramble. But no driver enjoyed more fame than Ginery Twichell.

Born in Athol on August 26, 1811, Twichell left school at sixteen and worked in the Petersham and Barre area as a storekeeper and driver. At nineteen, he took charge of the stage line from Barre to Worcester. Within twelve years, Twichell's stagecoach career had expanded to the point where he owned two hundred horses.

Well-known to everyone, he carried not only passengers but mail. He also served as an express rider, riding with voting results from the western counties of the state eastward to be published in the Boston *Atlas* the next day. However, on January 23, 1846, Twichell became legendary as an express rider when he raced to bring dispatches received from England to New York.

A debate was brewing as to whether the US or Great Britain had rights to the territory of Oregon. This question was also before Congress. Many Americans, as a result, avidly followed the issue in the papers. Needless to say, newspapers eagerly awaited the latest dispatches from England, each wanting to be the first to access any new information brought to Boston by the steamer *Hibernia*.

In January 1846, news of the most recent British election sailed toward the United States, news that had important bearing on the Oregon debate. Two British candidates, John Russell and Robert Peel, vied for the seat of British prime minister. "This had an important bearing on the Oregon question," according to *Athol, Massachusetts, Past and Present*, 1899, by Lilley Caswell. "Russell being for war with the United States and Peel for peace."

At the same time, a rivalry bubbled over newspaper publication of the British election results. The *Herald* had made exclusive arrangements with railroad and steamboat companies to carry its latest dispatches to

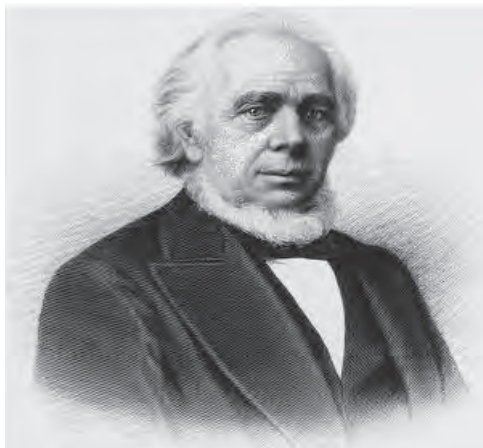
New York. However the New York *Tribune* and other papers in New York and Philadelphia were excluded

from the arrangement, according to the Athol history. Because of the exclusive, no other train would be allowed to leave until fifteen minutes after the *Herald's* special train departed from Boston.

In stepped Ginery Twichell to even the odds for the other papers. Horace Greeley, editor of the *Tribune*, asked Twichell if he could beat the *Herald*. Twichell assured him he could. Greeley ordered a train to be ready to leave exactly fifteen minutes after the *Herald's* train left.

On January 23, 1846, New England weather made Twichell's ride even more challenging. On that day it snowed and then snowed

continued on page 47



Nineteenth-century stagecoach magnate Ginery Twichell took charge of the Barre-Worcester line  
public domain image from the internet



## SEASONAL IMAGES

Photos and Prints by Photographic Artist

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Autumn school sports keep highschoolers in shape from Rutland to Royalston as regional schools turn to time-honored interscholastic competition, here in soccer and field hockey.  
photos © Mike Phillips.

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## East Quabbin Artists Plan Festival October 7 In Gilbertville

The East Quabbin Artist Alliance has scheduled its first annual Community Arts Festival from 10 am to 4 pm Saturday, October 7, 2017 from 10 am to 4 pm on the grounds and in the Stone Church, Gilbertville, sponsored by Friends of the Stone Church.

The festival will include an adult art exhibit and sale as well as a youth exhibit with prizes for children.

Other features will include demonstrations of art techniques, project booths for children, and music, food, and products of local artisans.

Hardwick non-profits will participate in the event, open to the public free of charge.

The East Quabbin Artist Alliance is a group of artists from five towns who get together to work on projects, including the Plein Air Group that meets throughout the summer at different venues to paint.



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# QUABBIN AREA RESTAURANTS OFFER

by Clare Kirkwood

## South Quabbin Restaurants

### Ladd's

Ladd's Restaurant and Lounge in Rutland started out over seventy years ago as a tavern named Hunthurst. Since then, the family-oriented establishment has seen several owners and updates. Present owners, the Toomey family, have owned it since 2000.

An early Friday evening found the cocktail lounge teeming with patrons. The large, comfortable space offers specialty mixed drinks as well as imported and domestic beer and wine.

We received good welcome and service. Multicolored fragrant roses dotted each table, and the spotless ladies lounge featured a huge, fresh floral arrangement.

We ordered shrimp scampi, chicken piccata, lobster, and steak Delmonico, all expertly prepared and amply



Diners peruse the Ladd's menu.

photo © Clare Kirkwood

## sweat lodges and farming bring solace to vets with PTSD

continued from page 22

Pat volunteered at the wolf sanctuary at Wolf Talk Educational Center in Gardner for three years, and when Michael and Pat married, a wolf named Denahee attended their wedding.

I asked the origin of the name Greenfyre. "Aldo Leopold was in charge of eradicating wolves in New Mexico," said Pat. "One day he looked into the eyes of a wolf and saw green fire.

"The interaction so changed him that he became a pioneer conservationist," Pat added. "He wrote the book *Sand County Almanac*, which has printed two million copies."

As I walked to my car, I realized that I'm convinced that Pat and Michael should continue Leopold's tradition of preservation of the earth as well as its inhabitants both animal and human.

"We have a lot of fun," Pat said. Michael chuckled.

For upcoming events and more information contact Pat at [greenfyre1@gmail.com](mailto:greenfyre1@gmail.com) or Michael at [idealife.young@gmail.com](mailto:idealife.young@gmail.com) or [www.GreenfyreFarm.com](http://www.GreenfyreFarm.com). Telephone at 978.249.2722.

"Vets need something to do to build self-esteem, confidence, and a sense of purpose," said Jake

Alexander of Athol's Vets and Veggies . Raising animals and vegetables on the site of the twenty-eight-acre former Cass Farm on Chestnut Hill Avenue in Athol, vets can regain a sense of comradery like that found in the military.

Vets and Veggies serves two men, one thirty and the other thirty-four. The farm provides individual rooms with a shared kitchen in a comfortable farmhouse. The farm can house eight veterans.

Jake's vision for the farm is "to provide a beautiful place to live in peace and quiet while living productive lives and eating healthful food."

The program receives referrals by word of mouth as well as by working with the Veterans Transitional Housing Program. The organization became a nonprofit in April. "It's time to develop and get grants," Jake said.

The well-known Cass Farm served as a dairy farm and racehorse stable in the twentieth century. In 2002, the Athol Master Plan identified the farm as historically significant agricultural landscape, and the Massachusetts Historical Commission identified and protected Chestnut Hill Avenue as a scenic road .

For more information contact: [JakeAlexander@vetsandveggies.com](mailto:JakeAlexander@vetsandveggies.com).

# SCRUMPTIOUS FARE AND FINE SERVICE

portioned. We heard many good things about the brick-oven specialty pizza and hope to return soon to try that. We sampled creamy rich homemade cheesecake with fresh strawberries and locally made peach compote. Paired with coffee, the desserts made a rich finish to a satisfying dining experience.

Located in Rutland at Routes 122 and 64, Barre-Paxton Road, Ladd's also offers a children's menu, take-out, and catering. Open 4-9 pm Wednesday and Thursday; 4-9:30 pm Friday; 11:30-9:30 pm Saturday; 11:30-9 pm, Sunday 508-886-4771 or laddsrestaurant.com  
Holiday hours may vary, so best to check.

## **Kristina's Kafé and Bakery**

Operating in an 1840s storefront, Kristina's Kafé faces Belchertown's historic common. Kristina has refurbished this space into a fun and inviting eatery and bakery. Great antiques and rustic touches lend a casual Americana feel.

We enjoyed our breakfast, the coffee, and the good service. We chose the homemade cranberry oatmeal bread from many offerings made on site and were not disappointed!

Kristina offers a tempting variety of breads, muffins, pastries, cakes, and coffee for take out at reasonable prices. The Kafé recently celebrated its tenth anniversary in business. Artfully staged flowers lined the walk, and primitive antiques spilled over to the shop next door, Cinnamon Stick Consignment, also operated by Kristina but closed that morning.

It's no wonder Kristina's Kafé and Bakery placed as a finalist in Best of Massachusetts Breakfast broadcast on MassLive.com.

Located in Belchertown at 9 Main Street. Open Tuesday through Sunday 6 am to 2 pm. Breakfast and lunch during the week. Only breakfast on weekends. Seasonal specials.  
413-323-5733 or Facebook.

## **North Quabbin Restaurants**

### **Herrick's Tavern**

Some friends recommended Herrick's Tavern in Orange, and we went together for my first visit. We chose the dining room, but the sports bar was vibrant and well peopled. Five flat screens broadcast sports as folks enjoyed watching and relaxing on a Friday evening.

A friend I ran into, clearly a regular, told me Herrick's has been around seventeen years.

The atmosphere was friendly, warm, and fast paced. Patio seating overlooking a driving range provided surprisingly peaceful ambiance despite the dull roar of television and chatter from inside.

We ordered the baked haddock dinner, house-made chicken tender dinner, and a Reuben sandwich. Service was good and fast with large portions of delicious food and reasonable prices.

We took a lot home and ended up too full to order dessert. It may have been my first but won't be my last visit to the casual atmosphere and traditional American food of Herrick's Tavern.

The family also operates the adjoining take-out and dairy bar.

Located at 207 Daniel Shays Highway in Orange, the year-round restaurant is next to the 202 Sports Complex. Open 11 am-9 pm daily.

978-544-3902 or herrickstavern.com

### **King Phillip Restaurant and Lounge**

The King Phillip Restaurant in Phillipston began seven decades ago as an ice cream stand and over the years has morphed into more.

Present owners Craig and Jean Twohey purchased the business in 1983 and have gradually constructed a bigger and better facility to meet the demand of growing clientele. Recent updates increase visibility and eye appeal of this institution.

Our enjoyable, last-minute visit on a Sunday night started with drinks and complimentary cheese and

continued on page 55





In 1909, James Franklin Gilman rendered Petersham's Sanford B. Cook house in watercolors.  
photo © David Brothers

continued from page 29

easel with watercolors, busy at work on a painting of someone's house or garden or maybe a local business or street scene. Her *Downtown Orange* can be found

on page 33. Prolific and among founders of Petersham Crafts Center (now Petersham Arts Center), Barbara also painted woodland scenes, stone walls, still lifes, and the occasional abstract.

Like Ellis, Gilman sometimes did paintings of businesses and attractions, including Athol's L. S. Starrett Company and fairgrounds in the early 1900s.

Bascom is thought to have produced some fourteen hundred portraits. *Wikipedia* informs us that she worked with a variety of materials, including pastels, pencils, cut paper, and foil with some initial works of layered pieces of paper representing the head, neck, clothing, and accessories placed over a background.

Field married a woman from Ware and sometimes painted there but made his reputation largely in Sunderland. He painted portraits and landscapes, including delightful large-scale imaginary scenes, among them *The Garden of Eden*, about 1860, now at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and *Historical Monument of the American Republic*, exhibited in Blake Court at the Springfield Museums.

Wilder worked in Vermont and New Hampshire until 1843, according to Arthur Kern in *Antiques and Fine Arts Magazine*, 2017.



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Gilman painted an unknown New England farmhouse and out buildings in oils.  
photo © David Brothers

Then, Kern writes,

Wilder's area of activity had changed to Massachusetts, where he painted eight portraits of subjects who lived in the towns of Oakham, Ware, and Athol, within an area of only twenty miles in diameter and between fifteen to twenty-five miles from Worcester. . . . Four of the paintings are in the collection of the Worcester Historical Museum.

Whether creating portraits or illuminating landscapes, nineteenth-century itinerant artists, sometimes called limners, of the Quabbin region often provide the only evidence of what went on here and who lived here in days gone by. Eventually, photographers, too, would leave their record of past life around here. How tantalizing are their images and their choices of what to show us. We can only wonder about the rest.

Viewers at the September 30 Gilman show in Athol Historical Society will have a rich opportunity to take in the sights of times and places breathing the air of other centuries.

Like all the best things in life, admission to the Gilman show is free of charge.

Marcia Gagliardi is editor and publisher of *Uniquely Quabbin* magazine. Debra Ellis is business manager of *Uniquely Quabbin* and treasurer of Athol Historical Society.

See Gilman paintings from 11 am to 3 pm  
Saturday, September 30 at  
Athol Historical Society

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# Barre, Belchertown, and Petersham historical

continued from page 39

some more. However, the weather did not deter Twichell, and the race was on.

Twichell received the dispatches and took the train to Worcester. From there he rode ten horses more than sixty-six miles with a fresh horse every ten miles. Riding in a deep snow, he made it to Hartford in three hours and twenty minutes. From there, Twichell continued by train to New Haven then embarked on another seventy-six-mile ride from New Haven to New York.

Despite the weather, Twichell succeeded in arriving at the *Tribune* four hours before the *Herald's* dispatches. The *Tribune* and the *Journal of Commerce* first carried news of the British election. The ride became legendary, with a lithograph created entitled "The Unrivaled Express Rider" showing Twichell galloping through the snow toward New York.

A stagecoach displayed at the Petersham Historical Society had several owner/drivers including Samuel Marsh and Silas Gage of Petersham in 1865, Lyman D. Edwards of Petersham in 1871, Frank Sampson of Warwick in 1873, and George Gibbs of Petersham



Ginery Twichell famously races to bring the news of the British election to New York, as shown in a lithograph from Lilley B. Caswell's *History of Athol Past and Present, 1848-1898*

from 1876-1895, according to the Petersham Historical Society.

Delivering both mail and passengers, Gibbs drove the coach during those years on the Athol-Petersham line. An *Athol Transcript* article of 1889 described Gibbs as follows, according to the Petersham Historical Society: "He has won the confidence of the many who have employed him, by his accommodating qualities, his honesty, faithfulness, good judgment in buying for others, his cheerfulness and patience (under difficulties), and general information. He has a kind friendship for the horse and the dog, and a very exact geographic and topographic realization of nine miles of his route."

Margaret Higginson of Petersham donated the stagecoach to the Petersham Historical Society in 1928.

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# societies display refurbished stagecoaches

In 1931, the coach was placed in the cellar of the society. In 2003, the stagecoach was moved to the main floor and renovated by James and Maryann Chevalier of Chevalier Carriage Company of Belchertown began on the stagecoach.

Beyond transportation and colorful drivers, the stagecoach industry provided links to other businesses in the Quabbin area. Belchertown became famous for its manufacture of not only stagecoaches but also wagons and sleighs. In the *History of Western Massachusetts*, 1855, author Josiah Gilbert Holland states "Belchertown has for many years been noted for its manufacture of carriages."

A founder in 1903 of Belchertown's historical society, the Stone House Museum, Lucy Doolittle Thomson writes, "Orders for the carriages came from as far away as Persia and Australia."

Belchertown has a renovated stagecoach originally made in town as well as several other carriages and a hearse housed at the Stone House Museum. Both Petersham and Barre historical societies have renovated stagecoaches from the Golden Age of horse and carriage.

Also dependent on stagecoaches were the taverns and inns where passengers spent the night. Among these inns were Brooks Tavern, where a historic marker still announces its location in Athol's uptown common. Also at the uptown common is the Ginery Twichell fountain for watering horses.

Carla Charter is a freelance writer. She lives in Phillipston



An early twentieth-century postcard image of a James Franklin Gilman charcoal drawing shows Athol's Ginery Twichell watering fountain for horses with a view down Old Main Street. In 2017, Larry's Variety Store and a branch of Athol Savings Bank stand beyond the fountain on the left where the Gilman shows the columned building.

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Vestiges of the lost town of North Dana remain in a view from Graves' Landing, left, and in crumbling wall.  
photos © Dale Monette



a hand-drawn mandala by  
Levi Baruch



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# Uniquely Quabbin Calendar Listings

## September 2-4, Sat-Mon

### Appleseed County Fair

10:00 am

Red Apple Farm

455 Highland Avenue

Phillipston

Celebrate the diverse offerings Massachusetts with local food, lawn-tractor pulls, beer and wine tent, fiddle contest, live music and more! This family fun-filled event is free and open to the public.

appleseed.org

## September 8, Friday

### Finding William Lewis

7:00 pm

New Braintree Historical Society Museum

10 Utley Road

New Braintree

Explore and examine extraordinary records left by New England native William Lewis (1819-1897).

newbraintreehistoricalsociety.org

## September 9, Saturday

### New Braintree Country Fair

9:00 am - 10:00 pm

20 Memorial Drive

New Braintree

Free Pony rides, free family games and races, dunk tank, raffles, Church BBQ, vendors, ice cream, car show, bon fire, music, beer tent and more.

### Yoga with Goats

10:00 - 11:30 am

Heifer Farm

216 Wachusett Street

Rutland

At this yoga class designed for all levels, you will be surrounded by lovable goats! To register call 508-886-5000 or email heifer.farm@heifer.org.

## September 9, Saturday (continued)

### 9th Hilltown Brewfest

12:00 noon - 5:00 pm

Cooleyville Junction

837 Daniel Shays Highway

New Salem

Featuring more than 20 regional brands of beer, wine, and cider, along with local food, a wine tent, raffles, and live music.

hilltownbrewfest.com

### 2nd Annual Awareness 5k & Music Festival

3:00 - 8:00 pm

The Belchertown Common

Park Street

Belchertown

The 5k and music festival will once again support local sober housing and recovery support programming. Live music will play from 3pm-8pm, with an evening run beginning at 6:30pm.

Facebook.com/soaar01007

## September 10, Sunday

### Oakham Police Association Annual Golf Tournament

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Quail Hollow Golf Course & Country Club

1822 Old Turnpike Road

Oakham

Annual golf tournament fundraiser. Check in starts at 7 am.

## September 14, Thursday

### Cooking with Coffee

6:30 - 8:00 pm

Athol Public Library

568 Main Street

Athol

Slide presentation and cooking demonstration with Liz Barbour. Registration required. Space is limited due to limited ingredients!

athollibrary.org

## September 16, Saturday

### North Quabbin Fall Festival

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Main Street

Athol

A classic New England harvest block party with vendors, live performers, crafts, local food and more.

northquabbinchamber.com

### Ware Fair & Flea

8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Ware Center Meeting House

295 Belchertown Road

Ware

Food, music, silent auction, exhibitions, crafts, museum tours, apple pie contest, and more.

### 7 Bridges Road: Eagles Tribute Band

2:00 pm

The Center at Eagle Hill

242 Old Petersham Road

Hardwick

7 Bridges Road, a spot-on recreation of the original Eagles, made up of six singers and instrumentalists, is a unique tribute act.

thecenterateaglehill.org

## September 17, Sunday

### 22 Annual Fun Run Around the Quabbin

10:30 am - 3:00 pm

Carb's Hot rod Club

1275 Partridgeville Road

Athol

Cruising open to any motorized vehicle, 50/50 raffle, door prizes, peoples choice car show. Questions? Call Paul Buckley 978-544-3671

## September 21, Thursday

### Third Thursday Street Fair

5:00 - 8:00 pm

Orange

Meander and explore down town orange and join in on the fun with local merchants, artists, performers and more.

### Sorrow Visits the Paige Family

7:00 pm

Hardwick Town House

32 Common Street

Hardwick

Presented by Local Historian Susan Gainley.

The program will be followed by the Annual Hardwick Historical society business meeting.

calendar listings compiled by Emily Boughton

submit calendar listings to [haley.antique@verizon.net](mailto:haley.antique@verizon.net)

Please consider a donation to

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Athol Historical Society c/o Debra Ellis

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Thank you.

*September 21, Thursday (continued)*

Wine Tasting

7:00 - 9:00 pm

Clamber Hill Inn & Restaurant

111 N Main Street

Petersham

Featuring small U.S. vineyards. Taste 4-6 wines accompanied by appetizers and dessert. \$30 per person  
clamberhill.com

*September 22, Friday*

Secret Lives of the Quabbin Watershed

7:00 pm

Athol Historical Building

1307 Main St

Athol

Presented by photographer Dale Monette.

*September 23-24, Sat-Sun*

19th Garlic and Arts Festival

10:00 am - 5:00pm

Foster's Farm

60 Chestnut Hill Road

Orange

Get ready for all things garlic with over arts, crafts, live music, demos, animals, exhibits, sustainability, recycling and more.  
garlicandarts.org

*September 24, Sunday*

Plant ID Hike

10:00 - 11:30am

Rutland State Park

2 Crawford Road

Rutland

Join Folk Herbalist Amber Kennedy on a leisurely Sunday morning plant identification hike through the beautiful trails of The Rutland State Park and Prison Camps in Rutland, MA. Please register by emailing Amber at bohemebotanika@gmail.com.

Declaration of Independence Exhibit

Calligraphic Facsimile By Eleazer Huntington,

EngrAvenuer

1:00 - 4:00 pm

Oakham Historical Museum

1221 Old Turnpike Road

Oakham

508-882-3990

Fall Hike to Doubleday Village

11:00 am - 5:00 pm

Meet at Petersham Common

Petersham

Swift River Valley Historical Society's Fall Hike to Doubleday Village.

*September 29 - October 1*

Fall Scrapbook Retreat

Sep 29, 2:00 pm - Oct 1, 3:00 pm

Pine Brook Camp

210 Lakeview Road

Shutesbury

A weekend of scrapbooking, spiritual encouragement, fellowship, great food and fun! Open to veteran scrapbookers and newcomers.

pinebrookcamp.org/scrapbook/

*September 30 - October 1*

Global Harvest Festival

10:00 am - 4:00pm

Heifer Farm

216 Wachusett St

Rutland

A fun -packed cultural celebration for the all ages with international crafts and games, live music, delicious food, farm animals, face painting, and much more!  
heifer.org

*September 30, Saturday*

M-Pact

2:30 pm

The Center at Eagle Hill

242 Old Petersham Road

Hardwick

Enjoy this trailblazing, pop-jazz vocal group.  
thecenterateaglehill.org

*October 1, Sunday*

Bus Trip to Prescott and Enfield

11:00 am-5:00 pm

Swift River Historical Society Museum

40 Elm Street

New Salem

Cost is \$30.00 per person. Reservations must be made in advance as this trip fills up fast.  
Email dotfryesrvhs@gmail.com or call 978-544-6882.

*October 4, Wednesday*

Art Tea

4:00 pm

The Center at Eagle Hill

242 Old Petersham Road

Hardwick

Featuring Suzanne Alward, Visual Artist. Conversations with local artists; enjoy complimentary fresh-brewed tea and snacks  
thecenterateaglehill.org

*October 5, Thursday*

Things that go Bump in the Night

7:00 pm

Woods Memorial Library

19 Pleasant Street

Barre

Presented by the Barre Historical Society.

Speaker Pat Perry

*October 5, Thursday (continued)*

The Roaring Twenties

7:00 pm

Athol Historical Building

1307 S Main St

Athol

Presented by Chris Daley

*October 7, Saturday*

Old 78 Farm Festival

823 Orange Road

Warwick

Craft and veggie vendors, championship barbecue, balloon creations, face painting, comedy, bands playing all day on two stages, and lots of great fun.

old78farm.com

Community Arts Festival

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Stone Church

Gilbertville

Adult and Youth Art Exhibit and Sale, Demonstrations on Art Techniques, Project Booths, Music, Food, and Local Artisans.

*October 8, Sunday*

6th Annual Station Loop Ramble

9:30 - 12:00 pm

East Quabbin Land Trust (EQLT)

120 Ridge Road

Hardwick

The 6th Annual Station Loop Ramble includes a Kid's One Mile, 5-Mile Classic and a 5k Run/Walk! Registration begins at 8:30am.  
stationloopramble eqlt.org

*October 14, Saturday*

Svetlana and the Delancey Five

7:30 pm

The Center at Eagle Hill

242 Old Petersham Road

Hardwick

Hot jazz sounds cool with tenderness and soulfulness, as well as an unexpected edge and the power of a seasoned vocalist.  
thecenterateaglehill.org

Mama's Marmalade

7:30 pm

Wendell Full Moon Coffee House

9 Morse Village Road

Wendell

This Northampton based quintet explores acoustic music, ranging from the blues to Old Time, from gypsy jazz to bluegrass.  
wendellfullmoon.org

continued on page 54



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three Quabbin region itinerant artists



Erastus Salisbury Field, top, and Ruth Henshaw Bascom, center, show in their self portraits; Thomas Wilder painted the bottom portrait of someone else  
public domain photos from the internet

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## Uniquely Quabbin listings

*continued from page 51*

*October 15, Sunday*

New England Pies  
2:00 pm  
Hardwick Town House  
32 Common Street  
Hardwick  
Presented by Robert Cox of UMass Amherst Libraries. Refreshments will be served – pie, of course!

*October 18, Wednesday*

80s Cinema @ The Center  
7:00 pm  
The Center at Eagle Hill  
242 Old Petersham Road  
Hardwick  
Featuring the 1984 original Ghostbusters directed by Ivan Reitman. Snacks, beer, and wine will be available for purchase.  
thecenterateaglehill.org

*October 19, Thursday*

Ghostology 101  
6:30 - 8:00 pm  
Athol Public Library  
568 Main Street  
Athol  
A general study of the paranormal with Agawam Paranormal Group. Free and open to the Public. Registration required.  
athollibrary.org

*October 20 – November 5*

James and the Giant Peach  
Fri and Sat 7:30 pm  
Sundays 2:00 pm  
Barre Players Theater  
64 Common Street  
Barre  
Based on the book, James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl  
barreplayers.homestead.com

*October 21, Saturday*

Comedy Night  
7:00 pm  
Athol-Orange Elks  
92 New Athol Road  
Orange  
Featuring Rob Steen and Phillip Anthony.  
Buffet and show \$12.50. Ages 21+

Science Fiction and Horror Movie series  
7:30 pm  
Wendell Free Library  
7 Wendell Depot Road  
Wendell  
Enjoy a free showing of TeenWolf, starring Michael J. Fox. Rated PG.

*October 22, Sunday*

Fall Hike  
11:00 am  
New Salem Town Common  
New Salem  
Hike into Gate 21 in New Salem with the Swift River Valley Historical Society  
swiftrivermuseum.org

Early 1800s Sampler Exhibit  
1:00 - 4:00 pm  
Oakham Historical Museum  
1221 Old Turnpike Road  
Oakham  
508-882-3990

*October 28, Saturday*

Farm Tour  
10:00 am  
Seeds of Solidarity  
165 Chestnut Hill Road  
Orange  
Experience the farms abundant no-till and low maintenance gardens, solar greenhouses, energy efficient buildings, and solar systems with founders Ricky and Deb.

*November 1, Wednesday*

Art Tea  
4:00 pm  
The Center at Eagle Hill  
242 Old Petersham Road  
Hardwick  
Featuring Tom Gaskill, Recreational Artist. Conversations with local artists; enjoy complimentary fresh-brewed tea and snacks  
This event is free, but space is limited and reservations are recommended  
thecenterateaglehill.org

*November 2, Thursday*

God's Seven Houses on Barre Common  
7:00pm  
Barre Senior Center  
557 S Barre Road  
Barre  
Presented by the Barre Historical Society. Speakers Lester Paquin and Lucy Allen will trace the history of Barre's meeting houses and churches.

*November 4, Saturday*

NEECA Fall Social  
Athol/Orange Elks  
92 New Athol Road  
Orange  
neeca.org

*November 4, Saturday (continued)*

Jazz, Blues and Two Tattoos  
7:30 pm  
The Center at Eagle Hill  
242 Old Petersham Road  
Hardwick  
Music from the '20s to today with original rock music, solo jazz standards, and New Orleans classics.  
thecenterateaglehill.org

Shakazoba  
7:30 pm  
Wendell Full Moon Coffee House  
9 Morse Village Road  
Wendell  
Shakazoba performs top quality, high energy music designed to move your feet, inspire your mind, and stimulate your soul.  
wendellfullmoon.org

*November 5, Sunday*

Patriot Printer  
2:00 pm  
Hardwick Town House  
32 Common Street  
Hardwick  
In this program Noted actor Neil Gustafson will portray Isiah Thomas.

*November 7, Tuesday*

Needle Felt a Great Horned Owl  
6:00 – 8:00 pm  
Athol Public Library  
568 Main Street  
Athol  
Space limited. Registration required. All materials provided.  
athollibrary.org

*November 15, Wednesday*

Dracula with Barry Deitz  
6:00 - 7:00 pm  
Athol Public Library  
568 Main Street  
Athol  
Examine the life of Bram Stoker and how he came to write the classic novel Dracula. Registration required.  
athollibrary.org

80s Cinema @ The Center  
7:00 pm  
The Center at Eagle Hill  
242 Old Petersham Road  
Hardwick  
Featuring the 1984 original Sixteen Candles directed by John Hughes. Snacks, beer, and wine will be available for purchase.  
thecenterateaglehill.org

**November 17 – November 26**

Little Mermaid Musical  
The Center at Eagle Hill  
242 Old Petersham Road  
Hardwick  
Enjoy the tale of Arielle, a young mermaid princess, who desires to become human.  
Presented by Gilbert Players  
[thecenterateaglehill.org](http://thecenterateaglehill.org)

**November 18, Saturday**

Science Fiction and Horror Movie Series  
7:30 pm  
Wendell Free Library  
7 Wendell Depot Road  
Wendell  
Enjoy a free showing of Christmas On Mars.

**November 23, Saturday**

Oakham Historical Museum Gift Table  
Harvest and Holly Fair  
9:00 – 2:00 pm  
Oakham Congregational Church  
4 Coldbrook Road  
Oakham

**December 1, Friday**

A Very Electric Christmas  
6:30 pm  
The Center at Eagle Hill  
242 Old Petersham Road  
Hardwick  
Audiences of all ages will treasure this magical and captivating tale of family, friendship, and hope set to timeless holiday hits by superstars.  
[thecenterateaglehill.org](http://thecenterateaglehill.org)

Merrimack Valley Ringers  
7:30 pm  
First Congregational Church  
246 Main Street  
Rutland  
Yuletide hand bell concert.  
[mvringers.org](http://mvringers.org)

**December 9, Saturday**

Midnight Madness!  
6:00 pm – Midnight  
Athol and Orange Business Districts  
Holiday shopping along Rt 2A from North Quabbin Commons, through downtown Athol and Orange to the OIC. Multiple entertainment venues along the way with sales and raffles.  
[northquabbinchamber.com](http://northquabbinchamber.com)

**December 10, Sunday**

Holiday Party  
4:00pm  
Hartman's Herb Farm  
1026 Old Dana Road  
Barre  
Barre Historical Society member holiday party.

**December 16, Saturday**

Science Fiction and Horror Movie Series  
7:30 pm  
Wendell Free Library  
7 Wendell Depot Road  
Wendell  
Enjoy a free showing of the Werewolf Of London.

**December 20, Wednesday**

80s Cinema @ The Center  
7:00 pm  
The Center at Eagle Hill  
242 Old Petersham Road  
Hardwick  
Featuring the 1985 cult classic Back to the Future directed by Robert Zemeckis. Snacks, beer, and wine will be available for purchase.  
[thecenterateaglehill.org](http://thecenterateaglehill.org)

**December 31, Sunday**

Starry Starry Night  
6:00 - 10:30 pm  
Orange Town Center  
1 South Main Street  
Orange  
Celebrate the New Year with free live performances, a grand parade, ice sculptures, and fireworks; all with time to get home for midnight.  
[starrystarrynight.org](http://starrystarrynight.org)

For events posted after our calendar deadline, go online to [uniquelyquabbin.com](http://uniquelyquabbin.com) and [visitnorthquabbin.com](http://visitnorthquabbin.com)



King Phillip Restaurant welcomes holiday brunchers and diners.

photo © Clare Kirkwood

crackers. We ordered scallops with vegetables, quinoa, and salads. Many healthy and gluten-free choices deserve mention.

Among many homemade desserts, we chose to share a creme brûlée among many delectable options.

Well-known for off-site catering, The King Phillip accommodates up to a hundred people in its banquet facilities. Functions I've attended there featured plenty of well-prepared food.

The large lounge offers nicely presented mixed drinks and international coffees, fine cordials, and Scotch as well as a full bar and twelve microbrews on tap. Patrons can relax by the fire and order food

or dessert to enjoy with drinks of choice. The reasonably priced motor lodge includes free wifi.

Legendary Sunday and holiday brunches at the King Phillip feature dizzying arrays of options.

Check the newspaper or website to get more info on upcoming menus. The website also delves into detail on the interesting history of the King Phillip Restaurant and how it was named.

Located at 35 State Road, Phillipston. Open 364 days per year, 5 to 9 pm Monday through Thursday; 11:30-10 pm Friday and Saturday; 10 am -8 pm Sunday.

978-249-6300 or [kingphillip.com](http://kingphillip.com)



# Walking the Aqueduct and Imagining Where Drinking Water Originates

continued from Page 7

Schnauzers named Frisky, Piper, and Honey Bear.

Curious about the aqueduct that Carol told me about, I contacted Ria Convery, press spokesman for the MWRA. She said the Framingham aqueduct indeed qualifies as the main aqueduct carrying water east to Greater Boston from the Wachusett and Quabbin reservoirs. It is called the Hultman Aqueduct, named for Eugene Hultman, commissioner for the MDC in the 1930s when the Quabbin was being created, and who died on the job. The aqueduct serves more than forty communities, including Carol's Framingham.

Carol's trajectory from her childhood to her current interest in water resources involved many twists and turns. She started her higher



When Carol Spack of Framingham walks along the berm covering the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority aqueduct near her home, she imagines the Quabbin Reservoir and other sources of her drinking water.

photo © Debby Goldberg

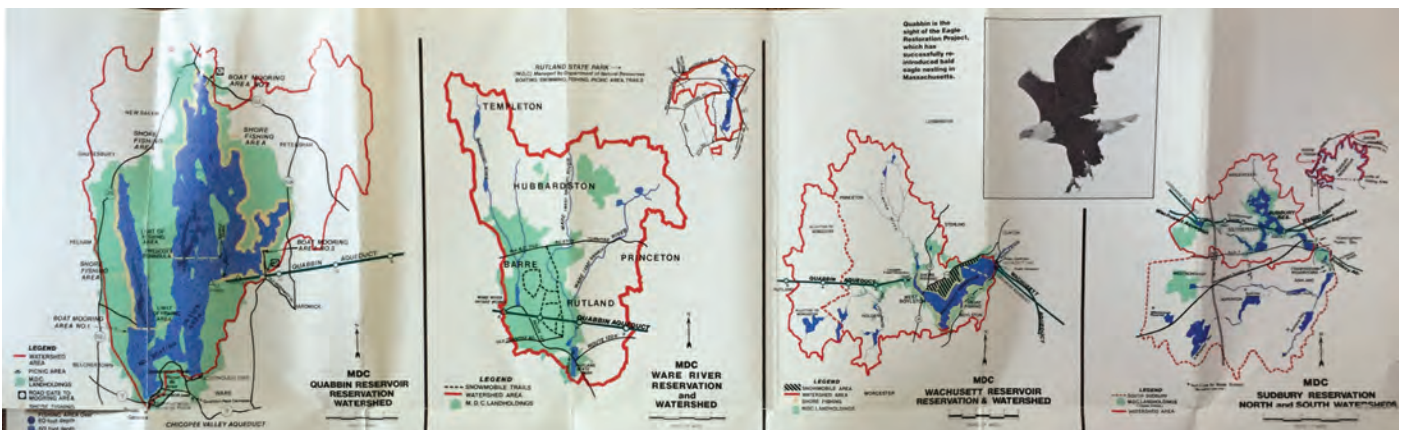
education at Harvard University in Cambridge, obtaining a bachelor's degree in 1976.

She completed a law degree at Northeastern University in Boston, a degree in land-use planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, and yet another degree in architecture at the University of California in Berkeley.

She has worked in various jobs and served as chair of the Framingham Planning Board. She is an accomplished sculptor.

Carol appreciates the Quabbin as a "quiet place." The infrastructure, especially the aqueduct, makes her "think about the Romans."

Columnist Allen Young lives in Royalston. He received the University of Massachusetts Writing and Society Award in 2004.



An excerpt from a 1970s Metropolitan District Commission (MDC) map shows sources for drinking water for residents of the Greater Boston area. The MDC preceded the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, which, according to its website, "is a Massachusetts public authority established by an act of the Legislature in 1984 to provide wholesale water and sewer services to 2.5 million people and more than 5,500 large industrial users in 61 metropolitan Boston communities."



*If you ask me what I came to do in this  
world, I, an artist will  
answer you:*

*I am here to live out loud  
Emile Zola*

