



## Town Administrator Leaving for Sunderland

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Sherry Patch, Town Administrator has taken a position with the Town of Sunderland. She begins her new duties on October 5, 2015. Sherry has served the Town for 25 years with professionalism and outstanding service to the Town. We wish her well in the next chapter of her life.

**Special Town Meeting**  
**Thursday October 22, 2015**  
7:00 PM, Hardwick Elementary School

### IMPORTANT DATES

**November 1**

Quarterly Tax Bills Due

**October 22**

Town Meeting

## Civil Defense in Hardwick

The government has labeled September ‘Preparedness Month’. It’s a good idea, with winter coming, to try to get people thinking about their personal preparedness, their ability to get through times with no electricity, deep snow, bitter, relentless cold. This coming winter could be mild, certainly compared to last winter. I’ve been listening to long-range weather forecasts, reading the Farmer’s Almanac, trying to gauge the thickness of squirrels’ tails. I haven’t seen any woollybear caterpillars yet. But whatever conditions we get, we’ll have to cope with them as best we can.

We’ve had all sorts of strange weather in this last decade, and there’s no reason to think that we’ve seen the end of it. Lots of us have installed generators and wood heaters. There seems to be a growing interest in canning and preserving food, buying locally grown food, thereby supporting local farms. These are great strategies for building up our resiliency. Planning for sheltering in place is more important than ever. We’ve seen several week-long periods with no electricity. Having three or four days of food and water put aside is a good idea. Keep some extra cooking oil and soap in stock. Check your flashlights and your supply of batteries. Make sure you have a car charger for your cellphone/computer, and keep gas in the car. Go to the Town website and sign up for CodeRed, our alert system.

And most important; make a plan with your families and neighbors. Trade contact numbers. Know how to reach each other’s out of state family members. Keep a list of medications handy. Get to know the folks who live in your neighborhood, and who might need checking on in a time of trouble. Our fire and police and highway departments will be doing everything they can to get us through any future trouble. But, as we’ve seen, we have to be able to help ourselves and be ready to help each other.

Eric Vollheim , Emergency Management Director

**FROM THE COLLECTOR'S OFFICE**

**REMINDER!**

THE 2ND QUARTER TAX PAYMENT IS DUE NOVEMBER 2ND

THE ACTUAL REAL ESTATE AND/OR PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX BILLS WILL BE MAILED IN  
DECEMBER AND  
ARE DUE AS FOLLOWS:

THE **3RD** PAYMENT IS DUE BY **FEBRUARY 1, 2016**

THE **4TH** PAYMENT IS DUE BY **MAY 1, 2016**

THE ENVELOPES PROVIDED CAN BE USED FOR **CURRENT** PAYMENTS ONLY

*A FEW NOTES*

IF YOU ARE USING ANY TYPE OF "**BILL PAY**" SERVICE PLEASE INDICATE YOUR BILL NUMBER  
ON THE CHECK

DOUBLE-CHECK THE AMOUNT DUE FOR EACH PAYMENT AS THE  
AMOUNTS MAY BE DIFFERENT BY JUST A **PENNY!**

PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT US IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS

**"THANK YOU!"**

**"Seamus Kennedy"**

**October 10**, 7:30 Eagle Hill  
Center \$20 per person, all pro-  
ceeds go to **Jo's Jacket's**.  
[http://centerateaglehill.org/event/  
seamus-kennedy/?instance\\_id=3015](http://centerateaglehill.org/event/seamus-kennedy/?instance_id=3015)

Jo's Jackets was created in memory of Betty Jo Kelly and provides winter and essential clothing to children and families in need in rural Massachusetts communities. The organization works with local schools, law enforcement and like-minded organizations to give children and families new winter outerwear and essential clothing, or gently used outerwear when no new clothing is available.

**Hardwick Youth Center Opens for 2015-2016**

**HYC** welcomes children from the villages of Hardwick to come explore, create and meet new friends.

**Join Us:** Wednesday, Ages 5-12, 3-5PM, Ages 13+ 6-8PM, Friday, Ages newborn to 5, 9:30—11:30AM

Contact: Kim Wright, Director 413-477-8207 or [kahwright@aol.com](mailto:kahwright@aol.com)

## What Our Senior Center Offers

The Center, in the Town Municipal Building (307 Main Street, Gilbertville, MA 01031) is open Monday – Friday between 8:00am and 1:00pm. Monday through Thursday lunch is offered in the Center at 11:30am. It is catered by *Eagle Hill School* and the cost is \$3.00. Please let the center know 24 hours in advance by calling (413) 477-6707.

Having *Meals on Wheels* delivered to your home is available if needed. The service is provided by *Elder Services of Worcester County*. Please call or email the center 48 hours ahead to schedule meals. Phone (413) 477-6707, Email: [hardwickcoa@live.com](mailto:hardwickcoa@live.com)

The Center van MART Van provides transportation to your medical appointments. It also makes regular runs to Ware and Athol. Specific information is available by phone (413) 477-6707 or on the senior web site: <https://sites.google.com/site/hardwickseniorcenter/>

The fourth Wednesday of the month a nurse is at the center between 9:00am - 11:00am to answer questions and screen blood pressure.

Games, exercise, art lessons, and shopping, as well as monthly outings are on the monthly calendar either at the center or on the web site.

## Gilbertville Stone Church Receives Stabilization Grant

*Friends of the Stone Church and Hardwick Historical Society partner to save historic building*

GILBERTVILLE – Secretary of State William Galvin recently awarded a matching funds contract for \$50,000 from the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund to the Hardwick Historical Society for emergency stabilization of the 1872 Trinitarian Congregational Church building in Gilbertville. A classic example of Tudor Gothic architecture, the Monson granite church and its adjoining chapel were designed by Elbridge Boyden & Son and given by the George H. Gilbert estate and family and the Gilbert Manufacturing Company to the local community.

Unheated for the last two years, the building now needs roof and other repairs before anyone can use it.

The contents include a historic Johnson & Son organ that was restored and celebrated by a community-based group called “Friends of the Gilbertville Organ,” carved interior woodwork, evocative stained glass windows and historic records related to Gilbertville history. Many of these features, notably the organ, are threatened by humidity and water leaking through the slate roof and through the hand-quarried walls and bell tower and under the foundation.

**Friends of the Stone Church**

PO Box 347 Gilbertville, MA 01031

Hardwick **Christmas for Kids** is ramping up for another Christmas season. We are looking for toy donations and monetary donations for this season. Last year we were able to help more than 100 children have a great Christmas. All money and toys we collect stay in Hardwick. Checks can be mailed or dropped off at Hardwick Police Dept. Checks are to be made out to “Hardwick Christmas for Kids”. See Chief Ayotte or Lt. Landine with questions.

# TOWN EVENTS

## October

**The “Knitters Club”** in the Gilbertville Library has children's hats, mittens and sweaters on display this month. They are free to local children and families.

**10 Seamus Kennedy,** 7:30 Eagle Hill Center \$20 per person, all proceeds go to **Jo’s Jacket’s.**

**11 Station Loop Ramble** East Quabbin Land Trust Depot Road New Braintree, Children 9:30am, Adults 10:00am

**14 HARDWICK YOUTH CENTER OPENS**  
Wednesday , Ages 5-12, 3-5PM, 13+ 6-8PM

**16 HYC Program** Ages newborn to 5, 9:30—11:30AM  
A play group for parents/grandparents/caregivers and their children with art, songs, free play, and stories.

**17 Bulk Collection,** Hardwick Recycling Center

**17 Snitzel Dinner for the Gilbertville Library,** Gabes in Ware, 13perperson 5:00 – 6:00PM

**22 Special Town Meeting** 7:00pm, Hardwick Elementary School

**24 ANTIQUE APPRAISAL** by Miller Antiques at the Gilbertville Library 9AM-2PM \$5 per object

**31**

## CALLING ALL GHOSTS GOBLINS AND WITCHES!

**Halloween Night** 5:00—7:00pm Join your friends for: “trick or treat” with a twist

To follow Hardwick’s first trail of treats, begin at the police Station and wind your way through the village of Gilbertville and the center of Hardwick. End the **Spooktacular** evening with even more candy, a parade, and an outdoor movie with free popcorn. Interested in helping or have questions? Contact: Paula Hurd @ [413-477-0044](tel:413-477-0044) or [mrspsmhurd@comcast.net](mailto:mrspsmhurd@comcast.net)

## November

**2 Quarterly Tax Bill Due**

**20, 21, 27, 28** at 7:30PM,  
**22, 29** at 2:30PM  
GILBERT PLAYERS PRESENT  
**“Into The Woods “**  
\$16 adult / \$14 senior / \$12 child Abby Theater, 242 Old Petersham Road

**20 “Greg & Axel Magic Show”,** Hardwick Elementary School , 1:45PM Free

**24 Gilbertville Library Bake Sale** Snow date, 11/25

## December

**4 East Quabbin Land Trust Holiday Open House.** 5:00—7:00pm, 120 Ridge Road, Hardwick, MA

**Fall Cleaning?**  
We Can Help at the Hardwick Recycling Center Bulk Waste & Textile Collection Event

**Date:** Saturday, 10/17/15  
**Time:** 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
**Location:** 2011 Barre Road Wheelwright, MA  
For more info contact us at (413) 477-8330 or visit our website at [www.hardwickrecycles.org](http://www.hardwickrecycles.org)

if you would like to receive the newsletter via email, please submit your request and email address to [hwklet@gmail.com](mailto:hwklet@gmail.com).

Some of the events announced here are not sponsored or approved by the Town of Hardwick or the Quabbin Regional School District. They are offered by other town organizations and are listed here in an attempt to show the range of opportunities occurring in town.

WE WILL BE ON THE WEB  
CHECK THE TOWN WEB SITE