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Selectboard upholds Baystate Health vote

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Residents came before the Selectboard at its Jan. 6 meeting, to ask its members to rescind a vote previously taken in support of a proposal by Baystate Health.

Cindy Allen Bourcier said the “legality of the controversial certification vote” made by the Selectboard is still being reviewed by the state and she hopes the board members will consider rescinding the vote, after hearing concerns from residents.

Bourcier said it was stat-

ed at the last Selectboard meeting that the Selectboard “has no authority to decide who our healthcare provider will be, and who should be using the Lewis Gilbert Trust funds.”

She said Bank of America, the trustee of the trust, asked the board for a recommendation, which it gave to

Baystate Health’s Convenient Care site proposal.

“So this certification of vote was supposed to be a recommendation letter, yet it uses the word ‘support,’ mentions using endowment funds...this does not sound like a recommendation letter,” Bourcier said. “The intent of this letter was for Bank of

America to influence a court of law stating that the town of Ware supports Baystate.”

Bourcier said there is a serious impact on the town’s healthcare future with this letter. She said Bank of America was willing to change the beneficiary of the trust, even though it was “leaning toward giving the funds to Baystate.”

Bourcier said the Selectboard has not followed through with other healthcare options available, including federally qualified health centers, or other potential trust beneficiaries such as the Community Foundation of Western Mass.

Please see **VOTE**, page 3

Selectmen reviewed letter to West Brookfield

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Board of Selectmen discussed and reviewed a letter to the Town of West Brookfield during its Jan. 8 meeting, regarding fire and EMS services to the town.

Town Administrator James Ferrera said West Brookfield’s Fire Department is going through a transitional period and from what he understands, there are some staffing issues as part of that.

A letter was sent out to the town’s Select Board to see if they would want to come to a Warren Board of Selectmen meeting to hopefully find some answers as to what is going on. As of the Jan. 8 meeting, Ferrera has not received a response. This letter was sent to the town’s Select Board and to its Town Administrator.

Relying on other towns to help in situations revolves around mutual aid support.

Warren Fire Chief Adam Lavoie made it clear that “we’re not taking over that department,” and trying to come up with a solution and work with both towns so one town doesn’t feel worn out completely.

Hazard Mitigation Plan

The board heard a presentation by the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission regarding the town’s Hazard Mitigation Plan.

A survey was done and has addressed main concerns regarding weather and the CMRPC representative mentioned the town has done a great job at addressing concerns for weather. It was also found that Warren has an active community response team and does education and outreach.

There are good mitigation measures already in place and the town can now explore what to further expand on and address the priorities the town has.

Board of Selectmen Vice-Chair Derick Veliz asked if there was any erosion

Please see **WARREN**, page 11

GREEN SISTERS kickoff New Year at Workshop13



On stage, shown from left to right, are Betsy, Beck, Brie, and Melody of the Green Sisters performing at Workshop13 this past weekend.

Local sisters performed to sold-out crowd

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
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WARE – Workshop13 proudly welcomed back the Green Sisters for their first concert in 2026 this past weekend.

The four Green sisters come from Hubbardston, and have always had a passion for music. All four sisters sing and are multi-instrumentalists.

The Green Sisters are Betsy, Melody, Beck, and

Brie and have been known as the Green Sisters for the last 10 years.

The Green Sisters played a lot throughout central Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire. Some perform with other musical groups, but the Green Sisters always find time to perform together.

Betsy Green is one of the Green Sisters who sings and plays the fiddle. Melody

Please see **SISTERS**, page 5



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

Green Sisters merchandise was available during their show at Workshop13, including copies of their two albums, “Endless Blue” and “Blink of an Eye”.

Things to do this winter

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

Though the weather is unpredictable in New England, there is still time to explore your community for activities.

Throughout the winter months, there are some places featuring various activities for kids and adults. Here is a list of places and their activities offered to the public.

Libraries

Your local libraries are a reliable source for programs with some happening on a weekly basis. At the Ware Library, 37 Main St., Ware, there are many enjoyable recurring programs that are happening weekly as well as special programs happening from now until the end of winter.

Weekly programs include Story Stars with Mrs. Desjardins on Mondays at 4:30 p.m., Storytime with Miss Cathy on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., Monday Crafternoon on Mondays from 3-5 p.m., Imagination Station (open-ended crafting) on Tuesdays from 4-6 p.m., Lego Club on Wednesdays from 4:30-5:30 p.m., Family Bingo on every last Thursday of the month from 4:30-5:30 p.m., and Saturday Morning Craft on Saturday, Jan. 24 from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

The Ware Library has several special programs this winter. On Feb. 10 from 4:30-6 p.m. there will

Please see **WINTER**, page 11

Select Board discussed open meeting law complaints

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

HARDWICK – The Select Board reviewed two open meeting law complaints during its Jan. 12 meeting.

The first was a complaint submitted by Select Board Vice-Chair William Tinker. Tinker recused himself from the discussion and Select Board Chair Eric Vollheim read the complaint for the public record.

Tinker’s complaint involved concerns of repeated violations of open meeting law complaints regarding the Select Board in handling executive session scheduling. Vollheim said this started back in June of 2025

and is admitted that he is not clear on how much he’s legally allowed to talk about this subject in public.

It appears the board would have to schedule another executive session to close out what is being discussed with those involved. Select Board Clerk Jeffrey Schaaf shared that he was at the executive session on Nov. 24 and according to his notes the board had concluded the executive session.

“And no further action was necessary,” Schaaf stated.



RESIDENTS, ‘JUST WANT TO KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON IN THEIR TOWN.’

**WILLIAM TINKER
SELECTBOARD**

Jeffery Smith, regarding missing meeting minutes throughout the year 2025.

There were many execu-

tive sessions held and Smith said there no meeting minutes posted, in addition to no checkup or review of said minutes. Vollheim explained that the matter discussed in the executive session has not been resolved.

Tinker addressed some of Smith’s complaints. He said there were meeting minutes uploaded to the site that apparently came up blank. Tinker had a list of the meetings and complaints put together for the board to review and approve.

The Select Board discussed how to address this issue and find the missing minutes to come to a resolution. Tinker also highlighted going through the town’s YouTube channel and pulling the transcript.

According to Tinker, the previous Select Board chair should have some notes saved from these meetings.

Town Administrator Justine Caggiano said she could check with the previous chair for executive session notes. The board members said the executive session meeting information would take a while, as a session still has to take place and be finished.

Schaaf asked how the minutes of an executive session are supposed to be recorded, posted and saved.

Tinker suggested a “confidential cabinet,” which can hold notes from executive sessions.

Please see **COMPLAINTS**, page 7



community

FOSC to host Valentine Celebration

Deadline to order tickets is Friday, Jan. 16



HARDWICK – The Friends of the Stone Church will host its annual Valentine Celebration on Saturday, Jan. 31 at 4 p.m. at Hardwick Crossing Country Club, Route 32, Gilbertville.

All are welcome to join the Friends for a rollicking party to celebrate and support the Stone Church Cultural Center. Tickets are \$65 per person.

Hardwick Crossing provides an elegant private dining room surrounded by beautiful country views. Dinner will be served buffet style: appetizer, steak tips, haddock, vegetarian lasagna, salad, vegetables, and cookies, with a cash bar.

The Mason Tyler Duo, Lou Falcone on saxophone and Mark Fontaine on keyboard and guitar, will entertain you, whether you sit and listen or dance the night away. Their music ranges from swing to blues, from

classic rock to jazz, and they love harmonizing favorite 1950s and 1960s songs.

Proceeds of dinner tickets and auction purchases benefit Friends of the Stone Church, a non-profit corporation whose mission is to preserve the historic Gilbertville landmark known as the Stone Church Cultural Center, and to operate it as a thriving center for our regional Massachusetts communities. Support for the Center helps produce concerts, events for youth and children, and community music events and rehearsal space.

The last day to purchase tickets is Jan. 16. No tickets will be sold at the event, so reservations in the form

of purchased tickets are required.

Purchase tickets online at: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/friendsofthestonechurch/> or mail payment by check to FOSC, P.O. Box 347, Gilbertville, MA 01031. If mailing, please specify the number of tickets with your name and the names of all attendees and your email or cell phone where you would like to receive acknowledgment.

To donate something to the auction, to promote this event or to ask a question, please contact the FOSC by email: Events@FriendsoftheStoneChurch.org. No donations accepted after Jan. 24.

STCC announces fall 2025 dean's list

SPRINGFIELD – Springfield Technical Community College celebrates the accomplishment of the 1,198 students who were named to the fall 2025 dean's list.

Local students include Nicholas C. Dugre, Mamie Tonisha Jackson, Ryan Joseph Norton, Benjamin John Ring, Alexandra Elizabeth Robbins,

Gianni Nicholas Scibelli and Nichole Teele, all of Ware; Tyler Brice Curtis, Joseph Cadon Novak and Myanyeliz Quinones, all of Ware; and Autumn Marie Belanger and Gina Belanger, both of West Warren.

The dean's list is published each semester to recognize excellence in academic performance. To be considered,

degree-seeking students must earn 12 or more college level credits in the current semester, or a total of 12 or more combined college-level credits earned during the fall and spring semesters, and achieve a 3.3 or above grade point average.

Student names are listed under the towns or cities in which they reside.

Are You Old News?

Each week the Ware River News digs into its submitted photo archives and selects a people photo to publish. We need your help to help identify those pictured.

File Photo
Last week's photo from 2022 showed Chris Boos getting ready to send Sadie, Garrett and Makayla down the hill at Hardwick Elementary School.

If you recognize the folks in this week's photo, please send their names and your full name to pouimette@turley.com.

Nomination papers for election available Jan. 18

WARE – The Annual Town Election will be held on Monday, April 13.

Offices which will appear on the ballot are: Selectboard, three-year term, vote for two; School Committee, three-year term, vote for one; Board of Assessors, three-year term, vote for one; Board of Assessors, one year unexpired term, vote for one; Board of Health, three-year term, vote for one; Park Commissioner, three-year term, vote for one; Cemetery Commissioner, three-year term, vote for one; Planning Board, five-year term, vote for one; Ware Housing Authority, five-year term, vote for one.

The last date to register to vote is Friday, April 3. The last date to obtain and file nomination papers (49 days prior to the Annual Town Election) is Monday, Feb. 23 by 5 p.m.

The last date to file

nomination papers with the Town Clerk (35 days prior to the Annual Town Election) is Monday, March 9. The last date to object to filing of nomination papers or withdrawal of papers filed (33 days prior to the Annual Town Election) is Wednesday, March 11.

The last date for file an application for Vote by Mail (five business days prior to the Annual Town Election) is Monday, April 6 by 5 p.m.

Anyone interested in running for public office must be a registered voter in Ware.

Nomination Papers may be picked up as of Jan. 18 during normal business hours – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Questions may be directed to the Town Clerk, Nancy J. Talbot, at 413-967-9648 extension 103.

St. Aloysius Catholic School to hold open house

HARDWICK – St. Aloysius Catholic School is hosting an Open House in celebration of Catholic Schools Week on Monday, Jan. 26 from 3-5:30 p.m.

Prospective families are encouraged to visit the school, located at 52 Church St. in Gilbertville, where they can tour the classrooms, meet the teachers and learn more about the great educational and faith filled experiences that await.

For more information, please call the school and speak to Roberta McQuaid, Enrollment Coordinator, at 413-477-1268.

Hardwick Community Church's annual meeting Jan. 18

HARDWICK – The Annual Meeting of the Hardwick Community Church will be held on Sunday, Jan. 18 at noon in the Hardwick Universalist Church located in Hardwick Center.

Business planning & marketing classes starting soon.

Build your skills and strengthen your business through QVDC's hands-on workshops and group training sessions. Designed for both new and established businesses, these sessions cover **business planning, marketing, and financial management**. Financial assistance may be available for qualifying participants.

Foundations of Small Business Marketing \$25

2 dates to choose from: Sat. January 24 or Sat. April 18

With tight resources & limited time, having a clear, focused marketing plan can help cut through the noise and make an impact. This hands-on workshop is designed to help simplify your marketing and make more confident decisions. We will cover core marketing and social media fundamentals, including defining your audience, clarifying your message, developing a value proposition, creating an ad, and building a practical marketing plan. Participants will sharpen their focus, reach customers more effectively, and build a marketing strategy that supports steady growth in uncertain times.

5-part Business Planning Workshop \$99

Mon. Jan 26 • Wed. Jan 28 • Mon. Feb 2 • Wed. Feb 4 plus a one-on-one individual session.

Starting or growing a business can feel especially uncertain in changing economic times, and having a clear plan can help steady the path forward. The Quabog Valley CDC Business Planning Workshop is a hands-on series that helps new and growing business owners bring structure to their ideas, understand their options, and plan with greater confidence. Participants learn how to build a support team, create a practical roadmap, explore marketing approaches, and better understand financing and cash flow through guided sessions and a one-on-one financial projection, all designed to support thoughtful decision-making.

REGISTER NOW at [QVDC.org/learn](https://www.QVDC.org/learn) or call 413-967-3001.

The Ware River News will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 3. To request a correction, send information to pouimett@turley.com, or call 967-3505. Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Ware River News, Attn: Editor, 80 Main St., Ware, MA 01082.

2026 East Quabbin Farm Micro-grant

Funding to inspire our local farmers to continue doing their great work in sustaining our communities and improving the quality of life in the East Quabbin region - including Barre, Hardwick, Hubbardston, New Braintree, North Brookfield, Oakham, Petersham, Ware and West Brookfield.

Prioritizing requests for:

- Farm succession planning and farmland conservation; and
- Organic and/or Regenerative farming practices focused on fruits, vegetables and meats directly consumed by residents of our region.

Apply Now!
Due Monday February 23rd

More information:
<https://eqt.org/east-quabbin-farm-micro-grants/>

Ware Senior Center news

WARE – The Ware Senior Center, located at 1 Robbins Road, is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

The thrift store is open each of those days from 9 a.m.-noon. Donations to the store are only accepted by Sue LaBarge, who can be reached by calling 413-544-1574.

ACTIVITIES

Monday, Jan. 19

Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Tuesday, Jan. 20

- 9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing
- 9 a.m. Movin & Groovin to the Oldies with Lisa. \$3 per class.
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 1-2 p.m. Food Bank of Western MA Mobile Food Pantry at Grenville Park
- 5:30 p.m. Scrapbooking. \$3 per class

- 6 p.m. Pitch (Doors open at 5 p.m.)

Wednesday, Jan. 21

- 9 a.m. Tai-Chi
- 9:30 a.m. Quilting Club
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 1 p.m. Knit-Crochet-Laugh
- 1 p.m. Chair Yoga with Lori

Thursday, Jan. 22

- 9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing
- 9 a.m. Walking Club (weather permitting)
- 9:30 a.m. Line Dancing for Beginners
- 10 a.m. Line Dancing
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 12:15 p.m. Art Class

Friday, Jan. 23

- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 1 p.m. Chair Yoga with Lori
- 6 p.m. Pitch (Doors open

at 5 p.m.)

LUNCHES DINE IN

11:30 a.m.

All meals \$3.50

unless otherwise noted

Required: call 413-967-4595 by noon on the business day before, to put your name on the lunch list.

Monday, Jan. 19

Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Tuesday, Jan. 20

Boston Burger with BBQ, Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Onion Rings, Dessert of the Day

Wednesday, Jan. 21

Meatloaf ala Davis, Baked Potato, Veggie of the Day, Dessert of the Day

Thursday, Jan. 22

Spaghetti with Meatballs, Tossed Salad, Dessert of the Day

Friday, Jan. 23

Tuna Melt Sandwich, Tomato Soup, French Fries, Dessert of the Day

Ware Town Clerk releases 2026 dog licensing information

WARE – Massachusetts State Law, Chapter 140, §137, requires that all dogs six months of age shall be licensed each year.

Dog licenses are now available for sale and must be purchased by Tuesday, March 31.

If you are licensing in person the Town Clerk's Office will be open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday each week during business hours. Town Hall is now closed to the public on Wednesdays. If you are licensing by U.S. Mail, the licenses must be purchased prior to March 31, and your envelope must also be post-marked by March 31 or there will be a late fee.

Fees for licensing your dog are male/female \$15; spayed/neutered \$10.

On April 1 there will be a late fee of \$15 per dog in addition to the licensing fee.

Rabies Certificates for each dog must be presented at the time of licensing as in the past.

If your dog was licensed in 2025, check the license to see if the Rabies Certificate is current (the information is on your 2025 license); if it is current, simply come into the office to license in person or license by U.S. Mail. If licensing by mail, you must provide a self-addressed, postage paid envelope in order for us to return the license and tag to you.

If licensing more than one dog, be sure to add sufficient postage to your envelope to insure delivery.

Checks are payable to the Town of Ware for the appropriate amount. All Rabies Certificates supplied will be returned to you with the dog license.

Contact the Town Clerk's Office at 413-967-9648

extension 177 if you failed to license in 2025 so that we may inform you what is owed in entirety to license for 2026.

There is also a blue drop box outside the lower-level offices at Town Hall for those of you who wish to drop off your request for licensing. Address the envelope to Town Clerk/Dog Licenses.

If you are licensing your dog for the first time, be sure to supply the owner's name, address and contact telephone number; a copy of the current Rabies Certificate and if the dog is neutered/spayed also send this certificate unless it is stated on the Rabies Certificate.

Question may be directed to the Town Clerk's Office at 413-967-9648 extension 177.

VOTE from page 1

"What research and analysis did you do to make the decision to support Baystate?" she asked the Selectboard members.

Cathy Buelow Cascio said Baystate Health's presence in town would prevent other healthcare entities from coming.

Hardwick resident Stephen Granlund said the community's feelings matter on this subject, and he said Baystate Health has failed to keep promises for years. He said, "we're depending on a failing health system."

Baystate Health was represented by Attorney Ryan Barry who said his client has made a "firm commitment" to open a Convenient Care clinic in town, pending modification to the Lewis Gilbert Trust through the probate court. He said the opening of the clinic is dependent on use of the funds.

"I'm not aware of any other healthcare organization that has made even close to that level of commitment. I'm not aware of any other healthcare organization that made any commitment at all to build or develop or open any kind of healthcare facility in the town of Ware," he said. "Who else is going to step in and build a clinic in the town if Baystate no longer does it?"

Barry said Baystate Health's financial condition

has improved and it has a stable budget now.

Selectboard member Jack Cascio made a motion to rescind the board's prior vote on July 1, 2025, to recommend Baystate Health's proposal, which was seconded by Vice-Chair Josh Kusnierz.

Selectboard Clerk John Desmond said he has worked in public health for over 30 years, and he said realistically, the town is going to end up with a Convenient Care facility.

"If we delay this, this is going to continue on for another two, or three, or four years, and more discussions and more talking, and more talking," Desmond said. "And I think we're going end up with exactly what the Convenient Care is."

Desmond said his biggest concern is for the residents of the town and he believes this proposal is in their best interest at this time.

"I believe firmly, you're never going to get more than a Convenient Care," he said.

Kusnierz said he would be willing to rescind his vote to give the residents time to explore other options.

"If it falls through – it's on you guys, as well as it is on me as well," he said.

Selectboard member Ken Willette said the board members need to make hard decision to benefit the town.

"Having a healthcare provider in town...is a first step,"

Willette said. "Our vote today does not preclude our vote of support for any future healthcare opportunity...it could be the start of building a bridge to more services."

Selectboard Chair Nancy Talbot said the town has fought to keep healthcare in town, and to make decisions in its residents' best interests. She spoke about the challenges facing rural healthcare.

"You have to start somewhere," Talbot said. "And the starting point is to have a Convenient Care which hopefully will blossom into other things."

The Selectboard members voted to rescind the vote, with only Cascio and Kusnierz in support. The vote failed to pass.

Support of committee member

Talbot read a statement in support of former Hospital Review Committee Chair Howard Trietsch. Talbot served on the now dissolved committee with Trietsch.

Talbot explained the purpose the committee served to the town, and how Trietsch was nominated to be chair, and how the committee's members unanimously supported this.

"To my knowledge, never has anyone's employment, past history of employment, or the offices an applicant has held with an organization, ever come into question prior

to being appointed to a town committee or board," she said. "In fact, my opinion...I was very happy to know that Dr. Trietsch was willing to serve and that his knowledge of Baystate, of hospitals, but more importantly insurance, would in fact be beneficial to us as we began our work."

Talbot said Trietsch was helpful with his thoughts and ideas, and that he never pushed to have Baystate Health fill the void created by the closure of Mary Lane Hospital

She said Trietsch supported ideas from others and worked with the architects hired by the town.

Talbot said Trietsch has "been attacked, been accused and been chastised" for having been a medical provider, and having past affiliations with Baystate Health in that role.

"He has verbalized many times and has been very clear on his involvement with Baystate, which ended prior to his ever being appointed by the Selectboard to serve," she said. "No other member of the committee has been scrutinized or chastised to the extent that he has."

Talbot asked the other board members to support her request to publicly affirm that Trietsch "was appointed without question, served without conflict, and continues to work on behalf of the residents."

Talbot said she wants Trietsch to continue working with Beckley and herself, to bring back healthcare services to the town through the working group that has been communicating with Baystate Health, as he has done for many years.

Willette said he was in support of Talbot's request and he said he was grateful for Trietsch's contributions to the committee and the town.

The Selectboard voted to support Talbot's statement regarding Trietsch, and continue to include him in the working group that is communicating with Baystate Health. Cascio abstained from voting.

Reduction of quorum

A public hearing was held to discuss potentially reducing the quorum to 80 registered voters for the Special Town Meeting to be held on Monday, Feb. 2 at 6:30 p.m. The quorum, by the charter, is 100 registered voters.

The Selectboard voted to reduce the quorum to 80.

Sewer abatements

The Selectboard reviewed sewer abatement requests for properties at 10 Wildflower Drive and 147 West Main St.

Beckley said both abatement requests were situations where water was used, but it did not go into the sewer system. He said one had a backed up sewer and the other

had a broken water heater.

Selectboard members approved an abatement of \$483.57 for the Wildflower Drive property and \$470.69 for the West Main Street property.

Main Street buildings

Beckley said the town is working with KP Law to get a court order for access to the vacant buildings on Main Street to test for hazardous materials prior to demolition.

Demolition of Pleasant Street building

Beckley said the main building at 116 Pleasant St. was demolished earlier that day, and the garage will be demolished next.

Approval of meeting minutes

The Selectboard approved the Oct. 16, 2025 meeting minutes of the Hospital Review Committee. The committee was dissolved by the Selectboard at the committee's request, prior to the minutes being approved.

Public hearing for liquor license

A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 3 at 6:40 for an on-premise farmer's series pouring license for malt and wine for Fieldcrest Brewing Co., 11 East Main St.

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Palmer, MA 01069

Glenda's

Saturday, January 16th ~ 7pm-10pm

Moonlight
Saints

Saturday, January 17th

Karaoke

948 Main Street, Warren, MA • 413-436-8491

Upcoming Events

Saturday, January 31st-
7pm-11pm

Country Rock

EVERY SUNDAY

DARTS

LUCK OF THE DRAW

5:30pm • All Welcome

FOR RENT

Quabbin Estates

41 Church Lane, Wheelwright, MA 01094

Accepting applications for wait list. The apartment features - w/w carpeting, kitchen appliances, maintenance coverage, laundry facilities. We specialize in Senior Housing and "Barrier Free" accessible units. Rent is \$810/mo. or 30% of income, whichever is lower. RD regulations. Handicap Accessible apartments when available.

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viewpoints

GUEST COLUMN

On the Hardwick Community Church

A Federation of the two churches on one New England town common as early as 1721 would make the Hardwick Community Church, the oldest local church in America.

While it was more likely a later choice to combine the churches into a federation, joining Universalist and Calvinist theology, the institution itself has remained a functioning organization; but with the loss of church congregations, it was almost forgotten in recent decades. We forgot about the Hardwick Community Church.

Two years ago on finding its treasury, donated and wisely invested by earlier members decades and generations ago, I sought to revive interest in this community church, a ready-made, solid and funded organization which by nature intends peace, charity, and wellbeing for all, just waiting for people to use it to revive and strengthen our local community.

Whether church with a capital C, representing the best human intentions or church with the small c, separate from state, the Hardwick Community Church appeared to me a gift from heaven, an empowering instrument or the simplest tool for people on the planet to regain local strength and hope in the face of life's vicissitudes

In the past two years of meeting with various interested people, some of us actual members of one or the other churches have voted to find and divide the treasury equally between the two member churches. While that is not necessarily public business, the opportunity for anyone interested, whether family of those who may have been former members, or former members of either church at some time past, or even the unchurched, are invited to meet at this ground level to preserve and further develop a community church, to help

determine and resume its functions. Everyone then is welcome to come join or listen as we launch into 2026.

Hardwick Community Church is the same entity, I think to myself but now we have no money! (Irony!). Yet it remains truly a ground floor opportunity as I see it.

We will have to raise our own funds to move forward, to implement our goals, caring for the environment that supports our life and providing for psychosocial contexts of every sort which improve one's confidence and social skills, such as:

Hospitality for the entire community – tea parties on the common or in the churches, both beautiful, architectural and historic buildings fully operational for charitable purposes, if only one is currently used for worship.

Mind you, the Tri Parish Community Church is alive and well since the 1970s and provides worship services rotating between Hardwick and New Braintree on a six month basis. We are now meeting in New Braintree at 10 a.m. each Sunday until July 2026 when we will return to the Universalist Church in Hardwick.

This common arrangement between churches was begun to save costs of the minister and his housing and expenses borne by large church congregations in the past.

- To be open during farmers market;
- Have sewing clubs, quilting, exercise groups,
- To form and support lacrosse, or other teams;
- Concerts, lectures, conferences
- Connections with Eagle Hill School and the Stone Church Cultural Center;
- Connections with other churches, Petersham, Orthodox, St. Augustine in Wheelwright, Saint

Please see **CHURCH**, page 5

Baking bread with herbs

There has been a resurgence lately in doing things the "old fashioned way!" I am definitely all for that, since I have often felt I was born a century too late.

People are making their own soap and laundry detergent, growing gardens, and canning and preserving the harvest. Many have also gotten the sourdough itch, and are baking all sorts of breads, rolls and treats using sourdough starter. My niece shared some of her starter with my husband and I! It traveled several states to make it to us and boy was our first loaf delicious.

I don't feel as if I will give up making yeasted bread entirely, though, especially since my favorite bread of all time is a braided bread that incorporates herbs. (You knew that eventually I would weave in a gardening topic!) I'm excited to share the recipe with you.

Maybe you will even become inspired to grow your own herbs to use in this or any number of recipes down the road.

This time of year it is likely you won't have fresh herbs on hand, so before we begin,

I'd like to give you some tips for using dried herbs.

First, remember to break them up finely just before you incorporate them into any recipe. Honestly, there is nothing worse than coming across a full-size piece of Rosemary foliage, for exam-

ple. I like the date right on the bottle.

Without any further ado, here is the recipe for that wonderful bread – as pretty as it is flavorful. Certainly a nice addition to a bowl of soup on a winter's night! And it makes the best croutons, too!

COUNTRY HERB BREAD TWIST

- 1 envelope active dry yeast
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- ¼ cup water (110 degrees)
- ¼ stick unsalted butter, melted (2 tablespoons)
- 2 ½- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 ½ teaspoons salt
- 1 tablespoon minced fresh oregano
- 1 tablespoon minced fresh thyme
- 1 tablespoon minced fresh rosemary

Sprinkle yeast and sugar over ¼ cup warm water in a large bowl; stir to dissolve. Let stand until foamy (approximately 15 minutes).

Blend 1 cup water and 1 tablespoon of the melted butter into the yeast mixture. Combine 2 ½ cups flour and salt.

Stir into yeast mixture ½ cup at a time to form a slightly sticky dough, adding up to ½ cup additional flour if necessary.

Turn dough out onto a lightly floured surface and knead until smooth and elastic, about 5 minutes. Place dough in a large bowl that

Please see **RECIPE**, page 5



ple. I like you are chomping on a pine needle!

Besides making the herbs more palatable, the flavor will be released ever so nicely once they are finely ground. Small amounts of herbs can be crushed between your fingertips – larger amounts can be ground up using a mortar and pestle.

Pulverize whole spices in a coffee grinder. Some folks gently roast them first to intensify their flavor. If you want to substitute fresh herbs for dried in any recipe, use at least twice as much; likewise in this recipe you would use only have the amount if using dried.

Store dried herbs and spices away from heat and light; even so, they will start to lose their flavor after about a year. When I buy a new jar of dried herbs, I find it helpful to mark



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Resident enjoys Rail Trail year round

My name is Steven Hawk and I am an advocate for the Mass Central Rail Trail that runs through the Ware River Valley and I want to let everyone know that the Rail Trail is open all year and I myself go for a lot of walks in my wheelchair with my sister's dog Bella.

The Rail Trail is a hidden gem and I hope to see everyone out on the Rail Trail.

Steven Hawk
Ware



Ware resident Steven Hawk enjoyed the Mass Central Rail Trail that runs from Gibbs Crossing to Robbins Road, along with his sister's dog, Bella.



Submitted Photos

Many people utilize the Mass Central Rail Trail for recreation, as well as access to the town's shopping centers.

Town pool sewage problems

Two weeks ago, I had a column published that stated a few of the extra costs associated with a new pool, if it's ever built; I'd like to expound on one of those points, namely the sewage back-ups.

I stated in the edited, shortened version that the town pool suffered from sewage back-ups; just mentioning this fact did an injustice to the magnitude of the problem.

The main sewer line in the area comes down West Main Street (Route 9) then drops vertically upon reaching Muddy Brook.

From there it crosses underneath the brook before rising vertically up the other side before continuing onward to the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Unfortunately, this design is subject to blockages so severe at times that the sewage backs up the hill to the next low point, the town pool.

When I say the sewer main gets blocked, we're

not talking about a stuck toilet or two that won't flush. The raw sewage flows out every toilet; it fills every stall; it fills the shower floors; it flows onto the floors everywhere and into the outer rooms; and this occurs all at the same time.

The first clue is outside the building: the sewer manhole cover is perforated and sewage blows out the holes and fills the parking lot blocking access to (the former) Beauregard playground. This happened several times over the years before the pool was closed permanently after the 2018 season.

It happened twice last summer (2025), even though the pool has been closed for several years; this problem has nothing to do with the pool construction as the problem is under Route 9.

Why do I write this, besides wanting to expand and clarify a brief statement that may have been overlooked by readers?

Because as of Jan. 12, the sewer blocked again, leading to the town pool parking lot being flooded with raw sewage.

What was new this time was that this blockage occurred during this past weekend and the sewage outflow so intense, that for the first time the town pool itself was flooded, reaching the shallow end. The pool was already partially filled with water from Muddy Brook.

It has two relief valves for this very purpose to allow water in; without which the hydrostatic pressure from the ground water would pop the pool out of the ground. To spend \$200,000 to design a pool, splash pad and accouterments for an additional multi-million-dollar price tag for luxury items that we cannot afford when actual needed capital items are required is sinful.

Denis R. Ouimette
Ware

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Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length, and "Your Turn" guest column between 500-800 words. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require that the person submitting the opinion also include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, or defamation of character.

Send opinions to:
Ware River News
Letter to the Editor
80 Main Street,
Ware, MA 01082
or via email to:
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The deadline for submissions is Monday at noon.

Turley Election Policy

This newspaper will print free self-submitted statements of candidacy only four weeks or more out from the election. All candidates running in both contested and uncontested races are asked to submit their statements to the editor to include only biographical and campaign platform details. Total word count for statements is limited to between 300-500 words maximum. Please include a photo. We will not publish any statements of candidacy inside the four weeks from election threshold. To publish any other campaign publicity during the race, please contact our advertising representatives. We also do not allow personal attacks against other candidates or political parties in statements of candidacy, nor do we publish for free any information about key endorsements or political fundraisers.

Letters to the editor of no more than 250 words from supporters endorsing specific candidates or discussing campaign issues are limited to three total per author during the election season. No election letters will appear in the final edition before the election. We reserve the right to edit all statements of candidacy and letters to the editor to meet our guidelines.

Read the Ware River News online at www.warerivernews.turley.com



Brian Jyringi of Workshop13 was wearing a Green Sisters T-shirt.

Turley Photo by Ryan Drago

SISTERS from page 1

Green is the oldest Green Sister who plays the bass, guitar, sings, and is a songwriter. Beck is a Green Sister who plays the mandolin and guitar. Brie Green plays the fiddle, bass, and guitar.

Workshop13 has hosted the Green Sisters over the last several years and has been welcomed back to perform the first concert in 2026. Their style of music consists of bluegrass, barbershop, blues, and country.

A sold-out crowd at Workshop13 witnessed this mix of music featuring covers and original songs by the Green Sisters.

The four sisters reminisced about their first music gig, which was also held in Ware. The sisters have the set list from that gig still in their possession.

It was an outdoor event and the Green Sisters said they played a lot of Irish music.

"We also throw in some holiday songs during the holidays," one Green Sister said. The Green Sisters have

released two albums, "Endless Blue" and "Blink of an Eye". Both albums were available to purchase at the merchandise table in Workshop13.

Running the sound for the show, Brian Jyringi, was getting into the spirit of the show and was wearing a Green Sisters T-shirt.

The group has written 13 original songs and also plays covers of songs by Hank Williams and Patsy Cline. "Lovesick Blues" is a song by Hank Williams the Green Sisters do a great cover of.

The four Green Sisters have an amazing time performing together when they can. All four love to add humor to the show in between songs.

"We're stand-up musicians," Beck said.

The Green Sisters' next show will be at the Full Moon Coffee House in Wendell on Saturday, April 4. For more information on the Green Sisters, visit their website, thegreensistersfour.com.

For more shows at Workshop13, visit workshop13.org.

A resident of Lake Lashaway saw her first ever evening grosbeak in the morning at her feeder on Sunday, Jan. 4.

The evening grosbeak is an eight inch long, chunky, thick billed finch, which wanders widely in winter.

The males are yellow and brown with black and white wings. The females are gray with white and black wings. Both sexes have a thick bill. They have notched, square tipped tails and pointed wings.

Often evening grosbeaks visit feeders in large flocks. They inhabit conifer forests and in winter are seen in box elders, maples and fruiting shrubs. They breed in the coniferous and mixed forests. They are seen in spruce and fir trees in the northern forests and pines in the western mountains. They are seen in winter in deciduous woodlands and semi-open country. Their song is a series of short, musical whistles. Their call note is similar to the chirp of a house sparrow, but louder.

The female lays three to four pale blue to blue green, blotched with brown, gray or purple eggs. The female does all the incubating, but the male may feed the female during this time. Both parents feed the nestlings.

Their diet is mostly seeds and some berries and

insects. They prefer seeds of box elder, ash, maple, locust and other trees. At feeders, they prefer sunflower seeds. They also will feed on oozing maple sap. They extended their breeding range eastward in the 19th century and early 20th century. The population declined in the east in recent years.

Other birds at Lake Lashaway

The Lake Lashaway resident also had red cardinals, blue jays galore, gold finches and a red bellied woodpecker. She said bald eagles are very common visitors on the lake.

Brimfield birds

I received an email from a Brimfield resident on Jan. 5. He said, "Not much happening in the yard. We've seen one white-throated sparrow after recent snow storms and a group of about a dozen house finches show up often. Yesterday there was a group of American goldfinch in a birch tree eating seeds but they didn't come to the feeder."

Male evening grosbeak

Christmas bird count

He said, "My wife and I did the Christmas Bird Count with the Allen Bird Club again this year. We cover the town of Ludlow. The weather was fine but the birds were not cooperating. We managed 26 species which is a few below our average. Woodpeckers (only 1 downy) and sparrows (3 junco) were hard to find."

He also said, "At the Ludlow Reservoir there was a good amount of open water but few birds, eight hooded mergansers and four mallards. Curiously last year there was a lot less open water at the reservoir but a lot more birds. Go figure."

People may visit <https://netapp.audubon.org/CBCObservation/CurrentYear/ResultsByCount.aspx> to obtain Christmas Bird count results. Enter the county and state to get Massachusetts counts. He said he did not know the Springfield count results, but the Worcester count had 78 species.

Snowy owls

He also heard there have been two snowy owls in Northampton for a few weeks now. Initially they were seen in fields north of Route 9, but lately have been seen in the fields near the airport.

Barred owl and pileated woodpecker

I saw a barred owl and a pileated woodpecker in the same day, Jan. 6. The barred owl was perched in a tree and stayed awhile before flying off. When I went to pick up my grandson at the bus stop, I saw a pileated woodpecker on Lincoln Road.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at backyard100, emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

Quaboag Valley Ham radio club meeting to be held Jan. 27

WEST BROOKFIELD – The Quaboag Valley Amateur Radio Club will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 27 at 6:30 p.m. at the West Brookfield Senior Center, 73 Central St.

This month's presentation features Bill Simpson of Smokestack Lightning, who will explain the basics of lightning protection and share a short demonstration with his "lightning

machine." All licensed amateurs and anyone curious about Amateur Radio are invited to attend, and the public is welcome to stop in – especially homeowners interested in practical light-

ning safety. For more information about the club, upcoming events, or licensing opportunities, visit www.QVARC.com.

RECIPE from page 4

has been lightly buttered.

Turn dough to coat entire surface. Cover with a clean cloth and let rise in a warm, draft-free area until the dough has doubled in volume, about 1 1/2 hours.

Punch dough down. Divide into thirds.

One by one, take each third and knead in the individual herbs. Roll each dough ball between the palms of your hands into a rope about 20 inches long. Taper the ends.

When complete, lay the three side by side and working from the middle, braid each end. Transfer the bread to a buttered baking sheet and cover loosely with a clean cloth.

Allow to rise in a warm place for 45- 50 minutes, until doubled in size.

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Brush loaf with remaining 1 tablespoon of melted butter and bake for 20-30 minutes or until golden and loaf sounds hollow when tapped.

Cool for 30 minutes before serving. Serve it warm with a pat of butter or have some olive oil handy for dipping!

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

CHURCH from page 4

Aloysius; other churches of Ware, other community, local organizations.

- Sponsoring talks, singing groups, woodworking, timber framing
- After/before school programs and teen hangouts with breakfast or after-school snacks, healthy of course
- Imagining ways to replace rapid access to healthcare; providing health services
- Implementing self-sufficiency of our homes and our own buildings
- Evolving our responsibilities to our "property" in both self-sufficiency – elec-

tricity, water, and food – the ability for local autonomy and survival, and considering our responsibility to each other because we use the same air, water, soil (food), and local facilities to survive

- Working with our history as our nation developed; we were there; as agriculture began we were there and still are
- How to generate revenue enough to provide services, always maintaining the separation of church and state; to help Church supplement lost services and prevent or remediate further impoverishment of our people and the cumulative degradation of our surroundings, our environments,

via police, fire, ambulance, roadways, waterworks, septic mitigation, and diverting entrance of toxins into our place and our bodies.

Must church take up the slack? Could we work together with our own indigenous peoples who can teach us of spirit found in nature we have lost? Could we set up a new system of checks and balances between Church, State and Nature represented by the Environment and its first peoples?

We can establish anything we imagine and have great joy doing so together. Interest in Community – interest In Common.

We can become citizen researchers planting to replace species lost to disease or for beautification of our public areas and common. We develop a voice of local peoples through the Hardwick Community Church because it is crucial to our health and spiritual well-being.

You are invited to offer ideas, and help put them together, together.

The Annual Meeting of the Hardwick Community Church will be held on Sunday, Jan. 18 at noon at the Hardwick Universalist Church Hardwick Center.

Heroic efforts at the local level are called for. Church

steps in when all else fails because of those who have hope, faith and love of their neighbors and themselves. We are out here ready to take the peaceful path, to seek justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God (Old Testament) and with faith hope and charity (New Testament) represent church with a capital C.

Cordially,

Judith Kohn
Member
Congregational Church of the Hardwick Community Church and the Tri Parish Community Church

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public safety

Ware Police Log

During the week of Jan. 4-13, the Ware Police Department responded to 38 miscellaneous calls, 47 administrative calls, 18 traffic violations, nine emergency 911 calls, five thefts/larcenies, three trespasses, three harassments/stalks/threats, four damages/vandalisms, five motor vehicle accidents, one breaking and entering, two frauds/forgeries, one indecency/lewdness, two safety hazards, two animal calls and 52 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

Sunday, Jan. 4
2:25 a.m. Suspicious/Wanted, North Street, Services Rendered
8:49 p.m. Breaking and Entering/Burglary, Highland Village, Investigated

Monday, Jan. 5
3:36 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Could Not Locate
5:37 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
10:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Crash, Eddy Street, Services Rendered

Tuesday, Jan. 6
2:02 a.m. Bylaw Violation, North Street, Citation/Warning Issued
2:04 a.m. Bylaw Violation, North Street, Citation/Warning Issued
5:28 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Walnut Street, Services Rendered
7:19 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasant Street, Citation/Warning Issued
7:32 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
11:05 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Valley View, Advised
3:19 p.m. Fraud/Deception, Church Street, Report Made

Wednesday, Jan. 7
2:23 a.m. Bylaw

Violation, Church Street, Citation/Warning Issued
6:43 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation/Warning Issued
7:01 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Palmer Road, Citation/Warning Issued
4:46 p.m. Gas Leak/Odor, North Street, Investigated

Thursday, Jan. 8
3:06 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Church Street, Arrest Made
6:29 a.m. Damage/Vandalism, East Court, Investigated
6:37 a.m. Safety Hazard, Palmer Road, Advised
9:52 a.m. Damage/Vandalism, Clifford Avenue, Services Rendered
12:16 p.m. Indecency/Lewdness, Upper Church Street, Advised
2:45 p.m. Fraud/Deception, South Street, Investigated
2:59 p.m. Trespass/Unwanted, Greenwich Road, Services Rendered
3:43 p.m. Theft/Larceny, West Street, Assist Given
10:24 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, North Street, Services Rendered

Friday, Jan. 9
2:45 a.m. Trespass/Unwanted, Palmer Road, Could Not Locate
3:50 a.m. Bylaw Violation, Otis Avenue, Citation/Warning Issued
2:44 p.m. Theft/Larceny, North Street, Services Rendered
4 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Pleasant Street, Advised
10:34 p.m. Damage/Vandalism, Palmer Road, Assist Given

Saturday, Jan. 10
12:24 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Dispatch Handled
11:25 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted, Walnut Street, Services Rendered

Editor's Note: People in this country are presumed to be innocent until found guilty in a court of law. Police provide us with the information you read on this page as public record information. If you or any suspect listed here is found not guilty or has charges dropped or reduced, we will gladly print that information as a follow-up upon being presented with documented proof of the court's final disposition.

Sunday, Jan. 11
12:22 a.m. Trespass/Unwanted, Walnut Street, Advised
9:14 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Walnut Street, Investigated
10:36 a.m. Damage/Vandalism, Vigeant Street, Report Made
4:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Belchertown Road, Citation/Warning Issued
5:16 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Belchertown Road, Citation/Warning Issued
5:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Belchertown Road, Citation/Warning Issued
5:52 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Dispatch Handled
7:34 p.m. Theft/Larceny, West Street, Arrest Made
11:02 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Morse Avenue, Services Rendered

Monday, Jan. 12
2:51 a.m. Bylaw Violation, North Street, Citation/Warning Issued
9:16 a.m. Theft/Larceny, Morse Avenue, Investigated
1:54 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Church Street, Dispatch Handled
2:03 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Church Street, Advised
4:18 p.m. Safety Hazard, Church Street, Services Rendered
5:11 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Pleasant Street, Investigated

Warren Police Log

During the week of Dec. 21-27, the Warren Police Department responded to 66 building/property checks, 10 community policings, 11 emergency 911 calls, one parking, one fire/illegal burn, two property damages, one assault and battery, one harassment, three motor vehicle accidents and eight motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

Sunday, Dec. 21
12:43 a.m. Fire/Illegal Burn, Old Brook Road, Investigated
4:27 p.m. Property Damage, Little Rest Road, Investigated

Monday, Dec. 22
8:07 a.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Main Street, Vehicle Towed
11:07 p.m. Abdominal/Back Pain, South Street, Transported to Hospital

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of Jan. 5-12 the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 54 building/property checks, 33 directed/area patrols, nine radar assignments, five traffic controls, 17 emergency 911 calls, seven citizen assists, one assist other agency, two complaints, two safety hazards, one scam, one motor vehicle investigation, one property damage, one fire/other, two motor vehicle accidents, four animal calls and five motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, Jan. 5
8:05 a.m. Motor Vehicle Crash, Lower Road, Transported to Hospital
8:05 a.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Crash, Lower Road, Merge
10:49 a.m. Assist Citizen, School House Drive, Dispatch Handled

Tuesday, Jan. 6
7:15 a.m. 911 Property

Tuesday, Dec. 23
3:28 a.m. Falls, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
9:56 a.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem, School Street, Transported to Hospital
4:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
8:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
11:26 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, Dec. 24
11:34 a.m. Harassment, Brimfield Road, Officer Spoke to Party
7:45 p.m. Property Damage, Main Street, Report Filed

Thursday, Dec. 25
6:35 a.m. Sick/Unknown, Keyes Street, Transported to Hospital
2:56 p.m. Sick/Unknown, Main Street, Transported to Hospital

Damage, Prospect Street, Report Taken
11:47 a.m. Safety Hazard, Petersham Road, Officer Handled
4:17 p.m. 911 Welfare Check, Church Street, Negative Contact
5:20 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Spoken To
6:35 p.m. 911 Assist Citizen, Prospect Street, Officer Handled
6:53 p.m. Assist Citizen, Old Greenwich Plains Road, Spoken To
9:46 p.m. Assist Citizen, Church Lane, Officer Handled
11:57 p.m. Safety Hazard, Barre Road, Services Rendered

Wednesday, Jan. 7
11:18 a.m. Assist Citizen, Lower Road, Officer Handled
1 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Carlson Road, Officer Handled
2:57 p.m. Complaint, Main Street, Officer Handled
3:22 p.m. Scam, Main

3:17 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Brimfield Road, Transported to Hospital
5:01 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Old West Brookfield Road, Transported to Hospital

Friday, Dec. 26
9:39 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
10:29 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Written Warning
11:45 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
10:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Brimfield Road, Report Filed

Saturday, Dec. 27
5:02 a.m. Assault and Battery, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
5:34 a.m. Parking Issues, Main Street, Vehicle Towed
1:32 p.m. Breathing Difficulty, School Street, Transported to Hospital

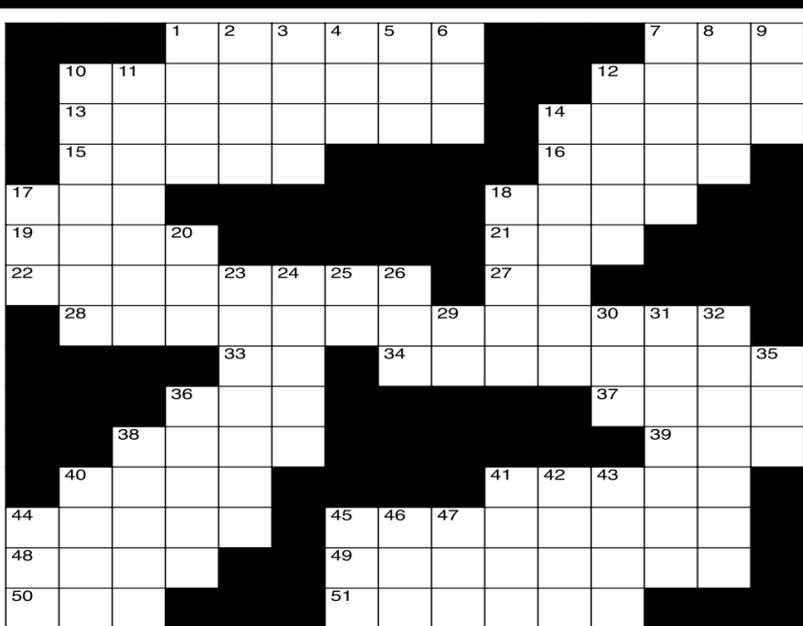
Street, Report Taken
5:32 p.m. Assist Citizen, Unknown, Officer Handled
6:51 p.m. 911 Suspicious Activity, Main Street, Officer Handled
10:23 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Church Lane, Patient Refusal

Thursday, Jan. 8
2:46 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Officer Handled
3:36 p.m. 911 Lockout, Collins Road, Services Rendered
6:09 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Birch Street, Transported to Hospital
11:47 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued

Friday, Jan. 9
9:06 a.m. 911 Disturbance, Greenwich Road, Report Taken
10:02 a.m. 911 Misdial, Birch Street, Spoken To

Please see **HARDWICK**, page 7

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- CLUES ACROSS**
- Mechanical lever
 - Rocky peak
 - Leave a country
 - Discount
 - D.C. ballplayer
 - Partner to "oohed"
 - Engine sound
 - Japanese ornamental box
 - Fido is one
 - Amounts of time
 - DiFranco and Phyo are two
 - Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
 - Make secret plans
 - "Tiny Bubbles" singer
 - "His Airness"
 - Morning
 - Perfected
 - Winger guitarist
- CLUES DOWN**
- Yugoslavian communist leader
 - Exchange rate
 - High school dance
 - Beach
 - Abba __, Israeli politician
 - Self-immolation by fire ritual
 - A way to save money
 - Pulpit
 - Make ecstatically happy
 - Once more
 - Works on
 - Nocturnal S. American rodent
 - State again
 - Expression of disappointment
 - Peter's last name
 - When you anticipate arriving
 - Israeli city __ Aviv
 - Goat-like mammals
 - Margarine
 - End-of-the-spectrum color
 - Make poisonous
 - Popular beverage
 - Actress Lathan
 - Where planes land and depart
 - Political fundraising entity
 - The distinctive spirit of a people or an era
 - Buffer used in microbiology
 - Light, open carriage
 - Metrical feet
 - Email subject line feature
 - A street with lots of nightmares
 - Rapper Rule
 - River in Scotland
 - One who settles a dispute
 - Most chummy
 - We all have our own
 - Arab tribe
 - Slap
 - Ottoman military commanders
 - Scottish or Irish Gaelic language
 - Emit coherent radiation
 - Sun or solar disk (Egyptian mythology)
 - Inclined to
 - Olfactory reference syndrome
 - Chest muscle (slang)
 - Body part



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Agencies responded to swatting incident

HARDWICK – On Jan. 9 around 11:13 a.m., Petersham Police Department received a call into their station's business phone line for a male subject reporting that he had a bomb and was in the cafeteria at Eagle Hill School in Hardwick.

The party provided more information matching the Hardwick area.

Petersham Police notified the Hardwick-New Braintree Police Department immediately. Hardwick-New Braintree Police were dispatched along with Hardwick and New Braintree Fire Departments, Barre Fire/EMS, Barre Police, West Brookfield Police, MA State Police - Belchertown, MA State Police - EOD, MA Environmental Police K-9, Worcester Police K-9, UMass-Amherst K-9 and MA State Police - EOD K-9.

The Hardwick-New Braintree Police called Eagle Hill School and notified them about the threat. They placed the school into a shelter in place and evacuated the area mentioned.

No threat was made to other schools in town, but following the school safety protocols a shelter in place was issued for Hardwick Elementary School and St. Aloysius Catholic School with police resources responding to them also.

Eagle Hill School staff and responding agencies checked the entire campus including the use of K-9 teams with no findings. During this time all students in all Hardwick schools listed were safe.

This incident was deemed to be a swatting call (fake call called in to receive a police response).

This incident is currently under investigation by the Hardwick-New Braintree Police Department along with the State Police and the FBI. Anyone with information should contact Detective Almstrom at the Hardwick-New Braintree Police Department.

"We thank our mutual aid partners for their response today, along with the students and staff at all the schools," Chief Kevin Landine said in a press release.

Planning Board discussed potential project on Crouch Road

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Planning Board met on Jan. 12 for an informal discussion on a potential project on Crouch Road.

Talking about the potential project on Crouch Road was Jim Fountain. This piece of land was purchased at the most recent public auction.

There is around 50 feet of frontage, and this property has been held in its condition since the 1950s.

Fountain wanted to know if this property is potentially grandfathered in. Before making any sudden decisions, Fountain wanted to get opinions from the Planning Board.

Fountain did go to the Building Inspector and from his determination, the land is grandfathered in.

The board suggested the owner get something in writing from the commissioner.

The Planning Board also asked if all property was surveyed. Fountain and his associate said they're not 100% sure if all of it surveyed, considering how old it is.

The board would like to schedule a public hearing in the future. Building and Planning Secretary Laura Sherris said there should be enough time made before the chosen date of a hearing due to public publication being done first regarding the public hearing.

Planning Board Vice-Chair Derick Veliz wanted to give a comment regarding the property and said there is an "opportunity to put a house there," whoever the future buyer may be.

Fountain will visit with Planning Board again regarding this potential project. The next Planning Board meeting is Monday, Jan. 26 at 7 p.m. and will be held at the Warren Senior Center, 2252 Main St. in West Warren.

Bill Tremblay Poetry Prize winners announced

SOUTHBRIDGE – The Jacob Edwards Library is pleased to announce the winners of the first annual Bill Tremblay Poetry Prize. Earning first place was Stephen Campiglio of Sturbridge; second place, James Spaulding of Brookfield; and third place, Terrance Lanier of Warren.

Judge for the contest was poet Bill O'Connell from Amherst.

A poetry reading and celebration of the winners will be held at the library on Thursday evening, Jan. 29 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. The reading is free and open to the public to celebrate this inaugural event.

Open house celebrates Warren library's 150th anniversary

WARREN – The Warren Public Library will be celebrating its 150th anniversary starting this month.

The celebration will begin with an open house held at the library, 934 Main St., on Saturday, Jan. 17, from 4-7 p.m. This was the day (Jan. 17) that the library

was first incorporated 150 years ago.

Join the library as they offer an open house featuring music, refreshments, and guest speakers while celebrating the library's history.

For more information, call the library at 413-436-7690.

Mumper named to 2025 Dean's List

NEWTON – Jason Mumper, a Lasell University student from Ware, was named to the Dean's List for their academic performance in the fall 2025 semester.

To be named to the Dean's List, Lasell students must complete at least 12 credits as a full-time student and achieve a semester GPA of 3.5 or higher.

HARDWICK from page 6

11:15 a.m. Active Threat/ Shooter, Old Petersham Road, Services Rendered

3:35 p.m. Complaint, High Road, Officer Handled

3:35 p.m. Medical Emergency, Petersham Road, Transported to Hospital

Saturday, Jan. 10

3:13 a.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Upper Church Street, Officer Handled

10:02 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Patient Refusal

3:59 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, North Road, Patient Refusal

4:44 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Main Street, Officer Handled

Sunday, Jan. 11

12:09 p.m. 911 Misdiagonal, Church Lane, Spoken To

1:03 p.m. 911 Fire/Other, Taylor Hill Road, Services Rendered

3:47 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Written Warning

COMPLAINTS from page 1

The other topic Tinker wanted to highlight was the Select Board members having an understanding of the roles and responsibilities of each board position, as well as the Town Administrator's roles and responsibilities.

After discussion, the board took Tinker's suggestion and approved the scheduling of open meeting minutes.

Ambulance contract addendum

Town Administrator Justine Caggiano addressed the board on what is going on with the town's agreement for ambulance services from the West Brookfield Rescue Squad. She presented the board with an addendum to the existing contract.

When asked where the \$7,662 was coming from for the payment, Caggiano said it's coming from the emergency medical budget.

The board members voted to approve the addendum.

Town Administrator's report

Caggiano shared that the Special Town Meeting is scheduled on Jan. 22 in the Select Board meeting room at 6 p.m. State Sen. Peter Durant and state Rep. Donnie Berthiaume are holding office hours on Feb. 11 from 10-11 a.m. inside the Select Board room.

Select Board roundtable

During their roundtable discussion, Tinker talked about an agenda request process. Tinker was seeking an explanation as to why some items were excluded from the agenda despite his requests to include them.

Vollheim responded, saying there have been submissions that were out of date and some were also sent to town counsel for review. Schaaf commented and he

said he believed the items were coming in after the agenda had been sent.

According to Tinker, an agenda can change leading up to a meeting, even within a 48-hour period.

Pole hearing

The Select Board approved National Grid's request for the placement of poles, wires and fixtures along and across the public way on Barre Road, following a public hearing.

A representative of National Grid stated that the butters had been notified, and the work will be taking place at an intersection off Barre Road.

Visitors' comments

During visitors' comments, Smith read a letter

sharing his concerns about the governance of the town, and called for the resignation of Vollheim and termination of Caggiano.

He also said there is a need for recorded meetings of all boards and committees.

The board members asked Smith to refrain from making disparaging comments about town officials in a public meeting.

Resident William Cole talked about the open meeting law complaints on the agenda and questioned if people don't want to run for committees or public offices because they expect the pattern of repeated public record requests.

Caggiano shared that in the last year, a resident had filed 18 public records

requests and six to eight open meeting law complaints, but that doesn't mean the town has violated anything.

Another resident said this could all be avoided if the boards and committees had a Zoom recording of meetings.

Tinker suggested they could show other boards and committees how to use the equipment that helps in recording meetings and posting them on YouTube, if they choose to do it.

Residents, "just want to know what is going on in their town," Tinker said.

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Celebrate winter at ArtWorks Gallery

Deadline for exhibition entries is Feb. 12

WARE – ArtWorks Gallery invites artists of all mediums from throughout the north-eastern U.S. to explore the theme of “Winter.”

The deadline for entry is Feb. 12 by midnight. The entry form and full details can be found on workshop13.org.

ArtWorks Gallery is located at 69 Main St. “Winter” will be on display from March 7 through April 4, opening with a reception on Saturday, March 7, from 3-5 p.m. Gallery hours are Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4 p.m.

The juror for “Winter” is Susan Tilton Pecora. She has been painting the streets, harbors, factories and farms of New England throughout her life.

Tilton Pecora works in watercolor, egg tempera and oil. She is a signature mem-



This photo shows a landscape scene painted by “Winter” juror Susan Tilton Pecora. “Winter” will be on display at ArtWorks Gallery March 7-April 4.

ber of The New England Watercolor Society, host of the WGBY, PBS affiliate television show “Reflections Through Watercolor” and The Copley Society in Boston.

Her paintings have been exhibited throughout the country, winning awards at the National Art League in New York, San Diego Art

Asso. and Rocky Mountain Art Association among others. Her work has been featured in American Artist Magazine, “Splash, the Best in Watercolor” North Light Books.

In 2007 she was asked to create a painted ornament for the White House Holiday tree by Congressman Richard

Neal.

Tilton Pecora is represented by West Brookfield Art & Frame in West Brookfield, Ingram Fine Art, Wiscasset and Rockland, Maine, Arnould Gallery, Marblehead and Michelson Gallery in Northampton. Prints of her works are available at The Deerfield Museum Store, Cape Art Tiles, Randall’s Farm in Ludlow and The Lobster Pot in Provincetown.

About ArtWorks Gallery

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

Workshop13 is a dynamic center where arts, culture, and community converge – expanding access to the arts and nurturing creativity and self-expression in the rural region. For more information visit workshop13.org, or call 413-277-6072.

Submitted Photos
“Winter” juror Susan Tilton Pecora is shown painting. Entries for “Winter” will be accepted until Feb. 12.

Drinking Water Community Information Session

We want to hear from you!

DATE

February 5, 2026
5:30-7:30 p.m.

LOCATION:

Ware Senior Center
1 Robbins Road, Ware MA 01082

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All are welcome to join this event to learn about the Town’s public water supply, and to share how you get information about town water and what more may be helpful to you in understanding about the water that flows to your tap.

You’ll hear from Ware DPW and have the opportunity to share comments and questions, and help the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission develop an approach toward greater understanding about drinking water.

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Indians improve to a perfect 9-0



LUDLOW – It was a low-scoring matchup as Ludlow High School girls basketball fell to visiting Ware 27-21 last Tuesday evening. Ware is now a perfect 9-0 on the season and got eight points from Naomi Torres while Ludlow fell to 2-7 on the season with 11 points from Aneysha Donais.



Amelia Orszulak attempts to block a shot.



Emily Jones goes for the basket.



Madisyn Slattery makes her way down the court.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Indians grab win over Panthers

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

PALMER—It has been so long since it had taken place that Ware boys' varsity basketball coach Gene Rich couldn't remember the last time his team defeated archrival Palmer on the road.

The Ware players and coaching staff made the short trek to the Palmer High gymnasium last Monday night (Jan.5) looking to celebrate a road victory in the rivalry series for the first time since February 6, 2019.

Led by senior tri-captain Brady Guimond, who made three huge 3-pointers in the fourth quarter, the Indians defeated the Panthers, 49-35, in a Bi-County East matchup.

"This isn't a very easy place to play, and it has been a while since we've won a game in this gym," Rich said. "This is a very important win for us against a very good basketball team."

Ware and Palmer split the season series on the hardwood a year ago.

Four of the players listed on this year's Indians boys' varsity basketball roster were also members of the football team, which lost to Palmer, 21-6, in a home game at the beginning of November for the first time in a decade.

"It was heartbreaking losing to Palmer on the football field for the first time. That loss also knocked us out of the state playoffs," said Ware senior Alex Orszulak, who's an outstanding football player. "We really wanted to come here and win tonight's game. It took an entire team effort to get the job done."

Orszulak, who's one of the five senior starters on the Indians basketball team, finished the game with seven points.

The other three Ware basketball players who

Lady Panthers suffer loss on the road at Clinton

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

CLINTON—Despite entering this week's action with a 2-7 overall record, it has been an enjoyable season for the Quabbin Regional girls' varsity basketball team.

In their first meeting of the regular season with Mid-Wach C. rival Clinton, the Lady Panthers were trailing by only one point at the end of the first quarter. The Lady Gaels managed to take control of the contest after that and celebrated a 58-31 home victory, last Friday night.

"A lot of people have asked me recently if it has been hard coaching this year's team. I always tell them that it has been awesome and I'm having a lot of fun," said Quabbin head coach Evan Barringer. "I just love coaching this group of players because they always

want to get better. These kids are working very hard every day, and I can't ask for anything more from them. It has been a positive experience, and the players get along with each other very well."

Quabbin's two victories this season were against

South Lancaster (40-13) in the opening round of the Gardner Holiday Tournament, and at Oxford High School (41-26).

While the Lady Panthers will probably not qualify for

Please see **PANTHERS**, page 11



Cassandra Hykiel tries to cut to the hoop.



Megan Clark crosses mid-court with the ball.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Addison Doktor goes for the short jump shot.

Pioneers fall to Putnam Voke



Taylor Allen heads down the court.



Ciara Green tries to power through Putnam's defense.



Jinx Ripley catches a high pass.

SPRINGFIELD – Last Friday evening, Pathfinder Tech girls basketball suffered a power outage late in the game, falling to host Putnam 52-39. The Pioneers managed just four points in the final quarter, making a big difference in the result. Putnam was led by Addison Doktor, who scored 25 points to lead the Pioneers in the matchup. Megan Clark added eight points. Pathfinder would fall to 2-3 on the season.

Please see **INDIANS**, page 10

sports

Girls swimming gets win over Holyoke



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

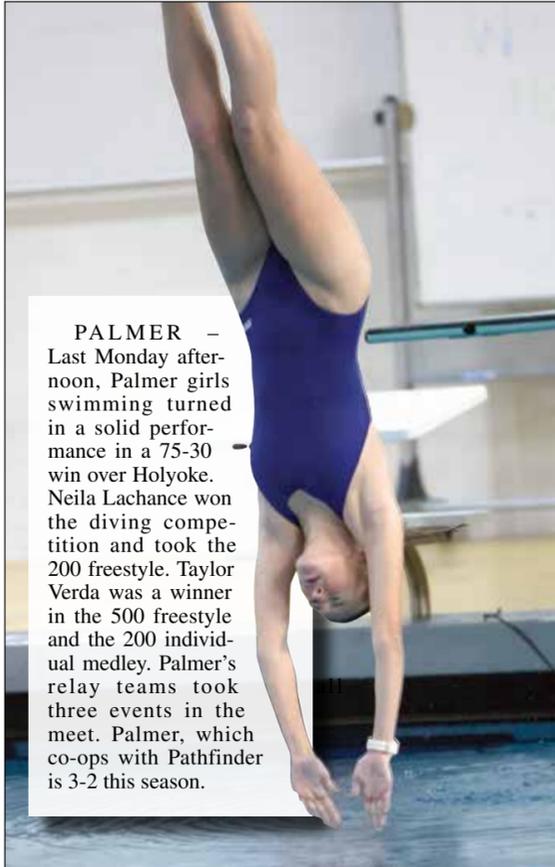
Sammi Opielowski does the backstroke.



Taylor Verda does a lap in the individual medley.



Maddy Roy comes up during the medley relay.



PALMER – Last Monday afternoon, Palmer girls swimming turned in a solid performance in a 75-30 win over Holyoke. Neila Lachance won the diving competition and took the 200 freestyle. Taylor Verda was a winner in the 500 freestyle and the 200 individual medley. Palmer's relay teams took three events in the meet. Palmer, which co-ops with Pathfinder is 3-2 this season.

Neila Lachance makes a dive.



Abby Shirzadi makes her way down the lane.

Registration set to open Feb. 1 for Quabbin Valley

SOUTH HADLEY – On Sunday, Jan. 11, the Quabbin Valley Baseball League, an over-28 recreational league, held its first meeting of 2026 to prepare for the upcoming season.

At the meeting it was determined registration for players will open up on Sunday, Feb. 1.

For the 2026 season, the cost will be \$215 and will include a 16th game added to the regular season schedule.

During the 2025 season, the league experimented with playing on Mother's Day Saturday as well as a weeknight game to allow players an opportunity to play under the lights. While the night games were very successful, the Mother's Day Saturday games were rained out.

Those elements will return along with a 16th game with an opponent to be determined as the league's board explores possibilities for interleague matchups with another league in the region.

For returning players to the league, the deadline is Mar. 22 at 12 noon to be registered for the 2026 season in order to be guaran-

teed a roster spot. There will be open practices for all players but specifically targeted at new players scheduled for March 29 and April 4 at times and locations to be announced. The draft is currently scheduled to take place on April 4 following that practice.

The season is currently slated to start on Sunday, April 19 and following the success of the six-team fall league last year, the league will also have a fall league in September and October this season.

The registration link will be live on Feb. 1 at www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org. Players must register and then pay the league dues via Venmo or contact the league leadership if an alternate form of payment is needed.

Aside from the weeknight and Mother's Day games, other games take place Sundays at 10 a.m. outside of Mother's Day, Memorial Day and July 4 weekends. Playoffs will be in August.

This is the 30th season for the league and league officials are looking to celebrate the anniversary with a couple of events.

INDIANS from page 9

played football are senior Sean Bernier, junior Dalton Marquis, and junior Troy Jurczyk, who was the Indians starting quarterback.

The Indians hoop team had a 2-4 overall record and a 1-2 league record following the road win.

"Every game that we play is going to help us prepare to make a run in the postseason tournament," Rich said. "We also play in a very competitive conference."

Palmer also have several players who play both football and basketball. They are junior Hunter Baird, junior Griffin Nawrocki, senior Dylan Doherty, senior tri-captain Gavin Smola, and senior tri-captain Matt Santos, who was the Panthers starting QB this past fall.

Not only did the Panthers (4-1, 3-1) suffer their first loss of the basketball season, but they also scored just ten points in the second half, including only three points during the final quarter.

"I reminded my players in the locker room at half-time that our defense is our best offense," Rich said. "I told them the better that we play defensively in the second half, the better we're going to be offensively. We held them only 10 points in the second half."

The two teams combined to score 48 points during the first 16 minutes of the contest.

Guimond, who led the way offensively with a game-high 19 points, hit a floater in the lane twenty seconds into the first quarter.

Then senior tri-captains Jack Gaudreau (11 points) and Brodie Koczur (9 points) made an inside hoop and a free throw respectively, which helped the visitors build a 5-0 lead with 6:20 left in the opening quarter.

The Indians largest lead of the opening eight minutes was 15-6 following a Gaudreau free throw with 1:48 remaining.

Then back-to-back

lay-ups by Palmer junior tri-captain Taydem Haley, who finished with a team-leading 12 points, sliced the deficit to 15-10 entering the second stanza.

With 3:12 left in the first half, another Haley lay-up tied the score, 21-21, for the first time.

Smola, who scored seven of his eight points before halftime, made a put-back hoop giving the home team a two point advantage.

The Panthers held a 25-21 lead with a minute remaining after Nawrocki hit a jumper from the right side of the key.

Another inside hoop from Gaudreau made the score 25-23 at intermission.

Less than a minute into the second half, Guimond, who also plays baseball, made his first 3-pointer from the left corner giving his team the lead back.

Palmer briefly retook the lead following a Santos reverse lay-up before Guimond hit a jumper in the lane.

The Panthers held the lead for the final time at 32-30 with 2:35 remaining in the third quarter when Haley made a driving lay-up.

The Indians scored the next nine points.

With 4:15 left in regulation, Guimond buried another 3-pointer from the left corner giving the Indians a 39-32 lead.

"I really haven't been shooting the ball very well so far this season," Guimond said. "My 3-pointers in the fourth quarter gave us a little bit of a cushion. I gained a lot of confidence after I made my first one. This is also the first time that we've won a game in this gym since I've been playing for the varsity team. It's definitely very special."

The Panthers closed the gap to 39-35 before Guimond hit his final trey with 1:50 left.

Then Koczur made six free throws and Jurczyk also added a foul shot, which sealed the Indians first victory at the Palmer High gymnasium in seven years.

Thunderbirds stunned by Phantoms

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds (13-15-4-2) were snake-bitten by a three-goal third period rally as the Lehigh Valley Phantoms (19-11-2-2) came away with a 3-2 win on Saturday night before a sellout crowd of 6,793 inside the MassMutual Center on Indians Throwback Night.

Entering the game having allowed only two total goals in their prior three victories, the Phantoms and their netminder, Carson Bjarnason, made it clear goals would not come easily for the T-Birds, as the rookie backstop turned away all 10 first period attempts from the home side.

At the other end of the rink, Georgi Romanov had a

relatively quiet first period, making all seven saves asked of him in the Springfield crease. Neither team could connect on a power play chance, and each goal-ie came up with a timely save off an odd-man attack, with Romanov ston-

ing a Phil Tomasino 2-on-1 bid and Bjarnason rejecting a Juraj Pekarcik breakaway. The T-Birds' power play wasted little time getting to the lead in the opening minute of the second, as Calle Rosen gathered a pass from Matthew Peca at the top of the left circle and picked the

top corner over Bjarnason's glove to make it a 1-0 Springfield lead just 52 seconds into the frame.

That same man-up unit added to their tally at 16:53 on a gorgeous three-man passing play, as Alek

Kaskimaki slid a pass to Chris Wagner at the left post. From there, Wagner stuffed a perfect between-the-leg pass over to Matt Luff, who fired home his team-leading 12th goal to make it a 2-0 game into the intermission.

The third period began at 4-on-4, and the Phantoms

finally got on the board as Lane Pederson curled to the middle of the ice before snapping a perfect shot upstairs over Romanov at the 27-second mark, cutting the Springfield lead to 2-1. On a power play just 2:40 later, Christian Kyrou dissected the T-Birds' defense and chipped a forehand over Romanov's glove, bringing Lehigh to a rapid tie, 2-2.

The 2-2 tie made it all the way to the game's final seconds, but a bad-angle shot from Anthony Richard at the bottom of the left circle somehow found its way home with 11.9 remaining, and Lehigh Valley escaped with the victory.



Throwback jerseys help Railers grab win over Florida

WORCESTER – The IceCats have been gone from these parts for more than 20 years but they keep winning anyway.

They kept their Railers victory streak alive Saturday night in the most compelling fashion possible, as the home team won one of the most dramatic victories in team history as they wore Cats uni-

forms.

Down, 2-0, to the powerful Florida Everblades with a little more than five minutes to go in the third period, Worcester came back to make it 2-2 and send things into overtime. For the fourth time this season, the Railers came away with the OT victory.

Max Dorrington scored the winner at 4:23 with Worcester

on a power play. He tipped home a shot by Jesse Pulkkinen, who scored the Railers first goal of the game. It was the first professional goal of his North America career.

With the crowd of 8,025 roaring for most of the night, and with Worcester's Parker Gahagen and Florida's Cam Johnson both playing superb-

ly in net, the building had a playoff atmosphere.

The Railers have never lost a game in front of a home crowd larger than 8,000. They are 8-0-0 in those games.

Pulkkinen got Worcester's first goal at 14:36 of the third period on a sizzling slap shot from 55 feet. Ryan Miotto made it 2-2 at 17:00 as he tipped a shot by Michael Suda.

After Friday night's defeat, Worcester coach Nick Tuzzolino compared coming back from a two-goal deficit to climbing two mountains. His team could not do it Friday. Saturday night the Railers scaled Wachusett and Monadnock.

Please see **RAILERS**, page 11



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RAILERS from page 9

"I think we had a little bit better mindset," Tuzzolino said, "more positivity on our bench, myself included, trying to keep to our game plan."

The victory snapped a three-game losing streak during which Worcester was always playing from behind. Getting the game into overtime was just what the Railers wanted to do given how well they have played in the fourth period.

Saturday's triumph improved their overtime record to 4-1 this season. Worcester is 8-2 in its last 10 overtime games going back to last season.

There was no denying the energy in the DCU Center and both teams responded.

"If we're ever gonna talk about being a post-season team," Tuzzolino said, "and playing post-season hockey, that's what we've got to get out of this. They're a great team."

Craig Needham and Reid Duke scored for Florida. Needham scored at 4:52 of the second period, one second after an Everblades power play ended. Duke made it 2-0 at 2:41 of the third.

The triumph was Worcester's second-ever over Florida. The Railers are 2-6-0 all-time versus the Everblades. It was just the second time they have beaten Johnson in six games. One victory is in overtime, one in a shootout.

PANTHERS from page 9

the Division 3 state tournament, the players and coaching staff are hoping to achieve some other goals.

"When I began my coaching career, I thought it was only about wins and losses," Barringer added. "You're always trying to qualify for the postseason tournament every year, but that's not going to happen this year. We might learn more along the way than the team that does win the Division 3 state championship. Our goal is to get better every day. I really think that we're going to beat a team in our league the second time that we play them. This loss will help us get better in the future."

The only senior listed on the Lady Panthers varsity roster is Mia Ducos, who's a point guard.

She scored eight of her team-leading 14 points against Clinton during the second half.

Ducos, who made five field goals and four free throws in the road game, would like to continue playing basketball at the collegiate level next year. She hasn't made her college decision yet.

"Mia is like a member of my own family. It's going to be very hard seeing her leave after this season," Barringer said. "I can't wait to go watch her play college basketball next year."

Junior Abby Rogowski,

who's an outstanding three-sport athlete, is a starting forward for the Lady Panthers. She also reached double digits against Clinton with 11 points despite getting into first half foul trouble. Rogowski picked up her third personal foul late in the opening quarter and she sat on the bench for almost the entire second quarter.

Rounding out the scoring column for Quabbin were junior Makenzie Casey (3 points), eighth grader Reagyn Wnek (2 points), and junior Izzy Doty (1 point)

The Lady Panthers, who were ranked 55th in the initial Division 3 power rankings, lost both games against the Lady Gaels (5-3) a year ago by three points.

"Coach Barringer is a very good basketball coach and I'm always expecting it to be a very close game whenever we play Quabbin," said Clinton head coach Marissa Garrity. "We played very well defensively in tonight's game which helped us score some points."

Garrity, who graduated from Clinton High School, scored more than 1,000 points during her varsity basketball career before becoming an All-American at Clark University.

Barringer thinks Clinton has a chance to contend for the league title this season.

"I think Clinton is one of the best teams in our league," he said. "They have four or

five players who can score and they're very hard to guard against. I thought we played well in the first quarter, but we needed to play a perfect game to beat them."

Clinton, who snapped a two-game losing streak, was ranked 22nd in the Division 4 power rankings. The top 32 teams in each Division automatically qualify for the state tournament.

The Gaels' leading scorer was senior Lauren Lemanski with 20 points. Seven other players scored at least two points for the home team.

The Lady Panthers took a 7-4 lead in the middle of the opening quarter following a Casey made foul shot and a Rogowski put-back hoop.

Clinton, who ended the first quarter with a 6-0 run, held a 10-7 advantage entering the second quarter.

With Rogowski sitting on the bench, Ducos, who has scored more than 100 points this season, made a pair of lay-ups and hit a foul-line jumper, which kept her team within striking distance.

When Rogowski reentered the game in the final minute of the second quarter, she made two inside hoops, which sliced the Lady Panthers deficit to 28-17 at halftime.

Quabbin couldn't make a second half comeback, as they were outscored, 30-14, after halftime.

WINTER from page 1

be Cards & Cupcakes. The library will be visited by members of the East Quabbin Land Trust for a program on Nature Journaling, taking place on Wednesday, Feb. 18 at 2 p.m.

Music with Julie Stepanek will take place at the Ware Library on a few dates, Thursday Jan. 15 at 10:30 a.m., and Thursday, Feb. 19 at 10:30 a.m. This music program is fun for kids aged 0 to 5. Another music event will feature Smiffenpoofs A Capella on Saturday, Feb. 28 at noon.

For more information, contact the Ware Library at 413-967-5491.

...

The Warren Public Library, 934 Main St., Warren, is celebrating its 150th birthday starting with an open house on Saturday, Jan. 17 from 4-7 p.m.

This was the very day the library was first incorporated. There will be music, refreshments, and guest speakers as the library celebrates its history.

On Saturday, Feb. 7 at 3:30 p.m., Barbara Larkin will give a presentation on Nellie Northrop. The library had found a diary by Northrop and the presentation will feature stories from that diary. Some may include stories about what life was like living in Warren around the time the library was incorporated.

On Saturday, March 7, there will be presentation on Lucy Stone hosted by the library at the Warren Senior Center, 2252 Main St., West Warren at 3:30 p.m. Judith Black will portray Stone in a reenactment.

...

The Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, Hardwick, welcomes



back Pam Hinckley, who will have various workshops available. Children will learn basic sewing skills and be introduced to using a sewing machine. The class size is limited to six students ages 7-12. Pre-registration is required. Kids will sew from 9-10:30 a.m.

Knitting and handcrafts for adults will take place from 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. This is open to all who want to knit, crochet, quilt, bead, and much more. Bring your own project.

The dates for these workshops are Jan. 17, Jan. 24, Jan. 31, Feb. 7, Feb. 14, Feb. 21, Feb. 28, March 7 and 14. For more information contact the Paige Memorial Library at paigelibrary.hardwick@gmail.com or call 413-477-6704.

Music and nightlife

Get out and explore the arts and music in your community. One of the best music venues in the region is Workshop13, located at 13 Church St. in Ware.

Open Stage takes place the third Friday each month. Open Stage Nights feature a Host band to bookend the evening of local songwriters and bands to perform originals and covers.

Another way to enjoy the music of local talent is the Singer-Songwriter series. Coming to Grand Hall Venue at Workshop13, the Singer-Songwriter Series

event presents two heart-felt rounds of live original music and a set from a special feature.

Join Workshop13 as you listen to seven remarkable singer-songwriters who will share their original songs and the stories behind them. The Singer-Songwriter Series will take place on Jan. 31 at 6 p.m. For more information visit workshop13.org.

Get outdoors

The East Quabbin Land Trust has several events upcoming this winter. Their "Keep Us on Track" event will be on Tuesday, Jan. 20 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Identify wildlife tracks and other signs at the EQLT Office, 120 Ridge Road in Hardwick. Snacks and hot chocolate will be provided.

A book discussion will be held on Sunday, Feb. 8 at 2 p.m. and will be about "Becoming Earth: How Our Planet Came to Life" by Ferris Jabr.

The EQLT will be hosting Native Animals on Friday, Feb. 20 at 1 p.m. Meet native North American animals with wildlife expert Bethany Boucher.

Sign up is required for this event. Sign up by emailing Ellie Shea at eshea@eqlt.org before Feb. 14.

For more information visit eqlt.org and follow the East Quabbin Land Trust on Facebook and Instagram.

WARREN from page 1

involved in the study. One concern is the structure of the road being impacted by erosion, which can be caused by the running of water.

The town could create a model for a solution if that scenario were to happen. Any further questions that may arise, could be submitted to CMRPC by the board.

Another question by the board is the use of road salt. The concern is salt being placed on certain pieces of infrastructure including bridges.

The board brought up the South Street bridge in West Warren and how accessible it is for travelers. It is a main connector to potential industrial and commercial property and is access to the elementary school

The representative shared that once a plan is approved the town can identify a certain infrastructure that could be a concern down the road and can be deserving of grant funding to help address the problem.

Appointments

The board voted to appoint Evan J. Foskit-Nulph as a part-time, on-call laborer for the Highway Department at a step one, grade e on the wage scale. This position is not to exceed 19 hours per week.

Highway Surveyor Jeremy Olson said the Highway Department is looking to fill a part-time position for a while. The current applicant asked to put in an application, even though a job wasn't currently available at the time.

Foskit-Nulph was highly recommended and comes from Pathfinder and wants to get into highway department work for a potential future career.

"We hope he builds a future with us," Olson said.

Town Administrator's report

On Dec. 11, 2025, the

town had a bid opening for the Shepard Municipal Building inclined wheelchair lift replacement project. The town had one bidder, Diversified Construction Services, LLC at \$148,422.00.

Ferrera successfully negotiated the inclined wheelchair lift bid to \$109,000.

All properties that were sold at last month's public auction successfully closed and the town has officially recovered \$320,000. Total monthly tax collections as of Dec. 31, 2025 were \$70,148.94.

Ferrera held a project kick off meeting with Tighe & Bond for the air duct replacement project at the Senior Center.

Ferrera participated in the Central Massachusetts Regional 911 District December meeting and press announcement welcoming six new communities in the district. Ferrera also met with the Secretary of the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities Ed Augustus at the Warren Housing Authority, and they toured the West Warren Wright's Mills complex and discussed the importance of development and housing needs for the town.

Vacancy on Planning Board

The board had a discussion to fill one vacancy on the Planning Board until the next municipal election. The three applicants for the position were Karyn Wood, Charles Lyman and Charlene Farris.

Chairman Richard Eichacker said the Planning Board needs a new member by Jan. 26 since they board is starting a special permit hearing.

Wood was in attendance and shared some of her background. Wood says she is looking to learn the process and is interested in running for the seat in May.

Lyman was also in attendance and said that he is

retired and looking to do something in service to the town. Lyman is familiar with the public bidding process.

Both candidates shared that they're interested in volunteering in general, even if they don't get the Planning Board member position.

Wood was appointed to the Planning Board until the May election.

The board members thought Lyman would be a great fit for the Finance Committee. Lyman was interested and wanted to learn more about being on the Finance Committee.

State grant award

The board discussed to have the chair sign Statement of Work forms from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection for the glass container and universal water shed state grant. This grant is to be administered by the Board of Health.

These are state grants the Board of Health applied for; two grants in total. One is for a glass container and the other for recycling. These containers allow the town to purchase through a grant. At the town dump, people can put specialty items in the recycling containers.

The concern the board had is the disposal of batteries and other hazardous material. Selectman David Dufresne wanted to know what the fees are for hazardous materials if they're to be left at the dump. The board will seek further information on these containers and the process before going to a vote.

Contract approval

The board approved the contract with Diversified Construction Services LLC for the replacement of the inclined platform wheelchair lift at the Shepard Municipal Building. An article was approved at the Special Town Meeting to help pay for this project using Free Cash.

Ferrera said the town

could take some of the recaptured funds through the Community Development Block Grant to help pay the rest.

Comments and concerns

During comments and concerns, it was mentioned that two new restaurants are coming to West Warren. Ferrera mentioned he is open to talking to new businesses who may be interested in coming to Warren.

Regarding businesses in town, resident and property

owner Jim Fountain highlighted the ongoing rising costs and rising property values. Fountain feels the taxpayers are not in good shape if these rising costs continue to happen and overly taxing is a contributing factor to why businesses may not want to come to Warren.

This seems to be something to address to the Board of Assessors as Eichacker responded, "the board has no control over the Assessor's office."

The tax rate is currently

\$14.74, and Fountain feels the town should look at what residents can afford.

Though Warren has challenges, Ferrera feels the town is doing well, financially.

"Financially, what we do is very important," Ferrera said.

The Department of Revenue recommends for towns to take a percentage of 3-5% to put in reserve funds. Ferrera said Warren has met that expectation, and maybe even exceeded that expectation.

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DEADLINE

January 28, 2026

PUBLICATION DATE

February 18, 2026

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CAREER Education

HCSS: Empowering students for a brighter future

Are you searching for a school where academic excellence meets a supportive community? Hampden Charter School of Science (HCSS) is a top-ranked, tuition-free public charter school serving grades 6-12 in Western Massachusetts. Since its founding in 2009, HCSS has been dedicated to preparing students for college, careers, and a lifetime of success.

Why Choose HCSS?

HCSS stands out as a premier choice for families because of its unique combination of academic rigor, personalized attention, and community spirit. Our two campuses—the Middle School in West Springfield (Grades 6-8) and the High School in Chicopee (Grades 9-12)—offer students a seamless transition from middle school to high school and beyond. Here's what makes HCSS truly exceptional:

Academic Excellence: Our rigorous curriculum is guided by the College Board's AP standards and the Common Core. With honors courses beginning in 7th grade, 15 AP offerings in high school, and innovative programs like Project Lead The Way (PLTW), students are challenged to reach their full potential.

Comprehensive College and Career Preparation:



HCSS begins college and career readiness as early as 6th grade, including SAT/PSAT prep, dual enrollment opportunities, and experiential college campus visits. With a 100% college acceptance rate and over \$49M in scholarships awarded in 2025, our graduates are set for success.

State-of-the-Art Technology: Students benefit from one-to-one Chromebook access, SMART Inter-

active Displays, and hands-on science labs, preparing them for a tech-driven world.

Award-Winning Extracurriculars: From robotics, drone, and science olympiad clubs to competitive athletics and social activities, students thrive outside the classroom as well.

Join Us for an Open House
Explore what HCSS has to offer during our upcoming Welcome Saturday Open

House events. Meet our dedicated staff, tour our campuses, and learn how HCSS can help your child achieve their dreams. Interested families can also join a Virtual Information Session for an in-depth look at our programs from the comfort of home.

What Parents and Students Love About HCSS
Parents and students consistently praise HCSS for

its nurturing environment, where every student feels valued and supported. The school's commitment to diversity and inclusion fosters a vibrant community that celebrates different perspectives and cultures. Families also appreciate the convenience of free transportation and extensive tutoring services, ensuring all students have the tools they need to succeed.

Student Success Stories

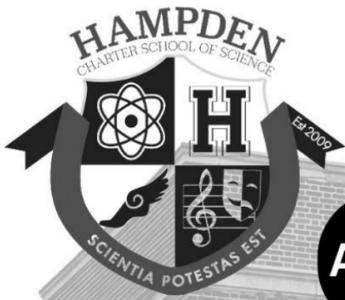
HCSS alumni have gone on to attend prestigious universities, including Ivy League institutions like Harvard, Columbia, and Dartmouth. Our students' achievements are a testament to the school's dedication to academic and personal growth. With a consistent college matriculation rate of over 95%, HCSS prepares students not just to attend college but to excel once they get there.

How to Apply

Applications for the 2026-2027 school year are now open. Rising 6th-10th graders should apply no later than March 1, 2026, to secure a spot in our admission lottery. Visit www.hampdencharter.org to apply and take the first step toward a brighter future.

At Hampden Charter School of Science, we believe every student deserves a world-class education. Join our community of learners, achievers, and leaders today—because your child's future begins here.

HCSS High School
20 Johnson Rd.
Chicopee, MA 01022
Tel. 413-593-9090
HCSS Middle School
511 Main Street
West Springfield, MA 01089
Tel. 413-278-5450
hampdencharter.org



HAMPDEN CHARTER SCHOOL OF SCIENCE

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR GRADE 6-10



Why Hampden Charter School of Science?

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- EXCELLENCE IN ACADEMICS
- ATHLETICS
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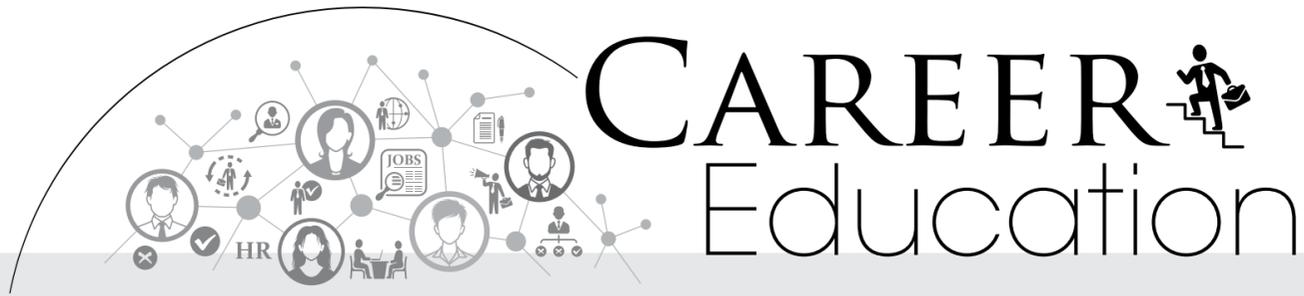
January 10th
January 24th
February 7th
February 28th

VISIT:
WWW.HAMPDENCHARTER.ORG

APPLY NOW / DEADLINE

MARCH 1, 2026





CAREER Education

St. Joan of Arc School offers comprehensive education

Located in Chicopee, MA, St. Joan of Arc (SJA) School is a private Catholic institution serving students from Pre-K through Grade 8.

St. Joan of Arc School provides a comprehensive educational environment focused on physical, intellectual,

and spiritual wellness.

In the fall the school community welcomed Mrs. Ashley Mahan as the new principal. A lifelong Chicopee resident and former educator in the local public school system, Mrs. Mahan brings extensive experience and a personal connection to the community.

Students can engage in several new and returning enrichment opportunities this year, including:

- Creative Arts: Liturgical Dance Troupe and Choir.
- STEM & Literacy: Robotics, 3D Printing, LEGO, Book and Newspaper Clubs.

Innovative offerings include foreign language instruction through tools like Duolingo.

- Our Preschool program for ages 3 and 4 offers full and part-time care, geared toward preparing your child for Kindergarten. Children learn Kindergarten readiness and pre-reading skills through a developmentally appropriate teacher-created curriculum designed to hold your child's interest and spark their curiosity. The school will be holding an Open House on Saturday, Jan. 31 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. (no appointment needed). Appointment only tours for families will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 3 and Thursday, Feb. 5 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Please call Janine or Chris in the Business Office at 413-276-4608 for registration information, or to make an appointment. To learn more visit www.sjachicopee.org.
- Extended Care: Affordable extended care and extracurricular programs are available to support families.
- Language Learning:

The school will be holding an Open House on Saturday, Jan. 31 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. (no appointment needed). Appointment only tours for families will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 3 and Thursday, Feb. 5 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Please call Janine or Chris in the Business Office at 413-276-4608 for registration information, or to make an appointment. To learn more visit www.sjachicopee.org.

We look forward to meeting you.

ST. JOAN OF ARC SCHOOL

Pre-K to Grade 8

587 Grattan Street, Chicopee ~ 533-1475

sjachicopee.org

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No Appointment Needed

Tuesday, February 3rd & Thursday, Feb 5th, 3pm-7pm

By Appointment Only



Affordable Tuition & Extended Care ~ Free Breakfast & Lunch
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 Music ~ Library ~ Duolingo
 Welcoming, Safe & Secure School Community
 Social, Physical, Spiritual & Intellectual Wellness Tuition Assistance
 Easy Access to I391 & I90



St. Stanislaus School students shine as servant leaders

St. Stanislaus School proudly announces the success of its recent community service initiatives, exemplifying its motto: "Servant Leaders for Today and Tomorrow."

In a spirited effort to support those in need, Student Council organized a drive that collected an impressive 3,500 items, surpassing their original goal by 1,000 donations. The drive demonstrated the school community's commitment to service, teamwork, and making a tangible difference in the lives of local families.

Building on this momentum, St. Stanislaus students also gathered toiletries, diapers, and other personal items to fulfill the wish lists of The Gray House and Christina's House in Springfield. These organizations provide critical support and safe spaces for individuals and families facing challenging circumstances.

"This can drive is run by our Student Council in grades 4-8," said Mrs. Katherine Rorrio, Principal of St. Stanislaus School. "This drive aligns with the state-

ment that we believe our students are servant leaders for today and tomorrow. It assists our school community in understanding the global community, where we are all neighbors and members of God's family. Our school theme this year is 'Go Make Disciples of All Nations.' Our students are wonderful examples of disciples going out and making a difference in the community. We are so proud of all of our students and families for being so generous to those in need."

St. Stanislaus School remains committed to fostering a culture of compassion, responsibility, and service, preparing students not only for academic success but also for meaningful engagement in their communities.

Founded over 125 years ago, St. Stanislaus School has a rich history of serving families in Chicopee and surrounding communities. Although the original building was lost to fire, the school will celebrate the 50th anniversary of its current building on Saturday, Jan. 31, beginning with Mass at 4 p.m., followed by an Open House and

Celebration. Families interested in scheduling a private tour at another time may call the school at (413) 592-5135.

St. Stanislaus School is a Roman Catholic, Franciscan, co-educational Pre-K through 8th grade school. Students are assisted in developing their potential spiritually, physically, and socially within a safe and diverse community. A foundation of academic excellence is created to prepare students to become contributing members of a global society.

The school has a welcoming Franciscan environment, modern air-conditioned facility, strong core curriculum, enrichment classes, certified faculty, full-day preschool (PreK 3 & 4) and Kindergarten, free breakfast and hot lunch, before and after school program, and one-to-one use and integration of iPads and Chromebooks into curriculum. Financial Aid is available. Interested students are invited to spend a day with us. To learn more please visit www.saintstansschool.org.

We can't wait to meet you.

ST. STANISLAUS SCHOOL

SERVANT LEADERS FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW



Servant Leaders for Today and Tomorrow

PREK - 8TH GRADE SCHOOL

PHYSICAL, SPIRITUAL, AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- Welcoming Franciscan environment
- Strong core curriculum
- Enrichment classes
- Certified faculty
- Full day Preschool & Kindergarten
- Free breakfast and hot lunch
- Before & After school program
- One to one use and integration of iPads & Chromebooks into curriculum
- Modern facility - full gym, full cafeteria, air conditioned, carpeted classrooms.

Call us for more information and to schedule a tour. We welcome the opportunity for you to experience St. Stanislaus School! Interested students are invited to "spend a day with us."



To learn more



www.saintstansschool.org
 534 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01013
 413-592-5135

CALL TO SCHEDULE A PRIVATE TOUR!





CAREER Education

HCC opens registration for Spring 2026 noncredit classes

Holyoke Community College has opened registration for its Spring 2026 catalog of noncredit personal enrichment and professional development classes.

The spring calendar begins Jan. 12, with individual classes running on different schedules throughout the semester.

New next semester is a series of classes for seniors focused on basic technology. Each one-hour class is available for just \$20 and cover a wide range of subjects, including Windows 11, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, Canva (for graphic design), Artificial Intelligence, Zoom, smartphone use (Android or iPhone), managing and editing photos, document storage, web browsers, and computer scams.

Other classes for spring include cooking (Caribbean, charcuterie, Puerto Rican, Southern), wine tasting (winter reds, Tuscany, New Zealand, Rose, summer wines), sewing (for beginners), sewing (machine), watercolor painting, acrylic painting, drawing, piano, conversational French, conversational Spanish, music technology, voiceover coaching, financial literacy, retirement planning, K-12 education (professional development), writing and publishing (fiction, nonfiction,



tion, screenwriting, short stories, query letters, mysteries, travel, blogs), ChatGPT, how to launch a pet-sitting and dog-walking business, and Quickbooks.

Most classes meet in the Kittredge Center for Business and Workforce Development on the main HCC campus, 303 Homestead Ave. Cooking and wine-tasting classes meet at the HCC MGM Culinary Arts Institute, 164 Race St. Some classes meet over Zoom.

To see complete spring course listings and schedules, or to register, please visit hcc.edu/bcs.

More classes will be added as spring approaches.

The Commonwealth's oldest community college, Holyoke Community College opened its doors in 1946 as the first two-year college in Massachusetts. In the decades since, the college has paved the way for generations of learners from western Massachusetts and beyond, a beacon of hope and opportunity for people

seeking better lives. Please visit us at hcc.edu.

HCC's Kittredge Center for Business and Workforce Development is the Pioneer Valley's premiere resource for workforce training, professional development, and personal growth. It provides innovative and affordable programming that helps businesses, organizations, and individuals achieve their goals.



HOLYOKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

A premier healthcare educator in our region.

- + Nursing
- + Radiologic Technology
- + Medical Assisting
- + Veterinary and Animal Science

hcc.edu/healthcare



CAREER Education

Jump Start Preschool invites families to learn, play, and grow together

Two Locations in Feeding Hills and West Springfield

Jump Start Preschool is proud to welcome families to a nurturing, play-based learning environment where children are encouraged to explore, grow, and develop essential life skills. Serving children ages 2.9 to 5 years old, Jump Start Preschool focuses on learning through play while fostering independence, creativity, and confidence.

At Jump Start Preschool, social-emotional learning and communication are key components of each age group's curriculum. Children learn how to problem-solve with peers, practice self-regulation strategies, and build the foundational skills that help them succeed academically and socially. By supporting emotional growth alongside academics, Jump Start helps children thrive both in and out of the classroom.

Family and community partnerships are at the heart

of the Jump Start Preschool mission. In support of this commitment, Jump Start Preschool will host a 5K Run/Walk on May 30, bringing the community together to raise funds for Autism Allies and the children of Jump Start Preschool. Sixty percent of all donations will benefit Autism Allies. The event will feature live music, local businesses, exercise, and great company. Community members are encouraged to participate and support children and families.

Event information and registration: <https://Milesforhopeforautism.eventbrite.com>

Jump Start Preschool offers a wide range of perks designed to support both children and working families, including:

- Open year-round
- Reasonable tuition
- Family-friendly hours
- Feeding Hills: 7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
- West Springfield: 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
- Free healthy morning and afternoon snacks
- Community and in-

house field trips

- Family engagement activities throughout the year
 - EEC-certified staff trained in CPR, First Aid, and medication administration
 - State-of-the-art playground
 - Preschool graduation with a professional photographer
 - School photos twice per year
 - Free occupational therapy and speech screenings twice annually
- "Timeless moments come from learning through movement, creativity, and connection," said Jump Start Preschool. "We invite families to come dance with us and experience the joy of early learning."

Families interested in enrolling are encouraged to visit www.jumpstartpreschoolma.com and complete an interest form. Jump Start Preschool is currently enrolling preschoolers ages 2.9 to 5 at both the Feeding Hills and West Springfield locations.

Watch out — learning is happening.

Various ways newspapers are good for kids

Newspapers have long been part of the fabric of the communities they cover and serve. Whether it's a big-city daily tabloid or a small town weekly, newspapers keep readers and residents up-to-date on the latest goings-on in their communities and across the globe.

Newspapers have been linked to a range of benefits for adults that include greater civic engagement and stronger voter turnout. Such benefits are indispensable, and it's equally important to recognize ways in which newspapers benefit children.

• **Reading and discussing newspaper stories can foster stronger language development.** A 2022 study published in the *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* noted that parents who provide newspapers at home for their children to read and then discuss stories with young readers can help kids develop strong language skills, which could ultimately benefit them in the classroom and in their personal interactions. The study also noted that discussing newspaper stories with youngsters creates opportunities for children to explore their thoughts.

• **Newspapers can help children develop their critical thinking skills.** A meta-



analysis examining ways to teach students critical thinking skills published in the *Review of Educational Research* noted that critical thinking skills are vital because they bolster students' ability to interpret, analyze, evaluate, and make inferences. Newspapers are an invaluable resource for educators aiming to bolster kids' critical thinking skills, as they can be used to teach students to recognize why stories were written, how information in a given story was learned and gathered and how to verify information in a news story. Each of those lessons requires interpretation, analysis and evaluation, ultimately instilling in students vital critical thinking skills that can serve them in the classroom and beyond.

• **Newspapers help students develop vital communication skills.** A 2024 study published in the *Elementary Journal of Educational Research* found that reading newspapers helped student participants in the study improve their vocabulary, enhance their writing skills and more effectively articulate their ideas. Authors behind the study ultimately characterized newspapers as valuable educational tools, a conclusion that has been reached by researchers across a range of academic disciplines.

Newspapers are part of the fabric of the communities they cover, and children have much to gain from being granted access to their local papers in the classroom and at home.

Jump Start Preschool

Enrolling Now for the **2026-2027** School Year!






Preschool & Pre-Kindergarten

Research-based curriculum that builds confidence & excitement about learning

- Social & Emotional Skills
- Language & Literacy Skills
- Cognitive Skills
- Physical Skills

Ages 2.9 to 5 years old

Jump Start Preschool provides a safe, loving, nurturing and high-quality childcare and education that promotes and enhances each child's development with the assurance of our parents' peace of mind.

Full Day & Half Day Programs

Two Beautiful Locations!

For more information, call or visit our website: www.JumpStartPreschoolMA.com

- Feeding Hills: 413.789.4987
- West Springfield: 413.301.5694



Interested in a Career with Jump Start Preschool? Please Contact Us



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CAREER Education

Well-rounded education benefits students

Academic environments have undergone quite a change over the last several decades. Technological advancements have changed the way educators teach and how students learn, but there's also been a notable shift in what students are learning.

Science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) has become a point of emphasis in twenty-first century classrooms, and for good reason. The U.S. National Science Foundation notes that a workforce educated in STEM is vital to a country's prosperity and security. Opportunities in STEM fields are on the rise as well, as the Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates STEM occupations will grow by roughly 11 percent between 2022 and 2032.

The value of STEM is undeniable. However, students and parents also should recognize the many ways a well-rounded education that includes math and science but also the humanities and social sciences facilitates strong academic performance.

Critical thinking skills

A well-rounded education can instill important and useful critical thinking skills in students. When students direct the bulk of their attention to a single subject or



category of subjects, they're less likely to understand how interconnected coursework, and indeed the world, can be. A well-rounded education can instill in students a more nuanced way of looking at problems and potential solutions. That ability can positively affect students' personal lives and ultimately their professional lives when their formal schooling ends, as they will be in position to better assess situations.

Comprehension

Tests are designed to gauge students' grasp of material. Students' ability to comprehend lessons taught in the classroom is a big part of that, and a well-round-

ed education fosters strong comprehension skills. A 2018 report from the New York State Education Department noted that research has found that students are better readers after they have been exposed to the language and vocabulary of the natural world, the sciences and social studies.

Crossover benefits

A well-rounded education can help students perform better in all of their subjects. In 2021, a University of Buffalo academic and researcher studying children and dyslexia made a startling discovery regarding the value of reading and how it affects performance in subjects like math. The research found that reading proficiency crosses academic domains and actually guides how students approach various tasks and solve problems. That means a well-rounded education that includes reading-heavy subjects, like those in the humanities and social sciences, could actually improve how students perform in STEM classes.

A well-rounded education pays a number of dividends for students. Recognition of those benefits might compel parents to support a curriculum that includes a wide array of subjects and academic disciplines.

Gateway announces expansion of career pathways, Chapter 74 vocational opportunities

Gateway Regional School (GRS) is proud to announce the expansion of its personalized learning model, featuring anticipated openings in its premier Chapter 74 Vocational Programs for the fall of 2026. Designed as a "launchpad" for student success, GRS continues to bridge the gap between classroom learning and real-world career readiness for students in grades 6-12.

Innovative Middle School Exploration

The journey begins in the middle grades (6-8), where students engage in an expansive exploratory program. With 26 unique course options—ranging from Intro to Tourism and Woodshop to Data and Statistics in Sports and Sociology—students are encouraged to uncover their passions early.

By the eighth grade, students can gain a head start by accessing Gateway's Chapter 74 vocational programs, providing hands-on introduction to high-demand fields before they even enter high school.

Challenging Chapter 74 Vocational Programs

Gateway's commitment

to excellence is anchored by two flagship programs that prepare students for immediate entry into the workforce:

- **Welding & Metal Fabrication:** This program offers real hands-on experience in state-of-the-art facilities renovated in 2022. Students learn on modern equipment, including a robotic arm, and participate in both on-site and off-site internships.

- **Early Education and Care (EEC):** Starting in 9th grade, students in the EEC program are put on a track to become certified professionals. The curriculum includes lesson planning for young learners, CPR and First Aid certification, and immersive internship opportunities.

A Personalized Path to the Future

As students reach the 10th grade, they participate in a "demonstration of learning" to chart their specific goals for their final two years. This tailored approach allows for meaningful experiences, including:

- **Internships and Co-ops:** Real-world placements in students' fields of interest.
- **College Credits:** Through dual-enrollment and concurrent enrollment

partnerships with universities across the country.

- **Work-Study Placements:** Providing a practical balance between education and professional experience.

"At Gateway Regional School, education is more than coursework—it's a launchpad," Dr. Will Sullivan, GRS Principal, states. "We empower our students to excel in life after graduation through intentionally personalized learning pathways crafted to foster achievement and community impact."

Join the

Gateway Community

Gateway Regional School welcomes students from its six member towns and surrounding communities. Families interested in exploring these opportunities for the Fall 2026 semester are encouraged to apply today.

For more information on programs and how to apply, please visit www.grsd.org.

Media Contact: Gateway Regional School District Website: www.grsd.org

Gateway Regional School District is located at 12 Littleville Road, Huntington, MA 01050.

WELCOME TO GATEWAY REGIONAL SCHOOL



"AT GATEWAY REGIONAL SCHOOL, EDUCATION IS MORE THAN COURSEWORK – IT'S A LAUNCHPAD."

Gateway Regional School (GRS) is proud to educate and welcome students from the six member towns and surrounding communities in a vibrant, forward-thinking learning environment designed to prepare students for life beyond the classroom.

Serving students in grades 6-12, Gateway Regional School is built around one central goal: helping every student discover their interests, develop their strengths, and chart a clear path toward future success. That journey begins in the middle grades, where students in grades 6-8, participate in an expansive exploratory program offering 26 unique course options. From *Intro to Tourism and Woodshop* to *Data and Statistics in Sports, Financial Literacy, Engineering, and Sociology*, students are encouraged to explore new ideas, uncover passions, and start thinking about possible career pathways early on. Eighth-grade students can take that exploration even further by accessing Gateway's Chapter 74 vocational programs in *Early Education and Care* and *Welding*, giving them a hands-on introduction to high-demand fields before they enter high school.

Once students reach high school, Gateway shifts into a highly personalized learning model. In grade 10, students complete a demonstration of learning, sharing their goals and aspirations for their final two years at GRS. These plans guide meaningful experiences such as internships, co-ops, and work-study placements, allowing students to gain real-world experience in fields they are excited to pursue.

Gateway's strong partnerships with colleges and universities across the country further expand student opportunities through dual-enrollment and concurrent enrollment programs, helping students earn college credit while still in high school. Looking ahead, Gateway Regional School is excited to announce anticipated openings in its Chapter 74 Vocational Programs for fall 2026, creating new opportunities for students interested in *Early Education and Care* and *Welding*.

GATEWAY REGIONAL'S COMMITMENT TO THE FUTURE AND TO EXCELLENCE:

AT GATEWAY REGIONAL SCHOOL, STUDENTS ARE EMPOWERED TO EXCEL IN LIFE AFTER GRADUATION THROUGH INTENTIONALLY PERSONALIZED LEARNING PATHWAYS AND OPPORTUNITIES, CRAFTED TO FOSTER A FUTURE OF ACHIEVEMENT, CONTRIBUTION, UNDERSTANDING, LEADERSHIP, AND COMMUNITY IMPACT.



CAREER Education

PVPA continues to invest in Arts-focused education



At a time when many public schools are trying to manage difficult budgets by cutting Art programs, Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Public Charter School continues to invest in Arts-focused education for students in Grades 7 - 12.

With an extensive Course Catalog of challenging Academic and Arts courses, PVPA employs 15

full-time Arts teachers, and now has five Arts Departments: Music, Dance, Theatre, Visual Arts and new this year, Technical Design and Production.

Students are encouraged to find their artistic voice through a range of introductory courses and audition level course options, with multiple performance opportunities, all integrated with

their core academics.

PVPA students consistently show that incorporating the arts into education creates, not just better artists, but better students who are equipped to be active participants in their future.

Visit for an Open House on Thursday, Jan. 22, and see why PVPA is consistently voted one of the Best Charter Schools in the Valley.

As a public charter school, admission to PVPA is free and open to all Massachusetts students by lottery; no tuition or audition required.

Now accepting applications for the 2026/2027 school year for Grades 7-12 at pvpa.org/admissions.

For more information, please email admissions@pvpa.org.



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Charter Public School
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413-552-1580

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Grades 7-11

2026/27 school year



PVPA Open House

Thursday, Jan 22
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registration encouraged

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www.pvpa.org/admissions

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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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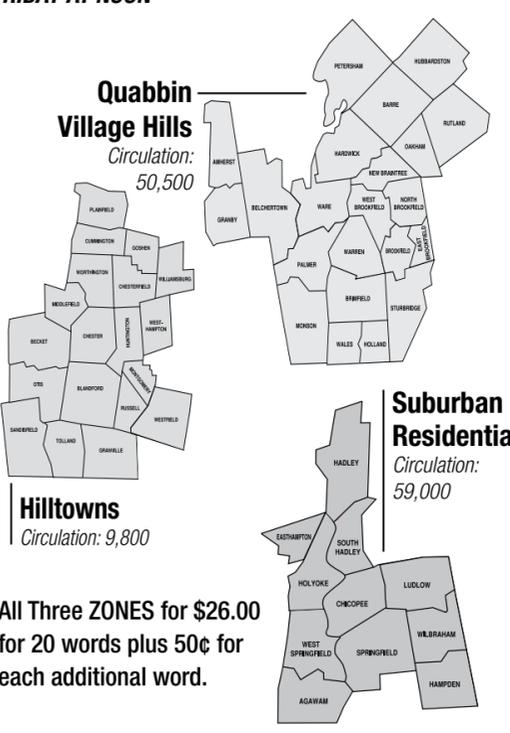
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Historical Society presents 'Notables & Notorious' of the Revolution

STURBRIDGE – On Thursday, Jan. 22, at 7 p.m. at The Publick House, the Sturbridge Historical Society will present Regan Miner, the Development Director for TLGV, speaking about “The Notables & Notorious of the American Revolution: Curious and Infamous Characters from the Last Green Valley”.

Not every hero held a musket. The people living in the area now known as The Last Green Valley National Heritage Corridor (TLGV) shaped and helped win the American Revolution. They fueled the passion for declaring independence, bravely signed the Declaration, supported the war effort, and were integral in the earliest days of our democracy.

TLGV Heritage Corridor, which encompasses 35 towns in south central and eastern Connecticut from Brimfield to Norwich, is a region that spurred the revolutionary leadership of Samuel Huntington and Jonathan Trumbull but also spawned the traitorous Benedict Arnold.

As we acknowledge the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence

in 2026, this talk will explore the notable and notorious figures that helped shape the region and the nation in our fight for independence.

With over 10 years of experience in the history and nonprofit sector, Miner is a public historian and a historic preservation advocate. Currently, Miner serves as the Development Director of The Last Green Valley and enjoys building partnerships to strengthen our cultural, historical, and natural resources within the National Heritage Corridor.

Her previous roles included serving as the Executive Director of the Norwich Historical Society and the Executive Director of the Fort Adams Trust in Newport, Rhode Island. In addition to her position at TLGV, Miner volunteers as Chairman of the Norwich Historic District Commission, the Commission of the City Plan, America 250 Norwich Commission, and is a Corporator at the Norwich Free Academy.

The program is free and open to the public; and is generously hosted by the Publick House.

Storytelling group, The Story Exchange, forming in Brookfield

BROOKFIELD – A new community storytelling group, The Story Exchange, is forming in Brookfield and will hold its organizational meeting at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 10 at the Merrick Public Library Annex, 18 Common St.

The Story Exchange is designed for individuals interested in telling and developing true, personal stories, shared aloud in a supportive, structured environment. The group emphasizes storytelling craft, focused listening, and constructive feedback, and welcomes participants of all experience levels.

Stories shared during meetings are expected to be true, personal narratives, typically 5-7 minutes in length, focused on a single moment or experience rather than a full life history.

The group will be facilitated by Joe Klimavich, an accredited public relations consultant and adjunct professor of communication at Worcester State University, who has taught effective speaking and communication courses for many years. While facilitated, The Story Exchange is intended to be largely member-driven, with participants shaping discussions,

stories, and feedback through shared experience.

If you've lived a little, noticed a lot, and you're curious about shaping real moments into meaningful, well-told stories, you'll feel at home with this group.

“As a public relations professional and educator, telling stories – my own and those of my clients – has always been central to my work,” said Klimavich. “Inspired by programs like ‘The Moth’ and ‘Stories from the Stage’, The Story Exchange grew out of a belief in the power of true stories, told well, and the value of listening as much as sharing.”

Participation will be limited to six to eight storytellers per session. There is no cost to participate, but advance registration is required.

Interested individuals should send a brief introductory email to joe.klimavich@gmail.com and indicate whether you are interested in sharing a story during the first meeting.

Following the organizational meeting, The Story Exchange will meet on the first Tuesday of each month at the Merrick Public Library Annex.

Circle of Song starts winter-spring session

BARRE – The first rehearsal for Circle of Song's winter-spring season will be held on Thursday, Jan. 22, at the Town Hall, 2 Exchange St. from 7-8:30 pm.

Rehearsal will be every Thursday between then and Thursday, May 14 with the concert on Saturday, May 16 at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall.

The concert's program includes the following songs: “Brightly Dawns Our Wedding Day”, WS Gilbert/arranged Arthur Sullivan from The Mikado; “Down by the Riverside”, traditional/arranged David Eddleman; “Les Miserables Medley”, Schonberg and Kretzmer/arranged Lojeski; “Make Our Garden Grow”, Bernstein/arranged Page from Candide; “No One is Alone”, Sondheim/arranged Brymer from Into the Woods; “The Promise of Living”, Copland/Everett from The Tender Land; “Solitude”, Duke Ellington/arranged Althouse; “Total Praise”, Richard Smallwood/arranged Rao; “Waltzing Matilda”, traditional/arranged Sand; “Till There Was You”, Lerner and Loewe from The Music Man with a quartet of Jack, Joan, Anne, Julie for the 25th anniversary of COS.

Circle of song is particularly in need of altos this session.

Singers of all ages and experience are welcome. The chorus sings in four-part harmony and there is a modest sliding scale membership fee with deep discounts for students

For more information, contact director, Julie Rawson at julie@mhof.net; 978-257-1192.

public notices

TOWN OF WARE PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Selectboard will conduct a Public Hearing on **February 3, 2026, at 6:40pm**, in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA, to hear an Application for a new On-Premises, Farmer Series Pouring Permit License (Malt & Wine), an Entertainment License, an Auto Amusement License and a Common Victualler License for Fieldcrest Brewing Company LLC, located at 11 East Main Street, Ware, MA. Copies of the petition are available at the office of the Town Manager, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA.

All interest parties are invited to attend.
Nancy Talbot, Chairman
Selectboard
01/15/2026

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Lily M. Lunani to Bank of America, N.A., dated January 4, 2008 and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 9363, Page 302, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from: Bank of America, N.A. to ABS Loan Trust V, recorded on December 24, 2018, in Book No. 13166, at Page 244 ABS Loan Trust V to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee of CSMC 2021-JR2 Trust, recorded on March 21, 2024, in Book No. 15093, at Page 133 Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee of CSMC 2021-JR2 Trust to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as trustee on behalf of and for the benefit of BP-JR 2 Loan Trust, recorded on June 24, 2025, in Book No. 15456, at Page 90 for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of

foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at **2:00 PM on February 3, 2026**, on the mortgaged premises located at 76 Aspen Street, Ware, Hampshire County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

TO WIT: A certain parcel of land situated on the Westerly side of Aspen Street in said Ware and bounded as follows:

Beginning at an iron pin driven in the ground at the northeast corner of lot conveyed on West line of street;

Thence Southerly on said street seventy-five (75) feet to an iron pin;

Thence Westerly on land formerly of Samuel H. Giguere ninety-five (95) feet to an iron pin;

Thence Northerly seventy-five (75) feet to land formerly of J.H. Storrs, at an iron pin; and, Thence Easterly ninety-five and one half (95-1/2) feet to place of beginning, containing more or less.

Parcel 2

The land in said Ware off the Westerly side of Aspen Street, bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at an iron pin at the Northwesterly corner of other land now or formerly of Wdowiak, said iron pin being set North 66° 16' 52" West ninety-six and 04/100 (96.04) feet from the iron pin in the Westerly line of Aspen Street marking the Northeastly corner of said other land;

THENCE North 66° 16' 52" West along remaining land now or formerly of Laurette C. Smith one hundred sixteen and 87/100 (116.87) feet to an iron pin at Aspen Grove Cemetery;

THENCE South 19° 11' 20" West fourteen and 34/100 (14.34) feet to a stone bound;

THENCE South 18° 47' 29" West fifty-five and 96/100 (55.96) feet to an iron pin at the Northwesterly corner of land to be conveyed by Laurette C. Smith to Laura Demers; the last two (2) courses being along land of Aspen Grove Cemetery;

THENCE South 63° 46' 18"

East along said land now or formerly of Laura Demers one hundred twelve and 72/100 (112.72) feet to an iron pin at the Southwesterly corner of other land of Wdowiak;

THENCE North 22° 25' 55" East along said land of Wdowiak seventy-five (75) feet to the point of beginning. Containing 8,314 square feet and being Parcel "B" on a Plan of Land in Ware, Mass., surveyed for Laurette C. Smith by Robert H. LeMaitre dated September 15, 1979 and recorded in Hampshire County Deeds, Plan Book 112, Page 74.

SUBJECT TO rights reserved by Laurette C. Smith a/k/a Laurette C. Smith in a deed given by her to Louis G. and Marguerite Wdowiak recorded at Hampshire County Deeds, Book 2128 Page 107, if still in force and effect.

BOTH PARCELS are the same as were conveyed to us by deed of Louis C. and Marguerite Wdowiak dated Sept. 23, 2004 and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds at Book 7997 Page 307. Subject to a first mortgage dated January 4, 2008 and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds at Book 9363, Page 285 in the original principal amount of \$110,400.00. For mortgagor's(s') title see deed recorded with Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 9363, Page 281.

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of Ten Thousand (\$10,000.00)

Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

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

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By its Attorneys,
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.
150 California St.
Newton, MA 02458
(617)558-0500
24920
01/08, 01/15, 01/22/2026

WARREN PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Maple Lane Development - Rivers Bend Road
Pursuant to MGL, Chapter 40A, notice is hereby given that the Warren Planning Board, acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority, will hold a Public Hearing on **Monday, January 26, 2026 at 7:00 PM** on the application of Maple Lane Development Corp. The Hearing will be held at the Warren Senior Center located at 2252 Main Street in West Warren.

The Applicant, Maple Lane Development Corp., is requesting a Special Permit (No. 316) under Section 3.28, Earth Removal (pursuant to Section 8) of the zoning by-laws to allow earth removal at Rivers Bend Road

(Map 04, Lots 54 and 55) in the Rural district.

A complete copy of the application may be inspected in the Office of the Planning Board or the Town Clerk during normal business hours. Anyone interested or wishing to be heard on the application should appear at the time and place designated.
01/08, 01/15/2026

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Kwasi Sarpong to Resource Capital, LLC, dated January 10, 2022, and recorded with the Worcester County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 66929 at Page 69, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at **12:00 P.M. on the 23rd day of January 2026**, at 29 Bacon Street, Warren, MA 01083, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

To wit:
The land in Warren, Worcester County, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows:

The land in the Center Village of said Warren situated on the westerly side of Bacon Street, bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at the northerly corner of land now or formerly of William Lincoln;

Thence N. 28-3/4° E., 134 feet and 10 inches to land now or formerly of Danforth Keyes;

Thence by land of said Keyes S. 70 1/2° E. 94 feet to Bacon Street;

Thence by said Street S. 19° W. 132 feet and 5 inches to a corner of land formerly of said Lincoln and being the southerly corner of said tract;

Thence by the land of said Lincoln N. 70-3/4° W. 117 feet to the place of beginning.

Said premises are conveyed

subject to the condition relative to building and fence and recited in a deed from Mary A. Ramsdell et al to Danforth Keyes dated January 1, 1866 and recorded in Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 732, Page 112, if now in force and effect.

Being the same premises conveyed by deed of Kenneth J. Buck and Russell D. Buck, Executors of the Estate of Robert A. Buck, dated October 17, 2016, recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 56155, Page 170.

Premises to be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

Terms of sale: A deposit of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by wire transfer to Ligris + Associates, P.C., 1188 Centre Street, Newton, MA 02459 within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. In the event of an error in this publication, the description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control.

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

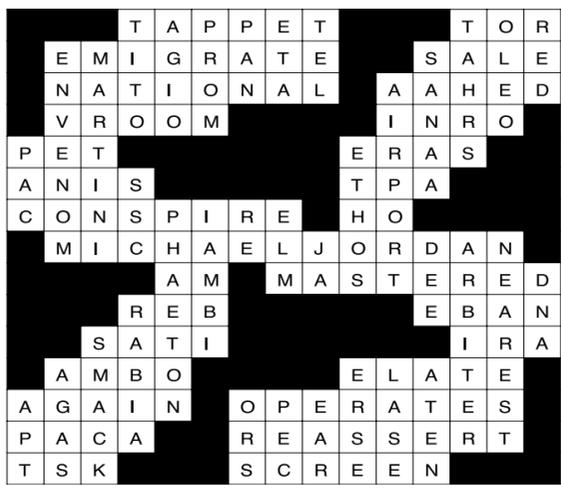
Resource Capital, LLC,
Present holder of said mortgage,
By its Attorneys,
Ligris + Associates, P.C.
1188 Centre Street
Newton, MA 02459
(617) 274-1500
01/01, 01/08, 01/15/2026

Said premises are conveyed

Ware River News
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NO ENTRANCE FEE
 Mobile Home located in Waterwheel Village at 31 Edward Lane, Barre, MA 01005. This is a 55 and better community. This home includes a wonderful floor plan with very spacious rooms. Master bedroom includes a walk-in closet. Two full bathrooms. A four-season sunroom is off the kitchen. Includes two large woodsheds and a metal garage you can park under to fend off winter weather. Asking \$288,000. See listing on MLS # 73433198

NO ENTRANCE FEE
 Mobile Home located in Waterwheel Village at 21 Varney Lane, Barre, MA 01005. This is a 55 and Better community. This home includes a wonderful floor plan with spacious rooms. Master bedroom includes a large attached bathroom. Two full bathrooms, large back deck, and two large wood sheds. Asking 245,000. See MLS#73457117.

WATERWHEEL REALTY
Paul Varney Sr.
 Real Estate Broker and Owner
 978-355-4438
 978-355-3454
 paulraymondvarney@gmail.com

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